



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Outer Banks Group:

· Cape Hatteras National
Seashore
· Fort Raleigh National
Historic Site
· Wright Brothers National
Memorial

1401 National Park Road
Manteo, NC 27954

252-473-2111 phone
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National Park Service Beach Access Report for May 5, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: DATE May 5, 2006
CONTACT: 252-475-8348

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

As of 04/27/06 there is one enclosure erected in the Bodie Island District. There is approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). Approximately 16.5 miles of beach are open for pedestrian access, 13.7 miles of beach are open for ORV and pedestrian access, and 2.8 miles of beach are closed for other concerns such as jurisdiction.

Bodie Island spit:

- Access status: An ORV and pedestrian access corridor is open along the ocean shoreline to inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access restrictions due to high tides or winds.
- Resource protection area is in the interior of Bodie Island Spit, south of Ramp 4. Up to 10 plovers have been observed foraging in the area.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

As of 05/03/06 there are 6 enclosures erected in the Hatteras Island District. The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline; 16.9 miles of beach are open to ORV and pedestrian access, 14.7 miles of beach are open for pedestrian access but closed to ORVs for safety closures, such as narrow beaches. Approximately 0.3 of a mile of beach are closed to all access for resource protection areas.

South of Ramp 27:

- Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open.
- American Oystercatcher protection area is 0.8 mile south of Ramp 27 has been removed due to loss of nest.

1.5 miles South of Ramp 38:

- Access status: Non-ORV area. Pedestrian shoreline access is open.
- American Oystercatcher protection area is 400 feet by 100 feet and includes roadside, dune, and beach side; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time

1.5 miles North of Buxton Village:

- Access status: Non-ORV area. Pedestrian shoreline access is open.
- Resource protection area is approximately 0.6 mile long and includes roadside, dune, and beach side. American Oystercatchers and Least Terns use this area for nesting, breeding and foraging; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time

Cape Point Area:

- Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the ocean shoreline between Ramp 44 and Cape Point via by-pass route; 0.2 miles of shore line on the west/south side of Cape Point is closed.

- A resource protection area is in the interior of Cape Point area and 0.2 mile of shoreline approximately 0.6 miles west/south of Cape Point. Birds are foraging, roosting, and defending territory. Both Piping Plovers and Colonial Waterbirds are in the area.

South Beach Area:

- Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the ocean shoreline and via the inter-dunal road.
- The resource protection area 0.3 miles south of ramp 45 is expanded towards ocean tide line; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.

Hatteras Inlet:

- Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the ocean shoreline, portions of Pole Road, and Cable Crossing. Safety Closure restricts ORV access on ocean side approximately 0.3 mile towards inlet due to high tides and narrow beach.
- One resource protection area is established approximately 0.5 mile south of Ramp 55. Enclosure protects American Oystercatcher; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.
- One resource protection area is established approximately 0.6 mile south of ramp 55 and runs south to the end of Hatteras Spit. This resource protection area is for nesting American Oystercatchers and breeding Piping Plovers; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.

Ocracoke Island District (all of Ocracoke Island excluding Ocracoke village)

As of 05/05/06 there are 3 enclosures erected in the Ocracoke Island District. Ocracoke Island has a total of 15.9 miles of ocean shoreline. There is a total of 10.5 miles of ocean shoreline open for ORV and pedestrian access. An additional 5.4 miles of ocean shoreline is open to pedestrians only due to ORV safety closure for narrow beaches.

Ramp 67:

- Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the ocean shoreline.
- Resource protection area is 0.9 miles north of Ramp 67. The Area is for protection of American Oystercatcher; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.

Ramp 70:

- Access status: ORV and Pedestrian access is open on the ocean side of protection area.
- Resource protection area is 1.5 miles north of Ramp 70. The Closure is approximately 600 ft. long by 100 ft. wide. The area is for American Oystercatcher nest; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.

South Point Road:

- Access status: ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 72 south along ocean shoreline to inlet.
- A pre-nesting closure protects breeding and territory of American Oystercatchers and Piping Plovers. Access corridor follows the ocean shoreline to the inlet.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians, and dogs.



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National Park Service Beach Access Report for May 12, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: DATE May 12, 2006

CONTACT: 252-475-8348

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

- As of 05/12/06 there is one enclosure erected in the Bodie Island District. There is approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). Seasonal beach closures will go into effect on May 15, 2006. Included will be Ramp 1 to 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (i.e., Coquina Beach); Hatteras Island, beach areas fronting the villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo.

Bodie Island spit:

- Access status: An ORV and pedestrian access corridor is open along the ocean shoreline to inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access restrictions due to high tides or winds.
- Resource protection area is in the interior of Bodie Island Spit, south of Ramp 4. Plovers have been observed foraging in the area as well as displays protecting territory. Least terns arriving back at Oregon Inlet.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

As of 05/03/06 there are 8 enclosures erected in the Hatteras Island District. The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline; 16.9 miles of beach are open to ORV and pedestrian access, 14.7 miles of beach are open for pedestrian access but closed to ORVs for safety closures, such as narrow beaches. Approximately 0.3 of a mile of beach are closed to all access for resource protection areas.

South of Ramp 27:

- Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open.
- American Oystercatcher protection area is 0.8 mile south of Ramp 27 has been removed due to loss of nest.
- 1.4 miles south of Ramp 27 is American Oystercatcher protection area is 400 feet by 100 feet. A minimum of 20 feet ORV and pedestrian access will be maintained at this time.

1.5 miles South of Ramp 38:

- Access status: Non-ORV area. Pedestrian shoreline access is open.
- American Oystercatcher protection area is 400 feet by 100 feet and includes roadside, dune, and beach side; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time

1.5 miles North of Buxton Village:

- Access status: Non-ORV area. Pedestrian shoreline access is open.
- Resource protection area is approximately 0.6 mile long and includes roadside, dune, and beach side. American Oystercatchers and Least Terns use this area for nesting, breeding and foraging; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time

Cape Point Area:

- Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the ocean shoreline between Ramp 44 and Cape Point via by-pass route; readjustment of approximately 0.2 miles of shore line on the west/south side of Cape Point is closed. This adjustment is to accommodate Piping Plovers foraging outside of the current enclosure.
- A resource protection area is in the interior of Cape Point area and 0.2 mile of shoreline approximately 0.6 miles west/south of Cape Point. Birds are foraging, roosting, mating behavior, and defending territory. Both Piping Plovers and Colonial Waterbirds are in the area. Least and common terns are showing courtship and scraping behavior.

South Beach Area:

- Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the ocean shoreline and via the inter-dunal road.
- The resource protection area 0.3 miles south of ramp 45 is expanded towards ocean tide line; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.

Hatteras Inlet:

- Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the ocean shoreline, portions of Pole Road, and Cable Crossing. Safety Closure restricts ORV access on ocean side approximately 0.3 mile towards inlet due to high tides and narrow beach.
- One resource protection area is established approximately 0.5 mile south of Ramp 55. Enclosure protects American Oystercatcher; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.
- One resource protection area is established approximately 0.6 mile south of Ramp 55 and runs south to the end of Hatteras Spit. This resource protection area is for nesting American Oystercatchers and breeding Piping Plovers; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.
- One resource protection area is established approximately 0.8 miles south of Ramp 55. Enclosure protects American Oystercatcher. Closure is 200 feet by 300 feet. A minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time

Ocracoke Island District (all of Ocracoke Island excluding Ocracoke village)

As of 05/05/06 there are 3 enclosures erected in the Ocracoke Island District. Ocracoke Island has a total of 15.9 miles of ocean shoreline. There is a total of 10.5 miles of ocean shoreline open for ORV and pedestrian access. An additional 5.4 miles of ocean shoreline is open to pedestrians only due to ORV safety closure for narrow beaches.

Ramp 67:

- Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the ocean shoreline.
- Resource protection area is 0.9 miles north of Ramp 67. The Area is for protection of American Oystercatcher; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.

Ramp 70:

- Access status: ORV and Pedestrian access is open on the ocean side of protection area.
- Resource protection area is 1.5 miles north of Ramp 70. The Closure is approximately 600 ft. long by 100 ft. wide. The area is for American Oystercatcher nest; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.

South Point Road:

- Access status: ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 72 south along ocean shoreline to inlet.
- A pre-nesting closure protects breeding and territory of American Oystercatchers and Piping Plovers. Plovers have been observed foraging at the tideline. Access corridor follows the ocean shoreline to the inlet.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians, and dogs.

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National Park Service Beach Access Report for May 26, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: DATE May 26, 2006

CONTACT: 252-475-8348

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

There are approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). There are currently no full beach closures due to resource closures or safety closures in the Bodie Island District. Approximately 1.6 miles of beach are closed for seasonal use in front of the villages of Rodanthe, Waves, Salvo. (Open to pedestrian access only beginning May 15, 2006 for the summer season.)

Ramp 1- 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

Access status: Pedestrian access only. Area falls under seasonal closure.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 to Bodie Island Spit (including Ramp 4):

Access status: Through access from Ramp 2 to Ramp 4. An ORV and pedestrian access corridor is open along the ocean shoreline to inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access restrictions due to high tides or winds.

- Resource protection area is in the interior of Bodie Island Spit, south of Ramp 4. Plovers have been observed foraging in the area as well as displays protecting territory. Least terns arriving back at Oregon Inlet. American Oystercatchers nesting in the area.

Ramp 23-Ramp 27:

Access status: Through access from Ramp 23 to Ramp 27. Beach is open for ORV and pedestrian use.

- 1.4 miles South of Ramp 23: Resource protection area for Colonial Waterbirds (Least, Royal and Gull Billed Terns), which are nesting. Closure is 0.4 miles long and runs to dunes line. Over 100 mating pairs are present in the enclosure.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. Approximately 1.5 miles of beach are closed for full beach resource closures. Approximately 4.6 miles of beach are closed for safety closures. Approximately 11.5 miles of beach are closed for seasonal closures in front of the villages of Avon, Frisco, and Hatteras. (Open to pedestrian only beginning May 15, 2006)

Ramp 27-Ramp 30:

Access status: Beach is open to ORV and Pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 1.4 miles. No through access to Ramp 30.

- Resource protection area for American Oystercatcher and Colonial Waterbirds, nesting 0.3 miles south of Ramp 27. A majority of the closure is located west of the ORV

corridor stakes. The closure is 400 feet wide and extends 100 feet towards the ocean in to the ORV corridor. ORV and pedestrian corridor will be maintained at this time.

- American Oystercatcher protection area is 0.8 mile south of Ramp 27 was removed due to loss of nest.
- American Oystercatcher closure 1.0 mile south of Ramp 27 was removed due to loss of nest.
- Resource protection area for American Oystercatcher chicks, 1.4 miles south of Ramp 27. This is a full beach protection area. The area is 0.3 miles long.

Ramp 30-Ramp 34:

Access status: Beach is open to ORV and Pedestrian access south of Ramp 30 to 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34. No through access to Ramp 34.

- Safety closure between Ramp 30 and Ramp 34 has been reduced in length from 2.5 miles to 0.3 miles.
- American Oystercatcher closure begins 1.05 miles north of Ramp 34. A pedestrian and ORV access corridor will be maintained at this time.
- Least Tern colony is 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34. Pedestrian and ORV access is maintained at this time.

Ramp 34-Ramp 38:

Access status: Beach is open to Pedestrian access only. Beach in front of Avon village is closed for seasonal pedestrian use only.

Ramp 38 to Ramp 43:

Access status: Beach is open to ORV and Pedestrian access for 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38. Pedestrian access is open except resource closures.

- ORV safety closure starts 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38.
- 1.5 miles south of Ramp 38, American Oystercatcher protection area is 400 feet by 100 feet and includes roadside, dune, and beach side.
- Resource protection area starting 1.5 miles North of Buxton Village is approximately 0.6 mile long and includes roadside, dune, and beach side. American Oystercatchers and Least Terns use this area for nesting, breeding and foraging. American Oystercatcher chicks are in the area; will be monitored for signs of disturbance.

Ramp 43-Ramp 44:

- Beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access is open along the ocean shoreline.

Ramp 44-Ramp 49:

- Access is open between Ramp 44 and Cape Point via by-pass route; readjustment of resource closure with approximately 0.2 miles of shore line on the west/south side of Cape Point is closed.
- Resource closure includes Piping Plover nest, Least and Common terns are showing courtship and scraping behavior and nesting. All birds are foraging, roosting, mating, and defending territory.
- Access status: ORV and Pedestrian access is open 0.7 of a mile north from Ramp 45 and 2.0 miles north of Ramp 49. Approximately 0.7 mile of shoreline is closed to all access. Closure extends from dune line to shoreline.

Ramp 49- Ramp 55

1.3 miles south Frisco Pier:

Access status: Non-ORV area. Pedestrian shoreline access is open. A minimum of 30 feet pedestrian shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.

- Least terns are showing courtship, scraping behavior, and nesting

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the portions of the ocean shoreline, portions of Pole Road, and Cable Crossing. Soundside access is maintained to the “rip” area at the Spit. Resource protection closure restricts access on the soundside beginning approximately .8 mile south of Cable Crossing Road and oceanside of Hatteras Spit approximately 3 miles south of Ramp 55.

- One resource protection area is located approximately 0.5 mile south of Ramp 55. Ensures protection of American Oystercatcher nesting habitat.
- One resource protection area is located approximately 0.6 mile south of Ramp 55. This resource protection area is for breeding Piping Plovers.
- One resource protection area is established approximately 0.8 miles south of Ramp 55. Enclosure protects American Oystercatcher nest and imminent chick hatching. Pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor presently exists.

Ocracoke Island District (all of Ocracoke Island excluding Ocracoke Village)

As of 05/17/06 there are 3 resource protection enclosures erected in the Ocracoke Island District. Ocracoke Island has a total of 15.9 miles of ocean shoreline, approximately .3 miles of complete shoreline closure for resource protection. Approximately 3.5 miles of beach are closed for seasonal closures; this includes the guarded swim beach area. Approximately 4.2 miles of beach are closed for safety closures.

Ramp 59- Ramp 67:

Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the ocean shoreline. No through access to next ramp.

- Safety closure starting 0.75 mile south of Ramp 59 to 0.75 miles north of Ramp 67 for a total of 4.2 miles closed to ORV use. Pedestrian access permitted except in resource protection areas.
- Resource protection area is located 0.9 miles north of Ramp 67. The area is for protection of American Oystercatcher chicks; full beach closure in effect for 0.2 mile of shoreline.

Ramp 67-Ramp 70:

Access status: Seasonal beach closure 0.25 miles south of Ramp 67 to 0.25 miles north of Ramp 70 restricts ORV access. Pedestrian access is open on the ocean side of protection area for a total of 3.5 miles closed to ORV use. Pedestrian access is permitted except in the resource posted areas, for a total of 3.5 miles.

- Resource protection area is 1.9 miles north of Ramp 70. The Closure is approximately 600 ft. long by 100 ft. wide. This is a re-nesting attempt for the nest lost at 1.5 miles north of Ramp 70. The area is for American Oystercatcher nest; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.

Ramp 70- Ramp 72 (South Point Road):

Access status: ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 72 south along ocean shoreline to inlet.

- A pre-nesting closure protects breeding and territory of American Oystercatchers and Piping Plovers. Plovers have been observed foraging at the tideline. Access corridor follows the ocean shoreline to the inlet.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians, and dogs.

-NPS-



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National Park Service Beach Access Report for June 2, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: DATE June 2, 2006

CONTACT: 252-475-8348

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

There are approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). Approximately 0.0 miles of beach are closed for full beach resource closures in The Bodie Island District. Approximately 0.0 miles of beach are closed for ORV safety closures. Approximately 1.6 miles of beach are closed for seasonal use.

Ramp 1- 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

Access status: Pedestrian access only. Area falls under seasonal closure.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 to Bodie Island Spit (including Ramp 4):

Access status: Through access on the beach from Ramp 2 to Ramp 4. An ORV and pedestrian access corridor is open along the ocean shoreline to inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access restrictions due to high tides or winds.

- Resource protection area is in the interior of Bodie Island Spit, south of Ramp 4. Plovers have been observed foraging in the area as well as displays protecting territory. Least terns arriving back at Oregon Inlet.
- Bump out area 2 miles south of first resource closure sign is for the protection of an American Oystercatcher nest.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo:

Access status: Beach in front of villages is pedestrian access only. Area falls under seasonal Closure.

Ramp 23-Ramp 27:

Access status: Through access from Ramp 23 to Ramp 27. Beach is open for ORV and pedestrian use.

- 1.4 miles South of Ramp 23: Resource protection area for Colonial Waterbirds (Least, Royal and Gull Billed Terns), which are nesting. Closure is 0.4 miles long and runs to dunes line. Over 100 mating pairs are present in the enclosure.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. Approximately 1.7 miles of beach are closed for full beach resource closures. Approximately 5.2 miles of beach are closed for ORV safety closures. Approximately 11.5 miles of beach are closed for seasonal closures.

Ramp 27-Ramp 30:

Access status: Beach is open to ORV and Pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 1.4 miles. No through access to Ramp 30.

- Resource protection area for American Oystercatcher and Colonial Waterbirds, nesting 0.3 miles south of Ramp 27. A majority of the closure is located west of the ORV corridor stakes. The closure is 600 feet wide and extends 100 feet towards the ocean in to the ORV corridor. An ORV and pedestrian corridor will be maintained at this time.
- American Oystercatcher protection area is 0.8 mile south of Ramp 27 was removed due to loss of nest.
- American Oystercatcher closure 1.0 mile south of Ramp 27 was removed due to loss of nest.
- Resource protection area for American Oystercatcher chicks, 1.4 miles south of Ramp 27. This is a full beach protection area. The area is 0.3 miles long.

Ramp 30-Ramp 34:

Access status: Beach is open to ORV and Pedestrian access south of Ramp 30 to 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34. No through ORV access to Ramp 34.

- Safety closure between Ramp 30 and Ramp 34 has been reduced in length from 1.9 miles to 0.2 miles.
- American Oystercatcher closure begins 1.05 miles north of Ramp 34. A pedestrian and ORV access corridor will be maintained at this time.
- Least Tern colony is 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34. Pedestrian and ORV access is maintained at this time.

Ramp 34-Ramp 38:

Access status: Beach is open to Pedestrian access only. Beach in front of Avon village is closed for seasonal pedestrian use.

Ramp 38 to Ramp 43:

Access status: Beach is open to ORV and Pedestrian access for 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38. No through ORV access to next ramp.

- ORV safety closure starts 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38.
- 1.5 miles south of Ramp 38, American Oystercatcher protection area is 400 feet by 100 feet and includes roadside, dune, and beach side.
- Resource protection area starting 1.5 miles North of Buxton Village is approximately 0.6 mile long and includes roadside, dune, and beach side. American Oystercatchers and Least Terns use this area for nesting, breeding and foraging. American Oystercatcher chicks are in the area; will be monitored for signs of disturbance.

Ramp 43-Ramp 44:

- Beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access is open along the ocean shoreline.

Ramp 44-Ramp 49:

- Access is open between Ramp 44 and Cape Point via ocean beach and the by-pass route. Resource closure includes a 60 foot bump out for a tern colony. Bump out is 0.15 mile long. Visitors in the area are asked to reduce vehicle speed to 10 mph and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less.
- Readjustment of resource closure with approximately 0.6 miles of shore line on the west/south side of Cape Point is closed for piping plover chicks.

- Resource closure includes Piping Plover nest, Least and Common terns and black skimmers. All birds are foraging, roosting, mating, nesting, and defending territory. Approximately 175 birds are in the colony.
- Access status: ORV and Pedestrian access is open north from Ramp 45 and from Salt Pond Road, and 2.0 miles north of Ramp 49. Approximately 0.8 mile of shoreline is closed to all access.
- 2 miles north of Ramp 49, tern colony nesting area. Closure is 0.1 miles long and extends 100 feet into the ORV corridor.

Ramp 49- Ramp 55

Access status: Beach is open to ORV and Pedestrian access for 2 miles south of Ramp 49. Pedestrian access is open to Ramp 55. No through ORV access to next ramp.

- 1.3 miles south Frisco Pier is a Least Tern colony. Pedestrian shoreline access is open. A minimum of 30 feet pedestrian shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the portions of the ocean shoreline, portions of Pole Road, and Cable Crossing. Safety Closure restricts ORV access on ocean side approximately 0.3 mile towards inlet due to high tides and narrow beach. Soundside access is maintained to “rip” area at the spit. Resource Protection closure restricts all access on the inlet side and ocean side of Hatteras Spit approximately .7 miles south of ramp 55.

