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From: Ackleybc@aol.com
To: Marcb@ncleg.net; Spearla@ncleg.net; gordon.myers@ncwildlife.org; mike_murray@nps.gov
Subject: Source of help for Cape Hatteras
Date: 11/15/2010 02:11 PM

Dear Sirs,

This spring we visited a refuge in New Jersey where plovers and people co-exist in close proximity. This area adjacent to Cape May and Cape May Point has been constructed with a combination of state and federal funds along with cooperation from Audubon on Nature Conservancy land. It is a protected area for nesting plovers and other shore birds and migratory birds.

This is exactly what we have been asking the National Park Service to do at Cape Hatteras. It would restore bird habitat, eliminate flooding problems, and allow greater access for public recreation.

I urge you to make this a priority for funding. During the last five years the heavily used islands for tourist destination, Hatteras and Ocracoke, have been severely impacted by the National Park Service closures of the most desired beach areas. Visitors have chosen to go elsewhere. The small businesses that serve the tourists have suffered economically. A number have been forced to close and more are not expected to survive.

The American public has been denied the use of a park that was originally set aside for recreation. Large resource closures have been instituted all spring and summer for the few birds that choose to nest here.

Creating habitat such as has been done in New Jersey could provide for greater avian production and allow greater use of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area (the official name). Our economic livelihood depends on the tourist trade. The islands provide tax benefits for Dare and Hyde County. Dare County contributes more revenue that it takes in from the state government.

Please act on this request for funding.

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<http://www.nature.org/wherewework/no.../art21876.html>

Click here: http://www.nap.usace.army.mil/cenap-dp/projects/factsheets/NJ/4CG_NJShoreProtection_LowerCapeMayMeadows.pdf