

Appendix C

Agency Correspondence

Table of Contents

Response Letter Received from Maryland Historical Trust (July 7, 2010)	C-1
Response Email Received from Maryland Natural Heritage Program (August 30, 2010 and July 8, 2010).....	C-2
Response Letter Received from Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (August 6, 2010)	C-4
Response Email Received from Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (July 29, 2010)	C-9
Response Letter Received from Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (July 7, 2010).....	C-10
Response Letter Received from National Marine Fisheries (July 22, 2010)	C-13
Response Letter Received from Maryland Historical Trust Re: Determination of Effect on Hunting Camps and Related Properties (June 29, 2012)	C-15
Response Letter Received from US FWS, Chesapeake Bay Field Office (July 25, 2012)	C-16

(this page intentionally left blank)



*Maryland Department of Planning
Maryland Historical Trust*

*Martin O'Malley
Governor*

*Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor*

*Richard Eberhart Hall
Secretary*

*Matthew J. Power
Deputy Secretary*

July 7, 2010

Trish Kicklighter, Superintendent
Assateague Island National Seashore
National Park Service
7206 National Seashore Lane
Berlin, MD 21811

Re: Commencement of a new General Management Plan (GMP)
Assateague Island National Seashore
Worcester County, Maryland

Dear Superintendent Kicklighter:

Thank you for your recent letter, dated June 21, 2010 and received by the Maryland Historical Trust (Trust) on June 22, 2010, regarding the above-referenced initiative. The Trust, Maryland's State Historic Preservation Office, is involved in the review of undertakings at the park for effects on historic and archeological properties, pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended. We appreciate the opportunity to participate in the park's planning efforts with regards to historic preservation issues in the Maryland section of the property.

According to your letter, NPS is beginning to develop a new General Management Plan (GMP) for Assateague Island National Seashore. The new GMP will provide a comprehensive framework for managing the park over the next 15 – 20 years. We understand that NPS intends to integrate its NEPA and Section 106 processes through the development of an EIS. To achieve that goal, it is important that the EIS contains sufficient information and documentation regarding the identification of historic properties, assessment of effects on those properties, public involvement related to historic preservation concerns, consultation efforts under Section 106, and other principles specified in 36 CFR 800.8. We look forward to ongoing coordination with NPS, and other involved parties, to ensure the successful completion of Section 106 consultation during the GMP development process.

If you have questions or need further assistance, please contact Jonathan Sager (for historic buildings and landscape issues) at jsager@mdp.state.md.us / 410-514-7636 or me (for archeology) at bcole@mdp.state.md.us / 410-514-7631. Thank you for notifying the Trust of this important initiative and inviting us to participate in the planning process.

Sincerely,

Beth Cole
Administrator, Project Review and Compliance

EJC/201003124

cc: Carl Zimmerman (NPS – Assateague)



Carl Zimmerman/ASIS/NPS

04/20/2012 02:04 PM

To Neil Winn/ASIS/NPS

cc

bcc

Subject Fw: MDDNR-NHP Resource data for General Mgmt Plan



"Davidson, Lynn M."

<LDAVIDSON@dnr.state.md.us>

08/30/2010 03:52 PM

To "carl_zimmerman@nps.gov" <carl_zimmerman@nps.gov>

cc "Brinker, Dave" <DBRINKER@dnr.state.md.us>

Subject MDDNR-NHP Resource data for General Mgmt Plan

Carl,

I've attached a winzip file that contains 4 shapefiles and one excel table:

NHP_ESA_AINS.shp contains our conservation boundaries for Ecologically Significant Areas on both Assateague and the mainland within 2 miles, per our discussion.

NHP_CWC_AINS.shp contains points for the location of Colonial Waterbird Colonies on Assateague and islands in the Coastal Bays below the Rt. 50 bridge.

NHP_EORep_AINS.shp contains polygons depicting the locations of rare & endangered species (& a few natural communities) on Assateague Island.

NHP_FIDS_AINS.shp contains polygons depicting the POTENTIAL HABITAT of Forest Interior Dwelling Species (birds, primarily) on the mainland, including any polygon that is within or overlaps the 2-mile buffer distance.

NHP_RTE_2mibuff-mainland_AINS.xls contains a listing of the rare, threatened and endangered species found within the 12-digit HUC watersheds, with a link to the ESA name as well. Please keep this latter information (species within each ESA) for internal uses only since it provides more specific locations for some of our more sensitive / vulnerable species, such as the only occurrence in the state of a rare lily.

