

Herron, Amanda

CAHA # 2241

From: Fox, Lori
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2010 3:54 PM
To: Herron, Amanda
Subject: FW: CAHA business survey
Attachments: Carol summary of alts.doc; recreation supplies questions 10 13 08.doc

From: Mansfield, Carol A. [mailto:carolm@rti.org]
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 1:26 PM
To: Fox, Lori; Otto, Dana; Sandra_Hamilton@nps.gov
Cc: Mansfield, Carol A.; Poulos, Christine
Subject: CAHA business survey

Hi all,

Attached is the draft business survey for recreational supply companies (fishing supplies, surf boards, things like that). I am especially looking for input on the second half asking about the impacts from the alternatives. I attached my summary of the 3 alternatives in terms of beach driving also. I think the alternatives are too complicated to ask the business owners about each alternative separately. Instead, I decided to ask about the main features of the alternatives -- things that might have a significant impact on business. Obviously, the responses will be guesses and may not even be quantitative. I am hoping at least to see some differences across different types of businesses. I am also hoping that they might provide some reasoning that would help understand the possible impacts.

Do the workbook responses have any insights for these questions and/or the main features of the alternatives that might affect businesses? I left night driving off since I thought the owners would really be out on a limb (although maybe no more so than with any of the other questions), but at least for the commercial fishermen I thought I would ask about night driving.

Alternatively, I could phrase the questions as a list and ask for a ranking of impacts.

The plan so far is to call 9 real estate agencies to ask about occupancy rates in different villages at different seasons, which is different than a survey asking about the alternatives. We could call 9 other businesses and ask questions like the attached survey. After that we need OMB approval. I'm going to start work on the ICR's. Brian Evans is set to go to CAHA on Wednesday night with another person from RTI. They are going to meet with park staff and do some counting at ramps and on beaches on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Thanks,
 Carol

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Oct 1 Draft Alts**Language for business surveys:**

Now I would like to ask you a few questions about the management of ORV's and beach driving at Cape Hatteras National Seashore. During the spring, summer and fall of 2008, the Park Service opened and closed areas of the beach to ORV's and pedestrians based on the location of endangered bird and turtle species. The Park Service monitored the animals several times a week during the peak season and opened and closed beaches on a weekly basis and sometimes every few days.

As you are aware, the National Park Service is considering a number of proposed management alternatives for driving on the beach. I am interested in how you think the options will affect your revenue in the future. I realize that lots of factors affect your business and it is hard to predict the future, especially given current economic conditions. Give us your best estimate or range of estimates. If you don't have any idea, just tell me you don't know.

1. Compared to 2008, if the points and spits (including Bodie Island Spit, Cape Point, Hatteras Islet, North Ocracoke Spit, and South Point Ocracoke) were simply closed from March 14 to Oct. 14, how do you think that would affect your annual revenue – you can provide a range of possible impacts if you want? Since different businesses will be affected differently, to help me understand your answers please explain how you came up with your answer in as much detail as possible -- for example past experience, the type of visitors you serve, spending in different seasons and other issues.
2. If there were pedestrian access and water taxis for the points and spits between March and October, would that change your estimate of the effect?
3. What if the points and spits were only closed to beach driving March 14 to September 1, instead of October 14?
4. What if these areas were closed to beach driving year round?
5. Looking at Hatteras Island, what if the areas in front of the villages (including Rodanthe, Waves, Salvo, Avon, Buxton and Frisco) were closed to beach driving all year?
6. To increase the amount of beach open for driving during nesting season, one alternative is to build 3 or 4 new access ramps on the ocean side: one or two between Salvo and Avon, one along South Beach, and one between Ramp 59 and the Ocracoke campground. The additional ramps would provide a way to get around areas closed to protect bird or turtle nesting activity. The additional ramps would increase the chance that parts of the beach would be open for driving. How do you think this would affect your business?
7. In addition to new ramps, the Park Service is considering new or expanded parking lots at most of the ramps all 3 islands. Do you think additional parking at ramps would affect your customers?

