

0021982

From: [Britta Muiznieks](#)
To: [Mike Murray](#)
Cc: [Doug McGee](#); [Michelle Baker](#); [Thayer Broili](#); [Tyler Bogardus](#)
Subject: Re: Resource Protection Measures Table and New Buffer Table
Date: 09/19/2008 01:48 PM
Attachments: [CAHA ORV ResProt Tables.rev3.091908.doc](#)

The latest version...



CAHA ORV ResProt Tables.rev3.091908.doc


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▼ [Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS](#)

**Mike
Murray/CAHA/NPS**

09/18/2008 02:49 PM

To: Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc: Doug McGee/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Michelle Baker/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Tyler Bogardus/CAHA/NPS@NPS
Subject: Re: Resource Protection Measures Table and New Buffer Table 

Thanks Britta,

I highlighted a few areas where I have questions or will want to discuss next week at the meeting. If there are any of the questions you can resolve easily now, please advise. Otherwise, it is okay to just wait and be prepared to discuss next week. Also, I want to move away from calling the document the "FONSI Table" since it really represents the resource protection measures for the ORV plan/EIS.

[attachment "CAHA ORV ResProt Tables.rev3.091808.doc" deleted by Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS]

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▼ Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS

**Britta
Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS**

09/18/2008 08:23 AM

To Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc Doug McGee/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Tyler Bogardus/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Michelle Baker/CAHA/NPS@NPS
Subject Resource Protection Measures Table and New Buffer Table

Mike/Thayer-

We've updated the table. I think I have incorporated all of your comments from the meeting we had the other day. Call if you have any questions.

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[attachment "CAHA IPSMS FONSI Tables-By species rev 3.doc" deleted by Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS]

[attachment "New Buffer Table.xls" deleted by Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS]

Survey Time and Frequency	Piping Plover	American Oystercatcher	Colonial Waterbirds
All Bird Species	<p>Species Management 1 (SM1): 8-10 Total biological field personnel. Will require larger longer lasting buffers with less monitoring and will alleviate the need for constant monitoring.</p> <p>Species Management 2 (SM2): 20-22 total biological field personnel. Buffers will be customized at the spits and points towards bird presence and movement.</p>		
Pre-Nesting Surveys	<p>By March 1, all potential habitats will have been evaluated. PIPL pre-nesting closures will be recommended based upon that habitat evaluation. Those closures will be installed by March 15.</p> <p>March 15 – July 15 survey recent breeding areas (last three years) three times per week (or every other day). Survey potential new and or former habitat two times per week. Survey for Wilson's plover during piping plover surveys.</p> <p>The PIPL pre-nesting areas will be surveyed 3 times per week if piping plovers are present in the area.</p> <p>To mitigate disturbance to nesting birds, surveys may need to be curtailed.</p> <p>Pre-nesting buffers will not be modified to in cases where the beach erodes into the buffered habitat.</p>	<p>March 15 – July 15 survey recent breeding areas two times per week. Turtle patrol will take over monitoring after July 15th.</p> <p>If an AMOY nests in a pre-nesting closure at one of the points or spits in an area which requires an expanded buffer (e.g., nest inside pre-nesting closure but buffer not adequate) and the nest is over-washed or predated, the buffer expansion shall be removed to the established pre-nesting closure.</p>	<p>May 1 – July 15 survey recent breeding areas two times per week. Turtle patrol will take over monitoring after July 15th.</p> <p>If a colony is established in a pre-nesting closure at one of the points or spits in an area which requires an expanded buffer (e.g., colony inside pre-nesting closure but buffer not adequate) and the colony is over-washed or predated, the buffer expansion shall be removed to the established pre-nesting closure.</p>
Pre-Nesting Buffers	<p>SM1: Pre-nesting closures at the points, spits, South Beach and resource area closures will not allow ORV or pedestrian access.</p> <p>SM2: Designate an ORV and pedestrian pass through corridor to allow access to points and spits. Outside of corridor, prohibit pedestrian access to breeding areas beyond the resource area closures. Delineate the corridor with posts placed up to 100 feet above the high tide line. No pets would be allowed in the pass through corridors or at the points and spits. At other resource area closures no ORV or pedestrian corridors would be designated, due to the narrow beach width of these areas.</p> <p>Pre-nesting closures may be modified at anytime as long as minimum buffers are maintained around breeding birds of all species.</p>		

