

From: [Mike Murray](#)
To: cclusen@nrdc.org
Subject: Cape Hatteras Negotiation
Date: 02/06/2009 04:16 PM

Mr. Clusen,

Greetings from the Outer Banks of North Carolina! As you may be aware, the National Park Service is in the process of developing an off-road vehicle (ORV) management plan/EIS and a special regulation for Cape Hatteras National Seashore. We have been working for 13 months with a federally appointed negotiated rulemaking advisory committee (Committee) to develop a consensus alternative that will be used as a basis for the preferred alternative in the plan/DEIS and for the regulation. Destry Jarvis has represented NRDC and The Wilderness Society on the Committee.

The negotiation process has been extremely challenging for all involved. We have one remaining full Committee meeting scheduled for February 26-27, 2009. However, in an attempt to resolve the remaining differences in ORV management proposals supported respectively by ORV/access advocates, environmental/conservation advocates, and pedestrian advocates, we have established a small "integration group" to hold intensive negotiations over the next week and a half. The third-party neutral facilitators and the conservation/environmental "caucus" (i.e., Audubon Society, Defenders of Wildlife, and Southern Environmental Law Center) have strongly recommended Destry as a member of the integration group and I concur with their recommendation. Destry has been a major contributor in the negotiation process. He is very knowledgeable of NPS policy, is a very effective problem solver, and an excellent integrative thinker.

We are entering the bottom of the ninth inning of a very challenging process, with the outcome uncertain and hanging in the balance. Will the group reach an agreement, or will the process melt down and NPS have to pick up the pieces to complete a plan that nobody will accept? Given how much progress the Committee has made, I am committed to giving the Committee every chance to succeed in reaching a consensus solution that all parties can accept. Toward that end, I request your consideration and support of Destry's participation in the integration group negotiations. He would be a tremendous asset and likely increase the chances of success.

I realize that your organization may have financial constraints, as many of us do, and must be selective in how you expend your time and resources. The NRDC representative has been an extremely valuable member of our Committee. Now that we are getting so close to the finish line in the negotiation process, I appeal to you for NRDC's continued participation in these most critical final negotiations.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and for your support of Destry's participation in the process to date. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about this request.

Best wishes,

Mike Murray

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