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**From:** [Jim Keene](mailto:Jim.Keene@nps.gov)  
**To:** [Paul Stevens@nps.gov](mailto:Paul_Stevens@nps.gov)  
**Cc:** ['Mike Murray'](mailto:Mike.Murray@nps.gov)  
**Subject:** RE: "Press Release: NPS Launches "Beach Watch" Program  
**Date:** 06/17/2009 07:30 PM

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Thank you Paul for your response.

I cannot disagree with what you say and can only state that with Judge Boyles proclamation that "with the reduced area the job of the enforcement Rangers will be much easier" we should see these rangers on site. This is not to criticize your actions but only to point out once more that the Consent Decree has failed.

Regardless of the current/future regulations we must live under, the enforcement Ranger staff is grossly neglected in favor of a top heavy resource department. Had a bird fluttered by there would have been 4+ techs with stakes & string and a ranger or 2 to tell us all to leave. Paul you need more than 16-18 enforcement rangers and those you have need to be better scheduled. Saturdays and Sundays require visible rangers on the beaches at all times. Stop checking coolers for undersize fish and visitors for fishing licenses (that's the states job & you have better things to do). During the summer months visibility is critical.

Beach watch will only work if visitors (especially the "regulars") see results and without available rangers it cannot work. Many people I talk to absolutely will not participate since there are too many incidents when there is no or very late response and the ultimate consequence is another incident report without satisfactory conclusions. Another incident report going to a federal judge to be used in defending his reasoning for additional closures. Without demonstrable results you won't get reports.

We all wish you well in your new job and are willing to help if you can demonstrate how it will help without us shooting ourselves in the foot.

Jim Keene  
252-862-6798

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

From: [Paul Stevens@nps.gov](mailto:Paul_Stevens@nps.gov) [mailto:[Paul\\_Stevens@nps.gov](mailto:Paul_Stevens@nps.gov)]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2009 2:33 PM  
To: Jim Keene  
Cc: [Cyndy Holda@nps.gov](mailto:Cyndy_Holda@nps.gov); 'Mike Murray'  
Subject: RE: "Press Release: NPS Launches "Beach Watch" Program

Jim,

Bodie Island Rangers are responsible for patrolling Wright Brothers NM, Fort Raleigh NHS, Oregon Inlet Campground and Oregon Inlet Fishing Center complex, Bodie Island Spit and Hatteras Island from Rodanthe south to Ramp 27. On Sunday, June 14, we had one ranger on duty in the district during the day and one on duty during the evening shift.

The ranger on duty, Ranger Bill Reynolds, when you were on the beach was located in the Ramp 23 - Ramp 27 area due to several calls. The night shift on Sunday began at 3:00 pm. The other ranger that would have been on duty was on annual leave for personal reasons. At any given time, we try very hard to spread our annual leave out during the entire year so as not to severely impact operations.

Due to my promotion, I have detailed one of the Bodie Island Rangers to my old position three days a week. Currently we have 16 commissioned rangers plus two we await completed background checks, which we expect very soon. Our ranger/pilot position has been filled and he will report to duty on June 22, 2009. This will give us a total of 18 positions filled as I advised in your annual meeting. We are also looking at hiring one more position, which will more than likely be duty stationed at Bodie Island. This will give us a field staff of six rangers on Bodie Island, seven rangers on Hatteras Island, and four rangers on Ocracoke Island.

During the busy summer season, on-duty rangers are often continually busy responding to calls and may not be available for "proactive type" patrols at their discretion. They respond to a call and then often before they even clear from that call, they may have another call waiting for some other type of assistance to citizen, or other agency back-up call for Dare County Sheriff's officers or NC Highway Patrol, EMS calls, etc. This is why the "Beach Watch" program would be beneficial and would help increase the number of "eyes and ears" on the beach to watch for and report problems and violations.

Paul K. Stevens  
Chief Ranger  
National Park Service  
Outer Banks Group  
1401 National Park Drive  
Manteo, NC 27954

(252) 473-2111 ext. 119 (office)

(252) 475-8307 (cellular)

"Jim Keene"  
 <keene9558@charter.net>  
 06/15/2009 09:43 AM

<Cyndy\_Holda@nps.gov>  
 "'Mike Murray'"  
 <Mike\_Murray@nps.gov>,  
 <Paul\_Stevens@nps.gov>

To  
 cc  
 Subject  
 RE: "Press Release: NPS Launches  
 "Beach Watch" Program

Cyndy/Mike/Paul

Yesterday (6-14) I was on the beach North of ramp 4 from 10:30am until 2:30pm and not a single (recognizable) Enforcement Ranger passed our position. (Others in addition to me were watching.) This is mid summer and we should see a ranger every hour or two especially on weekends and with so many closed ORV areas.

I find it hard to ask our membership to call in that which will ultimately be noted as an incident, when we do not have rangers visible. At our Annual Meeting we were told that the Enforcement Ranger staff is "up to snuff" finally. Please let me know what a full compliment consists of and what we we have a right to expect.

Jim Keene

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

From: Cyndy\_Holda@nps.gov [mailto: Cyndy\_Holda@nps.gov]  
 Sent: Monday, June 15, 2009 9:08 AM  
 Subject: "Press Release: NPS Launches "Beach Watch" Program

(See attached file: 061509 Beach Watch Program.doc)

National Park Service News Release  
 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: DATE: June 15, 2009  
 CONTACT: Cyndy Holda, 252-473-2111, ext. 148

NPS Launches "Beach Watch" Program

Superintendent Mike Murray announces the implementation of a new volunteer "Beach Watch" program for the 2009 summer season. The program's goal is to prevent incidents of vandalism, crime, and damage to park resources and property, and to ensure the National Seashore is a safe place for the visiting public.

The program is intended to assist the National Park Service (NPS) in monitoring inappropriate or illegal activities at Cape Hatteras National Seashore and extend the educational components of good stewardship practices of the park's natural resources. Volunteers are needed and will be trained to assist the NPS in assuring compliance with beach resource closures, monitoring areas of concern experiencing crowded conditions, and helping ensure a safe visit for park visitors.

The idea for the program began when community leaders, concerned park user groups, and park staff began discussing ways to prevent vandalism and unauthorized entry into resource closures, which leads to closures expansions. The park is interested in recruiting a group of volunteers from the surrounding communities who spend time on the beach. The program will also ask the visiting public to report inappropriate activities. To learn more about this new program and volunteer time to help protect the resources call Ocracoke Park Ranger Bill Caswell at 252-928-5111 ext. 26.