APPENDIX G

PUBLIC SCOPING

APPENDIX G-1

PUBLIC SCOPING NEWSLETTER AND COMMENTS RECEIVED

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION LIST

Bill Brooks, Fish & Wildlife Biologist
U.S.Fish and Wildlife Service
6620 Southpoint Dr., South, # 310
Jacksonville, FL 32216

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Anastasia State Recreation Area
1340A A1A South
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Donald T. Palmer, Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
6620 Southpoint Dr., South, #310
Jacksonville, FL 32216

Alice M. Bard, District Biologist
Florida Park Service
1800 Wekiwa Circle
Apopka, FL 32712

Daniel Weimer, Director
St. Johns County Recreation & Parks
901 Pope Road
St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080

Norman Edwards
Florida Park Service
1800 Wekiwa Circle
Apopka, FL 32712

Kenneth D. Berk, Env. Adminstrator
G.T.M. National Estuarine Reserve
9741 Ocean Shore Blvd.
St. Augustine, FL 32080

J. B. Miller, District 3 Biologist
Florida Park Service
1000 Faver-Dykes Road
St. Augustine, FL 32086

Beverly Helmle
Educational Tours
1123 Sterling Road
Inverness, FL 34450

Bruce Harris, Unit Manager
Castillo de San Marcos NM
P.O. Box 4491
St. Augustine, FL 32085

Anthony Ganong, Exec. Dir.
St. Augustine Historical Society
271 Charlotte St.
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Evelyn Vazquez
Tour Saint Augustine
6 Granada Street
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Kimber Ponce
Tour Saint Augustine
6 Granada Street
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Sandy Baker Craig
Tour Saint Augustine
6 Granada Street
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Bob Hogan
67 ½ Lemon Street
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Vivian Browning
40 Beachcomber Way
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Pat Hamilton
201 Owens Avenue
St. Augustine, FL 32080

David Wiles, President
South Anastasia Communities Assn.
P.O. Box 840255
St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080

George Gardner
57 Fullerwood Drive
St. Augustine FL 32084

Glenn Hastings, Executive Director
St. Johns County VCB
88 Riberia St., Suite 400
St. Augustine, FL 32084

James C. Netherton III
Mayor, Town of Marineland
9505 Ocean Shore Blvd.
St. Augustine, FL 32080

John J. Sciortino
Assistant U.S. Attorney
200 W. Forsyth St., Suite 700
Jacksonville, FL 32202

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St. Johns County Recreation & Parks
901 Pope Rd.
St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080

Roger Van Ghent
St. Johns County Audubon Society
4005 Moultrie Foreside Blvd.
St. Augustine, FL 32086

Victoria Renna
St. Johns County Planning Dept.
4020 Lewis Speedway
St. Augustine, FL 32095

Max Royle, City Manager
City of St. Augustine Beach
2200 A1A South
St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080

The Honorable John L. Mica
2445 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515-0907

Dean W. Wright
161 Markham Lane
Fairfield Glade, TN 38558

Wiley Deck, District Representative
Congressman John L. Mica
3000 N. Ponce de Leon Blvd Suite 1
St. Augustine, FL 32084-8600

J. David Zimmerman
PO Box 3711
Reston, VA 20195-1711

Davron Cardenas
6730 Strawberry Lane
Jacksonville, FL 32211

Ruth Kelbel
36 Colechester Lane
Palm Coast, FL 32137

Randall Dick, MSLS
2102 Silver Lane
Willow Street, PA 17584

James Hines
P.O. Box 6058
Ventura, CA 93003

Frank Suddeth
P.O. Box 11
St. Augustine, FL 32085

Chuck Dale
Department of Heritage Tourism
1108 Prince Road
St. Augustine, FL 32086

Bill Adams
St. Augustine Dept. of Heritage Tourism
P.O. Box 210
St. Augustine, FL 32085-0210

Albert Holmberg
11 Lake Shore Drive
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Henry & Sharon Hermann
620 A1A Beach Blvd. #31
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Fred Harris
12 S. Castillo Drive
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Richard Shortlidge
63 Village Las Palmas Circle
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Richard Backlund
17 Lee Drive
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Mark Alexander
234 Coquina Avenue
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Jess Childre
53 Marine Street
St. Augustine, FL 32084-5038

