



TOWN OF CHINCOTEAGUE, INC.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

December 7, 2010

Louis Hinds, Refuge Manager
Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 62
Chincoteague Island, Virginia 23336

Thomas Bonetti, Refuge Planner
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 5
300 Westgate Center Drive
Hadley, MA 01035-9589

RE: Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
Comprehensive Conservation Plan
Public Scoping Comments

Dear Mr. Hinds and Mr. Bonetti:

On behalf of the Town of Chincoteague, I am submitting for the public record the following comments in conformance with the Federal Register notice dated September 17, 2010. The issues, concerns and ideas that are contained in this letter have been considered by the Town's appointed **Chincoteague to Assateague Beach Access Committee** and have been approved by the Town Council at its regular meeting on December 6, 2010.

In addition to this letter, a **Town of Chincoteague Questionnaire** has produced 1,281 comments in response to the refuge planning issues that you presented at several public meetings this year. These comments are attached as unfiltered data and will also be forwarded to you by email for consolidation into common issues. We hope you will recognize that each comment represents an average family/group size of 6 persons identified in a current year survey of over 13,000 visitors from across the country.

Support for the Refuge

It is understood and appreciated that the Federal Register notice for Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge describes more than the core mission of migratory bird and wildlife conservation for this unique location. Joint management of the Seashore resource with the National Park Service supports recreational use in addition to wildlife dependent recreation that is vital to the tourism economy in the Town of Chincoteague and Accomack County.

Our community of residents, business owners and seasonal visitors has expressed concern over potential changes to the Refuge CCP. At the same time, the Town Questionnaire has documented strong support for the Refuge and Seashore under current operational plans. We appreciate the opportunity to participate

in this planning process, and hope that all of the unique characteristics of this Refuge continue to be supported by the CCP.

Public Scoping Comments

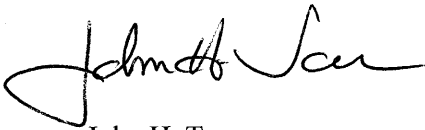
1. Maintain and Restore the existing recreational beach access at Tom's Cove, with 961 direct access automobile parking spaces, as a community resource that honors over 40 years of negotiated management decisions. The 'no-action' alternative should be considered as a viable and mandated option. 961 spaces should be provided in all alternatives.
2. Manage the recreational beach area as a significant cultural and economic resource that is closely connected to the Town's economy. Take immediate/short term actions to protect public investment at the beach (see issue paper #1). Include techniques such as beach replenishment, construction and maintenance of medium sized dunes, and installation of snow fence to protect the beach and parking areas from storm damage. This alternative would propose to update and enhance the current management plan as the baseline with new projects and goals.
3. A 'shoreline management' alternative is requested to include a deliberate review of the coastal change of Assateague Island and the cumulative effects of beach nourishment plans to the north in Delaware and Maryland, and to the south at Wallops Island/NASA and Virginia Beach. The impact of a policy to allow barrier island migration should be compared to recreational beach replenishment through expansion of the Wallops Island and/or Ocean City Inlet projects.
4. Include a viable option for long term reserve areas to relocate the recreational beach and direct access parking for 961 spaces to the north approximately 1 mile with access from the 'Wildlife Loop'. Any acceptable alternative to relocate the recreational beach use and private vehicle parking must include direct beach access for a minimum of 961 parking spaces.
5. Do not limit or reduce the grazing permit for up to 150 Chincoteague Ponies. Include public viewing as a priority along with other management considerations.
6. An Emergency Plan for the short term management of public beach access during a post-storm restoration period is necessary, including options for interim use of Refuge land areas for parking. Large remote parking areas within Town limits are not a reasonable or cost effective solution and are not recommended.
7. Use of transit (trolley/bus/shuttle systems) to access the beach is not a decision that supports the family values of, or meets the needs of, visitors to the Refuge. This does not seem to be a financially responsible option. The Alternative Transportation Study prepared by the Volpe Center has not been accepted or approved by the Town of Chincoteague and should not be used to guide the CCP process.

8. All alternatives must be evaluated for their socio-economic impact on the local economy, cultural heritage and regional tourism with recommendations to minimize or mitigate impacts to the human environment.
9. Continue the current OSV/ORV access to Tom's Cove Hook. Access has already been restricted in the past from March 15th to September 1st which has had an economic impact to the Town. Further reduction is not necessary based on the success of this shared use plan.
10. The Town of Chincoteague Questionnaire has provided useful information about visitors to the Refuge and the recreational beach area. The exceptional value placed on the current balance of wildlife/natural land management and recreational beach use is documented in the attached comments.

These comments are largely provided in response to CNWR presentations in 2010 (4/6, 5/24, 8/25, 9/21) and summarize the ideas described in more detail on the attached issue papers #1 through #10. Additional thought and suggestions have been taking shape within the **Beach Access Committee** which will likely result in further support for the successful management objectives of the 1992 EIS, and comment on any other scoping information that is shared by USFWS staff.

Thank you for your consideration of these important issues for both the Town of Chincoteague and the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge.

Sincerely,



John H. Tarr
Mayor

cc. Chincoteague Beach Access Committee
Elected Representatives
National Park Service

Attachments

Public Scoping Issue #1

'No-Action' Alternative

December 2010

Issue

- The Town of Chincoteague supports the continuation of existing management practices over significant changes that would limit the visitor experience or resident quality of life

NEPA/EIS Review

- Process should not be biased against the extension of existing operational plans for another 15 year period
- CCP should include Joint Management Agreement with NPS for recreational beach area
- CCP should be built upon prior negotiated decisions



Seasonal Shared Use of Beach



Legislative History/Highlights

- 1943 Chincoteague NWR
- 1956/62 Community Chincoteague/Assateague Bridge and Beach Authority constructs public access infrastructure, including bridge, road, parking and facilities to Refuge and Toms Cove recreational beach
- 1965 Assateague Island National Seashore includes CNWR
- 1976/79 Memorandum of Understanding/Tom's Cove Hook Area
- 1982 ASIS General Management Plan
- 1992 CNWR EIS/Conservation Plan

1992 EIS Proposed Alternative/Current Conservation Plan

- Selected criteria include: Beach recreation zone 5,500 foot long x 100 foot wide from parking lot 1 to parking lot 4. 961 parking spaces with maximum beach use capacity of 4,400 visitors at one time. Seasonal closure of Toms Cove Hook from March 15 through August 31 to avoid piping plover nesting activity. Wildlife oriented recreation north of current public use beach. Traffic management measures during high use summer season. Continue private vehicle beach access ... and allow NPS to maintain the existing number of parking spaces (961)...and plan for off-site parking with shuttle system.

Exceptional Visitor Experience/Resident Quality of Life

- The current location of the beach recreation zone is exceptional with water views in all directions. Access is direct, individualized and unique to this particular combination of Seashore and Refuge. The balance of essential services with a priority on wildlife/environmental management is highly valued by visitors and residents alike.
- A Comprehensive Conservation Plan that works to maintain the best qualities and accomplishments of the last 60 years is needed.
- A balance or equilibrium has been achieved over the last planning period between the capacity of the Town infrastructure and Refuge resources to accommodate both visitor and resident needs. Why change?

Recommendations

- Take immediate/short term actions to protect the existing recreational beach area during the current winter season such as:
 - o NPS efforts to mound sand for low to medium height dunes as protection for parking areas from high tide over wash
 - o Placement of recycled Christmas trees on the beach to assist with sand retention
 - o Initiate a community project to place biodegradable sand bags as a protection measure
 - o Partner with NPS, NASA, Accomack County and the Town of Chincoteague to amend the Wallops Island EIS for the addition of a beach replenishment demonstration project along the recreational use area.
- Do not allow areas of common interest and responsibility between USFWS and NPS to 'fall between the cracks' of the two separate planning efforts. Include the Memorandum of Understanding in the planning documents or re-approve it concurrently.
- Proposed actions that have not been implemented such as removal of the former visitor center complex and implementation of a shuttle system should be deleted or modified for the next planning period.
- Complete an economic impact study of baseline conditions.



Public Scoping Issue #2

Enhanced Baseline Alternative

December 2010

Issue

- More effective planning and community support will be accomplished by proposing alternatives based on incremental change to the current, successful conservation plan

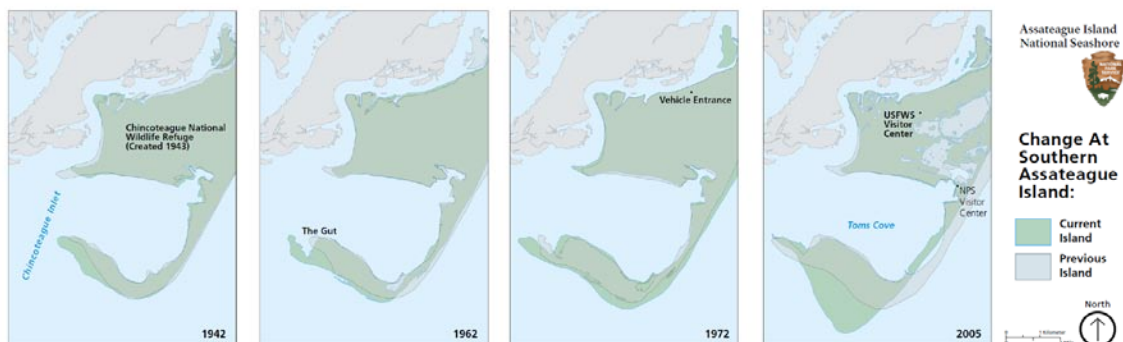
NEPA/EIS Review

- Sea Level Rise discussion should move beyond alarmist 'education' to positive adaptation responses based on 15 year planning projections
- SLAMM analysis should be updated with new LiDAR elevation data for best available information
- USFWS abandonment of a 60 year investment and public trust to allow unmitigated natural forces to erode the beach is not acceptable
- Do not base mitigation or improved environmental management on a reduction of private vehicles or the addition of transit



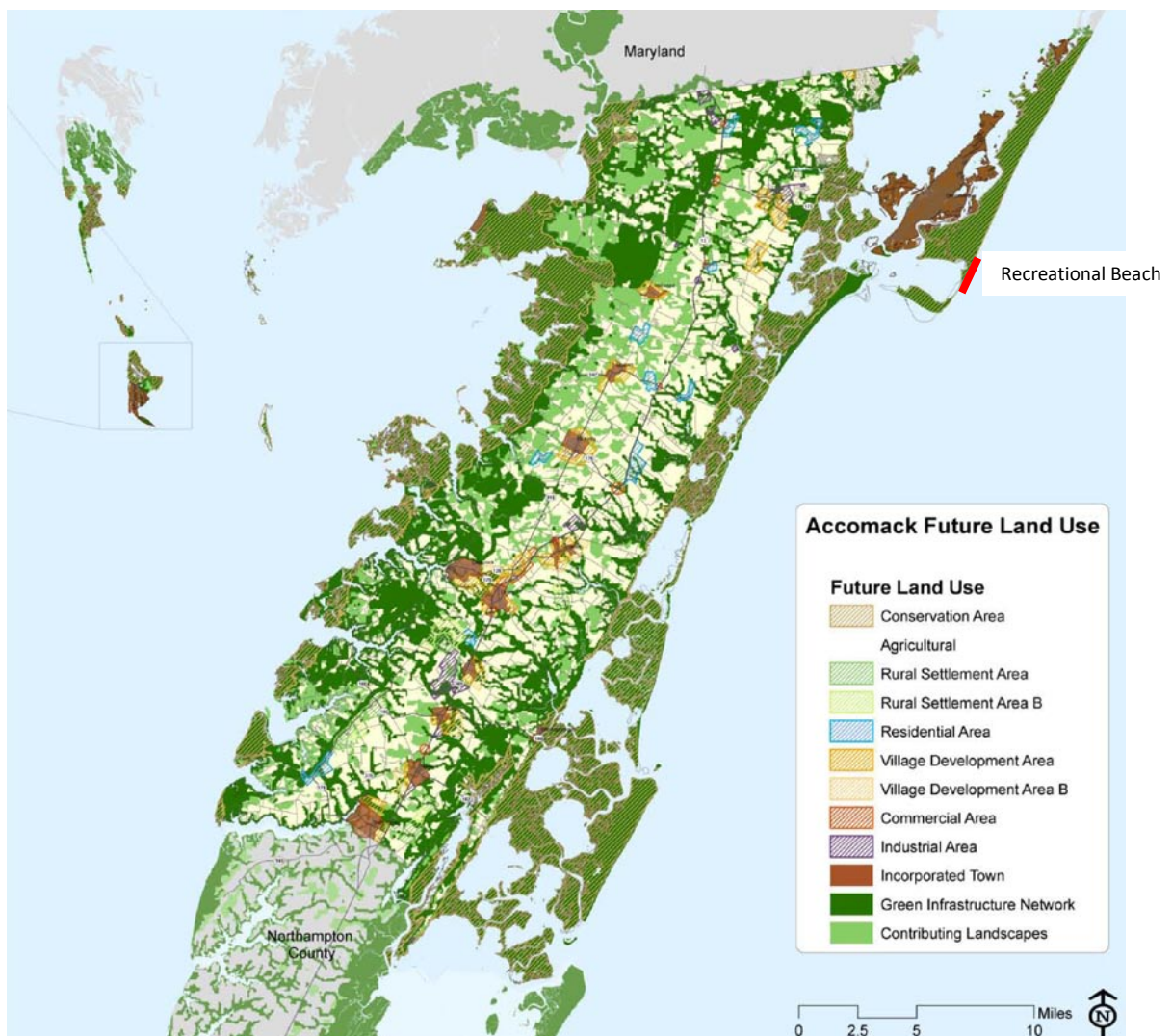
Manage Natural Processes

- Refuge Manager Hinds has stated that 'sea level rise has framed our view of the CCP'
- Adopt management actions that work with natural processes to support program goals (such as the freshwater impoundments). Actions should protect the public investment in direct beach access/parking lots and recreational use rather than abandon it.
- Specific projects such as raising the parking area elevation, low/medium dune construction to protect from regular high tide overwash, sand fences, or other beach erosion controls should be added to the existing management plan as a way to mitigate the potential effects of sea level rise
- Recreational beach areas have been reduced by erosion with a loss of 56 acres (5,500lf x 150yds). Wildlife management areas have been increased by accretion with a gain of 600 acres (measurement from 2009 aerial photo)



Recommendations

- Net gain of over 500 acres of prime shorebird habitat should be offset with increased effort to maintain recreation beach use areas (see above).
- New issues and long term trends (barrier island migration, sea level rise) should be separated from incremental management actions/programs that may reasonably continue for another human generation
- Request exemptions to broad policy issues as necessary to permit site specific solutions based on the unique conditions at CNWR
- Identify steps to protect and expand the shell fish industry in Toms Cove and waters surrounding the Refuge
- Limit impacts to the tourism based economy of the Town of Chincoteague (don't add the goose's golden egg)
- Consider a modified approach to alternative transportation issues that maintains 961 parking spaces and proposes the incremental addition of shuttle, bicycle and electric vehicle options
- Do not limit options for public access, beach replenishment, recreation, OSV use or other active management tools if the required 'wildlife purposes' of the Refuge are adequately met on the other 14,000 acres of the Refuge, the other 120,000 acres of the Virginia Coast Reserve, or the significant areas recently mapped as blue/green infrastructure on the Eastern Shore mainland.



Public Scoping Issue #3

Shoreline Management Alternative

December 2010

Issue

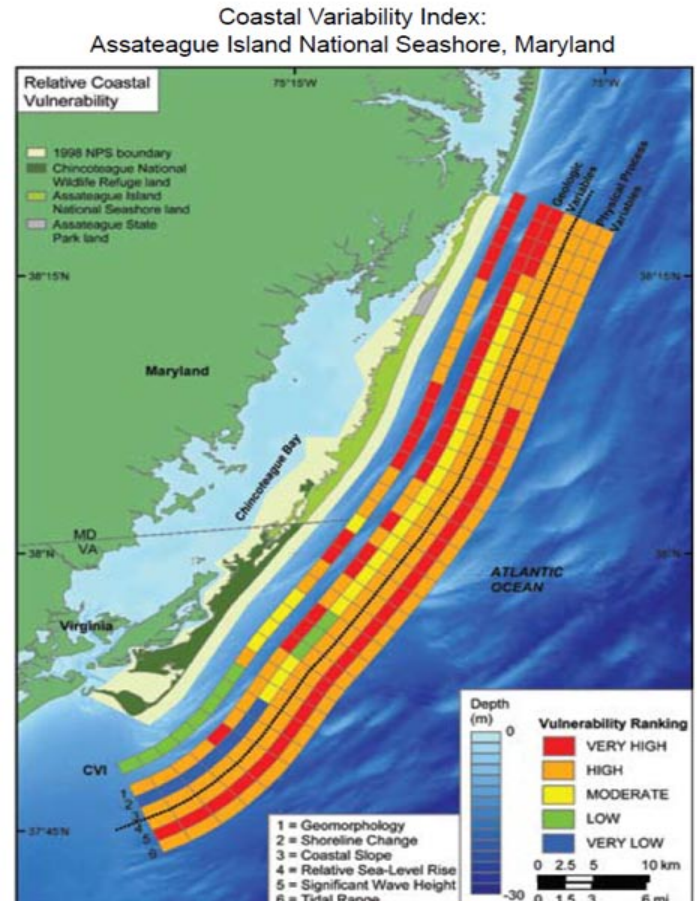
- As described at public meetings, the federal agency policy to allow unconstrained barrier island migration landward conflicts with community goals to maintain a recreational beach area with direct parking, and creates long term concerns for the protection of Chincoteague Island from major storm damage and high tides.

