

Cape Hatteras National Seashore Annual Law Enforcement Report 2010



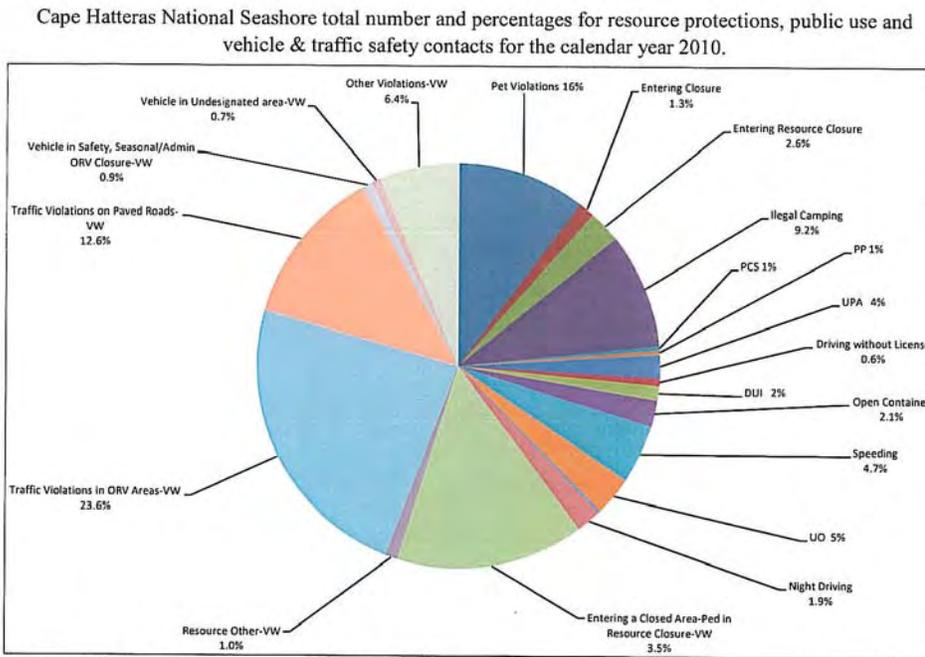
Ramp 70 on Ocracoke Island, Saturday, May 29, 2010

**National Park Service
Cape Hatteras National Seashore
1401 National Park Drive
Manteo, NC 27954**

Introduction

This report summarizes law enforcement and visitor use data for Cape Hatteras National Seashore (CAHA) for calendar year 2010. The information on LE contacts is based on weekly reports prepared by each ranger district and includes citations, written warnings, and verbal warnings issued for resource protection violations and vehicle and traffic safety violations. There was increased emphasis in 2010 on documenting verbal warnings, compared to prior years, in order to more accurately represent the total number and kinds of contacts.

2010 LE Contacts by Violation Type



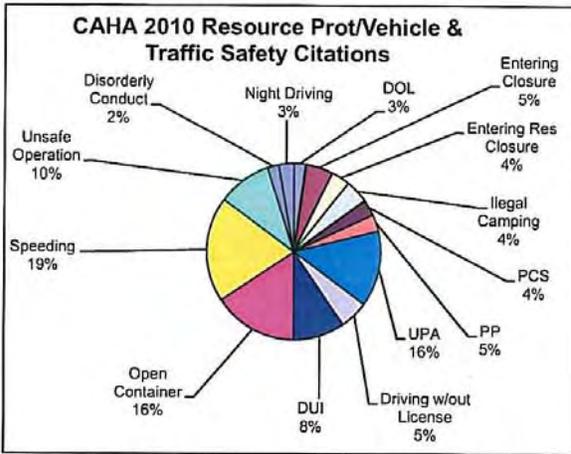
Written Warnings/Citations/Verbal Warnings

