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From: [Paul Stevens](#)
To: [Mike Murray](#); [Darrell Echols](#)
Subject: ORV History
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Signed by: CN=Paul Stevens/OU=CAHA/O=NPS
Attachments: [Past ORV Management Practices 03-09.doc](#)

Mike,

The attached file is what was assigned yesterday. There was one other section on Ocracoke that I believe was opened in 2004. We'll have to ask Kenny. Other than that, this is a pretty accurate assessment of past practices.

Thanks,

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Past ORV Management Practices 03-09.doc

Past ORV Management Practices at
Cape Hatteras National Seashore
By Paul K. Stevens, Acting Chief Ranger

March 4, 2009

In 1978 the park worked on an ORV management plan that included public scoping and was approved in the NPS Southeast Regional Office and forwarded to the NPS Washington Office. The plan was never approved by the Washington Office.

In 1984 the park submitted an interim ORV management plan to the NPS Southeast Regional Office. This plan was lost at the Regional Office and was never approved.

The interim plan consisted of the current number of ramps (including Ramp 1 and Ramp 20 in Rodanthe) and sound-side accesses. Most of the beach front was open to ORV's except for bird nesting areas, turtle nesting areas, and administrative closures in front of the villages from May 15 to September 15 and narrow beach closures.

Some of the closures for narrow beaches stayed closed even after the beach built back up. The main reason for the areas staying closed was the fact that pedestrians used these areas. The unofficial pedestrian areas were from Ramp 1 to Coquina beach, south of the groins at the Hatteras Lighthouse, south of Ramp 49 in Frisco, and the vicinity of the pony pens on Ocracoke and the beach in front of the Ocracoke campground.

The management continued until 2004, when it was decided to go back and use portions of the 1978 plan that was never approved. Some of the closed areas (south of the groins, south of Ramp 49) were opened back up to ORVs.

Ramp 1 was closed around 1990 or 1991 due to erosion. Ramp 20 was closed in the mid to late 1990's for erosion. It was decided that Ramp 1 would stay closed since it bordered the Town of Nags Head and their beaches were closed in the summer months to ORV's. Ramp 20 closed because all of the parks lands eroded and the ramp was then on private lands next to the Rodanthe fishing pier.