

From: [Mike Murray](#)
To: [Catherine McCurdy](#)
Cc: [Britta Muiznieks](#); [Darrell Echols](#); [Laura Pickens](#); [Thayer Broili](#)
Subject: Re: Maps for proposed new ramps and parking areas
Date: 06/23/2011 01:15 PM

Katy,

Thank you for all of your work on this! You've pulled together a lot of material in a short amount of time and I appreciate it. In general, many of the maps look good "as is" or with minor revision(s). My comments are as follows:

- **Ramp 2.5** - Label the northern RED line as the "Preferred route" and the current middle line as "Second option", then delete the southern RED line. I had some questions about potential viewshed impacts from the lighthouse that Doug Stover was able to address after the field trip, so we can eliminate the least preferred option (which was mapped in case there were CR concerns about the preferred option).
- **Ramp 4 parking and pedestrian trail** - The map generally looks okay as shown, but may need a little revision later.
- **Ramp 23 parking lot** - okay as is
- **Parking with trail 1.3 miles south of Ramp 23** (map and close-up) - Looks okay for now. Will need to revisit the site at some point and take a GPS point at the best location for the dune crossing, then can adjust trail accordingly.
- **Ramp 25.5** (map and close up)- okay as is
- **Parking Lot "X"** - Re-title it "**Parking ____ miles south of Ramp 27**"; Determine mileage from Ramp 27 to the parking area and add it to the map. Add a line for a pedestrian trail from the mid-point of east-side of parking area diagonally E/NE to the nearest open sandy beach (In essence, it is okay to draft the trail location on the computer without having a complete GPS track taken in the field. I can fax you a marked up map if this description of the trail location is unclear.
- **Little Kinnakeet rough data** - Change map title to "**Proposed Ramp 32.5 and Little Kinnakeet Parking**" - Change the northern (i.e., green) line to same line weight/color (i.e., RED) that is used for new ramps on other maps. The size/location of the parking area across from Little Kinnakeet is okay as is, but adjust line weight and color to show the pedestrian trail in same line weight/color as used for trails on other maps.
- **Kite Point** - Label "**Kite Point**" (the shoreline prominence west of the northern parking area). Delete the southern parking area near SS Access 59. Tweak the scale of the map so that it shows from Haulover south to SS access 59.
- **SS Access 60** - Label "**North boundary of Buxton**" to provide a second labeled reference point
- **Ramp "57"** (North Ocracoke) - Change title on map to "**Ramp 59.5**"; indicate current Ramp 59 "**to be closed**"
- **Barrow Pit Road** - Delete parking area north of Barrow Pit Road. Keep parking area south of Barrow Pit Road. Across from the highway from the southern parking, show a short pedestrian trail over the dune.
- **Ramp 63** - Delete the northern alternative and revise distance, if appropriate, from the remaining (southern) ramp location.
- **Seasonal route/soundside access 0.8 south of Ramp 72** - Eliminate

the "Ocracoke Inlet" ramp as an existing ramp (i.e., remove text and dashed line south of South Point Road/Ramp 72). The location of the new route and trail looks pretty good as is; however, we may need to re-visit the site after the bird nesting season in order to take four corner coordinates for the proposed "trailhead parking area". No need to indicate route width on the map. In general, there is plenty of open sand from the ocean shoreline to the upper beach where we would simply post an ORV "parking area/turn around" with carsonite (i.e., no construction needed) before one reaches the vegetation line.

Maps needed (if we need to re-take the GPS data for the following, we can do it after the bird nesting season has concluded in each location)

- **(South Beach) Interdunal road from Ramp 45 to Ramp 49, with new Ramp 47.5** (Doug McGee took some GPS readings during our field trip, but was also going to re-visit the area on a UTV to figure out and take GPS readings for the best route from Ramp 45 west to new Ramp 47.5. Britta might know if Doug was able to do this or not. If we need to re-take the GPS data, then we can re-visit it after the bird nesting season.
- **(Hatteras Inlet) New seasonal ORV route & parking area(s) near Pole Road/Spur Road intersection.** Britta and/or Doug took GPS readings of several potential parking areas where Pole Road exits onto the beach and where Pole Road used to exit onto the beach south of its current exit. After flying over this area several times since Feb and seeing the continuing erosion (affecting the usefulness of access to the sound via Spur Road, etc.), I have an alternative idea for a parking area location that may be better than what we mapped before, but will need to do a site visit with Britta after the bird nesting season is over to scout the location on the ground and take GPS readings.

Additional GIS layering

Before we proceed with any additional mapping (other than that described above) or with detailed planning and compliance for these proposed sites, I would like to take another look at the proposed sites in GIS and compare them with up-to-date bird nesting data for 2009-2011.

