

CAHA Off-Road Vehicle Management Regulatory Negotiation
Village Closure Subcommittee
Working Document Draft 9/2/08

Please note the following options and ideas were developed by the Subcommittee. This document is to be understood in the context of detailed deliberations had by the Subcommittee. Because both the writer and the written word are imperfect, there may be points below that are unclear or confusing. We ask the reader to consider this document in that light, and to ask questions for clarification and understanding before moving to assumptions or conclusions that may not be intended by the Subcommittee.

This document was developed through conference calls and emails. Subcommittee conference calls were held on July 29, August 28, and September 2, 2008.

Options

1. No driving in front of Villages year-round
2. Status Quo
 - Northern Villages: closed to ORVs from the 15 May until 15 September (or alternatively from the Friday before Memorial Day until the day after Labor Day)
 - Southern Villages: status quo (closed to ORVs due to safety closures)
3. Northern Villages (two variations noted below)
 - Closed to ORVs from May 1 – September 30, open to ORVs from October 1 to April 30, subject to new safety closure procedures [TBD].* Vehicles within 100' of pedestrians must also slow to a lower speed limit or a vehicle corridor is established during the “shoulder season” in Spring and Fall.
OR
 - Northern Villages: closed to ORVs from Easter – Thanksgiving, open to ORVs the remainder of the year, subject to new safety closure procedures [TBD]*
4. Southern Villages (two variations noted below)
 - Buxton, Frisco and Hatteras – closed to ORVs year round
OR
 - Southern Villages
 - Frisco and Hatteras: closed to ORVs unless and until beach conditions improve and beach width increases, and subject to new safety closure procedures [TBD]* if opened;
 - Criteria for opening to ORVs, e.g. beach width and slope, etc. – TBD

* See NPS draft dated July 30, 2008.

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- Between Frisco Pier and Hatteras Village – closed to ORVs year round, designate as pedestrian only area

Additional Provisions

- Speed limit - The subcommittee recommends the Vehicle Characteristics subcommittee recommend to the Committee a uniform speed limit of 15 mph, unless otherwise posted.
- Aggressive posting of speed limits in front of the villages must be initiated by NPS and maintained throughout the open driving period.
- Protection of the dune line and environment should be a very high priority for NPS in determining if the beaches in front of the villages are able to handle driving during the eligible time frame.
- Dare County should create pedestrian access points within the villages to provide non-vehicle access along the village perimeter.
- A plan to provide incentives to current home owner associations to create additional access and for the villages to create safe off street parking.
- This subcommittee recommends taking up the current NPS Safety Closure write-up by a subcommittee for revisions/review.
- Pedestrian only areas, more generally, are related to this issue but have been left at this point to the Routes and Areas Subcommittee except for one option above.
- The subcommittee notes choosing exact dates is not a science and all data that may be useful, such as occupancy information, is not publicly available.