Susan Parker
48 King Street
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Gilda & Larry Yeston
850 A1A Beach Blvd., #102
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Tom Dreisbach
202 Arpieka Avenue
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Kim K. Del Rance
Historic Preservation Planner
City of St. Augustine
P.O. Box 210
St. Augustine, FL 32085-0210

B. Paul Pettie
1591 San Carlos St.
St. Augustine, FL 32080-5480

Matthew Edwards
1010 Bella Vista Blvd. #208
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Juliette Swindull
2 Park Terrace Dr.
St. Augustine, FL 32080

John Danahy
101 Oglethorpe Blvd.
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Nancy and Ken Perry
8864 Old A1A
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Stuart Webster
P.O. Box 1234
St. Augustine, FL 32085

Jay Floyd
24 Cathedral Place, Ste. 601
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dr. Oscar Patterson III
248 Patrick Mill Circle
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32080

Robert Ballinger
34 Aledo Court
St. Augustine, FL 32086

William Breuer
P.O. Box 1761
St. Augustine, FL 32085

Walter Daniels
148 Ocean Hollow Lane
St. Augustine, FL 32084-1748

Maggy Farina
206 16th Street
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Fred Amato
1032 Deer Chase Drive
St. Augustine, FL 32086-3837

Carol Scott
38 San Carlos Drive
Palm Coast, FL 32137

Rostlyn A. Roberts
206 Herada Street
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Susan and Mark Umerly
404 22nd Street
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Christine Mars
1254 Prince Road
St. Augustine, FL 32086

Deborah R. Clark
Fountain of Youth Blvd.
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Jason Boddy
1413 Vista Cove
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Jane R. Murray
8090 A1A South #503
St. Augustine, FL 32080-8365

Milton H. Murray
8090 A1A South #503
St. Augustine, FL 32080-8365

Nancy Porter
110 Ocean Hollow Lane #112
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Gale Burnick
101 Kings Ferry Way
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Philip Baum
116 ML King Ave
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Nancy Smathers Hutton
82 Magnolia Avenue
St. Augustine, FL 32084-2137

Kathy & Patrick Hynes
8280 A1A South
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Judy Smith
Colorado State University Library
1019 Campus Delivery
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1019

Mrs. William Sharp Jr.
1599 Ramblewood Dr.
Wooster, OH 44691-3085

Louis & Constance Gaitanis
21 Water Street
St. Augustine, FL 32084-2819

Robert M. Hall
42 Spanish Street
St. Augustine, FL 32084-3636

Harry Metz
205 Fiddlers Point Drive
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Ian Jackson
P.O Box 4152
Pinetop, AZ 85935

Joe A. Quetone,
Executive Director
Governor's Council on Indian Affairs
1341 Cross Creek Circle
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Frederick Gaske, FL SHPO
Dir., Div. of Historical Resources
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Fort Matanzas
National Monument

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Environmental Assessment Scoping Newsletter

Seawall and Dock Improvements on Rattlesnake Island, Fort Matanzas National Monument

The Fort Matanzas planning team is developing plans for the replacement of the Rattlesnake Island boat dock and other features in the vicinity of the fort. Our plans are in the early stages of development. This newsletter is being distributed to our partners, neighbors, and stakeholders to solicit comments related to the development of the Environmental Assessment (EA).

Please tell us what you think. Use the enclosed response card to provide us with your comments. No postage is necessary. Simply fold and staple or tape the completed card and drop it in the mailbox. We would appreciate your comments by June 24, 2005 to be considered in this phase of the planning process.

You will have additional opportunities to comment on the alternatives as we continue the planning process. The EA will be made available to the public for review. We look forward to hearing from you.

History of Fort Matanzas

Throughout history, the story of Fort Matanzas National Monument (FOMA) has been closely intertwined with that of the city of St. Augustine and the Castillo de San Marcos. Fort Matanzas was built between 1740 and 1742 to guard the Matanzas Inlet and to warn St. Augustine of British or other enemies approaching from the south.