- One resource protection area is established approximately 0.5 mile south of Ramp 55. Closure is reduced for re-nesting attempt.
- One resource protection area is established approximately 0.6 mile south of Ramp 55 and runs south to the end of Hatteras Spit. This resource protection area is for nesting American Oystercatchers and breeding Piping Plovers; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.
- One resource protection area is established approximately 0.8 miles south of Ramp 55. Enclosure protects American Oystercatcher nest and imminent chick hatching. Closure extends from dunes to ocean tide line

Ocracoke Island District (all of Ocracoke Island excluding Ocracoke Village)

Ocracoke Island has a total of 15.9 miles of ocean shoreline. 0.2 miles are closed to all access for resource protection area.

Ramp 59- Ramp 67:

Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the ocean shoreline. No through access to next ramp.

- ORV safety closure starting 0.75 mile south of Ramp 59 to 0.75 miles north of Ramp 67. for a total of 4.2 miles closed to ORV use. Pedestrian access permitted except in resource protection areas.
- Resource protection area is 0.9 miles north of Ramp 67. The Area is for protection of American Oystercatcher; Full beach closure in effect for 0.2 mile of shoreline.
- Resource protection area 3.2 miles southwest of Ramp 59 for American Oystercatcher.

- Resource protection area 2.4 miles NE of Ramp 67 for American Oystercatcher.

Ramp 67-Ramp 70:

Access status: Seasonal beach closure 0.25 miles south of Ramp 67 to 0.25 miles north of Ramp 70 restricts ORV access. Pedestrian access is open on the ocean side of protection area.

- Resource protection area is 1.9 miles north of Ramp 70. The Closure is approximately 600 ft. long by 100 ft. wide. This is a re-nesting attempt for the nest lost at 1.5 miles north of Ramp 70. The area is for American Oystercatcher nest; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.
- Resource protection area 1.7 miles north of Ramp 70. Closure is 150 feet by 30 feet for least tern colony.

Ramp 70- Ramp 72 (South Point Road):

Access status: ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 72 south along ocean shoreline to inlet.

- A pre-nesting closure protects breeding and territory of American Oystercatchers and Piping Plovers. Plovers have been observed foraging at the tideline. Access corridor follows the ocean shoreline to the inlet.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians, and dogs.



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National Park Service Beach Access Report for June 8, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: DATE: June 8, 2006

CONTACT: 252-475-8348

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

There are approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). Approximately 0.0 miles of beach are closed for full beach resource closures in The Bodie Island District. Approximately 0.0 miles of beach are closed for ORV safety closures. Approximately 1.6 miles of beach are closed seasonally to ORV use but remain open for pedestrian use.

Ramp 1- 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

Access status: Pedestrian access only. Area falls under seasonal closure.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 to Bodie Island Spit (including Ramp 4):

Access status: Through access on the beach from Ramp 2 to Ramp 4. An ORV and pedestrian access corridor is open along the ocean shoreline to inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access restrictions due to high tides or winds.

- Resource protection area is in the interior of Bodie Island Spit, south of Ramp 4. Plovers have been observed foraging in the area as well as displays protecting territory. Least terns arriving back at Oregon Inlet.
- Buffer zone area 2 miles south of first resource closure sign is for the protection of an American Oystercatcher nest.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo:

Access status: Beach in front of villages is pedestrian access only. Area falls under seasonal closure.

Ramp 23-Ramp 27:

Access status: Through access from Ramp 23 to Ramp 27. Beach is open for ORV and pedestrian use.

- 1.4 miles South of Ramp 23: Resource protection area for Colonial Waterbirds (Least, Royal and Gull Billed Terns), which are nesting. Closure is 0.4 miles long and runs to dunes line. Over 100 mating pairs are present in the enclosure.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. Approximately 17.5 miles of beach are open for access. Approximately 11.5 miles of beach are closed

seasonally to ORV use but remain open for pedestrian use. Approximately 2.9 miles of beach are closed for full beach resource closures.

Ramp 27-Ramp 30:

Access status: Beach is open to ORV and Pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 1.4 miles. No through access to Ramp 30.

- Resource protection area for American Oystercatcher and Colonial Waterbirds, nesting 0.3 miles south of Ramp 27. A majority of the closure is located west of the ORV corridor stakes. The closure is 600 feet wide and extends 100 feet towards the ocean in to the ORV corridor. An ORV and pedestrian corridor will be maintained at this time.
- Resource protection area for American Oystercatcher chicks, 1.4 miles south of Ramp 27. This is a full beach closure area. The area is 0.3 miles long.

Ramp 30-Ramp 34:

Access status: Beach is open to ORV and Pedestrian access south of Ramp 30 to 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34. No through ORV access to Ramp 34.

- Safety closure between Ramp 30 and Ramp 34 has been reduced in length from 1.9 miles to 0.2 miles.
- American Oystercatcher nest buffer begins 1.05 miles north of Ramp 34. A pedestrian and ORV access corridor above the high tide line will be maintained at this time.
- Least Tern colony is 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34. Pedestrian and ORV access is maintained at this time.

Ramp 34-Ramp 38:

Access status: Beach is open to Pedestrian access only. Beach in front of Avon village is seasonally to ORV use as a pedestrian use area.

Ramp 38 to Ramp 43:

Access status: Beach is open to ORV and Pedestrian access for 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38. No through ORV access to next ramp.

- ORV safety closure starts 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38.
- 1.5 miles south of Ramp 38, American Oystercatcher protection area is 400 feet by 100 feet and includes roadside, dune, and beach side. Shoreline is open to pedestrian use
- Resource protection area starting 1.5 miles North of Buxton Village is approximately 0.6 mile long and includes roadside, dune, and beach side. The shoreline is open to pedestrian use. American Oystercatchers and Least Terns use this area for nesting, breeding and foraging. American Oystercatcher chicks are in the area; will be monitored for signs of disturbance.

Ramp 43-Ramp 44:

- Beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to Cape Point.

Cape Point Interdunal Road System:

- Interdunal road system is closed at Ramp 44 since beach reached from interdunal road system is closed. Closure is to protect expected Piping Plover chicks at nest that is currently being incubated. Colonial Waterbirds nests are also in the area.

Ramp 44-Ramp 49:

- Access is open between Ramp 44 and Cape Point via ocean beach and the by-pass route. Resource closure includes a 60 foot bump out for a tern colony. Bump out is 0.15 mile long. Visitors in the area are asked to reduce vehicle speed to 10 mph and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less.
- Resource closure includes Piping Plover chicks, Least and Common Terns and Black Skimmers. All birds are foraging, roosting, mating, nesting, and defending territory. Approximately 175 birds are in the colony.
- Approximately 0.25+ miles south/west of Cape Point, shoreline is closed to protect Piping Plover chicks. Due to the rapidly changing topography of Cape Point, exact measurements are difficult to obtain.

South Beach:

- Access status: ORV and Pedestrian access is open north of Ramp 49 approximately 1.9 miles.
- American Oystercatcher chicks and Colonial Waterbird nests are within resource protection areas on South Beach. Due to the mobility of chicks, the closure expanded south this past week to provide protection. Approximately 2 miles of ocean shoreline south/west of Cape Point to South Beach is closed for resource protection.

Ramp 49- Ramp 55

Access status: Beach is open to ORV and Pedestrian access for 2 miles south of Ramp 49. Pedestrian access is open to Ramp 55. No through ORV access to next ramp.

- 1.3 miles south Frisco Pier is a Least Tern colony. Pedestrian shoreline access is open. A minimum of 30 feet pedestrian shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the portions of the ocean shoreline, portions of Pole Road, and Cable Crossing. Resource Closure restricts ORV access on ocean side approximately 0.5 mile towards inlet due to high tides and narrow beach. Soundside access is maintained to "rip" area at the spit. Resource Protection closure restricts all access on the inlet side and ocean side of Hatteras Spit approximately 2.7 miles south of ramp 55.

- One resource protection area is established approximately 0.5 mile south of Ramp 55. Closure is reduced for re-nesting attempt. Shoreline access around closure is open.
- One resource protection area is established approximately 0.6 mile south of Ramp 55 and runs south to the end of Hatteras Spit. This resource protection area is for nesting American Oystercatchers and breeding Piping Plovers; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.
- One resource protection area is established approximately 0.8 miles south of Ramp 55. Enclosure protects American Oystercatcher chick. For the weekend, a full nighttime closure will be in effect for the hours of 7:00 pm to 7:00 a.m. and will preclude all access south of the closure. Once feeding territory is determined evening/night access will be reopened.
- Extension of current closure located approximately 2.0 miles south of Ramp 55 is full ocean shoreline closure for expected American Oystercatcher chicks and current American Oystercatcher chicks which are 21 days old. Full beach closure starts just south of the last Pole Road exit and extends south to the inlet. Pole Road and Cable

Crossing soundside access remains open at this time except during the nighttime closure identified above. Additionally, an additional 100 feet of shoreline at the inlet will reopen to pedestrian access and is accessible from The Rip.

Ocracoke Island District (all of Ocracoke Island excluding Ocracoke Village)

Ocracoke Island has a total of 15.9 miles of ocean shoreline. 8.5 miles are open to ORV and pedestrian use. 7.2 miles open for seasonal pedestrian use. 0.2 miles are closed to all access for resource protection area.

Ramp 59- Ramp 67:

Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the ocean shoreline. No through access to next ramp.

- ORV safety closure starting 0.75 mile south of Ramp 59 to 0.75 miles north of Ramp 67. for a total of 4.2 miles closed to ORV use. Pedestrian access permitted except in resource protection areas.
- Resource protection area is 0.9 miles north of Ramp 67. The Area is for protection of American Oystercatcher; Full beach closure in effect for 0.2 mile of shoreline.
- Resource protection area 3.2 miles southwest of Ramp 59 for American Oystercatcher. Shoreline access is open.
- Resource protection area 2.4 miles NE of Ramp 67 for American Oystercatcher. Shoreline access is open.

Ramp 67-Ramp 70:

Access status: Seasonal beach closure 0.25 miles south of Ramp 67 to 0.25 miles north of Ramp 70 restricts ORV access. Pedestrian access is open on the ocean side of protection area.

- Resource protection area is 1.9 miles north of Ramp 70. The Closure is approximately 600 ft. long by 100 ft. wide. This is a re-nesting attempt for the nest lost at 1.5 miles north of Ramp 70. The area is for American Oystercatcher nest; a minimum of 30 feet pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.
- Resource protection area 1.7 miles north of Ramp 70. Closure is 150 feet by 30 feet for least tern colony. Shoreline access is open.

Ramp 70- Ramp 72 (South Point Road):

Access status: ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 72 south along ocean shoreline to inlet.

- A pre-nesting closure protects breeding and territory of American Oystercatchers and Piping Plovers. Plovers have been observed foraging at the tideline. Access corridor follows the ocean shoreline to the inlet.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians, and dogs.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Outer Banks Group:

· Cape Hatteras National Seashore
· Fort Raleigh National Historic Site
· Wright Brothers National Memorial

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National Park Service Beach Access Report for June 15, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 15, 2006
CONTACT: 252-473-2111

Latest News: The piping plover nest with 4 eggs at South Beach has hatched. The chicks are mobile and the exact location and status are unconfirmed as of 8:30 a.m. on June 15, 2006.

Interpretive Program Scheduled: Cape Hatteras National Seashore will have a park ranger at the Cape Point beach closure to provide informal interpretive talks to the public. Learn about the Piping Plover, a bird species protected under the Endangered Species Act, the American Oystercatcher, terns, skimmers, and the abundant bird life and their habitat. The ranger will be located at the Cape Point closure: Saturday mornings from 8:00am to 11:00am and Thursday afternoons from 3:00pm to 5:00pm.

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

There are approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). Approximately 0.0 miles of beach are closed for full beach resource closures in the Bodie Island District. Approximately 0.0 miles of beach are closed for ORV safety closures. Approximately 1.6 miles of beach are closed seasonally to ORV use but remain open for pedestrian use.

Ramp 1- 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

Access status: Pedestrian access only. Area falls under seasonal ORV closure.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 to Bodie Island Spit (including Ramp 4):

Access status: Through access on the beach from Ramp 2 to Ramp 4. An ORV and pedestrian access corridor is open along the ocean shoreline to inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access restrictions due to high tides or winds.

- Resource protection area is in the interior of Bodie Island Spit, south of Ramp 4. Plovers have been observed foraging in the area and displaying acts of territorial protection. Least Terns arriving back at Oregon Inlet. Buffer zone area 2 miles south of first resource closure sign is for the protection of an American Oystercatcher nest.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo:

Access status: Beach in front of villages is pedestrian access only. Area falls under seasonal ORV closure.

Ramp 23-Ramp 27:

Access status: Through access from Ramp 23 to Ramp 27. Beach is open for ORV and pedestrian use.

- 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23: Resource protection area for Colonial Waterbirds (Least, Royal and Gull Billed Terns), which are nesting. Closure is 0.4 miles long and runs to dunes line. Over 100 mating pairs are present in the enclosure.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. Approximately 16.9 miles of beach are open for ORV access. Approximately 11.9 miles of beach are closed to ORV use but remain open for pedestrian use, including 7.5 miles of seasonal closures and 4.4 of ORV safety closures. Approximately 3.1 miles of beach are closed for full beach resource closures.

Ramp 27-Ramp 30:

Access status: Beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 0.3 miles. No through access to Ramp 30.

- Resource protection area for recently hatched American Oystercatcher chicks and nesting Colonial Waterbirds, 0.3 miles south of Ramp 27. This is a full beach closure area. The area is 0.2 miles long.
- Resource protection area for American Oystercatcher chicks, 1.4 miles south of Ramp 27. This is a full beach closure area. The area is 0.3 miles long.

Ramp 30-Ramp 34:

Access status: Beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access south of Ramp 30 to 1.0 mile north of Ramp 34. No through ORV access to Ramp 34.

- Safety closure is 0.2 miles long beginning 1.0 mile south of Ramp 30 to 0.8 miles south of Ramp 30. ORV access is open to 0.8 miles north of Ramp 34.
- American Oystercatcher nest buffer begins 1.05 miles north of Ramp 34. A pedestrian and ORV access corridor above the high tide line will be maintained at this time.
- Least Tern colony is 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34. Pedestrian and ORV access is maintained at this time.

Ramp 34-Ramp 38:

Access status: The Avon Village beachfront is a 3.5 mile seasonal ORV closure. This beach is open to pedestrian access only. ORV access is open 0.5 miles south of Ramp 34.

Ramp 38 to Ramp 43:

Access status: Beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access for 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38. No through ORV access to next ramp.

ORV safety closure is 4.2 miles long, beginning 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38 to Ramp 43.

1.2 miles south of Ramp 38, American Oystercatcher protection area is 400 feet by 100 feet and includes roadside, dune, and beach side. Shoreline is open to pedestrian use. Due to the Oystercatcher chick moving north, this closure was expanded 0.1 mile north and reduced by 0.1 mile on the south end of closure.

- Resource protection area starting 0.5 miles north of Buxton Village is approximately 0.6 mile long and includes roadside, dune, and beach side. The shoreline is open to pedestrian use. American Oystercatchers and Least Terns use this area for nesting, breeding and foraging. American Oystercatcher chicks are in the area.

Ramp 43-Ramp 44:

- Beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to Cape Point.

Cape Point Interdunal Road System:

- The interdunal road system is closed at Ramp 44 because this route leads into the South Beach closure; closure is to protect the recent hatching of Piping Plover chicks. Colonial Waterbird nests are also in the area.

Ramp 44-Ramp 49:

- ORV and pedestrian access is open between Ramp 44 and Cape Point via ocean beach and the by-pass route, for 1.0 miles. Resource closure includes a 60 foot

bump out for a Tern colony. Bump out is 0.15 mile long. Visitors in the area are asked to reduce vehicle speed to 10 mph and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less.

- Resource closure includes Piping Plover chicks, Least and Common Terns and Black Skimmers. All birds are foraging, roosting, mating, nesting, and defending territory. Approximately 175 birds are in the colony.
- Approximately 0.25 of a mile south/west of Cape Point, the shoreline is closed to protect Piping Plover chicks. A third pair of Piping Plover has been observed in the area.

South Beach:

- Access status: ORV and Pedestrian access is open north of Ramp 49 for approximately 1.9 miles.
- Piping Plover American Oystercatcher chicks and Colonial Waterbird nests are within resource protection areas on South Beach. Due to the mobility of chicks, the closure was expanded south to provide adequate protection. Approximately 2 miles of ocean shoreline south/west of Cape Point to South Beach is closed for resource protection. Of the four American Oystercatcher chicks in the area, two are approx. 25 days old and two are approx. 28 days old. In the Least Tern colony sixteen nests and 10 chicks were recently observed.

Ramp 49- Ramp 55

Access status: Beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access for 2 miles south of Ramp 49. Pedestrian access is open to Ramp 55. No through ORV access to next ramp.

- A seasonal beachfront closure at Hatteras Village is 4.0 miles long, closed to ORV use.
- 1.3 miles south of Frisco Pier is a Least Tern colony. Pedestrian shoreline access is open. A minimum of 30 feet pedestrian shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

Access status: Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the portions of the ocean shoreline, the Pole Road, and the Cable Crossing. Ocean shoreline ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 55 south for 2.5 miles, to within 0.6 mile of the inlet. A resource protection closure at that point restricts all access along ocean shoreline to the south. Soundside ORV and pedestrian access is open from Cable Crossing to the "Rip" area at the spit. Pedestrian access is open from the Rip north along inlet and ocean shoreline for approximately 500 feet.

- A resource protection area is established approximately 0.5 mile south of Ramp 55. Closure is reduced to upper beach and inter-dunal area for American Oystercatcher re-nesting attempt. Shoreline access around closure is open.
- A resource protection area is established approximately 0.6 mile south of Ramp 55. Recent American Oystercatcher scrapings have been observed as well as Piping Plover breeding activity; a pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor is being maintained at this time.
- A resource protection area is established approximately 0.8 miles south of Ramp 55. Monitoring enclosure for American Oystercatcher re-nesting behavior. Shoreline access around closure and the by-pass route to Pole Road is open.
- One resource protection area approximately 2.5 miles south of Ramp 55 is a full ocean shoreline closure for American Oystercatcher chicks. One brood is 29 days old and another 3-egg nest is currently hatching. Full beach closure starts just south of the last Pole Road exit and extends south to the inlet. Pole Road and Cable Crossing soundside access remains open at this time.

Ocracoke Island District (all of Ocracoke Island excluding Ocracoke Village)

Ocracoke Island has a total of 15.9 miles of ocean shoreline. Approximately 6.9 miles are open to ORV and pedestrian use. Approximately 3.5 miles are seasonally closed to ORV use

and remain open to pedestrian use. Approximately 5.5 miles are closed due to unsafe access for ORV but open to pedestrians. 0.2 miles of resource protection closures are located within the safety and seasonal closures.

Ramp 59- Ramp 67:

Access status: Pedestrian access is open along the ocean shoreline. No through ORV access to next ramp.

- A 5.5 mile ORV safety closure begins 0.75 mile south of Ramp 59 to 0.75 miles north of Ramp 67, closed to ORV use. Pedestrian access is permitted except in resource protection areas.
- Resource protection area is 0.9 miles north of Ramp 67. The area is for protection of American Oystercatcher chicks. Full beach closure in effect for 0.2 mile of shoreline.
- Resource protection area 3.2 miles southwest of Ramp 59 for American Oystercatcher. A reduced width shoreline access corridor is open.
- Resource protection area 2.4 miles NE of Ramp 67 for American Oystercatcher. Shoreline access is open.

Ramp 67-Ramp 70:

Access status: The Ocracoke Village seasonal ORV closure is 3.5 miles long. The closure is 0.25 miles south of Ramp 67 to 0.25 miles north of Ramp 70. Pedestrian access is open on the ocean side of protection area.

- Resource protection area is 1.5 miles north of Ramp 70. The closure is approximately 600 ft. long by 100 ft. wide. This area is for a re-nesting attempt for an American Oystercatcher nest that was lost. A 30-foot pedestrian access corridor above the high tide line will be maintained at this time.
- Resource protection area 1.7 miles north of Ramp 70. Closure is 150 feet by 30 feet for least tern colony. Shoreline access is open.

Ramp 70- Ramp 72 (South Point Road):

Access status: ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 70 south along ocean shoreline, for approximately 4.8 miles, to the inlet.

