

Preserve Beach Access Newsletter



Our Mission

to Keep America's Beaches
Open and Accessible to All

November 5, 2009

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Things will soon be even busier for the grassroots campaign to preserve access to America's beaches.

Sometime late this fall, the Park Service is expected to release their Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) outlining alternatives for their long-term plan.

When this happens, we will only have a brief period of 60 days to file public comments.

Soon we will need to quickly mobilize public comments, from throughout the United States, in support of open and accessible beaches in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area.

Learn more in this newsletter how you can help get ready for this important event.

PLUS, read the letter NC Senator Marc Basnight sent to Washington, D.C. in support of "the people's right of access to their seashore."

Coming Soon - A critical event for beach access

Sometime this fall the National Park Service is expected to release a "Draft Environmental Impact Statement" (DEIS) outlining alternatives as part of their long-term management plan for the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area.

It is impossible to predict when the National Park Service will release the DEIS, but in a broadcast interview Superintendent Mike Murray said he expected it would be, "late this fall, so probably December."

We won't know what is in the DEIS until it is published. However, Dare County and others will study it immediately and make recommendations based upon which alternative best utilizes science to manage wildlife resources and provide reasonable access.



After publication of the DEIS, the public will only have a short 60-day period to

make comments on this important document affecting the future of beach access.

Now is the time for us to get ready for action. When the DEIS is released and the alternatives are studied, we will need an outpouring of grassroots support from people in every State throughout the nation, to make public comments during the 60 day period.

Your Help is Needed

> **Send an e-mail message now to everyone in your address book.**

> **Ask them to visit www.PreserveBeachAccess.org & sign-up at [Act Now](#).**

This will automatically provide them with news updates when the public comment period begins, and give information on how and where to file timely comments.

Also encourage groups and associations, of which you are a member, to voice support in favor of open and accessible beaches.

We need people everywhere to sign-up on the website now, before the DEIS is released. **Together we can make a difference.**

Powerful Letter of Support from Senator Marc Basnight



The President Pro Tempore of the North Carolina General Assembly, **Senator Marc Basnight** has sent a three-page letter to Washington, D.C. in support of "the people's right of access to their seashore."

His letter was addressed to Senator Kay Hagan, Rep. G.K. Butterfield, Rep. Mike McIntyre, Rep. Heath Shuler, Rep. Brad Miller, Rep. David Price, Rep. Bob Etheridge, Rep. Larry Kissell, and Rep. Melvin Watt

Senator Basnight's well-written letter included a detailed historical context for his support of beach access.

In his letter Basnight said, "I am pleased that in August, North Carolina's two U.S. Senators joined together to cosponsor legislation (S. 1557) to keep the federal government's promise to the people of the Outer Banks and to preserve what has been a focal point of our community's culture, economy and coastal heritage for generations. I write to you today in hopes that you, too, will join in bipartisan unity to support H.R. 718, as Congressman Butterfield along with all our state's Republican congressional members have already done.

This legislation will maintain public access to Cape Hatteras National Seashore - as the federal government had always intended. It also will provide a lifeline to local families and small businesses that are struggling so valiantly in these difficult

economic times, and allow for the Park Service to continue developing long-term plans to manage off-road vehicle access in a way that protects sensitive species without forever banning the human presence."

To read Senator Basnight's entire letter - [Click Here](#)

Like your Mother always said - "Remember to Say Thank you"

It is easy to forget to express gratitude. "Thank You" is a sentiment often forgotten. We may think it, but not always take the time to actually say it. Especially in Washington, D.C., thank you is not heard very often.

This year we have seen principled members of Congress take a bi-partisan stand in support of beach access in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area. **All of these leaders deserve our gratitude and a sincere thank you.**



Congressman Walter Jones earlier this year introduced H.R. 718

H.R. 718 has been co-sponsored by (in alphabetical order) -
Rep. G.K. Butterfield, Rep. Howard Coble, Rep. Virginia Foxx,
Rep. Patrick McHenry, Rep. Sue Myrick, Rep. Ron Paul,
Rep. Bill Shuster, Rep. Robert Wittman.

