

RESOLUTION

REGARDING BEACH ACCESS

WHEREAS Cape Hatteras National Seashore (CHNS) is a vital part of Dare County;
and

WHEREAS the CHNS encompasses eight villages which are economically dependent on full accessibility to the beaches for residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS ORV beach access is critical to area tourism and the economic stability of Dare County, and the State; and

WHEREAS access to the beaches by motorized vehicles was guaranteed by the founding legislation creating the CHNS in 1952 and is facilitated by the now famous "Hatteras Ramp System"; and

WHEREAS residents and visitors to the CHNS acknowledge a need for a reasonable application of resource protection but bitterly oppose the unprecedented beach closures which have effectively eliminated the most popular surf fishing locations on the East Coast and subjected local businesses and communities to economic hardship; and

WHEREAS said beach closures are often presumptive, anticipate that endangered species may inhabit currently unoccupied areas in the future, and are thereby excessive;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Dare County Board of Commissioners demands permanent, responsive leadership be established for Cape Hatteras National Seashore;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Dare County Board of Commissioners demand the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service formulate a resource protection policy which strictly limits and minimizes beach closures within CHNS and insures free open beach access for pedestrian and ORV use.

This the 6th day of September, 2005.

Chairman

ATTEST:

Clerk