- A pre-nesting closure protects breeding and foraging habitat for Piping Plovers. American Oystercatchers are also using the area. Plovers have been observed foraging at the tideline. Access corridor follows the ocean shoreline to the inlet.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians, and dogs.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Outer Banks Group:
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· Fort Raleigh National
Historic Site
· Wright Brothers National
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National Park Service Beach Access Report for June 22, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 22, 2006
CONTACT: 252-473-2111, ext. 148

Latest News: Of the three Piping Plover nests in the Cape Point/South Beach area, nest #1 has 3 chicks that are approximately 22 days old now and remain in the vicinity of the nest site. Nest #2 (4 eggs) hatched on or around June 13 just before the Alberto storm came through the area. The chicks have never been located despite extensive surveying effort. The adults have been seen individually and together since the eggs hatched. At this point the chicks are presumed lost. A Piping Plover scrape was recently observed east of this nest site and we will continue to monitor the area for re-nesting attempts. Nest #3 is a 3-egg nest which is currently being incubated.

Interpretive Program Scheduled: Cape Hatteras National Seashore will have a park ranger at the Cape Point beach closure to provide informal interpretive talks to the public. Learn about the Piping Plover, a bird species protected under the Endangered Species Act, the American Oystercatcher, terns, skimmers, and the abundant bird life and their habitat. The ranger will be located at the south end of the Cape Point closure:
Saturday mornings from 8:00am to 11:00am and
Thursday afternoons from 3:00pm to 5:00pm.

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

There are approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). 16.1 miles are open to pedestrians and 11.5 miles are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 4.6 miles of seasonal closures in front of the Tri-Villages and a life-guarded swim beach. Approximately 0.4 miles are closed for full beach resource closures and no ORV Safety closures are in effect.

Ramp 1 - 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure, 1.6 miles long, includes a life-guarded swim beach. Pedestrian access is open.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 to Bodie Island Spit (including Ramp 4):

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to the inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access limitations during extreme high tides or winds.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located within the interior of Bodie Island Spit. A 90 foot bump-out at the south end of the closure was implemented to accommodate Piping Plover scrapings, foraging and displays of territorial protection.
- The Buffer zone area 0.2 miles south of first resource closure sign is for the protection of an American Oystercatcher nest which is due to hatch at any time now.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo: (The area 3 miles north of Ramp 23)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 3 miles long; open to pedestrian access.

Ramp 23 - Ramp 27:

Beach access is open for ORV and pedestrian use for 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23, and from 1.8 miles south of Ramp 23 to Ramp 27. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 23 and 27.

- A RESOURCE protection area, 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23 is for a nesting Least Tern colony, with over 100 pairs present. This is a full beach closure, 0.4 miles long, for newly hatched (6/19/06) Least Tern chicks. Royal and Gull Billed Terns also forage in the area.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. There are 28.3 miles open to pedestrians and 16.4 miles of beach are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 7.5 miles of seasonal closures and 4.4 miles of safety closures. Approximately 3.6 miles are closed for full beach resource closures.

Ramp 27-Ramp 30:

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 0.3 miles and from Ramp 30 north for 1.3 miles. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 27 and Ramp 30.

- A RESOURCE protection area, 0.3 miles south of Ramp 27, is for two American Oystercatcher chicks, 8 days old. This is a full beach closure area. The area is 0.5 miles long. Colonial Waterbirds are also nesting in the area.
- A RESOURCE protection area, 1.4 miles south of Ramp 27 is for an American Oystercatcher chick which is 38 days old and very close to fledging. This is a full beach closure area. The area is 0.3 miles long.

Ramp 30-Ramp 34:

The beach is open for pedestrian and ORV access, except for these locations:

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 miles long beginning 1.0 mile south of Ramp 30 to 0.8 miles south of Ramp 30. ORV access is open to 1.05 miles north of Ramp 34.
- A RESOURCE protection area for newly hatched American Oystercatcher chicks (6/19/06) begins 1.05 miles north of Ramp 34. This has been extended to a full beach closure area and the area is 0.2 miles long.
- A RESOURCE protection area for a Least Tern colony is 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34. Pedestrian and ORV beach access is open.

Ramp 34-Ramp 38:

A SEASONAL ORV closure in front of Avon Village beachfront is a 3.5 miles long. The beach is open to pedestrian access. ORV access is open for 0.5 miles south of Ramp 34.

Ramp 38 to Ramp 43:

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access for 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38. No through ORV access to next ramp. Pedestrian access is open except as noted below:

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 4.2 miles long, beginning 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38 to Ramp 43, due to very narrow beaches and hurricane impacted areas. Pedestrian access is permitted except in resource closures.
- A RESOURCE protection area, 1.2 miles south of Ramp 38, is an American Oystercatcher closure, 400 feet by 100 feet and includes roadside, dune and upper beach. Shoreline is open to pedestrian use. Due to the Oystercatcher chick moving north, this closure was expanded 0.1 mile north and reduced by 0.1 mile on the south end of closure.
- A RESOURCE protection area beginning 0.5 miles north of Buxton Village is approximately 0.6 mile long and includes roadside, dune and upper beach. The shoreline is open to pedestrian use. American Oystercatchers and Least Terns use this area for nesting, breeding and foraging. American Oystercatcher chicks are in the area.

Ramp 43-Ramp 44:

- The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to Cape Point.

Cape Point Interdunal Road System:

The interdunal road system is closed at Ramp 44 because this route leads into the South Beach closure, in effect to protect the recent hatching of Piping Plover chicks. Colonial Waterbird nests are also in the area.

Ramp 44-Ramp 49:

- ORV and pedestrian access is open for 1.4 miles, between Ramp 44 and Cape Point via ocean beach and the by-pass route.
- A RESOURCE protection area begins just south of Ramp 44 and includes a 60 foot bump out for a Tern colony. Visitors in the area are asked to reduce vehicle speed to 10 mph and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less. This closure includes Least and Common Terns and Black Skimmers. All birds are foraging, roosting, mating, nesting, and defending territory. Approximately 60 birds are in the colony, including recent observations of 8 Least Tern and 8 Common Tern nests, and 2 Least Tern chicks.
- A RESOURCE protection area begins approximately 0.25 of a mile south/west of Cape Point and continues into South Beach for approximately 2 miles. The shoreline is closed to protect Piping Plover chicks, American Oystercatcher chicks and Colonial Waterbird nests from west of Cape Point to South Beach. Of three Piping Plover nests, #1 has 3 chicks on the ground approximately 22 days old; #2 hatched concurrently with the Alberto storm. The chicks have never been located and are presumed lost; and #3 is a 3-egg nest which is still incubating. Another American Oystercatcher chick in the South Beach area was lost to predation and the remaining two chicks are approximately 33 days old.
- ORV and pedestrian access is open north of Ramp 49 for approximately 1.9 miles.

Ramp 49- Ramp 55

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access for 2 miles south of Ramp 49.

Pedestrian access is open to Ramp 55. No through ORV access to next ramp.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure at Hatteras Village is 4.0 miles long.
- 1.3 miles south of Frisco Pier is a Least Tern colony. Pedestrian shoreline access is open. A minimum of 30 feet pedestrian shoreline access corridor will be maintained at this time.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

A Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the portions of the ocean shoreline, the Pole Road, and the Cable Crossing. Ocean shoreline ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 55 south for 2.5 miles, to within 0.6 mile of the inlet. A resource protection closure at that point restricts all access along ocean shoreline to the south. Soundside ORV and pedestrian access is open from Cable Crossing to the "Rip" area at the spit. Pedestrian access is open from the Rip north along inlet and ocean shoreline for approximately 500 feet.

- A RESOURCE protection area is established approximately 0.5 mile south of Ramp 55. Closure is limited to upper beach and inter-dunal area for American Oystercatcher re-nesting attempt. Shoreline access around the closure is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area is established approximately 0.6 mile south of Ramp 55. Recent American Oystercatcher scrapings have been observed as well as Piping Plover breeding activity; a pedestrian and ORV shoreline access corridor is being maintained at this time.
- A RESOURCE protection area is established approximately 0.8 miles south of Ramp 55. Monitoring enclosure area for American Oystercatcher re-nesting behavior. Shoreline access around closure and the by-pass route to Pole Road is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area approximately 2.5 miles south of Ramp 55 is a full shoreline closure for American Oystercatcher chicks. One chick is 36 days old. A second nest hatched, one chick was lost

and one chick is 7 days old. Other recent observations include 3 Least Tern nests, 2 Least Tern chicks, 1 Common Tern chick, 1 Black Skimmer nest and some Common Terns. The closure starts just south of the last Pole Road exit and extends south to the inlet. Pole Road and Cable Crossing soundside access is open.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located on the soundside, at the U.S. Coast Guard station near the ferry basin, for an American Oystercatcher nest. A 300 foot, full-beach closure begins north of the access road, between the shoreline and the chain link fence. ORV and pedestrian access remain open along the access road and along the shoreline to the south.

Ocracoke Island District (all of Ocracoke Island excluding Ocracoke Village)

The Ocracoke Island has a total of 15.9 miles of ocean shoreline. Approximately 15.6 miles are open to pedestrian use and 6.6 miles are open to ORV use. ORV use is restricted by a 3.5 mile seasonal beach closure and 5.5 miles of unsafe driving conditions. 0.5 miles of full beach resource closures are located within the ORV safety closures.

Ramp 59- Ramp 67:

No through ORV access to next ramp.

- An ORV SAFETY closure 5.5 mile long begins 0.75 mile south of Ramp 59 to 0.75 miles north of Ramp 67. Pedestrian access is permitted except in resource closures.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 3.2 miles south of Ramp 59 for the American Oystercatcher. A reduced width shoreline access corridor is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.4 miles north of Ramp 67, for American Oystercatcher chicks that are approximately 5 days old. A full beach closure is in effect for 0.1 of a mile.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.7 miles north of Ramp 67, for 2 American Oystercatcher chicks, approximately 35 days old. A full beach closure is in effect for 0.4 miles.

Ramp 67-Ramp 70:

- A SEASONAL beach closure for Ocracoke Village is 3.5 miles long. The closure is 0.25 miles south of Ramp 67 to 0.25 miles north of Ramp 70. Pedestrian access is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.5 miles north of Ramp 70. The closure is approximately 600 ft. long by 100 ft. wide, and is for a re-nesting attempt for an American Oystercatcher nest that was lost. A 30-foot pedestrian access corridor is open above the high tide line.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.7 miles north of Ramp 70. The closure is 150 feet by 30 feet for least tern colony. Shoreline access is open.

Ramp 70- Ramp 72 (South Point Road):

An ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 70 south along ocean shoreline, for approximately 4.8 miles, to the inlet.

- A RESOURCE pre-nesting closure protects breeding and foraging habitat for Piping Plovers. American Oystercatchers are also using the area. Plovers have been observed foraging at the tideline. Access corridor follows the ocean shoreline to the inlet.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians, and dogs.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Outer Banks Group:
· Cape Hatteras National Seashore
· Fort Raleigh National Historic Site
· Wright Brothers National Memorial

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National Park Service Beach Access Report for June 29, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 29, 2006
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Latest News: A new Piping Plover nest was located on the south end Ocracoke Island, south of Ramp 72. It is a 3-egg nest in its incubation phase. Of the two remaining Piping Plover nests in the Cape Point area, nest #1 has 3 chicks that are approximately 29 days old and have been observed stretching their wings and displaying flight patterns up to 10 feet in length. Nest #3 is a 3-egg nest which is currently being incubated (nest #2 was lost). Three American Oystercatcher chicks have fledged and were observed in successful flight for prolonged distances. As a result, resource closures were removed from areas south of Ramp 27 and north of Buxton Village. Two additional American Oystercatcher chicks are 39 days old and due to fledge at any time, from the South Beach area.

Interpretive Program Scheduled: Cape Hatteras National Seashore will have a park ranger at the Cape Point beach closure to provide informal interpretive talks to the public. Learn about the Piping Plover, a bird species protected under the Endangered Species Act, the American Oystercatcher, terns, skimmers, and the abundant bird life and their habitat. The ranger will be located at the south end of the Cape Point closure: Saturday morning from 8:00am to 11:00am and Thursday afternoon from 3:00pm to 5:00pm.

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

There are approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). 16.1 miles are open to pedestrians and 11.5 miles are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 4.6 miles of seasonal closures in front of the Tri-Villages and a life-guarded swim beach. Approximately 0.4 of a mile is closed as a full-beach resource closure and there are no ORV Safety closures in effect.

Ramp 1 - 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure, 1.6 miles long, includes a life-guarded swim beach. Pedestrian access is open.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 - Ramp 4 and to Bodie Island Spit:

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to the inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access limitations during extreme high tides or winds.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located within the interior of Bodie Island Spit to accommodate Piping Plover and American Oystercatcher scrapings, foraging and displays of territorial protection.
- A RESOURCE protection bump-out area was located 1.0 mile south of Ramp #4 for the protection of a American Oystercatcher nest; on 6/23/06, the nest hatched and an overnight beach closure (7pm to 7am) was implemented to monitor the Oystercatcher chick's behavior. The overnight closure continued for 4 nights and was cancelled on 6/27/06 when monitoring efforts revealed the Oystercatcher adult and chick were utilizing the soundside and pond area well within the closure, for 4 consecutive days. The bump-out area was removed and the closure was restored to its original boundaries, opening a 200 foot shoreline width.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo: (north of Ramp 23 for 3 miles)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 3 miles long; open to pedestrian access.

Ramp 23 - Ramp 27:

Beach access is open for ORV and pedestrian use for 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23, and for 2.2 miles north of Ramp 27. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 23 and 27.

- A RESOURCE protection area, 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23 is for a nesting Least Tern colony, with approximately 40 adult-pairs present, 10 day old chicks, and several nests that are in various stages of incubation. This is a full beach closure, 0.4 of a mile long. Royal and Gull Billed Terns also forage in the area.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. There are 29.6 miles open to pedestrians and 17.7 miles of beach are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 7.5 miles of seasonal closures and 4.4 miles of safety closures. Approximately 2.3 miles are closed for full beach resource closures.

Ramp 27 - Ramp 30: (2.2 miles of shoreline)

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 0.3 miles and from Ramp 30 north for 1.4 miles. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 27 and Ramp 30.

- A RESOURCE protection area, 0.3 miles south of Ramp 27, is for two American Oystercatcher chicks that are 15 days old and a nesting Least Tern colony, with approximately 60 adult-pairs present in various stages of nest incubations and nurturing chicks. This is a full beach closure area, 0.5 of a mile long.
- A RESOURCE protection area, 1.4 miles south of Ramp 27 was for an American Oystercatcher chick. The chick has now fledged and this area has been reopened to pedestrian and ORV access. This was a full beach closure area, 0.3 of a mile long.

Ramp 30 - Ramp 34:

The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access, except for the ORV safety closure below:

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 miles long beginning 1.0 mile south of Ramp 30 to 0.8 miles south of Ramp 30.
- A RESOURCE protection area was located 1.05 miles north of Ramp 34 for American Oystercatcher chicks. The chicks were lost, the closure has been removed and this area has been reopened to pedestrian and ORV access. This was a full beach closure, 0.2 miles long.
- A RESOURCE protection area for a Least Tern colony is 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34. Due to recent observations of nests and scrapes outside the existing closure, this area has been extended for 50 feet to the east. A pedestrian and ORV beach access is being maintained for 90 feet above the high tide line.

Ramp 34 - Ramp 38:

A SEASONAL ORV closure in front of Avon Village beachfront is a 3.5 miles long. The beach is open to pedestrian access. ORV access is open for 0.5 miles south of Ramp 34.

Ramp 38 - Ramp 43:

The beach is open to ORV access for 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38. No through ORV access between ramps. Pedestrian access is open, except within the resource closure noted below:

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 4.2 miles long, beginning 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38 to Ramp 43, due to very narrow beaches and hurricane impacted areas.
- A RESOURCE protection area, 1.2 miles south of Ramp 38, is for an American Oystercatcher chick, approximately 21 days old, 400 feet by 100 feet and includes roadside, dune and upper beach. Shoreline is open to pedestrian use. Due to the Oystercatcher chick moving north, this closure was expanded 0.1 mile north and reduced by 0.1 mile on the south end of closure.

- A RESOURCE protection area, 0.5 miles north of Buxton Village, has been removed and reopened to the public. One of the American Oystercatcher chicks was lost and the other chick has fledged and was observed in a prolonged, sustained flight. The area was approximately 0.6 of a mile long.

Ramp 43 - Ramp 44:

- The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to Cape Point.

Ramp 44 - Ramp 49:

- The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access for 1.4 miles, between Ramp 44 and Cape Point via the ocean beach and the by-pass route. The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 are open, providing access to approximately 1.1 miles of shoreline in the South Beach area.

Cape Point:

- A RESOURCE protection area begins just south of Ramp 44, encompassing a colony of Colonial waterbirds. Recent observations include 15 Least Tern nests and 3 chicks on the ground, 10 Black Skimmers and 2 American Oystercatcher adults displaying re-nesting behavior. Numerous birds are foraging, roosting, mating, nesting, and defending territory. Visitors in the area are asked to reduce their vehicle speed to 10 mph and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less. Shoreline access is open for 1.4 miles, between Ramp 44 and 0.5 of a mile south of Cape Point.
- A RESOURCE protection area begins approximately 0.25 of a mile south of Cape Point and a full beach closure begins 0.5 of a mile south of Cape Point, to protect Piping Plover and waterbird nests and chicks. Of the two remaining Piping Plover nests in the Cape Point area, nest #1 has 3 chicks that are approximately 29 days old and have been observed stretching their wings and displaying flight patterns reaching 10 feet in length. Nest #3 is a 3-egg nest currently being incubated (nest #2 was lost). This full beach closure extends to Salt Pond Road and is approximately 0.8 of a mile long.

South Beach:

- The loss of Piping Plover nest #2 and a diminished number of Colonial Waterbirds in the area has enabled the reopening of approximately 1.1 miles of shoreline, beginning at Salt Pond Road to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45, and includes the reopening of the Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45.
- A RESOURCE protection area begins 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45 for 2 American Oystercatcher chicks that are approximately 39 days old and an active Least Tern colony including recent observations of 25-30 Least Tern adults with numerous chicks present. This is a full beach closure, approximately 0.3 of a mile long.
- ORV and pedestrian access is open 1.1 miles south of Ramp 45 through to Ramp 49 for approximately 1.9 miles.

Ramp 49 - Ramp 55

The beach is open to ORV access for 2 miles south of Ramp 49. No through ORV access to next ramp. Pedestrian access is open to Ramp 55.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure at Hatteras Village is 4.0 miles long.
- The RESOURCE protection area, 1.3 miles south of Frisco Pier has been re-opened for public access. The Least Tern colony has departed from the area and the closure was removed.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

A Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the portions of the ocean shoreline, the Pole Road, and the Cable Crossing. Ocean shoreline ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 55 south for 2.5 miles, to within 0.6 mile of the inlet. A resource protection closure at that point restricts all access along ocean shoreline to the south. Soundside ORV and pedestrian access is open from Cable Crossing to the "Rip" area at the spit. Pedestrian access is open from the Rip, north along inlet and ocean shoreline for approximately 1100 feet, but the high tide extends to the dune system precluding safe vehicle access.

- A RESOURCE protection area is established approximately 0.5 mile south of Ramp 55. Closure is limited to upper beach and inter-dunal area for American Oystercatcher re-nesting attempt. Shoreline access around the closure is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area is established approximately 0.6 mile south of Ramp 55. Recent American Oystercatcher scrapings have been observed as well as Piping Plover breeding activity; a pedestrian and ORV shoreline access around the closure is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area is established approximately 0.8 miles south of Ramp 55. Monitoring enclosure area for American Oystercatcher re-nesting behavior. Shoreline access around closure and the by-pass route to Pole Road is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area approximately 2.5 miles south of Ramp 55 is a full shoreline closure for an American Oystercatcher chick, and Least and Common Terns and Black Skimmers. One Oystercatcher chick has fledged and was observed in successful flight for a prolonged distance and the second chick is 14 days old. Other recent observations include 3 Least Tern nests, 4 Least Tern chicks, 1 Common Tern chick, some Common Terns and 1 Black Skimmer nest. The closure starts just south of the last Pole Road exit and extends south to the inlet. Pole Road and Cable Crossing soundside access is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located on the soundside, at the U.S. Coast Guard station near the ferry basin, for an American Oystercatcher nest. A full-beach closure. 0.1 of a mile long, begins north of the access road, between the shoreline and the chain link fence. ORV and pedestrian access remain open along the access road and along the shoreline to the south.

Ocracoke Island District

The Ocracoke Island has a total of 15.8 miles of ocean shoreline. Approximately 15.3 miles are open to pedestrian use and 7.4 miles are open to ORV use. ORV use is restricted by a 2.9 mile seasonal beach closure and 5.5 miles of unsafe driving conditions. 0.5 miles of full beach resource closures are located within the ORV safety closures.

Ramp 59 - Ramp 67: (7.6 miles of shoreline)

No through ORV access to next ramp.