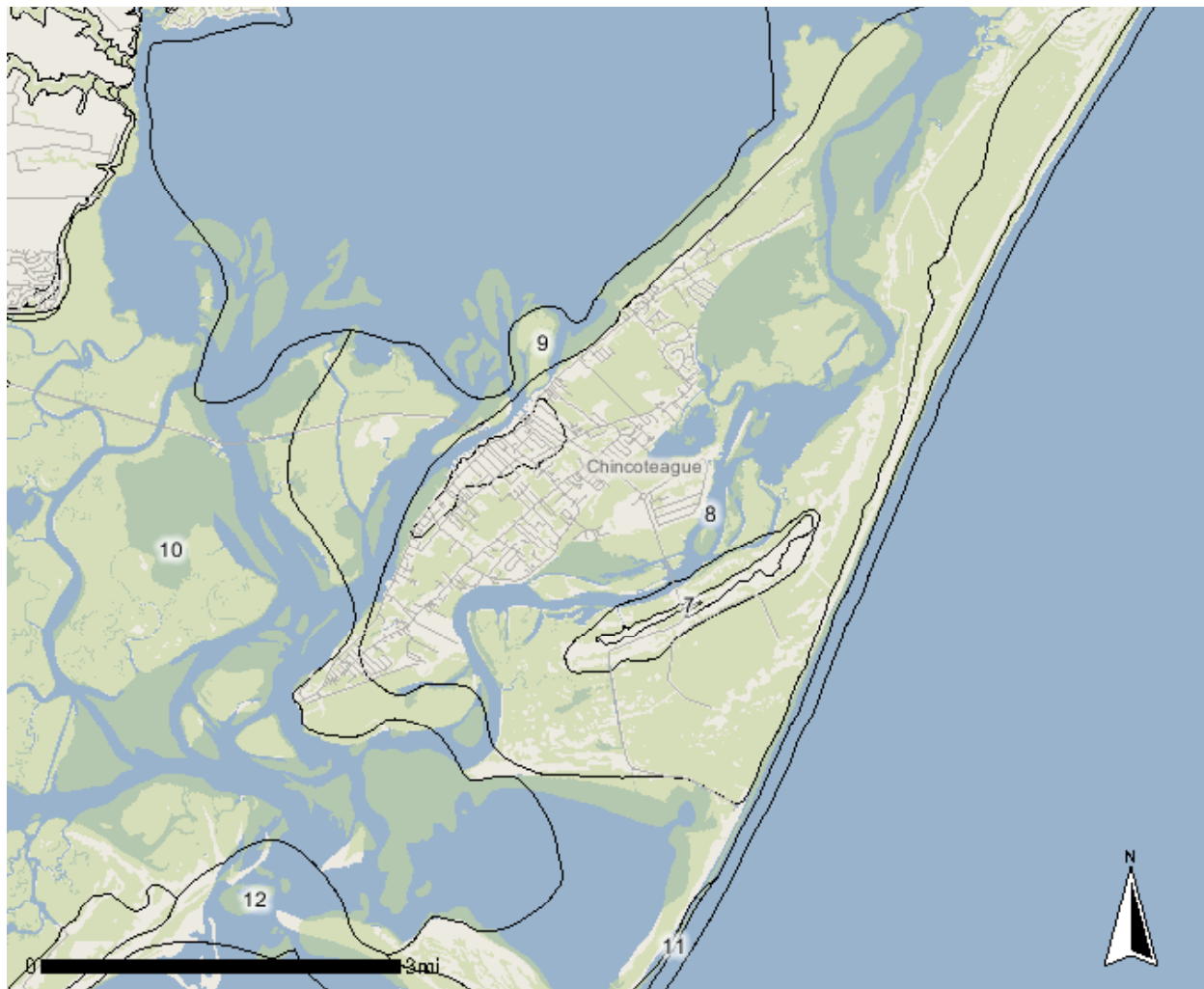
NEPA/EIS Review

- Beach nourishment must be considered as an alternative so that the policy of island migration can be evaluated
- The EIS for Wallops Island/NASA should inform and provide opportunities for the consideration of beach replenishment and protective measures for areas of significant investment and value
- Chincoteague Island is at risk from the creation of new inlets, obstructed channel access, loss of tourism economy, and storm damage as the result of the island migration policy

Concerns

- The superior aquaculture zones (a Virginia growth industry) within Toms Cove are endangered by a policy that would eliminate management directives to repair shoreline damage in the vicinity of the recreational beach.
- The Sediment Management Plan prepared and funded for the Ocean City, MD Inlet has approved active shoreline management of the north end of Assateague Island
- The NASA/Wallops Island EIS has proposed active shoreline management that includes other portions of the Wildlife Refuge and will also impact the Chincoteague Channel access for the commercial fishing fleet.
- Other Mid Atlantic beach communities have active shoreline management programs in NJ, DE, MD, VA and NC.
- A decision to allow the specific small portion of Refuge shoreline that is currently providing public recreational beach access to erode while other areas are accreting and being replenished is an abandonment of the public trust.
- FEMA mapping demonstrates that Assateague Island reduces flood elevations on Chincoteague Island by over 3 feet.





Recommendations

- Prepare a 20 year shoreline change projection similar to the one completed in 1981, Atlas of Environmental Dynamics, Dolan/Hayden/Haywood, University of Virginia.
- Add Toms Cove recreational beach to the proposed NASA Wallops Island replenishment/shoreline stabilization project and the Ocean City Inlet nourishment plan
- SLAMM Analysis, or other sea level rise inundation model, should be updated with new LiDAR elevation data to provide best available information to the planning process. It is important to model the effect of protection measures even though current USFWS policies promote unmitigated island migration.
- Prepare an action plan to address the overall loss of beach habitat from erosion by proposing beach replenishment as a USFWS pilot project for sea level rise adaptation.
- Continue to allow public use/water access to 'Little Beach' and other shoreline perimeter areas of the Refuge. This is a community resource and has been included in the Virginia Seaside Water Trail system for kayak ecotourism.

Public Scoping Issue #4

Wildlife Loop Alternative

December 2010

Issue

- An alternate location to provide public recreational beach access should be reserved for future use in the event of significant storm damage to the existing beach area that cannot be repaired within a single year timeframe.

NEPA/EIS Review

- Preliminary ideas/alternatives for beach access (1-4) have been proposed by FWS staff. Elements such as elimination of 50% of the individual vehicle parking, development of a trolley/bus system, and reconstruction of parking areas that are remotely located from the beach have been identified as 'un-reasonable' by a current visitor use questionnaire and are not supported by the community.
- Ideas identified during the scoping process that are deemed un-reasonable may not be evaluated during the EIS process



Exhibit III Illustrating Chincoteague to Assateague Beach Access Alternative

A

Site Selection Criteria

- Subject to additional analysis and review of studies, the shoreline to the north of Toms Cove beach may be identified as an area less subject to erosion, over wash, and associated with an existing ridge/dune that provides higher elevation for site infrastructure
- The existing 'wildlife loop' road provides access to this location, is currently used for public access, and would reduce peak summer vehicle traffic impacts to forest habitat
- Increased land area behind the inter tidal zone would allow for reconstruction of a dune system, direct access parking areas, and relocation of the NPS visitor center with essential services
- This location provides a significantly diminished visitor experience and would require sustained investment of physical site improvements and interpretive programming to offset the unique qualities of Toms Cove
- Based on a review of shoreline change projections, the north beach location should also be considered for potential beach replenishment, sand fill of areas between the Wildlife Loop and the beach to raise elevation, and protection measures for any public investment in recreational use facilities

Recommendations

- This alternative should be fully examined for implementation in response to a catastrophic weather event, and only if direct access parking for a minimum of 961 spaces is provided along with a shoreline/land management program that adds equivalent value to this site.
- Long term planning for a national quality recreational use area should employ creative design by a team that includes environmental planners and landscape architects who are trying to identify a balanced solution. Please do not allow your transportation engineering consultant to use Federal transit policy as a substitute for good environmental design.

Public Scoping Issue #5

Wild Pony Management

December 2010

Issue

- Chincoteague wild ponies and the cooperative management agreements between the Wildlife Refuge and the Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Department (CVFD) are highly valued by the community

NEPA/EIS Review

- Proposed reduction in the permitted 150 ponies in the Chincoteague herd would have a direct impact on the Refuge visitor experience
- There is a strong link between this wildlife population and the economic impact to the tourism economy/CVFD financial resources

Cultural/Economic Importance

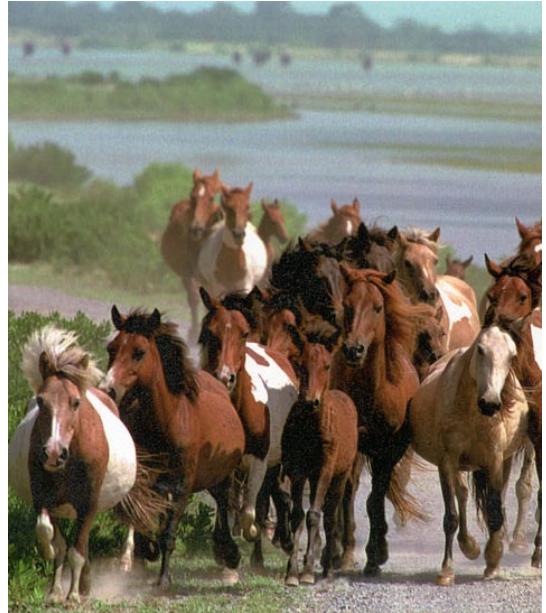
- Ponies have been on Assateague Island for more than 100 years
- The tourism based economy of Chincoteague Island peaks during the summer months centered on Pony Penning Week. This event supports social, cultural and economic systems of the Town.
- Misty of Chincoteague has become an iconic symbol for families with children throughout the United States. Refuge actions that impact the wild pony population will be taken personally, for either good or bad, by generations of visitors and supporters of the Wildlife Refuge.
- The annual CVFD budget for fire and emergency medical equipment serving both Chincoteague and Assateague Islands is supported in large part by the annual auction of wild ponies

Environmental Constraints

- The Refuge Conservation Plan has previously achieved goals for the support of multiple wildlife populations by keeping the Chincoteague herd fenced/penned versus the free range herd in Maryland.
- Refuge staff has indicated that high tides in the south meadow will require long term management changes in support of the existing Chincoteague herd.
- A continued effort to support the herd size at a maximum of 150 ponies through adaptive management strategies is consistent with other efforts for selective wildlife species management on the Refuge.

Recommendations

- Approve current year grazing permit with no reduction
- Prepare cooperative agreement and management plan with CVFD
- Incorporate by reference in the CCP
- Maintain current permitted size of herd to allow for genetic diversity, flexibility to accept ponies from the north herd



Public Scoping Issue #6

Post-Storm Beach Access

December 2010

Issue

- The CCP should include a cooperative agreement with the Town of Chincoteague to limits periods of beach closure due to storm events and to agree on a short term response plan.

NEPA/EIS Review

- Any proposals for transit use during peak periods should also be evaluated as the means to provide post-storm interim beach access
- Town Questionnaire comment responses listed a common concern regarding transit options that suggest only short term options would be viable



Short term response

- The community's willingness to coordinate short term, interim means of providing public beach access following a major storm event must not be considered acceptance of the current FWS proposals for elimination of individual vehicle parking in favor of transit use.

Recommendations

- Shared responsibility to provide interim solutions must also include options for use of Refuge land areas for temporary parking based on time of year and other compatible use issues.
- Existing parking lots near the Bateman Visitor Center, areas surrounding the Lighthouse, and parallel parking along the beach access road have been suggested for interim parking use while beach parking areas are restored.

Public Scoping Issue #7

Alternative Transportation

December 2010

Issue

- Volpe Center proposals for alternative transportation include large urban-scale solutions that would lead to economic ruin for the Refuge and the Community

NEPA/EIS Review

- Consultant preparing the EIS and CCP has a conflict of interest to promote the use of transit at the Refuge
- A policy driven mandate for transit should not be implemented if it does not have community support and is not financially sustainable



Alternative Transportation Plan

- The Alternative Transportation Plan prepared by the Volpe Center is not a completed document. Public comment following its release and the necessary selection of a preferred alternative with the Community has not informed a final revision to the study.
- Options for individual access to the Refuge and Seashore such as automobile, bicycle, boat or scooter/scoot coupe are supported by the Community
- Options for limited group access to the Refuge and Seashore such as a shuttle bus or tram are not supported by the Community, or thousands of visitors who come here each year.
- The recommendations of the Alternative Transportation Plan should be tested against the proposed Economic Impact Model and options compared such as cost of transit versus cost to replenish beach and/or restore parking lots each year.

Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks Program

Congestion in and around popular national parks, wildlife refuges, national forests, and other federal lands causes traffic delays and noise and air pollution that substantially detract from the visitor's experience and the protection of natural resources. Congress established the Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in the Parks Program, formerly Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands (ATPPL) Program, to enhance the protection of national parks and federal lands and increase the enjoyment of those visiting them. Administered by the Federal Transit Administration in partnership with the Department of the Interior and the Forest Service, the program funds capital and planning expenses for alternative transportation systems such as shuttle buses and bicycle trails in national parks and public lands. The goals of the program are

to conserve natural, historical, and cultural resources; reduce congestion and pollution; improve visitor mobility and accessibility; enhance visitor experience; and ensure access to all, including persons with disabilities. In accordance with SAFETEA-LU, areas eligible for funding include any federally owned or managed park, refuge, or recreational area that is open to the general public, including: National Wildlife Refuge System units; Bureau of Land Management recreational areas; Bureau of Reclamation recreational areas; and National Forest System units

- A well considered application for program funding to extend and improve bicycle access from the Town of Chincoteague into the National Wildlife Refuge has carried with it an obligation to promote shuttle bus transit solutions that do not respect the unique characteristics of this place
- The consultant responsible for implementing 'Transit in Parks' is now in charge of the NEPA/EIS review and preparing the CCP for the Refuge. This is a conflict of interest.
- The Alternative Transportation Plan has been used to limit the scope and number of options to be considered during the CCP process to only those that lead to reduction of direct beach access and implementation of transit solutions

Questionnaire Results

- The ideas and options presented by the Alternative Transportation Plan were tested by the Town of Chincoteague through a Questionnaire that was administered from July 4, 2010 to November 15, 2010.
- 2,854 questionnaires were returned, representing over 13,000 visitors to Chincoteague and the Refuge/Seashore. 91% believe that beach access from a bus or trolley does not make sense and that direct beach parking is important to their family vacation experience.

Recommendations

- Allow the CCP process to grow from the current operational plan and the unique characteristics of Refuge/Seashore/BeachTown, not a national policy driven transportation program that provides funding opportunities.
- Do not limit the current public recreational beach use (961 spaces with direct access) to only the baseline (no-action alternative) in order to exclude it from other preferred alternatives.

Public Scoping Issue #8

Economic Impact

December 2010

Issue

- The Town of Chincoteague, Accomack County and the Commonwealth of Virginia have a significant investment in the tourism based economy linked to public beach access and wildlife dependent recreation at the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge/ Assateague National Seashore at Toms Cove



NEPA/EIS Review

- CCP actions that change the current management plan will have a significant Economic Impact on the Human Environment
- CCP strategies for providing access and interpretation of Assateague Island Cultural History will have an impact on the Town and Accomack County's Economy
- CCP recommendations for acquisition of property within the Town limits will have a significant impact on land ownership/tax base for the Town government



Town/County Economy

- Real Estate Tax Base of Chincoteague Island equals over \$1 billion
- Local Tax income equals over 60% of the annual Town of Chincoteague budget, and provides a significant stability to the Accomack County annual budget by providing approximately \$4.2 million annually (net tax revenues – Springsted Inc. report July 2010)
- The tourism based economy of Chincoteague Island supports over 1500 small businesses, and provides the main source of employment for the Town's LMI population.
- There was \$140,368,364 of tourism related sales in Accomack County in 2008
- The Commonwealth of Virginia VDOT has just completed a four year construction project for a beautiful new 3/4-mile bridge, at a cost of \$68,700,000, to provide motorists with better access to the Town of Chincoteague and the Wildlife Refuge.

Economic Impact Model

- The preparation of an economic impact model as proposed by Refuge Staff is a good idea
- The model should be used to evaluate any proposed change in the current conservation plan management strategies and answer the question: at what cost?

- The consideration of alternatives must also address the current visitor fee structure, consistency of collection methods, and the need to create a year over year reserve fund for beach repairs as promised in several Refuge news releases.

Recommendations

- Raise gate/entrance fees if necessary to address cost considerations of beach and recreational facilities restoration.
- Include Year to year budget planning for beach access repairs
- Any analysis should recognize that the existing conservation management plan has provided both the Refuge and the Community with superior results
- Any analysis should recognize that this location is unique. The CCP should not be a rubber stamp of uniform policy for all Refuges in the Mid Atlantic Region.
- Allow participation by Town/County in preparation of the Economic Impact Study

Public Scoping Issue #9

ORV Access to Toms Cove Hook

December 2010

Issue

- Off Road Vehicle access to Toms Cove Hook is a valuable part of the local quality of life and the exceptional visitor experience that sustains the tourism based economy in the 'shoulder' seasons

NEPA/EIS Review

- Review of the baseline (no-action alternative) must recognize previous management actions that have already limited recreational opportunities in favor of wildlife management goals
- No further limitation of access is warranted due to successful seasonal 'shared use' of the beach areas at Toms Cove Hook



Concerns

- Toms Cove Hook is an unique location that should continue to be accessible for recreation
- Limitation or reduction of shared use in one location, such as Toms Cove Hook, should not be considered when other areas of the Refuge will meet wildlife management objectives.
- Fishing/Aquaculture at this location is a unique/high value resource that supports local industry
- Adaptive reuse of the Coast Guard Station should continue to be included in the CCP and GMP for the National Seashore with a plan for access and long term protection

Recommendations

- The current conservation plan that allows seasonal ORV access to Toms Cove Hook and the Coast Guard Station should be continued for the next planning period.

