

RTI

CAHA #2840



"Mansfield, Carol A."  
<carolm@rti.org>

03/14/2008 11:19 AM AST

To <Sandra\_Hamilton@nps.gov>

cc "Poulos, Christine" <cpoulos@rti.org>, "Otto, Dana"  
<dotto@louisberger.com>, "Fox, Lori"  
<lfox@louisberger.com>, "Mansfield, Carol A."

bcc

Subject RE: FW: meeting next week

Hi Sandy, Lori and Dana,

I have a few more details on what we might do for a survey and what it might cost.

Again, I am proposing we concentrate on the areas of the beach that are directly affected by the regulations. Hopefully that will be a well-defined area. The sample size will depend on how many groups we want to compare (we need a certain number of people in each group). For example, we could intercept people in the areas used by ORV's during particular key times of the year. I would need the park and the committee to tell me what visitation is like during different seasons (if we want to distinguish between summer, fall and winter visitors for example), whether there are different visitor groups we want to compare (ORV's used for different purposes and/or non-ORV users who recreate in the same area that is affected by the ORV regulations), or if there are different parts of the park we want to compare.

The more groups you want to compare, the larger the sample size.

The other issue is how many days we would need to be in the field. Regardless of the sample size, we need to be in the field a certain number of days for each season/part of the park/visitor type to get a representative sample of days. If we decide we want to compare 3 seasons (so we have 3 groups we want to compare), then we want between 20 and 30 days per season probably to get good coverage of different days of the week.

If we decide to use this approach, then we could probably have the interviewers counting vehicles and passengers some of the time and intercepting people on the beach in the affected areas at other times during the day, so we could get both counts and interviews from the same person on the same day.

Based on some similar experience at RTI, this might cost around \$130,000 (for something like 60-80 days in the field). It might be less, because the similar project involved a lot of expensive travel for the interviewers but that project involved only 44 days in the field.

Possible problems include:

- \* people who use other areas of the park might visit the ORV areas if ORV's were restricted -- the importance of this group depends on how remote the areas accessed by ORV's are and whether the regulation would also restrict pedestrian access to the area.
- \* if the park proposes a new alternative that affects a different area of the beach at the last minute and we didn't survey there.
- \* we would have to keep the survey very short (5 to 10 minutes), so we would only collect the most important data and would rely on other visitor surveys for the rest of the data.

Thanks,

0020562

From: Otto, Dana [mailto:dotto@louisberger.com]  
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2008 8:30 PM  
To: Mansfield, Carol A.; Fox, Lori  
Cc: Sandra\_Hamilton@nps.gov  
Subject: FW: FW: meeting next week  
Importance: High

Carol,

Are you available for a call with Sandy tomorrow after 1:00 EDT? Please let me know as soon as you can.

Thanks.

Dana Otto, AICP

The Louis Berger Group, Inc.

t 303.985.6601

c 202.550.4595

-----Original Message-----

From: Sandra\_Hamilton@nps.gov [mailto:Sandra\_Hamilton@nps.gov]  
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2008 8:26 PM  
To: Otto, Dana  
Cc: Fox, Lori  
Subject: Re: FW: meeting next week

Hi Dana,

I think a short call would be helpful, tomorrow if possible. I'm free from 10:30 to 11:00 ET and from 12:30 - 5:00 ET

What about the local business survey? Do we / will we have a draft design for that?

I'm staying at the Tranquil House, not sure about Lori and Doug.

Sandy

Sandy Hamilton  
National Park Service - Environmental Quality Division Academy Place  
P.O. Box 25287 Denver CO 80225  
PH: (303) 969-2068  
FAX: (303) 987-6782

"Otto, Dana"

<dotto@louisberge

r.com>

To

<Sandra\_Hamilton@nps.gov>

03/13/2008 08:08

cc

0020563

PM AST  
<lfox@louisberger.com>

"Fox, Lori"

Subject

FW: meeting next week

Sandy,

According to the email below, Carol will hopefully have something completed by Monday. Please see below and let me know your thoughts. If we need to schedule a call with Carol, let me know.

Thanks.

Dana Otto, AICP

The Louis Berger Group, Inc.  
t303.985.6601  
c202.550.4595

From: Mansfield, Carol A. [mailto:carolm@rti.org]  
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2008 10:58 PM  
To: Otto, Dana; Fox, Lori  
Cc: Clayton, Laurel; Poulos, Christine; Mansfield, Carol A.  
Subject: RE: meeting next week

Hi Dana and Lori,

I think Monday is the earliest I could send anything. Do we have an agenda yet? Are you all staying at Tranquil House again?