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 5.5 miles long, and begins 1.6 miles south of Ramp 59 to 0.5 miles north of Ramp 67. Pedestrian access is permitted except in resource closures.
- A RESOURCE protection area was located 3.2 miles south of Ramp 59 for the American Oystercatcher. The chicks were lost and this closure has been removed and this area has been reopened to the public. A reduced width shoreline access corridor had been maintained during the closure.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.4 miles north of Ramp 67, for American Oystercatcher chicks that are approximately 12 days old. A full beach closure is in effect for 0.1 of a mile.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.7 miles north of Ramp 67, for 2 American Oystercatcher chicks, approximately 35 days old. A full beach closure is in effect for 0.4 miles.

Ramp 67 - Ramp 70: (3.4 miles of shoreline)

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Ocracoke Village is 2.9 miles long. The closure is 0.25 miles south of Ramp 67 to 0.25 miles north of Ramp 70. Pedestrian access is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.5 miles north of Ramp 70. The closure is approximately 600 ft. long by 100 ft. wide, and is for a re-nesting attempt for an American Oystercatcher nest that was lost. A 30-foot pedestrian access corridor is open above the high tide line.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.7 miles north of Ramp 70. The closure is 150 feet by 30 feet for least tern colony. Shoreline access is open.

Ramp 70 - Ramp 72 and to South Ocracoke Spit:

An ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 70 south along ocean shoreline, for approximately 4.8 miles, to the inlet.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located 2.0 miles south of Ramp 72 for a 3-egg Piping Plover nest, currently in its incubation stage. The existing closure was extended to within 50 feet of the high tide line, for approximately 0.3 of a mile and 15 mph speed limit signs are posted in the area. Visitors are asked to reduce their vehicle speed and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less. Piping Plovers and American Oystercatchers have also been observed foraging in this closure area. An ORV and pedestrian access corridor follows the ocean shoreline to the inlet.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians and pets.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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· Fort Raleigh National
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National Park Service Beach Access Report for July 6, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 6, 2006

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Recent News: The three Piping Plover chicks at Cape Point have fledged. They were 35 days old when they were all observed in successful flight for prolonged distances. The 3-egg Piping Plover nest at Cape Point and a 3-egg Piping Plover nest on south Ocracoke Island are still in their incubation stage.

Interpretive Program Schedule: Cape Hatteras National Seashore will have a park ranger at the Cape Point beach closure to provide informal interpretive talks to the public. Learn about the Piping Plover, a bird species protected under the Endangered Species Act, the American Oystercatcher, terns, skimmers, and the abundant bird life and their habitat. The ranger will be located at the south end of the Cape Point closure: Saturday morning from 8:00am to 11:00am and Thursday afternoon from 3:00pm to 5:00pm.

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

There are approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). 16.1 miles are open to pedestrians and 11.5 miles are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 4.6 miles of seasonal closures in front of the Tri-villages and a life-guarded swim beach. Approximately 0.4 of a mile is closed as a full-beach resource closure and there are no ORV Safety closures in effect.

Ramp 1 - 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure, 1.6 miles long, is for a life-guarded swim beach. Pedestrian access is open.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 - Ramp 4 and to Bodie Island Spit:

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to the inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access limitations during extreme high tides or winds.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located within the interior of Bodie Island Spit. A bump-out, 0.1 of a mile long and 0.9 of a mile south of Ramp 4, has been implemented to accommodate a Least Tern colony with approximately 200 birds and 50 nests present. A shoreline access corridor is being maintained, 150 feet above the high tide line, for ORV and pedestrian access. Also a pair of American Oystercatcher adults have been observed making nest scrapes and Piping Plovers continue to forage in the area. Approximately 15-20 Black Skimmers have been observed, a sizable increase in numbers from recent years. Royal and Gull Billed Terns also forage in the area.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo: (north of Ramp 23 for 3 miles)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 3 miles long; open to pedestrian access.

Ramp 23 - Ramp 27:

Beach access is open for ORV and pedestrian use for 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23, and for 2.2 miles north of Ramp 27. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 23 and 27.

- A RESOURCE protection area, 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23 is for a nesting Least Tern colony, with approximately 40 adult-pairs present, with chicks approximately 17 days old, and several nests that are in various stages of incubation. This is a full beach closure, 0.4 of a mile long.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. There are 29.6 miles open to pedestrians and 17.7 miles of beach are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 7.5 miles of seasonal closures and 4.4 miles of safety closures. Approximately 2.3 miles are closed to full beach resource protection closures.

Ramp 27 - Ramp 30: (2.2 miles of shoreline)

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 0.3 miles and from Ramp 30 north for 1.4 miles. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 27 and Ramp 30.

- A RESOURCE protection area, 0.3 miles south of Ramp 27, is for two American Oystercatcher chicks. One chick was lost, perhaps during the recent rain storm, and the second chick is 24 days old. A nesting Least Tern colony, with approximately 60 adult-pairs was observed in various stages of nest incubations and nurturing chicks. This is a full beach closure area, 0.5 of a mile long.

Ramp 30 - Ramp 34:

The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access, except for the ORV safety closure below:

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 miles long beginning 1.0 mile south of Ramp 30 to 0.8 miles south of Ramp 30.
- A RESOURCE protection area for a Least Tern colony is 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34. Due to recent observations of nests and scrapes outside the existing closure, this area has been extended for 50 feet to the east. A pedestrian and ORV beach access is being maintained for 90 feet above the high tide line.

Ramp 34 - Ramp 38:

A SEASONAL ORV closure in front of Avon Village beachfront is a 3.5 miles long. The beach is open to pedestrian access. ORV access is open for 0.5 miles south of Ramp 34.

Ramp 38 - Ramp 43:

The beach is open to ORV access for 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38. No through ORV access between ramps. Pedestrian access is open, except within the resource closure noted below:

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 4.2 miles long, beginning 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38 to Ramp 43, due to very narrow beaches and hurricane impacted areas.
- A RESOURCE protection area, 1.2 miles south of Ramp 38, is for an American Oystercatcher chick, approximately 28 days old, 400 feet by 100 feet and includes roadside, dune and upper beach. Shoreline is open to pedestrian use. Due to the Oystercatcher chick moving north, this closure was expanded 0.1 mile north and reduced by 0.1 mile on the south end of closure.

Ramp 43 - Ramp 44:

- The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to Cape Point.

Ramp 44 - Ramp 49:

- The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access for 1.4 miles, between Ramp 44 and Cape Point via the ocean beach and the by-pass route. The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 are open, providing access to approximately 1.1 miles of shoreline in the South Beach area.

Cape Point:

- A RESOURCE protection area begins just south of Ramp 44, encompassing a colony of Colonial waterbirds. Recent observations include 15 Least Tern nests, and 14 Black Skimmers and 2 American

Oystercatchers displaying breeding, scraping and nesting behavior. Numerous birds are foraging, roosting, mating, and defending territory. Visitors in the area are asked to reduce their vehicle speed to 10 mph and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less. Shoreline access is open for 1.4 miles, between Ramp 44 and 0.5 of a mile south of Cape Point.

- A RESOURCE protection area begins approximately 0.25 of a mile south of Cape Point and a full beach closure begins 0.5 of a mile south of Cape Point, to protect Piping Plover and colonial waterbird nests and chicks. The three Piping Plover chicks have fledged. They were 35 days old when they were all observed in successful flight for prolonged distances. Nest #3 is a 3-egg nest currently being incubated (nest #2 was lost). This full beach closure extends to Salt Pond Road and is approximately 0.8 of a mile long.

South Beach:

From Salt Pond Road to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45, approximately 1.1 miles of shoreline is open to ORV and pedestrian use, and includes the Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45.

- A RESOURCE protection area within the interior of South Beach, between Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45, has been expanded for approximately 0.2 of a mile, and a 50 foot access corridor is being maintained along the shoreline.
- A RESOURCE protection area begins 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45 for an active Least Tern colony including recent observations of 25-30 Least Tern adults in various stages of nest incubations and nurturing chicks, including 10 older chicks and 2 very young ones. 2 American Oystercatcher chicks have fledged from the area. This is a full beach closure, approximately 0.3 of a mile long.
- ORV and pedestrian access is open 1.1 miles south of Ramp 45 through to Ramp 49 for approximately 1.9 miles. Note: this area is currently accessible from Ramp 49 but not from Ramp 45.

Ramp 49 - Ramp 55

The beach is open to ORV access for 2 miles south of Ramp 49. No through ORV access to next ramp. Pedestrian access is open to Ramp 55.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure at Hatteras Village is 4.0 miles long.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

A Pedestrian and ORV access is open along the portions of the ocean shoreline, the Pole Road, and the Cable Crossing. Ocean shoreline ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 55 south for 2.5 miles, to within 0.6 mile of the inlet. A resource protection closure at that point restricts all access along ocean shoreline to the south. Soundside ORV and pedestrian access is open from Cable Crossing to the "Rip" area at the spit. Pedestrian access is open from the Rip, north along inlet and ocean shoreline for approximately 1100 feet, but the high tide extends to the dune system precluding safe vehicle access.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located approximately 0.5 mile south of Ramp 55. Closure is limited to upper beach and inter-dunal area for American Oystercatcher re-nesting attempt. Shoreline access around the closure is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located approximately 0.6 mile south of Ramp 55. Recent American Oystercatcher scrapings have been observed as well as Piping Plover breeding activity; a pedestrian and ORV shoreline access around the closure is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located approximately 0.8 miles south of Ramp 55 for American Oystercatcher re-nesting behavior. Shoreline access around closure and the by-pass route to Pole Road is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located approximately 2.5 miles south of Ramp 55. One American Oystercatcher chick was lost but 6 Oystercatcher adults have been observed displaying re-nesting behavior, and Piping Plovers have been seen foraging on the ocean side. Recent observations include a very active Least Tern colony with 70-80 adults, including 20 incubating nests and 3 chicks. Also 14 Black Skimmers were seen. The closure starts just south of the last Pole Road exit and extends south to the inlet. This is a full shoreline closure, 0.6 of a mile long. The Pole Road and Cable Crossing soundside access is open.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located on the soundside, at the U.S. Coast Guard station near the ferry basin, for an American Oystercatcher nest. A full-beach closure. 0.1 of a mile long, begins north of the access road, between the shoreline and the chain link fence. ORV and pedestrian access remain open along the access road and along the shoreline to the south.

Ocracoke Island District

The Ocracoke Island has a total of 15.8 miles of ocean shoreline. Approximately 14.9 miles are open to pedestrian use and 7.1 miles are open to ORV use. ORV use is restricted by a 2.9 mile seasonal beach closure and 5.5 miles of unsafe driving conditions. 0.6 miles of full beach resource closures are located within the ORV safety and seasonal beach closures, and 0.3 of a mile of shoreline closure is in an ORV area south of Ramp 72.

Ramp 59 - Ramp 67: (7.6 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV or pedestrian access between these two ramps.

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 5.5 miles long, and begins 1.6 miles south of Ramp 59 to 0.5 miles north of Ramp 67. Pedestrian access is permitted except in resource closures.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.4 miles north of Ramp 67, for American Oystercatcher chicks that are approximately 19 days old. A full beach closure is in effect for 0.1 of a mile.
- A RESOURCE protection area located 0.7 miles north of Ramp 67, for 2 American Oystercatcher chicks, has been removed. The chicks have fledged and this area has been reopened to the public. This reopens a section of beach 0.4 of a mile long.

Ramp 67 - Ramp 70: (3.4 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV or pedestrian access between these two ramps.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Ocracoke Village is 2.9 miles long. The closure is 0.25 miles south of Ramp 67 to 0.25 miles north of Ramp 70. Pedestrian access is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.5 of a mile south of Ramp 68, for a newly hatched (7/1/06) American Oystercatcher chick. This is a full beach closure, 0.5 of a mile long.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.7 miles north of Ramp 70. The closure is 150 feet by 30 feet for least tern colony. Shoreline access is open.

Ramp 70 - Ramp 72 and to South Ocracoke Spit:

An ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 70 south along ocean shoreline, and via the by-pass route, for approximately 4.8 miles, to the inlet.

- A RESOURCE protection area begins 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 72 for a 3-egg Piping Plover nest, currently in its incubation stage. The existing closure was initially extended to within 50 feet of the high tide line, for approximately 0.3 of a mile and 15 mph speed limit signs are posted in the area. On 7/3/06 the shoreline corridor was closed but a traffic lane by-pass, 2 lanes wide, was created through the closure interior, to allow ORV and pedestrians access around the southern end of Ocracoke Spit. Visitors are asked to reduce their vehicle speed and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less. Piping Plovers and American Oystercatchers have also been observed foraging in this closure. Common and Gull Billed Terns and Black Skimmers are present and very active.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians and pets.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Outer Banks Group:
· Cape Hatteras National
Seashore
· Fort Raleigh National
Historic Site
· Wright Brothers National
Memorial

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National Park Service Beach Access Report for July 13, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 13, 2006
CONTACT: 252-473-2111, ext. 148

Recent News: The 4-egg Piping Plover nest on south Ocracoke Island began hatching on 7-12-06. Two Plover chicks were observed on 7-13-06 and the remaining two eggs have not yet hatched. This nest was initially believed to be a 3-egg nest but recently a fourth egg was observed partially buried in the sand, presumably from a windstorm on the spit. The 3-egg Piping Plover nest at Cape Point began to hatch today, 7-13-06. As of this morning one chick has successfully hatched and two eggs are still being incubated.

Interpretive Program Schedule: Cape Hatteras National Seashore will have a park ranger near the Piping Plover nesting closures to provide informal interpretive talks to the public. Learn about the Piping Plover, a bird species protected under the Endangered Species Act, the American Oystercatcher, terns, skimmers, and the abundant bird life and their habitat. The ranger will be located south of Ramp 44, 0.5 of a mile south of Cape Point on Tuesday from 2:30pm – 4:30pm, and on Saturday from 8:00am – 11:00am; and 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 72, at the Ocracoke Spit closure, on Thursday from 2:00pm – 4:00pm.

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

There are approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). 16.1 miles are open to pedestrians and 11.5 miles are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 4.6 miles of seasonal closures in front of the Tri-villages and a life-guarded swim beach. Approximately 0.4 of a mile is closed as a full-beach resource closure and there are no ORV Safety closures in effect.

Ramp 1 - 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 1.6 miles long and includes a life-guarded swim beach, 150 feet wide. Pedestrian access is open.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 - Ramp 4 and to Bodie Island Spit:

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to the inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access limitations during extreme high tides or winds.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located within the interior of Bodie Island Spit. A bump-out, 0.9 of a mile south of Ramp 4 and 0.1 of a mile long, has been implemented to accommodate a Least Tern colony with approximately 200 to 300 birds and 63 nests present. A shoreline access corridor is being maintained above the high tide line, for ORV and pedestrian access. Piping Plovers and Royal and Gull Billed Terns continue to forage in the area.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo: (north of Ramp 23 for 3 miles)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 3 miles long; open to pedestrian access.

Ramp 23 - Ramp 27:

Beach access is open for ORV and pedestrian use for 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23, and for 2.2 miles north of Ramp 27. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 23 and 27.

- A RESOURCE protection area, 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23 is for a nesting Least Tern colony, with approximately 25 adult-pairs present, with chicks approximately 24 days old, and several nests that are in various stages of incubation. This is a full beach closure, 0.4 of a mile long.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. There are 29.5 miles open to pedestrians and 17.6 miles of beach are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 7.5 miles of seasonal closures and 4.4 miles of safety closures. Approximately 2.4 miles are closed due to full beach resource protection closures.

Ramp 27 - Ramp 30: (2.2 miles of shoreline)

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 0.3 miles and from Ramp 30 north for 1.4 miles. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 27 and Ramp 30.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.3 miles south of Ramp 27 for an American Oystercatcher chick approximately 31 days old and a nesting Least Tern colony. Approximately 60-pair of Least Terns were observed in various stages of nest incubations and nurturing chicks. This is a full beach closure area, 0.5 of a mile long.

Ramp 30 - Ramp 34:

The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access for 1.0 mile south of Ramp 30 and for 0.5 of a mile north of Ramp 34. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 30 and Ramp 34.

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 miles long beginning 1.0 mile south of Ramp 30 to 0.8 miles south of Ramp 30.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34 for a Least Tern colony. Approximately 25-pair of Least Terns and 12 nests were observed, with some nests beginning to hatch on 7-6-06. The closure has been expanded to accommodate this activity. This is a full beach closure, 0.2 of a mile long.

Ramp 34 - Ramp 38:

A SEASONAL ORV closure in front of Avon Village beachfront is a 3.5 miles long. The beach is open to pedestrian access. ORV access is open for 0.5 miles south of Ramp 34.

Ramp 38 - Ramp 43:

The beach is open to ORV access for 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 38 and Ramp 43. Pedestrian access is open, except within the resource closure noted below:

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 4.2 miles long, beginning 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38 to Ramp 43, due to very narrow beaches and hurricane impacted areas.
- A RESOURCE protection area, 1.2 miles south of Ramp 38, has been removed. The American Oystercatcher chick was lost and the area is reopened to the public.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.3 miles south of Ramp 38 for a nesting Least Tern colony. The closure is 0.2 of a mile long and 100 feet wide. Pedestrian access is open along the shoreline.

Ramp 43 - Ramp 44:

- The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to Cape Point.

Ramp 44 - Ramp 49:

- The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access for 1.4 miles, between Ramp 44 and Cape Point via the ocean beach and the by-pass route. The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 are open, providing access to approximately 1.1 miles of shoreline in the South Beach area.

Cape Point:

- A RESOURCE protection area begins just south of Ramp 44, encompassing a colony of Colonial waterbirds. Recent observations include several Least Tern nests and Black Skimmers within the closure. Numerous birds are foraging, roosting and defending territory. Visitors in the area are asked to reduce their vehicle speed to 10 mph and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less. Shoreline access is open for 1.4 miles, between Ramp 44 and 0.5 of a mile south of Cape Point.
- A RESOURCE protection area begins approximately 0.25 of a mile south of Cape Point and a full beach closure begins 0.5 of a mile south of Cape Point, to protect Piping Plover and colonial waterbird nests and chicks. The 3-egg Piping Plover nest began hatching on 7-13-06. A few Least Tern nest have also been observed in the area. This full beach closure extends to Salt Pond Road and is approximately 0.8 of a mile long.

South Beach:

From Salt Pond Road to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45, approximately 1.1 miles of shoreline is open to ORV and pedestrian use, and includes the Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45.

- A RESOURCE protection area within the interior of South Beach, between Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45, is approximately 0.2 of a mile long, for a Least Tern colony. A 50 foot ORV and pedestrian access corridor is being maintained along the shoreline.
- A RESOURCE protection area begins 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45 for an active Least Tern colony including recent observations of 50-60 Least Tern adults in various stages of nest incubations and nurturing chicks, including several older chicks and some very young ones. This is a full beach closure, approximately 0.3 of a mile long.
- ORV and pedestrian access is open 1.1 miles south of Ramp 45 through to Ramp 49 for approximately 1.9 miles. Note: this area is currently accessible from Ramp 49 but not from Ramp 45.

Ramp 49 - Ramp 55

The beach is open to ORV access for 2 miles south of Ramp 49. Pedestrian access is open to Ramp 55. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 49 and Ramp 55.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure at Hatteras Village is 4.0 miles long.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

A Pedestrian and ORV access is open along portions of the ocean shoreline, the Pole Road, and the Cable Crossing. Ocean shoreline ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 55 south for 2.5 miles, to within 0.6 mile of the inlet. A resource protection closure at that point restricts all access along ocean shoreline to the south. Soundside ORV and pedestrian access is open from Cable Crossing to the "Rip" area at the spit. Pedestrian access is open from the Rip, north along inlet and ocean shoreline for approximately 1100 feet, but the high tide extends to the dune system precluding safe vehicle access.

- A RESOURCE protection area located approximately 0.5 mile south of Ramp 55 has been removed. No recent bird activity has been observed and this area is open to the public.
- A RESOURCE protection area located approximately 0.6 mile south of Ramp 55 has been removed. No recent bird activity has been observed and this area is open to the public.
- A RESOURCE protection area located approximately 0.8 miles south of Ramp 55 has been removed. No recent bird activity has been observed and this area is open to the public.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located approximately 2.5 miles south of Ramp 55 due to Least Tern chicks in the area. The chicks are associated with a very active Least Tern colony with 60-70 adults, including 15 incubating nests and several chicks on the ground. Also Black Skimmers are incubating 3 nests in this area. The closure starts just south of the last Pole Road exit and extends south to the inlet. This is a full shoreline closure, 0.6 of a mile long. The Pole Road and Cable Crossing soundside access is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area located on the soundside, at the U.S. Coast Guard station near the ferry basin, has been removed. The American Oystercatcher nest has been lost and the area is reopened for ORV and pedestrian use.