	<p>In February or March of each year, NPS natural resource staff will conduct an annual assessment of piping plover breeding habitat to plan pre-nesting closures in recent breeding areas that are adapted to current habitat and physiographic conditions. Recent breeding areas will be closed by posting symbolic fencing by March 15. Closures will be removed if no bird activity is seen in the area by June 15 or when area has been abandoned for a 2-week period, whichever comes later.</p>	<p>SM1: Pre-nesting closures with recent breeding activity would be installed by March 15. If closures are not occupied by June 15 then closures will be adjusted or removed. SM2: Pre-nesting closures will not be established prior to the bird's arrival.</p>	<p>SM1 & SM2: Pre-nesting closures will not be established for CWB. Note: CWBs do not return to exactly the same location every year making it difficult to establish a pre-nesting closure for them under SM1.</p>
<p>Courtship/Mating Surveys:</p>	<p>If species are observed exhibiting territorial or courtship behavior during two separate observations in recent breeding habitat, observe three times per week. If scrapes are observed in the absence of courtship behavior, survey three times per week. Survey potential new habitat two times per week.</p>		
<p>Courtship/Mating Buffers:</p>	<p>If courtship or copulation is observed outside of existing pre-nesting closures, establish or expand buffer to ensure 50 m buffer for the observed birds.</p>	<p>SM1: Pre-nesting closures will have already been established for the majority of returning birds. Pre-nesting closures will be evaluated to determine the adequacy of their placement. For observed activity outside of pre-nesting closures, closures will be installed when three separate observations of scraping or territorial behavior have been documented or if a scrape is being maintained. Based on bird behavior and suitable habitat, a 300 meter buffer will be established around the bird activity. SM2: In newly occupied habitat, closures will be installed when three separate observations of scraping or territorial behavior have been documented or if a scrape is being maintained. A 150-meter buffer will be established around all the areas of activity.</p>	<p>SM1: If scraping is observed outside of existing closures, a 300 meter buffer will be established around the scrape locations. Closure establishment will be based on the locations of scrapes and not locations for copulation or "fish flashing". SM2: If scraping is observed a closure with a 100 m buffer will be established for least terns and 200 m for all other colonial waterbirds (i.e. common terns, gull-billed terns, and black skimmers). At the points and spits provide a pass through corridor for pedestrians and ORVs above the high tide line if the buffer allows for it and does not occur in the intertidal zone. No pets will be allowed in the pass through corridor or at the spits and points.</p>

Comment [MSOffice2]: We may have installed closures for birds that have not returned from the previous year. We would want to have the ability to remove them in no birds are present.

Comment [MSOffice1]: This only applies if no PIPL breeding activity has been observed at all. For example, this year we did not have any breeding activity at Hatteras Inlet and it would have been nice to pull it earlier. We still had AMOYs in the area that would have required an appropriate buffer.