We have been talking about a couple ideas for data gathering, and all with the caveat that the set of proposed alternatives will have an impact on what data are important. I need to talk to one more person here at RTI, but I think that the idea of using preexisting email lists just won't work (we had discussed using lists of email addresses or mail addresses provided by the rental companies, hotels/motels, campgrounds, any place people stayed to send out the survey). This approach misses day trip visitors and apparently the rental companies only have the address of the person who signed the rental agreement, not everyone who stayed in the house. I think it will be almost impossible to identify and get cooperation from all the different lodging businesses, especially since we would want some oversight of how they sent out the surveys.

So I am back to thinking about significantly cheaper ways to do a visitor intercept survey. We have a couple proposals that will simplify any data collection that we would like the committee and NPS to consider.

to simplify the survey instrument and data collection:

1. Data on typical expenditures does not need to be collected -- we can get this data from posted prices at businesses and real estate agencies, from the several visitor surveys that have been done (Outer Banks Visitor Bureau, Vogelsong, Neal, NPS standard assumptions, other beach recreation and fishing surveys).
2. Data to estimate willingness to pay for trips under different conditions can be obtained from analysis of the MRFSS and from other studies on beach recreation.
3. We will only sample in areas affected by the proposed alternatives, but in those areas we will sample both ORV users and other visitors.
4. We will keep the survey as short as possible (no more than 10 minutes at the longest) and collect information about the current trip (activities and places visited), other beach trips in the last 12 months (activities and places), how they would change their visitation under different alternatives, and demographic information (income, zip code, age, gender at least).

I am trying to get some idea of what that might cost under different assumptions about the number of days we would need to be in the field.

We will also propose the idea of just counting visitors, again just in areas affected by the regulations.

I will also describe a bit more about the analysis of the MRFSS data we will propose (which won't involve data collection).

Let me know what you think. One thing I am not sure about is the type of alternatives that will likely be considered and how big an area would be affected by the regulations (could we really just interview people in one part of the park, or would the alternatives affect people in all parts of the park)?

Thanks,  
Carol

Carol Mansfield, Ph.D.  
Senior Economist  
Center for Regulatory Economics and Policy Research Research Triangle  
Institute 3040 Cornwallis Rd.  
PO Box 12194  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

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(fax) 919-541-6683  
(email) carolm@rti.org

From: Otto, Dana [mailto:dotto@louisberger.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2008 12:09 PM  
To: Mansfield, Carol A.; Fox, Lori

Cc: Clayton, Laurel; Poulos, Christine  
Subject: RE: meeting next week  
The first phase is complete and RTI should have no additional obligations.

I don't think Laurel needs to sit in on the alts development; we'll conserve the budget for the data gathering efforts, etc. Can you please provide a quick summary of what you will have to the group by Monday? Sandy, wants to be able to forward something that folks can look at prior to the reg-neg meeting.

Thanks Carol.

Dana Otto, AICP

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From: Mansfield, Carol A. [mailto:carolm@rti.org]  
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2008 11:43 AM  
To: Otto, Dana; Fox, Lori  
Cc: Mansfield, Carol A.; Clayton, Laurel; Poulos, Christine  
Subject: meeting next week

Hi all,

I got Dana's message that you think it would better if I attended the whole reg-neg meeting and skipped the alts. meeting with the park. That is fine.

Laurel might be able to stay on Thursday for the alts. meeting if you think that would be needed. And I could too, but it takes up a lot of time from the budget.

I am working on a plan, but probably won't have anything until Monday that I could pass on. There are a lot of variables to think about.

In terms of the overall project, where do we stand with the first phase of the project that Christy participated in? Do we still owe you work from that? Our accounting department was asking about billing.

Thanks,  
Carol

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(See attached file: Lodging questions 2 18 08.doc) (See attached file: Hatteras Area Businesses.xls)

0020566

RTI



Sandra  
Hamilton/DENVER/NPS  
03/13/2008 07:24 PM MDT

To "Mansfield, Carol A." <carolm@rti.org>  
cc "Mansfield, Carol A." <carolm@rti.org>, "Poulos, Christine" <cpoulos@rti.org>, "Otto, Dana" <dotto@louisberger.com>, "Fox, Lori" <lfox@louisberger.com>  
bcc  
Subject RE: FW: meeting next week

Hello All,

2:15 ET tomorrow (Friday) works for me. We can use our conference line:

877-952-2530

passcode 139595

Thanks.

