

From: [Jami Hammond](#)
To: [Mike Murray](#)
Cc: [Cyndy Holda](#); [Doug Wetmore](#); jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov; [Melissa Kuckro](#)
Subject: Re: Fw: Here's another one
Date: 09/12/2011 12:47 PM
Attachments: [FR Notice 2011-23127.pdf](#)

Mike -

I completely understand the concern. I forwarded Doug's earlier email to Marianne to let her know that she would need to touch base with Mr. Clark again. A standardized response makes sense, especially if there are more pieces of controlled correspondence to come.

Thanks -


Jami

Jami Hammond □ NPS Southeast Regional Office, Planning & Compliance Division □ 100 Alabama Street, Atlanta, GA 30303 □ 864) 469-7070, cell (404) 313-6349, fax (404) 562-3257

▼ Mike Murray---09/12/2011 11:49:22 AM---Jami. If Marianne told Mr. Clark that his comments to Senator Hagan would be considered as public comments by the NPS, then she

Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS

09/12/2011 11:33 AM

To: Jami Hammond/Atlanta/NPS@NPS
cc: Cyndy Holda/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Doug Wetmore/DENVER/NPS@NPS, Melissa Kuckro/WASO/NPS@NPS, jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov
Subject: Re: Fw: Here's another one 

Jami,

If Marianne told Mr. Clark that his comments to Senator Hagan would be considered as public comments by the NPS, then she needs to inform him of the process for submitting comments for consideration. See attached FR Notice.

The underlying issue (and Mr. Clark's correspondence is but one example) is that, as a communications tactic encouraged by some of the stakeholder organizations, many constituents are routinely copying Congressional delegation members on their public comments on the proposed rule (or are sending the delegation "concerns" during the public comment period in order to influence political opinion). There is a disconnect between the controlled correspondence process and the public comment process, and WASO is automatically assigning SER to respond to these without realizing that NPS is in a public comment period on a controversial issue. As you know, the process for responding to the properly submitted public comments on the proposed rule are to address them in the comment summary section of the final rule. We do not respond individually to comments submitted through the official public comment process and (in my opinion) should not respond individually to comments that, in essence, by-pass the comment process by routing them through the Congressional representatives. The workload alone in doing so would be unmanageable, but I suspect it would also create procedural problems since it is inconsistent with how we normally respond to public comments.

The best solution would be for WASO to come up with a standardized way to handle the Congressional "inquiries" (which often simply forward a constituent's "concerns" about a proposed management action) that occur on any park management issue (not just ORVs at CAHA) that is open public comment period. My suggestion would be for WASO to get the Solicitors to review a standardized response that would be along the lines of (wordsmith as needed): "Dear Congressman _____, Thank you for your inquiry. The matter of interest to your constituent is currently open to public comment. In order for NPS to consider the constituent's concerns, the comments must be submitted in accordance with the procedures described in the attached Federal Register Notice. Thank you for your interest."



FR Notice 2011-23127.pdf

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

▼ [Jami Hammond/Atlanta/NPS](#)

Jami Hammond/Atlanta/NPS

09/12/2011 10:42 AM

To Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc Cyndy Holda/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Doug Wetmore/DENVER/NPS@NPS
Subject Re: Fw: Here's another one 

Mike -

Does Marianne need to go back to Mr. Clark and inform him that these comments will not be included in the public comments for the rule?


Jami

Jami Hammond ☐ NPS Southeast Regional Office, Planning & Compliance Division ☐ 100 Alabama Street, Atlanta, GA 30303 ☐ 864) 469-7070, cell (404) 313-6349, fax (404) 562-3257

▼ [Doug Wetmore---09/12/2011 10:34:16 AM---Hi Jami. I hadn't seen this one, but maybe the park has. Also, I'm not sure this is a comment on the rule or not, as it's ver](#)

Doug Wetmore/DENVER/NPS

09/12/2011 10:34 AM

To Jami Hammond/Atlanta/NPS@NPS
cc Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Cyndy Holda/CAHA/NPS@NPS
Subject Re: Fw: Here's another one 

Hi Jami. I hadn't seen this one, but maybe the park has. Also, I'm not sure this is a comment on the rule or not, as it's very general. Unless it's mailed/hand-delivered to the park or entered on regulations.gov, it will not make its way into the public comments for the rule.

Doug Wetmore
National Park Service
Natural Resource Stewardship & Science
Environmental Quality Division
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225-0287
303.987.6955 (office)
303.968.5214 (cell)

▼ [Jami Hammond/Atlanta/NPS](#)

Jami Hammond/Atlanta/NPS

09/12/2011 08:26 AM

To Doug Wetmore/DENVER/NPS@NPS
cc
Subject Fw: Here's another one

Hey Doug -

I'm assuming that you have gotten this already (or will), but sent it just in case.

Jami

Jami Hammond ☐ NPS Southeast Regional Office, Planning & Compliance Division ☐ 100 Alabama Street, Atlanta, GA 30303 ☐ 864) 469-7070, cell (404) 313-6349, fax (404) 562-3257

----- Forwarded by Jami Hammond/Atlanta/NPS on 09/12/2011 10:22 AM -----

Marianne Mills/Atlanta/NPS

09/12/2011 09:57 AM

To Jami Hammond/Atlanta/NPS@NPS
cc

0031132

Subject Here's another one

[attachment "2011 08 12- Hagan.PDF" deleted by Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS]

I sent Mr. Clark a message, just letting him know that we were including it in the public comments and clarified with the Senator's office that we would not be sending out a letter responding to his comment

Marianne M. Mills
Public Affairs Specialist
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