

# Preserve Beach Access Newsletter



## Our Mission

to Keep America's Beaches  
Open and Accessible to All

July 25, 2009

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The consent decree for the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area continues to restrict access to many of the most popular recreational locations during the peak of the summer season.

Visitors are upset and frustrated about being denied access while area businesses are suffering and struggling to survive.

This week **Warren Judge** made an interesting connection between beach access and the 40th anniversary of man's first walk on the moon. Read his comments in this edition of the Preserve Beach Access newsletter.

On **Tuesday, July 28**, many will be watching the confirmation hearing of President Obama's nominee for the new Director of the National Park Service. Links are included in this newsletter to watch the testimony live.

## Chairman Warren Judge talks about beach access on the anniversary of man's walk on the moon.

"If Neal Armstrong wanted to go to Cape Point today, but was not able to walk the distance, what do you think his words might be? I'll tell you what they'd be" ---

***"I have been to the moon, I have walked on the Moon, I have served my Country but I can't go to the beach at Cape Point"***



These were the comments of Board Chairman Warren Judge at the July 20th meeting of the Dare County Board of Commissioners on the 40th anniversary of the first walk on the moon.

Judge talked about beach access and the need for fair insurance legislation and related it to the historic event by saying, "Today is an important day in American History" and echoed Neil Armstrong's famous words, "One small step for a man and one giant leap for mankind."



Judge continued, "Forty years ago today, I along with millions of Americans, was glued to a television set not only waiting for the picture of Neil Armstrong stepping on to the moon, but wondering what he was going to say."

"How proud I was that day to be an American. So proud of my Country that we responded to President Kennedy's speech on May 21, 1961, in which he said: "This nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to Earth."

Then Judge confessed, "I have not been very proud of my Government lately" and expressed his concerns about the insurance industry recently using misleading information and scare tactics to gain a victory which hurts the people of the Outer Banks.

Judge then turned his remarks to issues of beach access. He said, "Closer to home, last week an official with the National Park Service told inquiring people the reason a pedestrian path only to Cape Point was open was because the chicks that were flying, "looked weak."

He explained, "The consent decree has broken our backs. Special interest groups are running the Cape Hatteras National Seashore and Recreational area." Judge added, "The Department of Interior is discriminating against anyone who is not physically capable of hiking into the beach area."

Judge pledged that Dare County would continue working with our Congressman and Senators and thanked Rob Alderman and CHAPA for the rally they will be hosting September 6th in Buxton.

Read the full transcript of Judge's remarks at the following link. [Click Here](#)

**Confirmation Hearing July 28 for New Park Service Director**

Jonathan Jarvis, nominated by President Obama to be the new Director of the National Park Service, faces a confirmation hearing on Tuesday, July 28. Jarvis will face questions from members of the Senate's Energy and Natural Resources Committee beginning at 10:00am.

If confirmed, Jarvis would assume control of the entire National Park Service bureau under the Department of the Interior.



View the hearing live on the following link:

<http://energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Hearings.Nowebcast>

Jarvis has a family relative who participated in the Reg-Neg proceedings for the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area. His brother, Destry Jarvis, represented the Natural Resources Defense Council & the Wilderness Society.

Jarvis is a career employee of the National Park Service currently serving as Regional Director for the Pacific West Region. He is a native of Virginia and has a degree in biology from the College of William and Mary.



One of the Senators on the committee who will be questioning Jonathan Jarvis is North Carolina Senator Richard Burr.

You can e-mail Senator Burr through "Write Congress" on the Dare County Preserve Beach Access website. [Click Here](#)

## Preserve Beach Access is growing on Facebook

Last week the new Facebook Group "**Preserve Beach Access**" was launched and initial response has been tremendous. Thanks to your efforts the group has over 600 members and is continuing to grow.

People have started discussion boards in the group and listed wall posts on a variety of topics. You are invited to join the dialogue about beach access on the **Preserve Beach Access** Facebook Group.

Invite all your Facebook friends to join the **Preserve Beach Access** Facebook Group

and show their support for open and accessible beaches.

[Click Here](#) for a direct link to the **Preserve Beach Access** Facebook Group.

## This Week's Access Report - What's Open and Closed

Highlights of the weekly access report released July 23, 2009 by the National Park Service include the opening of ramp 27, the continuation of a pedestrian only corridor to Cape Point and resource closures for sea turtles.

The report details instances where resource measures were modified by the National Park Service for American Oystercatcher chicks that are fledged but, in their words, "not yet proficient in flying."

[Click Here](#) to view the National Park Service weekly report.

The beach access website is also your direct connection to a Google Earth map used by the National Park Service to show open and closed areas of the beach. A color-coded legend highlights specific areas open to pedestrians and ORV's, pedestrian only, limited access areas (open to pedestrians between closures) and areas closed to all public access due to resource closures. [Click Here](#) for the Map



Unfortunately, closure conditions under the consent decree can change on short notice. It is possible you could encounter an area closed by a recently placed sign, while it is still indicated as open on the National Park Service's access map. They update the map up to five times per week as conditions change, and may not include very recent changes made in the field by Park Service staff.

**REMEMBER** - Statements about available ORV access by special interest groups can be misleading as to the true picture of recreational access because they often do not include the most popular recreational areas, for example Bodie Island Spit at Oregon Inlet or Cape Point in Buxton.

## Voices of the People

People everywhere are talking about open and accessible beaches. Following are a few of the comments received this week from people signing-up at "Act Now" on the Dare County Preserve Beach Access website -



### **Michael - State College, Pennsylvania**

Go get 'em! In my opinion, people are part of the environment, not separate from it. The logical end to this anti-human environmentalism is the complete separation of people from reality. I'd much rather participate in nature than relate with it as one would when going to a zoo.

### **Chris - Raleigh, North Carolina**

I truly believe we can preserve beach access and preserve wildlife at the same time. Heck, the fishing and the natural beauty is WHY I go to the coast. None of us want to lose that. Thanks to all who have started this grass roots effort

### **Tom - Dover, Delaware**

Just back from OBX for my fourth year. The highlight of every trip is my ability to drive my Jeep on the beach and find the perfect spot for my family. This the only way my sister-in-law (who has a form of MD) can view the ocean and enjoy the beach. I love our natural resources and am ever respectful of them. Keep the beach open for everyone.



### **Editor's Note:**

The beach access website has helpful links to the [Cape Hatteras Anglers Club](#), the North Carolina Beach Buggy Association [NCBBA](#), and the Outer Banks Preservation Association [OBPA](#) (Click on the highlighted organization name for a direct link to their website)

## You Can Help

Right now, businesses are hurting and people are worried about their future. The residents and visitors of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area need your support. Here's how you can help -

### **Forward this newsletter**

Click "Forward email" at bottom of this newsletter

**Send a free E-Card** to your friends and family [Click Here](#)





### **Write Congress**

Ask your elected officials to support H.R. 718. [Click Here](#) for Sample Letter

**Add a link on your website** to Preserve Beach Access. For instructions [Click Here](#)