

Assateague Island National Seashore
Comment Form Responses from Summer/Fall 2009 Public Scoping Activities

What is most special to you about Assateague Island National Seashore?	What are your concerns for the Seashore's future?	What recreational and educational opportunities do you think should be available to visitors at the Seashore?	How can we better protect the natural environment and ecological values of the Seashore?	How can we make it easier to get onto and around the Seashore?
Beach and natural environment	erosion	visitor center on beach		more parking
The horses	The horses	Horse informational sessions. Add full showers	Move trash cans closer to the beach	Faster to pay and get into the park
Not enough handicap parking spaces				
The undeveloped atmosphere - enjoying nature	too much impervious surface. Not enough support from congress for National Parks to stay as natural as possible	already too many recreational users - especially off-road. Lots of educational stuff - just under publicized within park	outreach to local community - all Eastern Shore to better educate us on the natural beauty of this place	to make it easier would be adding impervious surfaces for more lanes and that would defeat what is special about this place. Don't do it!
Preserving the natural environment and habitat of the wildlife	rise in sea level - keeping the animals safe and educating people about what the Park has to offer	more hands on for the children - offer workshops for kids during the week (mini breaks from the beach)	try to keep the natural environment the way it needs to be for the animals and plants to keep thriving.	not sure.
To go on beach with <u>truck</u> with family	closing the beach to taking meals on the beach because of the (Bird)	about AMSA keep beach open to trucks and camping on beach	it good as it gets	Great as it is
Natural	Lifeguards for drive- on beach			It's all good
That it's not developed, but yet is accessible and yet has some services. I love that you allow dogs, surfers, bikers, kayakers, etc.	I don't want to see too much expansion - I like that you could go to a more secluded area if you want	3-4 activities a week that would address: 1. A walk with a ranger for indigenous plants and animals. 2. Kayak tour with a ranger. 3. other water activities - surf fishing or night bonfire or star gazing.	Do you provide an area for tenters/campers to wash dishes? Should there be signs to stay off the dunes?	Provide campsites with water and electric and a shower house with warm showers. Can a "tenter" hike out beyond the south parking and "back country" type tent back there? That would be good in a limited/permit situation. Can you come here and build a fire on the beach? Maybe a more specific brochure about what is allowed and hours.
Keeping it as natural as possible. Please do not add anymore features which take space.	Same as above	Seems great as it is.	Hire more rangers	
Preservation of the ecosystem. Wonderful unspoiled nature.	Preservation of the ecosystem	Active walking tours	Increase awareness among people	more bicycling trails?
Island is in motion. Could the motion drive it away from your interests	Is the defense departments need for an inland waterway have any conflicts with your plans.	What is the effect of ponies/feeding ponies?		I want more dog-friendly parkland.
Really like the store! Great for what you left behind. Nature and horses and camping by the beach	too many people	more crabbing education and teaching and spots to actually crab from.	recycle bins	open the annual pass lane sooner!
Easy access	clean safe water	we enjoy all the programs at the education center	keep waters clean	more booths when checking in.
More handicap parking closer to entrance to beach	Store is good news ... way over due!			
Ocean, shore landscape, horses.	That it continue to exist as it does now	swimming, hiking, biking, camping, interpretive signs, and programs	You are doing very well now. The last time I was here, I was bothered by <u>wave riders</u> .	Seems OK
The natural aspect	preserving what is here	turtle and bird education	elected officials	I think it is easy - you are doing a great job!
Stay at the beach for the whole day swimming and fishing	pollution, security, safety for kids	Tour guide (small session), history of the park, it will be great for schools and churches. Volunteer programs	Educating the public through fliers and through activity programs. Enforce regulation (littering)	Area maps at the ticket booth. 1. Shade areas around barbecue. 2. Designated sports play areas (volleyball, etc.). Great Park (Happy Visitor from VA) Thanx
No development! No boardwalks, no stands.	That they'll disappear	Not sure what's available now. It'd be nice to have kid friendly activities to get them involved with nature rather than trying to get to the boardwalk.	Just keep stuff from being built and no off-road vehicles.	think it's great.
The family memories created here.	parking needs to be extended on the south beach, it's our favorite spot, but limited parking affects our time here.	Kayaking instruction.	No smoking on beaches	Doing a great job!
Its beauty and peacefulness			No increased development. Preservation is a must.	Just fine! No changes
The wild ponies and the natural setting they live in.	Stop taking the wild ponies away, let nature take its course.	Advertise fun opportunities for children		Have a tram for sightseeing only.
The view	Pollution.	Volleyball	Prohibit Fishing.	More signs.
No commercialism. Nature and wildlife in natural state.	Too crowded -- extend the road and provide more beach access.	Fine as is - add a rustic classy snack bar	Fine as is -- Extend road and shrink off road area to open it to the public	Eliminate fee. What is it paying for? Roads should be public works paid for by tax long ago. Nature should be free to all - not NPS fundraiser.
Well managed, quiet, peaceful.	Development, water quality.	We love the ranger- led programs, especially kayak trips		Hot showers in the National Park campground.
Wildlife, classes, crabbing, campfires, ponies and beautiful landscape.	Crowds, rules on campfires, drinks on beach	crabbing, fishing, classes on importance of seashore wildlife, etc.	<u>Respect</u> it, <u>educate</u> about it!	A bus shuttle would help with crowds.
The ocean and ponies.	More Parking	Off-road tours run by Park Service.		Shuttle service.
Nature, Non-commercial	That it becomes a commercialized beach	Kayak tours	Keep up the great work	Trolley, Busing
The pristine nature, the ponies, everything here!	Over development	We enjoy the visitor's centers and the Park Rangers' knowledge and presentations	by limiting development and educating visitors to the park ... with Park Rangers!	we are happy with present arrangements
The beauty of nature, the wildlife, and the quality of the exhibits and visitor's center	will it suffer from budget cuts?	Keep all that you currently have. Possible photography workshops	Keep enforcing the current laws	Fine as is
Natural setting	Further development	Kayaking, sailing	Do not change the park, Very beautiful and want my children to come back with their children.	bikes.
				There should be benches by the shower so we can sit and put on shoes. This would reduce time in changing rooms.
The beach	cleanliness, trash, pollution.	Importance of keeping our beaches clean.	educating people.	longer boardwalk.
No development, natural beauty	little to no development.		keep it undeveloped.	
				Have annual permit added to price of OSV - 1 stop shopping. Signs to pull over to the shoulder if horse watching.