		Designate an ORV and pedestrian pass through corridor to allow access to points and spits. Outside of corridor, prohibit pedestrian access to breeding areas beyond the resource area closures.	
Nesting Surveys:	Observe nests daily from a distance that does not disturb the birds, based on professional judgment. Approach nests once per week to observe and record data.	Observe nests at least three times per week from a distance. SM1: For incubating birds that cannot be observed from a distance, check nests on a weekly basis (or as staff is available). SM2: For incubating birds that cannot be observed from a distance, check nests every three days.	Colonies will be surveyed by foot during the "peak" nesting period which is during the last week of May and the first week of June. Observe colonies at least three times per week from a distance. SM1: For incubating birds that cannot be observed from a distance, check colonies on a weekly basis. SM2: For incubating birds that cannot be observed from a distance, check colonies every three days.
Nesting Buffers:	All species: The park retains the discretion to expand buffers under SM1 and SM2 depending on staffing and bird behavior. In unprotected areas, a closure will be established immediately when a nest is found. Buffers will remain in place for 2 weeks after a nest is lost to determine if pair will re-nest, if no other species nesting in area. After August 1, closures will be removed if all nesting is complete.		
	SM1 & SM2: Establish 50-meter buffer/closure around piping plover nests occurring outside existing closures. If disturbance is observed expand closures using flexible increments dependent on observed bird behavior.	Establish buffer/closure based on adult's reaction to human disturbance. SM1: Buffer will be the same as for courtship and mating – 300 meters. SM2: Buffers will be a minimum of 150 meters. If the buffer falls within the intertidal zone a full-beach closure will result. Designate an ORV and pedestrian pass through corridor to allow access	SM1 & SM2: Install closures immediately when a nest is located. Establish a buffer/closure based on adult's reaction to human disturbance. SM1: Buffer will be the same as for courtship and mating – 300 meters. SM2: Buffers will be a minimum of 100 meters around the nest or colony. If the buffer falls within the intertidal zone a full-beach closure will result. If the

Comment [d3]: The majority of buffers specified by USGS and used by other nesting beaches only reference single studies without those studies being replicated by other researchers.

		to points and spits. Outside of corridor, prohibit pedestrian access to breeding areas beyond the resource area closures.	colony contains common terns, gull-billed terns or black skimmers, a 200 meter buffer will be established. Designate an ORV and pedestrian pass through corridor to allow access to points and spits. Outside of corridor, prohibit pedestrian access to breeding areas beyond the resource area closures. SM1 & SM2: Closures will be removed when areas have been abandoned for a two week period. After August 1 the 2-week removal period will no longer be required for closure removal.
Adult Foraging Buffer:	For breeding adults (with an associated scrape or nest territory) foraging outside of a closure on two consecutive surveys, expand the buffer to include foraging site if the foraging area is associated with a pre-nesting closure. These closures are intended to provide foraging opportunities close to breeding sites.	No additional buffers/closures.	No additional buffers/closures.
Unfledged Chicks Surveys:	SM1: Observe brood once daily. SM2: Observe brood am and pm daily. Observations end once chicks have fledged. Chicks are considered fledged at 35 days or are observed in sustained flight of >15 m.	SM1: Observe brood at a minimum every other day. SM2: Observe brood once daily. Observations end once the chicks have fledged. Chicks are considered fledged if they have been observed to be proficient in flying or observed in sustained flight of >30 m.	Colonies will be surveyed by foot during the "peak" hatching period which should fall 21 days after initial nest counts. A follow-up survey by foot should be conducted during the "peak" fledge which should fall 20 days after hatch counts. SM1: Observe colony weekly. SM2: Observe colony at two-three day intervals. (Staff feels that higher frequency observations do not add to overall data) Observations end after no unfledged chicks have been observed on two consecutive occasions. Closure can be removed after all chicks have fledged.
Unfledged Chick Buffers:	SM1: Establish a minimum 1000 meter buffer on either side of brood based on observation	SM1: Establish a 300 meter buffer when unfledged chicks are present. Closure would be removed 2 weeks	SM1: same as courtship and mating – 300 meters. If chicks move outside of the buffer, it will be adjusted will be