Public Scoping Issue #10

Beach Access Questionnaire

December 2010

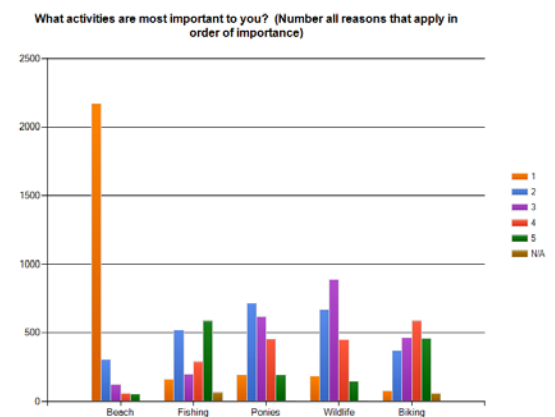
Issue

- The public, represented by the Town Questionnaire results, places a high value on current management actions and recreational opportunities and wishes to keep Assateague Island National Seashore 'AS IS'



NEPA/EIS Review

- USFWS administration of the NEPA process should not be biased against the baseline or no-action alternative that would continue the current, successful management actions
- Public recreational use opportunities should not be reduced in order for the Refuge Manager to meet expectations of improved metrics for all wildlife management objectives.



Summary of Visitor Questionnaires

- 80% of Chincoteague visitors make Assateague Beach their top destination
- Current Refuge management plans that restore direct beach access and automobile parking for 961 spaces after a storm is supported by 97%
- 91% believe that beach access from a bus or trolley does not make sense and that direct beach parking is important to their family vacation experience
- If transit from a remote parking lot to the beach was provided, 82% would not return for another visit.

Recommendations

- Accept over 1,200 comments received by the Town of Chincoteague as individual public scoping comments
- Consider options/alternatives for the CCP that continue the current conservation management practices and unique balance of wildlife dependent recreation, cooperative management of the National Seashore resource and interdependent community.
- Select a preferred alternative that supports the unique equilibrium that has been achieved with the Town of Chincoteague's cultural and economic resources
- Select a preferred alternative that supports multi-generational family values, freedom of personal vehicle use, and senior/handicap access to the seashore

Beach Access Questionnaire

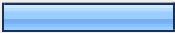
1. Do you come to Chincoteague primarily to go to Assateague Beach?			Response Percent	Response Count
Yes			82.0%	2,317
No			18.0%	510
			<i>answered question</i>	2,827
			<i>skipped question</i>	27

2. What activities are most important to you? (Number all reasons that apply in order of importance)								
	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	Rating Average	Response Count
Beach	80.0% (2,171)	11.2% (304)	4.5% (123)	2.2% (60)	2.1% (56)	0.0% (0)	1.35	2,714
Fishing	8.9% (162)	28.4% (516)	10.9% (198)	15.9% (288)	32.4% (587)	3.5% (63)	3.36	1,814
Ponies	8.8% (193)	32.7% (715)	28.4% (622)	20.9% (456)	8.9% (194)	0.3% (7)	2.88	2,187
Wildlife	7.8% (182)	28.6% (668)	38.0% (887)	19.2% (448)	6.2% (145)	0.1% (2)	2.87	2,332
Biking	3.8% (76)	18.3% (370)	23.0% (465)	29.1% (588)	22.8% (460)	3.0% (61)	3.50	2,020
							<i>answered question</i>	2,819
							<i>skipped question</i>	35

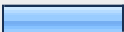
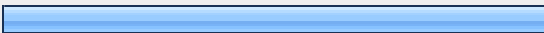
3. Do you think that public beach access and automobile parking on Assateague Beach should be restored after major storm damage?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes 	96.9%	2,729
No 	3.1%	88
<i>answered question</i>		2,817
<i>skipped question</i>		37

4. A more stable, natural beach with room for parking lies north of the current recreational beach. Would you support relocation of the recreational beach to this alternate site with additional parking?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes 	74.5%	1,993
No 	25.5%	683
<i>answered question</i>		2,676
<i>skipped question</i>		178

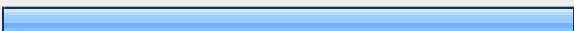
5. Would you return to visit Assateague Beach if direct beach parking was not available and a trolley/bus from a remote parking lot in Chincoteague was available instead?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes 	18.0%	501
No 	82.0%	2,289
<i>answered question</i>		2,790
<i>skipped question</i>		64

6. If Assateague Beach parking was replaced by a trolley/bus system, do you believe it would have a negative impact on local business or the length of your vacation in Chincoteague?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes 	90.7%	2,564
No 	9.3%	262
<i>answered question</i>		2,826
<i>skipped question</i>		28

7. If a fast-moving thunderstorm hit the beach, would you feel safe in a temporary shelter while you wait for a trolley or bus?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes 	13.4%	371
No 	86.6%	2,404
<i>answered question</i>		2,775
<i>skipped question</i>		79

8. How important is direct beach parking at Assateague Beach?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Not Important 	2.5%	71
Neutral 	6.5%	182
Important 	91.1%	2,561
<i>answered question</i>		2,812
<i>skipped question</i>		42

9. How many people are in your Group?

	Response Average	Response Total	Response Count
Adults	3.33	9,194	2,763
Children	2.75	4,412	1,607
<i>answered question</i>			2,766
<i>skipped question</i>			88

10. What is your home zip code?

	Response Count
	2,820
<i>answered question</i>	2,820
<i>skipped question</i>	34

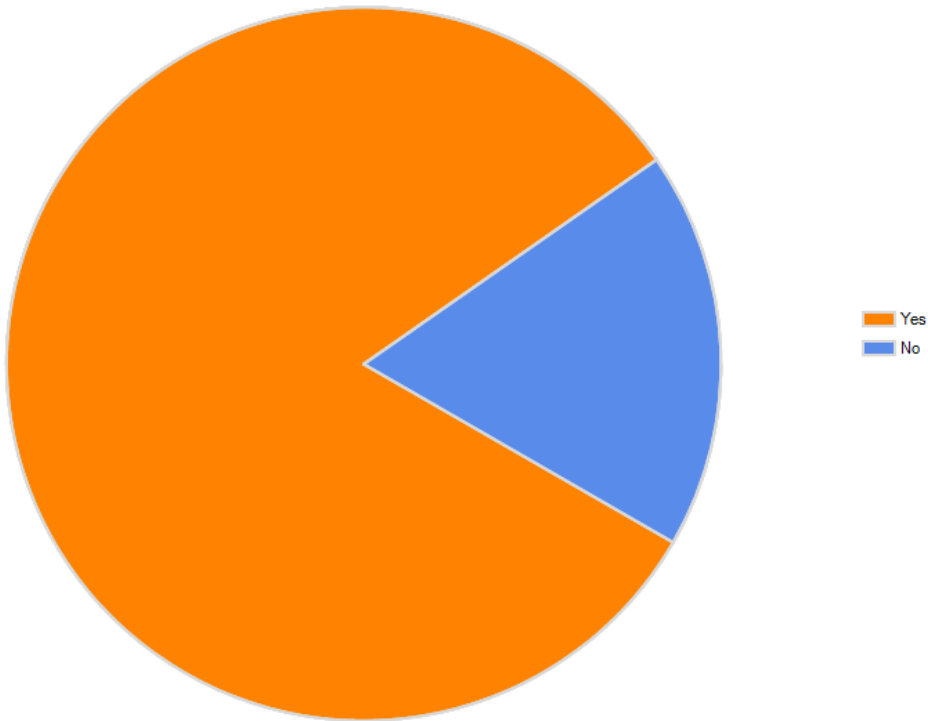
11. Optional email address information may be provided for future participation and updates

	Response Count
	1,431
<i>answered question</i>	1,431
<i>skipped question</i>	1,423

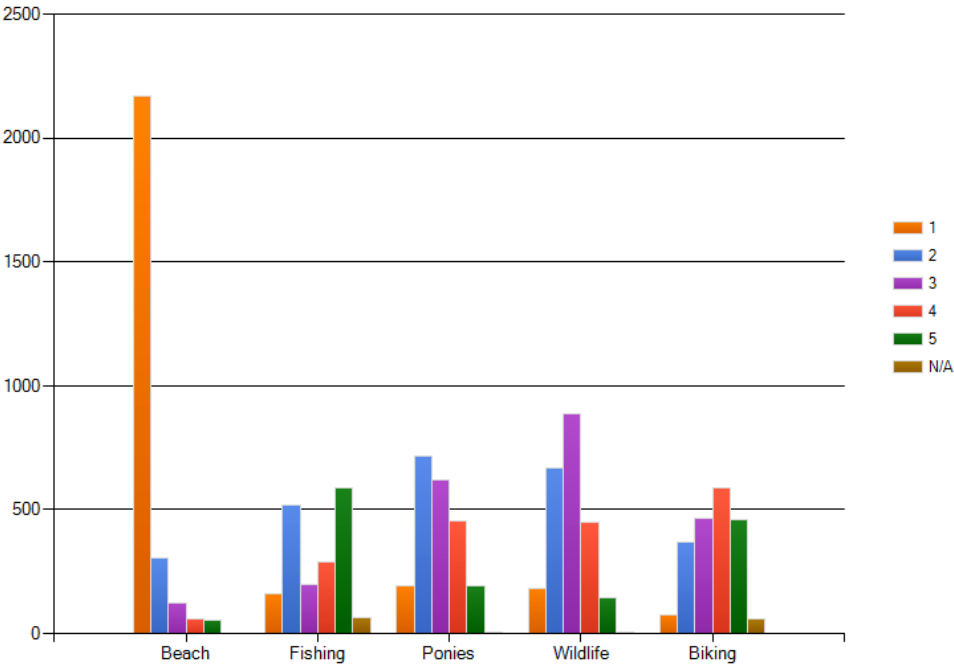
12. Please provide any suggestions you have about improving Assateague Beach access and parking, or any other comments:

		Response Count
		1,289
	<i>answered question</i>	1,289
	<i>skipped question</i>	1,565

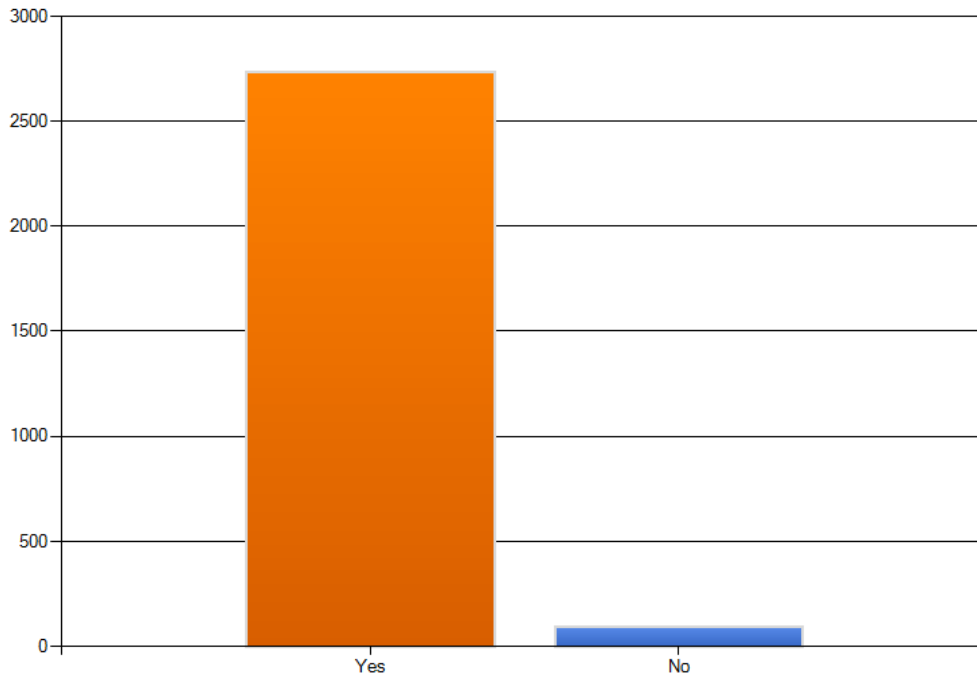
Do you come to Chincoteague primarily to go to Assateague Beach?



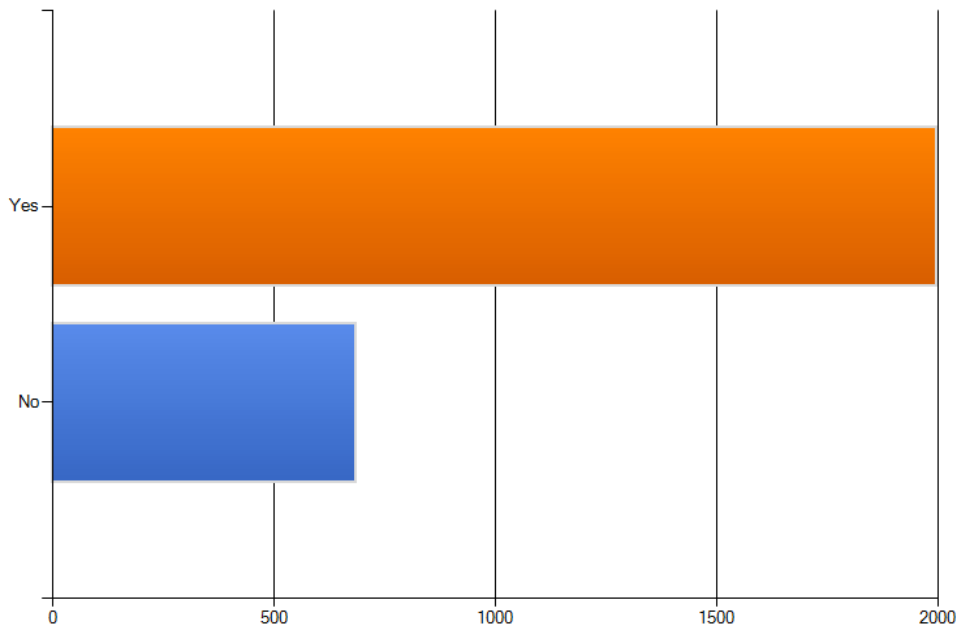
What activities are most important to you? (Number all reasons that apply in order of importance)



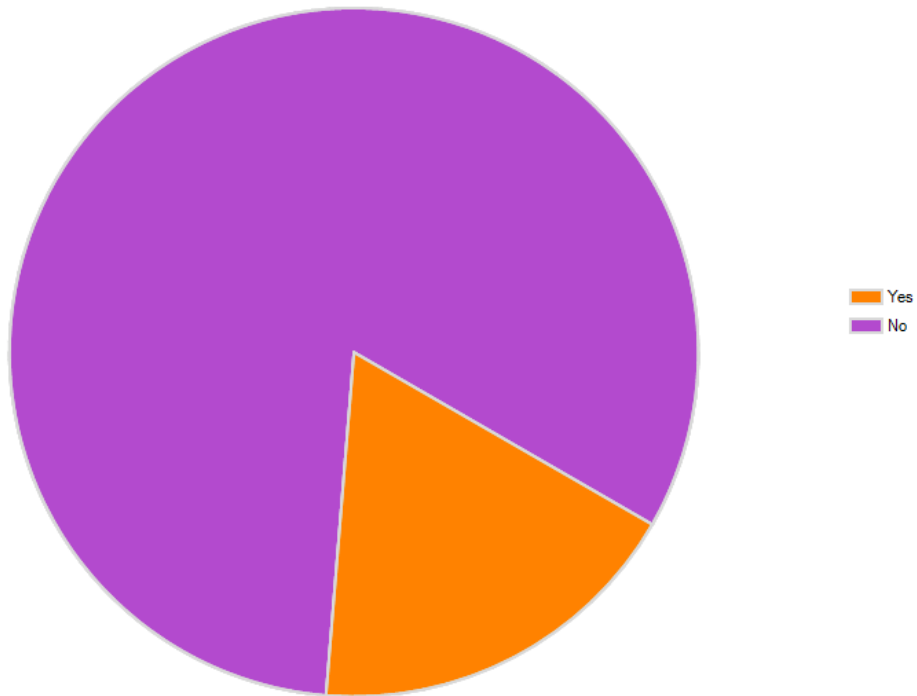
Do you think that public beach access and automobile parking on Assateague Beach should be restored after major storm damage?



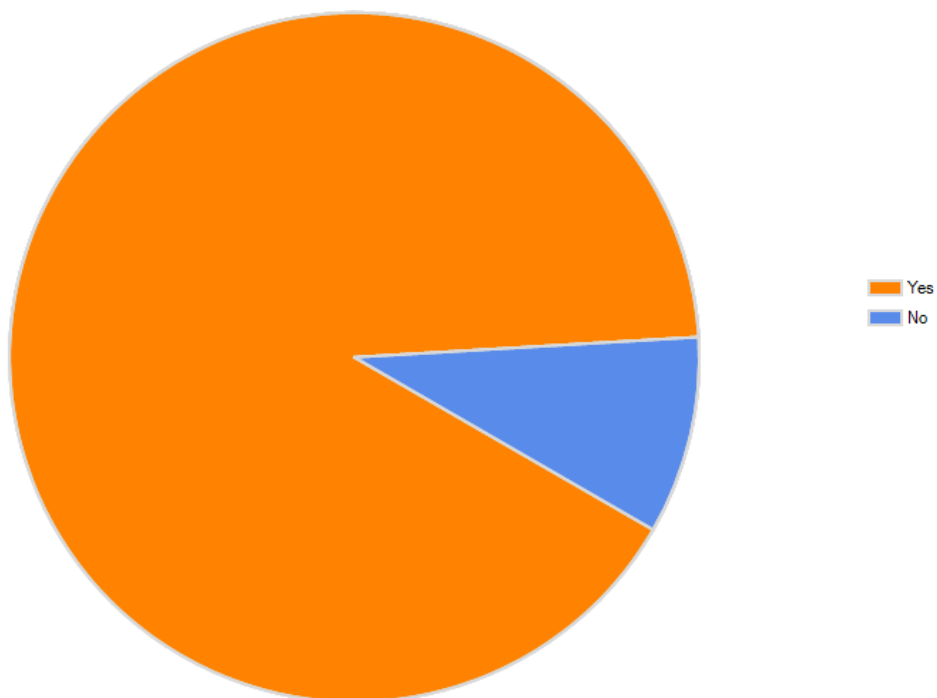
A more stable, natural beach with room for parking lies north of the current recreational beach. Would you support relocation of the recreational beach to this alternate site with additional parking?