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				1. Hot water, Flush Toilets. 2. Move bikeways - parallel Bayberry return from south end; Old Ferry Road, Bayside. Hook ups on RV sites. Suggestions - 5 Minute parking at campground office parking lot #1. Horse trailer signing. Move either E-station counter or North Beach parking lot - North exit. Add ramp for bikeway on to North Beach parking lot.
Everything	Island disappearing	Crabbing - Clams classes	?	?
Natural, historic, ecologically pure, seasons, year-round beauty.	Commercialization	Naturalist, birding, history, ecology	Educate people	Keep it the way it is.
The natural aspect, peacefulness, preservation of the ocean, wildlife preservation - space.	Cleanliness, crowd control, preservation of the National Seashore.	Nature trails, environmental preservation.	less pollution, more facilities and maintenance of the seashore.	I am a first time visitor and I find the park easy to facilitate.
The family atmosphere. We like that the park incorporates family fun along with protection of the wildlife and their habitat. We love this park.	Encroachment of development and loss of beach due to erosion	The opportunity to swim and take wildlife tours are fantastic. More off-season tours would be something our family would participate in.	Encourage more car pooling into the park by offering lower fees for more occupants or something along those lines. Obtain more funds to purchase adjacent property.	I think what you have is perfect.
Public Beach access	N/A	Ocean life awareness and recreational activities. US sustainability.	Limit beach front road access	Don't think you can.
National seashore - no concession stands, clean beach.	Loss of dunes/beach	fishing/surf casting lessons.		
I love the environment. It's really relaxing	I don't want it to rain.	Nature tours.	Make sure people don't litter and respect the environment	I don't think it's bad.
No stores - Commercialism	Losing beaches			Better trail on main road to beach for bikes
Beach	Trash on the beach	Volleyball Nets	N/A	N/A
The ocean	Over population	Keep RV on beach overnight	Avoid pollution	Cheaper scooter rides!
The lighthouse and beach	Nothing	Ponies	Nothing	Road for bikes
The beach and wildlife	Growth	Anything with nature	Allow less cars	Leave it as is.
The beach grounds	erosion, trash	tours, fishing		find it easy
No commercial activity	Cost	As it is - no camping!	I think you are doing great!	Possibly another entrance
That it is undeveloped, yet accessible.	SUVs and hurricanes; over development; spending money on importing sand (that Nature will move as she will...)	The current panel of opportunities is effective; keep up the great work.	continue to educate the public; continue to limit structures on the barrier (for example, moving visitor's center "inland" was an effective move)	Perhaps a shuttle service with parking on Chincoteague. Current system works well (despite heavy traffic during peak times)
The wildlife and the beautiful beach	I've seen a little more litter on the beach this year (just because visitors don't care).	They have great Rec. and Ed. opportunities already	?	I think it's pretty easy to access everything already.
Wildness. I love the hike/bike beach but too many people are parking on the lanes	Overuse (no vendors)	Kayak program that is developing	encourage biking	it's ok now.
Beach, privacy.	weather damage	teach about the animals/fish on the island, global warming, etc.	Build dunes	Not sure. P.S. More showers please!
It's relaxed, peaceful. It's nice to have a beach that's natural without the craziness of a boardwalk, etc. It's cool to see how nature changes the island from year to year	I fear that it may become too commercial and lose the quaintness and relaxed feel that I love so much.	I love the nature walks. I wish they were available more often. I also love the special events - like being able to watch the meteor shower from the beach.	Continue to provide the informational packets and programs. It would be nice if the visitor's center was open extended hours.	There should be an entrance lane reserved for people who already have a pass.
The most special things are the natural, relaxed environment. I love the fact that there are no commercial facilities. The offerings (education, bird watches, etc.) are diversified and fun.	I would like the seashore to remain the clean, relaxed, non-commercial environment that it is now.	I feel the opportunities are wide now; the Jr. Ranger program is very worthwhile (we have graduates). We have participated in the Marsh Walk, Bird Walk, Campfire, Meteor Watch and Pony Tour.	Continue to provide the programs that educate the visitors to do their part. Also to Lobby for grants and funds to provide the Federal programs and involve the citizens to support these through websites, etc.	We have seen 20 years of changes in the access to the beach and island. The way it is now is functional, with minimal waits for entrance and parking.
The clean beaches/ fishing derbies for kids, a pond showing some wildlife to the kids/Ghost crab night	Wash away/erosion.		0 no comment	We have only been here twice and things are fine.
Natura and Nateral feel. Horses	Horses and pricing/pollution	classes/day ed all year round	limit # of people /Zoning	I feel it's fine. Keep it special, Buses / with drop off and pick up less vehicles car
Beautiful beach and natural therein	Horses and wildlife		limit no. of people	Drop off and pick-up Shuttle service
One of the most beautiful parks I've been to. I love the mixture of woods and beach	pollution!!!! And people not respecting nature.	I think it's perfect.	More trash cans.	I think it's very easy compared to other places.
The blend of National Park and Chincoteague Island. That the National Park stays natural	That there is enough funding to provide education and programs to enlighten the public.	More programs geared towards children during the day.	That's tough considering people that come here do not want to be controlled too much.	It is fine as it is.
Beach, Wildlife	too much government protection.	I like what you have.	By using common sense laws and encouraging people to be responsible	I think it is good the way it is, maybe parking and a shuttle from in town?
going in water and playing. Relaxing and reading, seashells	Pollution in water	teach about animals/any hands on	Tell people how to protect environment	Bicycle Path for bikes only.
Horses	Great	YES	Pick up trash	It's fine
The wildlife. Absence of development on the beach	Pollution. Trash	Jr. Ranger - already exists	control people traffic/car traffic	trolley to/from seashore. Electric vehicles for rent on islands.
Parking lot for RVs only				
Unbuilt and not too overcrowded. Keep Chincoteague small.	Overbuilding and pollution	Conservation and wildlife education.	Limit access and smart growth	Not sure.
Seclusion from resorts	Concern for wildlife, erosion of beach	Those at visitor's center are great!		
Natural beach, ponies	that it will eventually be commercialized like OC.	I think the tours are good. Bike trails are good.	Keep it the way it is now.	Wish I knew - getting here is the only bad part of coming here.
I have been coming here since I was a child - keeping this treasure for my kids to experience is important.	Erosion, over crowdedness	Kids Activities - They can appreciate	note sure	Making it <u>too</u> easy will create the crowds we do not enjoy
Seeing the wildlife - esp. the horses.	disruption of grounds by people.	All Okay - more website reading, info, details, what to do.	OK and understand, but not my major emphasis.	Better directions; Park signage on Rt 13, Near Wallops, In Chincoteague, esp. at drawbridge.