Ocracoke Island District

The Ocracoke Island District has a total of 15.8 miles of ocean shoreline. Approximately 13.2 miles are open to pedestrian use and 5.4 miles are open to ORV use. ORV use is restricted by a 2.9 mile seasonal beach closure and 5.5 miles of unsafe driving conditions. 0.6 miles of full beach resource closures are located within the ORV safety and seasonal beach closures, and 2.0 miles of shoreline closure is in an ORV area south of Ramp 72.

Ramp 59 - Ramp 67: (7.6 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV or pedestrian access between these two ramps.

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 5.5 miles long, and begins 1.6 miles south of Ramp 59 to 0.5 miles north of Ramp 67. Pedestrian access is permitted except in resource closures.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.4 miles north of Ramp 67, for American Oystercatcher chicks that are approximately 26 days old. A full beach closure is in effect for 0.1 of a mile.

Ramp 67 - Ramp 70: (3.4 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV or pedestrian access between these two ramps.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Ocracoke Village is 2.9 miles long. The closure is 0.25 miles south of Ramp 67 to 0.25 miles north of Ramp 70. Pedestrian access is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.5 of a mile south of Ramp 68, for American Oystercatcher chick, approximately 12 days old. This is a full beach closure, 0.5 of a mile long.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.7 miles north of Ramp 70. The closure is 150 feet by 30 feet for least tern colony. Shoreline access is open.

Ramp 70 - Ramp 72 and to South Ocracoke Spit:

An ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 70 south along ocean shoreline, and via the by-pass route, for approximately 4.8 miles, to the inlet.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 72, for a 4-egg Piping Plover nest that began to hatch on 7-12-06. This nest was initially believed to be a 3-egg nest but recently a fourth egg was observed partially buried in the sand, presumably from a windstorm on the spit. To accommodate the Piping Plover chicks, the two-lane by-pass route has been closed and the protected area has been expanded to a full beach closure. This closure restricts ORV access for 2 miles, from 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 72 to the end of the Ocracoke Spit. Vessels may go ashore at the south end of the Spit and pedestrians can access the shoreline at the southern end of the Spit, south of the closure. Piping Plovers and American Oystercatchers have also been observed foraging in this closure. Common and Gull Billed Terns and Black Skimmers are also present.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians and pets.



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National Park Service Beach Access Report for July 20, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 20, 2006
CONTACT: 252-473-2111, ext. 148

Recent News: The two Piping Plover chicks at Cape Point remained near a dry ephemeral pool southwest of the nest site since about Sunday, 7-16-06. On 7-19-06 the brood remained at the same location, however only one chick was observed. On the morning of 7-20-06, the Plover adults remain in the same area however no chicks were observed. Monitoring will continue. The two Piping Plover chicks on south Ocracoke Island moved on 7-14-06 and have remained on the south shoreline. As of 7-20-06 the brood was observed in the same area, however only one chick was observed. Monitoring will continue.

Interpretive Program Schedule: Cape Hatteras National Seashore will have a park ranger near the Piping Plover nesting closures to provide informal interpretive talks to the public. Learn about the Piping Plover, a bird species protected under the Endangered Species Act, the American Oystercatcher, terns, skimmers, and the abundant bird life and their habitat. The ranger will be located south of Ramp 44, 0.5 of a mile south of Cape Point on Tuesday from 2:30pm – 4:30pm, and on Saturday from 8:00am – 11:00am; and 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 72, at the Ocracoke Spit closure, on Thursday from 2:00pm – 4:00pm.

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

There are approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). 15.9 miles are open to pedestrians and 11.3 miles are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 4.6 miles of seasonal closures in front of the Tri-villages and a life-guarded swim beach. Approximately 0.6 of a mile is closed as a full-beach resource closure and there are no ORV Safety closures in effect.

Ramp 1 - 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 1.6 miles long and includes a life-guarded swim beach, 150 feet wide. Pedestrian access is open.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 - Ramp 4 and to Bodie Island Spit

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to the inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access limitations during extreme high tides or winds.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located within the interior of Bodie Island Spit. Approximately 0.9 of a mile south of Ramp 4, and 0.2 of a mile long, a two-lane, pass through corridor above the high tide line was established on 7-20-06 to accommodate a Least Tern colony with approximately 200 to 300 birds and 63 nests present. No stopping or parking is permitted within the pass through. Royal, Common and Gull Billed Terns continue to forage and roost in the area. An access corridor is being maintained above the high tide line, for ORV and pedestrian access, to the southwest side of the inlet.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo: (north of Ramp 23 for 3 miles)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 3 miles long; open to pedestrian access.

Ramp 23 - Ramp 27:

Beach access is open for ORV and pedestrian use for 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23, and for 2.2 miles north of Ramp 27. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 23 and 27.

- A RESOURCE protection area, 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23 is for a nesting Least Tern colony. Approximately 20 – 25 adult-pairs were observed in various stages of nest incubation nurturing chicks. This is a full beach closure, 0.4 of a mile long.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. There are 29.6 miles open to pedestrians and 17.7 miles of beach are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 7.5 miles of seasonal closures and 4.4 miles of safety closures. Approximately 2.3 miles are closed due to full beach resource protection closures.

Ramp 27 - Ramp 30: (2.2 miles of shoreline)

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 0.3 miles and from Ramp 30 north for 1.4 miles. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 27 and Ramp 30.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.3 miles south of Ramp 27 for a nesting Least Tern colony. Approximately 60-75 pair of Least Terns were observed in various stages of nest incubations and nurturing chicks. An American Oystercatcher chick is approximately 38 days old and due to fledge at any time now. This is a full beach closure area, 0.5 of a mile long.

Ramp 30 - Ramp 34:

The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access for 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 and for 0.5 of a mile north of Ramp 34. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 30 and Ramp 34.

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 miles long beginning 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 to 3.0 miles south of Ramp 30.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34 for a Least Tern colony. Approximately 25-pair of Least Terns were observed in various stages of nest incubations and nurturing chicks. This is a full beach closure, 0.2 of a mile long.

Ramp 34 - Ramp 38:

A SEASONAL ORV closure in front of Avon Village beachfront is a 3.5 miles long. The beach is open to pedestrian access. ORV access is open for 0.5 miles south of Ramp 34.

Ramp 38 - Ramp 43:

The beach is open to ORV access for 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 38 and Ramp 43. Pedestrian access is open, except within the resource closure noted below:

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 4.2 miles long, beginning 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38 to Ramp 43, due to very narrow beaches and hurricane impacted areas.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.3 miles south of Ramp 38 for a nesting Least Tern colony. The closure is 0.2 of a mile long and 100 feet wide. Pedestrian access is open along the shoreline.

Ramp 43 - Ramp 44:

- The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to Cape Point.

Ramp 44 - Ramp 49:

- The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access for 1.4 miles, between Ramp 44 and Cape Point via the ocean beach and the by-pass route. The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 are open, providing access to approximately 1.1 miles of shoreline in the South Beach area.

Cape Point:

- A RESOURCE protection area begins just south of Ramp 44, encompassing a colony of Colonial waterbirds. Recent observations include several Least Terns throughout the area within the closure. Numerous birds are foraging, roosting and defending territory. Visitors in the area are asked to reduce their vehicle speed to 10 mph and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less. Shoreline access is open for 1.4 miles, between Ramp 44 and 0.5 of a mile south of Cape Point. A RESOURCE protection area begins approximately 0.25 of a mile south of Cape Point and a full beach closure begins 0.5 of a mile south of Cape Point, to protect Piping Plover chicks and colonial waterbirds. A few Least Tern nest have also been observed in the area. This full beach closure extends to Salt Pond Road and is approximately 0.6 of a mile long. The two Piping Plover chicks at Cape Point remained near a dry ephemeral pool southwest of the nest site since about Sunday, 7-16-06. On 7-19-06 the brood remained at the same location, however only one chick was observed. On the morning of 7-20-06, the Plover adults remain in the same area, however no chicks were observed. Monitoring will continue to locate the chick. A night time beach closure (8pm to 8am) was implemented from 7-15-06 and will continue at least through 7-20-06. (Opening the shoreline access corridor on 7-20-06 was delayed until 9:30 am while the park staff conducted a thorough survey of the area)

South Beach:

From Salt Pond Road to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45, approximately 1.1 miles of shoreline is open to ORV and pedestrian use, and includes the Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45.

- A RESOURCE protection area within the interior of South Beach, between Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45, is approximately 0.2 of a mile long, for a Least Tern colony. A 50 foot ORV and pedestrian access corridor is being maintained along the shoreline.
- A RESOURCE protection area begins 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45 for a very active Least Tern colony in various stages of nest incubations and nurturing chicks, including several older chicks and some very young ones. This is a full beach closure, approximately 0.4 of a mile long.
- ORV and pedestrian access is open 1.1 miles south of Ramp 45 through to Ramp 49 for approximately 1.9 miles. Note: this area is currently accessible from Ramp 49 but not from Ramp 45.

Ramp 49 - Ramp 55:

The beach is open to ORV access for 1.1 miles south of Ramp 49 to where the Hatteras Village closure begins. Pedestrian access is open to Ramp 55. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 49 and Ramp 55.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure at Hatteras Village is 4.0 miles long.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

A Pedestrian and ORV access is open along portions of the ocean shoreline, the Pole Road, and the Cable Crossing. Ocean shoreline ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 55 south for 2.5 miles, to within 0.6 mile of the inlet. A resource protection closure at that point restricts all access along ocean shoreline to the south. Soundside ORV and pedestrian access is open from Cable Crossing to the "Rip" area at the spit. Pedestrian access is open from the Rip, north along the inlet and ocean shoreline for approximately 1100 feet, but the high tide extends to the dune system precluding safe vehicle access.

- The sections of the Pole Road that were closed through the three overwash areas will reopen on 7-21-06. Resource closures will be established along the sound shoreline at these three sites.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located approximately 2.5 miles south of Ramp 55 due to Least Tern chicks in the area. The chicks are associated with a very active Least Tern colony with 50-60 adults, including 11 incubating nests and several chicks on the ground. Also Black Skimmers are incubating 2 nests in this area. The closure starts just south of the last Pole Road exit and extends south to the inlet. This is a full shoreline closure, 0.6 of a mile long. NPS will continue to monitor bird activity and reevaluate access possibilities at this site. The Pole Road and Cable Crossing soundside access is open.

Ocracoke Island District

The Ocracoke Island District has a total of 15.8 miles of ocean shoreline. Approximately 13.8 miles are open to pedestrian use and 5.4 miles are open to ORV use. ORV use is restricted by a 2.9 mile seasonal beach closure and 5.5 miles of unsafe driving conditions. 0.6 miles of full beach resource closures are located within the ORV safety and seasonal beach closures, and 2.0 miles of shoreline closure is in an ORV area south of Ramp 72.

Ramp 59 - Ramp 67: (7.6 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV access between these two ramps. Pedestrian access is open.

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 5.5 miles long, and begins 1.6 miles south of Ramp 59 to 0.5 miles north of Ramp 67. Pedestrian access is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area located 1.4 miles north of Ramp 67 has been removed. This was a full beach closure, 0.1 of a mile long. It is open for pedestrian access.

Ramp 67 - Ramp 70: (3.4 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV access between these two ramps. Pedestrian access is open.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Ocracoke Village is 2.9 miles long. The closure is 0.25 miles south of Ramp 67 to 0.25 miles north of Ramp 70. Pedestrian access is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area located 0.5 of a mile south of Ramp 68 has been removed. This was a full beach closure, 0.5 of a mile long. It is open for pedestrian access.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.7 miles north of Ramp 70. The closure is 150 feet by 30 feet for least tern colony. Shoreline access is open for pedestrians.

Ramp 70 - Ramp 72 and to South Ocracoke Spit:

An ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 70 south along ocean shoreline, and via the by-pass route, for approximately 4.8 miles, to the inlet.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 72, for Piping Plover chicks. There were 3 Plover chicks that hatched and a fourth egg, partially buried in the sand in the nest, did not hatch. The brood moved on 7-14-06 and has remained on the south shoreline. On 7-15-06, two chicks were observed and one was lost, presumably to a turbulent rain storm or predation. As of 7-20-06 the brood was observed in the same area, however only one chick was observed. Monitoring will continue. The Piping Plover chick(s) is/are 8 days old. To accommodate the Piping Plover chicks, the two-lane by-pass route has been closed and the protected area has been expanded to a full beach closure. This closure restricts ORV access for 2 miles, from 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 72 to the end of the Ocracoke Spit. Vessels may go ashore at the south end of the Spit and pedestrians can access the shoreline at the southern end of the Spit, south of the closure. A full area closure will be maintained at least through 7-20-06. The park is considering implementing a daylight-only pass through corridor through the east side of the current closure, to allow access to the point.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians and pets.



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National Park Service Beach Access Report for July 27, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 27, 2006
 CONTACT: 252-473-2111, ext. 148

Recent News: Access to South Point on Ocracoke Island reopened on a 24-hour basis today (July 27). The last piping plover chick that had been in the South Point area is presumed lost.

Shoreline access from Cape Point to Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 will reopen for ORV and pedestrian access on 7-28-06. A section of shoreline 0.1 of a mile long has been kept closed for foraging habitat around an ephemeral pool. ORV and pedestrian access is open around the north side of the ephemeral pool.

American Oystercatcher Research Program Scheduled: NC State University researchers Dr. Ted Simons and doctoral student Shiloh Schulte will present a program on their recent research of American oystercatchers at Cape Hatteras and Cape Lookout National Seashores. The program will take place at the Hatteras Civic Center in Hatteras Village, on Wednesday, August 2nd, 2006, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The general public is invited to attend.

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

There are approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). 15.9 miles are open to pedestrians and 11.3 miles are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 4.6 miles of seasonal closures in front of the Tri-villages and a life-guarded swim beach. Approximately 0.6 of a mile is closed as a full-beach resource closure and there are no ORV Safety closures in effect.

Ramp 1 - 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 1.6 miles long and includes a life-guarded swim beach, 150 feet wide. Pedestrian access is open.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 - Ramp 4 and to Bodie Island Spit

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to the inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access limitations during extreme high tides or winds.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located within the interior of Bodie Island Spit. Approximately 0.9 of a mile south of Ramp 4, and 0.2 of a mile long, a two-lane, pass through corridor above the high tide line was established on 7-20-06 to accommodate a Least Tern colony with approximately 200 to 300 birds and 50 nests present. No stopping or parking is permitted within the pass through. Royal, Common and Gull Billed Terns continue to forage and roost in the area. An access corridor is being maintained above the high tide line, for ORV and pedestrian access, to the southwest side of the inlet.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo: (north of Ramp 23 for 3 miles)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 3 miles long; open to pedestrian access.

Ramp 23 - Ramp 27:

Beach access is open for ORV and pedestrian use for 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23, and for 2.2 miles north of Ramp 27. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 23 and 27.

- A RESOURCE protection area, 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23 is for a nesting Least Tern colony. Approximately 20-25 adult-pairs were observed in various stages of nest incubations and nurturing chicks. This is a full beach closure, 0.4 of a mile long.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. There are 30.1 miles open to pedestrians and 18.2 miles of beach are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 7.5 miles of seasonal closures and 4.4 miles of safety closures. Approximately 1.8 miles are closed due to full beach resource protection closures.

Ramp 27 - Ramp 30: (2.2 miles of shoreline)

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 0.3 miles and from Ramp 30 north for 1.4 miles. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 27 and Ramp 30.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.3 miles south of Ramp 27 for a nesting Least Tern colony. Approximately 60 pair of Least Terns were observed in various stages of nest incubations and nurturing chicks. Some Royal Terns were observed foraging in the area. This is a full beach closure area, 0.5 of a mile long.

Ramp 30 - Ramp 34:

The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access for 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 and for 0.5 of a mile north of Ramp 34. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 30 and Ramp 34.

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 miles long beginning 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 to 3.0 miles south of Ramp 30.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34 for a Least Tern colony. Approximately 20 pair of Least Terns were observed including 12 incubating nests and several nurturing chicks. This is a full beach closure, 0.2 of a mile long.

Ramp 34 - Ramp 38:

A SEASONAL ORV closure in front of Avon Village beachfront is a 3.5 miles long. The beach is open to pedestrian access. ORV access is open for 0.5 miles south of Ramp 34.

Ramp 38 - Ramp 43:

The beach is open to ORV access for 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 38 and Ramp 43. Pedestrian access is open, except within the resource closure noted below:

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 4.2 miles long, beginning 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38 to Ramp 43, due to very narrow beaches and hurricane impacted areas.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.3 miles south of Ramp 38 for a nesting Least Tern colony. Recent observations include 8 adults with 2 chicks. The closure is 0.2 of a mile long and 100 feet wide. Pedestrian access is open along the shoreline.

Ramp 43 - Ramp 44:

- The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to Cape Point.

Ramp 44 - Ramp 49:

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access for 3.1 miles, between Ramp 44 and south of Cape Point to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45, via the ocean shoreline. The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 are open.

Cape Point:

- A RESOURCE protection area begins just south of Ramp 44, encompassing a colony of Colonial waterbirds. Recent observations include 25-30 Least Terns, 20 Common and 20 Royal Terns, and 10 Common Terns throughout the area closure. Numerous birds are foraging, roosting and defending territory. Visitors in the area are asked to reduce their vehicle speed to 10 mph and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less. Shoreline access is open around this closure, to Cape Point and to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45.
- A RESOURCE protection area begins approximately 0.25 of a mile south of Cape Point for an active colonial waterbird colony. The full beach closure 0.5 of a mile south of Cape Point is being removed and shoreline access from Cape Point to Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 will reopen for ORV and pedestrian access on 7-28-06. A section of shoreline 0.1 of a mile long has been kept closed for foraging habitat around an ephemeral pool. ORV and pedestrian access is open around the north side of the ephemeral pool.

South Beach:

The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45 are open to access Cape Point and to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45.

- A RESOURCE protection area within the interior of South Beach, between Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45, is approximately 0.2 of a mile long, for a Least Tern colony. A 50 foot ORV and pedestrian access corridor is being maintained along the shoreline.
- A RESOURCE protection area begins 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45 for an active Least Tern colony in various stages of nest incubations and nurturing chicks. Recent observations include 25 Least Terns with 2 nests. This is a full beach closure, approximately 0.4 of a mile long.
- ORV and pedestrian access is open from 1.2 miles south of Ramp 45 through to Ramp 49 for approximately 1.9 miles. Note: this area is currently accessible from Ramp 49 but not from Ramp 45.

Ramp 49 - Ramp 55:

The beach is open to ORV access for 1.1 miles south of Ramp 49 to where the Hatteras Village closure begins. Pedestrian access is open to Ramp 55. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 49 and Ramp 55.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure at Hatteras Village is 4.0 miles long.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

A Pedestrian and ORV access is open along portions of the ocean shoreline, the Pole Road, and the Cable Crossing. Ocean shoreline ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 55 south for 2.5 miles, to within 0.6 mile of the inlet. A resource protection closure at that point restricts all access along ocean shoreline to the south. Soundside ORV and pedestrian access is open from Cable Crossing to the "Rip" area at the spit. Pedestrian access is open from the Rip, north along the inlet and ocean shoreline for approximately 1100 feet, but the high tide extends to the dune system precluding safe vehicle access.

- The sections of the Pole Road that were closed through the three overwash areas reopened on 7-21-06. Resource closures have been established along the sound shoreline at the three overwash sites.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located approximately 2.5 miles south of Ramp 55 due to a very active Least Tern colony. Recent observations include 40-50 Least Tern adults, with 11 incubating nests and several chicks on the ground. Also 10 Black Skimmers were observed with 2 incubating nests in this area. The closure starts just south of the last Pole Road exit and extends south to the inlet. This is a full shoreline closure, 0.6 of a mile long. NPS will continue to monitor bird activity and reevaluate access possibilities at this site. The Pole Road and Cable Crossing soundside access is open.

Ocracoke Island District

The Ocracoke Island District has a total of 16.3 miles of ocean shoreline. 16.2 miles are open to pedestrian use and approximately 8.1 miles are open to ORV use. ORV use is restricted by a 2.9 mile seasonal beach

closure and 5.2 miles of unsafe driving conditions. A full beach turtle nest closure is located just north of Ramp 72.

Ramp 59 - Ramp 67: (7.6 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV access between these two ramps. Pedestrian access is open.

- ORV and pedestrian access is open for 0.5 of a mile north of Ramp 59 to the north Ocracoke Spit.
- An ORV SAFETY closure is 5.2 miles long, and begins 1.0 miles south of Ramp 59 to 1.4 miles north of Ramp 67. Pedestrian access is open.