	<p>of bird behavior and terrain conditions at site. No ORV or pedestrian access until all chicks have fledged.</p> <p>SM2: *For the first week after hatching establish a 1000 meter buffer for ORVs and pedestrians on either side of brood. Based on observed behavior (i.e., mobility of the brood) and the capability to intensively observe mobility and behavior, buffer can be reduced after the first week to no less than 300 m for ORVs and it will be up to the discretion of the Park whether or not the area can be opened to pedestrians. If the chicks are highly mobile the 1000 meter buffer may need to be maintained. Buffer moves with chicks. Points and spits would only be accessible from 7 AM-7 PM as long as unfledged chicks are in the area. The 7 AM opening may be delayed if the chicks cannot be located.</p> <p>No pets would be allowed in pedestrian/ORV corridor at the points and spits.</p>	<p>after fledging to allow chick(s) to become proficient in flying.</p> <p>SM2: Establish a 200 meter buffer around the chick(s) location. Adjust/increase buffer as needed when chicks are mobile.</p> <p>ORV access would not be allowed until 2 weeks after AMOY chicks have fledged (observed flight of 30 meters); a pedestrian corridor may be established prior to 2 week requirement for access to the points and spits.</p> <p>Points and spits would only be accessible during daylight hours as long as unfledged chicks are in the area.</p> <p>No pets would be allowed in pedestrian/ORV corridor at the points and spits.</p>	<p>adjusted to include an additional 200 meters from the chick(s) location outside of the closure.</p> <p>SM2: Establish a 200 meter buffer around the chick(s) location. Adjust buffer as needed when chicks are mobile.</p> <p>No pets would be allowed in pedestrian/ORV corridor or at the points and spits.</p>
	Reopen access corridor after chicks fledge (except for AMOYs where the area will remain closed for an additional 2 weeks).		
Non-breeding / Wintering Survey	NPS will monitor presence, abundance and behavior of migrating and wintering PIPL, AMOY, WIPL, and REKN at the points and spits. Surveys will begin after the last PIPL chick has fledged on the seashore and end on March 1 the following year. Surveys will be conducted three times per month at pre-established locations based on a habitat assessment conducted at the beginning of the winter survey season.		
Non-breeding / Wintering Buffers	Annual habitat assessment will be conducted after all birds have fledged from the area. Winter closures will include habitat used by wintering PIPLs in the past 3 years. All winter closures will be installed no later than Sept 15 th . Actual locations of suitable foraging and resting habitat may change periodically due to natural processes.	No closures.	No closures.
Data Collected	GPS will be used to document nest locations. Record locations where territorial/courtship behavior occurs to include scrape locations. Estimate where adult and chick foraging occurs. Chicks should never be disturbed to	GPS will be used to document nest locations. Record presence and abundance of birds.	GPS will be used to document colony locations. Record presence and abundance of birds.

	obtain this information. Record presence and abundance of birds.		
Sea Turtles (a minimum of 7 field personnel is required to meet the daily monitoring requirements on the Park's 67 miles of shoreline)			
Survey Time and Frequency	<p>Sea turtle patrol will begin on May 1, unless leatherback nests have been reported within the state, in which case CAHA will follow the direction of NCWRC. Patrol will continue until September 15, or two weeks after the last sea turtle nest is found, whichever is later.</p> <p>Conduct daily morning surveys by ATV/UTVs and possibly ORVs for crawls and nests on all beaches before onset of heavy public ORV use. Daily surveys for nests end September 15, or two weeks after the last sea turtle nest was found, whichever is later. Periodic monitoring (e.g., every two to three days) for unknown nesting and emerging hatchlings will continue, especially in areas of high visitation from that date until November 15.</p> <p>Monitoring will also occur for post-hatchling washbacks during periods when there are large quantities of seaweed washed ashore or following severe storm events. Nest observations stop when all nests have hatched or excavation indicates that the nest was not viable.</p> <p>Once a light filter fence is installed, monitor nests daily for signs of hatchling emergence.</p>		
Data Collected	<p>Follow the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Handbook and record:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Turtle species -Nest vs. false crawl -Location (physical description and GPS location) -If nest needs to be relocated and, if so, why and where (new physical description and GPS location), number of eggs relocated, and time of day -Necessary protective measures for nest and hatchlings -Information regarding any post hatching nest excavation and analysis <p>Examine all nests after hatching to determine productivity rates. Excavate nests in the evening a minimum of 72 hours after hatching event. In cases where hatching events or dates were unknown, unearth nest cavities 80–90 days after the lay date. Any live hatchlings found during excavations will be released after dark on the same day as excavation.</p> <p>For strandings the following will be recorded: species, location, measurements, and signs of human interactions. Samples and photos will be collected when necessary. Necropsies will be conducted when possible.</p>		
Nest Closures/ Buffers	<p>Establish a buffer approximately 10 meters by 10 meters with symbolic fencing and signage around nest. Closure size may be modified due to environmental conditions at the nest site.</p> <p>Approximately 50– 55 days into incubation, closures expanded to the surf line. The width of the closure based on the type and level of use in the area of the beach where the nest was laid:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. vehicle-free areas with little or no pedestrian traffic – 25 meters wide (total width); b. villages or other areas with high levels of day use –50 meters wide (total width); c. areas with ORV traffic –105 meters wide (total width). <p>Opposite the surf line on the landward side of the closure, expand the closed area to 15 meters where possible, but no less than 10 meters duneward from the nest. Traffic detours behind the nest area clearly marked with signs and reflective arrows.</p> <p>Where present within closure, vehicle tracks manually smoothed with rakes or a steel mat attached to an ATV, so as not to</p>		

