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From: [Jon Anglin](#)
To: [Mike Murray](#)
Cc: [Britta Muiznieks](#); [Darrell Echols](#); [John McCutcheon](#); [Kenny Ballance](#); [Michelle Baker](#); [Norah Martinez](#); [Thayer Broili](#)
Subject: Re: night driving permit
Date: 08/01/2008 04:21 PM

The key fishing area in the BI District is the Oregon Inlet Spit. Only one way to; through the "Narrow". No turtle nests to block access yet. Fishing in the rest of the district is hit or miss and dependant on a number of variables.

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Cape Hatteras National Seashore
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▼ [Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS](#)

**Mike
Murray/CAHA/NPS**

07/30/2008 11:27 AM

To: Michelle Baker/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc: Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Jon Anglin/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Norah Martinez/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Darrell Echols/CAHA/NPS@NPS, John McCutcheon/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Kenny Ballance/CAHA/NPS@NPS
Subject: night driving permit

Michelle,

As we prepare for the night driving permit to go into effect September 16 - November 15, and for the implementation of automatic full beach closures around any turtle nests that have not hatched after September 15, my thoughts are that we are not obligated to open all areas to night driving. I want us to think about how the expected closures will play out on the ground and decide in advance if we really want to allow ORVs to go every place at night that is not otherwise closed to ORVs during the day, OR do we want to designate only certain routes as being open to night driving in order to keep lights away from at least some turtle nest areas.

In general, I think we should open all the key fishing areas (e.g., Cape Point, Hatteras Inlet, South Point, Bodie Island Spit, etc.) to night driving by at least one reasonably reliable route after September 16, but I don't know if there are other areas that have a heavy concentration of turtle nests that it would be better not to allow night driving in such areas. In other words, should we limit night access to Cape Point to just one route (which route?) based on locations of turtle nests? Should we limit night access to Hatteras Inlet to the Pole Road, as far south as possible, if there are a lot of nests on the ocean beach?

(If there are few nests there, does it matter which way people go?) Will there be enough full beach closures in effect for sea turtle nests after September 15 that those closures alone will sufficiently dictate which routes are open to night driving, so it doesn't add much value to further limit night driving to designated routes? These are the kinds of questions (not expecting you to explicitly answer each one) that can only be answered based on a knowledge of where the turtle nests are located and I don't have a good idea of where we have concentrations of nests.

Would you please think about it and, if you think it is needed, come up with list of preferred night driving routes and/or routes that maybe should remain restricted because of concentrations of turtle nests (as long as we can meet the general objective of allowing night access to key fishing areas). If you think the expected full beach closures will dictate which routes can be used for night driving anyway and there is no need to specifically designate night driving routes, please say so. (No use causing difficulty for us and visitors if there is not a strong resource benefit in limiting night driving to specific designated routes.) To the extent possible, it is better to keep it simple and easy to communicate. Ideally, if we do designate some routes open to night driving and some that are not, then we need to articulate that in the night driving permit.

Please organize your thoughts into a draft list (label it a draft) and run it up through Britta to Thayer to review and distribute to the rest of us who are copied on this message. It would be very helpful if Thayer could provide this to the group by COB on Wednesday, August 7 (which will be the deadline Jon Anglin is establishing for comments on the draft night driving permit/brochure).

Michelle, Thanks in advance for your help. Please call at your earliest convenience if you have any questions about this request.

District Rangers: We also need comments from you about where the key night fishing areas are, and the best route to get there. Please "Reply to ALL" with that information by the end of this week, if possible.

For now, this is all internal deliberative discussion and not for public release.

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