Alts A and B: Consent decree vs. ISMP?

Consent decree – always intensive monitoring (SM2)?

Alt C

- ORV Season is 5 months, Oct. 15 to March 14
- Closed year round
 - Coquina Beach
 - Waves, Salvo, Rodanthe
 - Buxton village
 - 1 mile N. of pony pen to 1 mile N. of ramp 67
 - 1.2 miles N. Ramp 70 to Ramp 70
- Seasonal (open Oct. 15 to March 14)
 - Ramp 4 to Bodie Island spit, but pedestrian access during spring, summer, fall (March to Oct)
 - Ramp 23 – 38: 9 miles always open, 7.5 miles seasonal
 - 2 miles S. Ramp 38 to Buxton
 - Cape Point but pedestrian access during spring, summer, fall (March to Oct)
 - N. Ocracoke Spit
 - S. Point of Ocracoke but pedestrian access during spring, summer, fall (March to Oct)
 - All other resource areas
 - In front of Frisco
 - 1 mile N. 67 to 1 mile N. 70
- More parking than D but less than E and new ramps at 32.5, 47, 64

“Under this alternative a total of 26 miles of beach would be open to ORV’s year round and another 30 miles between Oct. 15 and March 14. The remaining 11 miles of beach would be closed year-round, including Coquina Beach, Waves, Salvo, Rondanthe, Buxton and the area near the pony pens and the Ocracoke beach. The points and spits would all be open from Oct. 15 to March 14. From March to Oct., pedestrians could access Bodie Island Spit, Cape Point and South Point on Ocracoke unless there were nesting areas. Additional parking would be built and 3 new ramps to lessen the impact of resource closures in the spring/summer/fall between Salvo and Avon, on South Beach, and between Ramp 59 and the Ocracoke campground.”

Alt D

- Most miles closed to ORV
- Areas either open or closed, no seasonal
- All resource areas closed
 - Bodie Island Spit
 - Cape Point
 - N. Ocracoke Spit
 - S. Point of Ocracoke
- Open
 - S. of Coquina Beach to Ramp 4

- Ramp 23-27
- Ramp 27 to Buxton – 4.8 out of 14 miles open
 - Ramp 30-32.5
 - 2 miles S. Ramp 34
- .4 mile Ramp 43-44
- 2.9 miles from Ramp 47 (new) to E. Frisco
- 4.5 miles from Ramp 55 to Spur Rd
- Ramp 59 to 64 (Pony Pens)
- 1 miles N. Ramp 67 to campground
- Ramp 70 to N. end of S. Point
- Least amount of new parking and new ramps at 32.5, 47, 64

“Under this alternative, a total of 28 miles of beach would be open to ORV’s. The remaining 40 miles of beach would be closed year-round, including all the points and spits and in front of the villages. Some additional parking would be built and 3 new ramps to lessen the impact of resource closures in the spring/summer/fall between Salvo and Avon, on South Beach, and between Ramp 59 and the Ocracoke campground.”

Alt E

- ORV Season is Sept. 1 to March 14 for resource areas and Nov. 1 to March 31 in front of villages
- Closed year round
 - Ramp 1 to Coquonia Beach and south ¾ mile
 - Buxton village
 - N. Ocracoke Spit, but pedestrian access and boardwalk from ferry if no nesting
 - 1 mile N. of pony pen to 1 mile N. of ramp 67
 - Ramp 68 to Ramp 70
- Seasonal
 - Ramp 4 to Bodie Island spit, but water taxi and pedestrian access during spring, summer, fall (March to Sept)
 - Waves, Salvo, Rodanthe (closed April through Oct.)
 - Ramp 23 – Buxton: 10 miles always open, 5.4 miles seasonal
 - W. of Cape Point hook but pedestrian access during spring, summer, fall (March to Sept)
 - S. Point of Ocracoke but pedestrian access and water taxi during spring, summer, fall (March to Sept)
 - In front of Frisco
- Open
 - 2 miles S. Ramp 38 to Buxton
 - Ramp 44 to .2 miles west of hook at Cape Point
- Most additional parking and new ramps at 24 or 26, 32.5, 47, 64

