

0030817

From: [Mike Murray](#)
To: [Paul Stevens](#); [Jon Anglin](#); [Thayer Broili](#); [Britta Muiznieks](#); [Bridget Bohnet](#); [David Carter](#); [Kenny Ballance](#); [Michael Piatak](#); [Eric Frey](#); [Jocelyn Wright](#)
Cc: [Darrell Echols](#); [Cyndy Holda](#)
Subject: Essential vehicle use
Date: 05/20/2011 08:12 AM

All,

Given some of our recent discussions and visitor perceptions about Cape Point, please remind your staffs of the interim strategy/consent decree guidance on essential vehicle use and ask them to pay particular attention to the speed limit guidance. The objective of the guidance is to minimize the risk of essential vehicle use causing negative impacts to protected species. This is particularly important when chicks are present. The guidance is as follows:

(from Table 3 in the interim strategy)

Essential vehicles allowed in closures subject to guidelines in Essential Vehicles section of Appendix G of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Atlantic Coast Population, Revised Recovery Plan (USFWS 1996a, as cited in the strategy/EA).

In the event of an emergency, the protection of human life takes precedence over all other management activities. To the extent practicable, emergency response vehicle operators will consult with trained resources management staff regarding protected species before driving into or through resource closures; however, prior consultation may not always be practical.

Essential vehicles will avoid driving within turtle nest closures.

Essential vehicle speed: Not to exceed 10 mph, whenever possible.

Thanks,

Mike Murray
Superintendent
Cape Hatteras NS/ Wright Brothers NMem/ Ft. Raleigh NHS

0030818

(w) 252-473-2111, ext. 148
(c) 252-216-5520
fax 252-473-2595

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

This message is intended exclusively for the individual or entity to which it is addressed. This communication may contain information that is proprietary, privileged or confidential or otherwise legally exempt from disclosure.