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August 31, 2011

The Honorable Jonathan Jarvis  
Director, National Park Service  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20240

Dear Director Jarvis,

As you are no doubt aware, Hurricane Irene has caused considerable damage along the Outer Banks of North Carolina, significantly affecting the communities in and around the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area. As residents continue to assess the damage caused to homes, businesses, roads and other critical infrastructure, it is clear that these communities will be focused on rebuilding for some time.

As such, the American Sportfishing Association, on behalf of its Hatteras community members, requests the National Park Service to extend the public comment period on the Proposed Rule (RIN 1024-AD85) for the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, which closes on September 6, 2011. Many members of the Hatteras community have participated in the ORV planning and rulemaking process over the past six years, and are currently unable to respond to the rule given the devastating effects of Hurricane Irene. The proposed rule will have significant effects on the individuals, businesses and communities that are integrally linked to the management of the National Seashore. We therefore believe that a minimum of a 30 day extension on the federal register public comment period for the proposed rule is needed to allow for adequate input from those who will be most affected by the rule's implementation.

Sincerely,

Gordon Robertson  
Vice President

cc: Bert Frost, Associate Director for Natural Resources Stewardship and Science  
Jay Jensen, Associate Director for Land and Water, CEQ  
The Honorable Richard Burr, U.S. Senate  
The Honorable Kay R. Hagan, U.S. Senate  
The Honorable Walter B. Jones, U.S. House of Representatives

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