Almost 200 years before construction began on the fort, Matanzas Inlet

witnessed a crucial event in Spanish colonial history. In 1565, a large French force left their settlement in present day Jacksonville to attack the Spanish at their new settlement in St. Augustine. A storm shipwrecked the French fleet farther south. When the Spanish discovered the French on the beach, they massacred nearly 250 Frenchmen as heretics near the inlet, which was then appropriately named "Matanzas", the Spanish word for massacre. This confrontation began 235 years of Spanish control in Florida. The construction of Fort Matanzas was Spain's last effort to ward off British encroachments.

Fort Matanzas Today

FOMA now serves as a reminder of the early Spanish empire in the New World. Located on barrier islands along the shores of the Atlantic Ocean and the Matanzas estuary, FOMA provides a natural habitat rich in wildlife with the salt marsh, scrub, and maritime hammock now protecting endangered and threatened species just as Fort Matanzas protected St. Augustine long ago.

The park headquarters, visitor center, and embarkation dock are located on Highway A1A fourteen miles south of St. Augustine. The original national monument site consisted of only the Fort on Rattlesnake Island. Through the years, the National Park Service (NPS) has been able to acquire additional land both on Rattlesnake and Anastasia Islands to preserve a portion of Florida's unique barrier island ecosystem. The river and ocean beaches, as well as the 0.6-mile nature trail, offer visitors the opportunity to view a variety of plants and wildlife native to this ecosystem.

There are several unique ecosystems that exist at FOMA that provide habitat for a number of species, several of which are listed as endangered or threatened. From May to August, the ocean beach is the nesting site for sea turtles, including the threatened loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*) and the green (*Chelonia mydas*) and leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*), both of which are endangered. The beach is also home to the ghost crab (*Ocypode quadrata*), the least tern (*Sterna antillarum*), and the endangered Anastasia Island beach mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus phasma*). The gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*), a species of special concern in Florida, can be found in the scrub habitat along with the endangered eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*) and five-lined skink (*Eumeces inexpectatus*). Herons, egrets, and endangered wood storks (*Mycteria americana*) feed on the mud flats, which are also home of fiddler and hermit crabs. Ospreys (*Pandion haliaetus*), bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), skimmers, pelicans, terns, and gulls often fly over the Matanzas River, and it is not unusual to spot dolphins or even endangered manatees swimming between the two islands.

Overview of existing dock at Rattlesnake Island.

Project Description

The current boat dock on the eastern shore of Rattlesnake Island was constructed in 1979 and is used for the ferry that shuttles park visitors to and from a dock on Anastasia Island, which is where the park entrance and visitor center are located.

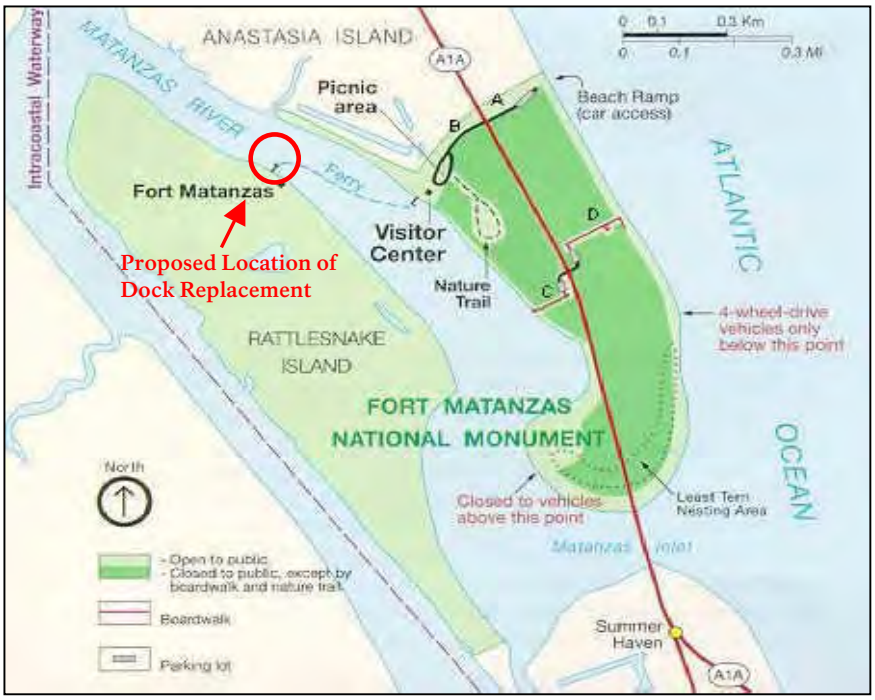
The current Rattlesnake Island dock is aging and does not provide handicap access to the Fort. The future dock would accommodate increases in visitation to the park, and would also comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The Fort is currently protected by a seawall and several erosion control features that are in need of repair to prevent further shoreline erosion. There are also erosion control features along the shoreline of Anastasia Island that would need similar repairs. Both shorelines at Fort Matanzas are affected by tidal flows, which change four times daily with tidal currents in excess of 5 knots per hour.

