

Negotiated Rulemaking Advisory Committee for Off-Road Vehicle Management
at Cape Hatteras National Seashore
First Meeting: January 3-4, 2007

TO: Committee Members

FROM: NPS

DATE: Dec. 26, 2007

NPS is providing the following short description of “here’s what we did and why it works” in response to a request through the mediation team for such a description:

Notice of First Meeting -- GSA FACA regulations provide authority for an agency to give less than 15 calendar days notice of a committee meeting provided that the reasons for doing so are included in the advisory committee meeting notice published in the Federal Register. (41 CFR § 102-3.150(b)). Due to logistical difficulties with document transfer between the NPS and the Office of the Federal Register, the Department of the Interior requested that the GSA Committee Secretariat approve for good cause less than the required 15 days advance notice by publication in the Federal Register for FACA committee meetings. GSA approved this request, which was reflected in the notice of establishment of the committee / notice of the first two meetings that was published in the Federal Register on December 20, 2007. (FR Vol. 72 No. 244 p. 72316-2318. Dec. 20, 2007).

Filing of the Committee Charter – GSA FACA regulations provide authority for GSA to approve less than 15 calendar days between publication of the Notice of Establishment and filing of the charter when requested by the agency for good cause (41 CFR § 102-3.65(b)). The Department of the Interior requested that the GSA Committee Secretariat approve a period of less than 15 days between the Notice of Establishment of the Committee and the filing of the charter with the NPS Congressional authorizing committees, GSA and the Library of Congress. GSA approved this request. NPS filed the charter by letter dated January 2, 2008 with the authorizing committees, GSA and the Library of Congress. The Departmental Manual for the Department of the Interior in 308 DM 2.8 D. (3) states “The date of the letter transmitting the charter will be considered the “Filing Date” of the charter and the establishment date of the committee.” Thus January 2, 2008 is the establishment date of the Negotiated Rulemaking Advisory Committee and the first day it is officially in business.