

Fox, Lori

From: Sandra_Hamilton@nps.gov
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2008 11:16 AM
To: Otto, Dana; Wetmore, Doug; Fox, Lori
Subject: Fw: Beach Closure Economics, etc.

Sandy Hamilton
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----- Forwarded by Sandra Hamilton/DENVER/NPS on 05/29/2008 11:15 AM -----

Mike
Murray/CAHA/NPS

05/29/2008 10:35
AM EST

Sandra Hamilton/DENVER/NPS@NPS

To
cc

Subject
Fw: Beach Closure Economics, etc.

Sandy,

See below FYI. May be worthwhile information to pass along to Carol Mansfield.

Mike Murray
Superintendent
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----- Forwarded by Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS on 05/29/2008 10:34 AM -----

Mary
Doll/CAHA/NPS

05/29/2008 08:26
AM

Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS

Darrell Echols/CAHA/NPS@NPS

To
cc
Subject

Beach Closure Economics, etc.

Mike,

I knew I'd be long-winded on this one, which is why I wanted to sent you an email, rather than discussing.

The professor that was mentioned in last night's seminar on Coastal Hazards that is doing an economic study on beach closures in relation to beach recreation and tourism is Dr. John Whitehead of Appalachian State University in Boone, NC; email: whiteheadjc@appstate.edu, phone: (828) 262-6121. From my understanding, his study is related to sea-level rise closures/impacts, but the economics may correlate to ORV closures. Also, I think his study area, although within North Carolina, is south of the Outer Banks. But I would think it would be worth looking at.

The professor that was giving the economic talk last night on sea level rise impacts, who mentioned Dr. Whitehead, was Dr. Paul Bin. Dr. Bin is with the Department of Economics at ECU. Both Dr. Whitehead and Dr. Bins are part of a much larger study project on coastal hazards that, I believe is the one that Stan Riggs (who was there last night) is heading up - which we are funding part of (if it is the same study) - with 17 researchers from nine subject areas out of five UNC universities, titled North Carolina Coastal Hazards: Economic Implications of Severe Storms and Sea-level Rise. Each of the five researchers who spoke at the seminar last night are part of this study. This website, <http://coastal.geology.ecu.edu/NCCOHAZ/index.html>, although still under development, talks about their study and they have posted some of the completed study maps (Google Earth, again) regarding historic and potential future inlets.

Also, Dortehea Ames who was there last night, and works with Stan Riggs, mentioned to me that she had provided Doug Stover draft digital copies of two books that are in the process for publication which have some of the results from the above study in regards to the Outer Banks/our parks. Doug may have sent them to you already, but I hadn't seen them yet and will be getting copies from him. Additionally, Dortehea has developed large format posters on the early results of their studies. I will be working with her to get these for all three of our parks (she has one specific for each park site) to hopefully post in the visitor centers, as the land area of each park is part of the larger story of coastal geology change on the Outer Banks and that story is an important part of each of our park themes.

There were probably 60 people there last night, but only maybe six who were from the local community - most folks were part of the research project, or students of the Coastal Studies Institute. Sandy Sanderson was there. He and I talked after the seminar was over. He expressed disappointment that no elected officials were there. We discussed the importance of getting this information/research results out the communities and had some preliminary discussion about working together (Dare Co. EOC and NPS) ,via Know Your Park or similar format programs to do this. Some of the researchers, Sandy has been working directly with in regards to storm/overwash impacts. Sandy also talked about his desire to do planning/decision-making now as to how impacted governmental agencies will respond to future inlet openings, rather than reacting after the fact. He is interested in exploring options

to leave new inlets open for the geologic health of the islands while still maintaining the necessary transportation for community/economics health.

Lastly, one of the community people who was there was Jim Harris - one of our very passionate ORV proponents. And he took advantage of the Q&A session after the lectures to mention the "bird" issue.

Mary

Mary H. Doll
Chief of Interpretation
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