High tides in spring and fall exceed the height of the existing seawall, flooding portions of the island several times annually. The waterway at this site, which passes between Anastasia and Rattlesnake Islands, has a No Wake Zone in the area of the two docks. However, approximately 24,000 motorized watercraft use the waterway every year, creating additional damaging wave action. Northeasterly and tropical storms that occur several times a year raise normal water levels several feet for extended periods of time, creating additional erosion of the shoreline. The proposed action will incorporate previously identified United States Army Corps of Engineers and NPS recommendations for sustained shoreline protection.

Visitation to the Fort would not be affected by construction of the new dock because a temporary dock would be located between the current dock and the Fort on Rattlesnake Island.

Southeast portion of existing erosion control features and coquina seawall.



To summarize, the proposed improvements at Fort Matanzas would include:

- Replacement of the current boat dock facility located on the eastern shoreline of Rattlesnake Island.
- Installation of a temporary dock located on the eastern boat dock facility to be shoreline of Rattlesnake Island.
- Repair of erosion control features that protect the shoreline along Anastasia and Rattlesnake Islands.
- Stabilization of the existing seawall along the eastern shoreline of Rattlesnake Island.

NEPA Process

The NPS must follow the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 to assure consideration of important environmental issues. The improvements that are being considered at Fort Matanzas will be analyzed during the NEPA process.

As part of the NEPA process, the proposed improvements will be evaluated in an Environmental Assessment, which will analyze the potential environmental effects of the proposed improvements at FOMA. This analysis will consider impacts to topics such as wildlife habitat, vegetation, wetlands, floodplains, rare, threatened, and endangered species, air and water quality, socioeconomics, and cultural resources.

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Fort Matanzas National Monument
8635 A1A South
St. Augustine, FL 32080.

Addressee

(To Be Filled in By NPS)

_____
_____
_____

First Class Mail
Postage and Fees
P A I D
City, State
Permit Number

ATTN: Robin Leatherman
Re: Public Comments on the EA
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
One South Castillo Drive
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Fort Matanzas National Monument
St. Augustine, FL

Public Scoping Newsletter – April 2005

Name (Please Print):_____

Title:_____

Company/Organization:_____

Address:_____

Telephone Number: _____ Fax Number:_____

E-mail Address:_____

Comments/Suggestions:_____

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Please check box if you would like to receive a copy of the Draft Environmental Assessment ☐

Please return comment cards by June 24, 2005

EA ENGINEERING
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
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SPARKS, MD

Fort Matanzas National Monument
St. Augustine, FL

Public Scoping Newsletter – April 2005

Name (Please Print): Sarah Owen

Title: Planning Advocate

Company/Organization: Florida Wildlife Federation

Address: 201 Owens Ave St. Augustine FL. 32080

Telephone Number: 904-461-1160 Fax Number: 904-461-1161

E-mail Address: northeastfwf@bellsouth.net

Comments/Suggestions: see attached

Please check box if you would like to receive a copy of the Draft Environmental Assessment [X]

Please return comment cards by June 24, 2005

FLORIDA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

Affiliated With National Wildlife Federation

Northeast Florida Office
201 Owens Avenue
Suite A
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Phone: (904) 461-1160
Fax: (904) 461-1161
E-mail: northeastfwf@bellsouth.net
www.fwfonline.org

June 21, 2005

Fort Matanzas National Monument
Gordon Wilson, Superintendent
8635 A1A South
St Augustine Florida 32080

Re: Fort Matanzas National Monument Management Plan

Dear Mr. Wilson,

I am writing this public comment letter as a representative of the Florida Wildlife Federation (FWF). The Fort Matanzas National Monument (FMNM) staff has requested public comments regarding the usability of the area to assist in the development of the management plan. FMNM is a historically and environmentally unique area in comparison to its counterpart, the Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, and should be managed as such.