Metadata for all shapefiles is also included.

The only information that is missing is the species information that goes along with the Colonial Waterbird Colony locations. David Brinker has this information & perhaps it might be just as fast (if not faster) for you to ask him for that information directly if you need it right away.

I hope you find this information helpful for your planning process. Let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Thanks,
lynn

Lynn Davidson
Conservation Technology Manager
MD DNR, Wildlife & Heritage Service
Natural Heritage Program
580 Taylor Ave, E-1
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-260-8563

From: Davidson, Lynn M.

Sent: Thursday, July 08, 2010 2:46 PM

To: 'carl_zimmerman@nps.gov'

Subject: Request from Trish Kicklighter

Carl,

Recently, Trish Kicklighter sent a letter to Glenn Therres (which he forwarded to me to handle) requesting a "current list of state candidate, proposed, or listed threatened and endangered species and any other special status species that occur in the vicinity of Assateague Island National Seashore, Maryland." I am happy to send you this information, but I would like to know a little more about your definition of "in the vicinity". For example, would this include islands and mudflats in the Coastal Bays that you may not own? Would this include any areas on the mainland portion of Worcester County beyond your property? If so, how far away? Would this include Assateague State Park? I'd appreciate receiving any clarification on your information request that you can provide.

I would have asked Trish these questions, but her letter ended with your name and email as the contact person for questions.

Thanks,
lynn

Lynn Davidson
Conservation Technology Manager
MD DNR, Wildlife & Heritage Service
Natural Heritage Program
580 Taylor Ave, E-1
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-260-8563



NHP Resources of AINS & vicinity.zip

Douglas W. Domenech
Secretary of Natural Resources



David A. Johnson
Director

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Division of Natural Heritage
217 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219-2010
(804) 786-7951

August 6, 2010

Trish Kicklighter
National Park Service
Assateague Island National Seashore
7206 National Seashore Lane
Berlin, MD 21811

Re: Assateague Island National Seashore General Management Plan

Dear Ms. Kicklighter:

The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Division of Natural Heritage (DCR) has searched its Biotics Data System for occurrences of natural heritage resources from the area outlined on the submitted map. Natural heritage resources are defined as the habitat of rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species, unique or exemplary natural communities, and significant geologic formations.

According to the information currently in our files, this site is located within the Assateague Island Conservation Site. Conservation sites are tools for representing key areas of the landscape that warrant further review for possible conservation action because of the natural heritage resources and habitat they support. Conservation sites are polygons built around one or more rare plant, animal, or natural community designed to include the element and, where possible, its associated habitat, and buffer or other adjacent land thought necessary for the element's conservation. Conservation sites are given a biodiversity significance ranking based on the rarity, quality, and number of element occurrences they contain; on a scale of 1-5, 1 being most significant. Assateague Island Conservation Site has been given a biodiversity significance ranking of B1, which represents a site of outstanding significance. The natural heritage resources within the project area are included in the attached Table 1: Assateague Island National Seashore General Management Plan – Natural Heritage Resources

DCR recommends avoidance of documented natural heritage resources including the mapped natural communities when planning for potential development. DCR also recommends contacting this office to request access to Natural Heritage digital data screening coverage for the Assateague Island National Seashore for use in planning and management of natural heritage resources. Please contact Rene' Hypes, Environmental Review Coordinator, at rene.hypes@dcv.virginia.gov or 804-371-2708 with your request.

Due to the legal status of the Loggerhead sea turtle, Piping plover, and Delmarva fox squirrel, DCR also recommends coordination with USFWS and VDGIF to ensure compliance with protected species

*State Parks • Soil and Water Conservation • Natural Heritage • Outdoor Recreation Planning
Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance • Dam Safety and Floodplain Management • Land Conservation*

legislation. Due to the legal status of the Peregrine falcon, Bald eagle, Gull-billed tern, Wilson's plover, , DCR also recommends coordination with VDGIF to ensure compliance with protected species legislation. Finally due to the legal status of the **Seabeach amaranth**, DCR recommends coordination with USFWS and VDACS to ensure compliance with protected species legislation.

Please note, additional global and state rare species and communities occurring within the project vicinity are listed in the attached Table 2 Natural Heritage Resources within 2 miles of Assateague Island National Seashore.

