

Preserve Beach Access Newsletter



Our Mission

to Keep America's Beaches
Open and Accessible to All

February 20, 2010

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In this newsletter you'll learn the latest on the anticipated release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Find out what you can do to help get ready for it.

Plus, read an outrageous request made by Audubon North Carolina that would close the beaches year round for everyone in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area. Hear Warren Judge blast Audubon saying "they have gone too far."

Dr. Mike Berry, an environment scientist appears in a special 5-Part series on PreserveBeachAccess.org. He reveals the truth about so-called "best available science."

If you have not yet written to Congress, this edition has a link to a sample letter in support of H.R. 718 and S.1557.

Our thanks and appreciation to each person who is part of this grassroots campaign. Now, more than ever, we must be vigilant in our quest for open and accessible beaches. Together we can make a difference. Thank you for your support and participation.

"Audubon Has Gone Too Far"

"Audubon has gone too far." Those are the words of Warren Judge, Chairman of the Dare County Board of Commissioners. He was referring to the latest ploy of Audubon sending a letter to Superintendent Mike Murray asking for the highest level of protection which would prohibit year round recreational access for everyone.

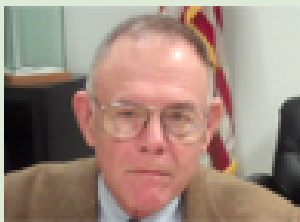


Audubon included the names of various individuals and organizations as signatories to their letter. Although they had a disclaimer clarifying that their views "are not the official position of their institutions, agencies, or organizations" the obvious inference was that these people supported year round beach closures.

Heather Shaw a biologist with Ducks Unlimited was one of the people named in Audubon's letter. However, Shaw now explains, "I do not know how my name ended up on the letter, and I did not knowingly authorize the use of my name or that of Ducks Unlimited." She added, "I would greatly appreciate both my name and that of Ducks Unlimited be removed from the letter."

In comments before the Dare County Board of Commissioners, Warren Judge blasts Audubon for their integrity. He also exposed their hypocrisy for wanting to turn their property on the Outer Banks into dense commercial development. Hear his remarks and read his letter of response, plus see Audubon's outrageous letter at this link: [Latest News](#)

Environmental Scientist Speaks Out



Dr. Mike Berry, a retired senior manager with the Environmental Protection Agency, appears in a special 5-part series on PreserveBeachAccess.org. He was the Deputy Director of the National Center for Environmental Assessment at Research Triangle Park. Dr. Berry also taught at the University of North Carolina.

In his special series, Dr. Berry provides critical analysis of the so-called science related to beach access issues. He describes the fiasco of the consent decree and explains the importance of authentic, peer reviewed science.

See Dr. Berry's 5-part series at this link: [Dr. Mike Berry](#)

Still Waiting for the DEIS

The waiting continues for the anticipated release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area. Drafting this document is part of a lengthy process the Park Service must undertake in preparing a long term management plan with an implementation deadline of April 1, 2011.



The DEIS had been expected in the fall of 2009. Later the promised release was pushed back to late December or early January. Now we are told the DEIS release is "very, very close."

After its release, a notice will be published in the Federal Register which launches a 60 day period for public comments. During this critical time we will need public support from people across America. There will also be a series of public hearings. Information about how to file comments and participate in the public process will be distributed in a newsletter as soon as the information becomes available from the National Park Service.

Like they say in the movie previews, "Coming Soon."

Let Congress Know



As important as the DEIS process is to the future of beach access, another important front during 2010 will be in Washington, D.C. We need people to write their legislators urging them to support **H.R. 718 and S.1557**. This bi-partisan legislation would set aside the consent decree and reinstate the previous Interim plan, which would remain in effect until a long term management plan is in place.

H.R. 718 and S.1557 would bring back an effective plan that was carefully developed by the National Park Service and went through a very public process. The Interim plan had an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and an ESA section 7 consultation with a biological review by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The consent decree never had these comprehensive reviews or public scrutiny.

A sample letter to Congress is available at the following link: [Write Congress](#)

Help Spread the Word

This is a critical time in the effort to preserve open and accessible beaches. We have legislation pending in Washington, D.C. and an important document about to be released by the National Park Service. .

Please take a moment and write your friends, family and colleagues about beach access. Ask them to visit PreserveBeachAccess.org and sign-up at "[Act Now](#)." This will assure that your contacts will automatically receive important news updates along with practical ways they can help us.

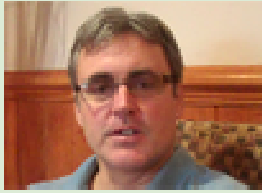


You can use the "Forward this E-mail" link at the bottom of this newsletter. Or, send a free E-Card, available at the following link: [Send an E-Card](#)

We often receive jokes and other non-essential things through e-mails. Here is an opportunity for you to forward something of lasting value that will make a difference in the lives of others. Please help by reaching out to those you know.

This Week's Video Commentary

Each Monday a new video commentary is posted on PreserveBeachAccess.org. Hear people from the grassroots campaign talk about the importance of preserving beach access.



Coming up - Monday, February 22

A commentary featuring Joe Thompson, a business owner who says the beach closures have been a "kick in the gut to the local economy." Be sure to see Joe's video on Monday morning.

See all the weekly video commentaries at this link: [Video Commentaries](#)

Pre-nesting Closures

It won't be long until pre-nesting closures are again imposed on the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area. Under mandate of the consent decree, pre-nesting closures are required to be in place by March 15.



This week the National Park Service released their recommended pre-nesting closures for 2010.

Read the proposed closures and see the maps at this link: [Latest News](#)

Beach Access discussed on the G. Gordon Liddy Show



Beach access in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area was a featured topic this week on the nationally syndicated G. Gordon Liddy show. While the G-Man is on a leave of absence following the recent death of his wife, the show's guest host Joe Giganti led a lively discussion of the enabling legislation and how promises have been broken and freedom placed at risk because of special interest groups.

Predators in Cape Cod Beware

Mike Metzgar with NCBBA shares a report from USA TODAY about an outrageous way they want to control predators at Cape Cod National Seashore.



Read about it here: [USA Today](#)

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Preserve Beach Access is now on Facebook & Twitter

facebook

Follow the Dare County
beach access campaign
on **Twitter** & **Facebook**

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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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