Pet Violations	495
Entering Closure	62
Entering Resource Closure	126
Illegal Camping	443
Possession of Controlled Substances (PCS)	17
Possession of Paraphernalia (PP)	17
Underage Possession of Alcohol (UPA)	91
Driving without License	29
Driving Under the Influence (DUI)	54
Open Container	103
Speeding	227
Unsafe Operation (UO)	151
Disorderly Conduct	12
Night Driving	94
Misc. Alcohol-VW	730
Resource Other-VW	47
Traffic Violations in ORV Areas-VW	1140
Traffic Violations on Paved Roads-VW	611
Vehicle in Safety, Seasonal/Admin ORV Closure	42
Vehicle in Undesignated area-VW	34
Other Violations-VW	309
TOTAL	4834

2010 LE Contacts by Enforcement Level

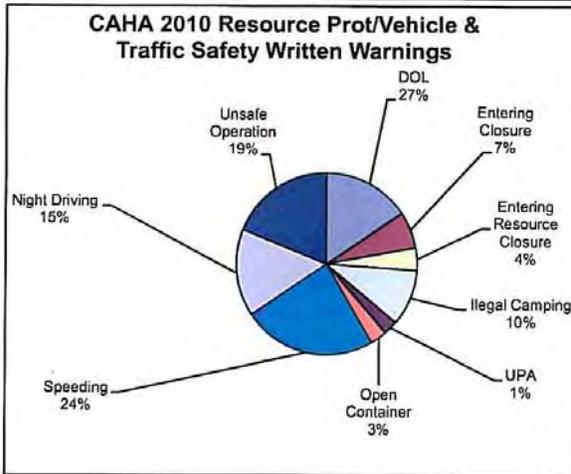
ENFORCEMENT CAHA 2010 Resource Protection/Vehicle & Traffic Safety Total Violator Contacts

The three diagrams below represent the total number and percentages of resource protection, public use and vehicle & traffic safety violator contacts documented at CAHA for calendar 2010. They are identified by citations, written warnings and verbal warnings.



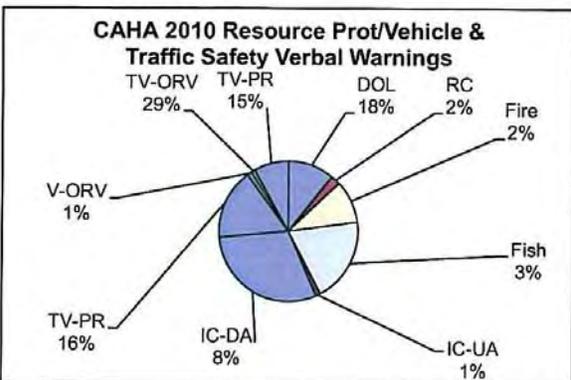
Citations

Pet Violations (DOL)	12
Entering Closure	29
Entering Res Closure	19
Illegal Camping	24
Possession of Controlled Substances (PCS)	17
Possession of Paraphernalia (PP)	17
Underage Possession of Alcohol (UPA)	78
Driving w/out License	29
Driving Under the Influence (DUI)	54
Open Container	88
Speeding	107
Unsafe Operation	56
Disorderly Conduct	12
Night Driving	16
TOTAL	558



Written Warnings

Pet Violations (DOL)	78
Entering Closure	33
Entering Resource Closure	20
Illegal Camping	50
Underage Possession of Alcohol (UPA)	13
Open Container	15
Speeding	120
Night Driving	78
Unsafe Operation	95
TOTAL	502



Verbal Warnings

Pet Violations (DOL)	405
Entering a Closer Area-Ped in Resource Closure (RC)	87
Illegal Camping	369
Misc. Alcohol	730
Resource Other	47
Traffic Violations in ORV Areas (TV-ORV)	1140
Traffic Violations on Paved Roads (TV-PR)	611
Vehicle in Safety, Seasonal/Admin ORV Closure (V-ORV)	42
Vehicle in Undesignated area (VUA)	34
Other Violations	309
TOTAL	3774

2010 LE Contacts by Incident Location and Violator's State of Origin

Cape Hatteras National Seashore Violations by Incident Location and Violator's State

