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Note/Caveat

Subcommittee Vision for the District

Definitions: Stewardship, Engagement, Occupancy, Access

Use and Occupancy – Administrative Instruments

Categories for Future Stewardship and Occupancy (Options A & B)

Current Available Administrative Mechanisms

Transitions

From today to implementing the Plan

Predictable

Unpredictable

Public Access

Interpretation, Education, Outreach

Day Access

Short-Term Use

Physical Structures

Outstanding Concerns

Questions and Comments

Dune Shack Subcommittee

Report on Progress to Date
May 24, 2010



Historic District

- The Dune Shacks of the Peaked Hill Bars Historic District, located within Cape Cod National Seashore (CCNS)
- It is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- The Historic District is composed of approximately 1,500 acres that includes both the historic buildings (dune shacks) and the dune landscape
- 18 of the 19 dune shacks are owned by the National Park Service (NPS) and are currently occupied by different groups and individuals under a variety of management tools (administrative instruments such as leases, special permits, etc.)

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CCNS = Cape Cod National Seashore

NPS = National Park Service

EA = Environmental Assessment



CCNS/NPS Project

- To prepare a Preservation and Use Plan/ Environmental Assessment (EA)
- Several applicable laws and regulations guide and constrain the effort
- The EA will require 2 or more alternatives that meet the objectives outlined by CCNS/NPS
- The final Plan will provide clear direction and consistency for NPS managers, dune shack dwellers, users, and advocates

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Applicable laws and regulations include the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1508.9), and the NPS Director's Order # 12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis, and Decisionmaking* and its accompanying handbook.

CCNS/NPS Plan Objectives

(in no particular order)

- Continue to provide the opportunity for contemplative solitude in support of art and literature
- Support long-term relationships as ethnographic values highlighted in Robert Wolfe's 2005 report *Dwelling in the Dunes: Traditional Use of the Dune Shacks of the Peaked Hill Bars Historic District, Cape Cod*
- Provide appropriate opportunities for the public to experience the themes and resource values of the Historic District
- Take advantage of partnership opportunities where appropriate
- Minimize interference with the natural dune processes that are part of the overall dune system
- Describe preservation maintenance practices and consultation processes between CCNS and dune shack occupants that will protect the historic structures and adhere to the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*

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Dune Shack Subcommittee Background

- The Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission re-established the Dune Shack Subcommittee in 2009
 - Previous subcommittees had been convened in 1992, 1995, 2001
- Subcommittee membership includes:
 - long-time dune dwelling families;
 - representatives of Truro and Provincetown;
 - the three non-profit organizations that provide art, writing, and general public residencies;
 - Art's Dune Tours;
 - Friends of the Cape Cod National Seashore;
 - the National Seashore historian; and,
 - the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission.
- The work of the Subcommittee is facilitated by the Consensus Building Institute, under contract to the CCNS/NPS.

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Dune Shack Subcommittee Goal

The goal of the Subcommittee process is to openly discuss the many varied elements of resource protection, historic structure preservation, public access, perpetuation of traditions, management models and mechanisms, transition between uses and users, and compliance in order to develop one or more EA alternatives that meet CCNS/NPS objectives (previous slide).

Expected Timeline

- Fall 2009: Subcommittee convened
- Fall 2009 to Present: Subcommittee has met at least once per month. Meetings posted and **open to the public**
- May 24: Subcommittee reports on progress
- June 4: **Written public comment** for Subcommittee accepted
- June: Subcommittee finalizes Report*
- July: Subcommittee submits Report to Commission
- July: Commission takes up recommendations in Subcommittee Report and makes recommendations to CCNS
- Fall/Winter: CCNS issues draft EA for **additional public comment**

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*The final Subcommittee Report is expected to include chapters on the following: 1. Background. 2. Brief History. 3. Traditions. 4. Stewardship and Occupancy. 5. Public Access. 6. Appropriate Uses Per Shack. 7. Transitions. 8. Physical Structures. 9. Cultural Landscape Issues. 10. Natural Resource Issues. 11. Appendices