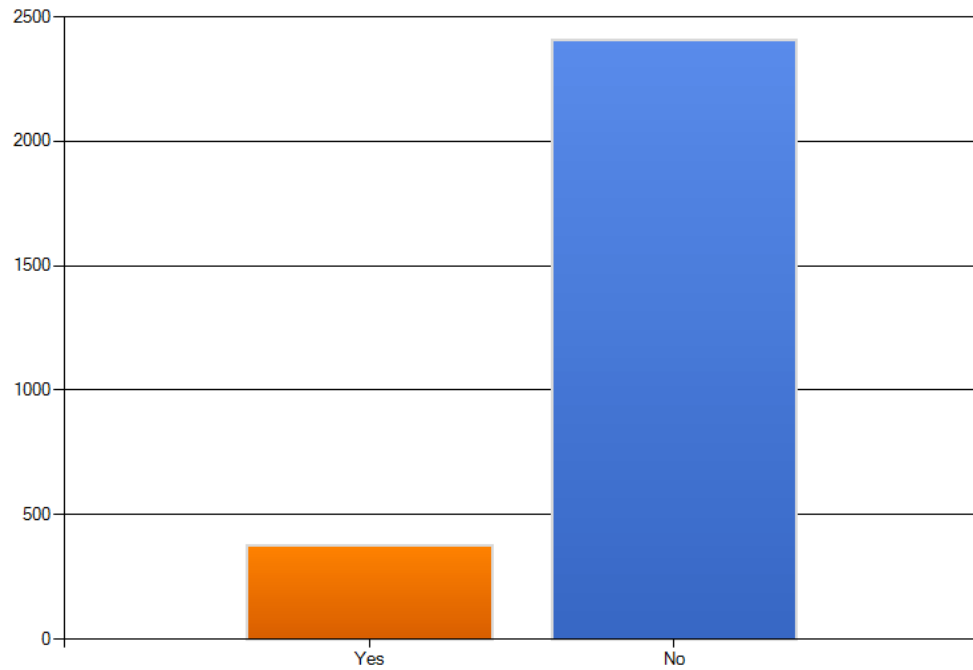
Would you return to visit Assateague Beach if direct beach parking was not available and a trolley/bus from a remote parking lot in Chincoteague was available instead?



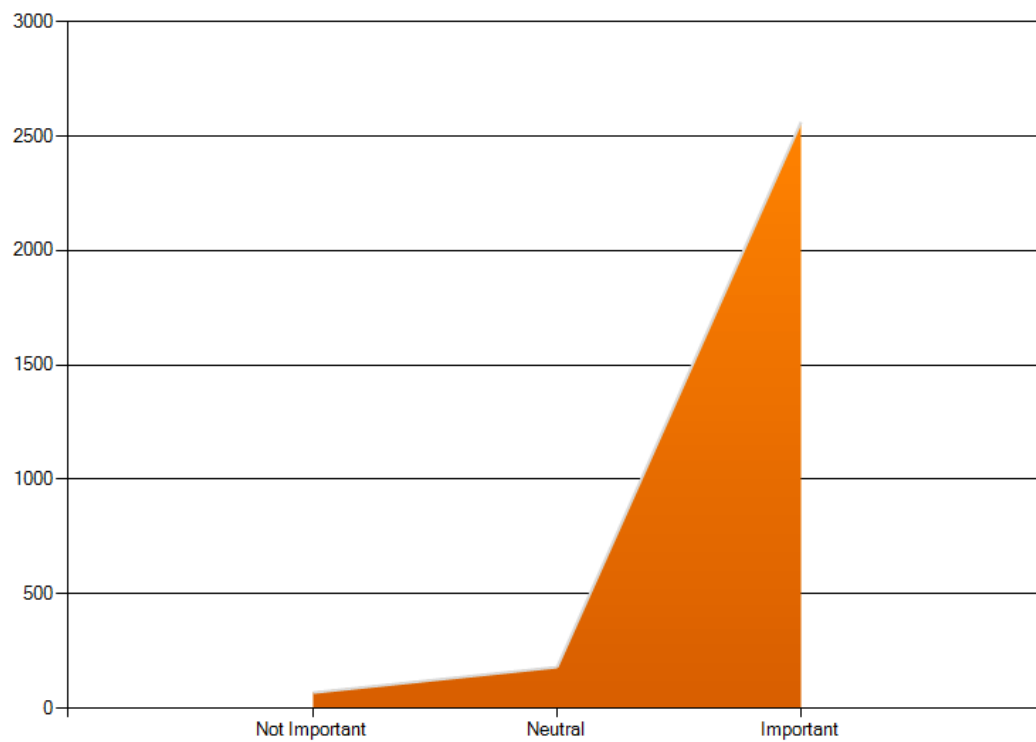
If Assateague Beach parking was replaced by a trolley/bus system, do you believe it would have a negative impact on local business or the length of your vacation in Chincoteague?



If a fast-moving thunderstorm hit the beach, would you feel safe in a temporary shelter while you wait for a trolley or bus?



How important is direct beach parking at Assateague Beach?



Beach Access Questionnaire

Please provide any suggestions you have about improving Assateague Beach access and parking, or any other comments:

	Response Count
	1,281
<i>answered question</i>	1,281
<i>skipped question</i>	1,556

Response Text		
1	The beaches are beautiful. Please provide adequate parking. Parking was tight this year when we visited in June.	Jul 13, 2010 5:34 PM
2	Must allow parking. raise entry fee if necessary. Loss of access will be huge detriment to locals and visitors alike.	Jul 13, 2010 6:11 PM
3	Leave the parking as is. NO MORE OUTSIDE BUSINESS, the quaintness of the town and beach are the main reason people go there. You never should have allowed the chain hotels, or McDonalds!	Jul 13, 2010 6:31 PM
4	I think the beach should be kept as is, however, relocating would be okay, but access and parking are a bonus for early morning or late evening walks on the beach	Jul 13, 2010 6:37 PM
5	Trolley/bus as an additional mode of transport to the beach would work on occasion for us but usually need parking since we often transport our kayak and bikes to Assateague.	Jul 13, 2010 6:56 PM
6	A trolley system might work in conjunction with beach parking, but not alone. I would rather visit a beach with convenient parking.	Jul 13, 2010 8:12 PM
7	I am in favor of moving the public recreational beach to the northern site as long as there is a decent road leading to it. I would hope that the new beach and parking would be spread out. The current beach location gets too congested with all the tourists. I know it's not possible but I wish there was a "Locals Only" beach.	Jul 13, 2010 10:03 PM
8	Should provide off the road access to a section of the north beach, since access to south is heavily restricted	Jul 14, 2010 12:32 AM
9	When we were last at Assateague (6/3-6/8), fee gathering for parking was not being enforced during certain hours, and a free parking weekend was offered. Is this not important revenue that is being lost? Revenue that can be used for improvements and repairs? I know that the cost of parking is one thing each year I am happy to pay, expect to pay, and want to pay to help keep this vacation destination beautiful. I am sure other visitors agree.	Jul 14, 2010 1:07 AM
10	use the north end	Jul 14, 2010 1:22 AM
11	We have came the to Chincoteague the last 4 years and when I was younger. Along with the great hospitality at Waterside the main reason we come is the beach. It's has this affect that no other beach has, where you feel like you have it to yourself, and not being able to drive there with just your family and enjoy the trip through Assateague in your own vehicle, takes that feeling of freedom away!!!! They cannot let this happen!!!!!!!!!!!!!! It will hurt the number of tourists that visit Chincoteague and Assateague Island's each year. They just built a brand new bridge.....let all the tourists use it!!!!!!!!!!!!	Jul 14, 2010 1:46 AM

Response Text		
12	My father, Roy C. Tolbert, was one of the original members of the Chincoteague Assateague Bridge and Beach Authority. He and the other members firmly believed that access to Assateague Beach was the future of Chincoteague. They were right! Taking away that access will also be the death of Chincoteague.	Jul 14, 2010 10:32 AM
13	Provide an off-road bike trail to the parking lot beaches; all but the last mile or so is build. Provide a parking lot near the entrance to Assateague, with buses and bike rentals for those who want them and for times when the beach lots are full.	Jul 14, 2010 11:53 AM
14	improve bike access to main beach! Charge more \$\$ for cars! This will reduce need for parking spaces.	Jul 14, 2010 12:03 PM
15	Where are the bike racks at P1?	Jul 14, 2010 12:29 PM
16	The area to the north would be the best long term parking solution. It can already be accessed by a gravel roadway. The existing beach area could be returned to its natural state and blocked off from traffic.	Jul 14, 2010 12:42 PM
17	I do not believe that this is an "either/or" issue - I believe that what is best for all - Chincoteague residents, businesses and visitors; Wild Life Refuge org; the animals/birds; the environment; would be for Assateague Beach Parking to be continued where it is presently and/or further North- whichever makes the most sense in terms of cost, protection of the beach and parking lots from storms, ease of access, etc.; a trolley system for peak times (predominantly for July thru mid-August). If the Trolley system did run during those times there is a strong possibility it would take the pressure off of having/needing so many parking spaces, make it easier to get people off the beach or protected in case of a storm, etc.	Jul 14, 2010 12:50 PM
18	I live on the island, and I think closing down the parking would greatly decrease the amount of people that visit just because of the inconvenience. It will also decrease the sales of the local businesses. Its not a good idea in my opinion to move the parking or close off this section of the beach.	Jul 14, 2010 3:51 PM
19	go north!	Jul 14, 2010 5:15 PM
20	It should stay as is! We have been coming here since 1976, at least 2 or 3 times from May to October! Please don't change anything else, the bridge was enough!!!	Jul 14, 2010 7:34 PM
21	The island should be more bicycle friendly. More paved paths and more bike racks. The bike beach was barely restored this spring. There is only one rack and the trail is still partially covered with sand. We should be thinking about the environment and give more people more places to ride bicycles.	Jul 14, 2010 7:54 PM
22	Return the dunes and dune grass that will help reduce beach erosion. The dunes, dune fencing, and dune grass is the reason for the beach further north. If this was done on the south end we'd be able to utilize both beaches.	Jul 14, 2010 8:43 PM
23	It is my opinion there is absolutely nothing wrong with beach access and parking the way it is. It would be a great mistake to change something that has worked for so many years.	Jul 14, 2010 10:47 PM
24	Considering a trolley from the beach 1) SAFETY-a fast moving thunderstorm and people standing around with beach umbrellas --if nothing else, imagine the lawsuits against the gov't from the estates of the people hit by lightning. 2) How many trolleys will it take to move not only the people but all their beach gear, plus a couple of kids. When you park, you can make multiple trips, not so on the trolley. A Very Impractical idea.	Jul 14, 2010 11:07 PM
25	Considering the amount of stuff a family needs to carry to the beach, toys, surf boards, umbrellas and chairs, picnic supplies. one would think a trolley would be totally impractical(4 families could fill a trolley... not to mention the safety factor if a storm arises...or someone has to leave the beach because of an emergency....If there were trolley only transportation we would vacation elsewhere.	Jul 14, 2010 11:34 PM
26	If beach parking is restricted Chincoteague Island will die.	Jul 15, 2010 12:01 AM

Response Text		
27	The trolley system does not work well for people with fishing gear, young children, or those wanting to spend the entire day. I have been coming here since I was a young child and it breaks my heart to see these storms undermine the integrity of the beach.	Jul 15, 2010 1:56 AM
28	Adding a trolley system is a great idea, but it must be in addition to parking!! Most people that go to Assateague Beach are in family groups with small children. A trolley is incapable of transporting family units and all of the items families carry with them to the beach such as, umbrellas, tables, chairs, beach toys, surf boards, tents, coolers... It is simply impossible for a trolley service to meet the needs of family-oriented vacationers! Families would simply find an alternative beach for vacation.	Jul 15, 2010 2:09 AM
29	I support a dual system using the trolley at one beach site and allowing cars at the other site. I would support a conversion limiting access to the current south beach only by trolley if considerable car parking (900+ spaces) were made available at the new north beach site. Alternatively, if the new north beach site were made accessible only via trolley, I would prefer that the 900+ spaces remain available at the current south beach. In any bus or trolley system, you must provide for passengers to conveniently bring umbrellas, chairs, coolers, etc.	Jul 15, 2010 8:26 AM
30	Move the main parking to the more stable area to the north. Allow access to the existing parking area only with required over sand vehicle equipment. This will allow qualified vehicle access to a large section of beach while not disturbing piping plover nesting areas. Continue to allow current OSV access as is.	Jul 15, 2010 12:09 PM
31	The beach parking should be available for handicapped only. Over the sand vehicles, with permits, should be allowed to park off paved parking area. Beach transportation should be run by private companies not the town or park service. Bicycles, with children and cargo attachable carts, should be provided by the local rental companies. Bicycle stands should be on the beach. The beach shuttle should depart from central location, near the Chamber of Commerce (?), with ample parking area closeby to allow car commute from remote locations.	Jul 15, 2010 3:10 PM
32	Open permit beach parking all Summer as it used to be. Limiting this has already decreased our stay as well as many family members. I also think that fees should remain the same or you will also have a negative impact on vacationers. From what I'm hearing things are still okay but one wrong change could have an immediate adverse effect.	Jul 15, 2010 3:20 PM
33	Without beach parking access, the beach is worthless to families and senior citizens because of the need to carry chairs, umbrellas, toys, etc...and what about surfers? If space is limited to the first 1000 (or more), let people know beforehand.	Jul 15, 2010 3:59 PM
34	I think it is very important to maintain public access to the beach, especially for bikers. I think maintaining the access with at least an oyster shell parking lot and access road is necessary for the financial health of the park and the town of Chincoteague.	Jul 15, 2010 4:58 PM
35	Form a task committee to work along with the Chamber of Commerce in Chincoteague, VA	Jul 15, 2010 9:12 PM
36	We love the beach, but most important the ponies and wildlife. It's so nice to go to a beach and it's not developed and trash everywhere. We come several times during the spring/summer/fall. WE LOVE IT!!!!	Jul 15, 2010 9:21 PM
37	I cannot imagine any sane person with kids, coolers, umbrellas, towels, chairs, kites, boards, etc looking forward to a trolley ride to the beach and a return trip with wet clothing, wet towels, and sand all over everything.	Jul 15, 2010 11:33 PM
38	I also own a property in Chincoteague and pay town taxes and would like to see parking at the beach and not a trolley system. Thanks.	Jul 16, 2010 3:02 AM

Response Text		
39	Is beach replenishment not an option? It is done all over Delmarva along MD and DE beaches and seems to help with erosion there. I know the beaches are managed for wildlife and are left to be natural, but I'm guessing people accessing the beach are bringing more economic dollars than the ones coming to look at little birdies. Why can't a dune system be established on the public beach between the parking lots and the water. A dune system with natural planted grasses and a fence system to keep beachgoers off of the dunes would help to stabilize that area of the beach and reduce the damage caused by storms. Designated crossovers could then be created for the public to access the beach from the parking lots. Similar to how Ocean City, MD has beach crossing at the end of each street to keep the public off of the dunes. During the off season would the shuttle still be run at regular intervals during the open hours of the refuge so that people visiting can still readily access the beach whenever they want? Would the shelter be heated in the winter for those waiting? Does the cost of parking lot repairs outweigh the cost of running a shuttle at regular intervals all year long? How much would the refuge spend on buying property in Chincoteague to build a shuttle and parking area? What would a shuttle cost? I think a shuttle is a very bad plan and hope the Town of Chincoteague does everything they can to prevent it!	Jul 16, 2010 12:04 PM
40	Should be more parking than is now available. The parking lot fills up early in the morning and with small children, it's difficult to "beat the crowd".	Jul 16, 2010 3:19 PM
41	Do not remove ORV access during this process, if that is done and removed, I will no longer visit the area. Thanks	Jul 16, 2010 3:19 PM
42	ORV Access needs to be less restrictive. MD/VA makes an effort to accommodate ORV access and find a balance - VA just shuts it down regardless	Jul 16, 2010 3:30 PM
43	over sand vehicle access is very important	Jul 16, 2010 3:34 PM
44	I use only the OSV section of the beach as I am an avid surf fisherman. I visit Chincoteague many week days/weekends during the spring, fall and winter months. I would not venture to Chincoteague if I could not access the OSV section of the beach.	Jul 16, 2010 4:24 PM
45	Please don't take the parking away...it is our lives and always been a part of my world...I grew up on the island and it is sad enough things have changed already but don't take the parking..	Jul 16, 2010 5:29 PM
46	How much money does USFWS/NPS take in through vehicle entrance fees every year? Hundreds of thousands. It seems like maintaining a stone/shell parking lot is a small price for such a cash cow. Make no mistake, this is about restricting human access to the island. It is happening on Federally owned ocean beaches all along the Atlantic seaboard. Cape Cod, Gateway, Assateague, Hatteras, Core Banks... They want us out.	Jul 16, 2010 8:00 PM
47	Restore parking access. The beaches elsewhere (Presq Isle St. Park) and others receive 'replenishment sand' via the COE program. Why not AI???	Jul 16, 2010 9:03 PM
48	In my opinion, the trolley or bus option is a terrible idea... If implemented, my family will find a different place to spend our vacation time and dollars.	Jul 16, 2010 10:19 PM
49	We need to maintain all parking on Assateague in order to keep Chincoteague alive and well. Failure to do so will have a devastating affect on all businesses on the island, and consequently, all residents.	Jul 17, 2010 12:21 PM
50	Parking to the north is good but only if they do not knock down the dunes that are already there. That is what originally started the problem we have now.	Jul 17, 2010 12:34 PM
51	I would like to see more parking spaces open up	Jul 17, 2010 1:12 PM