DISORDERLY CONDUCT CITATIONS		
BEACH	VA	5
BEACH	MD	1
BEACH	NC	1
BOAT RAMP	VA	1
CAMPGROUND	VA	3
ROAD	NC	1
TOTAL		12

DUI CITATIONS		
BEACH	VA	12
BEACH	NC	8
BEACH	KY	2
BEACH	PA	2
BEACH	FL	1
BEACH	TN	1
CAMPGROUND	VA	1
PARKING AREA	VA	2
ROAD	VA	10
ROAD	NC	9
ROAD	MD	3
ROAD	NY	2
TOTAL		53

NIGHT DRIVING CITATIONS		
BEACH	VA	9
BEACH	NC	5
BEACH	MI	1
BEACH	NJ	1
TOTAL		16

NIGHT DRIVING WRITTEN WARNINGS		
BEACH	VA	36
BEACH	NC	16
BEACH	NJ	7
BEACH	PA	5
BEACH	MD	4
BEACH	FL	3
BEACH	CO	1
BEACH	KY	1
BEACH	MO	1
BEACH	OH	1
BEACH	SC	1
BEACH	TN	1
BEACH	TX	1
TOTAL		78

SPEEDING CITATIONS		
BEACH	VA	3
BEACH	NC	1
BEACH	SC	1
DAY USE AREA	NC	2
ROAD	NC	39
ROAD	VA	25
ROAD	PA	15
ROAD	MD	6
ROAD	SC	3
ROAD	TX	3
ROAD	NJ	2
ROAD	OH	2
ROAD	AL	1
ROAD	FL	1
ROAD	IL	1
ROAD	KY	1
ROAD	NV	1
TOTAL		107

SPEEDING WRITTEN WARNINGS		
BEACH	VA	12
BEACH	NC	9
BEACH	MD	2
BEACH	IN	1
BEACH	KY	1
BEACH	NY	1
BEACH	PA	1
ROAD	NC	43
ROAD	VA	14
ROAD	PA	7
ROAD	OH	5
ROAD	MD	4
ROAD	CA	2
ROAD	CAN	2
ROAD	DC	2
ROAD	FL	2
ROAD	GA	2
ROAD	NJ	2
ROAD	AL	1
ROAD	CO	1
ROAD	CT	1
ROAD	IN	1
ROAD	NV	1
ROAD	SC	1
ROAD	TN	1
ROAD	TX	1
TOTAL		120

OPEN CONTAINER CITATIONS		
BEACH	VA	21
BEACH	NC	19
BEACH	KY	2
BEACH	DC	1
BEACH	MD	1
BEACH	NJ	1
BEACH	PA	1
BEACH	TN	1
PARKING AREA	IL	1
PARKING AREA	MD	1
PARKING AREA	TX	1
PARKING AREA	VA	1
RAMP	NC	1
ROAD	VA	17
ROAD	NC	6
ROAD	PA	5
ROAD	MD	2
ROAD	FL	1
ROAD	NJ	1
ROAD	NY	1
ROAD	SC	1
ROAD	TN	1
SOUND SIDE	NC	1
TOTAL		88

OPEN CONTAINER WRITTEN WARNINGS		
AIRSTRIIP	NC	1
BEACH	NC	7
BEACH	VA	2
CONCESSION	MD	1
RAMP	NC	1
ROAD	MD	2
ROAD	VA	1
TOTAL		15

UNSAFE OPERATIONS CITATIONS		
BEACH	VA	15
BEACH	NC	3
BEACH	FL	2
BEACH	MD	2
BEACH	NJ	2
BEACH	PA	2
BEACH	GA	1
BEACH	IA	1
BEACH	SC	1
CAMPGROUND	NC	1
CAMPGROUND	VA	1
DAY USE AREA	NC	2
OTHER STRUCTURE	NC	1
PARKING AREA	FL	1
PARKING AREA	VA	1
ROAD	VA	8
ROAD	NC	7
ROAD	PA	2
ROAD	MD	1
ROAD	OH	1
TRAIL	NC	1
TOTAL		56