	<p>impede hatchlings attempting to reach the surf.</p> <p>Use light filtering fence behind nests nearing hatch dates to block light pollution from the villages and vehicles operating on the beach after dark.</p> <p>If multiple nests are located near each other (within 150 feet), and have similar hatch dates (14 days), then closures will encompass all nests in the area, and will not be removed until all nests within the closure have hatched.</p>
Nest Relocation	<p>By April 15th, areas deemed unsuitable for turtle nests (i.e. high erosion rate) will be identified by Park staff. Maps and descriptions of these areas will be analyzed by NCWRC prior to nesting season.</p> <p>When a nest is found, staff assesses need for nest relocation and follows relocation guidance identified in the NCWRC handbook.</p> <p>If it is determined the nest will not be relocated, it will be immediately protected with a symbolic fencing and signs and will measure approximately 10 meters by 10 meters in size. Closure size may vary at the discretion of staff due to the environmental factors at a nest location.</p> <p>If a nest is threatened by a storm event, NPS will consult with NCWRC to determine appropriate action.</p>
Light Management	<p>Establish turtle friendly lighting standards and/or reduce light for all Seashore (NPS) structures.</p> <p>Encourage concessioners to install turtle friendly lighting.</p> <p>Develop educational material to inform visitors about their impact on the success of sea turtle nests.</p>
Research	<p>Support research efforts looking at the sex ratios of sea turtles.</p> <p>Respond to sea turtle strandings in a timely manner, and report all information, pictures, and signs of human interaction to NCWRC.</p> <p>Necropsies of strandings will be done when possible.</p>
Seabeach Amaranth	
Survey Time and Frequency	<p>August An annual survey of potential habitat will be conducted. Some bird closure areas may not be surveyed due to the potential to disturb nesting birds. Some areas may not be surveyed until just prior to re-opening an area to ORV traffic.</p> <p>July– September Before opening any species closure or identifying alternate ORV corridors, survey for seedlings/plants.</p> <p>End observations when all plants have died back.</p>
Data Collected	<p>Record location of all individual plants or plant clusters using a GPS and note if the plant is located in an area open or closed to recreational use.</p>
Buffers	<p>April 15 – November 30</p> <p>If a plant/seedling is found outside of an existing closure, the Seashore will erect symbolic fencing with signage creating a 10 meter by 10 meter buffer around the plant. If plants are located next to each other, the area will be expanded to create one enclosure protecting several plants.</p> <p>If a SBA is found during the survey prior to reopening a bird closure to ORV and pedestrian use, the Seashore will protect the SBA</p>

