

**From:** [Cyndy Holda](#)  
**To:** [Mike Murray](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: pedestrian access question from J Lyons  
**Date:** 09/02/2009 12:39 PM  
**Attachments:** [answer to D.E.](#)

---

FYI

Cyndy M. Holda

----- Forwarded by Cyndy Holda/CAHA/NPS on 09/02/2009 12:32 PM -----

"Jim Lyons"  
<12lbttest@usa.net>  
09/02/2009 11:27 AM

To <Darrell\_Echols@nps.gov>  
cc "Mike Murray" <caha\_superintendent@nps.gov>  
Subject Re: Fw: pedestrian access question from J Lyons

September 2, 2009  
Buxton, NC

Darrell,

Thank you for the response.

I am disappointed in the Park's decision to change long established seasonal pedestrian access only areas to ORV access areas without public comment.

The 0.4 of a mile of beach north of Ramp 43 is one of the few areas on Hatteras Island within the boundaries of CAHA that have adequate parking for non-ORV users at each end of the beach and is a truly undeveloped beach removed from Highway 12 and village housing. This section of beach is contiguous to a larger section of beach that has high NPS values and both have a long and recent history of pedestrian access only. Establishing an ORV route there has impaired those values and created a user conflict for me other pedestrian access users.

I was led to believe by NPS staff that this particular change in management was to compensate for the loss of ORV access to Cape Point, which had been temporarily restricted due to resource closures as dictated by the consent decree. As you are aware Cape Point was reopened to ORV access for some time before the established September 15 seasonal date arrived. What was the rationale for changing ORV management in this instance?

This change in management has the appearance of being an implementation of CAHA's new ORV management plan because in this case the same boundaries have changed to parallel those proposed in the all of the park's EIS options (C, D, and E.)

I don't understand what the Park means by, "to remain consistent with our management". Making selective ORV management changes ahead of the Park's ORV Management Plan is inconsistent. I don't understand what the management is. Does this new management imply a policy of only changing established pedestrian access only areas to ORV access areas? Do park managers plan on opening more pedestrian only access to ORV access before an ORV management plan is presented?

I realize ORV access, recreation and resource protection are controversial issues in this park. I understand dealing with those issues is crucial but should not come at the expense of NPS values. The diversity of visitor experiences has been reduced in this park. The lack of access to high value

0024027

scenic ocean beaches in CAHA on Hatteras Island is appalling. Miles of rutted ORV trails and parking lots on ocean beaches and inadequate pedestrian access to wide beaches removed from highways and private infrastructure have diminish this park's values.

Sincerely,  
Jim Lyons

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

Received: Tue, 11 Aug 2009 07:07:50 AM MDT  
From: Darrell\_Echols@nps.gov  
To: 12lbttest@usa.netCc: Cyndy\_Holda@nps.gov, Mike\_Murray@nps.gov  
Subject: Fw: pedestrian access question from J Lyons

Mr. Lyons,

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the management status of the .4 mile section of beach south of Buxton. We have considered the option of changing this area back to a pedestrian only section of beach. However, at this time this beach section will continue to be managed for both pedestrian and vehicle use. Last year we managed this section for both ORV and pedestrian use and we feel it is important to remain consistent with our management while we complete our ORV Management Plan. It is our long-term goal to develop a definitive policy on ORV use for all sections of park beach.

Darrell

---

Darrell L. Echols  
Deputy Superintendent

National Park Service  
Outer Banks Group  
Cape Hatteras National Seashore/Wright Brothers National Memorial/Fort Raleigh National Historic Site  
1401 National Park Drive  
Manteo, NC 27954

phone: (252) 473-2111, x148  
fax: (252) 473-2595

E-mail: Darrell\_Echols@nps.gov  
Webpage: <http://www.nps.gov/>

---

----- Forwarded by Cyndy Holda/CAHA/NPS on 07/31/2009 03:52 PM -----

"Jim Lyons"  
<12lbttest@usa.net  
>

07/30/2009 10:29  
AM

To  
"Cindy Holda" <Cyndy\_Holda@nps.gov>  
cc

Subject  
pedestrian access

July 30, 2009  
Buxton, NC

Hello Cindy,

Cindy do you know if Mike is planning to return the historical pedestrian access only beaches that he opened to ORV access in Cape Hatteras National Seashore? I am specifically concerned about the 0.4 mile north of Ramp 43.

This area had always been a pedestrian access only area until Mike opened it to vehicles because Cape Point was temporarily closed to ORV access under conditions set forth by the Consent Decree.

As you are aware, Cape Point is now open again to ORV use. It seems fair that since Mike's justification (closing ORV access to Cape Point) is no longer applicable, the area should return to its established management.

This 0.4 mile of beach is of particular importance because it is one of the few beaches that is not situated in front of a village or in an ORV route, has adequate and safe parking, easy pedestrian access and affords visitors an exceptional opportunity to experience a primitive ocean beach away from highways and development on Hatteras Island.

Sincerely,

Jim Lyons

(See attached file: 09\_pedestrian\_access)

```
> -----  
> Attachment: 09_pedestrian_access  
> MIME Type: application/octet-stream  
> -----
```



answer to D.E.