UNSAFE OPERATIONS WRITTEN WARNINGS		
BEACH	NC	18
BEACH	VA	18
BEACH	PA	3
BEACH	MD	2
BEACH	MI	2
BEACH	AK	1
BEACH	MA	1
BEACH	NM	1
BEACH	NY	1
BEACH	SC	1
BEACH	VT	1
CAMPGROUND	MN	1
PARKING AREA	VA	2
PARKING AREA	NC	1
ROAD	NC	18
ROAD	VA	8
ROAD	PA	4
ROAD	MD	2
ROAD	OH	2
ROAD	SC	2
ROAD	AZ	1
ROAD	CAN	1
ROAD	CT	1
ROAD	DC	1
ROAD	OK	1
ROAD	TN	1
TOTAL		95

2010 LE Contacts by Incident Location and Violator's State of Origin (cont.)

Cape Hatteras National Seashore Violations by Incident Location and Violator's State

ENTERING RESOURCE CLOSURE (BIRD)		
BEACH	NC	5
BEACH	VA	4
BEACH	MD	3
BEACH	CA	1
BEACH	MA	1
BEACH	PA	1
TOTAL		15

ENTERING RESOURCE CLOSURE (BIRD) WRITTEN WARNINGS		
BEACH	VA	8
BEACH	MA	5
BEACH	VT	2
BEACH	NC	1
BEACH	PA	1
TOTAL		17

ENTERING RESOURCE CLOSURE (TURTLE)		
BEACH	NC	2
BEACH	MD	1
BEACH	VA	1
TOTAL		4

ENTERING RESOURCE CLOSURE (TURTLE) WRITTEN WARNINGS		
BEACH	NJ	3
TOTAL		3

OTHER CLOSURE CITATIONS		
BEACH	NC	8
BEACH	VA	5
BEACH	MD	2
BEACH	KY	1
CAMPGROUND	NC	2
DAY USE AREA	NC	1
RAMP	NC	2
SOUND SIDE	NC	2
SOUND SIDE	VA	2
SOUND SIDE	CAN	1
TRAIL	NC	3
TOTAL		29

OTHER CLOSURE WRITTEN WARNINGS		
BEACH	VA	6
BEACH	MD	5
BEACH	NC	4
BEACH	CAN	2
BEACH	DE	1
BEACH	MI	1
CAMPGROUND	VA	2
CAMPGROUND	FL	1
DAY USE AREA	CAN	1
PARKING AREA	NC	1
RAMP	NC	1
ROAD	NC	4
ROAD	VA	1
SOUND SIDE	CAN	1
SOUND SIDE	NC	1
SOUND SIDE	PA	1
TOTAL		33

PET VIOLATION CITATIONS		
BEACH	NC	6
BEACH	VA	4
BEACH	CT	1
BEACH	SC	1
TOTAL		12

PET VIOLATIONS WRITTEN WARNINGS		
BEACH	VA	23
BEACH	NC	22
BEACH	MD	9
BEACH	PA	5
BEACH	CAN	2
BEACH	MA	2
BEACH	NJ	2
BEACH	AL	1
BEACH	NH	1
BEACH	OH	1
BEACH	SC	1
BEACH	WI	1
CAMPGROUND	NC	1
OTHER	VA	1
RAMP	NC	2
ROAD	NC	2
ROAD	TN	1
SOUND SIDE	VA	1
TOTAL		78

ILLEGAL CAMPING CITATIONS		
BEACH	VA	11
BEACH	MI	4
BEACH	NC	2
BEACH	MA	1
CAMPGROUND	NC	1
PARKING AREA	NC	3
PARKING AREA	VA	1
ROAD	GA	1
TOTAL		24