The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS), which has regulatory authority to conserve rare and endangered plant and insect species through the Virginia Endangered Plant and Insect Species Act, has established a Memorandum of Agreement with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). Under this Agreement DCR's Division of Natural Heritage, in consultation with VDACS, represents VDACS in its comments and recommendations regarding the potential impact of reviewed projects or activities on state-listed plant and insect species. Since it has been determined that this project or activity may impact **Seabeach amaranth**, a state rare plant, VDACS will respond directly to ensure compliance with Virginia's Endangered Plant and Insect Species Act. Further correspondence regarding the potential impacts of this project or activity on state-listed plant and insect species should be directed to VDACS.

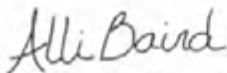
Our files do not indicate the presence of any State Natural Area Preserves under DCR's jurisdiction occurring in the project vicinity.

New and updated information is continually added to Biotics. Please contact DCR for an update on this natural heritage information if a significant amount of time passes before it is utilized.

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries maintains a database of wildlife locations, including threatened and endangered species, trout streams, and anadromous fish waters that may contain information not documented in this letter. Their database may be accessed from <http://vafwis.org/fwis/> or contact Shirl Dressler at (804) 367-6913.

Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 804-692-0984. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,



Alli Baird, LA, ASLA
Coastal Zone Locality Liaison

CC: Amy Ewing, VDGIF
Tylan Dean, USFWS
Keith Tignor, VDACS

Table 1 - ASSATEAGUE ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN- Natural Heritage Resources

Group Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Protected	FWS Species of Concern	Site Name
Vertebrate Animal	Falco peregrinus	Peregrine Falcon	G4	S1B S2N		LT		ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Carex silicea	Sea-beach Sedge	G5	S1				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Dune Woodland	Maritime Dune Woodland	G1G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Heliotropium curassavicum	Seaside Heliotrope	G5	S1				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Interdune Pond	Interdune Pond	G1G	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Total Oligohaline Marsh	Total Oligohaline Marsh	G3	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Wet Grassland	Maritime Wet Grassland	G3	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Interdune Pond	Interdune Pond	G1G	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Dune Grassland	Maritime Dune Grassland	G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Wet Grassland	Maritime Wet Grassland	G1G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Vaccinium macrocarpon	Large Cranberry	G4	S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Wet Grassland	Maritime Wet Grassland	G3	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Dune Woodland	Maritime Dune Woodland	G1G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Interdune Pond	Interdune Pond	G1G	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Plantago maritima var. juncooides	Seaside Plantain	G5T5	S1				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Charadrius wilsonia	Wilson's Plover	G5	S1B		LE		ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Polygonum glaucum	Sea-beach Knotweed	G3	S1S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Haliaeetus leucoccephalus	Bald Eagle	G5	S2S3B S3N	LT			ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Charadrius wilsonia	Wilson's Plover	G5	S1B	LE			ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Juncus megacephalus	Big-head Rush	G4G5	S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Cyperus diandrus	Umbrella Flatsedge	G5	S1				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Dichanthellum ovale var. ovale	Oval-fruited Panic Grass	G5T5	S1?				WILDCAT MARSH, ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Chamaesyce borbensis	Southern Beach Spurge	G4G5	S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Paspalum distichum	Joint Paspalum	G5	S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Amaranthus pumilus	Seabeach Amaranth	G2	S1	LT			ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Swamp Forest	Maritime Swamp Forest	G3	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Interdune Pond	Interdune Pond	G2G4	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Interdune Pond	Interdune Pond	G2G4	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Scleria verticillata	Whorled Nutrush	G5	S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Chamaesyce borbensis	Southern Beach Spurge	G4G5	S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Upland Forest	Maritime Upland Forest	G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Upland Forest	Maritime Upland Forest	G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Upland Forest	Maritime Upland Forest	G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Plantago maritima var. juncooides	Seaside Plantain	G5T5	S1				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Polygonum glaucum	Sea-beach Knotweed	G3	S1S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Carella caretta	Loggerhead (Sea Turtle)	G3	S1B S1N	LT PE			ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Cuscuta polycnemum	Smartweed Dodder	G5	S2?				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Cyperus diandrus	Umbrella Flatsedge	G5	S1				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Wet Grassland	Maritime Wet Grassland	G1G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Interdune Pond	Interdune Pond	G1G	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Dune Woodland	Maritime Dune Woodland	G1G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Heliotropium curassavicum	Seaside Heliotrope	G5	S1				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Amaranthus pumilus	Seabeach Amaranth	G2	S1	LT			ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	G3	S2B S1N	LT			ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Sciurus niger cinereus	Delmarva Fox Squirrel	G5T3	S1	LE			ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Invertebrate Animal	Coindella lepida	Spectral Tiger Beetle	G3G4	S1				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Amaranthus pumilus	Seabeach Amaranth	G2	S1	LT			ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Dichanthellum caenulescens	Blue Witch Grass	G2G3	S1		SOC		ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Site Name	Biodiversity Rank	Legal Status						
ASSATEAGUE ISLAND	B1	FL						