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The kids programs have been fabulous! Kids have done the Junior Ranger program and our whole family has learned so much from info about the beach ecology, turkey buzzards (favorite!) island lore, touch tank is fabulous. Can't wait until kids get a bit older and we can go more!	We need to keep the wild places wild!	Nature center and kids programs are a real educational gem. Kids love climbing the lighthouse and talking about the changing island dunes.	Keep going with the educational programs. Our kids remember their summers here.	I like that things are slow! Safe for the wildlife, but it also encourages people to slow down and observe.
The undeveloped beach	Clean water, preservation of wild areas			Bike paths alongside the roads.
The ocean and children's activities/programs	The ocean meeting the bay	Biking tours	Doing a great job	
Fishing/Ocean life	Trash	Hands-On opportunities to see the ocean life	None	None
Tom's Cove deck/trail, the Assateague Lighthouse, The Nature Circle	Pollution of the beach area	More family bonfire nights	Strict litter rules	Possibly add more right of way/separate roadways into the park/beach. Add sidewalks/bike trails along side road.
The ponies	Pollution			Rent golf cart type vehicles on the island
Atlantic flyway migration corridor	over crowding/development	Beach type sport fishing estuaries	Prevent development of barrier islands and estuaries	maintaining - road system and visitor's centers
Birding and the Beach	Keeping it natural	Natural trails, birding platform areas with interpreters. Better communication between National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife regarding walk, schedules, etc.	Improve Dune Protection. Limit areas for crabbing/protect the mud flats for wildlife.	Suggest: online weekly newsletter and update with photos and annotation. Need volunteer recruitment. Suggest: Friends group - and link with other friends groups - i.e. We are friends of Bombay Hook and members of Ding Darling.
The natural beauty and opportunity to share the natural world with our children	Ocean pollution, erosion, commercial building and interests	We love what you do (wish there were more kayak tours!)	Limiting commercial build up; keeping park a natural place where natural creatures are undisturbed and can be discovered quietly by people on foot	?
No hotels on the beach	Loss of wildlife	More bus tour times		Don't really know because I would hate to see boat docks, etc.
well first time here - and no buildings anywhere close to seashore. Afraid of encroachment	encroachment. Please no buildings	I guess more programs for children and adults to preserve the environment and wildlife	Keeping the way it is	Perfect the way it is
We love coming to Assateague because it is a natural seashore - we are glad the huge dune and steps of the past are gone	I hope that the seashore remains a national park and in its natural shape	we love the nature center and the young children's activities	Keep people on the path and trails	a shuttle from another area - or a limited entrance. We love Assateague!!
Very clean	Continued wildlife to exist to be viewed in their natural settings	Keep up the written description of activities of wildlife visible from trails	You appear to be doing your part - the visitors need to leave everything as it was when they found it	I had no issues to/from or around
the nature and emphasis on the environment	too many cars, etc.	please emphasize natural beauties, even if it makes life difficult for cars. For example, please close the wildlife loop to cars (maybe exempt the handicapped?)	You guys are doing great	I don't think you couldn't. It's lovely.
Beach access and spending weekends on the beach watching and enjoying the wildlife, helping to keep our beautiful island clean.	Closing the beach to vehicular traffic	beach access, history of the island, fishing, surfing, swimming, camping	enforce the rules that are already in effect	allow more vehicles on the beach
The beach, the wildlife, the fishing. I have been coming here since 1963 and I still get excited when I get to come here.	My biggest concern is that special interest groups are trying to close the beach to OSV people	I think that Assateague provides something for everyone. Because of the limit to the number of vehicles allowed on the beach I feel that some or all of the Virginia side should be opened.	I think the NPS is going a fine job of protecting Assateague while still allowing numerous uses of the beach	Opening more nature trails would be nice. I don't think that adding more roads would be of value.
We enjoy our 4x4 beach access as well as we use both the Federal and state campgrounds frequently	<u>Traffic</u> . We suggest a shuttle from the mainland for day trippers and we strongly support the limit on the number of vehicles on the beach	Guided tours by land and by sea	We have just spent two afternoons with our 5 gallon buckets picking trash, it really is <u>rewarding</u> ! Enforce litter laws! Encourage more group cleanups.	A shuttle from the mainland for day users
Best time spent with the family, enjoying nature and peacefulness of the beach. ORV access, family fishing adventures.	I, and my family are concerned for the future of ORV access, weather and control of the access of the current ORV. Being an avid fisherman, the area below km 22 to km 36 is most feared of losing access.	I have enjoyed the tours and presentations on the seashore, and look forward for them to continue.	Not by restricting ORV, but by better management of areas for nesting endangered birds. Also use common sense in the protection of these animals. Humans do little harm.	I would like to see the back road reopened, to allow access south on the ORV, when weather or protection warrants a closure. Also would like to see ORV from MD through VA.
The beach and beach access	Limits on Beach Access or Closure	More air pumps and dump stations	Better enforcement of current rules and use of OSV	Up the number of vehicles allowed on island.
The island is for the most part has not been developed. My family and I love driving down the beach and enjoying "privacy". Fishing and Clamming is a favorite of ours	Access to distant beach and bay areas	I think what the new visitor center is going to have available is close to all that is needed	Don't expand roads and parking lots	I don't think it should be easier, people respect it more the harder they work to get there.
To be able to go to the beach generation and carry your kids or grandkids to keep them off the streets and out of trouble	Gov. involvement making a decision to close or restrict access.	Why fix it if it is not broke. Govt. should monitor and let well enough alone.	How can we better protect the future of our children if we keep closing things down.	the only problem I have seen is at the toll booth. Keep two employees in there or make three lanes at that point.
Fishing, wildlife	Closure of ORV			Access road re-open
uncrowded pristine beaches with easy access for everyone	Public access - make sure special interest groups don't monopolize all the park resources	fishing, surfing, swimming, general beach use, kayaking, wildlife observation, camping, crabbing, clamming.	More education for park users.	More pull off spots for people to use when viewing wildlife so they don't stop in the middle of the road. One improvement I would like to see is the back road opened up to allow additional access to the OSV zone. Opening the Back Road will allow the NPS to keep the beach open more often when storms/tides cause closures of the beach. Another possibility with the back road opened is improved access to the bays behind the OSV zone. The biggest improvement that the Back Road will help with is to provide alternate routes around wildlife closures instead of closing off 2/3 of the OSV zone during the busiest time of year.