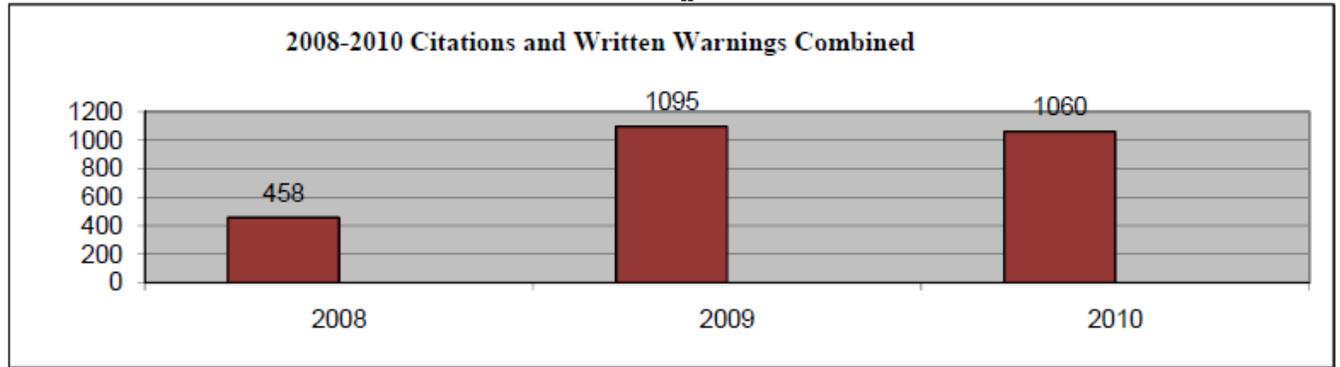
ILLEGAL CAMPING WRITTEN WARNINGS		
BEACH	NC	6
BEACH	VA	5
BEACH	CAN	4
BEACH	MD	3
CAMPGROUND	VA	2
CAMPGROUND	NC	1
CAMPGROUND	NY	1
DAY USE AREA	ME	1
DAY USE AREA	TN	1
PARKING AREA	VA	7
PARKING AREA	FL	4
PARKING AREA	NC	3
PARKING AREA	OH	2
PARKING AREA	TX	2
PARKING AREA	CT	1
PARKING AREA	NJ	1
PARKING AREA	NV	1
PARKING AREA	NY	1
PARKING AREA	PA	1
ROAD	NC	1
ROAD	OR	1
SOUND SIDE	SWE	1
TOTAL		50

Comparison of Total Citations/Warnings in 2008 - 2010

ENFORCEMENT CAHA 2008-2010 Citations and Written Warnings Combined

The graph represents total Citations and Written Warnings combined for calendar years 2008, 2009, and 2010. Verbal Warnings are not included in this comparison.

Citations and Written Warnings Combined	
2008	458
2009	1095
2010	1060



Deliberate Violations of Resource Protection Areas

Paragraph 23 of the Consent Decree, as amended, provides that at all established pre-nesting areas and buffers, if, in the opinion of NPS, a confirmed deliberate act that disturbs or harasses wildlife or vandalizes fencing, nests, or plants, is documented by NPS personnel, the pre-nesting area shall be expanded automatically by 50 meters, then by 100 meters if a second such act occurs, and 500 meters if a third act occurs. In 2010 there were five deliberate violations documented that resulted in automatic expansion of the resource protection area. The incidents were as follows:

Date of Incident	Date of Public Notice	Location of Incident
Thursday, April 22	April 23, 2010	0.8 mile south of Ramp 38
Monday, May 31	June 1, 2010	Ramp 45
Sunday, June 6	June 8, 2010	0.9 mile south of Ramp 4
Monday, June 7	RM Report, June 10, 2010	South Beach – Cape Point pre-nesting areas
Thursday, July 1	July 2, 2010	North of Rodanthe Pier (two suspects apprehended)