Ramp 67 - Ramp 70: (3.4 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV access between these two ramps. Pedestrian access is open.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Ocracoke Island is 2.9 miles long. The closure is 0.25 miles south of Ramp 67 to 0.25 miles north of Ramp 70. Pedestrian access is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.7 miles north of Ramp 70. The closure is 150 feet by 30 feet for least tern colony. Shoreline access is open for pedestrians.

Ramp 70 - Ramp 72 and to South Ocracoke Spit:

An ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 72 south along ocean shoreline, for approximately 4.8 miles, to the inlet. A full beach turtle closure is located just north of Ramp 72 precluding through access between Ramp 70 and Ramp 72.

- A RESOURCE protection area located 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 72 has been reduced to an interior and sound shoreline closure and 24-hour access to the inlet is reopened. On 7-21-06 a two-lane pass-through corridor had been implemented to allow daytime access to the point from 8:00 a.m. to 7 p.m. to accommodate a piping plover chick in the area. A full beach closure was imposed on 7-23-06 when monitors could no longer locate the chick after a torrential rain storm. The full beach closure was cancelled on 7-26-06, the night closure was cancelled on 7-27-06, and the chick is presumed lost.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians and pets.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Outer Banks Group:
 · Cape Hatteras National
 Seashore
 · Fort Raleigh National
 Historic Site
 · Wright Brothers National
 Memorial

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National Park Service Beach Access Report for August 3, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **August 3, 2006**
 CONTACT: 252-473-2111, ext. 148

Recent News:

Open House to Meet New Staff: Community members are invited to attend an informal open house at the Fessenden Center in Buxton, on Tuesday, August 8, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, to meet the new Hatteras Island District Ranger, John McCutcheon and the new Park Wildlife Biologist, Britta Muiznieks. Superintendent Mike Murray and other park staff will also be available to answer questions.

The nesting season for Piping Plovers and American Oystercatchers has officially ended. However numerous Piping Plovers migrating south along the Atlantic coast have been observed foraging on the beaches, with as many as 64 recently sighted on south Ocracoke Island. Colonial Waterbirds such as the Least Tern, Royal and Gull-billed Tern, and Black Skimmer are abundantly present on the Seashore. The Least Tern colony at Bodie Island has approximately 250 birds in various stages of nest incubations and nurturing chicks.

The sea turtle egg-laying season is underway and the park has identified 61 nest locations within the Seashore. On the night of 8-2-06 the first hatchlings emerged from a nest in the sand on Ocracoke Island. Any turtle nest that involves a full beach closure will be listed, along with the resource protection closures for birds, within this beach access report.

Interpretive Program Schedule: Cape Hatteras National Seashore will have a park ranger at a turtle nest closure to provide informal interpretive talks to the public. Learn how the female sea turtles come onto the Outer Banks to lay their eggs in the sand and hear of the various species of sea turtles, all protected under the Endangered Species Act. The ranger will be located at a turtle nest closure that is due to hatch this week, 1.0 mile north of the Avon Pier on Tuesday and Thursday, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

There are approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). 15.9 miles are open to pedestrians and 11.3 miles are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 4.6 miles of seasonal closures in front of the Tri-villages and a life-guarded swim beach. Approximately 0.6 of a mile is closed as a full-beach resource closure and there are no ORV Safety closures in effect.

Ramp 1 - 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 1.6 miles long and includes a life-guarded swim beach, 150 feet wide. Pedestrian access is open.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 - Ramp 4 and to Bodie Island Spit

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to the inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access limitations during extreme high tides or winds.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located within the interior of Bodie Island Spit. Approximately 0.9 of a mile south of Ramp 4, and 0.2 of a mile long, a two-lane, pass through corridor above the high tide line was established to accommodate a Least Tern colony with approximately 200 to 300 birds present. Recent observations include 25 Least Tern nests in incubation and 15 chicks. 9 migrating Piping Plovers were also observed. Royal, Common and Gull Billed Terns continue to forage and roost in the area. No stopping or parking is permitted within the pass through. An access corridor is being maintained above the high tide line, for ORV and pedestrian access, to the southwest side of the inlet.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo: (north of Ramp 23 for 3 miles)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 3 miles long; open to pedestrian access.

Ramp 23 - Ramp 27:

Beach access is open for ORV and pedestrian use for 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23, and for 2.2 miles north of Ramp 27. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 23 and 27.

- A RESOURCE protection area, 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23 is for a nesting Least Tern colony. Approximately 20-25 adult-pairs were observed in various stages of nest incubations and nurturing chicks, but the total number of birds in this colony is diminishing as the chicks are fledging. This is a full beach closure, 0.4 of a mile long.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. There are 30.1 miles open to pedestrians and 18.2 miles of beach are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 7.5 miles of seasonal closures and 4.4 miles of safety closures. Approximately 1.8 miles are closed due to full beach resource protection closures.

Ramp 27 - Ramp 30: (2.2 miles of shoreline)

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 0.3 miles and from Ramp 30 north for 1.4 miles. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 27 and Ramp 30.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.3 miles south of Ramp 27 for a very active Least Tern colony. Recent observations include approximately 50 pair of Least Terns, with 15 nest incubations and 10 chicks on the ground. Some Royal Terns were observed foraging in the area. This is a full beach closure area, 0.5 of a mile long.

Ramp 30 - Ramp 34:

The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access for 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 and for 0.5 of a mile north of Ramp 34. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 30 and Ramp 34.

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 miles long beginning 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 to 3.0 miles south of Ramp 30.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34 for an active Least Tern colony. Recent observations include approximately 20 pair of Least Terns with 5 incubating nests and several nurturing chicks. This is a full beach closure, 0.2 of a mile long.

Ramp 34 - Ramp 38:

A SEASONAL ORV closure in front of Avon Village beachfront is a 3.5 miles long. The beach is open to pedestrian access. ORV access is open for 0.5 miles south of Ramp 34.

Ramp 38 - Ramp 43:

The beach is open to ORV access for 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 38 and Ramp 43. Pedestrian access is open, except within the resource closure noted below:

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 4.2 miles long, beginning 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38 to Ramp 43, due to very narrow beaches and hurricane impacted areas.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.3 miles south of Ramp 38 for a nesting Least Tern colony. Recent observations include 8 adults with 2 chicks. The closure is 0.2 of a mile long and 100 feet wide. Pedestrian access is open along the shoreline.

Ramp 43 - Ramp 44:

- The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to Cape Point.

Ramp 44 - Ramp 49:

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access for 3.1 miles, between Ramp 44 and south of Cape Point to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45, via the ocean shoreline. The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 are open.

Cape Point:

- A RESOURCE protection area begins just south of Ramp 44, encompassing a colony of Colonial waterbirds. Recent observations include 25-30 Least Terns, 20 Common and 20 Royal Terns, and 10 Common Terns throughout the area closure. 4 migrating Piping Plover were recently observed. Numerous birds are foraging, roosting and defending territory. Visitors in the area are asked to reduce their vehicle speed to 10 mph and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less. Shoreline access is open around this closure, to Cape Point and to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45.
- A RESOURCE protection area within the interior of Cape Point begins approximately 0.5 of a mile south of the Point for an active colonial waterbird colony. The full beach closure 0.5 of a mile south of Cape Point has been removed and shoreline access from Cape Point to Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 is open for ORV and pedestrian access. A section of shoreline 0.1 of a mile long has been kept closed for foraging habitat around an ephemeral pool. ORV and pedestrian access is open around the north side of the ephemeral pool.

South Beach:

The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45 are open to access Cape Point and to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45.

- A RESOURCE protection area within the interior of South Beach, for a Least Tern colony between Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45, has been reopened to the public.
- A RESOURCE protection area begins 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45 for an active Least Tern colony in various stages of nest incubations and nurturing chicks. Recent observations include 20 Least Terns and nurturing chicks. This is a full beach closure, approximately 0.4 of a mile long.
- ORV and pedestrian access is open from 1.2 miles south of Ramp 45 through to Ramp 49 for approximately 1.9 miles. Note: this area is currently accessible from Ramp 49 but not from Ramp 45.

Ramp 49 - Ramp 55:

The beach is open to ORV access for 1.1 miles south of Ramp 49 to the boundary of the Hatteras Village closure. Pedestrian access is open to Ramp 55. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 49 and Ramp 55.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure at Hatteras Village is 4.0 miles long.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

A Pedestrian and ORV access is open along portions of the ocean shoreline, the Pole Road, and the Cable Crossing. Ocean shoreline ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 55 south for 2.5 miles, to within 0.6 mile of the inlet. A resource protection closure at that point restricts all access along ocean shoreline to the south. Soundside ORV and pedestrian access is open from Cable Crossing to the "Rip" area at the spit. Pedestrian access is open from the Rip, north along the inlet and ocean shoreline for approximately 1100 feet, but the high tide extends to the dune system precluding safe vehicle access.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located approximately 2.5 miles south of Ramp 55 due to a very active Least Tern colony. Recent observations include 30-40 Least Tern adults, with several incubating nests and chicks on the ground. The closure starts just south of the last Pole Road exit and extends

south to the inlet. This is a full shoreline closure, 0.6 of a mile long. NPS will continue to monitor bird activity and reevaluate access possibilities at this site. The Pole Road and Cable Crossing soundside access is open.

Ocracoke Island District

The Ocracoke Island District has a total of 16.3 miles of ocean shoreline. 16.0 miles are open to pedestrian use and approximately 7.9 miles are open to ORV use. ORV use is restricted by a 2.9 mile seasonal beach closure and 5.2 miles of unsafe driving conditions. Approximately 0.3 miles are closed due to full beach resource protection closures for turtle nests.

Ramp 59 - Ramp 67: (7.6 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV or pedestrian shoreline access between these two ramps.

- ORV and pedestrian access is open for 0.5 of a mile north of Ramp 59 to the north Ocracoke Spit.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.5 of a mile south of Ramp 59 for a sea turtle nest expected to hatch in the next two weeks. This is a full beach closure 0.1 of a mile long.
- An ORV SAFETY closure is 5.2 miles long, and begins 1.0 miles south of Ramp 59 to 1.4 miles north of Ramp 67. Pedestrian access is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area located 2.75 miles south of Ramp 59 will be implemented on 8-4-06 for a sea turtle nest expected to hatch in the next two weeks. This is a full beach closure 0.1 of a mile long.

Ramp 67 - Ramp 70: (3.4 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV access between these two ramps. Pedestrian access is open.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Ocracoke Island is 2.9 miles long. The closure is 0.25 miles south of Ramp 67 to 0.25 miles north of Ramp 70. Pedestrian access is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.7 miles north of Ramp 70. The closure is 150 feet by 30 feet for least tern colony. Shoreline access is open for pedestrians.

Ramp 70 - Ramp 72 and to South Ocracoke Spit:

An ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 72 south along ocean shoreline, for approximately 4.8 miles, to the inlet. A full beach turtle closure is located just north of Ramp 72 precluding through access between Ramp 70 and Ramp 72.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.2 of a mile north of Ramp 72 for a sea turtle nest expected to hatch in the next two weeks. This is a full beach closure 0.1 of a mile long.
- A RESOURCE protection area located 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 72 has been reduced to an interior closure for Least Terns, Black Skimmers and migrating Piping Plovers. Approximately 64 migrating Plovers were recently observed.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians and pets.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Outer Banks Group:
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 Seashore
 · Fort Raleigh National
 Historic Site
 · Wright Brothers National
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National Park Service Beach Access Report for August 10, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **August 10, 2006**

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Recent News: Numerous Piping Plovers migrating south along the Atlantic coast have been observed foraging on the beaches. During a one-day beach survey on 8-5-06, 123 Plovers were observed from Oregon Inlet to South Ocracoke Spit. Colonial Waterbirds such as the Least Tern, Royal and Gull-billed Tern, and Black Skimmer are abundantly present on the Seashore. This week 100 Sandwich Terns and one Black Tern were added to the survey report.

The sea turtle egg-laying season is underway. This week the park identified 2 new nest locations bringing the total number of turtle nests within the Seashore to 63. The first turtle nest of the season to hatch was on Ocracoke Island and approximately 30 hatchlings emerged from the sand. Any turtle nest that involves a full beach closure will be listed, along with the resource protection closures for birds, within this beach access report.

Interpretive Program Schedule: Cape Hatteras National Seashore will have a park ranger at a turtle nest closure to provide informal interpretive talks to the public. Learn how the female sea turtles come onto the Outer Banks to lay their eggs in the sand and hear of the various species of sea turtles, all protected under the Endangered Species Act. The ranger will be located at a turtle nest closure that is due to hatch this week, at the Frisco Bath House, on Saturday, August 12, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm, and in Hatteras Village, 1.2 miles north of Ramp 55 (near Flambo Rd), on Thursday, August 17, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

There are approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). 16.3 miles are open to pedestrians and 11.7 miles are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 4.6 miles of seasonal closures in front of the Tri-villages and a life-guarded swim beach. Approximately 0.2 of a mile is closed as a full-beach resource closure and there are no ORV Safety closures in effect.

Ramp 1 - 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 1.6 miles long and includes a life-guarded swim beach, 150 feet wide. Pedestrian access is open.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 - Ramp 4 and to Bodie Island Spit

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to the inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access limitations during extreme high tides or winds.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located within the interior of Bodie Island Spit. Approximately 0.9 of a mile south of Ramp 4, and 0.2 of a mile long, a two-lane, pass through corridor above the high tide line was established to accommodate a gathering of approximately 200 birds. Recent observations include 60 Least Terns with 5 chicks, 13 migrating Piping Plovers, 60 Royal Terns, 40 Sandwich Terns and 15 Common Terns, foraging and roosting in the area. No stopping or parking is permitted within the

pass through. An access corridor is being maintained above the high tide line, for ORV and pedestrian access, to the southwest side of the inlet.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo: (north of Ramp 23 for 3 miles)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 3 miles long; open to pedestrian access.

Ramp 23 - Ramp 27:

Beach access is now completely open for ORV and pedestrian use between Ramp 23 and 27.

- A RESOURCE protection area, 1.4 miles south of Ramp 23, for a nesting Least Tern colony has been removed and the area has been reopened to ORV and pedestrian use. Approximately 25 adult-pairs of Least Tern successfully fledged their young and this colony left the area. This was a full beach closure, 0.4 of a mile long.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. There are 30.5 miles open to pedestrians and 18.4 miles of beach are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 7.5 miles of seasonal closures and 4.6 miles of safety closures. Approximately 1.4 miles are closed due to full beach resource protection closures.

Ramp 27 - Ramp 30: (2.2 miles of shoreline)

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 0.3 miles and from Ramp 30 north for 1.4 miles. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 27 and Ramp 30.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.3 miles south of Ramp 27 for a very active Least Tern colony. Recent observations include approximately 50 pair of Least Terns with 10 chicks and 15 nest incubations. Some Royal Terns were observed foraging in the area. This is a full beach closure area, 0.5 of a mile long.

Ramp 30 - Ramp 34:

The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access for 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 and for 0.5 of a mile north of Ramp 34. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 30 and Ramp 34.

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 miles long beginning 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 to 3.0 miles south of Ramp 30.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34 for an active Least Tern colony. Recent observations include approximately 20 adult Least Terns with 4 chicks. This is a full beach closure, 0.2 of a mile long.

Ramp 34 - Ramp 38:

A SEASONAL ORV closure in front of Avon Village beachfront is a 3.5 miles long. The beach is open to pedestrian access. ORV access is open for 0.5 miles south of Ramp 34.

Ramp 38 - Ramp 43:

The beach is open to ORV access for 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 38 and Ramp 43. Pedestrian access is open, except within the resource closure noted below:

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 4.2 miles long, beginning 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38 to Ramp 43, due to very narrow beaches and hurricane impacted areas.
- A RESOURCE protection area located 1.3 miles south of Ramp 38 for a nesting Least Tern colony has been removed and the area has been reopened to the public. The closure was 0.2 of a mile long and 100 feet wide.

Ramp 43 - Ramp 44:

- The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to Cape Point.

Ramp 44 - Ramp 49:

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access for 3.1 miles, between Ramp 44 and south of Cape Point to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45, via the ocean shoreline. The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 are open.

Cape Point:

- A RESOURCE protection area begins just south of Ramp 44, encompassing a colony of Colonial waterbirds. Recent observations include 200 Royal Terns, 30 Least Terns, 82 Common Terns, 60 Sandwich Terns and 1 Black Tern throughout the area closure. Numerous birds are foraging, roosting and defending territory. Visitors in the area are asked to reduce their vehicle speed to 10 mph and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less. Shoreline access is open around this closure, to Cape Point and to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45.
- A RESOURCE protection area within the interior of Cape Point begins approximately 0.5 of a mile south of the Point for an active colonial waterbird colony. A section of shoreline 0.1 of a mile long has been kept closed for foraging habitat around an ephemeral pool. ORV and pedestrian access is open around the north side of the ephemeral pool.

South Beach:

The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45 are open to access Cape Point and to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45.

- A RESOURCE protection area begins 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45 for an active Least Tern colony. Recent observations include 50 adult terns with 4 chicks present. This is a full beach closure, approximately 0.4 of a mile long.
- ORV and pedestrian access is open from 1.2 miles south of Ramp 45 through to Ramp 49 for approximately 1.9 miles. Note: this area is currently accessible from Ramp 49 but not from Ramp 45.

Ramp 49 - Ramp 55:

The beach is open to ORV access for 1.1 miles south of Ramp 49 to the boundary of the Frisco and Hatteras Village closure. Pedestrian access is open to Ramp 55. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 49 and Ramp 55.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Frisco Village and Hatteras Village is 4.0 miles long.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

A Pedestrian and ORV access is open along portions of the ocean shoreline, the Pole Road, and the Cable Crossing. Ocean shoreline ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 55 south for 2.7 miles, to within 0.4 mile of the inlet. A resource protection closure at that point restricts all access along ocean shoreline to the south. Soundside ORV and pedestrian access is open from Cable Crossing to the "Rip" area at the spit. Pedestrian access is open from the Rip, north along the inlet and ocean shoreline for approximately 1100 feet, but the high tide extends to the dune system precluding safe vehicle access (0.2 of a mile Safety Closure).

- A RESOURCE protection area is located approximately 2.7 miles south of Ramp 55 for an active Least Tern and Black Skimmer colony. Recent observations include 25 Least Tern adults, with 8 nurturing chicks and 2 Black Skimmer nests with 3 eggs in each nest. The closure starts 0.2 of a mile south of the last Pole Road exit and extends south to the inlet. This is a full shoreline closure, 0.4 of a mile long. NPS will continue to monitor bird activity and reevaluate access possibilities at this site. The Pole Road and Cable Crossing soundside access is open.
- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 of a mile long, from the Rip at the soundside, north along the inlet and ocean shoreline (approximately 1100 feet), due to the high tide extending to the dune line precluding safe vehicle access (Pedestrian access is open).

Ocracoke Island District

The Ocracoke Island District has a total of 16.3 miles of ocean shoreline. 16.0 miles are open to pedestrian use and approximately 7.9 miles are open to ORV use. ORV use is restricted by a 2.9 mile seasonal beach closure and 5.2 miles of unsafe driving conditions. Approximately 0.3 miles are closed due to full beach resource protection closures for turtle nests.

Ramp 59 - Ramp 67: (7.6 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV or pedestrian shoreline access between these two ramps.

- ORV and pedestrian access is open for 0.5 of a mile north of Ramp 59 to the north Ocracoke Spit.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.5 of a mile south of Ramp 59 for a sea turtle nest expected to hatch in the next two weeks. This is a full beach closure 0.1 of a mile long.
- An ORV SAFETY closure is 5.2 miles long, and begins 1.0 miles south of Ramp 59 to 1.4 miles north of Ramp 67. Pedestrian access is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area located 2.75 miles south of Ramp 59 is for a sea turtle nest expected to hatch in the next two weeks. This is a full beach closure 0.1 of a mile long.

Ramp 67 - Ramp 70: (3.4 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV access between these two ramps. Pedestrian access is open.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Ocracoke Island is 2.9 miles long. The closure is 0.25 miles south of Ramp 67 to 0.25 miles north of Ramp 70. Pedestrian access is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 1.7 miles north of Ramp 70. The closure is 150 feet by 30 feet for least tern colony. Shoreline access is open for pedestrians.

