



County of Santa Cruz 0161

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 500, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4069

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JANET K. BEAUTZ
FIRST DISTRICT

ELLEN PIRIE
SECOND DISTRICT

MARDI WORMHOUDT
THIRD DISTRICT

TONY CAMPOS
FOURTH DISTRICT

JEFF ALMQUIST
FIFTH DISTRICT

AGENDA: 5/27/02

May 10, 2002

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: RESOLUTION URGING THE CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS
DEPARTMENT TO CONTINUE TO ALLOW CONTROLLED
BEACH FIRES

Dear Members of the Board:

It has come to my attention that the California State Parks Department is considering removing the beach fire rings from State Park beaches in Santa Cruz County. As Board members know, Santa Cruz County is dependent on tourist revenue, and people from all over the state come to our county to enjoy the beaches and picnic with their friends and families. Beach fires are a tradition in the county that go back well before the turn of the twentieth century. In recent years, State Parks has limited the fires to the concrete rings which they place on the beach. This is commendable in that it serves to contain the fires and makes cleanup easier. Now, however, it appears as though State Parks is considering removing the rings and disallowing any beach fires. This would end a centuries old tradition on our beaches where local residents and visitors have been able to get together around the fire and share food and friendship.

In March of 2000, the people of California overwhelmingly voted for Proposition 12, a Bond Act which provided new funds for our parks. Again in March of 2002, the people of California voted for Proposition 40, which again brings new funds to the California Parks system. Time and again, the people of the State have spoken at the voting booth and have said that they want to have parks where families can enjoy each other's company and share in recreation, and they have been willing to pay for this.

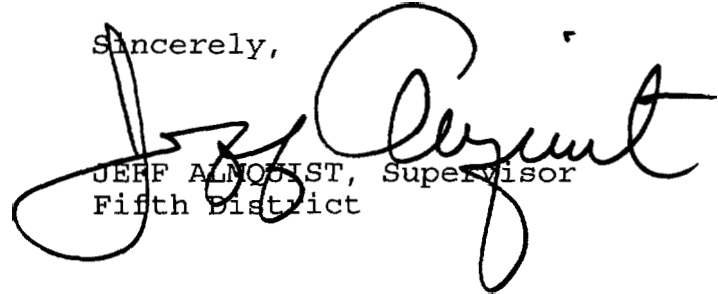
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To remove the beach fire rings flies in the face **of** this overwhelming desire by the people of our state and county to have State parks that they can fully use and share with their families.

With this in mind, **I** would urge the Board **of** Supervisors to adopt the attached resolution in support of maintaining the beach fire rings and forward copies to our State Legislators, the Governor, and to the California State Parks Department.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Alquist", is written over the typed name and title.

JEFF ALQUIST, Supervisor
Fifth District

JA:lg
Attachment

cc: Governor Gray Davis
State Senator Bruce McPherson
Assembly Speaker Pro Tem Fred Keeley
Assembly Member Simon Salinas
California State Parks Department

1527D5

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

0163

RESOLUTION NO.

On the motion of Supervisor
duly seconded by Supervisor
the following resolution is adopted

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS DEPARTMENT
CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN BEACH FIRE RINGS ON STATE PARK BEACHES
WHERE THEY ALREADY EXIST IN SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

WHEREAS, the voters have overwhelmingly supported
Proposition 12 in March, 2000, and Proposition 40 in March, 2002,
both of which were ballot measures to fund maintenance and
improvements to California Parks; and

WHEREAS, the fire rings which already exist on some of our
State Park beaches serve as a place for families to get together
around the fire and enjoy each other's company without the
intrusion of television, video games, or any of the other modern
entertainments which surround them for most of the rest of their
lives; and

WHEREAS, this is a healthy activity that serves to bring
families and friends together and ties them to the traditions of
the past while getting them outside into a healthy environment;
and

WHEREAS, beach fires are a tradition in Santa Cruz County
that goes back for more than a hundred years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Cruz County
Board of Supervisors hereby requests that the California State
Parks Department leave in place, permanently, the fire rings
which already exist on the State Park beaches in Santa Cruz
County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors urges
our State Legislators and the Governor to solicit the support of
the California State Parks Department to honor our County's
request.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County
of Santa Cruz, State of California, this _____ day of
_____, 2002, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS
NOES: SUPERVISORS
ABSENT: SUPERVISORS

JANET K. BEAUTZ, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS DEPARTMENT
CONTINUE **TO** MAINTAIN BEACH FIRE RINGS **ON** STATE PARK BEACHES
WHERE THEY ALREADY EXIST IN SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

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ATTEST: _____
Clerk **of** said Board

Approved as to form:

 5.13.02

County Counsel

DISTRIBUTION: Governor Gray Davis
State Senator Bruce McPherson
Assembly Speaker **Pro Tem** Fred Keeley
Assembly Member Simon Salinas
California State Parks Department
County Counsel

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