Night Driving Restrictions and Permits

- **September 16 to November 15** - A signed Night Beach Driving Permit is required to be visible on the dashboard of vehicles for night driving between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Hard copies of the permit are available at any NPS Visitor Center or Outer Banks Visitors Bureau Welcome Center, as well as local tackle shops and realty offices. Electronic copies are also made available for download on the Park's website: <http://www.nps.gov/caha>
- **November 16 to April 30** - Night driving is allowed at all hours. No permit is needed.
- **May 1 to September 15** - Night driving is prohibited from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m. Signs advising the public of the regulation are posted at all beach access ramps in the Cape Hatteras Seashore. To further advise the visiting public, an electronic message board is placed at the main entrance to the Seashore on Highway 12 that alerts the public to the prohibition of beach driving from 10 p.m. through 6 p.m.
- **Permits issued in 2010** - Night time driving permits distributed by Rangers, or tackle shops and visitor contact stations: 7,895. Interpretation reports the total # of "hit counts" for permits on the park website between, 15 September through 15 November 2009, was 1,908. Total number of permits distributed during the Fall of 2010 is 9,803.
- **Night Driving Violations** – In 2010 there were 16 citations and 78 written warnings issued for violations of the night driving restriction.
- **Early Access Permits for Commercial Fishermen** – The stipulation and order modifying the consent decree that was approved by the Court on June 4, 2009, paragraph 4, authorized NPS to permit commercial fishermen, who are actively engaged in authorized commercial fishing activity with nets, to operate vehicles on the beach during the hours of 5 a.m. to 6 a.m., subject to terms of a special use permit and in accordance with certain conditions specified in the stipulation. In 2010, no permits for this activity were requested or issued.

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Cape Hatteras National Seashore

**NIGHT BEACH DRIVING
PERMIT
SEPT. 16 – NOV. 15**

Permit Procedures:

1. Read Sections #1, #2 and #3 inside this permit brochure.
2. Sign and date below.
3. Place this permit on your vehicle dashboard in plain view while driving on seashore beaches from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

I have read and understand
Sections #1, #2 and #3 of this permit.

Signature _____

Name _____
(please print)

Date _____

Persons violating any of the conditions
and/or requirements of the permit may be
subject to civil and/or criminal penalties
and revocation of this permit.

08/2010

Beach Driving and Resource Information

- A brochure was developed in 2008 with the assistance of local ORV and recreational fishing organizations that continues to be used to provide park visitors with information about the rules, regulations, and safety tips concerning off-road vehicle (ORV) beach driving within Cape Hatteras National Seashore. The brochure is available on the Seashore's website and at any NPS Visitor Center or Outer Banks Visitors Bureau Welcome Center, as well as local tackle shops and realty offices. The brochure also provided a detailed map for locating beach access ramps, seasonal closure areas, campgrounds, and other points of interest concerning ORV and beach access.
- NPS prepared and distributed a weekly beach access report from April 1 to November 4, 2010.
- NPS prepared and distributed a weekly resource management report from April 1 to August 25, 2010.
- NPS maintained an interactive GoogleEarth map on the Seashore's website to provide current information on the status of access to Seashore beaches. The website address is:
<http://www.nps.gov/caha/planyourvisit/googleearthmap.htm>



