

From: [Mike Murray](#)
To: [Timothy Pinion](#)
Cc: cherry_green@nps.gov; [Sherri Fields](#)
Subject: Re: Fw: review of CAHA Cape Point suggestions
Date: 09/26/2008 11:13 AM

Tim,

Thank you for your comments. Britta says a narrow corridor would not be feasible at this location because of the tidal fluctuations in this area. For example, we can easily get a 20 m (or more) difference between high and low tides. The current "winter closure" (non-ORV Zone) is approximately 100 m from the most recent **low** tide line. She doesn't recommend making it more narrow for the prenesting closure, but rather leaving it in place. (As background, the east-side access corridor is the only viable access option to Cape Point during the breeding season, since there is a massive prenesting area from the edge of the corridor west to accommodate all the recent PIPL nesting and chick foraging areas, as well as most of the key AMOY and CWB nest sites.)

We are finishing up draft resource protection measures (to replace the "interim strategy" measures) in the draft ORV management plan/EIS. Once we have finished park review, would like to send it to you and Sherry to get your input. Should have something to send early next week.

Thanks,

Mike Murray
Superintendent
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▼ [Timothy Pinion/Atlanta/NPS](#)

**Timothy
Pinion/Atlanta/NPS**

09/25/2008 01:40 PM

To: Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc: Sherri Fields/Atlanta/NPS@NPS, cherry_green@nps.gov
Subject: Re: Fw: review of CAHA Cape Point suggestions 

Thanks for the additional details, Mike. The draft suggestions indicated that the current corridor was approximately 33m. It seems that the narrower corridor (33m versus 100m) would be less likely to be impacted by expanded buffers around bird nests --- the narrower corridor being a smaller "target."

Would considering a narrower minimum vehicle corridor, 15m for example, improve the chances that the corridor wouldn't be impacted by a bird buffer while still allowing for safe vehicle passage?

--Tim

Tim Pinion
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404-562-3113 ext 512
Timothy_Pinion@nps.gov

▼ [Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS](#)

Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS

09/15/2008 09:26 AM

To Timothy Pinion/Atlanta/NPS@NPS
cc Sherri Fields/Atlanta/NPS@NPS
Subject Fw: review of CAHA Cape Point suggestions

Tim,

Thanks for your comments. They are helpful.

The idea behind the 100 m starting width for an ORV corridor on the east side of Cape Point is based on the understanding that the west side of the Point would be completely closed for the duration of the breeding season. In order to increase the chances of the east side access corridor remaining open longer, the greater starting width would allow for several buffer expansions, if CWB nest in that area, before a buffer would shut down access. What happened this year under the consent decree, was that as soon as a few least terns started to gather about 90 m from the waterline, the 100 m buffer requirement shut down all access. We've had several scientists, Michael Erwin of USGS and Dave Allen of NC WRC, say that during incubation vehicles driving a distance by a nest site (without stopping and getting out of the vehicle) are less disturbing than pedestrians walking by at the same distance and can be approached through monitoring and adaptive management.

In any case, since Cape Point is a key access area as well as breeding site, the thought is to start with a wider access corridor width on the east side (the only access option) to allow for several buffer expansions to occur, if needed, rather than set ourselves up that the very first buffer expansion would automatically close the only access route. In addition, seek to enhance CWB nesting habitat a little further west of the site (which is where the CWB ultimately nested this year, after their first attempt was overwashed).

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----- Forwarded by Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS on 09/15/2008 08:12 AM -----

0022056

**Sherri
Fields/Atlanta/NPS**

09/12/2008 11:50 AM

To Mike_Murray@nps.gov
cc Sandra Hamilton/DENVER/NPS@NPS,
Thayer_Broili@nps.gov, Timothy_Pinion@nps.gov,
cherry_green@nps.gov

Subject Fw: review of CAHA Cape Point suggestions

Mike-
See Tim's feedback in the attachment with his email. Let us know if you need something more.

Sherri


Sherri L. Fields, Chief
Science & Natural Resources Division
Southeast Regional Office
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(404) 562-3113, ext 517

----- Forwarded by Sherri Fields/Atlanta/NPS on 09/12/2008 12:49 PM -----

**Timothy
Pinion/Atlanta/NPS**

09/12/2008 11:06 AM

To Sherri_Fields@nps.gov
cc Cherry Green/Atlanta/NPS@NPS

Subject review of CAHA Cape Point suggestions 

Hi, Sherri.

As requested, here are a few thoughts on the document described below.

--Tim

[attachment "NegReg_Cape Point Nat Res 9-3-08_comments.doc" deleted by Timothy Pinion/Atlanta/NPS]

Tim Pinion
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▼ [Cherry Green/Atlanta/NPS](#)

**Cherry
Green/Atlanta/NPS**

09/11/2008 06:52 AM

To Timothy Pinion/Atlanta/NPS@NPS
cc

Subject Fw: Natural Resources

Tim,

Could you look over the attached **CAHA Off-Road Driving Regulatory Negotiation** developed as a part of the Reg Negotiations for the CAHA ORV Plan? Mike Murray wanted our comments by Friday, August 12 and apparently Sherri just discovered the request for review in her stack of e.mail messages from last week when she was on annual leave. Just let me know if you can provide any comments to Mike, and if you need until Monday Sept. 15 we can send Mike an e.mail asking for an extra day to review.

Thanks,

Cherry Green
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and Regional Wetlands Ecologist
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----- Forwarded by Cherry Green/Atlanta/NPS on 09/11/2008 06:48 AM -----

**Sherri
Fields/Atlanta/NPS**

To cherry_green@nps.gov
cc

09/10/2008 04:26 PM

Subject Fw: Natural Resources



Cherry-

Could you please ask Tim to take a look at this and send me some comments back? Please note Mike was hoping for feedback by the end of this week. (I apologize for the short turn around but I'm still digging through emails from last week.)

Thanks,

0022058

Sherri

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Science & Natural Resources Division
Southeast Regional Office
National Park Service
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----- Forwarded by Sherri Fields/Atlanta/NPS on 09/10/2008 04:23 PM -----

Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS

09/05/2008 09:17 AM

To: Sherri Fields/Atlanta/NPS@NPS
cc: Sandra Hamilton/DENVER/NPS@NPS, Thayer
Broili/CAHA/NPS@NPS
Subject: Fw: Natural Resources

Hi Sherri,

Would you please have someone take a look at the attached Cape Point proposal and give us some feedback on it by the end of next week.

As background: The draft is for discussion purposes only (an effort to think out of the box and get people off their entrenched positions); and nobody including NPS has committed to it. David Rabon, Dave Allen, and Walker Golder, among others, are on the subcommittee. There are a few unconventional ideas in it (some put in there by me to generate discussion), including some of which may not jive well with NPS policy. Would appreciate comments about the appropriateness and potential effectiveness of such ideas. Some of the ideas for managing least terns (enhancing nesting substrate, chick fencing, use of decoys to attract terns to the enhanced nesting substrate, etc.) come from methods used on California least terns, a federally listed endangered population.

Thank you,

Mike Murray
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----- Forwarded by Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS on 09/05/2008 08:03 AM -----

Cyndy Holda/CAHA/NPS

09/05/2008 07:16 AM

To
cc

0022059

Subject Fw: Natural Resources

To: Reg Neg Committee Members
From: CBI
Subject: Natural Resources document

Here's the natural resources piece to send to the committee. Hope all are holding up under the weather down there.

PAT

[attachment "NatResc9-4.pdf" deleted by Timothy Pinion/Atlanta/NPS]