

**From:** [Thayer Broili](#)  
**To:** [Mike Murray](#); [Darrell Echols](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Possible DFCs for AMOY, CWB and SBA  
**Date:** 10/09/2009 12:26 PM

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FYI

Thayer Broili  
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 Cape Hatteras National Seashore  
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----- Forwarded by Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS on 10/09/2009 12:23 PM -----

**Doug  
 McGee/CAHA/NPS**

10/09/2009 12:03 PM

To Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS  
 cc Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS

Subject Re: Fw: Possible DFCs for AMOY, CWB and SBA 

Thayer,

I concur with Britta, but I also believe too little is focussed on habitat and habitat availability.

It makes little sense to say our DFC for a species is X productivity/pair if the seashore only has enough suitable (better than marginal) habitat for Y pairs. I'm not sure what good it does to have a DFC for a species if productivity has little chance of being greater than zero due to marginal/sub-marginal habitat conditions. Unless we have a major hurricane event, (or get funding for major habitat restoration/alteration - and the longer sections of beaches are closed, the "less suitable" the currently available habitat becomes) the habitat will continue to degrade as the islands continue to narrow (without accounting for the predicted sea level rise). The habitat section does not describe the acreages needed to meet the DFCs and only addresses the preferred habitat "types" for the species. That section should include a "preferred breeding acreages/mileages" DFC for each species (we may need to do a TAR to arrive at that number).

For example, *if* AMOYs prefer a 0.1-0.2 mi territory and the DFC for AMOYs is 45 pairs, we would need about 9 miles of sparsely vegetated beach at least 150'-200' wide (*guesstimate*) from the high-tide to the dune line that's not subject to spring-tide overwash so as to achieve the >40 percent, and then >50 percent, DFC for nests producing hatchlings.

South Point Ocracoke was home to the largest CWB colony on the seashore - in 2000 it only overwashed once early in the season, before the nesting was really underway. Since I have been back - from '05 on, it has overwashed multiple times throughout the summer and is to my mind, currently sub-marginal habitat. The historic nesting habitat at Hatteras Inlet is now ocean/inlet. Without "restoration" of these historic nesting locations, I'm not sure where we're supposed to put the numbers of pairs stated in the DFCs.

Shorter version; productivity is as dependent on amount of preferred habitat

available, as it is on habitat type.

Or, am I making this too complicated?

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▼ Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS

**Thayer  
Broili/CAHA/NPS**

To Doug McGee/CAHA/NPS@NPS  
cc

10/09/2009 08:46 AM

Subject Fw: Possible DFCs for AMOY, CWB and SBA

I haven't received any response from you on this. Please respond today.

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----- Forwarded by Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS on 10/09/2009 08:46 AM -----

**Thayer  
Broili/CAHA/NPS**

To Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Doug  
McGee/CAHA/NPS@NPS

cc brittadace@gmail.com

10/07/2009 08:38 AM

Subject Re: Fw: Possible DFCs for AMOY, CWB and SBA 

Did the two of you discuss these comments (from Britta today)? Is Doug going to make separate comments? Let me know. Thanks.

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