We designed many of the proposed ramp and parking lot locations based on our then-current knowledge of bird nesting patterns several years ago, with the strategy of choosing locations for new access points that would not be in direct conflict with known nesting areas and would therefore be more likely to remain open during the nesting season. For example, new Ramp 47.5 on South Beach was placed well west of the South Beach prenesting/nesting area so the new interdunal road would (hopefully) provide a reliable by-pass from Ramp 44, around the nesting area, to South Beach. Obviously, nesting patterns evolve over time, so it would be prudent for us now to re-check the proposed locations against the most recent nesting data (2009-2011) to see if the proposed locations for new facilities still make sense. If we find that some proposed locations now appear likely to be closed because of recent changes in nesting patterns, then we can make some adjustments before proceeding with planning and compliance. The intent is that the new facilities would offer multiple access options that are likely to remain open during the breeding season, so that access would be less dependent upon any particular access point remaining open. In order to proceed with planning and compliance for the new facilities, we do need to identify and confirm the locations.

At this point, until we "finalize" the details in the maps for the proposed facility location as described in the bullets above, I'm not sure it is worth the effort to create maps with the nesting overlay. Perhaps, for now I could start by getting with you at Buxton or Laura at HQ some time in the next few weeks to take a look at a few representative sites on the computer screen to see what the proposed ramp location(s) looks like with the nesting data included. That might give me a better idea of what sort of maps with nesting overlays we may want to create.

Thanks again,

Mike Murray
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▼ Catherine McCurdy/CAHA/NPS

**Catherine
McCurdy/CAHA/NPS**

06/21/2011 03:17 PM

To Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Darrell
Echols/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Laura
Pickens/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Mike
Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS@NPS
Subject Re: Maps for proposed new ramps and parking areas


Hi,

Please see the attached word doc for updates on maps and the status of the data. I have copied and pasted Mike's text from the email below into the word doc as dark red text and addressed the issues/questions with each map individually. Feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

Thanks!!

[attachment "Response to proposed ramp email.docx" deleted by Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS]

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Katy McCurdy  
Cartographic Technician  
Cape Hatteras National Seashore

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▼ Mike Murray/CACO/NPS

**Mike  
 Murray/CACO/NPS**  
 Sent by: Mike Murray

To Catherine McCurdy/CAHA/NPS@NPS  
 cc Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Thayer  
 Broili/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Darrell Echols/CAHA/NPS@NPS,  
 Laura Pickens/CAHA/NPS@NPS

06/17/2011 03:55 PM

Subject Maps for proposed new ramps and parking areas 

Hi Katy,

In the process of the HQ move, I've misplaced my field notes about the proposed new ORV ramps, parking areas and trails that were identified in the ORV plan FEIS. If you will recall, back in February, I did a several field trips with RM and LE staff to take GPS coordinates for the new ramps, trails, and parking areas so we could make maps of the respective sites. I've found some maps on the Shareall in the RM Division folder on the Shareall (in the "Katy" folder) as indicated below, but there are a number of locations that we took GPS readings for that don't have maps in that folder. Do you recall if anyone ever provided you with the GPS data or if maps were prepared for the following sites:

- New parking area about 1.0 mile south of Ramp 23 with foot trail to beach
- New ORV ramp 25.5 approximately 1.5 mile south of Ramp 23 with 10-car parking & foot trail (or boardwalk?) to beach
- New parking area (on ocean beach side of highway) just south of soundside Ramp 48 (← done) **with trail to the beach** (← not done?)
- New ORV ramp 32.5 Little Kinnakeet with foot trail to beach from existing parking on west side of highway
- New parking area near soundside access #52 with foot trail from highway to beach
- New parking area on west side of highway at/near Kite Point
- New parking area on west side of highway at/near soundside access 60
- New 5-car parking area at Loran Road w/ new handicap accessible boardwalk at end of Loran Road across wetland to beach
- New interdunal road (IDR) from Ramp 45 to Ramp 49 with new ORV Ramp 47.5 to go from IDR to beach (Doug McGee was going to map IDR from 45 to new ramp 47 by UTV)
- South of Ramp 55, new interdunal road/parking near intersection of Pole Road/Spur Road
- New ORV Ramp south of existing MP 59 parking area.
- New 5-car parking area on west/north side of the highway at/near

entrance to Barrow Pit Road.

-New ORV Ramp 63 across from Scrag Cedar Road

-New seasonal ORV route from ocean ORV corridor approx. half-way to sound with foot trail from there to sound.

Ideally, (assuming we still have the GPS data for the above sites), I would like to have the above maps completed by July 15.

Please discuss with Britta and let me know the current status of mapping the data taken in February (i.e., how many maps remain to be prepared?) and how long it may take to complete them if we consider it a "medium priority" task.

Thanks!

▼ Catherine McCurdy/CAHA/NPS

**Catherine  
McCurdy/CAHA/NPS**

02/24/2011 02:44 PM

To Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Cyndy Holda/CAHA/NPS@NPS

cc Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Laura Pickens/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Marie Reed/CAHA/NPS@NPS

Subject more proposed location maps available on shareall

Hi, more maps are available for comment and review:

I:\DIVISION FOLDER-RES MNGT\Katy\Proposed Ramp Locations\Proposed Location Ramp 25.5.pdf

I:\DIVISION FOLDER-RES MNGT\Katy\Proposed Ramp Locations\Proposed Parking South of Ramp 27.pdf

Do we have a name in mind for the proposed parking area south of Ramp 27?

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