

0021500

**From:** [Ben Hathaway](#)  
**To:** [mike\\_murray@nps.gov](mailto:mike_murray@nps.gov)  
**Cc:** [cyndy\\_holda@nps.gov](mailto:cyndy_holda@nps.gov)  
**Subject:** Cape Hatteras Beach Closures  
**Date:** 06/07/2008 09:42 AM

---

Dear Mr. Murray,

I'm sure you have had a lot of complaints lately about the massive beach closures which have shut down the most enjoyable sections of Cape Hatteras. It's been reported that even ramp 44 has been closed. This is like closing the Vatican to Catholics. It's a slap in the face to every person who worked to negotiate in good faith an equitable set of ORV rules.

I realise that you are bound by a consent decree forced upon you by a radical environmental legal center, and you have no choice. So I am not blaming you. You just have the thankless job of managing this mess.

I can only hope that you can keep a record of the strong opposition to this consent decree voiced by citizens, and remember it during the rule making process. I hope you will pass these thoughts along to your Superiors. I hope that you do not let the Southern Environmental Law Center bully you into a less than equitable deal. They have a history of non compliance with the rule making process and "cheat" the system. I trust you will remember mine and many others comments opposing this absurd new set of rules forced upon the American people by the SELC.

This September I will drive 380 miles to spend a week in Buxton. Because of these closings my family and I have seriously considered cancelling our trip. The only reason we will go is because the deposit we paid will be lost if we back out now. Cape Hatteras Cape Point is my favorite place on earth, and if I can't get there, I don't want to go to your Park. This year if it is closed, I'll probably rent a kayak and fish the sound, and stay at the pool, which is a far cry from the Vacation I planned last year.

So in closing, I want you to remember these comments and pass them along. Also a small return note, or a call to my home at 540-581-0699 would be great, and it would show me this e mail was read.

Thank You,

Benjamin Hathaway  
1832 Westover Ave  
Roanoke VA 24015  
540-581-0699

---

Now you can invite friends from Facebook and other groups to join you on Windows Live™ Messenger. [Add them now!](#)