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12/01/2004 02:12 PM
CST

To: "PAIS_public_comments@nps.gov"
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cc:
Subject: I'm OPPOSED to more drilling on Padre

I'm very unhappy with the plan to allow more drilling on the Texas coast in what used to be protected park land.

Since there are only two alternatives listed in this Environmental Assessment, the National Park Service should choose Alternative A, as it is the environmentally preferred alternative.

I'd prefer a Federal Buyout of the mineral rights, and it should be included as one of the alternatives. Such an alternative would eliminate the need to allow access to privately owned mineral leases and would be consistent with the NPS environmentally preferred alternative and would meet all 6 of the national environmental policy goals and would be consistent with the original intent of the park.

If Florida can get a Federal Buyout to prevent oil drilling off it's shores, Texas should be able to get one to prevent gas drilling ON it's environmentally sensitive shores (unless being the president's brother is required to get that kind of permission, but I sure hope we haven't sunk that low). Considering that most of the Texas coast is currently being used to produce oil and gas, and considering that only 3 percent of Texas is public recreation land, the balance between population and resource use has already been met and more likely favors resource extraction over recreation. Padre Island National Seashore should be the one area of the coast that offers the experience of coastal wilderness free of industrial development.

bye,
Jesse Spears
Austin, TX

My work: <http://www.harpoon3.com>
My baby: <http://homepage.mac.com/jessespears/PhotoAlbum7.html>
My hobbies: <http://www.austinaikido.com>
http://homepage.mac.com/jessespears/personal/mongos_music.html
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