Senator Richard Burr this summer introduced S.1557

S.1557 & H.R.718 would set aside the consent decree and reinstate the carefully prepared National Park Service Interim Plan, until they finish their long-term plan. Even during the DEIS public comment period, Dare County will be continuing these efforts in Washington, D.C.



Senator Kay Hagan provided a key co-sponsorship of S.1557

Now is the time for us to express our appreciation to all those in Washington, D.C. who have taken a stand in support of our struggle to preserve access to America's beaches.

To send a thank you letter to:

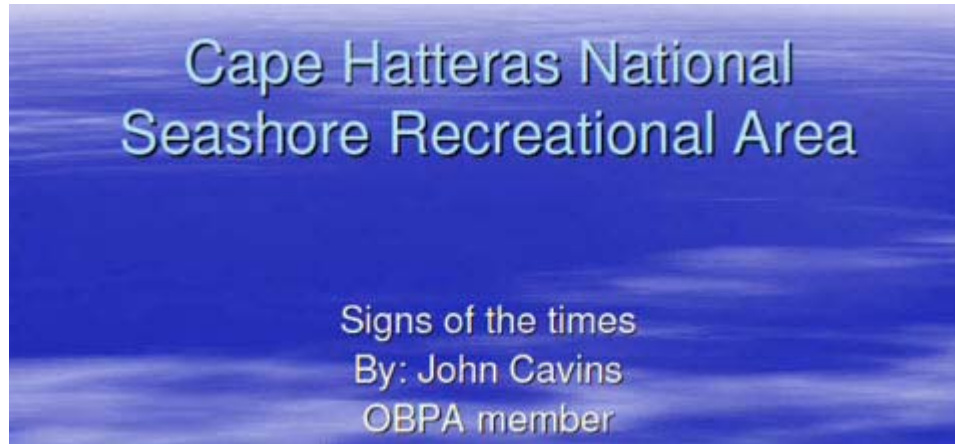
Congressman Walter Jones: [Click Here](#)

Senator Richard Burr: [Click Here](#)

Senator Kay Hagan: [Click Here](#)

To send a thank-you message or any other member of Congress, use the following link to the beach access website - [Click Here](#)

Here is a link to an interesting video on YouTube



[Click Here](#)



SPECIAL REPORT
Analysis
of shorebirds, turtles,
and economic costs
of the consent decree



[Click Here](#)

Voices of the People

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

Eugene - Raleigh, North Carolina

Thanks for all the work you are doing to help maintain the ability to enjoy OUR beaches.

Kathleen - Newbury, Ohio

This is the most in depth report I've ever seen in my life. I'm sure it's the most costly also! Well done, let's keep fighting.

Denton - Cortland, New York

I love The Beaches of the Outerbanks. I am in a wheelchair and need my friends and family to drive me on the beach when we come to visit.

Susan - Aberdeen, Maryland

We absolutely LOVE the Hatteras National Seashore. We enjoy the uncrowded beaches and the wonderful family owned restaurants and stores. One of our



favorite things is to drive out to the Point and sit on the beach all day! We respect the natural surroundings, take our trash with us & follow all the rules.

Darryl - Raleigh, North Carolina

The only reason I come to the Outer Banks is to surf fish, which I do quite regularly. I have a heart condition which limits my ability for heavy exertion. If I can't drive to it, I can't get to it.

Karen - Vinton, Virginia

I have contacted my Congressmen and sent out messages to all my friends and family reminding them to contact Congress as well. I vow to fight until there is no more fight left in me to get our beaches open and to keep them open. This is a great website, keep up the good work.



Editor's Note

The beach access website has helpful links to

[Cape Hatteras Anglers Club](#),
[North Carolina Beach Buggy Assoc](#),
[Outer Banks Preservation Assoc OBPA](#)

(Click for a direct link to their website)



Join the Facebook Group "Preserve Beach Access" and share it with all your Facebook Friends

[Click Here](#)

You Can Help

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 an E-Card to your friends & family [Click Here](#)

Write Congress

Ask your elected officials to support S.1557 and H.R. 718. [Sample Letter](#)

Add a link on your website for instructions [Click Here](#)



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