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From: [Scott Bradley](#)
Reply To: [Scott Bradley](#)
To: [Mike Murray](#)
Cc: [Kenny Ballance](#); cindy_holda@nps.gov
Subject: South Point
Date: 09/06/2008 02:36 PM

Mike, I was absolutely stunned to learn that the back side of the inlet area on South Point is being closed all year. Before this year's Spring closings on South Point, that area was the only accessible calm water swimming and beach area on the island of Ocracoke. For older and disabled folks there is now NO place to swim or even wade in the water!!

For example: My 12 year old friend Delaney from Nags Head adores her visits to Ocracoke. Delaney had brain cancer when she was 8, spent over a full year at Duke hospitals in treatment, and blessedly has been cancer free for several years. Among the residual effects she has are problems with her balance. She will always need to ride a 3-wheel bike. It is very difficult for her to stand up in the surf, so she loves the calm waters of the inlet area on the back side of South Point. I cannot tell you had sad it is that she can no longer access this special place.

As you know, there has been a section of about 150 feet open for vehicles and pedestrians to drive along the water. In fact, on all of South Point, there is an area of 150-200 feet width open -- the other 90-95% of South Point is closed to ALL access. South point is approximately 2 miles long from the access ramp and 8/10 to 1 mile wide. 95% or more reserved for bird habitat, some 900-1000 acres, I would guess. There is plenty of space here to accommodate all interests, with 90-95% for the bird and turtle areas, 5-10% for human access.

I urge you to return to the much more balanced management of South Point such as in the summer of 2007 to accommodate the natural resources as well as recreational use.

Thank you. Sincerely, Scott

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