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 To: [Cyndy Holda@nps.gov](mailto:Cyndy.Holda@nps.gov)
 Cc: [Mike Murray](#); [jeff wells](#); [Jim Lyons](#); [Stephen Kayota](#); [Ona Ferguson](#)
 Subject: electronic workbook
 Date: 01/30/2008 10:38 AM

Cindy;

being an alternate to the negotiating table, I duly tried to get to the electronic workbook, based on the directives offered in your *Press release (National Park Service News Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: DATE: January 9, 2008)* .

1. By clicking on the link <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/caha>, I got to the *Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) homepage*.
2. On the PEPC website I could not find the "*Word version of the workbook ... posted ... on the same PEPC website along with the maps (in pdf format) for the workbook*", as described in the info contained in the Press Release document.
3. I kept trying by clicking on [Cape Hatteras National Seashore Off-Road Vehicle Negotiated Rulemaking and Management Plan/EIS](#) . This opened another PEPC page with a photo of a driven-upon beach. Still, no sign of the Word version of the Workbook, nor of the map to reach it.
4. I persisted and clicked on the *Document List* menu item. Here I found a [2007 12Dec 28 - Alternatives Options Workbook](#) , at the bottom of the page.
5. I clicked on this item and, at last, I got to a page that described the [2007 12Dec 28 - Alternatives Options Workbook](#). A note in red font states: **The selected document is not open for comments at this time. Thank you.**
6. Despite the warning I decided to click on the "[Workbook \(2.6 MB, PDF file\)](#)" listed at the bottom of the page. This time I accessed an Adobe Reader document **of 78 pages !!!**

The Press Release quotes: " Public participation is vital in assisting with the planning process. Due to public feedback that the workbook electronic file format is not user friendly, NPS has developed a Word version of the workbook and posted it on the same PEPC website along with the maps (in pdf format) for the workbook. The workbook can be downloaded and completed electronically, or can be printed out and completed in hard copy, then submitted as described below:"

I fully agree with the vital importance of public feedback to guide the process. The Park is a National treasure, and therefore unfiltered feedback from the public is essential, in order to reach truly fair decisions.

However, the use of a 78 pages document in order to poll the public's opinion would not work (the polling systems used by the Media in gathering political data could be good examples of a more effective tool). Perhaps, the objective of getting significant public participation could be enhanced by:

1. adding a very streamlined, truly user friendly, document/questionnaire, to be offered together with the present workbook. Alternatively, a list of selected sections of the book, with proper subheadings, could be offered for separate access, . The public could then chose from the list, depending upon its own area of interest. I am confident that simplified versions would greatly facilitate the collection of data on public opinion. The present workbook (which can also be opened by clicking the file: *010908CAHA Public Alternative Workbook Word Version Protected.doc*, attached to the Press Release) is a very detailed and well thought-of bureaucratic document; but it is rather cumbersome and would defeat the purpose of gathering public feedback.
2. Provide the public with truly user friendly, step-by-step directions to the documents. Ideally, a click on <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/caha>, should bring directly to a PEPC page on which a

listing of the available and pertinent documents -- clearly subheaded! -- would be visible and easily accessible.

Finally, if it is unrealistic to expect that the "public" would go through 78 pages of material, it is even more unrealistic to expect that one would download such a document in its entirety, print it, fill it, and mail it as requested.

I appreciate the time you gave to this letter of mine (we also need to be appreciative of the time we request the public to invest in order to inform us). Let me know if I tracked down the wrong document!

My best;

Vincenzo Sanguineti MD