Response Text		
52	It would be devastating to Chincoteague to lose the many visitors who would not be happy with only trolley access to the beach. We go every day when we are here and we would go elsewhere if the beach is closed to auto traffic.	Jul 17, 2010 1:55 PM
53	Why are there no questions relative to ORV access? This is of equal importance to the parking issues.	Jul 17, 2010 1:56 PM
54	Love having parking right on beach. Easy to carry beach stuff, (i.e. umbrellas, chairs, etc) to beach.	Jul 17, 2010 2:10 PM
55	Beach parking should not have to be paid for with the duck stamp if it is not enforced. If the beach access was provided only by the trolley people will not come to this beach anymore.	Jul 17, 2010 4:00 PM
56	Raise the price of admission to support keeping the beach and parking.	Jul 17, 2010 4:06 PM
57	I have heard about the proposed to move parking into town. I spend a min. of 4 weeks on the Island and over 10 relatives the same. If direct beach parking were eliminated, you would lose all of us. We would go to Rehobeth. That proposal will kill the town I am certain. I just can't believe it costs that much money to remove sand from the parking lots.	Jul 17, 2010 9:18 PM
58	I've been coming to Chincoteague since 1984, primarily for the beach and it's family friendly nature. I would however stop coming if I could not park at the beach	Jul 17, 2010 10:04 PM
59	move beach access to the north	Jul 17, 2010 11:34 PM
60	continue to maintain and improve exiting lots,,try to use school lots on holidays if you need and can transport people to the beach If you close the lots our family will not visit here ,,and we would move if any one would buy our house We are very opposed to alternative site parking,,and we are tax payers and we WANT our tax dollars to take care of the lots as do most of the thousands that come here every day of the summer,,ask them when they come thru the entance,,or walk the beack and ask,,they will tell you they WANT BEACH PARKING	Jul 18, 2010 12:29 AM
61	I think the town of Chincoteague is expanding to the point where access to the beach is going to be a major problem and the town is starting to lose its past charm to an extent which is putting to much pressure on the beach and the surrounding natural resources.	Jul 18, 2010 3:20 AM
62	If parking and beach access is denied to fishermen and others, I will be forced to fish the MD side and businesses accross the Island of Chincoteague will suffer tremendously. If there is a shuttle system in place, ORV fishermen should still be allowed to drive over to and on Assateague Island to fish.	Jul 18, 2010 7:00 PM
63	if you use a paved parking the repairs are costly.i you used a shell parking lot the repairs could probabley be made by park employs at a faster pace ... what does this mean for the ORV area..an by relocating the beach will this open up more ORV ...coolers an beach gear an fishing gear just don't go along with trollys an or buses..that means the park would have to have a place to supply ice drinks an food for ppl	Jul 18, 2010 10:06 PM
64	Please have a soda machine in the parking lot.	Jul 18, 2010 11:22 PM
65	always provide ORV access even if parking lots go away.	Jul 19, 2010 12:51 AM
66	Please, please do not remove the parking and go to trolley runs because my family will no longer be visiting your island. It would be a horrible injustice to have to drag all my beach things out of my car and onto a trolley then unload it to the beach then remove it to a shelter in a storm, which, I would never feel safe in especially bringing my grandchildren. I will start going to OC, MD.	Jul 19, 2010 2:15 AM
67	Let the ponies on the Wildlife Loop or at least have them fenced so they are closely visible. the fee for the tour is too expensive. I hate to have to drive to MD for the ponies	Jul 19, 2010 9:59 AM

Response Text		
68	Even the consideration of a proposal to provide any less parking than now available for the size of Assateague Island is absolutely ridiculous and should be rejected out of hand.	Jul 19, 2010 4:15 PM
69	A berm with beach fence should be built up between the beach and the parking areas. This is the type of protection provided at most other beaches and has proven successful. If this area is left flat, we leave ourselves open to repetition of the events of this past fall. We must do what is necessary to protect direct vehicular access to the beach, which is as important to our community as the beach itself! No one wants to lug all their beach stuff on and off a trolley crowded with a bunch of other people who are doing the same. They'll go to another beach instead! I would need more information on question #4 above. Joe Pilato	Jul 19, 2010 5:55 PM
70	The beach was set up years ago, with the sand dunes, shower houses, picnic area etc to draw tourist and monies to Chincoteague. If not interested in promoting tourism but only the wildlife and assateague then minimum repairs would be needed and trolley would be just fine, but I believe designing it for public access and recreation has built up the tourist population and businesses on chincoteague as well as a very expensive bridge. It would not be fair to these businesses to reverse what has been started	Jul 19, 2010 7:14 PM
71	looks good now! do not take away parking!	Jul 19, 2010 7:26 PM
72	love it the way it is!	Jul 19, 2010 7:31 PM
73	separate parking for small vehicles, compacts sub-compacts, golfcarts, bicycles etc. Make SUVs and pickups park separately - they take up too much space	Jul 19, 2010 7:36 PM
74	waiting for a trolley/bus with children after a day at the beach would be very inconvenient because of tired kids and all the beach gear. If we were just a couple it would work fine. Consider preferred parking for seniors and families with young children	Jul 19, 2010 7:39 PM
75	it would be hard to take a shuttle with beach chairs, fishing poles, coolers etc. you need to keep the beach parking	Jul 19, 2010 7:41 PM
76	If personal vehicles are banned do not try a shuttle bus/trolley it will fail and negatively impact the town of Chincoteague financially perhaps fatally. Could a system using golf carts effectively replace personal vehicles better? Would be financially self supporting plus environment friendlier. Also allow visitors individual freedom of length of visit.	Jul 19, 2010 7:47 PM
77	make a contact number available for reporting injured wildlife (we found an injured seagull and nowhere to call)	Jul 19, 2010 7:47 PM
78	Provide 24 hour beach access and maintain the beach access ramps. Reduce costs of OSV permit.	Jul 19, 2010 8:11 PM
79	without the beach - chincoteague will be a ghost town (i.e. franklinton)	Jul 19, 2010 8:18 PM
80	a trolley or bus to the beach would prevent us from going!	Jul 19, 2010 8:20 PM
81	duck crossing signs - duck awareness/rights needed	Jul 19, 2010 8:22 PM
82	i think a lot of families go out to the beach for a full day and would be very inconvenienced to have to put all their gear on a bus with lots of other families doing the same	Jul 19, 2010 8:24 PM
83	don't ruin the northern beach area	Jul 19, 2010 8:25 PM
84	the beach was wonderful! thanks for having it open to kite flying! going north is great, but keep as entrance for bikes/hikers only to avoid crowds	Jul 19, 2010 8:28 PM
85	current method is ideal - young families with children wouldn't work with a trolley system. keep the trolley on chincoteague	Jul 19, 2010 8:29 PM
86	let the public decide, no the government!	Jul 19, 2010 8:31 PM

Response Text		
87	the north beach with parking should be in addition to current site. replenishment should be done. we pay taxes for some reason. this should be part of it.	Jul 19, 2010 8:33 PM
88	please keep assateague as usual, do not change	Jul 19, 2010 8:34 PM
89	i am 40 years old and have been coming to assateague since i was a kid. i am now bringing my children. please keep assateague beach just the way it is!	Jul 19, 2010 8:36 PM
90	this is the first time here at chincoteague. we love the quiet laid back feeling.	Jul 19, 2010 8:37 PM
91	i've been visiting chincoteague for 30 years, and while the beach is not my #1 priority, i do like the fact that i can go at my convenience. if trolley service were to go in effect, i would not go to the beach at all.	Jul 19, 2010 8:40 PM
92	a blended solution should be considered. if growth continues on chincoteague, the sole auto solution is not viable for the long term, bu there is a place for the auto in the beach solution	Jul 19, 2010 8:41 PM
93	parking close to beach is necessary for families	Jul 19, 2010 8:46 PM
94	we visit every year with our family. we come here because of the quietness and being able to relax	Jul 19, 2010 8:48 PM
95	we love it here. i do photography to and from beach. only can i do this in a private vehicle. thank you.	Jul 19, 2010 8:51 PM
96	love the beach as it is!	Jul 19, 2010 8:56 PM
97	Combined with the quaint little town of Chincoteague, Assateague Island is a wonderful magical place with "something for everyone" I am against the trolley system. How are we supposed to transport the wood and fire pit for our evening fires on the beach? How about our cooler? I like to go to the beach in the chilly months to walk and to photograph the shore birds. Would the trolley run year round?	Jul 19, 2010 9:23 PM
98	lockers should be provided on an annual basis so people who want to bike to the beach could store chairs, umbrellas, etc. Many times I drive just to have this stuff. If a locker were available I could bike more often, Bikes lanes should be provided separate from the road.	Jul 20, 2010 12:20 AM
99	The parking is vital as with any vacationers destination. The Trolley/bus system with greatly reduce the number of visiters and thereby cause another increase in admission fees, which are rediculously high already. What good is such an attractive feature if we don't have access to it.	Jul 20, 2010 1:09 AM
100	I think the trolley system is a good idea. You should put it by the mcdonalds or something. Just make sure you keep beach access right across the bay from chincoteague.	Jul 20, 2010 1:20 AM
101	Beach access parking must continue for the benefit of both Assateague & Chincoteague. Stop trying to take away our Federal access. This land belongs to us!!	Jul 20, 2010 1:21 AM
102	Please keep beach parking and bussing people would KILL Chincoteague	Jul 20, 2010 1:31 AM
103	Questions 5 thru 8 in my opinion are tough to answer with yes or no. Depends on Cost, Frequency of runs, waiting times, stops, etc.	Jul 20, 2010 2:20 AM
104	The Beach Has Worked For Me And My family For 30 Years Don't Mess With It.	Jul 20, 2010 2:34 AM
105	I've been coming to Chincoteague for 30 years however if the beach access is limited or you need to ride a bus I will go to the Outer Banks of North Carolina. Also fishing was important at Chincopteague however the fisherman are being pushed out. We had an unpleasant encounter with a Park Ranger telling my wife that she should apologize to people who were in the restricked area of the beach. Thay said that we pushed them out of their area to swim. My wife is very mildly spoken so she didn't tell him that they just started to swim right accross were we were already fishing. Why didn't he repremand them for being on the other side of the roped off area. Alao, there were a couple that had a dog on the beach that he "apparently" overlooked.	Jul 20, 2010 2:41 AM

Response Text		
106	Having access to the beach in our own vehicle is very important to our family. The beach is a big draw for us to come to Chincoteague. Without this access we probably would vacation else where.	Jul 20, 2010 2:58 AM
107	Without Assateague VA beach parking, Chincoteague will go bankrupt in every way. If this happens, families will spend their vacations North of OC, near the DL line.	Jul 20, 2010 3:21 AM
108	"It ain't broke, so why try to fix it?"	Jul 20, 2010 2:17 PM
109	I feel that taking away the parking at the beach and bussing people there would be a major mistake.	Jul 20, 2010 2:52 PM
110	love the island, love the beach-need to be able to come & go as I please	Jul 20, 2010 3:22 PM
111	love the island, love the beach-need to be able to come & go as I please	Jul 20, 2010 3:22 PM
112	More public access and open beach.	Jul 20, 2010 4:00 PM
113	Remove all government service workers permanently and start contracting maintenance and restoration services via contractors. Establish a relationship with UMES to allow volunteers and graduate students to work with wildlife. Bottom line is that the Federal Workers would like to deal with less people and still get paid the same.	Jul 20, 2010 5:40 PM
114	finish the bike path from woodland trail to the beach. seriously finish the bike path so more can bike in a safe manner	Jul 20, 2010 8:04 PM
115	the beach is critically important to owners and vacation persons. the town would be depressed economically without the beach. it should remain accessible at all times. thank you	Jul 20, 2010 8:06 PM
116	tourist or resident - we need parking to remain at the beach - it is why we love the beach. easy to get to - we live here and tourists come here	Jul 20, 2010 8:07 PM
117	excellent family vacation spot!	Jul 20, 2010 8:10 PM
118	add more parking near surfing area. don't relocate, add more parking north. if trolley service replaces parking, my family would never come back	Jul 20, 2010 8:12 PM
119	please don't close off the beach to cars. we wouldn't come here anymore	Jul 20, 2010 8:13 PM
120	a limited trolley system for those who wish to spend a short time at the beach and/or have limited beach supplies might be feasible, as the only form of transportation - absolutely not - speaking from a history of 30 years of island visits	Jul 20, 2010 8:22 PM
121	enjoyed separation of bicycling and walking from autos, however, autos are necessary to bring everything people want at the beach: food, towels, shade, boogie boards, balls, beach toys, umbrellas, chairs, etc. evacuation in a storm is an unresolved problem, too.	Jul 20, 2010 8:24 PM
122	i believe it would be a good idea, for a starter, no to permit cars on the hike-bike trail. it is a wildlife refuge.	Jul 20, 2010 8:30 PM
123	give people more access to more beach	Jul 20, 2010 8:33 PM
124	hope parking will stay close to beach!	Jul 20, 2010 8:34 PM
125	without direct beach parking, we would still visit assateague beach, but we probably would not go to the beach as often as we do now.	Jul 20, 2010 8:36 PM
126	keep building codes strict, limit development - that's what makes chincoteague special	Jul 20, 2010 8:39 PM
127	please continue to keep the wildlife loop to bikes/walking only - preferably for more hours. a trolley/bus would be very difficult for bringing chairs, coolers, etc. to the beach	Jul 20, 2010 8:43 PM
128	very nice new bridge but downtown seems less busy and kind of dead	Jul 20, 2010 8:45 PM
129	question 4 cannot be answered without knowing the environmental costs of an access road to that area. question 5 would depend on times of service	Jul 20, 2010 8:46 PM
130	we think the new bridge is having a negative impact on local main street business. we can't believe how dead main street is, i feel something should be done to highlight shops on main and draw people there - signage, whatever	Jul 20, 2010 8:48 PM

Response Text		
131	vacation here 3 times a year	Jul 20, 2010 8:50 PM
132	continue to maintain your beautiful beach	Jul 20, 2010 8:51 PM
133	if parking access was denied people wouldn't come. that would be a shame because the refuge is beautiful	Jul 20, 2010 8:54 PM
134	do not overlook getting the beach its fee funding. also off site parking needs more security than on site	Jul 20, 2010 8:56 PM
135	our priority is preserving the natural, unspoiled character of assateague and protecting wildlife habitat. we are willing to bike and to use a bus or trolley. relocating the beach north would probably mean adding road, and roads and parking lots will continue to erode and be washed away	Jul 20, 2010 8:58 PM
136	I like the new parking area, but also like the area to the north	Jul 20, 2010 9:00 PM
137	I know the cost may be high to maintain the beach but a bus or trolley system would destroy the tourist business in Chincoteague	Jul 21, 2010 12:01 AM
138	With having to transport ALL beach needs, it would be very difficult to get everything needed and all persons to the beach on a bus or trolley.	Jul 21, 2010 2:24 AM
139	make it more expensive to park by the beach (\$25). have remote lots with trolleys that are half the price to encourage use. get umbrella service on the beach so that people can pack light for the trolley. also, maybe add a basic snack bar	Jul 21, 2010 1:25 PM
140	increase useable beach	Jul 21, 2010 1:26 PM
141	we have been vacationing here since 1974	Jul 21, 2010 1:29 PM
142	leave everything as is. this is our 38th year here	Jul 21, 2010 1:30 PM
143	it would be tough to lug umbrellas etc. on a trolley. you would need more services at the beach in that case...which would ruin the thing that is so special here. putting parking in a more stable area makes more sense than rebuilding again and again. the beautiful expansive and special refuge area really sets this beach apart from other Delmarva beaches. whatever you do, protect that special setting	Jul 21, 2010 1:35 PM
144	been coming to chincoteague for 25 years and if beach parking was taken away I would question my return to the island	Jul 21, 2010 1:36 PM
145	why not charge an additional tax/fee at hotels/campgrounds/rentals to use for beach restoration?	Jul 21, 2010 1:39 PM
146	restore the parking that was lost in the noreaster	Jul 21, 2010 1:40 PM
147	start a shuttle service between town and beach	Jul 21, 2010 1:41 PM
148	preservation of the beach with parking is essential for keeping chincoteague the vacation destination it is!!	Jul 21, 2010 1:43 PM
149	with all of the gear associated with visiting the beach with children, it would be extremely inconvenient to have to take a shuttle	Jul 21, 2010 1:44 PM
150	perfect how it is	Jul 21, 2010 1:47 PM
151	wonderful experience. do what you need to do to preserve the wildlife and the land	Jul 21, 2010 1:48 PM
152	option of leaving anytime would be inconvenient. carrying umbrellas and coolers would be too hard.	Jul 21, 2010 1:50 PM
153	we have enjoyed a chincoteague vacation for the past 7 years. we travel over 600 miles with a child with a disability. no parking would mean no trip for us.	Jul 21, 2010 1:53 PM
154	a trolley is good for those who may not have a lot of beach equipment, but rather hard for people who do	Jul 21, 2010 2:02 PM
155	maybe a little more space, but don't move it	Jul 21, 2010 2:04 PM
156	more parking space	Jul 21, 2010 2:05 PM
157	love the beach and being able to park at the beach. love the seaside town with no boardwalk and large company signs to take away from this	Jul 21, 2010 2:31 PM
158	don't see how a shuttle would work with all the gear people take to the beach	Jul 21, 2010 2:32 PM
159	intermittent sewage smell on chincoteague, various locations??	Jul 21, 2010 2:33 PM

