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Subject: RegNeg - Ocracoke - ORV
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Mike –

I have been told the Island Free Press wrote the language below. Do you know anything more about this? Has a written proposal/report been submitted of which I could get a copy?

Many thanks.

Carl

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"The subcommittee on ORV routes and areas has made two proposals for ORV access routes – one by environmental and pedestrian access groups and one by open beach access groups, advocates of ORV access. The two proposals could not be further apart.

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> The subcommittee members include David Goodwin, representing the Cape Hatteras Business Allies; Frank Folb representing Avon Property Owners Association; Jim Keene with the North Carolina Beach Buggy Association; Burnie Gould of the Cape Hatteras Recreational Alliance; Destry Jarvis, representing Natural Resources Defense Council and The Wilderness Society, and Sidney Maddock of North Carolina Audubon.

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> The beach access groups have emphasized keeping as much of the beach as possible open to ORVs by making increased use of interdunal roads that can take ORVs behind areas that are closed for nesting and more ramps for beach access during the nesting season. The latter will help with areas that have been open this summer but inaccessible because of full beach closures between the ramps and the open beach areas.

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> The environmental groups have put a proposal on the table that includes more closures to ORVs year round – including Bodie Island spit, Ramp 27 to Ramp 30 between Salvo and Avon, Ramp 34 to the Avon Pier, all of the South Beach from Ramp 45 to 49, and the Hatteras Inlet spit. Closures to ORVs on Ocracoke would include the entire South Point from Ramp 72 to Ocracoke Inlet, which would become a "wilderness study area," open only to pedestrians. Other proposals include year-round closures in front of some villages, such as Frisco and Hatteras, that are now open to ORVs in the off-season.

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> The proposal by the environmental groups would include leaving Cape Point open to ORVs, subject, of course, to natural resources closures in the nesting season. This summer Cape Point was inaccessible from early May until the end of July. In addition, all other areas open to ORVs would be subject to natural resource closures during the nesting season.