

Sheely, Jo

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**From:** Van Dyke, Nancy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 11:45 AM  
**To:** Smith, Spence; 'richard podolsky'  
**Cc:** Byron, Rebecca; Fox, Lori  
**Subject:** FW: Desired Future Conditions  
**Attachments:** DRAFT\_Desired\_conditions\_CWB\_20100603.docx; CWB\_NC\_CAHA\_nest counts.xlsx

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

**From:** Sandra\_Hamilton@nps.gov [mailto:Sandra\_Hamilton@nps.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 07, 2010 11:52 AM  
**To:** Van Dyke, Nancy  
**Cc:** Doug\_Wetmore@nps.gov  
**Subject:** Fw: Desired Future Conditions

fyi

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----- Forwarded by Sandra Hamilton/DENVER/NPS on 06/07/2010 09:51 AM -----

Timothy  
Pinion/Atlanta/NP  
S

06/03/2010 07:16  
AM

Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS

cc  
Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Doug  
Wetmore/DENVER/NPS@NPS, Sandra  
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Subject  
Re: Desired Future Conditions  
(Document link: Sandra Hamilton)

Mike,

Here is an attempt to identify ambitious, and hopefully realistic, goals

We would like to re-consider the DFC for CWB, come up with one that is more ambitious (but hopefully still realistic) and see if it would make sense to base it on the longer term data. We'd like to request Tim's assistance in reviewing the attached information and drafting a revised DFC for CWB based on the longer term data. Note: Tim's has also been invited to participate June 10-11 in a discussion (which now is likely to be a conference call, rather than a park visit) of possible changes that we may want to make to the preferred alternative in deciding upon a "selected alternative" for the FEIS. It would be very helpful if we could have the draft revision of the CWB DFC in time for those discussions (it is but one of a number of issues in which we are contemplating changes or fine tuning).

Attached are the following: 1) final version of DFC in the DEIS; 2) earlier version of CWB DFC based on CAHA's % of NC nest totals for each species; and 3) NC vs. CAHA totals. In essence, there are two questions for Tim: 1) Should we reconsider using the 9/22/09 version of CWB DFC (which we dismissed previously as being unrealistic)? or 2) Is there a better approach for establishing the DFC that would still be based on the longer term nesting data, such as having short and long-term targets based on restoring the long-term average # nests for each species?

We would appreciate Tim reviewing the material, proposing a new CWB DFC that is based on the long term data (and is more ambitious than what we used in the DEIS), then participating in the June 10-11 discussion on a variety of DEIS issues.

[attachment "CWB DFC.final.doc" deleted by Timothy Pinion/Atlanta/NPS]  
[attachment "DRAFT\_Desired\_conditions\_CWB\_20090922.docx" deleted by Timothy Pinion/Atlanta/NPS] [attachment "CWB\_NC\_CAHA\_nest counts.xlsx" deleted by Timothy Pinion/Atlanta/NPS]

Thank you in advance for any assistance Tim can provide. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions.

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DRAFT\_Desired\_conditions\_CWB\_20100603 (2)

DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

Desired Future Conditions for Colonial Waterbirds at Cape Hatteras National Seashore

Variable	Short-term <sup>1</sup> target	Long-term <sup>2</sup> target	Source
Annual peak number of least tern nests	5-year average of 455 nests	5-year average of 577 nests	Long-term target equals 2009 peak count. Short-term target is mid-point between current average and long-term target.
Annual peak number of common tern nests	5-year average of 421 nests	5-year average of 783 nests	Goals of North Carolina's Waterbird Program: to maintain breeding populations at or near 1977-1983 levels (2007 NC CWB report, NCWRC)
Annual peak number of gull-billed tern nests	5-year average of 10 nests	5-year average of 17 nests	Goals of North Carolina's Waterbird Program: to maintain breeding populations at or near 1977-1983 levels (2007 NC CWB report, NCWRC)
Annual peak number of black skimmer nests	5-year average of 158 nests	5-year average of 291 nests	Goals of North Carolina's Waterbird Program: to maintain breeding populations at or near 1977-1983 levels (2007 NC CWB report, NCWRC)

<sup>1</sup>Short-term means 10 years (two 5-year periodic review cycles after implementation of plan)

<sup>2</sup>Long-term means 20 years (four 5-year periodic review cycles after implementation of plan)

Short-term target is to achieve the mid-way point between the long-term target and the average of the 3 most recent data points from CAHA (2007 - 2009 counts).

Except for least terns, long-term target is to achieve 1977 – 1983 level of nesting at CAHA (average of 1977 and 1983 nest counts). These years are consistent with the basis for statewide goals identified by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (2007 CWB report, NCWRC). Least terns are currently nesting in greater numbers than the 1977 and 1983 nest counts; therefore, the long-term target is to maintain a 5-year average count equal to the 2009 peak count.

Species	2000	2001	2004	2007	2008	5-year avg	10-year target	20-yr target
least tern	184	202	212	194	232	205	308	410
common tern	129	573	376	22	19	224	592	961
gull-billed tern	3	108	31	0	0	28	53	78
black skimmer	149	193	342	1	4	138	237	336

CAHA data from park: "Table 16-CWB-corrected.091509.doc"

NC data from report: "2007 Survey of Nesting Colonial Waterbirds in the North Carolina Coastal Zone along with an Updating of the Colonial Waterbird Database; Final Report to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District; Susan E. Cameron, Waterbird Biologist David H. Allen, Coastal Wildlife Diversity Project Leader North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Wildlife Diversity Program"

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Species		2007	2008	2009	average
least tern	CAHA	194	232	577	334
common tern	CAHA	109	19	53	60
gull-billed tern	CAHA	6	0	0	2
black skimmer	CAHA	11	4	61	25

Species		1977	1983 average	
least tern	CAHA	121	508	315
	NC	1925	1653	1789
common tern	CAHA	802	763	783
	NC	2761	2247	2504
gull-billed tern	CAHA	27	7	17
	NC	268	233	251
black skimmer	CAHA	286	296	291
	NC	976	797	887

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Species		07-09 average	midway to 77-83 target	77-83 target
least tern	CAHA	334	324	315
common tern	CAHA	60	421	783
gull-billed tern	CAHA	2	10	17
black skimmer	CAHA	25	158	291