	<p>as described above and reopen the areas of the bird closure where no plants exist.</p> <p>Areas reopened if no plants are present by September 1. Where plants occur, the closed areas will be reopened after the plants have died.</p>
Other	
<p>ORV Corridors and Access (This may be redundant and/or inconsistent with information in the Draft Alternatives Matrix. Can resolve during meeting.)</p>	<p>March 15– August 31</p> <p>Piping plover: Depending on habitat evaluation, where possible, a 30 meter wide (will want to discuss width next week during meeting) ORV corridor will be established above the mean high tide line in breeding areas used within past three years.</p> <p>In areas subject to erosion and/or dynamic intertidal zone may be closed at the park's discretion if it is too labor intensive to keep the area signed.</p> <p>In areas of reduced corridor width (i.e., less than 30 meters), post traffic signs and 10 mph speed limit. (Will likely have a 15 mph limit, at least during the breeding season. Not practical to have to change it back and forth from 10 to 15.) If an ORV corridor is not feasible for safety reasons or insufficient area, initiate an ORV closure. Seashore staff will allow observations to be responsive to individuality in bird behavior when determining adequate size of closures.</p> <p>American oystercatcher and colonial waterbirds: SM1: No ORV or pedestrian corridors will be provided outside of the points and spits. SM2: Provide ORV/pedestrian corridor above the high tide line if possible at the points and spits. (Will likely have a 15 mph limit, at least during the breeding season. Not practical to have to change it back and forth from 10 to 15.) If an ORV corridor is not feasible for safety reasons or insufficient area, initiate an ORV closure. Seashore staff will allow observations to be responsive to individuality in bird behavior when determining adequate size of closure zones.</p> <p>Sea Turtles: May 1 – September 15 (or two weeks after the last turtle nest is found, whichever is later)</p> <p>Outside of recent bird breeding areas, ORV use will be restricted to a corridor 50 meters (will want to discuss width next week during meeting) duneward of the mean high tide line and seaward of the toe of the dunes or vegetation line, whichever is less.</p> <p>On all ORV beaches that are wide enough to support it, a 10 meter backshore buffer will be installed seaward of the vegetation line for the protection of potential sea turtle nesting habitat. This buffer will extend for the full length of the beach and will be delineated by brown carsonites.</p> <p>A 10 meter by 10 meter buffer zone of signed, stringed fencing will be placed around each nest. When a nest has reached 50 days of incubation, where possible, ORV traffic will be routed around the nest on the duneward side, maintaining a buffer of 15 meters where possible, but no less than 10 meters. If the filter fence closure for hatchlings will block access to spits and Cape Point, identify an alternate route (e.g., existing interdunal road, NC-12). If an alternate route is not available, an attempt will be made to identify a bypass route on the duneward side of the nest, so long as there continues to be at least 30 feet from the nest to the ORV corridor. If alternate route or bypass is not feasible, initiate an ORV closure.</p>
<p>Night Driving Access (This may be redundant and/or inconsistent with information in the Draft Alternatives Matrix. Can resolve during meeting.)</p>	<p>Night-time driving prohibited May 1 – September 15. After September 15, night driving will be allowed with a permit. Permits will be provided for free. The permit will be good for September 15th –November 1st, after which night-driving is open to all users. Vehicles on the beach after 10pm September 15th – November 1st that do not have a permit will be asked to leave the beach, and/or given a citation.</p> <p>If it is determined by Park staff that certain areas are more susceptible to night-driving lights, that area may be closed to vehicular traffic at the direction of Park management.</p> <p>Turtle closures will follow the same size requirements throughout the hatching season.</p>
<p>Pedestrian Access Outside of Bird and</p>	<p>Pedestrians allowed 24-hour access to all Seashore beaches outside of existing resource closures.</p>