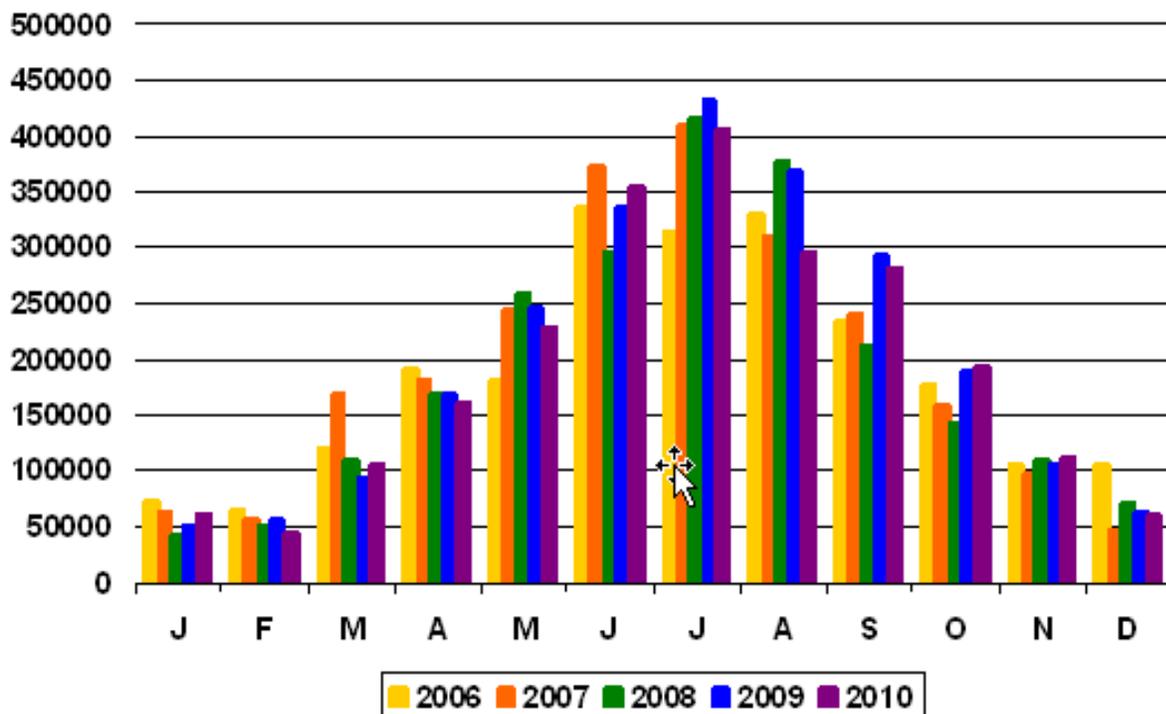
Dates that Popular Sites Closed and Re-opened in 2010

<u>Location</u>	<u>Closed</u>	<u>Re-opened</u>	<u># Days Closed</u>
Bodie Island Spit	May 9	August 23	106
Cape Point	May 13	July 7/July 21 (ped/ORV)	55/69
Hatteras Inlet "rip"	March 11	July 15	126
North Ocracoke	April 28	August 25	119
South Pt. Ocracoke	April 20	August 27	129

CAHA Visitation in 2010

<i>Month</i>	<i>2010 Total Visitors Per Month</i>	<i>Visitors for Same Month in 2009</i>	<i>Monthly % Comparison to 2009</i>	<i>2010 YTD Visitors</i>	<i>YTD Visitors for Same Month in 2009</i>	<i>YTD % Comparison to 2009</i>
January	61,557	51,546	+19.42%	61,557	51,546	+19.42%
February	44,212	56,032	-21.10%	105,769	107,578	-1.68%
March	106,424	94,677	+12.41%	212,193	202,255	+4.91%
April	161,121	168,247	-4.24%	373,314	370,502	+0.76%
May	229,015	246,315	-7.02%	602,329	616,817	-2.35%
June	354,503	335,232	+5.75%	956,832	952,049	+0.50%
July	405,552	431,772	-6.07%	1,362,383	1,383,820	-1.55%
August	295,925	368,429	-19.68%	1,658,308	1,752,250	-5.36%
September	282,855	293,443	-3.61%	1,941,163	2,045,692	-5.11%
October	193,307	188,710	+2.44%	2,134,470	2,234,402	-4.47%
November	112,962	106,080	+6.49%	2,247,432	2,340,482	-3.98%
December	61,349	63,979	-4.11%	2,308,781	2,404,461	-3.98%
	<i>Dec 2010</i>	<i>Dec 2009</i>	<i>Month of Dec +/-</i>	<i>Year-to-Date 2010</i>	<i>Year-to-Date 2009</i>	<i>Year-to-Date +/-</i>
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>61,349</i>	<i>63,979</i>	<i>-4.11%</i>	<i>2,308,781</i>	<i>2,404,461</i>	<i>-3.98%</i>

CAHA Visitation by Month 2006 – 2010



(Interim Strategy 2006 – 2007; Consent Decree 2008 – 2010)