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The OSV access	Maintaining public access to the seashore and the OSV zone	I think visitors should be able to continue to enjoy the current recreational opportunities that are available. Educational programs for school children and summer camps are ideal.	Stop caging the plovers - foxes have learned to look for the cages (see # 6 on the last question)	More entrance booths for high traffic seasons. More parking, more roadside pull off areas for viewing wildlife. Do not allow stopping to view wildlife. See additional comments: 1. reopen the old road in the OSV zone. 2. Staff the gate more often for revenue - I have arrived at 8pm and followed a line of cars through that didn't pay. 3. Answer the door at night when people come to pay the entrance fee. I had a friend meet me later at night and when he knocked on the door to pay no one answered. There are people who want to pay to help. 4. Don't count campers in the bullpen towards the total amount on the beach. 5. Follow CI's example - control the pony population through an annual auction to help support AI preservation efforts. 6. When rangers get a call about a distressed animal send someone to help - we had a pelican that was tagged get caught on a bush or tree branch in its tag - it couldn't fly because of it. when I called the ranger station they said they would call DNR - no one every came to help the bird.
Opportunities for hunting - fishing and uncrowded beaches	Restriction or worse closure of the OSV zone!		A good job is being done already - Rangers are seen often patrolling the beach	OSV zone - restore the back road. The island is a NATIONAL SEASHORE , for all people to use within boundaries. I worry about special interest groups pushing ideas through that only benefit their interest.
A feeling and reality of an undeveloped rustic seashore with camping for families to enjoy.	How to coexist and viably progress in a fast paced and demanding world. I believe coexistence with Ocean City residential development and agriculture is possible.... Challenging, yet possible.	Those recreational opportunities that can be safely managed,. i.e. swimming, surfing, surf fishing, through the limited financial means afforded by our fed and state government . Also biking, hiking and camping, that underwrite health and good family and social values. Additionally "beach seminars" couple days during the week to educate the continuing issues of Assateague i.e. history, challenges, safety, and importance of Park Rangers and the Park system to our state and country.	Education and stressing why coexistence is mutually beneficial to our local human race	Mass transit, practical traffic management, education as to the traffic demands where people choose alternative times to arrive . Enhanced working relationships with municipal, county, and state government that contribute to improved transportation for all. Monies are under siege but creative ideas - marketing, legacy promotion can be successful.
The most special aspect of Assateague is its unspoiled, natural landscape. For the past 21 years it's been a place for me to go and leave the daily hustle and bustle on the other side of the bridge. It's been a place for my children to learn about nature and how fragile it can be.	My biggest concern is that the environmentalist will have a larger influence on closing the beach, than the actual beach users will have on keeping it open. I'm an AMSA member, and as far as I'm concerned our members take better care of the beach than anyone else.	Allowing groups of kids to have free camps on the ORV zone. Let them help the rangers with their daily routines to see what is involved to maintaining the beach. My kids learned never to litter after 1 AMSA beach cleanup.	Even though the amount of visitors may be increasing I don't like all the additional parking that has recently been added. The size of the park is shrinking, and the amount of people is growing. Once the park is full people should be turned back. More parking lots means less habitat for wildlife.	Making the entrance Rd two lanes in, one out. The two coming in should be separated for annual pass campers, and those visiting only a couple of hours. Rebuilding the inland Rd on the ORV area would lighten the traffic on the beach limiting erosion. People would use it to go directly to the bull pen or where ever. In the ORV zone I have a self contained truck camper that can be subject to inspection to check holding tanks. In my travels up and down the beach I've seen many day trippers headed towards the dunes with toilet paper under their arm. I've also seen them with collapsible outhouse tents, are they inspected to see where their waste is going? I also think the ORV users need to be subject to large fines for littering, speeding, and not cleaning up fire pits.
Fresh air, clean beach, natural habitat	Keeping it <u>open</u> for the future generations to enjoy.	Ask for volunteers from AMSA, MCB, Assateague Alliance to help promote Rec and educ workshops - use this facility!	OSV safety course?	East congestion at entrance with rangers directing pass holders through.
I enjoy the extent to which the park is left or maintained in its natural state. I am a surf fisherman, and it is a special pleasure to be able to fish from the beach in a beautiful wilderness environment. The simple beauty of the AINS should be maintained for the public's enjoyment as is the original purpose of national parks.	One of my primary concerns is about the potential for public access to be restricted from areas such as the beach due to influences by certain special interest groups that do not have the public's interest at heart and do not use the park themselves. It has been shown in other parks/recreation areas that misguided and "junk science" has been allowed to trump common sense as well as fact, ultimately restricting public access.	I support a wide variety of interpretive and educational displays, programs, tours that increase the public's awareness and understanding of the park's natural resources. I also favor recreational opportunities such as surf fishing, the ORV zone, camping, and other water uses such as kayaking, shell fishing and other kinds of fishing.	I believe that the wild pony population should be reduced to a more sustainable level by an occasional public auction of selected animals. Also, I believe that if the "back road" behind the dunes were reopened and maintained, along with the several beach vehicle crossings, the beach could still be accessed by fisherman while "portioning" off areas for bird nesting when necessary. It is entirely unnecessary to restrict access to the near shore portion of the beach for such long distances if the plovers are only nesting in specific areas.	My primary suggestion is to reopen and maintain the back road for ORV access, as well as the numerous dune crossings. I realize this may not be practical in all locations, but it is a possible solution for access in some situations.
Parking lots and Beach access. ORV access.	Beach erosion	Continue water trails south. Continue educational programs	Be proactive to save beaches	Auto pay method
The freedom to 4wd the 12 1/2 miles of beach looking for good surf and fishing spots.	Environmentalist finding a way to stop 4wd vehicles from accessing the beach.	Preservation rooted in scientific facts not emotion. Also allowing PWC access to a designated area from fisherman, swimmers, and surfers.	I think you are doing a good job now, however I think the Amaranth and Plover will eventually endanger the 4wd privileges.	1. Fence the road keeping the horses out and increasing the speed limit. 2. enforcing the no stopping law for those that stop to see the horses. 3. widening the toll area to 2 lanes, one for passes and the other for paying visitors.

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The beach, the fishing, the ponies, and the deer. I've been coming to Assateague since 1965 and I still get excited every time I come down.	My concern is that special interest groups are going to try and shut down Assateague like they did in North Carolina.	I would like to see more nature trails and exhibits like the visitors center		I would like to see more markers on the OSV zone so that is easier to tell where you are. It would also make it easier to give the rangers a location when you call to report problems of people acting in a manner that is detrimental to Assateague or its wildlife.