Table 2 - Natural Heritage Resources within a 2 mile Radius of Assateague Island National Seashore

Group Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Protection	FWS Species of Concern	Site Name
Vertebrate Animal	Falco peregrinus	Peregrine Falcon	G4	S1B S2N		LT		ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Carex silicea	Sea-beach Sedge	G5	S1				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Dune Woodland	Maritime Dune Woodland	G1G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Plantago maritima var. juncooides	Seaside Plantain	G5	S1				NORTH WALLOPS ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Egretta thula	Snowy Egret	G5	S2B S3N				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Heliotropium curassavicum	Seaside Heliotrope	G5	S1				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Interdune Pond	Interdune Pond	G3	SNR				NORTH WALLOPS ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	G5	S2S3B S3N		LT		WILDCAT MARSH
Natural Community	Interdune Pond	Interdune Pond	G1Q	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Total Oligohaline Marsh	Total Oligohaline Marsh	G3	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Dune Woodland	Maritime Dune Woodland	G1G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Falco peregrinus	Peregrine Falcon	G4	S1B S2N		LT		NORTH WALLOPS ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Gelochelidon nilotica	Gull-billed Tern	G5	S2B		LT		NORTH WALLOPS ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Circus cyaneus	Northern Harrier	G5	S1S2B S3N		SC		WALLOPS ISLAND CAUSEWAY MARSHES, NORTH WALLOPS ISLAND, ASSAWOMAN ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Wet Grassland	Maritime Wet Grassland	G3	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Bird Nesting Colony	Interdune Pond	G5	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Interdune Pond	Great Egret	G1Q	S2S3B S3N		SC		ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Ardea alba	Great Egret	G5	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Bird Nesting Colony	Maritime Dune Grassland	G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Wet Grassland	Maritime Dune Grassland	G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Vaccinium macrocarpon	Large Cranberry	G4	S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Total Mesohaline / Polyhaline Marsh	Total Mesohaline / Polyhaline Marsh	G4G5	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Dune Scrub	Maritime Dune Scrub	G2	SNR				NORTH WALLOPS ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Dune Grassland	Maritime Dune Grassland	G2	SNR				NORTH WALLOPS ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Juncus megaccephalus	Big-head Rush	G4G5	S2				NORTH WALLOPS ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Chamaesyce bombinensis	Southern Beach Spurge	G4G5	S2				NORTH WALLOPS ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Wet Grassland	Maritime Wet Grassland	G3	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Dune Woodland	Maritime Dune Woodland	G1G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Interdune Pond	Seaside Plantain	G1Q	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Plantago maritima var. juncooides	Seaside Plantain	G5	S1				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Charadrius wilsonia	Wilson's Plover	G5	S1B		LE		ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Polygonum glaucum	Sea-beach Knotweed	G3	S1S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	G5	S2S3B S3N		LT		ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Charadrius wilsonia	Wilson's Plover	G5	S1B		LE		ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Juncus megaccephalus	Big-head Rush	G4G5	S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Cyperus diandrus	Umbrella Flatsedge	G5	S1				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Dichanthium ovale var. ovale	Oval-fruited Panic Grass	G5	S17				WILDCAT MARSH, ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Chamaesyce bombinensis	Southern Beach Spurge	G4G5	S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Paspalum distichum	Joint Paspalum	G5	S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Anaranthus pumilus	Seabeach Amaranth	G2	S1		LT		ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Swamp Forest	Maritime Swamp Forest	G3	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Interdune Pond	Interdune Pond	G2G4	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Interdune Pond	Interdune Pond	G2G4	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Scleria verticillata	Whorled Nutrush	G5	S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Chamaesyce bombinensis	Southern Beach Spurge	G4G5	S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Upland Forest	Maritime Upland Forest	G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Upland Forest	Maritime Upland Forest	G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Upland Forest	Maritime Upland Forest	G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Plantago maritima var. juncooides	Seaside Plantain	G5	S1				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Polygonum glaucum	Sea-beach Knotweed	G3	S1S2				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Caretta caretta	Loggerhead (Sea Turtle)	G3	S1B S1N		LT PE		ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Caretta caretta	Loggerhead (Sea Turtle)	G3	S1B S1N		LT PE		ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Cuscuta polygonorum	Smartweed Dodder	G5	S27				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Cyperus diandrus	Umbrella Flatsedge	G5	S1				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Wet Grassland	Maritime Wet Grassland	G1G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Hydroprogne caspia	Caspian Tern	G5	S1B S2N		SC		ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Interdune Pond	Interdune Pond	G1Q	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Natural Community	Maritime Dune Woodland	Maritime Dune Woodland	G1G2	SNR				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Heliotropium curassavicum	Seaside Heliotrope	G5	S1				ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Rynchops niger	Black Skimmer	G5	S2B S1N				WIRE NARROWS MARSH
Vertebrate Animal	Himantopus mexicanus	Black-necked Stilt	G5	S1B				WIRE NARROWS MARSH
Vertebrate Animal	Egretta tricolor	Tribarbed Heron	G5	S2B S3N		SC		WIRE NARROWS MARSH
Vertebrate Animal	Egretta thula	Snowy Egret	G5	S2B S3N				WIRE NARROWS MARSH
Vascular Plant	Anaranthus pumilus	Seabeach Amaranth	G2	S1		LT		WIRE NARROWS MARSH

