

CAHA-ORV EIS Conference Call

March 3, 2009, 12:30 PM MT

Participants: Mike Murray, Thayer Broili, Sandy Hamilton, Paul Stevens, Darrell Echols, Nancy Van Dyke, Dana Otto, Doug Wetmore

Data needs to complete chapters 1-3

Chapter 1

- Will soundscapes be carried forward or dismissed?

Sandy – Ft. Collins NPS staff still gathering data, and she requested an update from Mike Torino. Both beneficial and adverse impacts must be considered. Sandy said to leave a placeholder until we hear back from her.

SANDY TO FOLLOW UP

- P. 12 Confirm this statement from p4 is adequate: "Between 1985 and 2004, ORV use was managed under these previous planning efforts. "

Paul indicated the existence of an "interim plan" which was used until 1995. ORV management was similar, with the number of ramps, except Ramp 1 was closed in 1991. Mike said we may be able to insert "in part" between "managed" and "under" in the above statement.

PAUL TO SUMMARIZE ORV MGMT FROM 1985-2004 AND SEND TO DOUG W.

- P. 22 Need info on air quality models to complete AQ discussion.

Sandy indicated that the contractor was still processing the modeling data and that we should leave a placeholder.

SANDY TO PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION AND INSERT AT A LATER DATE

- Need Doug Stover comments on Cultural Landscapes and Ethnographic Resources

Done. Mike commented that some local groups are pushing for Traditional Cultural Properties statues, which may affect the Ethnographic section at some point in the future.

- Solicitor review comments on revised ESA language

Use revised language in next draft and let solicitor review it when submitted.

Chapter 2

- Determine if commercial fishermen have access (no action and action) to administrative closures

Paul – fishermen allowed in administrative closures except for lifeguarded beaches
LBG TO REVISE ALTERNATIVE TEXT/MATRIX ACCORDINGLY

- What are details of pedestrian corridor described for Alt-C

PARK WILL PROVIDE DETAILS AS PART OF THEIR UPDATE TO THE RESOURCE PROTECTION MEASURES TABLES

- Verify wintering closure language/access
PARK TO FIX DURING REVISION OF RES PROT TABLES
- Clarify numerous "TBD" and highlighted sections of Alternatives Matrix

LE, Staffing, Materials will be complete when Park Ops information is provided by the park. Park to get facilities staff to provide information for the rest of these TBD areas. Ramp characteristics: "high use" ramp areas should be based on park's subjective information and updated if needed based on official traffic counts.

PARK TO PROVIDE FACILITIES INFORMATION FOR REMAINING "TBD" AREAS IN MATRIX

- Resource Protection Measures Table:
 - Status of Table and impacts to schedule for Alt-C, D, E impact analysis
 - Pre-nesting buffer SM2 states that in "other" resource closure areas (does this mean Resource Area, the only other one being North Ocracoke spit under Alt-E) there will be no ped/ORV access due to narrow beach conditions. This is in conflict to North Ocracoke language on Routes and Areas Table which describes access to this area through a corridor.
 - The Resource Protection Measures Table refers to the Routes and Areas Table for specifics on ORV/Ped corridors for all Alt except E. However, there are no details of these corridors provided in any documents (outside of site specific plans for Alt-E)

Mike – Park is still working on revisions. Non-breeding monitoring section could be problematic. Park will be adding glossary of terms.

PARK TO ADDRESS THESE ISSUES DURING REVISION OF RES PROTECTION TABLE

- Verify revised access corridor and pass through zone terminology and use

"Routes and Areas" will be in the rule and on the maps. "Access corridors" are delineated on the ground and "pass through zones" are within the access corridors in resource areas. These terms must be included in the glossary.

Comment [dw1]: If this is true, all alternatives will have ORV access corridors. Not sure this issue is decided, because the alternatives matrix described ORV Routes as being the same as corridors (delineated on the beach)

- Revise site-specific area maps based on comments (or provide source data)

This is a comment about the maps using "pass through corridor" terminology. Maps will need to be revised with proper terminology.

PARK TO REVISE MAPS ONCE TERMINOLOGY DECIDED

Chapter 3

- Verify beach mileage

Paul said that Cyndy indicated 69 miles of ocean beach, if everything is open (no resource/safety closures).

LBG TO REVISE PARAGRAPH ON PAGE 57 AND ENSURE THAT MILEAGE ADDS UP CORRECTLY.

- Verify number of sound access points (21?)

Paul: there are 4 public access points on Ocracoke, 13 on Hatteras, and 1 on Bodie, so total is 18.
LBG TO REVISE NUMBER ON PAGE 58 AND IN THE ALTERNATIVES MATRIX.

- Provide data for Park-Ops section

Mike – draft is being reviewed and should be provided to LBG by the end of the week
PARK TO SUBMIT PARK-OPERATIONS DATA TO LBG BY MARCH 6, 2009

- CWB wintering/non-breeding data – decide which data to use and format to present

Mike – use SECN data, but need source data to present graphs similar to what is currently in document. Don't use normalized data. Sandy will contact Joe DiVivo and obtain access to source data. Also, need to use this data in other sections of the document and not just the PIPL section. We should talk to Britta about how the data should be presented in the EIS, because SECN graphs were not as informative.

SANDY TO OBTAIN SOURCE SECN DATA AND LBG TO REVISE DOCUMENT ACCORDINGLY
BRITTA TO COMMENT ON WHAT SPECIFIC DATA/GRAPHS SHOULD BE SHOWN IN THE EIS

- Provide correct terminology for major breeding areas

Mike will look at terminology for points and spits. Need to decide on one name for each and use consistently. These should be provided in the glossary and defined geographically, as those in the individual point/spit plans are.

MIKE TO REVIEW AND COMMENT ON TERMINOLOGY FOR BREEDING AREAS

- Provide source data for Figure 4 (PIPL section) Piping Plover Observations Inside and Outside of Resource Closures in order to recreate chart for better readability (per park comment)

Leave as-is

FS this data usable?

Other Items:

- Mike - Resource Areas should be called "Species Management Areas". They need to be defined in the glossary.

LBG TO HIGHLIGHT THE OCCURRENCES OF RESOURCE AREAS AND CHANGE TO SPECIES MANAGEMENT AREAS WHEN/IF PARK DECIDES ON THAT TERM

- Mike – there is no Alternative F at this time as the reg-neg committee could not come to consensus. Park will work to draft an alternative F using some of the accomplishments from the committee. Could not speculate on when this would occur.

PARK TO DEVELOP ALTERNATIVE F

- Doug to send Matrix and Routes/Areas Table to Mike with blank Alt-F column inserted
- Doug to send Thayer a copy of tables, plans, matrices with revised terminology