Horses, open beach, "Natural" surroundings	Over building to accommodate seasonal crowds, reduction of ORV zone, reduction of horse herd.	You're doing fine now.	Don't over expand/ develop. Limit northern end boat landing congestion.	It's ok as is - except for limited periods during summer weekends. To enjoy the experience people need to be patient.
The ability to access the OSV section of the park with my family to fish and enjoy the beach and water. The uniqueness of this experience (driving on the beach) is what is most special.	Accessibility. I live in Berlin and have to be at Assateague by 8:30 to get on the OSV section. Otherwise we have to wait several hours. I know of no other national park with this restriction.	Fishing, surfing, swimming. I would not include hunting as most animals are relatively tame.	The protection now is more than adequate. I think there should be a compromise between protection and accessibility.	Please, please, please open up the back road in the OSV section to allow for accessibility around protected plants and animals. *Increase the vehicle limit to 300.
Unspoiled open space. Surf fishing, over the sand vehicle use and swimming/picnicking.	Overcrowding and destroying the environment	Education on the human impact on nature	Your staff does a wonderful job	Easy access will lead to overcrowding. The journey and the wait is worth it all!
For three generations my family has enjoyed this park and I would like to see my children be able to take their children to see this wonderful resource.	Access to vehicles. Access to fisherman.	ORV access to this wonderful natural resource. More ORV access to vehicles.	Work with local groups like AMSA to ensure protection and conservation of this national resource.	Expand access to the ORV zone. Work with local groups to expand knowledge and respect of this national park.
It provides an opportunity to spend time on the oceanfront away from the crowds and commercial exploitations.	I am concerned that NPS will try to accommodate too many people with parking lots, lifeguards, bathhouses, etc.etc.etc. Let those people go to O.C.	All recreation and education should be designated to use AI as it is. Don't keep adding facilities.	See above.	Don't. The current OSV program meets the needs without significant impact. The OSV people are a vast untapped resource. Need something done, just ask and we will be there.
Being able to spend time with children and grandchildren.	That we will continue to use it for fishing and recreation.	Over sand for vehicles and a walkway down the seashore for hikers.	It has been here for hundreds of years. More area planting. thinning of the ponies.	Maybe paths and a layer of parking area at the end of the road at the beginning of the OSV. Possible a two land road marked off up and down the beach.
The proximity and dramatic difference between developed Ocean City and natural areas. Quick visits to see the ponies.	Maintain public access and programs to encourage exploration.	Boat tours - interpretive ride or day trip to Chincoteague.		Extend vehicle access (or shuttle/tour) to mid point of the MD seashore.
Nearly was born and raised on the beach. I am 64 years old.	Keep our ORV open so we can continue to stay on the beach	School kids learn a lot from		
Access to the ocean for swimming and other aquatic activities. - Access to trails for hiking and interpretation opportunities. - Access to the bay. - preservation of open space on the barrier island.	Ability to sustain continued off road vehicle access. - ability of the island to withstand invasive species.	Access to water and aquatic rec opportunities. - Improved/expanded rec. opportunities year round. - more planned outdoor rec. programs and activities. - more rec offerings for "locals". - continue food and beverage options for visitors.	Control invasive species. - erosion control. - better traffic management on island to separate destination travels from horse sight-seers.	Re-design the entry/gate area on the island. - improve the bikeway/pathway system and way finding beyond the gate.
Peace, quiet, wildlife, excellent fishing.	That it stays open for everyone to use.	Fishing, surfing, swimming, hiking, hunting.	Keep the vehicle count at 145. Keep the trash cleaned up.	Improve the ORV Access ramp.
The beach and sun	That there will be no future for my grandchildren.	What reckless action does to the beach	None	Nothing.
Open spaces	That there will be a space for clothing optional use.	All	Keep open	N/A
The wildlife and fishing and the peacefulness	Not being able to use the island to fish and just visit.	Helping everyone to learn how to protect the animals and to cleanup before they leave.		Weather conditions at the beach and a number to call to see if the beach is open to ORVs.
Magnificent beach, wildlife, gorgeous vistas.	I have noticed a dramatic increase in popularity which could lead to unfavorable impact on the island's ecology. The dunes in the national park seem to have greatly suffered. At one time there was an effort to build and preserve dunes which needs to be started again.		Control horse populations. Build and preserve dunes. Rethinking vehicle - ORV - access.	Add an entrance lane or two. Maintain an automatic gate for annual pass holders at all times. Provide a free shuttle and free admission to those who park west of the bridge. Make sure the shuttle has plenty of room for gear.
The ability to drive in the OSV area - the plants and animals that live on the island and allow us to visit them respectfully. FISHING - whether we catch them or not.	The rapid change to the dunes - the disrespect of visitors. The disregard for the inhabitants	Teach OSV users how to use the beach when they ask to get an OSV permit. <u>Too</u> many people in the OSV area without proper equipment or knowledge of how to run the beach.	Education in the <u>local</u> schools - online programs - school promotions - how to teach <u>respect</u> !	I don't think the general public need easier access. The OSV road must be budgeted in any plan, maintained and constructed with seashell base and weekly or as needed repair. Please make the GMD map available for Sale. Junior Ranger - how to drive in the OSV zone. A coloring book that will teach the techniques of driving in all types of sand. This book would be separate from the current junior ranger workbook.
Fishing - access through the OSV zone.	Maintenance of the OSV zone. Budget construction and maintenance of the OSV on ramp	Continue excellent in house programs - expand programs to local schools.	Education of how fragile the island is - respect for the island.	This island is a National Treasure - I do <u>not</u> see excessive DO NOT touch signs - DO NOT trespass - we need more educational programs to teach respect. OSV pass for the bullpen must be picked up at ranger station. OSV passes can be ordered by phone or mail. When you are fined for not having proper equipment or speeding you will loose your surf permit - Forfeit on citation.

What is most special to you about Assateague Island National Seashore?	What are your concerns for the Seashore's future?	What recreational and educational opportunities do you think should be available to visitors at the Seashore?	How can we better protect the natural environment and ecological values of the Seashore?	How can we make it easier to get onto and around the Seashore?
The ability to use it in so many ways.	That people who use it do not respect it to the degree they their use causes irreparable harm. Then there are those who do not understand how their decisions cause a negative res.	Those in place are enough	Continuing education especially families, youth, clubs, organizations.	Why does it have to be made any easier? The flow is generally good except at the gate during busy times. Another booth should be added. 1. We need to be careful that restriction on OSV use do not make it less enjoyable. 2. More permits (daily) should be allowed. 3. Better enforcement on dogs off leashes. 4. Better maintenance of entry way. 5. Keep people off dunes. Better enforcement needed. Use of trails only. 6. Recognize those who protect the interests of the island and monitor those who do not more closely.