FMNM boundaries lie within the boundaries of Class II waters with existing shell fish harvesting leases as well as the Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve. Listed species such as least terns and nesting sea turtles, seek refuge within the FMNM pristine boundaries. With the increases in both population and visitors to the region, FMNM is becoming one of the last wildlife refuges available for these species.

Creating options and a variety of experiences for park users is important. Fortunately, FMNM can partner with Castillo de San Marcos for that "high interaction full access" experience so desired by some users. At the same time, FMNM can limit the accessibility in its boundaries and create an experience with nature that is appropriate to the sensitivity of the area. FWF asks the FMNM staff to draft a management plan that promotes environmental education and stewardship without compromising the resources and creating a "theme park" like atmosphere which will adversely impact wildlife habitat.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 904-461-1160.

Sincerely,

Sarah Owen

Cc: Manley Fuller, President, Florida Wildlife Federation

— Fort Matanzas National Monument
St. Augustine, FL

Public Scoping Newsletter – April 2005

Name (Please Print): Marilyn Wiles
Title: Member
Company/Organization: SACA
Address: 8220 AIA South 32080
Telephone Number: 904.461-7297 Fax Number:
E-mail Address: wiles@aug.com
Comments/Suggestions: Re: F. Matanzas Nat'l Monument

- Please Keep the numbers of visitors to the Matanzas Area at a Reasonable level. It's a small area; too many people upset the balance.

- Maintain Natural Setting
- Keep as pristine as possible
- Keep one boat going to FORT
- Control beach Access. PARK TRUCKS, CARS 15 feet from DUNES - ESPECIALLY on Holidays
- ENFORCE boat traffic RESTRICTIONS at Inlet and on River
- Emphasize Clean up - bridge ETAL.
- Maintain Rural, SMALL, historic Site -

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Please return comment cards by June 24, 2005

Response to Public Scoping Newsletter – April 2005

Kenneth Berk
Environmental Administrator
Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve
505 Guana River Road, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
Phone: 904/823-4500
Fax: 904/825-6829
kenberk@bellsouth.net

As managers of the sovereign submerged lands surrounding the project site, GTMNERR provides the following suggestions to assist with the planning process for this project.

1. The project design should consider stabilization technique that minimizes deflection of wave energy to adjoining shorelines in order to avoid displacement of the erosion to these areas.

2. All precautions must be taken to avoid spillage of any toxic chemicals including wood preservatives and sealants during project construction. These precautions should be incorporated into the project design.

3. Project design should include precautions to minimize erosion in areas above mean high water (MHW) during construction.

4. Project design should include alternatives to a vertical seawall that promote progressive techniques for shoreline restoration in environmentally sensitive areas.

5. The design of the temporary and replacement dock at Rattlesnake Island should provide a footprint that minimizes shading of submerged aquatic vegetation habitat.

Fort Matanzas National Monument
St. Augustine, FL

Public Scoping Newsletter – April 2005

Name (Please Print): DON GUTTINGER

Title:

Company/Organization:

Address: 8350 A1A SOUTH

Telephone Number: 904 471 5228 Fax Number: 516-977-6547

E-mail Address: guttinger@juno.com

Comments/Suggestions:

Improvements to Rattlesnake Island Dock and Sea wall

Stabilization of sea wall is recommended. I do not wish to see the dock capacity increased. Likewise the boat used for ferrying guests should not be increased in size; nor should there be more than one ferry.

