

1401 CAHA

Fox, Lori

From: Wetmore, Doug
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2008 12:07 PM
To: Darrell_Echols@nps.gov
Cc: Fox, Lori; Van Dyke, Nancy; Otto, Dana; Sandra_Hamilton@nps.gov
Subject: RE: Questions for the EIS

Thanks Darrell.

~Doug

-----Original Message-----

From: Darrell_Echols@nps.gov [mailto:Darrell_Echols@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2008 12:04 PM
To: Wetmore, Doug
Cc: Thayer_Broili@nps.gov; Britta_Muiznieks@nps.gov; Margaret_Carfioli@nps.gov
Subject: Re: Questions for the EIS

Doug,

In response to your question regarding transportation planning on Ocracoke, a tram is not being pursued at this time. A tram system was proposed in prior years that included a parking lot outside of the Village of Ocracoke. NPS staff were unable to locate a suitable area for the parking lot that would meet our environmental compliance requirements. Without a parking lot the tram proposal could not move forward. We have advised the local residents that we are not pursuing a tram system at this time. There is still a local desire to address traffic congestion, but no specific ideas or plans have been developed. I would suggest that we remove any references to a tram and high speed ferry from the EIS.

Darrell

Thayer
Broili/CAHA/NPS

10/27/2008 03:49
PM

"Wetmore, Doug"
<dwetmore@louisberger.com>

To

cc

Margaret Carfioli/CAHA/NPS@NPS,
Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS,
Darrell Echols/CAHA/NPS@NPS

Subject

Re: Questions for the EIS(Document
link: Darrell Echols (Archive))

Responses to the 3 questions below are as follows:

1. Question on beach vegetation patterns - I have no information that this is the case. I don't see any reason to try to include something like this unless it's the result of some documented scientific research. Seems like conjecture without a quasi-reliable reference.

2. I would change the Predator Control Management Plan description (in other words delete what you have and replace with) as follows:
"An environmental assessment process for predator management was initiated in 2007. The final assessment document and plan will address the Parks approach to native and non-native predators; specifically, those that prey on federal and state-listed species present at Cape Hatteras National Seashore. It is anticipated that the Environmental Assessment will be finalized in 2009 and in any event prior to the completion of this EIS."

3. I have no update on the transportation plan implementation. I request that Meghan Carfioli and/or Darrell Echols to respond to this question since they've been tracking the Ocracoke transportation issues. I suspect that what you have below is somewhat of a wish and should be modified accordingly. Certainly, no tram has yet been initiated and N.C. DOT would likely be the party to answer questions on any high speed ferry.

Hope this helps. Give me a call if you have other questions on this or associated issues.

Thayer Broili
Chief of Resource Management
Cape Hatteras National Seashore
Phone 252-473-2111 ext.137
Fax 252-473-2595

"Wetmore, Doug"
<dwetmore@louisberger.com>

10/27/2008 03:04 PM

<Thayer_Broili@nps.gov>

Questions for the EIS

To

cc

Subject

Hi Thayer.

We're working on revisions to Chapter 1 for the ORV-EIS and I need a little bit of info from you.

1. Can you confirm (or refute) this statement that came from internal scoping?

“Instead of growing in irregular natural groupings and locations, some beach plants like sea rocket are regularly seen growing in two parallel rows down a length of tire tracks. The seeds of these plants apparently become trapped in tire ruts and then germinate there. “

2. Can you add anything else to the Predator Management Plan Description?

“Funding was approved for developing a predator management plan in 2007. The plan will address native and non-native predators; specifically, those that prey on federal and state-listed species. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Wildlife Services in Raleigh, North Carolina, will develop the plan and associated EA in cooperation with the NPS. “

3. Could you provide me with an update on the ferry/tram system?

“Cape Hatteras National Seashore is currently preparing a transportation study on Ocracoke Island, which includes the evaluation of a high-speed passenger ferry to Ocracoke. The transportation study was scheduled to be completed by late 2005, but is still under development. It is expected that a tram system will be in operation in Ocracoke Village by summer 2007. The high speed ferry, which would be a private sector passenger shuttle, is still in discussion and not yet confirmed.”

Thanks.

~Doug

Doug Wetmore

Environmental Planner

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