I:\ERVIEW\Projects\COASTAL\NPS\S8452_NPS_ASSATEAGUE ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.xls
Prepared by DCR_DNH 8/6/2010

Table 2 -Natural Heritage Resources within a 2 mile Radius of Assateague Island National Seashore

Vertebrate Animal	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	G3	S2B,S1N	LT	LT	ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Scotus niger cinereus	Delmarva Fox Squirrel	G5T3	S1	LE	LE	
Invertebrate Animal	Cicindela lepida	Spectral Tiger Beetle	G3G4	S1			ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vascular Plant	Amaranthus pumilus	Seabeach Amaranth	G2	S1	LT	LT	
Vascular Plant	Dichanthelium caeruleosens	Blue Witch Grass	G2G3	S1		SOC	ASSATEAGUE ISLAND
Vertebrate Animal	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	G3	S2B,S1N	LT	LT	NORTH WALLOPS ISLAND
Site Name	Biodiversity Rank	Legal Status					
WIRE NARROWS MARSH	B5	NL					
NORTH WALLOPS ISLAND	B2	FL					
ASSATEAGUE ISLAND	B1	FL					
WILDCAT MARSH	B4	SL					



"Ewing, Amy (DGIF)"
<Amy.Ewing@dgif.virginia.gov>

07/29/2010 10:14 AM

To <carl_zimmerman@nps.gov>

cc "Boettcher, Ruth (DGIF)" <Ruth.Boettcher@dgif.virginia.gov>

bcc

Subject ESSLog# 31030_General Mgt Plan (GMP), Assateague Island National Seashore

We are writing in response to your request for information about listed wildlife species known to occur on and/or near Assateague Island National Seashore in Virginia for consideration during the development of a new management plan for the seashore.

According to our records, the following listed species under our jurisdiction are known from the general area:

federal Endangered Delmarva Peninsula fox squirrels, federal Threatened loggerhead sea turtles, federal Threatened piping plovers, state Threatened peregrine falcons, and state Threatened gull-billed terns. We also note, as indicated in your letter, that state Threatened bald eagles are known from the vicinity.

We document the following Species of Greatest Conservation Need, as defined in Virginia's Wildlife Action Plan (www.bewildvirginia.org), from the general area: diamond-backed terrapin, little blue heron, sharp-tailed saltmarsh sparrow, and tri-colored heron.

Some of the records which document the above-mentioned species are historic in nature, represent stranding records (sea turtle), and/or were provided to us by biologists on Chincoteague National Wildlife refuge and do not necessarily represent known nesting areas on Assateague Island National Seashore. We recommend that the GMP/EIS address protection and management of the above-mentioned species and the habitats upon which they depend. We recommend coordination with Ruther Boettcher, VDGIF Eastern Shore Biologist, regarding the GMP/EIS and to ensure you have the most up to date data for the Virginia portion of the seashore. She may be contacted at 757-787-5911 or at Ruth.Boettcher@dgif.virginia.gov.