4 in favor

Fort Matanzas National Monument
St. Augustine, FL

Public Scoping Newsletter – April 2005

Name (Please Print): Nancy S. Hutton

Title: Adjunct Professor

Company/Organization: Flagler College

Address: 82 Magnolia Ave. St. Augustine, FL 32084

Telephone Number: 823 8905 Fax Number: NA

E-mail Address: nshutton@bellsouth.~~net~~com

Comments/Suggestions:

Due to the tides, fast current and ~~boat~~ traffic in this area your proposal to improve access for handicapped & protect the existing seawall sounds like a positive improvement for Ft. Matanzas.

My only questions regarding the proposal are:

1) How long will construction take?
2) Is it necessary to have a temporary dock?
3) How much will the temporary dock cost?
4) Why not complete construction during the Fort's lowest period of visitors during the year therefore the temporary dock might not be necessary and those dollars saved could be used elsewhere.
5) By advising the public that access to the Fort wouldn't be available for x amount of time well in advance then maybe the temporary dock costs could be saved.

Please check box if you would like to receive a copy of the Draft Environmental Assessment ☐

Please return comment cards by June 24, 2005

Fort Matanzas National Monument
St. Augustine, FL

Public Scoping Newsletter – April 2005

Name (Please Print): Robert M. Ballinger

Title: retired

Company/Organization:

Address: 34 Aledo Court, St. Augustine, FL 32086

Telephone Number: Fax Number:

E-mail Address:

Comments/Suggestions: I am very much in favor of the improvements outlined in this newsletter. They need to be done and the environmental impact is minimal.

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Please return comment cards by June 24, 2005

Fort Matanzas National Monument
St. Augustine, FL

Public Scoping Newsletter – April 2005

Name (Please Print): WALTER DANIELS

Title:

Company/Organization:

Address: 148 OCEAN HOLLOW LANE, ST AUGUSTINE, FL. 32084

Telephone Number: 904-824-6018 Fax Number:

E-mail Address:

Comments/Suggestions: IT SEEMS TO ME THAT YOU ARE MERELY DOING THOSE THINGS NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE MONUMENT AND ENHANCE PUBLIC ACCESS.

I DON'T SEE ANY PROBLEMS THERE!

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Please return comment cards by June 24, 2005

Fort Matanzas National Monument
St. Augustine, FL

Public Scoping Newsletter – April 2005

Name (Please Print): Richard L. Shortlidge, Jr.

Title: VIP

Company/Organization: CASA and FOMA

Address: 63 Village Las Palmas Circle

Telephone Number: 904-471-3736 Fax Number: None

E-mail Address: RLSHORT@AUG.COM

Comments/Suggestions: Thank you for sending me the newsletter outling proposed improvements at FOMA. Providing wheelchair/handicap access to the dock on Rattlesnake Island will be a welcome improvement. Will the dock/boat ramp on Anastasia Island also be improved with wheelchair/handicap access to the boat? Also I think it is important to have a place on the boat for one/two wheelchairs On a different topic, I think that it would be fantastic to have a boardwalk nature trail on Rattlesnake Island.

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Please return comment cards by June 24, 2005

3 Too much people already

Fort Matanzas National Monument
St. Augustine, FL

Public Scoping Newsletter – April 2005

Name (Please Print): Patrick S. Hamilton

Title: Real Estate Owner/Broker

Company/Organization: Southern Realty of St. Augustine & Crescent Beach

Address: 201 Owens Avenue, St. Augustine, FL 32080

Telephone Number: (904) 471-5903 Fax Number: (904) 471-9897

E-mail Address: phamilto@aug.com

Comments/Suggestions: There are too many people and too many vehicles on the beach area of Fort Matanzas. West of the bridge, vehicular traffic should be stopped and jet skis should be discouraged. The least terns nesting area has been disturbed by too much human activity. And Anastasia Beach mice are bound to be adversely affected. The Management Plan should focus on a reduction of impacts from human activity. The pristine nature of the inlet and estuary should be held as the highest priority and no future impacts should be allowed. Do not increase the size of the Visitor Center nor add additional parking lots or trails. The quaint nature of the boat ride (and the fact that it is free is great) is what makes it different from other National Parks and adds to its attraction.

