

From: [Mike Murray](#)
To: [Britta Muiznieks](#)
Cc: [Thayer Broili](#); [Jon Anglin](#); [Paul Stevens](#)
Subject: Re: Fw: Table 10-1 and Table 8 wording
Date: 10/06/2010 11:38 AM

Britta,

Thanks for thinking about this. I've discussed this again with Jon Anglin. Rather than edit the language as suggested by me or by you, which would make it more complicated and confusing, we think it is best to leave the wording as is (i.e., we will stick with "From May 1 until Nov 15 all nonessential vehicle use is prohibited from 9:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m., except from Sept 16 to Nov 15, ORV routes with no turtle nests remaining will reopen for night driving.")

We will need to figure out the signs and visitor notification procedures before fall 2011, but that is an operational issue that does not need to be explicitly spelled out the plan/EIS (just as we are not describing in detail all the other signs that are needed to implement the plan).

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▼ [Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS](#)

Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS

To: Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc: Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS@NPS

10/05/2010 04:45 PM

Subject: Re: Fw: Table 10-1 and Table 8 wording 

It makes sense to me but it probably wouldn't make much sense to the average Joe. When we discussed beach fires, Jon Anglin thought the general public would not know the difference between an expanded vs non-expanded nest which is why we left the wording as "no beach fires within 100 meters of ANY turtle nest". If we thought that that was too complicated, then along that same line of thought, the below wording will probably be too confusing for most people.

I guess the question is how are we going to handle the areas that are open vs closed during the night driving restrictions. Are the areas going to be closed unless posted as open or is an area going to be open unless posted closed? Since people will have access to some areas during the daytime (may or may not have access

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behind a nest depending on its location), how will the ramps be posted so that people will know if an area is open or closed to night driving? We may be able to get away with something as simple as the following:

From Sept 16th to Nov 16th areas open to night driving will be posted as open to night driving when night driving is permitted otherwise night driving is not allowed.

This will give us some discretion as to whether or not we think an area should be open or not. For example, if we had a nest just N of Ramp 43 we may not want to open up Ramp 43 if Ramp 44 is open and we thought that lights could be an issue for the hatchlings. I would not want to think that just because there are no nests between Ramp 43 and Ramp 44 (i.e. meets the criteria of no nests) that the area would automatically be open to ORVs. We could add another sentence that says "An area could be opened to night driving if, based on the best professional judgement of RM staff, there was no potential harm to sea turtle hatchlings from a nest that is due to hatch in the near future (i.e. not within the hatch window). Once the hatch window is reached, the ramp(s) would be closed to night driving."

Eric Frey made the suggestion that we utilize red/green solar lights at the ramp entrances to designate if one or both sides of the shoreline (after exiting the ramp) are open. Green on both sides would mean travel is open in both directions. Red on the left and green on right would mean only travel to the right would be permitted. Maybe this is something that we could get Eric Kaplan to help us with? Something to think about.

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**Mike
Murray/CAHA/NPS**

To Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS

cc Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS@NPS

10/04/2010 09:55 AM

Subject Fw: Table 10-1 and Table 8 wording

Britta,

See possible edits to Tables 10-1 and 8, as discussed. I'm not sure if we want to add the new wording or not. It may raise more issues than it resolves. It seems to complicate the wording to try to carve out the exception. For example, if night driving were allowed after Sept 15 near nests with unexpanded buffers, but NOT allowed near nests once the buffer expanded, then how do we sign it effectively and communicate it clearly to the public when it changes? Would the expanded buffer be sufficient size to mean that the area is closed to night driving, or would a larger area around the expanded buffer need to be closed to night driving? If night driving resumes in an area with an unexpanded buffer, would we expect to have problems with ORVs accidentally running over or into the small turtle nest closure? What do you think? Is there a better way to word it, or are we better off leaving it as originally revised?

(Table 10-1) From May 1 until Nov 15 all non-essential vehicle use is prohibited from 9:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m., except from Sept 16 to Nov 15, ORV routes with no turtle nests ~~remaining~~ **with expanded buffers** will reopen for night driving. **From Sept 16 to Nov 15, when the expanded buffer is implemented for a nest, the night driving restriction will apply in that area until the nest has been excavated.**

(Table 8) Sep 16 to Nov 15: ORV routes with no turtle nests ~~remaining~~ **with expanded buffers** would reopen for night driving, subject to terms and conditions of the standard ORV permit.

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