Sandy Hamilton  
National Park Service - Environmental Quality Division  
Academy Place  
P.O. Box 25287  
Denver CO 80225  
PH: (303) 969-2068  
FAX: (303) 987-6782  
"Mansfield, Carol A." <carolm@rti.org>



"Mansfield, Carol A."  
<carolm@rti.org>  
03/13/2008 08:48 PM AST

To "Otto, Dana" <dotto@louisberger.com>, "Fox, Lori" <lfox@louisberger.com>  
cc <Sandra\_Hamilton@nps.gov>, "Mansfield, Carol A." <carolm@rti.org>, "Poulos, Christine" <cpoulos@rti.org>  
Subject RE: FW: meeting next week

Hi Sandy, Lori and Dana,  
I agree that it would be good to talk. I could talk at 2:15 tomorrow if that works for you all. I have a meeting from 1-2, and it will take me a few minutes to get back to my office. I attached the draft of the lodging survey for you to look at. Surveys of other business sectors will be similar. I also attached the start of our list of businesses at the south end of Hatteras Island.

If possible, can we talk some about where in the park the most likely alternatives would have the most impact? As I said in my email to Dana, I am back to thinking an intercept survey would really be best. To keep costs lower, I think we should just focus on the parts of the park that will be impacted by the alternatives, but I want your opinion. Maybe the area is too large for that to make a difference.

Thanks,  
Carol

0020567

Carol Mansfield, Ph.D.  
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0020568

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FAX: (303) 987-6782

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03/13/2008 08:08  
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0020571

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(email) carolm@rti.org



Lodging questions 2 18 08.doc Hatteras Area Businesses.xls

0020572



Sandra  
Hamilton/DENVER/NPS  
11/20/2008 03:40 PM MST


To nvandyke@louisberger.com, dotto@louisberger.com,  
lfox@louisberger.com, dwetmore@louisberger.com  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Fw: poverty rate for villages?

Sandy Hamilton  
National Park Service - Environmental Quality Division  
Academy Place  
P.O. Box 25287  
Denver CO 80225  
PH: (303) 969-2068  
FAX: (303) 987-6782

----- Forwarded by Sandra Hamilton/DENVER/NPS on 11/20/2008 03:39 PM -----



Sandra  
Hamilton/DENVER/NPS  
11/20/2008 11:04 AM MST

To "Mansfield, Carol A." <carolm@rti.org>  
cc  
Subject RE: poverty rate for villages? 

Thanks, Carol. Yes, if you'll need it anyway for the socio-economic analysis. It'll also be helpful as we're developing DEIS draft chapter 1 where we're addressing the Executive Order on Environmental Justice that on disproportionate impacts on minority and low-income populations. We're working on that now.

Sandy

Sandy Hamilton  
National Park Service - Environmental Quality Division  
Academy Place  
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Denver CO 80225  
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FAX: (303) 987-6782

"Mansfield, Carol A." <carolm@rti.org>



"Mansfield, Carol A."  
<carolm@rti.org>  
11/20/2008 12:49 PM EST

To <Sandra\_Hamilton@nps.gov>  
cc "Mansfield, Carol A." <carolm@rti.org>  
Subject RE: poverty rate for villages?

Hi Sandy,

We haven't looked for that specifically. It might be available at the census tract level, which should be smaller than a county. The unemployment rate and/or foreclosure rates might be something you can get for the current year. Do you want us to look for it?

Thanks,

Carol

Carol Mansfield, Ph.D.  
Senior Economist  
Health, Social, and Economic Research

RTI International  
3040 Cornwallis Rd.  
PO Box 12194  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

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(email) carolm@rti.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Sandra\_Hamilton@nps.gov [mailto:Sandra\_Hamilton@nps.gov]  
Sent: Thursday, November 20, 2008 12:44 PM  
To: Mansfield, Carol A.  
Subject: poverty rate for villages?

Hi Carol,

In your data gathering have you found economic info that would indicate whether the village residents are above/below the national /state poverty level / rate? For the IPSMS we looked at the 2000 U.S. Census data for Dare and Hyde counties, but are wondering if there's any village data.

Thanks.

Sandy

Sandy Hamilton  
National Park Service - Environmental Quality Division Academy Place  
P.O. Box 25287 Denver CO 80225  
PH: (303) 969-2068  
FAX: (303) 987-6782