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Please return comment cards by June 24, 2005

Fort Matanzas National Monument
St. Augustine, FL

Public Scoping Newsletter – April 2005

Name (Please Print): Bill Dobes

Title:

Company/Organization:

Address: 8380 A1A S

Telephone Number: 904 471 2636 Fax Number:

E-mail Address:

Comments/Suggestions: Keep jet skis & boat out of the area or just boats to fish - only

Keep the traffic down - the area can not handle more people & be clean & nature -

Tell the condo complex across the street to stop the fire works every night - bad for people & turtles

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Fort Matanzas National Monument
St. Augustine, FL

Public Scoping Newsletter – April 2005

Name (Please Print): MARTHA J DOBES

Title:

Company/Organization:

Address: 8380 A1A South, St Augustine

Telephone Number: 471.2636 Fax Number: 32080

E-mail Address:

Comments/Suggestions:

Please no increase in parking lot facilities or increased vegetation. Please repair existing docks erosion control devices (walls) and stabilize sea walls. Do not encourage increased use of personal watercraft in the area. Please preserve historical nature and intent of the park in the first place. "No bigger and better" boats – docks – to encourage greater usage – preserve this valuable park.

Please check box if you would like to receive a copy of the Draft Environmental Assessment ☑

Please return comment cards by June 24, 2005

4 other responses

Fort Matanzas National Monument
St. Augustine, FL

Public Scoping Newsletter – April 2005

Name (Please Print): Robert M. Hall

Title:

Company/Organization:

Address: 42 Spanish St., St. Augustine, FL. 32084

Telephone Number: 904-829-9792 Fax Number:

E-mail Address:

Comments/Suggestions: An outstanding park of great cultural/historical import.

Should have a limit on attendance but boat trip does provide a limit

Please check box if you would like to receive a copy of the Draft Environmental Assessment ☐

Please return comment cards by June 24, 2005

Fort Matanzas National Monument
St. Augustine, FL

Public Scoping Newsletter – April 2005

Name (Please Print): Darron Cardenas

Title: Scenic & Historic A1A Corridor Management Council

Company/Organization:

Address: 6730 Strawberry La Jax, FL 32211

Telephone Number: 904-724-9695 Fax Number: 724-6420

E-mail Address: Djkcar@Juno.com

Comments/Suggestions:

Please send a copy to this to my brother who works for the Army Corps of Engineers specializing in sediment transport: Dr David King
1917 Vicksburg St
Vicksburg, MS 39180

My comments are that I hope the new dock will have concrete piers as I believe the current dock has. And are the referenced erosion control features groins or jetties? What are you going to do to them?

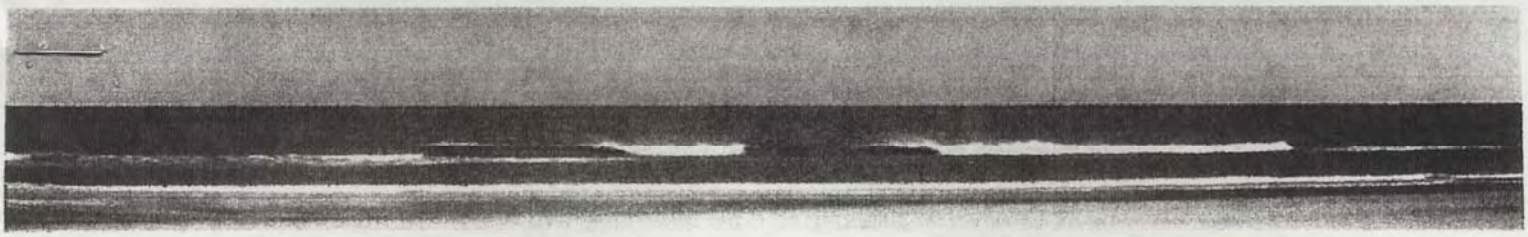
Also, when will you expand the gift shop at the fort?