The plants, animals and birds that are present at the seashore and refuge make it all worthwhile.	Will jetties or other barriers be created to reduce sand migration.	Very easy to say, but hard to do - increase parking at south end.	Stop private citizens from riding horses at south end. We really don't need full access to vehicles over the sand.	The shuttle concept at the southern end needs to be explained as to all shuttle or cars and shuttle.
The heritage of Assateague, its history	not really knowing its future. Unclear to the community.	Communicate some of the island's history to the visitors. The water tour started this year were good. Start some presentations for senior citizens.	Educate the public on how they can help.	Express lane. A bus system will expose those of the beach to sudden storms.
Continue abundant parking at south end and increase area for parking.	South end parking and economy of Chincoteague.	Swimming, hiking.	South end snow fence, jetty, and dredging of sand to beach.	Open up all areas to ORV.
It is a public beach. One small fee to Access Assateague, no extra parking fee, no invasion of noise or commercial activity.	Erosion continually moves the inner and outer edges. Easy access depends too much on automobiles, but tourists are creative - many tow chairs, etc. in kiddie trailers behind bikes.	Recreational - peace from radios, etc; life-guard section is good now; there used to be a screened amphitheater and evening talks on the beach through the summer - great for evenings with kids in the fresh sea air.	Limit the amount of <u>stuff</u> people bring to the beach. Make ranger patrols visible during high visitation hours. <u>More accessible</u> recycling containers.	Have at least one regular passenger shuttle from the town to the beach. Many people do not want to stay all day and would take the opportunity to be driven and not have to find a parking spot.
The natural area without a lot of infrastructure	continued or expanded OSV use. One of the things I most enjoy is the ability to get away from others and enjoy the beach, sky, ocean. The intrusion of ORVs onto that is very sad.	Those that require minimal "stuff"	Prohibit ORVs. Eliminate smoking on the beach. Protect surrounding waterways.	Improve bike trail access on seashore and local community.
The unspoiled beauty with private areas appropriate for clothing optional use.	Too much commercialization, invasive species damage.	A designated area for clothing - optional use will make management simple, meet a proven public need and earn NPS a strong effective partner in beach protection.		
Natural, undeveloped environment, wildlife habitat.	too much development	enjoy ranger-led walks - explaining natural environment, birding, crabbing. Camping.	Limit off-road vehicles - would it be possible for fisher folk to walk to fishing destinations? South end towards hook, too many vehicles, rutted, narrow.	Hiker-biker paths - extend existing paths. Restore Swans Cove Trail. Link Black Duck Trail to beach. Provide safer bike trail from Chincoteague circle.
Isolated pristine natural environment, ideal for a weekend outing.	Accommodation of all interests regarding a diversity of uses while respecting the natural environment.	Signaled clothing-optional family beach area.	Educate visitors at entrance areas with a brochure explaining how to protect the island	Off-road shuttle service.
OSV, Stargazing, wildlife, fishing, shell hunting, sunrises, sunsets, swimming, cooking on the beach, campfires, being outside with family and friends.	OSV access, litigation, wilderness designation, environmental lawyers, Audubon society, sierra club, defenders of wildlife, PETA, DOI (upper echelon). People's voices not being heard, predator control, excessive fees.	fishing, hunting, shell collecting, surfing, star gazing, bird/wildlife watching, OSV education/licensing, clamming, kayaking, fires, beach cooking.	Adaptive management, wardening of resources, plant sea Beach Amaranth out of OSV zone, use NWR for resource projects.	More parking, open the back road, shuttles, increase OSV carrying capacity, create/restore more OSV access ramps, establish routes around resource/safety closures, replace 2nd bullpen.
Pristine barrier island with protected habitat for diverse species.	unsightly windmill farms for wind power offshore. Climate change may cause sea level rise which will damage island. Will also affect migratory birds.	A larger visitor center could provide exhibits on the marine creatures and ecology of the shore. Could also show films.	Don't expand beach parking. Encourage people to use a shuttle bus (specially designed to accommodate beach umbrellas!) work with Chincoteague town people to gain their support. Are there problems with pollution?	
The (mostly) uncluttered and natural state of most of the island. Although some rules seem restrictive, I applaud the results!	I believe the natural action of the barrier island will protect what needs to be done. I would object to man-made dikes/dunes etc.	As a biker, I would appreciate more bike trails, particularly maintaining and expanding bike/hike only access to the beach areas.	Judicious management and avoidance of over-zealous protective action. I think the GMP is a great start and appreciate the opportunity to participate.	Expand bike trails and limit vehicular traffic, i.e. public buses/trolleys to beach areas vs. privately owned.
Natural habitat allowed to adapt to changing forces (e.g.. Erosion, storms, global warming).	Too many visitors, too concentrated. But maybe that's best to preserve the rest of the area.	Swim, hike, bike. Non-mechanized, non-destructive e.g.. No ORV's, personal high-speed watercraft.	You're doing a good job allowing the barrier island to move - keep it up. Reduce ORV use on hook, which is sensitive. Maybe a public transport to get fisherman down there, but not their ORV's.	Maybe public transport to beaches near Wash Flats for a limited number of people per day, if birds aren't using the area that year. Spread the impact, reduce pressure on hook area.
The preserve habitat and public use, but to a limit!	Beach erosion and too many people use on the habitat	Continue the current programs!	By limiting public use and vehicular access	Keep the comment system!
Beach access, OSV access and natural environment	Beach erosion and OSV access	Current programs	Attempt to prevent beach loss/erosion.	During peak use times you could provide an express booth for those who already possess a pass to CNWR
The beautiful, unspoiled, non-commercialized beach; the wildlife and wildflowers.	overuse by humans	seems just about right	not sure what could be better	It seems fine. I would not favor widening roads or other means of attracting more traffic.
Being able to drive on beach. Both my husband and myself could not walk over the dune carrying beach chairs, beach bag, coolers, etc. We may only use the beach if we are able to drive on.	Closing of the 4x4 section to all vehicle traffic	Educate people on driving on beach. Teach public about wildlife.	Better education not to feed animals. Have back road open so vehicles will not be tempted to ride on dunes when high water.	Have the back road reopened.
