

0023712

**From:** [Mike Murray](mailto:Mike_Murray@nps.gov)  
**To:** [carolm@rti.org](mailto:carolm@rti.org)  
**Cc:** [Evans, Brian](mailto:Evans_Brian@nps.gov); [James Gramann](mailto:James_Gramann@nps.gov); [Sandra Hamilton@nps.gov](mailto:Sandra_Hamilton@nps.gov)  
**Subject:** Re: Cape Hatteras Beach Visitor Intercept Survey  
**Date:** 07/13/2009 05:44 PM

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Carol,

My thoughts on the use of the word "endangered" which has a very specific legal meaning under the Endangered Species Act: In lieu of your original wording or Larry's suggested revision, it would be more correct to say:

"During different times of the year, parts of the seashore may be closed to safeguard the nests of various species of protected sea turtles and shorebirds." (or: "During different times of the year, parts of the seashore may be closed to protect the nests of sea turtles and shorebirds.")

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▼ ["Larry Hardham" <hardhead@embarqmail.com>](mailto:hardhead@embarqmail.com)

**"Larry Hardham"**  
**<hardhead@embarqmail.com>**

07/13/2009 03:21 PM

To "Mansfield, Carol A." <carolm@rti.org>  
cc <Mike\_Murray@nps.gov>, <Sandra\_Hamilton@nps.gov>, "James Gramann" <jgramann@ag.tamu.edu>, "Evans, Brian" <evans@rti.org>  
Subject Re: Cape Hatteras Beach Visitor Intercept Survey

Carol,

I have concerns about the following sentence.

"During different times of the year, parts of the seashore may be closed to protect the nests of shore birds and sea turtles, some of which are endangered."

It seems to me that most, if not all, visitors after hearing the above read to them would think that there are some endangered shore birds nesting at the seashore. However, there are no endangered shore birds nesting at the seashore. To be accurate the sentence should read:

"During different times of the year, parts of the seashore may be closed to protect the nests of sea turtles, some of which are endangered and shore birds."

Why are there two sets of dotted lines for Ocracoke maps in Version A?

Why does Version A have "yellow were open for pedestrians only" and Version B have "blue area would be open to pedestrians but not vehicles"? Different colors and text.

Version B has one red dash on the left side of the map of the eastern end of Ocracoke and when you look at the map of the western end of Ocracoke the overlap area is green so something needs to get changed.

Thank you,  
Larry

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

**From:** [Mansfield, Carol A.](#)

**To:** [Larry Hardham](#)

**Cc:** [Mansfield, Carol A.](#) ; [Mike Murray@nps.gov](mailto:Mike_Murray@nps.gov) ;  
[Sandra Hamilton@nps.gov](mailto:Sandra_Hamilton@nps.gov) ; [James Gramann](#) ; [Evans, Brian](#)

**Sent:** Friday, July 10, 2009 3:47 PM

**Subject:** RE: Cape Hatteras Beach Visitor Intercept Survey

Hi Larry,

Thank you for the comments, I appreciate the time you took looking over the instrument. I attached the maps that we are using for the pretest. We simplified the text a bit to see how this works. Right now the maps show areas as either open or closed and that is what the questions ask about. The maps do not convey the uncertainty about whether an area that is open to ORV's will be closed because of a resource closure any particular week. Once we have those maps ready and the text for the final survey (which will depend on how the pilot test goes), I'll send them to you.

Here is the text for the pilot test (which is a little different than the version of the survey instrument I sent you). The final version of the survey will be more like the version I sent you originally.

Version A: Here is a map of Cape Hatteras National Seashore. During different times of the year, parts of the seashore may be closed to protect the nests of shore birds and sea turtles, some of which are endangered. Suppose that under a new plan to manage beach driving the areas in green were open to beach driving and pedestrians, the areas in yellow were open for pedestrians only, and the areas in red were closed to both vehicles and people. We are here [POINT TO MAP].

Version B:

Here is a map of Cape Hatteras National Seashore. During different times of the year, parts of the seashore may be closed to protect nests of shore birds and sea turtles, some of which are endangered. It is hard to know in advance where the shore birds and sea turtles will nest and when different parts of the beach will be closed. Suppose there is a new plan to manage beach driving. The map shows the areas open and closed to vehicles and people under the new plan. The red areas would be closed to people and vehicles, the blue area would be open to pedestrians but not vehicles, and the green area would be open for both pedestrians and ORV's. We are here.

The statements introducing the maps are not meant to explain the details of an alternative or the current situation. The goal is to get an idea of whether people would have made the trip they are currently on if they knew in advance what areas of the seashore would be open to pedestrians and vehicles. People will be shown the map of what is open and closed under a "different" management alternative and then be asked if they would have made their current trip. The maps for the pilot test show an alternative that has more areas open than there are currently. As I said, the final version of the maps will also deal with the uncertainty. We are not asking whether people approve of the alternative and/or how it is implemented.

I don't know how much of the money the park gets or what it will be used for. The narrative description of the alternatives from November 2008 says that the fees will be set based on "cost recovery" to implement the program.

The question is actually how many "years" in the last 10 years has the person visited.

I didn't ask about local resident visits prior to 2008 because in the end I didn't think the information would be useful enough to justify the increased length of the survey. We attempted to keep the survey as short as possible to increase the chances that people will answer. Given problems with recall, 2009 and 2008 data should be more accurate. Finally, the main driver of the economic impact is whether tourists will still visit the park under the proposed alternatives compared to the baseline of 2007 and 2008. I assume the concern is that residents made more visits in 2007, especially during the times when the closures were in place. After we see how the pretest goes, I'll think about adding a question about the number of trips in 2007 similar to

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the questions about 2008.

Thank you,  
Carol

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**From:** Larry Hardham [mailto:[hardhead@embarqmail.com](mailto:hardhead@embarqmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 03, 2009 10:59 AM  
**To:** Mansfield, Carol A.  
**Subject:** Fw: Cape Hatteras Beach Visitor Intercept Survey

Carol

I have just done a quick read of the survey.

Please either e-mail or send to me the maps referred to in Versions A and B of this survey.

The statements made when introducing the maps to visitors omit the fact that areas of the beach are closed to all use when there are no nests or even birds of concern present so respondents are not told the whole story. In some cases this has only been the case in 2007 & 2008.

It is my understanding that only 80% of a permit fee (not 100%) would be available to CHNS and no guarantee of where it would be used.

Folks who answer the question about the number of visits in the last 10 years could cause problems in how the answer is used. If they answer 15 times. How do you find out if it is 15 times in 2006 (since they started coming in 2006) or 15 times over the entire period.

Local residents of the Outer Banks and Manteo on day trips are not asked about visits prior to 2008. Why?

Thank you,  
Larry  
Pres. Cape Hatteras Anglers Club

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