Thank you,

Darron Cardenas

Please check box if you would like to receive a copy of the Draft Environmental Assessment ☑

Please return comment cards by June 24, 2005



South Anastasia Communities Association

June 10, 2005

National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
One South Castillo Drive
Saint Augustine, FL 32084
Attention: Robin Leatherman

Dear Robin Leatherman,

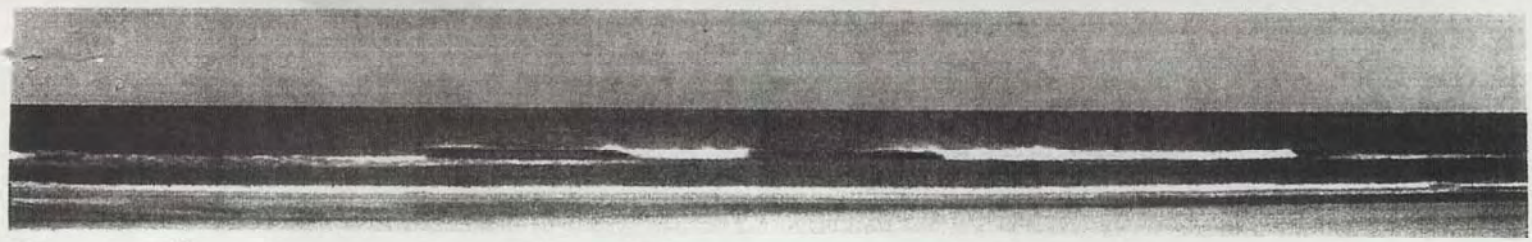
After a year long series of meetings by residents and business owners of South Anastasia Island the St. Johns County Commission agreed to adopt a vision as a guiding principal for the development of southern St. Johns County. The vision was made part of the county's Comprehensive Land Plan in 1999(?).

The vision calls for continuance of Crescent Beach as a rural beach community, with low residential densities, a two laned A1A and a special care for the environment. The outgrowth of the visioning process was that The South Anastasia Community Association (SACA) and an overlay district for Southeast St. Johns County, were formed.

Our board has unanimously voted to write you, asking that the management plan for Ft. Matanzas National Monument parallel our vision. The intracoastal waterway and estuarine system is designated Class II waters, open to recreational and commercial oystering. National Audubon has designated this area as an Important Birding Area. The waters host the Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve with its research office located 2 miles south of Ft. Matanzas. And the University of Florida's marine lab, The Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience, located 2 miles south in the town of Marineland, depends on the pristine nature of the area.

The State of Florida has spent tens of millions of dollars for land acquisition within the past decade to protect the pristine quality. Acquisitions include Matanzas Marsh State Forest, Princess Place Preserve, Faver Dykes Addition, Southeast Intracoastal Park, River to Sea Preserve, Moses Creek Conservation Area.

Ft. Matanzas' new management plan should hold the environmental protection, and protection of the historic view shed as its highest priority. This summer trucks and jet skies on the south tip of the park have played havoc on wildlife. And the need to counter and reduce these increased impacts are pressing.



In closing, let me say that Ft. Matanzas and its staff have always been good neighbors and we are proud they are located within our boundaries. Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David Wiles
President/SACA

Safety

1. Boating, Beaches and Vehicular Marine Traffic are a deadly combination.
2. Goal = reduce alcohol-related deaths and injuries

3. Does this violate or is counter productive to any Habitat Conservation Plan in place?

4. People may be driving illegally into the dune area to avoid unusually high tides!

5. Animals and plants should be responsibly conserved for the benefit and enjoyment of mankind.

GREENHOUSE WARMING

The level of the sea is also expected to rise with warming seas and the melting of polar ice caps. The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) estimates that the seas could rise by 2100 anywhere from half a meter to two meters. A one meter rise by the year 2075 could result in widespread economic, environmental and social disruption.

Need to leave beach area alone to provide protection for the upland structures

Driving erodes what little natural sand is there – accelerating the loss of habitat

Reduces frequency of pollution in the critical entry point to the river

Eliminates possibility of reckless "off roading" in the environmentally sensitive areas

Eliminates the opportunity for "rescue towing" - these heavy trucks cause tremendous damage and beach erosion by unnaturally softening up the sand.

Avoids the legal problems Flagler Beach is having. Harming sea turtles and violating the Endangered Species Act.

c:\mydocuments\Some Reasons For Lobbying To Remove Driving At Matanzas

Philip McDaniel

Please address these issues.

6/9/2005

APPENDIX G-2

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