Thank you.

Amy

Amy M. Ewing
Environmental Services Biologist
Virginia Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries
804-367-2211



2010 JUL 9 PM 12:47

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Street address: 629 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, Virginia 23218

TDD (804) 698-4021

www.deq.virginia.gov

Douglas W. Domenech
Secretary of Natural Resources

David K. Paylor
Director

(804) 698-4000
1-800-592-5482

July 7, 2010

Ms. Trish Kicklighter
National Park Service
Assateague Island National Seashore
7206 National Seashore Lane
Berlin, Maryland 21811

RE: Request for Scoping Comments for the Preparation of a General Management Plan and an Environmental Impact Statement for Assateague Island National Seashore, Accomack County, Virginia and Worcester County, Maryland.

Dear Ms. Kicklighter:

This is in response to your June 21, 2010 letter (received June 24, 2010) announcing the preparation of a General Management Plan (GMP) and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Assateague Island National Seashore in Accomack County, Virginia and Worcester County, Maryland, and soliciting comments on the scope of the documents.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

According to your letter, the GMP will provide National Park Service managers a comprehensive planning framework for managing the park over the next fifteen to twenty years. The plan will identify strategies for achieving desired resource conditions, visitor experiences, and the appropriate types and locations of potential future development. The combined GMP/EIS will identify management issues and concerns, present a reasonable range of management alternatives for addressing these issues, and will analyze the environmental impact of each alternative on natural and cultural resources and other impact topics.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The roles of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in relation to the proposed action are as follows. First, DEQ's Office of Environmental Impact Review will

Ms. Trish Kicklighter

General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Assateague Island National Seashore

coordinate Virginia's review of any environmental documents prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and comment to NPS on behalf of the Commonwealth. A similar review process will pertain to the Federal Consistency Determination (FCD) that must be provided pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA). If the FCD is included as part of the EIS, there can be a single review.

FEDERAL CONSISTENCY UNDER THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT

Pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, federal activities affecting Virginia's coastal resources or coastal uses must be consistent with the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCP) (previously called the Virginia Coastal Resources Management Program) (see section 307(c)(1) of the Act and the *Federal Consistency Regulations*, 15 CFR Part 930, sub-part C). The National Park Service must provide a consistency determination which involves an analysis of the activities in light of the enforceable policies of the VCP (first enclosure), and a commitment to comply with the enforceable policies. In addition, we invite your attention to the advisory policies of the VCP (second enclosure). The FCD may be provided as part of the NEPA document or independently, depending on your agency's preference; we recommend, in the interests of efficiency for all concerned, that it be provided together with the NEPA document and that 60 days be allowed for review in keeping with the *Federal Consistency Regulations* (see section 930.41(a)). Section 930.39 of the *Federal Consistency Regulations* and Virginia's *Federal Consistency Information Package* at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/eir/federal.html> give content requirements for the consistency determination.

PROJECT SCOPING

While this Office does not participate in scoping efforts beyond the advice given herein, other agencies are free to provide scoping comments concerning the preparation of the NEPA document for the proposed project. Therefore, we are sharing your letter (attached) with selected state and local Virginia agencies, which are likely to include the following (note: starred (*) agencies administer one or more of the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program):

- Department of Environmental Quality:
 - Office of Environmental Impact Review
 - Tidewater Regional Office*
 - Air Division*
 - Waste Division
- Department of Game and Inland Fisheries*
- Department of Conservation and Recreation:
 - Division of Soil and Water Conservation*
 - Division of Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance*
 - Division of Planning and Recreation Resources
- Marine Resources Commission*
- Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Ms. Trish Kicklighter
General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Assateague Island National Seashore

- Department of Health*
- Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy
- Department of Historic Resources
- Virginia Institute of Marine Science
- Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission
- Accomack County.

In order to ensure an effective coordinated review of the EIS and FCD, we will require 18 copies of the document when it is published. The submission may include 4 hard copies and 14 CDs or 4 hard copies and an electronic copy available for download at a National Park Service web or ftp site. The document should include a U.S. Geological Survey topographic map as part of its information. We recommend, as well, that project details unfamiliar to people outside the NPS be adequately described.

