

**From:** [Mike Murray](#)  
**To:** [Sandra Hamilton](#)  
**Subject:** Re: night parking  
**Date:** 08/27/2010 06:20 AM

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Based on how I read the comment and response now, here is what I would say:

The NPS does not have the resources to patrol the entire park at night to enforce compliance, and **allowing visitors to park on the beach overnight** would potentially result in additional compliance problems that would cause the same adverse impacts as other non-essential ORVs.

Mike Murray  
Superintendent  
Cape Hatteras NS/ Wright Brothers NMem/ Ft. Raleigh NHS  
(w) 252-473-2111, ext. 148  
(c) 252-216-5520  
fax 252-473-2595

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▼ [Sandra Hamilton/DENVER/NPS](#)

**Sandra  
Hamilton/DENVER/NPS**

To: Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS  
cc

08/26/2010 07:43 PM

Subject: night parking

Hi Mike,

Here's an easy one:

In the responses to Concern ID # 24117 and # 24125 I'm not sure whether the last sentence, which is the same in both responses, should say "...and placing more **parked** vehicles".... or "and placing more **parking for** vehicles..." or something else? Here is the whole sentence as it's currently written:

And here are the concern statement and responses for #24117 and #24125 so you can see the context..

[#24125 Concern Statement: Commenters requested that some type of accommodations for overnight camping on the beach be included in the preferred alternative, including a park-and-stay option. One commenter expressed concerns that existing camping areas did not have enough non-ORV](#)

areas adjacent to them.

***Representative Quotes:***

<b>Corr. ID:</b> 10	<b>Organization:</b> <i>Not Specified</i>
<b>Comment ID:</b> 126152	<b>Organization Type:</b> Unaffiliated Individual
<b>Representative Quote:</b> If there is no way to allow night traffic, then camping overnight at the popular fishing spots should be permitted.	
<b>Corr. ID:</b> 13279	<b>Organization:</b> <i>Not Specified</i>
<b>Comment ID:</b> 140635	<b>Organization Type:</b> Unaffiliated Individual
<b>Representative Quote:</b> Page 112: IN option F why is camping in the campgrounds limited to SCV?	
<b>Corr. ID:</b> 13400	<b>Organization:</b> <i>Not Specified</i>
<b>Comment ID:</b> 139932	<b>Organization Type:</b> Unaffiliated Individual
<b>Representative Quote:</b> The park and stay option is another idea that could be implemented at CAHA. This would allow night time use, while mitigating potential impacts.	
<b>Corr. ID:</b> 13400	<b>Organization:</b> <i>Not Specified</i>
<b>Comment ID:</b> 139940	<b>Organization Type:</b> Unaffiliated Individual
<b>Representative Quote:</b> Referring to the points and spits, the high value of recreational usage should remain open to nighttime ORV use as a pass thru or a park and stay option with no lantern use, mandating red tape over the headlights, and a suggestion to use as little light as possible.	

**Response:** Under 36 CFR 2.10, camping is permitted only in designated campgrounds and is prohibited on park beaches (Superintendent's Compendium). During the time of the year that when night driving on Seashore beaches is not prohibited from 9 pm to 7 am, parking along designated ORV routes is permitted at night when someone associated with the

vehicle is actively fishing or engaged in passive recreation such as stargazing. For an in-depth response to suggestions or concerns surrounding night driving restrictions, please see the response to Concern ID 24089. In order to provide the appropriate level of resource protection during the turtle nesting season, ORVs would not be permitted on the Seashore beaches during nighttime hours, even if ORVs were to remain in place with lights off in a park and stay capacity, as human disturbance may impact nesting sea turtles. Although this concept was proposed in the DEIS under alternative E, the potential impacts and operational and compliance concerns were determined to be too great to be included in the preferred alternative. Allowing vehicles to remain parked on the beach during the breeding season in resource sensitive locations for the duration of the night would be difficult to patrol and enforce, and could place an unrealistic expectation on visitors parked in such locations to strictly comply with the night driving restrictions. The NPS does not have the resources to patrol the entire park at night to enforce compliance, and placing more park vehicles on the beach at night would potentially result in additional compliance problems that would cause the same adverse impacts as other non-essential ORVs.

**Concern ID: 24117**

**Concern Statement:** One commenter requested that night parking be provided at the end of access ramps on the beach side of the dunes, as well as in certain areas along the sand road that is behind the dunes at Cape Point and the spits.

***Representative Quotes:***

<b>Corr. ID:</b> 14226	<b>Organization:</b> Outer Banks Anglers Club
<b>Comment ID:</b> 137859	<b>Organization Type:</b> Unaffiliated Individual
<b>Representative Quote:</b> During the periods when night time driving on the beach is prohibited, the DEIS should include provisions for night time parking near the beach at the end of the access ramps on the beach side of the dunes. Night time parking should also be allowed in certain areas along the sand roads that run behind the dunes at Cape Point and at the spits. Parking near the beach at the end of the access ramps has no negative impact on resource protection, but would greatly enhance user experience and reduce a burdensome walking requirement.	

**Response:** Night parking and pedestrian beach access will be allowed at the roadside parking areas identified on the maps for modified alternative F. Allowing vehicles to park overnight on interdunal roads or ORV ramps immediately adjacent to resource sensitive locations would be difficult to patrol and enforce, and could place an unrealistic expectation on visitors in such locations to strictly comply with the applicable resource protection restrictions. The NPS does not have the resources to patrol the entire park at night to enforce compliance, and placing more park vehicles on ORV routes adjacent to the beach at night would potentially result in additional compliance problems that would cause the same adverse impacts as other non-essential ORVs.

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Thanks, Mike.

Sandy

Sandy Hamilton  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
National Park Service - Environmental Quality Division  
Academy Place  
P.O. Box 25287  
Denver CO 80225  
PH: (303) 969-2068  
FAX: (303) 987-6782