Response Text		
160	we have been coming to chincoteague for almost 25 years. my children who are now grown have fond memories of the horses up close and personal, even coming on the beach with them. they are so disappointed that their children can only see the horses at a distance. Now when we vacation here we take the grandchildren to assateague in maryland to see the wild horses. we loved to drive on the beach when the kids were yournnger and now that its gone if you need to come in the summer. not being able to drive to the beach seems very inconvenient. we has no probelem finding parking this time nor has it been a huge probelem in the past. also, where would you put all the cars in chincoteague? it seems it would add to the congestion in chincoteague. if I lived here i would not be happy about more traffic and cars trying to find parking in chincoteague.	Jul 21, 2010 2:38 PM
161	love the beach, and really enjoy chincoteague, like the friendly, relaxed atmosphere here!!	Jul 21, 2010 2:40 PM
162	i am 38 years old. i started coming to chincoteague with my parents when i was 5. now i bring my girls here. i hope they will someday bring their kids here. the town is wonderful but it needs the beach and it needs parking at the beach. we could go to north carolina and stay right on the beach but we don't because we love it here. please don't take away the beach or the parking. this is a special place to us.	Jul 21, 2010 2:42 PM
163	i have come here since i was 12-13 years old and am now 33 years old. we now bring our family and love it here. i was very intrigued by the ponies and remember the rodeo as a boy. also i see many changes with the ponies, fences etc. their area becomes smaller and smaller (negative). please keep the traditions alive on chincoteague and assateague!	Jul 21, 2010 2:45 PM
164	what is here this year suited our needs. would not be as user friendly with all the stuff that beach visits with kids requires.	Jul 21, 2010 2:47 PM
165	the parking is always okay but we would like to see the ponies on the wildlife loop as we did 15 years ago. then we had to stop the car for the ponies. we really miss that and the pony tour is too expensive to do each year.	Jul 21, 2010 2:49 PM
166	4 wheel drive all year. we miss the bath house	Jul 21, 2010 2:52 PM
167	whatever you can do to keep the beach viable, with parking!	Jul 21, 2010 2:59 PM
168	i feel that eliminating the parking at the beach would have a negative effect on chincoteague tourism and local businesses. more life guards would also be beneficial - says my mom.	Jul 21, 2010 3:02 PM
169	please leave assateague as natural as possible	Jul 21, 2010 3:03 PM
170	without beach access, no one comes to chincoteague - period. it's lovely, but the beach and access to it is the big draw. a trolley to the beach with all our stuff? seriously?	Jul 21, 2010 3:04 PM
171	we use bike lot and bike in.	Jul 21, 2010 3:09 PM
172	remote parking would be impossible. have you ever seen what just one family takes to the beach? chairs, beach bags, toys, umbrellas, cooler, towels, fishing gear, etc. concerned about being stranded at the beach with trolley system. budget for beach restoration and use entry fees for it.	Jul 21, 2010 3:12 PM
173	i like the current beach parking	Jul 21, 2010 3:13 PM
174	we love it here - thanks for asking	Jul 21, 2010 3:14 PM
175	beach parking is essential to visitation on assateague	Jul 21, 2010 3:21 PM
176	visitors to assateague must be able to come in their own vehicles and park at the beach. public transportation could not accomodate all the stuff required for a day at the beach. getting people off the beach in a summer storm would be impossible using public transportation. eliminating parking at assateague would kill/destroy chincoteague.	Jul 21, 2010 3:23 PM
177	easy access trolley/people movers like Disney. extend chincoteague pony express to the beach and add a trailer for chairs etc. promote the unique cycling/kayaking wild nature of chincoteague beach - especially bicycling	Jul 21, 2010 3:25 PM

Response Text		
178	please, please, don't mess with the bike beach. it is a great thing because it is not at all nice to bike to the car beach. there is lots more wildlife up there, it is quieter and it should be left alone. the same problems would only occur again.	Jul 21, 2010 3:27 PM
179	a national seashore is a treasure - treat it right. use trolley's and bikes not bubbas in pickups. don't move to the northern beaches - they are stable because they haven't been destroyed by over use. use the boardwalk model of the park in maryland - very stable dunes. use the existing trolleys that are in town and take them out to the beach.	Jul 21, 2010 3:29 PM
180	charge more to support restoration	Jul 21, 2010 3:34 PM
181	i love it! parking, i think, is adequate	Jul 21, 2010 3:35 PM
182	move restrooms and tables/benches on beach	Jul 21, 2010 3:36 PM
183	boardwalk to get to beach instead of trudging through sand	Jul 21, 2010 3:40 PM
184	relocate beach area only if it doesn't affect wildlife	Jul 21, 2010 3:43 PM
185	voicenut@iquest.net	Jul 21, 2010 3:48 PM
186	I think it vital that parking should be kept, for the town's sake and it is public land which should be available to them. parking should definately be maintained and moved if necessary but not eliminated	Jul 21, 2010 3:53 PM
187	the easy access of the beach is a major reason we came to the island	Jul 21, 2010 3:54 PM
188	keep it the same as it is now	Jul 21, 2010 3:56 PM
189	do not bus people out - it will do the town in	Jul 21, 2010 3:57 PM
190	an express lane for those with passes - parking is too important. plus it's an act of congress to continue to have the parking spaces	Jul 21, 2010 3:58 PM
191	an option of the bus would be nice for those who choose. i have been coming to this beach for the 28 years i have been alive and i feel that this would cause a lot of problems for the beach goers	Jul 21, 2010 4:01 PM
192	do trial runs, using the trolley/bus system with schedule listings at hotels/inns/b&bs/other locations, to the beach	Jul 21, 2010 4:04 PM
193	the parking and available porta-potties made our visit oh so pleasant. thank you	Jul 21, 2010 4:05 PM
194	charge fee to access island and extra fee to park at beach with fee used to repair parking lot in winter	Jul 21, 2010 4:06 PM
195	1st time visitor	Jul 21, 2010 4:08 PM
196	#4 would be great idea	Jul 21, 2010 4:11 PM
197	relocate beach - keep assateague alive do not change with the times it is what makes people come back	Jul 21, 2010 4:13 PM
198	appreciate the refuge and keeping the area 'natural', however, there are already numerous signs, fence, buildings, etx. man has brought into the island	Jul 21, 2010 4:14 PM
199	we take too much with us to the beach to ride a trolley	Jul 21, 2010 4:15 PM
200	Open the lower in. Do not have us pay for oversand and then it gets shut down. Foxes eat the eggs..not people...	Jul 21, 2010 4:32 PM
201	up the entrance fee to assateague from \$15 a week to \$18 per week. use the extra money to help restore the beach after a storm	Jul 21, 2010 5:10 PM
202	providing bus only access to the beach is the worst idea	Jul 21, 2010 5:13 PM
203	will not return if trolley/bus system implemented	Jul 21, 2010 5:15 PM
204	would definitely not return if trolley/bus system in place instead of direct parking	Jul 21, 2010 5:16 PM
205	convenience means everthing to vacationers and to the loca businesses who rely on the vacationers. please leave our beaches and parking as it is.	Jul 21, 2010 5:18 PM
206	we love it the way it is! we have plenty of beaches in NJ and we opt to come here	Jul 21, 2010 5:20 PM
207	the facility is just right. there are many parking spaces with adequate rest rooms, change and shower areas. the protected beach has well trained life guards. move it north or keep it where it is, but keep it!	Jul 21, 2010 5:23 PM

Response Text		
208	moving parking north. everybody will be happy including wildlife	Jul 21, 2010 5:26 PM
209	a shuttle is without question the stupidest idea i have ever heard. it will kill the business here - no families with children could possibly use this system!!!	Jul 21, 2010 5:33 PM
210	parking/access was excellent. need more trash receptacles near beach	Jul 21, 2010 5:37 PM
211	I want both direct beach parking and a trolley/bus system	Jul 21, 2010 5:37 PM
212	increased parking fee, relocating parking lots	Jul 21, 2010 5:40 PM
213	expand parking on assateague is the only logical move - it would hurt business with trolley	Jul 21, 2010 5:42 PM
214	built water stands for people who do not want to carry heavy weighted equipment and water to stay hydrated, otherwise more dehydration emergencies will result from no car access during individuals travels	Jul 21, 2010 6:01 PM
215	more dedicated bike lanes/street, better traffic control	Jul 21, 2010 6:04 PM
216	totally against having a shuttle to the beach	Jul 21, 2010 6:08 PM
217	for vacation and get away	Jul 21, 2010 6:09 PM
218	charge more for daily/weekly/annual passes	Jul 21, 2010 6:12 PM
219	please continue the current efforts. chincoteague is a top contender for our next year round home.	Jul 21, 2010 6:15 PM
220	have peak and non-peak parking/access to the beach to limit car access to the beach	Jul 21, 2010 6:16 PM
221	this is our 23rd year in chincoteague and love it the way it is	Jul 21, 2010 6:22 PM
222	i would prefer to come and go on my own instead of relying on others. this is the only beach i have ever visited and am 26 years old. this is my 23rd year visiting the island in the summer	Jul 21, 2010 6:24 PM
223	just arrived today - first time visitor	Jul 21, 2010 6:28 PM
224	north end of island parking would be best	Jul 21, 2010 6:31 PM
225	only one time	Jul 21, 2010 6:33 PM
226	beach and chincoteague is very important	Jul 21, 2010 6:36 PM
227	I KNOW MOST OF MY FRIENDS ARE NOT COMING BACK THEY SAID IT COST TO MUCH TO EAT & FISH GO TO THE BEACH MOTEIS YOU MUST HAVE BIG BUCKS	Jul 21, 2010 8:05 PM
228	Love Assateague!	Jul 22, 2010 12:14 AM
229	price for driving vehicle on beach to surf fish is way to high! i can see paying \$5. this will also eliminate the swimmers from being disturbed by fisherman and vice versa. look at Daytona Beach Fl where they have 10 miles of driveable beach for \$5. and beach is always packed! think of the revenue you would bring in. Thank You Chris Eckenrode 301-667-1775. 30x a year or more visit to Chincoteague Va for the last 25 years	Jul 22, 2010 4:22 AM
230	Sure would like to see a small portion of the southern section of the beach designated for fishing only. I spend about 8 weeks per year in Chincoteague and when the ORV zone is closed while the birds are nesting, surf fishing for us is non-existent.	Jul 22, 2010 7:13 PM
231	Beach parking is imperative for Assateague to survive as a tourist destination. No beach parking would have a direct impact on future visitors to Chincoteague and Assateague. The town of Chincoteague depends on beach visitors, and all businesses on the Island would be impacted by a loss of visitors with the possible exception of Pony Penning week. The loss of vacation rentals would be catastrophic for rental owners.	Jul 22, 2010 11:05 PM
232	Dunes should be replaced	Jul 23, 2010 2:50 AM
233	Safe beach access is important, but when provided must not damage Wild Life Refuge we love so much.	Jul 23, 2010 11:26 AM
234	Do whatever it takes to maintain beach parking on Assateague.	Jul 23, 2010 3:53 PM

Response Text		
235	I feel you are doing a good job.	Jul 23, 2010 4:22 PM
236	please keep the parking	Jul 23, 2010 7:16 PM
237	keep the beach open	Jul 23, 2010 7:27 PM
238	more parking places	Jul 23, 2010 7:28 PM
239	more parking places	Jul 23, 2010 7:28 PM
240	trolley/bus system would make getting to the beach quite difficult with moving coolers, chairs, surfboards, etc.	Jul 23, 2010 7:32 PM
241	more parking use #4 and current parking	Jul 23, 2010 7:41 PM
242	we come for the beach - with our kids, our chairs, umbrellas, boogie boards and other equipment. friving and parking on the beach is very important	Jul 23, 2010 7:46 PM
243	no trolleys!!	Jul 23, 2010 7:47 PM
244	if trolley/buses were used - two things should be considered. 1 - the trolley should be an option (with perhaps a monetary incentive for using them eg. parking fee added to direct access parking) 2 - trolley/buses should be frequest and convenient to load/unload with beach paraphrenalia	Jul 23, 2010 7:49 PM
245	it depends on how close parking is to the beach. i am totally against trolley/bus. my family and i have been coming here for 25 years - i spend every weekend here from 3-1 thru 12-15	Jul 23, 2010 7:51 PM
246	i think off the beach parking is important to preserve the natural integrity of the beach and its ecosystem	Jul 23, 2010 7:52 PM
247	keep the old drawbridge(just leave it open all the time). it is the symbol of chincoteague for tourists as well as the ponies	Jul 23, 2010 7:54 PM
248	save the beach!!	Jul 23, 2010 7:58 PM
249	carrying beach items via trolley would be too cumbersome - let alone small children	Jul 23, 2010 7:59 PM
250	please expand the biking trails so that i can get further away from people	Jul 23, 2010 8:01 PM
251	being able to drive to the beach with all of your possessions (toys, coolers, tents, etc.) makes driving/parking at beach necessary for an easy and enjoyable experience. also like the flexibility of coming/going as desired, and able to get what you need from car as needed.	Jul 23, 2010 8:04 PM
252	dude, just make more parking farther down the beach. the trolley/bus system is a bad idea.	Jul 23, 2010 8:11 PM
253	thank you for easy beach access. i am an annual national park pass holder	Jul 23, 2010 8:14 PM
254	you should tell people how long or approx. how long the wait is to get to the beach on a busy day. time is valuable to everyone especially those on vacation.	Jul 23, 2010 8:17 PM
255	chincoteague and assateague beach are one in the same for our family. you can't have one without the other!	Jul 23, 2010 8:18 PM
256	we love the beach and like to drive there on our own time schedule	Jul 23, 2010 8:19 PM
257	fix the lot, or relocate north. if not, the island as a whole will suffer!	Jul 23, 2010 8:21 PM
258	leave beach and parking as it is now! do not expand it, do not open new/different beach and do not enforce only trolley/bus. the trolley could be one option and see how it works? try it before eliminating parking. also please no fishing where people swim. hooks are dangerous. thank you.	Jul 23, 2010 8:23 PM
259	direct access to personal belongings i.e. first aid kit, cooler, cellphone is extremely important to my beach experience and lack of the same would cause me to look elsewhere. being from galveston, tx where we share the same concern of storm impact and erosion, we choose to maintain direct beach parking.	Jul 23, 2010 8:30 PM
260	parking nees to be maintained for beach use	Jul 23, 2010 8:33 PM
261	i would not want to carry beach chairs, cooler, umbrella, fishing supplies and raft on a trolley. thank you. this holiday weekend (july4th) too many people for trolley service	Jul 23, 2010 8:37 PM

Response Text		
262	open the beach up and let people enjoy it like they. do on the north end (MD) less harresment.	Jul 24, 2010 1:28 AM
263	I can see that you are trying to find alternative ways to save money, time, and destruyction. Here are mu concerns with you entertaining the idea of "busing" us to the beach. As a family, we carry 6 beach chairs, 2 overhead shelters, 2 coolers, 2 beach bags, 2 collapsable tables, 6 beach towels, and 6 boogie boards. We need a place to park near the beach to transport these items. We stay on the beach from 2 to 6 hours in a day. My family and I have been coming to Assateague and Chincoteague for 30 years. We hold our one family vacation here every year. At times with the entire family together there are around 65 of us. We always buy the week pass. That alone hurts the income coming in. We eat out at the restaurants at least 4 times while we are there. We always set a shopping day aside to pick up gifts for our families. Re-building the beach also provides jobs for the workers who have to do the work, which is crutial in this economy. I understand your concern in rebuilding the beach, but I would discontinue vacationing there if I could not park at the beach. Truthfully, the beach is most of the reason of we come, the shops are ok , but not great. The restaurants are tollerable.	Jul 24, 2010 6:17 PM
264	dont mess up a good thing. I mean really, are you trying to kill tourism? Americans love there cars and the freedom it brings us. My entire family camps every year at inlet view on the second week of July, When I say entire family I mean that there were over 75 people there this year. We have been doing this for 32 years! I know that by saying this that I speak for all of us. We will not return if this was to happen.	Jul 24, 2010 9:57 PM
265	it would be impossible to carry all things needed to the beach if you could not park on it. Shade, coolers, boards etc...	Jul 25, 2010 1:53 PM
266	Close by parking is VERY important to those of us with small children. The beach is the very reason we visit Chincoteague every year. Thanks!	Jul 26, 2010 12:54 PM
267	The main attraction for us at Chincoteague is the ease of parking. With four young children it would not be practical to try and load everything we need for a good beach day in a trolley bus - its just too much stuff. Chincoteague is unique because you are so close to your car. One does not even need to lug the cooler to the beach because you can go back to the car for lunch items. I bring my 78 yr old mother, who has knee trouble, to the beach. It's wonderful for her that the parking is so close since she is able to join us. Ocean city - even if you drop off at the boardwalk - it is just too far for her to walk down to the water to watch the grandchildren playing. Please, Please do not take the parking away. I would not be against an additional charge to park -say \$2.50 (with an annual \$50 pass for resident's) to build up a fund to pay for the annual maintaince of the parking lots.	Jul 26, 2010 2:22 PM
268	We completely understand the issue and the cost of restoring the parking areas, BUT we have small children and the thought of taking a bus/trolly with two small ones and all the beach supplies for us and them does is not a pleasant one. If they were older it wouldn't be a problem but I can see it being a big hassle for parents with little ones who can't help handle their gear and can't be in the heat/sun too long. Plus, breast feeding on the beach is somewhat difficult too and I liked heading back to the car to cool off and have some privacy. We come every summer and we would most likely reconsider if beach access was limited by motor vehicles.	Jul 26, 2010 9:32 PM
269	Serious fishing requires equipment like surf rods which would be difficult to bring on a shuttle. However, OSV permits elsewhere are often abused by those who want to surf and swim rather than fish. Letting there be "fishing only" access to certain areas would be nice. In any event, access via small vehicles like bikes, scooters, etc. should be maintained in addition to access for the handicapped, for whom shuttles would not suffice.	Jul 27, 2010 3:05 AM