Ramp 70 - Ramp 72 and to South Ocracoke Spit:

An ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 72 south along ocean shoreline, for approximately 4.8 miles, to the inlet. A full beach turtle closure is located just north of Ramp 72 precluding through access between Ramp 70 and Ramp 72.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.2 of a mile north of Ramp 72 for a sea turtle nest expected to hatch in the next two weeks. This is a full beach closure 0.1 of a mile long.
- A RESOURCE protection area located 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 72 has been reduced to an interior closure for Least Terns, Black Skimmers and migrating Piping Plovers. Approximately 75 migrating Plovers were recently observed.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians and pets.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Outer Banks Group:
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 Seashore
 · Fort Raleigh National
 Historic Site
 · Wright Brothers National
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National Park Service Beach Access Report for August 17, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **August 17, 2006**

CONTACT: 252-473-2111, ext. 148

Recent News: Numerous Piping Plovers migrating south along the Atlantic coast have been observed foraging on the beaches. In the course of one beach survey, 93 Piping Plovers were observed on South Ocracoke Island. This is the highest number of Plover ever observed in one specific location in the park. Colonial Waterbirds such as the Least Tern, Royal and Gull-billed Tern, and Black Skimmer are abundantly present on the Seashore.

The total number of turtle nests within the Seashore is now at 78 and a few nests have begun to hatch. Any turtle nest that involves a full beach ORV closure will be listed, along with the resource protection closures for birds, within this beach access report.

Interpretive Program Schedule: Cape Hatteras National Seashore will have a park ranger at a turtle nest closure to provide informal interpretive talks to the public. Learn how the female sea turtles come onto the Outer Banks to lay their eggs in the sand and hear of the various species of sea turtles, all protected under the Endangered Species Act. The ranger will be located at a turtle nest closure that is due to hatch this week, 0.15 of a mile north of Ramp 43, on Saturday, August 19, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm, and on Thursday, August 24, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

There are approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). 16.3 miles are open to pedestrians and 11.7 miles are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 4.6 miles of seasonal closures in front of the Tri-villages and a life-guarded swim beach. Approximately 0.2 of a mile is closed as a full-beach resource closure and there are no ORV Safety closures in effect.

Ramp 1 - 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 1.6 miles long and includes a life-guarded swim beach, 150 feet wide. Pedestrian access is open.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 - Ramp 4 and to Bodie Island Spit

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to the inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access limitations during extreme high tides or winds.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located within the interior of Bodie Island Spit. Approximately 0.9 of a mile south of Ramp 4, and 0.2 of a mile long, a two-lane, pass through corridor above the high tide line was established to accommodate a gathering of approximately 200 birds. Recent observations include 60 Least Terns with 3 chicks, 12 migrating Piping Plovers, 50 Royal Terns, 40 Sandwich Terns and 24 Black Skimmers, foraging and roosting in the area. No stopping or parking is permitted within the pass through. An access corridor is being maintained above the high tide line, for ORV and pedestrian access, to the southwest side of the inlet.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo: (north of Ramp 23 for 3 miles)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 3 miles long; open to pedestrian access.

Ramp 23 - Ramp 27:

Beach access is open for ORV and pedestrian use between Ramp 23 and 27.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. There are 30.5 miles open to pedestrians and 18.4 miles of beach are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 7.5 miles of seasonal closures and 4.6 miles of safety closures. Approximately 1.4 miles are closed due to full beach resource protection closures.

Ramp 27 - Ramp 30: (2.2 miles of shoreline)

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 0.3 miles and from Ramp 30 north for 1.4 miles. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 27 and Ramp 30.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.3 miles south of Ramp 27 for a very active Least Tern colony. Recent observations include approximately 60 pair of Least Terns with 2 chicks. Some Royal Terns were observed foraging in the area. This is a full beach closure area, 0.5 of a mile long.

Ramp 30 - Ramp 34:

The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access for 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 and for 0.5 of a mile north of Ramp 34. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 30 and Ramp 34.

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 miles long beginning 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 to 3.0 miles south of Ramp 30.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34 for a Least Tern colony. This is a full beach closure, 0.2 of a mile long.

Ramp 34 - Ramp 38:

A SEASONAL ORV closure in front of Avon Village beachfront is a 3.5 miles long. The beach is open to pedestrian access. ORV access is open for 0.5 miles south of Ramp 34.

Ramp 38 - Ramp 43:

The beach is open to ORV access for 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 38 and Ramp 43. Pedestrian access is open, except within the resource closure noted below:

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 4.2 miles long, beginning 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38 to Ramp 43, due to very narrow beaches and hurricane impacted areas.

Ramp 43 - Ramp 44:

- The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to Cape Point.

Ramp 44 - Ramp 49:

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access for 3.1 miles, between Ramp 44 and south of Cape Point to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45, via the ocean shoreline. The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 are open.

Cape Point:

- A RESOURCE protection area begins just south of Ramp 44, encompassing a colony of Colonial waterbirds. Recent observations include 200 Royal Terns, 40 Least Terns, Common Terns and Sandwich Terns throughout the area closure. Numerous birds are foraging, roosting and defending territory. Visitors in the area are asked to reduce their vehicle speed to 10 mph and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less. Shoreline access is open around this closure, to Cape Point and to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45.

- A RESOURCE protection area within the interior of Cape Point begins approximately 0.5 of a mile south of the Point for an active colonial waterbird colony. A section of shoreline 0.1 of a mile long has been kept closed for foraging habitat around an ephemeral pool. ORV and pedestrian access is open around the north side of the ephemeral pool.

South Beach:

The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45 are open to access Cape Point and to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45.

- A RESOURCE protection area begins 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45 for a very active Tern colony. Recent observations include 50 Royal Terns and 250 Least Terns, some with very young fledglings and 1 chick. This is a full beach closure, approximately 0.4 of a mile long.
- ORV and pedestrian access is open from 1.2 miles south of Ramp 45 through to Ramp 49 for approximately 1.9 miles. Note: this area is currently accessible from Ramp 49 but not from Ramp 45.

Ramp 49 - Ramp 55:

The beach is open to ORV access for 1.1 miles south of Ramp 49 to the boundary of the Frisco and Hatteras Village closure. Pedestrian access is open to Ramp 55. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 49 and Ramp 55.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Frisco Village and Hatteras Village is 4.0 miles long.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

A Pedestrian and ORV access is open along portions of the ocean shoreline, the Pole Road, and the Cable Crossing. Ocean shoreline ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 55 south for 2.7 miles, to within 0.4 mile of the inlet. A resource protection closure at that point restricts all access along ocean shoreline to the south. Soundside ORV and pedestrian access is open from Cable Crossing to the "Rip" area at the spit. Pedestrian access is open from the Rip, north along the inlet and ocean shoreline for approximately 1100 feet, but the high tide extends to the dune system precluding safe vehicle access (0.2 of a mile Safety Closure).

- A RESOURCE protection area is located approximately 2.7 miles south of Ramp 55 for a Least Tern and Black Skimmer colony. During a recent observation the Skimmer nests have begun hatching. The closure starts 0.2 of a mile south of the last Pole Road exit and extends south to the inlet. This is a full shoreline closure, 0.2 of a mile long and a safety closure 0.2 of a mile long. NPS will continue to monitor bird activity and reevaluate access possibilities at this site. The Pole Road and Cable Crossing soundside access is open.
- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 of a mile long, from the Rip at the soundside, north along the inlet and ocean shoreline (approximately 1100 feet), due to the high tide extending to the dune line precluding safe vehicle access (Pedestrian access is open).

Ocracoke Island District

The Ocracoke Island District has a total of 16.3 miles of ocean shoreline. 16.1 miles are open to pedestrian use and approximately 8.0 miles are open to ORV use. ORV use is restricted by a 2.9 mile seasonal beach closure and 5.2 miles of unsafe driving conditions. Approximately 0.2 miles are closed due to full beach resource protection closures for turtle nests.

Ramp 59 - Ramp 67: (7.6 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV or pedestrian shoreline access between these two ramps.

- ORV and pedestrian access is open for 0.5 of a mile north of Ramp 59 to the north Ocracoke Spit.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.5 of a mile south of Ramp 59 for a sea turtle nest expected to hatch soon. This is a full beach closure 0.1 of a mile long.
- An ORV SAFETY closure is 5.2 miles long, and begins 1.0 miles south of Ramp 59 to 1.4 miles north of Ramp 67. Pedestrian access is open.

Ramp 67 - Ramp 70: (3.4 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV access between these two ramps. Pedestrian access is open.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Ocracoke Island is 2.9 miles long. The closure is 0.25 miles south of Ramp 67 to 0.25 miles north of Ramp 70. Pedestrian access is open.
- A RESOURCE protection area 1.7 miles north of Ramp 70 has been removed and this area has been reopened to the public. The closure was 150 feet by 30 feet for least tern colony.

Ramp 70 - Ramp 72 and to South Ocracoke Spit:

An ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 72 south along ocean shoreline, for approximately 4.8 miles, to the inlet. A full beach turtle closure is located just north of Ramp 72 precluding through access between Ramp 70 and Ramp 72.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.2 of a mile north of Ramp 72 for a sea turtle nest expected to hatch soon. This is a full beach closure 0.1 of a mile long.
- A RESOURCE protection area located 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 72 has been reduced to an interior closure for colonial waterbirds and migrating Piping Plovers. Approximately 93 migrating Plovers were recently observed.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians and pets.



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National Park Service Beach Access Report for August 24, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 24, 2006

CONTACT: 252-473-2111, ext. 148

Recent News: Numerous Piping Plovers migrating south along the Atlantic coast have been observed foraging on the beaches. During one beach survey, 69 Plovers were observed on South Ocracoke Island. Two of the Plover wore a distinctive color-coded band indicating one was from the Great Lakes region and one was banded in Canada. Colonial Waterbirds such as the Least Tern, Royal and Gull-billed Tern, and Black Skimmer are abundantly present on the Seashore. The total number of turtle nests within the Seashore is now at 74 and several nests have begun to hatch.

Interpretive Program Schedule: Cape Hatteras National Seashore will have a park ranger at a turtle nest closure to provide informal interpretive talks to the public. Learn how the female sea turtles come onto the Outer Banks to lay their eggs in the sand and hear of the various species of sea turtles, all protected under the Endangered Species Act. The ranger will be located at a turtle nest closure that is due to hatch this week, 1.0 mile north of Ramp 38 (in Avon Village), on Saturday, August 26, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm, and on Thursday, August 31, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

There are approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). 16.3 miles are open to pedestrians and 11.7 miles are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 4.6 miles of seasonal closures in front of the Tri-villages and a life-guarded swim beach. Approximately 0.2 of a mile is closed as a full-beach resource closure and there are no ORV Safety closures in effect.

Ramp 1 - 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 1.6 miles long and includes a life-guarded swim beach, 150 feet wide. Pedestrian access is open.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 - Ramp 4 and to Bodie Island Spit

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to the inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access limitations during extreme high tides or winds.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located within the interior of Bodie Island Spit. Approximately 0.9 of a mile south of Ramp 4, and 0.2 of a mile long, a two-lane, pass through corridor above the high tide line was established to accommodate a gathering of approximately 150 birds. Recent observations include 60 Least Terns with 2 chicks, 50 Royal Terns, 40 Sandwich Terns, and a few migrating Piping Plovers, foraging and roosting in the area. No stopping or parking is permitted within the pass through. An access corridor is being maintained above the high tide line, for ORV and pedestrian access, to the southwest side of the inlet.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo: (north of Ramp 23 for 3 miles)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 3 miles long; open to pedestrian access.

Ramp 23 - Ramp 27:

Beach access is open for ORV and pedestrian use between Ramp 23 and 27.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. There are 30.7 miles open to pedestrians and 18.8 miles of beach are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 7.5 miles of seasonal closures and 4.4 miles of safety closures. Approximately 1.2 miles are closed due to full beach resource protection closures.

Ramp 27 - Ramp 30: (2.2 miles of shoreline)

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 0.3 miles and from Ramp 30 north for 1.4 miles. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 27 and Ramp 30.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.3 miles south of Ramp 27 for a very active Least Tern colony. Recent observations include approximately 57 adult Least Terns with 6 chicks. This is a full beach closure area, 0.5 of a mile long.

Ramp 30 - Ramp 34:

The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access for 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 and for 0.5 of a mile north of Ramp 34. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 30 and Ramp 34.

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 miles long beginning 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 to 3.0 miles south of Ramp 30.
- A RESOURCE protection area is located 0.5 miles north of Ramp 34 for a Least Tern colony. Two chicks in the colony are approximately 2 weeks old. This is a full beach closure, 0.2 of a mile long.

Ramp 34 - Ramp 38:

A SEASONAL ORV closure in front of Avon Village beachfront is a 3.5 miles long. The beach is open to pedestrian access. ORV access is open for 0.5 miles south of Ramp 34.

Ramp 38 - Ramp 43:

The beach is open to ORV access for 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 38 and Ramp 43. Pedestrian access is open, except within the resource closure noted below:

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 4.2 miles long, beginning 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38 to Ramp 43, due to very narrow beaches and hurricane impacted areas.

Ramp 43 - Ramp 44:

- The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to Cape Point.

Ramp 44 - Ramp 49:

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access for 3.1 miles, between Ramp 44 and south of Cape Point to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45, via the ocean shoreline. The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 are open.

Cape Point:

- A RESOURCE protection area begins just south of Ramp 44, encompassing a colony of Colonial waterbirds. Also 9 migratory Piping Plover were recently observed. Numerous birds are foraging, roosting and defending territory. Visitors in the area are asked to reduce their vehicle speed to 10 mph and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less. Shoreline access is open around this closure, to Cape Point and to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45.
- A RESOURCE protection area within the interior of Cape Point begins approximately 0.5 of a mile south of the Point for an active colonial waterbird colony. A section of shoreline 0.1 of a mile long has been kept closed for foraging habitat around an ephemeral pool. ORV and pedestrian access is open around the north side of the ephemeral pool.

South Beach:

The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45 are open to access Cape Point and to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45.

- A RESOURCE protection area begins 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45 for an active Tern colony. Recent observations include some young unfledged chicks. This is a full beach closure, approximately 0.4 of a mile long.
- ORV and pedestrian access is open from 1.2 miles south of Ramp 45 through to Ramp 49 for approximately 1.9 miles. Note: this area is currently accessible from Ramp 49 but not from Ramp 45.

Ramp 49 - Ramp 55:

The beach is open to ORV access for 1.1 miles south of Ramp 49 to the boundary of the Frisco and Hatteras Village closure. Pedestrian access is open to Ramp 55. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 49 and Ramp 55.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Frisco Village and Hatteras Village is 4.0 miles long.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

ORV and pedestrian shoreline access has been reopened to the inlet. The resource protection area on the ocean side has been reduced to an interior closure. A washout area along the shoreline at the Rip (at the inlet) has been signed as "Caution May be Impassable During Periods of High Tide". ORVs at the Rip can exit the area via the ocean side or the sound side. Soundside ORV and pedestrian access is open from Cable Crossing to the "Rip".

- A RESOURCE protection area located approximately 2.7 miles south of Ramp 55 has been reduced to an interior closure and the ocean side has been reopened to ORV and pedestrian access to the inlet. The interior closure is for a Least Tern and Black Skimmer colony. Recent observations include Skimmer chicks that are 2 weeks old, 1 Skimmer incubating a nest and 1 Least Tern chick. The Pole Road and Cable Crossing soundside access is open.
- An ORV SAFETY closure 0.2 of a mile long at the Rip at the soundside, has been reopened to ORV and pedestrian access. Due to the high tide extending to the dune line, this area has been signed as "Caution May be Impassable During Periods of High Tide".

Ocracoke Island District

The Ocracoke Island District has a total of 16.3 miles of ocean shoreline. 16.3 miles are open to pedestrian use and approximately 8.2 miles are open to ORV use. ORV use is restricted by a 2.9 mile seasonal beach closure and 5.2 miles of unsafe driving conditions.

Ramp 59 - Ramp 67: (7.6 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV or pedestrian shoreline access between these two ramps.

- ORV and pedestrian access is open for 0.5 of a mile north of Ramp 59 to the north Ocracoke Spit.
- A RESOURCE protection area located 0.5 of a mile south of Ramp 59 for a sea turtle nest has been removed. The turtle hatchlings emerged from the nest and this area has been reopened to ORV and pedestrian access. This was a full beach closure 0.1 of a mile long.
- An ORV SAFETY closure is 5.2 miles long, and begins 1.0 miles south of Ramp 59 to 1.4 miles north of Ramp 67. Pedestrian access is open.

Ramp 67 - Ramp 70: (3.4 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV access between these two ramps. Pedestrian access is open.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Ocracoke Island is 2.9 miles long. The closure is 0.25 miles south of Ramp 67 to 0.25 miles north of Ramp 70. Pedestrian access is open.

Ramp 70 - Ramp 72 and to South Ocracoke Spit:

An ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 70 south along ocean shoreline, for approximately 4.8 miles, to the inlet.

- A RESOURCE protection area located 0.2 of a mile north of Ramp 72 for a sea turtle nest has been removed. The turtle hatchlings emerged from the nest and this area has been reopened to ORV and pedestrian access. This was a full beach closure 0.1 of a mile long.
- A RESOURCE protection area located 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 72 has been reduced to an interior closure. Approximately 69 migrating Plovers were recently observed.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians and pets.



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National Park Service Beach Access Report for September 1, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **September 1, 2006**

CONTACT: 252-473-2111, ext. 148

This beach access report is being distributed to clarify which sections of beach will be reopened or remain on September 16, 2006.

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

Ramp 1 to Ramp 2

An ORV safety closure is 1.2 miles long, beginning at Ramp 1 at the Nags Head Village line and ending at Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach). Pedestrian access is open.

Ramp 1 - 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 1.6 miles long and includes a life-guarded swim beach, 150 feet wide. Pedestrian access is open. This area re-opens to ORVs on September 16, 2006.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 - Ramp 4 and to Bodie Island Spit

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to the inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access limitations during extreme high tides or winds.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located within the interior of Bodie Island Spit. Approximately 0.9 of a mile south of Ramp 4, and 0.2 of a mile long, a two-lane, pass through corridor above the high tide line was established to accommodate a gathering of approximately 150 birds. Recent observations include 60 Least Terns with 2 chicks, 50 Royal Terns, 40 Sandwich Terns, and a few migrating Piping Plovers, foraging and roosting in the area. No stopping or parking is permitted within the pass through. An access corridor is being maintained above the high tide line, for ORV and pedestrian access, to the southwest side of the inlet.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo: (north of Ramp 23 for 3 miles)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 3 miles long; open to pedestrian access. This area re-opens to ORVs on September 16, 2006.

Ramp 23 - Ramp 27:

Beach access is open for ORV and pedestrian use between Ramp 23 and 27.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. There are 30.5 miles open to pedestrians and 19.1 miles of beach are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 7.5 miles of seasonal closures through September 15th and 4.6 miles of safety closures. Approximately .7 of a mile are closed due to full beach resource protection closures.

Ramp 27 - Ramp 30: (2.2 miles of shoreline)

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 0.8 miles and from Ramp 30 north for 1.4 miles. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 27 and Ramp 30.

Ramp 30 - Ramp 34:

The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access for 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 and for 0.7 of a mile north of Ramp 34. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 30 and Ramp 34.

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 miles long beginning 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 to 3.0 miles south of Ramp 30.

Ramp 34 - Ramp 38:

A SEASONAL ORV closure in front of Avon Village beachfront is a 3.5 miles long and will re-open to ORVs on September 16, 2006.

Ramp 38 - Ramp 43:

The beach is open to ORV access for 1.5 of a miles south of Ramp 38. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 38 and Ramp 43. Pedestrian access is open, except within the resource closure noted below:

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 3.5 miles long, beginning approximately 1.5 miles south of Ramp 38 to Ramp 43, due to very narrow beaches and hurricane impacted areas.

Ramp 43 - Ramp 44:

- The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to Cape Point.

Ramp 44 - Ramp 49:

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access for 3.1 miles, between Ramp 44 and south of Cape Point to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45, via the ocean shoreline. The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 are open.

Cape Point:

- A RESOURCE protection area begins just south of Ramp 44, encompassing a colony of Colonial waterbirds. Also 9 migratory Piping Plover were recently observed. Numerous birds are foraging, roosting and defending territory. Visitors in the area are asked to reduce their vehicle speed to 10 mph and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less. Shoreline access is open around this closure, to Cape Point and to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45.
- A RESOURCE protection area within the interior of Cape Point begins approximately 0.5 of a mile south of the Point for an active colonial waterbird colony. A section of shoreline 0.1 of a mile long has been kept closed for foraging habitat around an ephemeral pool. ORV and pedestrian access is open around the north side of the ephemeral pool.

South Beach:

The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45 are open to access Cape Point and to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45.

