

From: [Mike Murray](#)
To: [alan.sutton](#)
Cc: [cyndy](#); [Kenny](#)
Subject: Re: DEIS clarification
Date: 03/31/2010 12:37 PM

Hi Alan,

Thank you for your interest in the Draft Cape Hatteras National Seashore Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). Please understand that under the NEPA process once a major planning document such as the DEIS is released to the public, NPS does not typically provide responses to individual questions about the document until the release of the final environmental impact statement (FEIS), at which time written responses to substantive comments will be provided as part of the FEIS. That said, I hope to assist you in finding the information you are seeking. Page 124 describes how "points and spits" and "ocean shoreline" non-breeding shorebird areas would be managed. If there are specific items in the DEIS that you think need to be clarified or if you have recommendation(s) for how you think something should be handled, you may wish to include that in your comments.

As a reminder, if you wish to comment electronically, you may submit your comments on-line at the PEPC web site by visiting <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/caha>, clicking on ***Open for Comment**, clicking on **Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan/EIS**, and then clicking on **Comment on Document**. NPS encourages commenting electronically through PEPC. If you wish to submit your written comments in hard copy (e.g. in a letter), you may send them by U.S. Postal Service or other mail delivery service or hand-deliver them to: Mike Murray, Superintendent, Cape Hatteras National Seashore, 1401 National Park Drive, Manteo, NC 27954. Oral statements and written comments will also be accepted during the hearing-style public meetings that will be scheduled during the 60-day public comment period. Comments will not be accepted by fax, email, or in any other way than those specified above. Bulk comments in any format (hard copy or electronic) submitted on behalf of others will not be accepted. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment -- including your personal identifying information -- may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

We appreciate your interest, and invite you to comment on the Draft Plan / EIS by one of the means listed above.

Mike Murray
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03/30/2010 03:05 PM

To: mike <mike_murray@nps.gov>

cc: cyndy <cyndy_holda@nps.gov>, Kenny <Kenny_Ballance@nps.gov>

Subject: DEIS clarification

Mike,

Please provide some explanation to the notes on page 101, Alternative F, Oceanside Location "0.5 miles southwest of Ramp 72 to inlet". The DEIS states:

ORV route YR+

With expected limited access Mar 15 to Jul 31

When pre-nesting area is established, ORV access corridor would be allowed along ocean shoreline to the inlet. When shorebird breeding activity is observed, standard buffers would apply, which depending upon the circumstances could close the access corridor.

+There would be 1.0 mile of "floating" ocean shoreline area for nonbreeding shorebirds. Area would be bypassed via the ORV corridor on the upper beach during nonbreeding season.

(ML2)

The first part seems to state that we will have oceanside access whenever buffer distances allow. But the note followed by + appears to state that there will be 1.0 mile closed for "non-breeding shorebirds". Since south point is about 1.8 miles from ramp 72, a 1.0 mile closure would effectively close the entire ocean shoreline. I measured the distance as shown on the pre-nesting closure map, and I also checked against my truck's odometer to come up with 1.8 miles. Does this mean that we will only have 0.3 miles of the southpoint beach open? Please explain this note.

Currently, there is extensive shoreline closure year-round behind southpoint for breeding and non-breeding birds. How is this area specified in the DEIS?

If possible, please provide clarification on this issue in time for me to communicate to concerned people prior to the public comment period.

Sincerely,

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