Response Text		
270	I happen to live here on the Island and if this were to occur I believe that it would have a terrible impact on our Island in the way of Tourism. I personally wouldnt go over to the beach anymore if that were to happen. I would agree to having it replaced further North so as to alow the transportation situation to remain the same as it has for years.	Jul 27, 2010 7:47 AM
271	ALLOW OSVs TO THE NORTH OF PARKING AREA....FOR FISHING. ELIMINATE THE NIGHT TIME FISHING RESTRICTIONS. DON'T CLOSE THE SOUTH SIDE ALL SUMMER. THE PLOVERS HAVE PLENTY OF ROOM TO DO THEIR THING WITHOUT CLOSING THE BEACH.	Jul 27, 2010 12:28 PM
272	1. I believe a shuttle system will have a severe negative economic impact on the town and on property values. 2. A "temporary beach shelter" is not feasible - how are thousands of people going to crowd into shelters? What about those who find it difficult to walk far? 3. I'm a fisherman - I don't want to put my expensive equipment onto a shuttle bus with a load of tourists who have no regard for the equipment. And, the tourists will probably not appreciate my bait and fish smell!	Jul 27, 2010 2:13 PM
273	I feel if you open the over sand vehicle permit going north it would be a great idea.	Jul 27, 2010 5:11 PM
274	Take a clue from Ocean City's dune replenishment program in the 90's. The dunes hold if you plant them and restrict access.	Jul 27, 2010 5:47 PM
275	1. Where are you going to park all these cars in Chincoteague that you expect to take the trolley? Does someone already have the land scoped out and is ready to make a killing on parking fees at this property. Is this really about the beach parking or another money making scheme? 3. If you opened more beach parking North of the current beach, would you then have to close it for the piping plovers each year?	Jul 27, 2010 6:38 PM
276	The off the beach parking would definitely discourage beach goers & have a strong impact on tourism	Jul 27, 2010 7:27 PM
277	We are 70 year old grand parents and have been coming to Assateague ever year for 31 yrs We usually spend a week camping on the Island. The reason we come to Chincoteague is for the beach and the family friendly atmosphere of the town. With all the beach gear that you need when you go the beach it would be impossible to get it all on a trolley or bus especially when traveling with a couple of 5 years in tow.	Jul 27, 2010 7:53 PM
278	Begin planning and building up the north end of Assateague for parking now. With the amount of visitors now that area would be used even now.	Jul 27, 2010 9:12 PM
279	There is "wild" beach north to Ocean City and 80+ miles south to the Chesapeake Bay mouth. Why can't human have vehicle access to 1 mile at Chincoteague?	Jul 27, 2010 10:25 PM
280	We wouldn't mind walking a slightly longer distance like we did this summer when we had to park along the road. We have been coming to Assateague for over 20 years with our family and extended family and we love it.	Jul 29, 2010 2:02 AM
281	We have come here every year for 15 years. If there were no beach parking it is likely we would not come here again. However, we would be happy to pay a fee or additional surcharge to enter beach area if the fee were used to defray cost of the parking reconstruction.	Jul 29, 2010 6:23 PM
282	We have a townhome on Chincoteague & rent it out part time. I love the beach & the fact that it is protected from development. I do feel it needs to have some public parking if at all possible for tourism. The wildlife & biking are a large draw but the beach makes it the total package here.	Jul 29, 2010 8:33 PM
283	It is not feasible for a young family to take the trolley/bus from a remote parking lot as they must tote children and lots of various paraphernalia to the beach for any length of time. Our family has been coming to Chincoteague/Assateague for 31 straight years primarily for the beach.	Jul 30, 2010 2:58 PM
284	move the beach - make ORV more accessible year around - we are homeowners on Chincoteague and would like to enjoy more ORV time to fish and relax	Jul 30, 2010 3:10 PM
285	warm the water :)	Jul 30, 2010 5:49 PM

Response Text		
286	like it the way it is. leave it alone - best for families on the east coast!	Jul 30, 2010 5:52 PM
287	i honestly do not think we would return if no direct parking - but we do love Chincoteague	Jul 30, 2010 6:08 PM
288	we like it the way it is with direct parking	Jul 30, 2010 6:09 PM
289	we would not stay on chincoteague if we could not drive to assateague. it would be too difficult to haul beach things and kids	Jul 30, 2010 6:12 PM
290	we understand the annual damage caused by storms - the parking and beach access have decreased in 38 years we have come here and people have increased. it is a challenge to find a spot to park	Jul 30, 2010 6:18 PM
291	in the event of a bad storm, you could not provide shelter for the number of people that go to the beach at any given time	Jul 30, 2010 6:20 PM
292	a well thought out plan needs to be in place. this is our 11th summer. we love staying in chincoteague and going to assateague. my mother is disabled and we have two young girls. i could not imagine going on a trolley to transport my mom, husband, girls and all necessary beach materials.	Jul 30, 2010 6:23 PM
293	no shuttles or water taxis...ever!!	Jul 30, 2010 6:25 PM
294	so what about families - our future national park attendees? what about the young - enjoying nature and not electronical turned out to creation. what about elderly? i've been coming over 30 years - maybe in the future i will need handicapped availability	Jul 30, 2010 6:28 PM
295	we come to assateague because it is family friendly. i don't want to carry all the kids beach toys, etc. onto a bus	Jul 30, 2010 6:30 PM
296	any bus/trolley system will reduce businesses. bike rentals and more will suffer - many people will be turned off from coming to this beach	Jul 30, 2010 6:32 PM
297	you could easily increase the cost of beach access. a 10 to 15 dollar day pass and 30 to 40 dollar week pass would be well within reason. also consider a 1% sales tax increase to fund beach repair for all island transactions	Jul 30, 2010 6:33 PM
298	we realize the importance of protecting the beach! however if the town is strangled, then that will be a shame. surely with all the wisdom and technology of the age, a way can be found to support both.	Jul 30, 2010 6:35 PM
299	having to take a bus/trolley would impact what people take to the beach, shortening their time on the beach and what's purchased locally to take, ie food/coolers, chairs, umbrellas(too difficult to take on the bus)	Jul 30, 2010 6:40 PM
300	we have been to several other beaches in VA, NJ, NY, MD and DE. if they start a bus system we don't go back	Jul 30, 2010 6:43 PM
301	what about a ferry boat to shuttle beach goers to tom's hook (provided with portopotties) tom's hook is getting bigger from sand being deposited.	Jul 30, 2010 6:45 PM
302	works great!	Jul 30, 2010 7:07 PM
303	please leave assateague as it is. very nice family vacation spot	Jul 30, 2010 7:12 PM
304	fast lane for people with beach passes	Jul 30, 2010 7:13 PM
305	we have been coming to assateague since 1986	Jul 30, 2010 8:20 PM
306	make a fast lane for people with yearly passes	Jul 30, 2010 8:22 PM
307	for people who are handicapped/disabled i worry about if there is no beach parking	Jul 30, 2010 8:23 PM
308	the ability to access beach, assateague by vehicle is the only possible acceptable option in my opinion	Jul 30, 2010 8:25 PM
309	keep as is	Jul 30, 2010 8:28 PM
310	keep the beach parking lot	Jul 30, 2010 8:33 PM
311	it's perfect as is	Jul 30, 2010 8:34 PM
312	kill auto beach access you kill tourism on chincoteague island and surrounding businesses	Jul 30, 2010 8:36 PM

Response Text		
313	put back the dunes	Jul 30, 2010 8:42 PM
314	you need to keep the parking so all can enjoy	Jul 30, 2010 8:49 PM
315	homeowner - beach parking very important	Jul 30, 2010 8:51 PM
316	we love the island/beach, will come again	Jul 30, 2010 8:52 PM
317	Property values on Chincoteague would drop like a rock without parking on Assateague. Wouldn't make sense for our family to drive so far to just go fishing, which we can do much closer to home.	Jul 31, 2010 11:51 PM
318	A temporary shelter in a storm? Can you say sitting duck in a lightning storm? What genius thought this idea up? I've visited Chincoteague/Assateague for over 30 years, without the beach and easy parking there isn't much else to draw visitors there, say goodbye to any industry since the commercial fishing boats left. What a terrible idea to consider eliminating beach parking for shuttle buses. Just imagine carrying all your beach supplies on a crowded bus, come on, be serious! Say farewell to tax money to the town and county.	Aug 1, 2010 12:26 AM
319	I am opposed to eliminating parking on Assateague. When visitors come to Assateague, they plan on spending a good part of the day on the beach and take all the necessary equipment and food/drink to do so. It would be a logistical nightmare to accommodate the people and their accoutrements on either a trolley or bus to load the bus or trolley, unload it once they arrived at the beach and to reload either when they are leaving the beach. Also, should a storm come up, there would not be enough busses or trolleys to evacuate the people from the beach in a timely manner, thereby presenting a grave danger to everyone on the beach. The expense involved in relocating access to the beach is unnecessary. It would kill tourism on both Assateague and Chincoteague to have the bus/trolley system of parking and access to the beach.	Aug 1, 2010 10:52 AM
320	The beach could be more level and cleaner. It is very difficult for someone who has problems walking, of course very difficult for someone who has to use a wheel chair. Keep the beach and parking, definitely no trolley or bus.	Aug 1, 2010 2:09 PM
321	Just keep it open and safe. My family loves your place.	Aug 2, 2010 12:47 PM
322	We have been going to Chincoteague for about 13 years. Quite frankly we strongly believe if direct beach parking is not available we will sadly no longer come. We also have a family tradition of doing the wildlife loop after a day at the beach (not possible if you are not driving your own vehicle).	Aug 2, 2010 6:12 PM
323	Trollies won't work - they use them in the Naples, Florida area for several beaches there. My experience with them has been they are a total pain if you take things like chairs/coolers/umbrellas as they fill up the aisles and/or seats. People stand in the hot sun on either end waiting for them to come, I've seen fights when demand for seats is high and the trollies are running too slow to keep up with demand. Please don't implement that solution here in Chincoteague/Assateague	Aug 2, 2010 7:04 PM
324	add hand sanitizer in bathrooms	Aug 2, 2010 7:57 PM
325	replace sand dunes and widen the parking lot	Aug 2, 2010 7:59 PM
326	add more parking	Aug 2, 2010 8:00 PM
327	keep it the same way it is	Aug 2, 2010 8:02 PM
328	we need to bring our own transportation/vehicle in regards to beach umbrellas, coolers, beach chairs, etc.	Aug 2, 2010 8:07 PM
329	oyster shells	Aug 2, 2010 8:12 PM
330	please don't do this	Aug 2, 2010 8:18 PM
331	i like the way it is now and parking should remain. we are a family of 6, so having the car is important to our family and we like to visit often.	Aug 2, 2010 8:22 PM
332	thank you for your service	Aug 2, 2010 8:23 PM
333	i think that preserving the seashore is much more important than providing 'creature comforts' to beach goers	Aug 2, 2010 8:26 PM

Response Text		
334	trolley/bus = bad idea!	Aug 2, 2010 8:28 PM
335	beach needs rock jetties - stabilize shore first - parking second.	Aug 2, 2010 8:32 PM
336	most people carry coolers, umbrellas, chairs, kid toys etc. how are you going to carry that on a trolley to the beach?	Aug 2, 2010 8:34 PM
337	direct beach access is very important, as i bring a handicap mother only for a few minutes some times. we love assateague. if you are handicap you would be unable to ride the trolley, and leave when you needed to. i believe if the trolley system took place the town of chincoteague would dry up in a few years as the beach and wildlife is the heart of the town. the beach is beautiful. Parks are doing a great job to date. why change?	Aug 2, 2010 8:44 PM
338	if there was not enough trolleys or busses during a thunderstorm, this would cause a panic	Aug 2, 2010 8:49 PM
339	increase the parking places at beach. multiple access to the beach point through road would be great!	Aug 2, 2010 8:51 PM
340	need access to drinks, sandwiches at beach	Aug 2, 2010 8:52 PM
341	please try to keep it as natural and rustic as it is. there are enough public commercial beaches in virginia. a parking lot with trolley makes it seem so 'city like'. we come here because its unique and rustic/natural. trolley's wont stop to see the wildlife and could add pollution	Aug 2, 2010 8:56 PM
342	regardless of what is decided, i feel that it should be based on what is best for the ponies, wildlife, and environment	Aug 2, 2010 8:58 PM
343	suggest new parking area with higher fee and reduced entrance fee for using trolley - both systems to reduce needed parking area. trolley needs room for beach gear.	Aug 2, 2010 9:03 PM
344	no trolley to beach! that will greatly affect tourism	Aug 2, 2010 9:05 PM
345	leave as it is	Aug 2, 2010 9:07 PM
346	people bring a lot of things with them and loading it all on a trolley/bus in a timely manner would be difficult	Aug 2, 2010 9:09 PM
347	continue the already fine bicycle access (with trolley)	Aug 2, 2010 9:10 PM
348	Fishing should be allowed only during specific times of the day, such as 5:00 AM to 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM to dusk. Fishing and swimming do not mix well at Assateague Beach. Ban smoking on the beach.	Aug 3, 2010 9:03 PM
349	I have had a seasonal place on Chincoteague for 20 years.I am shocked that the state of Virginia cannot find the funds to support Assateague.I am proud when visitors say that they love the beach with the parking close by. Unlike Ocean City. Save and protect this gem.I've introduced three generations of family members, friends and friends of friends.I have traveled quite a bit in my life. Both the US and abroad. I have never been anywhere like it.	Aug 3, 2010 9:58 PM
350	I would not go to Chinchoteague any longer if I could not drive my personal vehicle to the beach. I think a shuttle bus is absolutely insane!	Aug 4, 2010 11:35 AM
351	Complete bike path for safe biking to beach. The curenrt path was not completed. This would lessen car traffic and would be a very great attraction and asset to Chincoteague and Assateague.	Aug 4, 2010 5:04 PM
352	I love Chincoteague/assateague	Aug 4, 2010 6:50 PM
353	keep the ORV zone open all year	Aug 4, 2010 8:29 PM
354	i would like to see more bike paths to the beach. i believe the idea of a bus system would be detrimental to the town, and not possible logistically. chincoteague is the one place where you can enjoy a laid back relaxed vacation without a crush of people	Aug 4, 2010 8:31 PM
355	the arrangement you have is great, why change? wo is proposing a change?	Aug 4, 2010 8:32 PM
356	arrangement is fine	Aug 4, 2010 8:33 PM

Response Text		
357	keep beach accessible by car. trolley would cause longer waits. hard to get beach stuff to set out.	Aug 4, 2010 8:40 PM
358	alternate trolley for people who don't want to drive out. but safe spot for t-storms must be provided.	Aug 4, 2010 8:55 PM
359	keep the parking at the beach and make some of the park were you can bring your dogs!!	Aug 4, 2010 11:54 PM
360	I would be willing to pay more for a pass on to the island if it meant they kept the beach and parking.	Aug 5, 2010 2:20 AM
361	If you have a situation that is providing the bulk of your yearly income you do what you have to to take care of it. Inconveniencing visitors with the mentioned bus system would seem to be a poor substitute for maintaining a parking lot. Would operating this bus system be less costly than maintaining the parking lot? With fuel costs and liability insurance you might be surprised. Oh, the wording of question 2 is a bit confusing. I hope the beach as number 1 in importance etc. is correct.	Aug 5, 2010 12:50 PM
362	who pays for the parking restoration? federal government? if so, maybe the town and merchants should share the cost as it is critical to the local economy.	Aug 5, 2010 7:39 PM
363	more trash cans, and trash pick up	Aug 5, 2010 7:44 PM
364	how would you carry your beach supplies on the trolley?	Aug 5, 2010 7:49 PM
365	very slow entry for seasonal pass customers. they need a 'speedy booth' for yearly pass people who pay in advance. too many wasted parking spaces	Aug 5, 2010 7:51 PM
366	the beach is the reason i have come my whole life. Designated bike path all along the road from town to the park. lane for beach pass people so don't have to wait, communication on holidays. ranger make sure parking is utilized to the best advantage (no campers parked side ways) this beach is family friendly so please keep it that way.	Aug 5, 2010 7:54 PM
367	Beach parking is a must even if it means increasing the fees.	Aug 5, 2010 7:56 PM
368	lower rates, more freedom for off-road vehicles	Aug 5, 2010 7:58 PM
369	this works at some national parks out west, not here. to much \$\$\$ and hassle for families with kids. don't do it!!	Aug 5, 2010 8:01 PM
370	keep parking at the beach!	Aug 5, 2010 8:05 PM
371	using shuttle busses to get people to the beach will practically destroy the businesses of chincoteague	Aug 5, 2010 8:07 PM
372	Allow Fishermen to drive on beach and stay all night refer to Islabd Beach State Park New Jersey Fishing Rules.	Aug 5, 2010 8:11 PM
373	could the NPS charge for parking and use the proceeds to maintain the parking area? if this is not possible, could the town of chincoteague establish an NGO, like NPCA, funded by a tax on motels and rentals to maintain facilities on AI?	Aug 5, 2010 8:20 PM
374	it would be nice if the handicap boardwalk access was longer. otherwise we love CI and AI!	Aug 5, 2010 8:21 PM
375	because we are seasonal visitors we didn't get to see the full impact of the winter storms to the islands.	Aug 5, 2010 8:24 PM
376	as much as we love chincoteague and assateague, i'm afraid if you decide to replace public parking with a bus/trolley system we would not return for a summer vacation! have you seen what some families take out to the beach? how would you load all of that onto a bus, people would be waiting hours to load up for the beach or to pick up to return to town. support relocation to north. i thought the repair of the beach is what our park passes cover. please re-consider and don't do the bus/trolley option!	Aug 5, 2010 8:34 PM
377	stay AS IS - very nice!	Aug 5, 2010 8:38 PM
378	leave it as is - it's perfect and the main reason we keep returning	Aug 5, 2010 8:40 PM
379	please keep parking available. especially because we have a handicapped visitor and it would be difficult to get on a trolley	Aug 5, 2010 8:51 PM