OSV access allows uncrowded surf fishing without conflicts with bathers and surfers on the beach. This recreational opportunity was a key factor for us to relocated from Connecticut to South Points 10 years ago.	Want OSV to remain open. Beach erosion, re-engineer the O.C. inlet to stop the flow of Assateague Island beach sand from filling the bays	Establish clam and oyster beds along Assateague bayshore line for recreational clamming. Have more beach clean-ups. Educate users to clean up after themselves	establish mussel beds along the O.C. inlet rocks the bivalves would help clean up the waters	Implement senior golden pass access thru self-swipe gate. Build a third gate entry for daily/weekly visitors.
Its natural beauty and my access to the beauty. I have been visiting my whole life. From camping, hunting, fishing.	Beach access	Fishing, crabbing, hunting, beach combing, etc.	Write huge tickets to idiots who litter	open up the back road... more OSV access points

What is most special to you about Assateague Island National Seashore?	What are your concerns for the Seashore's future?	What recreational and educational opportunities do you think should be available to visitors at the Seashore?	How can we better protect the natural environment and ecological values of the Seashore?	How can we make it easier to get onto and around the Seashore?
I have enjoyed Assateague Island for several 4 decades. I have brought my students here for a week long outdoor education experience, camped there with my family; kayaked the back bay, surf fished, hiked, watched the birds, and looked for different animals. The area is peaceful, and is a place the needs to be open to the public; after all it is a national seashore, not wildlife reserve.	I enjoy using the ORV area. It provides me access to fish on the island. Utilizing that area also provides me access to hiking, looking at the historical buildings on the island. I try to enjoy the island when there are not so many people there. In the summer I do anchor up at the northern end of the park and enjoy the back bay, sun an hiking along the beach. I have concerns that the "public comment" process is just an activity that can be used to say, we have had had it, here is the new management plan. I am sure that there is a management plan already developed, either on paper or in someone's mind. I am sure that someone has an idea or thought of the rough outline of how this new management plan will look. I wish that there was public disclosure of those tenets now. The island belongs to the nation, and should be accessible by everyone. I look at the beaches in North Carolina. It is a sad commentary on the process.	I would like a greater detail of the history of the island. I would enjoy a pamphlet with gps coordinates of the old hunting lodges, and houses. This would provide me with mid winter places to hike and enjoy looking at the events that took place on the island. I would like to have additional "put ins" for kayaking in the back bay. The park service could use the plastic material that was on the parking lot next to the environmental center to maintain that road. It would allow for washovers and still maintain the road integrity. I also think that if there are closures for birds, active fishermen should have a detour and use the back goad to go around the closure.	I spoke to you about this, and have written to you several times. Have a cooperative agreement with UMES, Perdue chicken, Mt. Air Company. Take the eggs from the nests of the plovers early, before predators take them, or before storms come. Have them harvest the eggs and hatch them into fledglings. This birds will lay more eggs, and they will be raised the "natural" way. If the birds are on an endangered list and it is important to improve their populations then this would be one way to increase their numbers. Some questions I have. The bald eagle is not off the endangered list. 1. What is the population of the piping plover now? 2. What is the number that would take this bird off the endangered species list? 3. What is being done in New Jersey, since that is where the greatest density of the bird is, to maintain their nesting areas? I understand that is is the NPS response that nature should not be intervened with. The park service has poisoned the phragmites and had a control burn of the grasses. If this is truly a problem, then the NPS should take a proactive approach to increase the numbers of the birds, not prohibit the use of the national seashore.	
The natural beauty of the island. At one with nature whether fishing, camping, hiking or just relaxing.	My access could be limited in the future especially over sand vehicles.	I cannot think of any other recreational opportunities. Educational opportunities. I do not know how involves in public and private schools.	I'm sure it is a challenge to balance access to the island but still try to protect its resources, but if you limit access to much what purpose who the island serves, it would become only an educational resource.	Access seems to be easy, never had a problem, except in summer season but I understand that and adjust accordingly.
		I would very positive to having part of the National Park available to nude recreation. This type of recreation is widely acceptable and safely practiced by tens of thousands of Americans. Having a section of the Park open for the option of nudity , would greatly enhance the whole visitor awareness of Assateague N.P. Having been a Premier member of AANR for 5 years and been to nude beaches and resorts , I personally can say the nudist population are kind and friendly . The Best of all is Nudists take great pride and care on making sure all activities are done so with discretion. The Park can only be enhanced by the inclusion of nude recreation. Please take my words in consideration when this topic comes up in your discussions. P.S Nudists are kind , eco- friendly , and willing to volunteer for good causes !!		
		I strongly encourage the NPS to dedicate a portion of the Seashore for use by naturists. This is a wonderful opportunity for the United States to begin to appreciate what Europeans have know for many years -- that enjoying nature free of clothes is healthy and liberating, and - if managed well - need not interfere with the enjoyment of the outdoors by those who prefer to be clothed.		

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Assateague Island contains the most extensive beach habitat in Maryland and is the state's premier breeding site for beach-nesting birds. The National Audubon Society has recognized Assateague Island as an Important Bird Area (IBA) of global significance due to its nesting population of the Federally Threatened Piping Plover. The population of Piping Plovers that nest annually at ASIS represent about 2% of the world's population of this species. Other beach-nesting birds of conservation priority at Assateague include Least Tern (Maryland State Threatened), Black Skimmer (Maryland State Endangered), American Oystercatcher, and Common Tern. Least Tern colonies on ASIS represent one of the largest nesting aggregations of this species in Maryland, as most nests for this species are now on artificial surfaces (i.e. rooftops). American Oystercatchers nest solitarily throughout the island. Black Skimmers and Common Terns nest at ASIS occasionally.	Audubon Maryland-DC's main concerns are the threats which face both the nesting and migrating birds of ASIS. These threats include beach erosion, disturbance, predators, and sea level rise. Piping Plovers and other beach-nesting birds are highly vulnerable to predation by a variety of mammalian and avian predators and predation is the greatest cause of nest failure. Disturbance by humans, pets, vehicles and horses can greatly increase the likelihood of predation, by increasing activity of parent birds around the nest. The impacts of OSV use are felt in reduced prey abundance for migrating shorebirds. The erosion of beach nesting habitat from man-made structures, natural processes, and storm events continues to be a prime threat to ASIS's beach-nesting birds. Sea level rise could have major detrimental impact on the island's salt marsh and beach habitats and the species that depend on them.	Audubon Maryland-DC supports continued and increased education opportunities for visitors to learn about the significance of ASIS to beach-nesting birds, salt marsh-nesting bird and other wildlife. Visitors should be made aware of current management and monitoring practices and how the public's use of Assateague impacts the island's ecosystem and distinctive birdlife. Specific materials should be developed that educate visitors on the effects of OSV use on beach-nesting birds and migrant shorebirds on the beach. We recommend the creation of an educator position that would deliver programs and information to the public specifically related to beach-nesting birds at ASIS, including ecology, threats, monitoring and management.	bird management and monitoring practices in the updated General Management Plan for Assateague Island National Seashore (ASIS): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine and implement the best management practices for maintaining high-quality Piping Plover nesting habitat on ASIS, especially on the storm berm at the island's north end. • Quantitatively assess the effects of storm berm notches on Piping Plover reproductive success, and continue/change management accordingly. • Continue use of predator exclosures for Piping Plover nests. • Continue removal of mammalian and avian nest predators as necessary to prevent and mitigate Piping Plover nest failure due to depredation. • Continue rigorous monitoring of beach-nesting birds, including Piping Plover, Least Tern, and American Oystercatcher. • Quantitatively assess the effects of pony grazing on salt marsh habitat and salt marsh-nesting birds, including Saltmarsh Sparrow and Seaside Sparrow. • Maintain appropriate beach closures, including OSV zone, as necessary for nesting Piping Plovers. Use clearly marked signage and frequent public notification. • Explore the feasibility of creating suitable breeding conditions for Piping Plover through vegetation removal and artificial disturbance if the natural disturbance regime fails to maintain the plover population. • Determine the likely impacts of sea level rise on the island's 	Audubon Maryland-DC would support the addition of public transit to and from ASIS, as it could reduce the ecologically detrimental and costly impacts of automobile parking and transportation on Assateague. An NPS shuttle service could prove more cost-effective than maintaining extensive repeatedly eroding parking areas on Assateague. The location of parking areas on the mainland would reduce the amount of developed area on an Assateague Island which already has limited land.