Turtle Closures	
Boat Access (This may be redundant and/or inconsistent with information in the Draft Alternatives Matrix. Can resolve during meeting.)	<p>36 CFR 3.6 prohibits launching non-commercial, recreational boats/vessels except at designated launch sites.</p> <p>SM1: Permits may be issued for commercial fishing to allow ORV access or boat launching in pedestrian-only areas as well as in ORV areas but not in areas closed for resource protection.</p> <p>SM2: Permits may be issued for commercial fishing to allow ORV access or boat launching in pedestrian-only areas as well as in ORV areas if a dedicated biological technician was available to monitor commercial fishing activities in areas closed for resource protection.</p> <p>Along sound shoreline where resource closures occur attempt to keep boats 150 feet from the habitat, the extent of the seashore jurisdiction. Erect signs, where practicable, around the perimeter of the closures to alert boaters of closures.</p>
Pets (This may be redundant and/or inconsistent with information in the Draft Alternatives Matrix. Can resolve during meeting.)	<p>36 CFR 2.15, Pets: pets must be crated, caged, restrained on a leash, or otherwise physically confined at all times in all areas of the Seashore.</p> <p>Pets prohibited, even if on leash, from the landward side of the posts delineating the pedestrian/ORV corridor at the spits (Bodie, Hatteras, Ocracoke) and Cape Point.</p> <p>Pets prohibited within symbolic fencing around any bird closure or sea turtle closure area.</p>
Other (This may be redundant and/or inconsistent with information in the Draft Alternatives Matrix. Can resolve during meeting.)	<p>Kite flying, kite boards, and ball and Frisbee tossing prohibited within or above all bird closures.</p> <p>36 CFR 2.38, Explosives: all fireworks are prohibited in the Seashore at all times.</p> <p>Beach equipment (i.e., chairs, canopies, volleyball nets, water sports gear, etc.) are prohibited on the Seashore at night. Turtle patrol and law enforcement will tag equipment found at night. Owners have 24 hrs to remove equipment before it will be removed by NPS staff.</p> <p>Beach fires prohibited within 100 meters of any expanded turtle nest.</p>
Essential Vehicle Use (This may be redundant and/or inconsistent with information in the Draft Alternatives Matrix. Can resolve during meeting.)	<p>Essential vehicles allowed in closures subject to guidelines in Essential Vehicles section of Appendix G of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Piping Plover (<i>Charadrius melodus</i>), Atlantic Coast Population, Revised Recovery Plan (USFWS 1996a, as cited in the strategy/EA).</p> <p>In the event of an emergency, the protection of human life takes precedence over all other management activities. To the extent practicable, emergency response vehicle operators will consult with trained resource management staff regarding protected species before driving into or through resource closures; however, prior consultation may not always be practical.</p> <p>Essential vehicles will try to avoid driving within turtle nest closures.</p> <p>Essential vehicles will not exceed 10 mph, whenever possible.</p>
Outreach and Compliance	
(This may be redundant and/or inconsistent with information in the Draft Alternatives Matrix. Can resolve during meeting.)	<p><u>General:</u></p> <p>Provide information about endangered species at the visitor centers.</p> <p>Enforce proper trash disposal (pack in/pack out) and anti-wildlife feeding regulations throughout the Seashore, including proper disposal of fishing bait and filleted fish carcasses. Provide education and outreach materials regarding the impacts of trash disposal, wildlife feeding, fireworks, and pets on sensitive Seashore species.</p>

<p>during meeting.)</p>	<p>Solicit from interested parties how to convey information about the species management program.</p> <p>Notify the public of species management closures that will temporarily limit ORV traffic. Send a press release to local and regional newspapers and contact local tackle shops and ORV organizations when species closures established or reopened.</p> <p><u>Piping plover:</u> Provide periodic patrols to observe and enforce compliance with piping plover closures.</p> <p><u>Sea Turtles:</u> Conduct educational programs during the sea turtle hatching season where public school students, visitors, and locals could learn about sea turtles by participating in post-hatching nest examinations, strandings, etc. Provide information to the public about nesting sea turtles and measures taken by the Seashore to protect nests and hatchlings.</p> <p><u>Seabeach Amaranth:</u> Post information about seabeach amaranth at all ORV ramp bulletin boards. Notify public of resource closures and openings.</p>
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