If you have questions about the environmental review process or the federal consistency review process, please feel free to call me at (804) 698-4325 or John Fisher of this Office at (804) 698-4339.

I hope this information is helpful to you.

Sincerely,



Ellie L. Irons, Manager
Office of Environmental Impact Review

Attachments

Ec: Cindy Keltner, DEQ-TRO
Kotur S. Narasimhan, DEQ-Air
Paul Kohler, DEQ-Waste
Amy Ewing, DGIF
Robbie Rhur, DCR
Pam Mason, VIMS
Tony Watkinson, MRC
Barry Matthews, VDH
David Spears, DMME
Keith Tignor, VDACS
Roger Kirchen, DHR
Elaine Meil, Accomack-Northampton PDC
Steven Minor, Accomack County



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST REGION
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

JUL 22 2010

Trish Kicklighter
US Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Assateague Island National Seashore
7206 National Seashore Lane
Berlin, Maryland 21811

Re: New General Management Plan, Assateague Island National Seashore

Dear Ms. Kicklighter,

This is in response to your letter dated June 21, 2010 regarding the National Park Service's (NPS) preparation of a general management plan (GMP) and accompanying Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Assateague Island National Seashore, located in Maryland and Virginia. When completed, the GMP will provide NPS managers a comprehensive planning framework for managing the park over the next fifteen to twenty years. Your letter requested a current list of candidate, proposed and listed threatened or endangered species under the jurisdiction of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that occur in the vicinity of Assateague Island National Seashore.

NMFS Listed Species near Assateague Island

Several threatened and endangered species under the jurisdiction of NMFS can be found seasonally off the coast of Maryland and Virginia and may be present off the coast of the Assateague Island National Seashore. Listed whales, including endangered North Atlantic right whales (*Eubalaena glacialis*), humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), and fin whales (*Balaenoptera physalus*) may be present in the area offshore of Assateague Island.

Several species of sea turtles are known to be present in the waters off of Assateague Island between April and November each year. Loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempi*), and green (*Chelonia mydas*) sea turtles may occur in nearshore coastal waters while foraging. Leatherback sea turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*) are predominantly pelagic but also occur seasonally off the coast of Assateague Island.

Technical Assistance for Candidate Species

Candidate species are those petitioned species that are actively being considered for listing as endangered or threatened under the ESA, as well as those species for which NMFS has initiated an ESA status review that it has announced in the *Federal Register*.

Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*) are distributed along the entire East Coast of the United States and have been designated a Candidate Species by NMFS. The best available



scientific information indicates that Atlantic sturgeon occur off the coast of the Assateague Island National Seashore. In 2006, NMFS initiated a status review for Atlantic sturgeon to determine if listing as threatened or endangered under the ESA is warranted. The Status Review Report was published on February 23, 2007. NMFS is currently considering the information presented in the Status Review Report to determine if any listing action pursuant to the ESA is warranted at this time. If it is determined that listing is warranted, a final rule listing the species could be published within a year from the date of publication of the proposed rule. Currently, NMFS expects to publish a finding as to whether any listing action is appropriate by the Fall of 2010. As a candidate species, Atlantic sturgeon receive no substantive or procedural protection under the ESA; however, NMFS recommends that Federal agencies consider implementing conservation actions to limit the potential for adverse effects on Atlantic sturgeon from any proposed action. Please note that once a species is proposed for listing the conference provisions of the ESA apply (see 50 CFR 402.10). As the listing status for this species may change, NMFS recommends that NPS obtain updated status information from NMFS prior to the completion of any NEPA documentation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information for inclusion in the EIS. Should you have any questions about these comments or about the section 7 consultation process in general, please contact Julie Crocker at (978)282-8480 or by e-mail (Julie.Crocker@noaa.gov).

