

From: [Thayer Broili](#)
To: [Cyndy Holda](#)
Cc: [Mike Murray](#)
Subject: Re: Fw: Request for information
Date: 04/16/2008 12:56 PM

Just between us, the following is out of the draft ORV EIS documentation and relates to the information analyzed from the Workbooks and recommended to be dismissed from the ORV EIS. This is the issue that the Luizer's would apprea to want to bring up as a statement at the reg neg. We have already addressed this several times in the past:

Create bird habitat at the Seashore in nearby areas, including allowing vehicles to drive over areas to create habitat. [reason: Creating habitat (not through the use of ORV) is outside the scope of an ORV plan but may be considered under another process. The use of ORV to create habitat would not be consistent with NPS policies.]

Plus remove the bird enclosure in late fall winter so ORVs can drive on the vegetation. Restricting access is not the answer. The NPS needs to consider alternatives such as creating new areas with dredge material in the sound, along Pea Island, and on the south side of Oregon inlet, which would be conducive to the plover habitat.

Suitable habitat can be created by clearing the areas on the interior of the Point down to Ramp 45. Discouraging prenesting behavior on the north beach (Ramps 23–34) would allow this beach to be used by humans.

Clear the brush between the pond and Ramp 45. There is a huge amount of valuable feeding resources in that area. At Hatteras spit the inside area should also be cleared; this will allow the birds to nest/rest farther from the shoreline. The same thing can be done at Oregon Inlet, clear the interior of brush and grasses. This will allow birds to feed at the small creeks and puddles that would form.

If one or two feet of sand could be added to the western edge of the vegetated flats area of Ocracoke Spit, an ideal area for nesting could be created and this would be a win-win situation.

How about plowing down some of the dunes that have formed on brush & storm trash so there would be larger sand flats for the birds to use.

Why not expand use of Cape Lookout National Seashore for wildlife closures where recreation/economic impact is minimal.

Instead why don't you partner with the Corps of Engineers and other entities to provide more and larger dredge spoil islands in the sound that can be created, maintained and closed to public as resting and breeding areas for this wild life. The area of Cape Hatteras Seashore is a shoulder area for both nesting and wintering plovers and be at the edge of their habitat makes it a poor choice for the high cost of trying to increase their populous here. Instead you can take Portsmouth Island who only sees a small percentage of visitors compared to this recreational seashore to do these closures. Portsmouth has little dune structure and many better areas to promote nest and wintering habitats. Also in the vegetated portion of this area that have become unfit for breeding habitat open portions of them each winter to ORV and encourage use of the vegetated area opened to expand the habitat needed for breeding the next season.

Keeping the Ocracoke Island spit closed this long has dramatically changed the vegetation and habit for the very birds we are trying to attract. Due to mismanagement (wide-scale closure at Ocracoke Island spit) the birds are now forced (attracted due to habitat) to encroach on the habitat where the most visitor use is reserved. Restoration of this sand spit to the life long practice will be a good first step to improve this situation. Keeping the spit closed has allowed brush and vegetation to grow, which is actually shrinking the bird habitat. Alternatives need to be explored where by checkerboard rotations will help improve this. The checkerboard rotations are only for active nestings.

We have to become proactive to get the best uses out of this Seashore. Clearing the interior of this spit will provide additional feeding, nesting, resting areas for all the shoreline birds. By creating small interior puddles, even a tire track that fills with stagnant water, life will develop. Taking down the fences in the fall and winter will allow ORVs to help keep this area free of most regrowth. It will also cause additional tracks that will form pools of life for the non-fledged chicks to feed.

Thayer Broili
Chief of Resource Management
Cape Hatteras National Seashore
Phone 252-473-2111 ext.137
Fax 252-473-2595
▼ Cyndy Holda

**Cyndy
Holda**

To: Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc: Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS
Subject: Fw: Request for information

04/16/2008
11:25 AM
EDT

Thayer,
Any chance we have these documents somewhere? We can voluntarily provide.....or I have a feeling the Luzier's will FOIA the request...they usually do.

Cyndy M. Holda
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Community Liaison
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----- Forwarded by Cyndy Holda/CAHA/NPS on 04/16/2008 11:24 AM -----

"Jim and Ginny"
<jimandginny@scentarticles.com>

To: "caha_superintendent"
<caha_superintendent@nps.gov>
cc:

Subject: Request for information

04/16/2008 10:14 AM AST
Please respond to "Jim and Ginny"

Please find a reference to vegetation removal efforts conducted at CHNSRA in 1993, 1994, and 1995. The excerpt refers to

- a 1994 evaluation made by J.Nicholls, and
- a 1995 evaluation made by Collier and Lyons.

I respectfully request copies of these evaluations. I would like to have them prior to the next reg. neg. meeting scheduled on May 8.

Thank you in advance.

1.242 Discourage vegetation encroachment at nesting sites. In some areas, especially those where natural processes that set back succession of vegetation are impeded by coastal management practices, land managers should consider remedial efforts to remove or reduce vegetation that is encroaching on piping plover nesting and foraging habitat or obstructing movement of chicks from oceanside nesting areas to bayside feeding flats. Mechanical scarification of back-dune areas has been successfully used to maintain habitat suitability at Maschaug Pond, Rhode Island (C. Raithel in litt. 1994). **In addition, a small-scale vegetation removal experiment was conducted at Cape Hatteras National Seashore in 1993. The results were encouraging, with piping plovers and other shorebirds using the treated area for nesting and foraging immediately (J. Nicholls in litt. 1994). This program was expanded during the next two seasons, and in 1995, it encompassed approximately 90 acres at Cape Point and 20 acres at Hatteras Spit (Collier and Lyons in NPS 1995).**