- A RESOURCE protection area begins 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45 for an active Tern colony. Recent observations include 3 unfledged chicks. This is a full beach closure, approximately 0.4 of a mile long.
- ORV and pedestrian access is open from 1.2 miles south of Ramp 45 through to Ramp 49 for approximately 1.9 miles. Note: this area is currently accessible from Ramp 49 but not from Ramp 45.

Ramp 49 - Ramp 55:

The beach is open to ORV access for 1.1 miles south of Ramp 49 to the boundary of the Frisco and Hatteras Village closure. Pedestrian access is open to Ramp 55. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 49 and Ramp 55.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Frisco Village and Hatteras Village is 4.0 miles long.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

ORV and pedestrian ocean shoreline access has been reopened to the inlet. The resource protection area on the ocean side has been reduced to an interior closure. Soundside ORV and pedestrian access is open from Cable Crossing to the "Rip" area at the spit.

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 of a mile long, from the Rip at the soundside, north along the inlet and ocean shoreline (approximately 150 yards), due to the high tide extending to the dune line and a small cliff/shelf that has formed from high tide erosion precluding safe vehicle access (pedestrian access is open). ORVs can access the Rip via the ocean side or the sound side.

Ocracoke Island District

The Ocracoke Island District has a total of 16.3 miles of ocean shoreline. 16.3 miles are open to pedestrian use and approximately 8.2 miles are open to ORV use. ORV use is restricted by a 2.9 mile seasonal beach closure and 5.2 miles of unsafe driving conditions.

Ramp 59 - Ramp 67: (7.6 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV or pedestrian shoreline access between these two ramps.

- ORV and pedestrian access is open for 0.5 of a mile north of Ramp 59 to the north Ocracoke Spit.
- An ORV SAFETY closure is 5.2 miles long, and begins 1.0 miles south of Ramp 59 to 1.4 miles north of Ramp 67. Pedestrian access is open.

Ramp 67 to Ramp 68:

This one mile section of beach is closed to ORV traffic adjacent to the Ocracoke Campground until the campground closes on October 30th.

Ramp 68 - Ramp 70: (4.4 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV access between these two ramps. Pedestrian access is open.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Ocracoke Island is 2.9 miles long and this area will re-open to ORVs on September 16, 2006. The current closure is 0.25 miles

Ramp 70 - Ramp 72 and to South Ocracoke Spit:

An ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 70 south along ocean shoreline, for approximately 4.8 miles, to the inlet.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians and pets.

-NPS-

this report each week

Recent News:

Numerous Piping Plovers continue migrating south along the Atlantic coast and have been observed foraging on the beaches. The total number of turtle nests within the Seashore is now at 75 and several nests have begun to hatch. The beaches in front of the villages on Hatteras Island will be reopening to ORVs on September 16, 2006.

Interpretive Program Schedule: This is the final week that Cape Hatteras National Seashore will have a park ranger at a turtle nest closure to provide informal interpretive talks to the public. Learn how the female sea turtles come onto the Outer Banks to lay their eggs in the sand and hear of the various species of sea turtles, all protected under the Endangered

Species Act. The ranger will be located at a turtle nest closure that is due to hatch this week, 1.0 mile north of Ramp 38 (in Avon Village), on Thurs., August 31st, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

There are approximately 16.5 miles of ocean shoreline in the Bodie Island District (excluding Pea Island). 16.3 miles are open to pedestrians and 11.7 miles are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 4.6 miles of seasonal closures in front of the Tri-villages through September 15th and a life-guarded swim beach through Labor Day. Approximately 0.2 of a mile is closed as a full-beach resource closure and there are no ORV Safety closures in effect.

Ramp 1 - 0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 1.6 miles long and includes a life-guarded swim beach, 150 feet wide. Pedestrian access is open. This area re-opens to ORVs on September 16, 2006.

0.6 miles South of Ramp 2 - Ramp 4 and to Bodie Island Spit

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to the inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Some areas may experience access limitations during extreme high tides or winds.

- A RESOURCE protection area is located within the interior of Bodie Island Spit. Approximately 0.9 of a mile south of Ramp 4, and 0.2 of a mile long, a two-lane, pass through corridor above the high tide line was established to accommodate a gathering of approximately 150 birds. Recent observations include 60 Least Terns with 2 chicks, 50 Royal Terns, 40 Sandwich Terns, and a few migrating Piping Plovers, foraging and roosting in the area. No stopping or parking is permitted within the pass through. An access corridor is being maintained above the high tide line, for ORV and pedestrian access, to the southwest side of the inlet.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo: (north of Ramp 23 for 3 miles)

A SEASONAL ORV beach closure is 3 miles long; open to pedestrian access. This area re-opens to ORVs on September 16, 2006.

Ramp 23 - Ramp 27:

Beach access is open for ORV and pedestrian use between Ramp 23 and 27.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

The Hatteras District has a total distance of 31.9 miles of ocean shoreline. There are 30.5 miles open to pedestrians and 19.1 miles of beach are open for ORV access. ORV use is restricted by 7.5 miles of seasonal closures through September 15th and 4.6 miles of safety closures. Approximately .7 of a mile are closed due to full beach resource protection closures.

Ramp 27 - Ramp 30: (2.2 miles of shoreline)

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access south of Ramp 27 for 0.8 miles and from Ramp 30 north for 1.4 miles. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 27 and Ramp 30.

Ramp 30 - Ramp 34:

The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access for 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 and for 0.7 of a mile north of Ramp 34. Currently there is no through access between Ramp 30 and Ramp 34.

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 miles long beginning 2.8 miles south of Ramp 30 to 3.0 miles south of Ramp 30.

Ramp 34 - Ramp 38:

A SEASONAL ORV closure in front of Avon Village beachfront is a 3.5 miles long and will re-open to ORVs on September 16, 2006.

Ramp 38 - Ramp 43:

The beach is open to ORV access for 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 38 and Ramp 43. Pedestrian access is open, except within the resource closure noted below:

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 4.2 miles long, beginning 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 38 to Ramp 43, due to very narrow beaches and hurricane impacted areas.

Ramp 43 - Ramp 44:

- The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to Cape Point.

Ramp 44 - Ramp 49:

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access for 3.1 miles, between Ramp 44 and south of Cape Point to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45, via the ocean shoreline. The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 are open.

Cape Point:

- A RESOURCE protection area begins just south of Ramp 44, encompassing a colony of Colonial waterbirds. Also 9 migratory Piping Plover were recently observed. Numerous birds are foraging, roosting and defending territory. Visitors in the area are asked to reduce their vehicle speed to 10 mph and keep all dogs on a leash of six feet or less. Shoreline access is open around this closure, to Cape Point and to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45.
- A RESOURCE protection area within the interior of Cape Point begins approximately 0.5 of a mile south of the Point for an active colonial waterbird colony. A section of shoreline 0.1 of a mile long has been kept closed for foraging habitat around an ephemeral pool. ORV and pedestrian access is open around the north side of the ephemeral pool.

South Beach:

The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45 are open to access Cape Point and to 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45.

- A RESOURCE protection area begins 0.8 of a mile south of Ramp 45 for an active Tern colony. Recent observations include 3 unfledged chicks. This is a full beach closure, approximately 0.4 of a mile long.
- ORV and pedestrian access is open from 1.2 miles south of Ramp 45 through to Ramp 49 for approximately 1.9 miles. Note: this area is currently accessible from Ramp 49 but not from Ramp 45.

Ramp 49 - Ramp 55:

The beach is open to ORV access for 1.1 miles south of Ramp 49 to the boundary of the Frisco and Hatteras Village closure. Pedestrian access is open to Ramp 55. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 49 and Ramp 55.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Frisco Village and Hatteras Village is 4.0 miles long.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

ORV and pedestrian ocean shoreline access has been reopened to the inlet. The resource protection area on the ocean side has been reduced to an interior closure. Soundside ORV and pedestrian access is open from Cable Crossing to the "Rip" area at the spit.

- An ORV SAFETY closure is 0.2 of a mile long, from the Rip at the soundside, north along the inlet and ocean shoreline (approximately 150 yards), due to the high tide extending to the dune line and a small cliff/shelf that has formed from high tide erosion precluding safe vehicle access (pedestrian access is open). ORVs can access the Rip via the ocean side or the sound side.

Ocracoke Island District

The Ocracoke Island District has a total of 16.3 miles of ocean shoreline. 16.3 miles are open to pedestrian use and approximately 8.2 miles are open to ORV use. ORV use is restricted by a 2.9 mile seasonal beach closure and 5.2 miles of unsafe driving conditions.

Ramp 59 - Ramp 67: (7.6 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV or pedestrian shoreline access between these two ramps.

- ORV and pedestrian access is open for 0.5 of a mile north of Ramp 59 to the north Ocracoke Spit.
- An ORV SAFETY closure is 5.2 miles long, and begins 1.0 miles south of Ramp 59 to 1.4 miles north of Ramp 67. Pedestrian access is open.

Ramp 67 to Ramp 68:

This one mile section of beach is closed to ORV traffic adjacent to the Ocracoke Campground until the campground closes on October 30th.

Ramp 68 - Ramp 70: (4.4 miles of shoreline)

There is no through ORV access between these two ramps. Pedestrian access is open.

- A SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Ocracoke Island is 2.9 miles long and this area will re-open to ORVs on September 16, 2006. The current closure is 0.25 miles

Ramp 70 - Ramp 72 and to South Ocracoke Spit:

An ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 70 south along ocean shoreline, for approximately 4.8 miles, to the inlet.

Visitor Protection staff will recheck all safety closures in September 2006.

Temporary resource protection areas are necessary to protect threatened and endangered species and species of concern including Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Colonial Waterbirds (Terns and Skimmers), and sea turtles. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians and pets.



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National Park Service Beach Access Report for September 15, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 15, 2006

CONTACT: 252-473-2111, ext. 148

This beach access report is being distributed to clarify which sections of beach will reopen or remained closed on September 16, 2006.

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

Ramp 1 to Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

An ORV safety closure is 1.2 miles long, beginning at Ramp 1 at the Nags Head Village line and ending at Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach). Pedestrian access is open.

Ramp 2 - Ramp 4 and to Bodie Island Spit

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to the inlet sound side near Herbert Bonner (Oregon Inlet) Bridge. Access is open to the northeast corner of the pond. Some areas may experience access limitations during extreme high tides or winds.

Villages of Rodanthe, Waves, and Salvo: (north of Ramp 23 for 3 miles)

The SEASONAL ORV beach closure, 3 miles long, re-opens to ORVs on Sept. 16, 2006.

Ramp 23 - Ramp 27:

Beach access is open for ORV and pedestrian use between Ramp 23 and 27.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

Ramp 27 - Ramp 30:

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access from Ramp 27 to Ramp 30. Sections may be impassable at high tide. A narrow section near shipwreck may be impassable during high tides.

Ramp 30 - Ramp 34:

The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access from Ramp 30 to Ramp 34.

Ramp 34 - Ramp 38:

The SEASONAL ORV closure in front of Avon Village beachfront, 3.5 miles long, will re-open to ORVs on September 16, 2006.

Ramp 38 to Ramp 43 (Beach in front of Buxton village)

An ORV safety closure is approximately 3.1 miles long, beginning approximately 1.5 miles south of Ramp 38 and ending 0.4 miles north of Ramp 43. Pedestrian access is open.

Ramp 43 - Ramp 44:

The beach is open for ORV and pedestrian access along the ocean shoreline to Cape Point.

Ramp 44 - Ramp 49:

The beach is open to ORV and pedestrian access between Ramp 44 and south of Cape Point to Ramp 45, via the ocean shoreline. The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 are open.

Cape Point:

- A RESOURCE protection area exists within the interior of Cape Point and a section of shoreline 0.1 of a mile long has been kept closed for foraging habitat around an ephemeral pool. ORV and pedestrian access is open around the north side of the ephemeral pool.

South Beach:

The Interdunal Road, Salt Pond Rd. and Ramp 45 are open to access Cape Point and south to Ramp 49.

Ramp 49 to Ramp 55 (Beach in front of Frisco and Hatteras villages)

An ORV safety closure is 4.9 miles long, beginning 1.1 miles south of Ramp 49 and ending 156 feet north of Ramp 55. Pedestrian access is open. Currently there is no through ORV access between Ramp 49 and Ramp 55.

Ramp 55 - Hatteras Inlet:

ORV and pedestrian ocean shoreline access is open to the inlet. Soundside ORV and pedestrian access is open from Cable Crossing to the “Rip” area at the spit. “Rip” area may be impassable to ORVs at high tide.

- Effective 9/15/06, there is a temporary safety closure of portions of the Pole Road due to flooding. Will be monitored and reopened when conditions improve.

Ocracoke Island District

Ramp 59 - Ramp 67:

There is no through ORV or pedestrian shoreline access between these two ramps.

- ORV and pedestrian access is open for 0.5 of a mile north of Ramp 59 to the north Ocracoke Spit.
- An ORV SAFETY closure is 5.2 miles long, and begins 1.0 miles south of Ramp 59 to 1.4 miles north of Ramp 67. Pedestrian access is open.

Ramp 67 to Ramp 68:

This one mile section of beach is closed to ORV traffic adjacent to the Ocracoke Campground until the campground closes on October 30. Pedestrian access is open. This section will reopen to ORV access on October 31, 2006.

Ramp 68 - Ramp 70:

The SEASONAL ORV beach closure for Ocracoke Village, 2.9 miles long, will re-open to ORVs on September 16, 2006. There is through access from Ramp 68 to South Point.

Ramp 70 - Ramp 72 and to South Ocracoke Spit:

ORV and pedestrian access is open from Ramp 70 south along ocean shoreline, to the inlet.

Parkwide:

Some sea turtle nesting closures remain. Posted areas are closed to vehicles, pedestrians and pets.



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National Park Service Beach Access Report for September 18, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **September 18, 2006**
CONTACT: 252-473-2111, ext. 148

This beach access report is being distributed to update current information on Hatteras Island District beach access.

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

Ramp 34 - Ramp 38:

A SAFETY ORV closure, 1.4 miles long, was established on Saturday, September 16 in front of Avon Village beachfront beginning approximately .02 miles south of Avon Pier to Ramp 38. This safety ORV closure is due to the narrow beach conditions.

Correction:

The narrow section of beach, which may be impassable at high tide near the shipwreck, is actually located between Ramps 30 and 34 (not between Ramps 27 and 30 as indicated in the September 15 Beach Access Report.)



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National Park Service Beach Access Report for September 29, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **September 29, 2006**
CONTACT: 252-473-2111, ext. 148

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 30 South to Ramp 34)

A RESOURCE PROTECTION AREA, approximately 350 feet in length, is located 0.96 miles north of Ramp 34 and will be effective on September 30, 2006. This area of the beach is narrow and a turtle nest, expected to hatch in the next two weeks, is situated high on the beach at the edge of the dune line. No bypass between the nest and dunes can be effectively established, resulting in a full beach closure in the vicinity of the nest. ORV and pedestrian access is open on either side of the closure, but there will be no through access between Ramps 30 and 34 while this closure is in effect.

-NPS-



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National Park Service Beach Access Report for October 11, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **October 11, 2006**

CONTACT: 252-473-2111, ext. 148

Bodie Island District (North of Ramp 27)

A RESOURCE protection area, approximately 350 feet in length, is located 2.1 miles north of Ramp 27 and will be effective on October 11, 2006. This area of the beach is narrow and a turtle nest, expected to hatch in the next 2 weeks, is situated high on the beach near the edge of the dune line. No bypass between the nest and dunes can be effectively established, resulting in a full beach closure in the vicinity of the nest. ORV and pedestrian access is open on either side of the closure, but there will be no through access between Ramps 27 and 23 while this closure is in effect.



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National Park Service Beach Access Report for October 27, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **October 27, 2006**

CONTACT: 252-473-2111, ext. 148

Hatteras Island District (Between Ramps 34 and 38)

A modification of an ORV SAFETY CLOSURE is effective October 27, 2006. The existing ORV safety closure is located 0.2 mile south of Avon Pier to Ramp 38, a distance of 1.5 miles. The closure will be reduced by 0.2 mile on the south end. The modified ORV Safety closure begins 0.2 mile south of Avon Pier and goes to 0.2 mile north of Ramp 38, a distance of approximately 1.3 miles. There is no through access for ORVs between Ramp 34 and Ramp 38.

-NPS-



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National Park Service Beach Access Report for November 16, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **November 16, 2006**

CONTACT: 252-473-2111, ext. 148

Cape Hatteras National Seashore Sea Turtle Nest Status and Closures

Superintendent Mike Murray announced the 2006 sea turtle nesting season is coming to a close in Cape Hatteras National Seashore. As of November 15, 2006, all known sea turtle nests have hatched north of Avon Village (Ramp 38 north to Rodanthe) and the related sea turtle nest closures have been removed.

The Seashore still has two active sea turtle nests, both are within existing safety closure areas and therefore do not affect ORV access. One nest is located on Ocracoke Island and the second nest is located between Frisco and Hatteras Villages.

A more complete sea turtle nesting summary for Cape Hatteras National Seashore will be available in January 2007.



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National Park Service Beach Access Report for November 28, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 28, 2006

CONTACT: 252-473-2111, ext. 148

This beach access report is being distributed to update current information in Cape Hatteras National Seashore following the severe storm of November 22, 2006. High surf conditions and lunar tides will continue to cause beach flooding and access issues for the remainder of this week. ORV drivers are reminded to comply with posted safety closures and stay off the dunes to reduce beach erosion problems during this period of high ocean tides and strong winds. There is lots of beach debris, particularly near the tri-village area on Hatteras Island. Be cognizant of lumber with nails when driving in debris littered areas. Areas closed to ORVs due to flooding will be reassessed periodically and adjustments in access made when conditions permit.

Bodie Island District (Coquina Beach to Ramp 27)

Ramp 1 - Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach Area)

An ORV safety closure is 1.2 miles long, beginning at Ramp 1 at the Nags Head Village line and ending at Ramp 2 (Coquina Beach). Pedestrian access is open.

Ramp 2 - Ramp 4 – Open

Ramp 4 – open to Bodie Island Spit. Sections may be impassible at high tide.

Ramp 23 – Ramp 27 – Open

Hatteras Island District (Ramp 27 South to Hatteras Inlet)

Ramp 27 - Ramp 38 - Open

Ramp 43 - is open to Cape Point. There currently is up to 10” of standing brackish (i.e., salty) water on the road for approximately ¼ mile in the vicinity of the fish cleaning table. Road shoulders are marked with posts. Reduced speed and caution are advised. Ramp 43 parking lot is currently flooded and closed.

Ramp 44 – is currently closed due to flooding.

Cape Point Inter-dunal Roads – including Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45 Road are currently closed due to flooding.

Ramp 49 - is open with access along South Beach almost to Cape Point. Just south/west of Cape Point, there is a run-off channel from the natural overflow draining of Salt Pond which restricts ORV access the last ¼ mile to the Point. The run-off channel is 2 or more feet deep in many places, with shallower moving water near the outlet during low tide. The outlet has been impassible at high tide. The level of safety/risk in crossing the outlet at low tide is constantly changing and tide dependent. Now that Ramp 43 is open, it offers direct access to Cape Point that avoids crossing the runoff channel and outlet.

Ramp 55 – Travel south/west to the inlet is open to ORV travel. At the very end of the spit, i.e. at the “rip” area, the beach is heavily eroded and narrow from the storm and is currently closed to ORVs. The “rip” area and around it to the soundside are accessible by foot. The Pole Road, for most part, is still flooded and closed. There currently is no soundside ORV access due to eroded shoreline conditions.

Ocracoke Island District

Ramp 59 – Ramp 67 – No ORV access due to a SAFETY CLOSURE.

Ramp 67 to Ramp 68 – Open

Ramp 68 to Ramp 70 – Open

Ramp 70 to South Ocracoke Spit - Open

Ramp 72 is closed due to soft sand and standing water conditions. This ramp will be re-assessed for opening by tomorrow (Wed., Nov. 29).



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National Park Service Beach Access Report for December 7, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 7, 2006

CONTACT: 252-473-2111 ext. 148

Following the November 22, 2006 nor'easter that brought high winds, rough ocean conditions and heavy rains to the Outer Banks temporarily closing several ORV access points, as of today, the Park Service has reopened many of those access points.

Cape Point Area: Ramps 43 and 44, and the interdunal Salt Pond Road are reopened. Ramp 45 remains closed.

Hatteras Spit Area: ORV access to the Inlet and the Rip is reopened along the ocean shoreline and extends from the tip of the Spit northward 200 yards on the soundside. At that point there is an approximately 300 yard safety closure where the soundside beach was lost during the storm. The Pole Road has reopened. Cable Crossing has reopened with access southward to the safety closure mentioned above.

Ocracoke Island: Ramp 72 in Ocracoke Island has reopened.