

0021344

From: [John McCutcheon](#)
To: [Mike Murray](#)
Cc: [Norah Martinez](#); [Jon Anglin](#); [Paul Stevens](#); [Cyndy Holda](#); [Darrell Echols](#)
Subject: Re: Fw: Avon Village beach driving re-instatement
Date: 05/06/2008 11:34 AM

Mike,

Norah is off today. Just read this message from Kayota. I will prepare a more formal response and route it through Norah.

It was my decision to lift the safety closure and open Avon village. If anything, I should have open the safety closure earlier a month ago (was gone on holiday for two + weeks).

I disagree with Kayota. The 'normal' gradient associated with this particular safety closure was absent. All dangerous shelf activity through-out this past winter is now absent. The beach width has widened. At near high tide this past Monday May 5th at 0700 hours, the narrowest portion of beach in front of Avon was around 60 feet, plenty of room for two ORVs to pass each other safely. My decision was not based on the current closures. I deem this area not a safety closure.

John McCutcheon, Hatteras District Ranger
Cape Hatteras National Seashore

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46500 Lighthouse Road (Shipping)
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▼ [Mike Murray](#)

**Mike
Murray**

05/06/2008
07:28 AM
EST

To: Norah Martinez/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc: John McCutcheon/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Darrell
Echols/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Cyndy Holda/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Paul
Stevens/CAHA/NPS@NPS
Subject: Fw: Avon Village beach driving re-instatement

Norah,

Please have someone draft a short response for me by May 15.

Mike Murray
Superintendent
Cape Hatteras NS/ Wright Brothers NMem/ Ft. Raleigh NHS
(w) 252-473-2111, ext. 148

0021345

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----- Forwarded by Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS on 05/06/2008 07:27 AM -----

"Stephen Kayota"
<kayota@attglobal.net>

05/05/2008 09:12 PM

To "mike murray" <mike_murray@nps.gov>
cc "William P. Daly" <WDaly@reesbroome.com>, <vincenzosan@comcast.net>, "vincent sanguinetti" <vsanguinetti@comcast.net>, "steve monks" <smonks@rpa.net>, "steve andreasen" <steveandreneem@att.net>, "stephen pollock" <scpollock@gmail.com>, "russ basiura" <russ@rjbtech.com>, "ron craig" <RCraig8687@aol.com>, "paul courtnell" <pcourtnell@gunster.com>, "patrick mclaughlin" <prmclaughlin3@cox.net>, "maureen sullivan" <obxcanary@yahoo.com>, "liza pond" <lpond@woh.rr.com>, <Kevman713@aol.com>, "kathy bottner" <kmbottner@optonline.net>, "karen courtnell" <kcourtnell@bellsouth.net>, "john hamil" <jjhamil3@bellsouth.net>, "joanne figueroa" <LEMONAIDE1226@aol.com>, "jeff wells" <ckwandjsw@aol.com>, "jeff soden" <jeff@sodeninc.com>, "jean meyer" <jmeyer@coastalnet.com>, "frank carmel" <fcarmel@carmel.us>, "everett barber" <evbarber@aol.com>, "eve salimbene" <ews3333@aol.com>, "deidre asusa" <deirdreasusa@gmail.com>, "debbie mclaughlin" <debbieburd@cox.net>, "darryl luper" <luper@att.net>, "Clark, Tim" <tclark@bcsvoicedata.com>, "chip" <wick4rc@patmedia.net>, <BOBDALY1@aol.com>, "anthony cavaliere" <cavaliere02@comcast.net>, "anne rossiter" <chmotel@earthlink.net>, "Jim Lyons" <12lbtest@usa.net>, <HumanCapability@aol.com>

Subject Avon Village beach driving re-instatement

Dear Mike:

On behalf of the Hatteras Island Homewoners Coalition I am writing to express my disappointment in your decision to re-open the Avon Village beachfront to ORV beach driving as per your ORV access update of May 5.

This is a very busy time of year with very high occupancy rates in the village beach houses, which translates into a high pedestrian density on the beach. This area has routinely been closed due to narrow beach, as an "ORV safety closure". This beach is still very narrow, and with a high pedestrian density, ORV driving in this area represents an extreme safety risk to pedestrians. I feel the National Park Service needs to consider "pedestrian safety" and not just "ORV safety" when making these

decisions. I do not understand the timing of your decision, as the seasonal beach closure date is May 15, only 10 days away. Perhaps you feel the need to take away pedestrian village beaches to compensate for the current resource management closures in order to appease the ORV crowd. We feel that these are two separate issues, pedestrian safety closures and resource management closures.. Pedestrian safety should not be compromised to make up for ORV access lost to resource/wildlife closures. I remind you that Federal law under Nixon's executive orders dictates that ORV access in our National Parks should not be allowed if it results in (1)pedestrian safety concerns and (2) increased user conflicts. Your decision clearly compromises pedestrian safety during a very busy time of year for pedestrian beach usage and only increases the risk of user conflict between pedestians and ORVs. We thus ask that you reverse this decision immediately before a pedestrian gets injured or killed.

Sincerely,

Stephen Kayota, MD
Hatteras Island Homeowners Coalition
May 5, 2008