

6760 S. Kit Carson Cir E
Centennial CO 80122

December 1, 2004

Padre Island National Seashore
Attn: Superintendent/O&G EA
P.O. Box 181300
Corpus Christi, Texas 78480

Dear Superintendent:

My wife and I are appalled to learn that five more gas wells are scheduled for drilling in the Padre Island National Seashore. This section of the island was designated as a National Seashore and placed under jurisdiction of the National Park Service to preserve it in its natural state for countless future generations. It is by definition a recreational area that is protected and maintained by the federal government for public use. Allowing resource extraction is a contradiction to these intended goals.

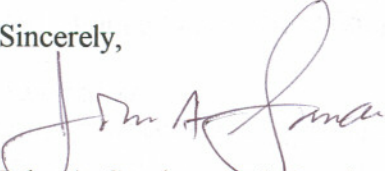
We were so pleased to hear that a number of Kemp's Ridleys sea turtles had returned to nest at the National Seashore. It was particularly gratifying to find that the headstart program appeared to be successful. Finally it seemed that some of the work and money spent in trying to re-establish a nesting population of Kemp's Ridleys sea turtles on Padre Island was coming to fruition. However, all this good work is likely to be for nothing if the area is developed for gas production.

We would like to encourage the federal government to act responsibly and buy out the mineral rights under the Padre Island National Seashore where the endangered Kemp's ridley sea turtles are returning to nest. The functional ecology of the National Seashore will be seriously compromised with more wells. The disturbance made by heavy trucks and equipment, the pollution, and the inevitable increased soil erosion and soil compaction will have a lasting consequence on the area. Transitory consequences of well development such as noise, vibrations, and light may still have lasting consequences on wildlife behavior. It is inconceivable how gas extraction activities can take place in an area where so much time and money has been spent on re-establishing a nesting site of an endangered species.

We realize that Kemp's Ridley turtles have been able to successfully nest while one gas well has been established but we ask you to consider how the considerable disturbance of additional wells will affect the area and Kemp's Ridleys sea turtles in particular.

Please preserve Padre Island National Seashore in as pristine state as possible and allow the sea turtles to breed in an unpolluted, safe, and peaceful area.

Sincerely,

 — 
John A. Sanders and Juanita A. R. Ladyman