

**From:** [Peter Williams](#)  
**To:** [Planning Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Record Number PLN-9175-CDP/Friends of the Dunes Trail and Habitat Restoration; Amendment to Permit  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 12:56:09 PM

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To whom it may concern; my name is Peter Williams I have lived in the Arcata area for 44 years and been an active and regular visitor to Manila dunes and beaches during that time.

I have watched as the Manila dunes area has slowly transformed from a highly impacted ecosystem due to uncontrolled ORV traffic to a restored, thoughtfully managed pedestrian/equestrian area enjoyed by the local community as well as visitors from around the country and around the world. Friends of the Dunes is largely responsible for this revival.

I have had the pleasure to volunteer with the Friends of the Dunes for the last 10 years as a trail head steward in the Ma-le'l dunes area and have led numerous free, naturalist tours to local community members, tourists, and school groups during that time. The most common feedback from these participants is how pristine, beautiful and well preserved these areas are – a testament to the efforts of Friends of the Dunes and the many public volunteers working with them to restore these beautiful, unique and vital areas.

Friends of the Dunes is one of the most well-managed organizations I have ever been involved with, working closely with the communities that they serve, providing numerous recreational activities and all the while restoring one of the most rare and sensitive habitats we have.

I fully support their mission and I encourage the planning commission to approve the permitting request for this project. Thank you, Peter Williams