

Cape Hatteras ORV

get rid #793 -
alt. columns.

Features	Alternative A: Continue ORV Use as Currently Managed	Alternative B: Promulgate a Special Regulation to Continue ORV Use with additional Management Restrictions	Alternative C: No-Action (ORV Use would be eliminated)
ORV engine technology			
General vehicle restrictions	Each vehicle shall have met all vehicular licensing and inspection requirements of its state.		
Vehicle tire restrictions	Vehicles must have a minimum of four weight-bearing tires		
Vehicle weight restrictions	none		
Location Restrictions	<p>Zone 1, Ocean Beach: ORVs will be permitted within 150 feet of the existing tideline, but no closer to the toe of the dune or vegetation than 20 feet. Portions of Zone 1 may be closed seasonally (May 15 through September 15), or closed temporarily to protect nesting birds or sea turtles, or when the distance between the existing tide and the toe of the dune or the vegetation line is reduced to less than 100 feet. No vehicle may enter any portion of Zone 1 when the distance from existing tide to the toe of the dune or vegetation line is less than 60 feet (18 meters), or any area posted or marked as a no vehicular travel area. Exception: In pursuit of their livelihood commercial fisherman may enter those portions of Zone 1 less than 60 feet (18 meters) in width but shall not pass closer than 20 feet (six meters) from base of dune or vegetation line.</p> <p>Zone 2, Soundside: Marsh and fast</p>		

Handwritten notes:
 10/1/03
 Cape Hatteras
 ORV

	<p>land west and northwest of North Carolina State Highway 12. ORV use will be allowed only on designated and marked trails</p> <p>Zone 3, Buxton Woods – Open Ponds:</p> <p>Zone 4 – Dunes and Sand Plain: All land and dune areas seaward of the right of way of North Carolina State Highway 12 except Zone 1 and 3 lands. ORV use will be permitted only on marked trails.</p> <p>Closures are posted as news releases on the CAHA public website. Such closures are mostly for the purpose of protecting threatened or special concern species during their breeding season.</p>		
Access	27 designated and signed ramps or routes for ORV access to the beach		
Camping	Camping is permitted only in designated campgrounds. From Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, all camping is limited to 14 days within a 30-day period. At all campgrounds, campsite occupancy is limited to 6 persons per campsite. Exceptions: a family group (i.e. parents & children) of more than 6 individuals. No more than two camping units may occupy one campsite. All vehicles must be parked on the parking pad, not on the grass or extending into the roadway.		
Age Restrictions	All operators of ORVs within the boundaries of Cape Hatteras		

and certification requirements	National Seashore must possess a current driver's permit from their state of origin.		
Speed restrictions	The speed limit is 25mph.		
Operating restrictions			
Daylight restrictions			
Alcohol and drugs			
Carrying capacity			
Noise			
Insurance requirements	Vehicles and drivers must be insured.		
Enforcement	Maximum efforts will be made to identify, apprehend and take appropriate action on violators of rules and regulations promulgated to implement this plan. The staff shall seek higher collateral fines (presently \$25.00) for non-mandatory appearance citations issued and may require mandatory appearance of violators if circumstances warrant.		
Education			
Sanitation	Visitors are asked to use facilities provided (none are located on the beach proper.)		
Monitoring and sampling			
Beach management plan			
Permits	<p>Zone 1: no permit required</p> <p>Zone 2: no permit required</p> <p>Zone 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A commercial fisherman permit, issued annually to commercial fishermen <p>A special vehicle permit (short</p>	<p># issued/yr.</p> <p># issued/yr.</p>	

park needs to clarify

*will 2 year a permit... = temporary permit * over 2 years... and the... **

EQD calculates

	term, restricted permit issued to special non-licensable vehicles for limited periods and areas of use). The intent of this special permit is to allow aged, infir, or physically handicapped persons motorized access to the beach		
Weekly Visitor Use	Based on survey and multiple assumptions listed below, 594 people (135 groups) would participate in beach driving during the course of one non-holiday July week.		