The simple fact that it is free of the cheap commercialism and alcohol-based commerce in nearby Ocean City.	Natural population growth will pressure the park.	All forms of hiking, birding and water activity like surfing, swimming, fishing, kayaking/canoing, kitesurfing and sailing should top the priority as this is, as you called it, a Seashore park not an inland park.	A near impossible task given the changing environment and requirements that public lands be shared by the taxpayers that support it. You have relinquished much via the ORV zones and suppression of other activities in other parts of the park to compensate - places an unfair burden on ordinary park-and-walk visitors.	A)I would have a series of small, 3-5 space parking areas along the main road to allow people to look out between the openings and get out to look at horses. ...and clear signage: NO STOPPING ON ROAD. B) Expand the historical exhibit parking between the main and south parking area and allow walkover onto the beach to relieve some of the pressure of the south beach area. C) Give surf fishermen an area so their lines are not amongst swimmers. D) Disallow surf fishing with long lines for Shark. Attracting sharks is logically in conflict with children and other people being in the water.
The natural beauty and the peacefulness.	I am worried that if the users and the Park Management don't work together there will be more closures and restrictions then there is now.	I do not feel that more recreational programs are needed, the Park is the recreation people are looking for.	Better educational programs for the users.	I feel that the access to the Park is fine as it is now. I feel that there should be alternate routes around nesting areas when possible. There should be a way off the front beach during high tides and washouts, the old back road would do this.
Off-shore wilderness, like any wilderness has restorative properties for those who visit. You feel rejuvenated, relaxed and at-home with yourself, more than in any city environment, even a man-made park.	Rising sea level, floating trash brought in by sea current, hurricane devastation,	Commercial or gov't run boat rental, concerts (if access is robust for an audience to arrive on-time, designated trails, designated naturist zone(s).	NPS can supply one or Rangers to patrol the area, in order to handle gross negligent behaviors such as leaving trash, firing weapons, poaching, frightening other visitors.	A private ferry concessionary service, with reasonable hours and a regular schedule.
OSV and fishing the many miles of beach.	My major concern is the OSV zone and that it stay open. I hope that along with it being open I'd like to see better access to it and better managed.	More information about Surf Fishing	I feel the current way enforcement of ecological values are enforced correctly and adequate. I think the piping plover closures seem a little over the edge and need to be modified to allow visitors in the OSV area to drive around the closure areas.	In the OSV area, the back road if re opened could help both fisherman along with environmental groups. If a closure is in effect for a area, people can simply detour the closed area via the back road and be able to go further south to where they would like to fish. 145 vehicle limit. Would like to see this number increased, to allow for the busy season. many times I have visited the OSV area on a busy weekend when the one-on/one-off policy is in effect. I've found that once I get on the beach I find groups of people clumped together, while other areas of the beach are wide open, where people could park and still have adequate space to fish, surf, and enjoy themselves.
That this seashore belongs to WE the PEOPLE, not you the government, you are there to MANAGE not destroy or eliminate ANY resource!	My greatest concern is with the government control, the mindset to fix something that isn't broke, the eradication of the sika deer and the traditions, heritage and opportunity that go with them. The loss of income they generate to local businesses.	EVERYTHING! don't you dare take away ANY current recreation opportunities currently existing.	Quit building bath houses and parking lots, board walks and blacktop roads.	Limit OVS permits to MD citizens only, reduce the current ridiculous OVS fees, reduce the horse population to where they will no longer be a traffic hazard and will also reduce injuries to the out of state visitors that cant read the many WARNING signs. EI

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the most special thing about the seashore is going there to kiteboard with my family in tow. Spending time on the beach watching the waves and playing in the sand with my two daughters.	I am most concerned that access will be limited some how. I want to be able to go to the seashore when I have the desire.	I am most concerned with topic #2 I have been kiteboarding at Assateague National Park for 8 years now. I would like to see continued equal access for our recreation in the national park. It is a low impact activity that contributes to revenue in the park as well as the local economy of Berlin and Ocean City, MD.	Through education of the visitors of the park.	I think this is already done pretty well.
The spacious beautiful beaches and the oversand vehicle area are our favorites. We like to travel down the beach and find an area with plenty of space for our family to swim, play ball, and relax. Also the oceanside camping area is incredible and we enjoy our time there in our travel trailer.	Our concerns would be the loss of the miles of the oversand vehicle area which is a treasure and provides a beach experience unlike any other we've ever seen.	We enjoy the miles of beaches and the oversand vehicle area. We are very impressed with the management of all areas. I'm sure we have not taken advantage of all the educational opportunities but have enjoyed those that we have. The park rangers are wonderful and have endless patience with the crowds of summer!	We are not really experts at protecting the natural environment but support the Island's efforts to maintain and protect itself.	The access is amazing right now, I can't think of how to improve it. We hope that the current access remains, and that the park remains dog friendly!