

0027986

From: [Mike Murray](#)
To: [Sandra Hamilton](#)
Cc: [Britta Muiznieks](#); [Doug Wetmore](#); [Thayer Broili](#)
Subject: Re: Question re establishing trail at Cape Point
Date: 09/13/2010 08:02 AM

Sandy,

I would add:

A pedestrian trail through the interior near the dredge pond would provide less access to Cape Point during the breeding season than the shoreline corridor because of the likelihood the prenesting area would preclude pedestrian travel south of the dune line. NPS has considered various access options for Cape Point and has determined, based on the nesting history in recent years, that the shoreline access corridor described in alternative F is the option most likely to provide access to Cape Point during some portions of the breeding season. For example, during the 2010 breeding season access to Cape Point along the shoreline corridor was closed for a total of 55 days to pedestrians and 69 days for ORVs, whereas the prenesting area was in place (i.e., closed to access) for 145 days.

(Per Resource Closure Request documentation, the prenesting area was installed March 10 and removed August 2.)

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▼ [Sandra Hamilton/DENVER/NPS](#)

**Sandra
Hamilton/DENVER/NPS**

09/13/2010 08:39 AM

To: Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc: Doug Wetmore/DENVER/NPS@NPS, Mike
Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Thayer
Broili/CAHA/NPS@NPS

Subject: Re: Question re establishing trail at Cape Point

Thanks, Britta.

Sandy Hamilton
Environmental Protection Specialist
National Park Service - Environmental Quality Division
Academy Place

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▼ Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS

**Britta
Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS**

09/11/2010 07:55 AM

To Sandra Hamilton/DENVER/NPS@NPS
cc Doug Wetmore/DENVER/NPS@NPS, Mike
Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Thayer Broilli/CAHA/NPS@NPS
Subject Re: Question re establishing trail at Cape Point

In my opinion we should not consider a permanent pedestrian path through this area (between the dunes and the Salt Pond) since I believe it would affect the Park's resources since this would take people right through the middle of known AMOY and PIPL nesting areas. If buffer distances allow, I would more likely consider allowing pedestrians to walk along the shoreline to reach Cape Point. There is an old road at the junction of the Interdunal Road and Ramp 44 that birders use to gain access to a corner of the Salt Pond but it does not allow for access to Cape Point. I would encourage maintenance of this road/trail for birding purposes.

Britta Muiznieks
Wildlife Biologist
Cape Hatteras National Seashore

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▼ Sandra Hamilton/DENVER/NPS

**Sandra
Hamilton/DENVER/NPS**

09/10/2010 12:15 PM

To Thayer Broilli/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Doug
Wetmore/DENVER/NPS@NPS, Mike
Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS
Subject Re: Question re establishing trail at Cape Point

Hi Thayer.

Here is the comment:

I would also suggest that the Park Service consider cutting a permanent pedestrian path from Cape Point to the parking areas at Ramps 43 and 44, and the campground. This path could be cut through the brush between the

west side of the sand dunes and the east side the pond at Cape Point. This path would have no negative impact on the Park's resources. The path would provide reliable year round access to Cape Point when all other access is lost during times of resource and safety closures. This access would be safer than wading around the enclosures at night and could prove useful for resource observation, predator management and park enforcement.

As I mentioned, my concern about potentially responding that it's out of scope for this plan and could be considered for the GMP is that we have identified a couple other pedestrian trails in the ORV plan. I'm not familiar enough with the geography there to recognize where the proposed trail route would be in relation to the prenesting closure. That would seem relevant to the feasibility of this suggestion. Any help the Seashore can provide for a draft response would be appreciated. Thanks.

Sandy

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▼ [Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS](#)

**Thayer
Broili/CAHA/NPS**

09/08/2010 08:42 AM

To Sandra Hamilton/DENVER/NPS@NPS

cc Doug Wetmore/DENVER/NPS@NPS, Mike
Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Britta
Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS

Subject Question re establishing trail at Cape Point

Sandy,

Last Wednesday you called with a question/comment (from DEIS comments) regarding NPS establishing a trail at Cape Point. I think part of what you wanted to know was whether the area in question would be in a pre-nesting area. I was preoccupied with hurricane issues and you said you'd take it up later. If you haven't already developed an answer and still need help, please send question to me, Mike, Britta, and we'll answer it.

Thayer Broili
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