Types of vehicles percentages questi

Visitors' automobiles - observations are simple estimates provided by Jeff Cobb; they are not based on statistical data. Over 90% of vehicles observed driving on the beach are 4WD vehicles. Most are pick-up trucks, but there are also SUVs like the Chevy Expedition and old Chevy Blazer in use. Vehicles with less clearance and only 2WD tend to bottom out and get stuck. Dune buggies are occasionally observed, but they must be highway legal, registered, licensed, and insured in order to operate on the beach. No vehicle that is not legal for the highway (including ATVs) is permitted on the beach.

of visitors given a postcard returned of these

but on personal observation

Visitor Use

A number of visitors to Cape Hatteras National Seashore were surveyed during July of 2002 regarding their experience at and usage of the park. *263 (or 73%)*

- Out of 237 group respondents, 13 said that Beach Access was their top reason for coming to CAHA. *who gave a top most imp. reason*
- Out of 121 group respondents, 8 said that Beach Driving was their second most important reason for coming to CAHA. *who gave a 2nd most imp. reason*
- Out of 129 group respondents, 3 said that Beach Driving was their third most important reason for coming to CAHA. *who gave a third reason*
- 36% of 254 group respondents said they had or would participate in beach driving during the current visit. *who answered this Q*
- 52% of 165 group respondents said they had participated in beach driving in the past at CAHA. *who gave an answer to this question*

must state that require-ments to be used on highway in park

need to get questionnaire

During the week of July 12-18, 2002 at Cape Hatteras National Seashore three hundred and seventy-six groups were recorded as visiting the park. Three hundred and fifty-three of these groups agreed to a short interview that involved questions of group size. The average group size of these interviewed groups was 4.4 persons per group. If that is applied to the total number of groups contacted and it is assumed that every group that visited the park was contacted, then it can be estimated that approximately 1,650 people visited CAHA during this time. If the percentages from the above data gathered are applied to a group size of 1,650 people, then the following would be true for use at the eight locations surveyed at CAHA during a typical week in July at Cape Hatteras.

** group respondent = 1 person from a group filling out the survey*

	Percentage of total visitors	Estimated Number of Visitors per Week
Beach Access primary recreational pursuit	5.5%	90
Beach Driving Secondary recreational pursuit	6.6%	102
Beach Driving Third recreational pursuit	2.3%	37
Participation in Beach Driving during this visit	36%	594
Participation in Beach Driving during a previous visit	52%	858

Data Lacking:

Vehicle Data

- Break-down of vehicles observed
 - o model – needed for size, weight, and noise estimations,
 - o approximate year – necessary for emissions estimations,
 - o perhaps tire description if different from standard – needed for sand compaction and size estimations.

distribute at points
↑

Visitor Use Data

- How many people total visit the park during the time of study (this was not clearly stated in the CAHA visitor use study.) The total number of groups given a survey is included along with the number of groups that returned a study, but without total visitation data, this cannot be used to predict the number of visitors or how they will recreate.
- Number of vehicles used each day.
- Estimated number of vehicles used during each time of the day (early morning and evening could cause more disturbance to certain species).
- Estimated number of people in each vehicle used for beach driving each day.
- How many users are present only during the day and how many camp overnight?
- compare holiday weekend to non-holiday weekend
- break down by day of the week

at each location

Regulation Data

- Are drivers limited to certain hours of operation such as daylight?
- Are current ORV restrictions and regulations being respected by beach drivers?

Capacity of Campgrounds (4)

Visitor perceptions conflicts but, uses

Campgrounds, dates of operation

- Cape Point (5/24 - 9/10)
- Oracoke (4/9 - 8/12)
- Oregon Inlet (4/9 - 8/12)
- Frisco (4/9 - 8/12)

Info to extract from visitor study

p. 6 of survey @ back

"Affect your park experience?"

"How important?"

p. 14 Crowding Questions

# 17	} maybe
# 18	
# 21	

Importance of attributes in planning for the preservation of Cape Hatteras NS for future generations

Beach driving N = 249

extremely imp.	37%
very imp.	7%
moderately imp.	14%
somewhat imp.	10%
not imp.	24%
don't know	8%

Selected factors effect on visitor experience vehicles on beach N = 249

added to	20%
no effect	34%
detracted from	18%
did not experience	29%

X what like most?

driving on beach

X what liked least?

25 of 370 (some people gave more than 1 comment)
7 of 172 (some people gave more than 1 comment)
vehicles on beach

These would change as a manager