“Under this alternative a total of 30 miles of beach would be open to ORV’s year round and another 26 miles between Sept. 1 and March 14 for resources areas including Cape

Point, and Nov. 1 to March 31 in front of villages. The remaining 12 miles of beach would be closed year-round, including Coquina Beach, Buxton, the N. Ocracoke spit and the area near the pony pens and the Ocracoke beach. The other points and spits would all be open from Sept. 1 to March 14 unless nesting activities. From March to Sept., pedestrian and water taxi access to Bodie Island Spit, Cape Point and South Point on Ocracoke would be allowed unless there were nesting areas. Additional parking would be built and 3 new ramps to lessen the impact of resource closures in the spring/summer/fall between Salvo and Avon, on South Beach, and between Ramp 59 and the Ocracoke campground.”

CAHA²² 2241**Recreation/Supplies Survey Draft (10-10-2008)**

Hi, my name is [name]. I work for RTI International, a nonprofit research consulting firm located in Raleigh, North Carolina. We have been hired by the National Park Service to conduct an economic analysis of the proposed alternatives for managing off-road vehicles in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

We are calling businesses on Cape Hatteras to gather information for the economic analysis. Your business was selected for survey. **[select right person]**

The survey should only take about 20 minutes to complete.

Some of the questions we ask are about current business operations. We need this information to understand the number and type of businesses currently on Cape Hatteras. We will also ask some questions about your business forecast under different management proposals.

Your responses to these questions are voluntary, but we hope you will participate in the survey because this is the best way to get accurate information about the possible impacts of ORV management on businesses. All your answers are confidential, and the data will be kept on a secure computer at RTI. We will not report any information about individual businesses or any information that could be used to identify your answers. We will not share any of the information you give us with anyone else – not with any other businesses or the National Park Service or any other individuals.

1. What types of services do you provide? (equipment rentals, tours, lessons)
2. What year did the business first open?
3. Is the business open year round? If no, when do you operate?
4. What items or services account for the majority of your revenue? If this varies by season can you tell me how?
5. How many employees do you have? If it varies by season, can you tell us how many employees you have each season?
6. What events or conditions have a big impact on your business, for example severe weather, gas prices, actions taken by Cape Hatteras National Seashore?
7. For the economic analysis, we need information about the size of different businesses based on annual gross revenue. We will keep any information you provide confidential. I am going to read revenue ranges. Please tell me which range your business fit into in 2007.
 - a. less than \$500,000 a year
 - b. \$500,000 to \$1 million a year
 - c. \$1 million to \$3 million a year

annual revenue – you can provide a range of possible impacts if you want? Since different businesses will be affected differently, to help me understand your answers please explain how you came up with your answer in as much detail as possible -- for example past experience, the type of visitors you serve, spending in different seasons and other issues.

14. If there were pedestrian access and water taxis for the points and spits between March and October, would that change your estimate of the effect?
15. What if the points and spits were only closed to beach driving March 14 to September 1, instead of October 14?
16. What if these areas were closed to beach driving year round?
17. Looking at Hatteras Island, what if the areas in front of the villages (including Rodanthe, Waves, Salvo, Avon, Buxton and Frisco) were closed to beach driving all year?
18. To increase the amount of beach open for driving during nesting season, one alternative is to build 3 or 4 new access ramps on the ocean side: one or two between Salvo and Avon, one along South Beach, and one between Ramp 59 and the Ocracoke campground. The additional ramps would provide a way to get around areas closed to protect bird or turtle nesting activity. The additional ramps would increase the chance that parts of the beach would be open for driving. How do you think this would affect your business?
19. In addition to new ramps, the Park Service is considering new or expanded parking lots at most of the ramps all 3 islands. Do you think additional parking at ramps would affect your customers?