Sincerely,



Mary A. Colligan
Assistant Regional Administrator
for Protected Resources

EC: Crocker, F/NER3
O'Brien, F/NER4

File Code: Sec 7 tech assist 2010

JUL 2 2012 PM 1:22



*Maryland Department of Planning
Maryland Historical Trust*

*Martin O'Malley
Governor*

*Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor*

*Richard Eberhart Hall
Secretary*

*Matthew J. Power
Deputy Secretary*

June 29, 2012

Carl S. Zimmerman
Assateague Island National Seashore
National Park Service
7206 National Seashore Lane
Berlin, MD 21811

Re: Hunting Camps and Related Properties
Assateague Island National Seashore
Worcester County, Maryland
Section 106 \ Review for Effects on Historic Properties

Dear Mr. Zimmerman:

Thank you for providing the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) with additional information related to the planned disposition of nine former hunting camps and related properties within Assateague Island National Seashore. As the State Historic Preservation Office, MHT reviews all federal undertakings in Maryland and comments about their possible effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

In our January 30, 2012 letter MHT recommended that the nine subject properties be evaluated with Determination of Eligibility (DOE) forms to establish if they are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. We received the DOE forms with your April 9, 2012 letter. The forms built upon prior contextual research about hunting camps and related properties at Assateague and were well researched and written. They have been permanently added to the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties for the benefit of future researchers.

Based on the information in the forms, we agree with the National Park Service (NPS) that Green Run Lodge (WO-581) is eligible for listing in the National Register and that the other properties are not eligible. Removal of the eight ineligible complexes will have "no effect" on historic properties and does not require any additional consultation with MHT. We look forward to consultation with the NPS regarding any future undertakings affecting Green Run Lodge.

Thank you for providing us this opportunity to comment. If you have questions or require assistance, please contact Jonathan Sager (regarding historic buildings and landscapes) at 410-514-7636 / jsager@mdp.state.md.us or Beth Cole (regarding archeology) at 410-514-7631 / bcole@mdp.state.md.us.

Sincerely,

J. Rodney Little
Director \ State Historic Preservation Officer

JRL/EJC/VES
201201771

100 Community Place • Crownsville, Maryland 21032-2023
Telephone: 410.514.7600 • Fax: 410.987.4071 • Toll Free: 1.800.756.0119 • TTY Users: Maryland Relay
Internet: <http://mht.maryland.gov>



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Chesapeake Bay Field Office
177 Admiral Cochrane Drive
Annapolis, MD 21401
410/573-4575



JUL 30 2012 PM 2:00

July 25, 2012

Trish Kicklighter
Superintendent
Assateague Island National Seashore
7206 National Seashore Lane
Berlin, MD 21811

RE: Commencement of a new General Management Plan, Assateague Island National Seashore

Dear Ms. Kicklighter:

This is an updated response to your letter, received June 22, 2010, requesting information on the presence of species which are federally listed or proposed for listing as endangered or threatened within the above referenced project area. We have reviewed the information you enclosed and are providing comments in accordance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Two federally listed threatened species, the piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*) and the seabeach amaranth (*Amaranthus pumilis*) occur on Assateague Island National Seashore.

Piping plovers nest above the high tide line on coastal beaches, sandflats at the ends of sandspits and barrier islands, gently sloping foredunes, blowout areas behind primary dunes, sparsely vegetated dunes, and washover areas cut into or between dunes. Feeding areas include intertidal portions of ocean beaches, washover areas, mudflats, sandflats, wrack lines, and shorelines of coastal ponds, lagoons, or salt marshes. The seabeach amaranth grows in the same habitat types used by piping plover for nesting.

Potential impacts on piping plover and seabeach amaranth habitat should be analyzed as a part of your environmental assessment. If such impacts may occur, further section 7 consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may be required.

Except for occasional transient individuals, no other federally proposed or listed endangered or threatened species are known to exist within the project impact area. Should project plans change, or if additional information on the distribution of listed or proposed species becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered.


This response relates only to federally protected threatened or endangered species under our jurisdiction. For information on the presence of other rare species, you should contact Lori Byrne of the Maryland Wildlife and Heritage Program at (410) 260-8573.

Effective August 8, 2007, under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) removed (delisted) the bald eagle in the lower 48 States of the United States from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. However, the bald eagle is still protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, Lacey Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. If your project may cause "disturbance" to the bald eagle, please consult the "National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines" dated May 2007.

If any planned or ongoing activities cannot be conducted in compliance with the National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines (Eagle Management Guidelines), please contact Craig Koppie at 410-573-4534 for technical assistance. The Eagle Management Guidelines can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/issues/BaldEagle/NationalBaldEagleManagementGuidelines.pdf>.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide information relative to fish and wildlife issues, and thank you for your interest in these resources. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Andy Moser at (410) 573-4537.

Sincerely,


FW Genevieve LaRouche
Field Supervisor

(this page intentionally left blank)