Response Text		
380	more handicap parking spots	Aug 5, 2010 8:53 PM
381	a trolley or bus to the beach would be crazy. if that happens, we will not vacation here.	Aug 5, 2010 8:55 PM
382	I would be willing to pay more for a one year pass or a weekly pass to generate extra revenue. In years when there are no bad storms, the money could grow in an account to be used during years when storms damage the existing beach parking lots.	Aug 6, 2010 12:08 AM
383	large stone jetty	Aug 6, 2010 12:28 PM
384	restore it and keep politics out of it.	Aug 6, 2010 12:29 PM
385	get the beach ownership away from fish/wildlife	Aug 6, 2010 12:30 PM
386	beach restoration/rock formation jetty	Aug 6, 2010 12:31 PM
387	pump sand on beach from parking lot 1 to coast guard station, it would cost about 12 million dollars. that is nothing to save chincoteague island.	Aug 6, 2010 12:37 PM
388	if parking was on north of beach, look at all the money could be saved in the last 40 years	Aug 6, 2010 12:38 PM
389	loss of direct beach access - would be disappointed and probably not return	Aug 6, 2010 12:40 PM
390	to preserve the dunes and thus replenish the beach and make parking higher	Aug 6, 2010 12:41 PM
391	keep/restore to what it has been - possible extend north?	Aug 6, 2010 12:43 PM
392	the trolley/bus system would decrease fuel consumption, but it would conflict with a group who has many chairs, umbrellas, etc.	Aug 6, 2010 12:44 PM
393	during the winter use hurricane fences on beach	Aug 6, 2010 12:46 PM
394	please keep same # of parking spaces, due to high seasonal volume with emphasis on beach restoration	Aug 6, 2010 12:48 PM
395	leave it alone it is fine the way it is...	Aug 6, 2010 12:50 PM
396	if people could not drive to the beach with chairs, towels, etc. and leave when they desired, it would have a definite impact on visitation to assateague beach!!	Aug 6, 2010 12:53 PM
397	i live in PA, if there was no parking i would choose another beach to go to in NJ, MD or DE. we have rented a cottage for 20 years, for a week every summer. i'd probably come for an overnight in spring or fall as we usually do, but summer would be out	Aug 6, 2010 12:56 PM
398	raise entry fees per person per day	Aug 6, 2010 12:59 PM
399	we enjoy assateague beach because of the close parking, the available portable restrooms, and the beach cleanliness	Aug 6, 2010 1:00 PM
400	i do not believe our family would return to chincoteague if a trolley system was put in and we have been coming here for decades	Aug 6, 2010 1:02 PM
401	we have visited chincoteague and assateague beach for 20 years. no beach or with trolley means we will seek vacation somewhere else for a week. the revenue generated daily to assateague by visitors must be a plus along with daily shopping. chincoteague would become just history if it changes.	Aug 6, 2010 1:05 PM
402	if assateague beach goes so will chincoteague. there will be no more vacation for anyone. it will be a ghost town	Aug 6, 2010 1:09 PM
403	above answers say it all	Aug 6, 2010 1:10 PM
404	save our beach parking	Aug 6, 2010 1:11 PM
405	above answers say it all	Aug 6, 2010 1:13 PM
406	save our beach parking	Aug 6, 2010 1:14 PM
407	replenish the beach, rebuild the dunes at the present beach location	Aug 6, 2010 1:16 PM
408	if beach access not direct we may return for a weekend but would not stay our usual week. we have been vacationing at CI for 6 years	Aug 6, 2010 1:18 PM
409	total madness!	Aug 6, 2010 1:21 PM
410	guys fishing?! what then!	Aug 6, 2010 1:24 PM

Response Text		
411	ridiculous!	Aug 6, 2010 1:25 PM
412	please stop	Aug 6, 2010 1:27 PM
413	this would break my heart!	Aug 6, 2010 1:31 PM
414	We are all employees of PBI. we are located in waldorf, md. most of us have visited chincoteague and assateague islands and others are planning to in the near future simply because they have heard how beautiful it is. we have also shared pictures of the islands within the office. it grieves us that such a plan is even being considered! please hear our voices and don't let this happen!	Aug 6, 2010 1:33 PM
415	not safe!	Aug 6, 2010 1:35 PM
416	what about people who want to fish!	Aug 6, 2010 1:36 PM
417	how sad to take this away from folks!	Aug 6, 2010 1:37 PM
418	is lou hinds crazy!!?	Aug 6, 2010 1:38 PM
419	stupid idea!	Aug 6, 2010 1:41 PM
420	we haven't been there yet but were planning to come. we would reconsider if we had to take a bus	Aug 6, 2010 1:42 PM
421	this is ridiculous!	Aug 6, 2010 1:43 PM
422	someone is not thinking clearly!	Aug 6, 2010 1:44 PM
423	i want to be able to control how i spend the day with my family	Aug 6, 2010 1:45 PM
424	i come there all the time - don't do this!!!	Aug 6, 2010 1:46 PM
425	no!	Aug 6, 2010 1:47 PM
426	against this completely!	Aug 6, 2010 1:47 PM
427	i would not consider this safe for my kids	Aug 6, 2010 1:49 PM
428	someone is not thinking!	Aug 6, 2010 1:51 PM
429	i think it is great the way it is!	Aug 6, 2010 1:57 PM
430	i think the current parking on assateague is great. would be a huge loss to many if it was no longer available. please save beach parking!!	Aug 6, 2010 1:58 PM
431	the parking on the beach now is fine, trying to get everyone off of assateague beach without their personal vehicles would be a disaster. leave the parking the way it is !!	Aug 6, 2010 2:10 PM
432	maintain right to drive and park	Aug 6, 2010 2:12 PM
433	no shuttle bus!	Aug 6, 2010 2:13 PM
434	rip rap jetty	Aug 6, 2010 2:23 PM
435	believe 2 options - on/off assateague would be great - beach would still be assateague after storm by bus if parking was eliminated temporarily. also provides a greener option by using bus.	Aug 6, 2010 2:26 PM
436	you are doing a good job. please keep it up. i live at the jersey shore and this is our 5th visit here to the assateague beach. we love it here. thank you.	Aug 6, 2010 2:28 PM
437	if parking is restricted we would need a dedicated bike lane or sidewalks or some othe safe, direct bike/walk path to assateague. kid-safe is very important. it would be great if it were easier to bike to the beach - also maybe subsidized bikes available at rental places.	Aug 6, 2010 2:30 PM
438	the most logical solution seems to me to move north of present beach area.	Aug 6, 2010 2:34 PM
439	keep the parking or chincoteague becomes a ghost town!	Aug 6, 2010 2:35 PM
440	it would benefit your economy if you improved your bike lane system and marketed them	Aug 6, 2010 2:36 PM
441	a public margarita machine would be nice	Aug 6, 2010 2:37 PM
442	1. one toll booth for passholders on heavy use times. 2. electronic message boards on Maddox for parking availability. 3. beach parking is essential for town economy.	Aug 6, 2010 2:39 PM

Response Text		
443	if the federal government goes that route, i go to outer banks for vacation. open the 4 x 4 section of the beach back up during summer. ever since 1989 you've closed beach claiming to save the piping plover. after 20 years there is still no more piping plovers than when you started. quit insulting the people's intelligence. its obvious you are doing everything possible to run people away. i mean come on. those birds don't pay your salary, the people do. with our 1/2 mile of beach and 23 miles left for the birds. now i heard you are trying to get rid of the horses. i've just about had enough...!	Aug 6, 2010 2:43 PM
444	storm safety - it depends on the shelter	Aug 6, 2010 2:46 PM
445	have a bus/trolley in place and allow for private automobiles and parking	Aug 6, 2010 2:48 PM
446	no beach no town	Aug 6, 2010 2:50 PM
447	number 1 beach town in USA per AOL travel	Aug 6, 2010 2:51 PM
448	replacing beach parking with trolley/bus system is unrealistic. need to give control back to park service.	Aug 6, 2010 2:52 PM
449	assateague is the life for chincoteague, you take that away, the town of chincoteague dies. CI voted #1 beach town on the east coast!	Aug 6, 2010 2:54 PM
450	sea walls and rock walls	Aug 6, 2010 2:55 PM
451	continue to maintain parking on beach with crushed clam shells. raise fees if necessary to defray costs. we come to the refuge for the beach and the wildlife. please support this natural resource	Aug 6, 2010 2:59 PM
452	we love this beach because it is part of the national park and undeveloped	Aug 6, 2010 3:03 PM
453	i would like to see the island host a classic car show.	Aug 6, 2010 3:05 PM
454	have a bus from high school for those without chairs, umbrellas, kids, coolers etc. for those with such it is imperative that beach parking is available	Aug 6, 2010 3:06 PM
455	in favor of north bound parking	Aug 6, 2010 3:08 PM
456	don't want to find someplace else to vacation	Aug 6, 2010 3:11 PM
457	sun bathers only shuttled from remote parking. fishing - allow parking close to beach.	Aug 6, 2010 3:18 PM
458	the option to move the beach and parking north makes sense. i would also support increasing entrance fees. we have been coming here for 40 years and all of our children's family come here also	Aug 6, 2010 3:33 PM
459	chincoteague parking for assateague access would be a disaster for visitors, residents, and businesses alike	Aug 6, 2010 3:35 PM
460	offer free or reduced price access into the park if you choose to take the trolley	Aug 6, 2010 3:36 PM
461	increasing the length of parking area	Aug 6, 2010 3:38 PM
462	have more access to trash can to be able to throw things away. taking parking away is a very bad idea. would be a hassle for people with children and carrying things.	Aug 6, 2010 3:40 PM
463	people who use the beach carry umbrellas, chairs, etc. the only way a trolley would work would be to allow beach equipment rentals, sell food, and build restrooms, showers and changing rooms.	Aug 6, 2010 3:43 PM
464	no trolleys!!	Aug 6, 2010 3:44 PM
465	beach parking for your car is very important for carrying umbrellas, ice chests, and things needed for children	Aug 6, 2010 3:51 PM
466	have the current site and parking and also the area in #4. why not both?	Aug 6, 2010 3:52 PM
467	to take parking lot away is going to destroy chincoteague's economy	Aug 6, 2010 6:05 PM
468	ATVs should have access to 4 x 4 drive areas. we are a large law abiding group and should not be discriminated against! free access for all !!	Aug 6, 2010 6:06 PM

Response Text		
469	we vacation in chincoteague twice a year and our primary concern is the preservation of the wildlife refuge. the beach is currently protecting the refuge, and erosion of the beach threatens the refuge. therefore we support preservation of the beach in its current location.	Aug 6, 2010 6:08 PM
470	a new parking lot would be acceptable to the north only if it did not negatively impact wildlife	Aug 6, 2010 6:09 PM
471	2 seniors	Aug 6, 2010 6:10 PM
472	give high priority to biking!! think more parking! innovative. problems present opportunity!	Aug 6, 2010 6:11 PM
473	i cannot beliee our tax money goes to rebuilding a parking lot annually!! safe bike trails thru town!	Aug 6, 2010 6:13 PM
474	our major concern is in the event of a thunderstorm with the lightening. we would not feel safe out in the open waiting in a line for transportation to pick us up. we enjoy driving to the beach and parking our own vehicle there. it would also be difficult to carry all of the beach gear on the bus. your alternate beach sounds good. thank you for making this questionnaire available.	Aug 6, 2010 6:15 PM
475	find ways to protect the beach so excessive dollars don't have to be used to push sand around	Aug 6, 2010 6:18 PM
476	we would not return here for vacation if we had to take a trolley or bus to the beach. we would be limited on amount of stuff we take to the beach and i would feel very unsafe during storms. there is no way people could get off beach safely. i have been coming here all my life and would be disappointed to change vacation plans over something so silly.	Aug 6, 2010 6:21 PM
477	i love chicoteague. its little fishing village charm.. its access to the ocean, crabbing, fishing, relaxation, slow pace. to rely on remote access to assateague is folly!	Aug 6, 2010 6:22 PM
478	turn all of the beach over to the park service and make it a national park, not a wildlife refuge	Aug 6, 2010 6:24 PM
479	how about using snowfencing again? there used to be an effort to preserve the dune area with snow fencing and other efforts. some signs about trash - cig butts are litter! members of the community would be willing to help with dune preservation and building	Aug 6, 2010 6:25 PM
480	i see assateague as a premier wildlife area. although i like the recreational beach, i was disappointed when it was created. the last thing i would want to see is it turn into another ocean city	Aug 6, 2010 6:30 PM
481	create more parking to continue the use of beach passes and eliminate trolleys to assateague	Aug 6, 2010 6:34 PM
482	i would still return to the beach if there was no direct parking, but it is much more convenient	Aug 6, 2010 6:37 PM
483	not only parking but dunes need to be restored as well	Aug 6, 2010 6:39 PM
484	no trolleys or buses. would be a huge mistake	Aug 6, 2010 6:40 PM
485	i would not go to the beach if i had to lug all of our stuff onto a trolley. if i forgot something i would have to ride the trolley back and forth. a trolley would take away the convenience of this beach.	Aug 6, 2010 6:50 PM
486	it is a nice place to live!	Aug 6, 2010 6:51 PM
487	why not do off site parking with beach access via golf carts or something more autonomous?	Aug 6, 2010 6:54 PM
488	dredge and jetties	Aug 6, 2010 6:56 PM
489	Plant grasses and trees (where the "beetle" made you cut down the trees) and shrubs to hold the sand and use sand fencing to keep wind erosion to a minimun.	Aug 7, 2010 1:42 PM
490	its a great beach! hate to see it changed in a negative way.	Aug 7, 2010 2:05 PM
491	we love coming to chincoteague. it's so peaceful & beautiful. travelling to the beach by trolley would be really hard with 2 kids	Aug 7, 2010 2:09 PM

Response Text		
492	i find it very hard to believe that a trolley/bus would even be considered. it makes no sense at all.	Aug 7, 2010 2:11 PM
493	we vacation in chincoteague at least once a year and appreciate the investment in restoring the beaches after winter storms.	Aug 7, 2010 2:14 PM
494	if you plan to replace direct access with a trolley, it would be helpful to look at visitors attitudes about public transportation. also consider the sheer volume of beach 'stuff' that families transport - how does it fit on the trolley?	Aug 7, 2010 2:17 PM
495	riding on a trolley or bus with seating/hot cranky adults and kids is not appealing, and having my car close and available is great! perhaps an assateague restoration fund in which the public users of assateague beach could donate money to help with restoration cost could help. or the access fee for the island. we would rather pay more for the convenience of having our vehicle right there. we love assateague and chincoteague. don't change a thing about chincoteague. don't go commercial - please. we no longer go to the jersey shore or outer banks because chincoteague is so much better.	Aug 7, 2010 2:22 PM
496	would not return if parking was replaced by trolley/bus system.	Aug 7, 2010 2:24 PM
497	require day visitors to use a trolley system. allow guests who are staying on chincoteague island for 5 days or longer to have a beach parking permit. i have seen many changes in the landscape of the public beach over 25 years, but this year was the most disappointing in terms of ease of public beach use/parking availability	Aug 7, 2010 2:26 PM
498	the boys did such a great job fixing the parking lots this year. i love the beach summer or winter. please don't let them take the parking away. it would kill chincoteague, the beach is why i moved here in 1977	Aug 7, 2010 2:28 PM
499	no parking on assateague - chincoteague would die. no business except for some fishermen(and they can't catch much - too many restrictions). its a horrible thought taking a bus over - ridiculous!	Aug 7, 2010 2:30 PM
500	as an adult with mobility issues because of severe arthritis i would never be able to go to assateague again if the only access was a trolley/bus system. i need to be able to use my own vehicle.	Aug 7, 2010 2:34 PM
501	if parking at the beach is denied, we will find another place to go. pay for parking to keep the beach open to cars.	Aug 7, 2010 2:38 PM
502	bring back the sand dunes and make it look natural not plastic as is is now	Aug 7, 2010 2:43 PM
503	we are not generally beach going but the parking at beach in assateague looked very convenient especially traveling with small kids.	Aug 8, 2010 2:44 AM
504	shuttle would be absolutely ridiculous	Aug 8, 2010 2:45 AM
505	if you close beach parking, the net effect is all businesses on chincoteague will no longer have customers	Aug 8, 2010 2:48 AM
506	no	Aug 8, 2010 2:51 AM
507	would have to know more about what would be impacted north of present beach site, such as ponds, lagoons, wildlife habitat, bike and hiking paths, if beach area and parking is moved north	Aug 8, 2010 2:55 AM
508	provide a yearly pass holder lane. hand out cups and literature regarding the disposal of cigarette butts on the beach	Aug 8, 2010 2:58 AM
509	we would not come to chincoteague if we had to use a trolley to go to the beach. the beach is what makes chincoteague. if you do this you will lose 60 to 70% of your people that come to chincoteague	Aug 8, 2010 3:01 AM
510	please no trolley/bus system	Aug 8, 2010 3:03 AM
511	being a self employed family and the fact the majority of our business is on the island, losing the beach would severely impact our business	Aug 8, 2010 3:05 AM
512	don't take it away	Aug 8, 2010 3:12 AM
513	trolley is not feasible with beach stuff. thunderstorm - been in this situation in Naples Fla - not safe	Aug 8, 2010 3:15 AM

Response Text		
514	keep it the way it is	Aug 8, 2010 3:21 AM
515	keep the current beach parking maintained	Aug 8, 2010 3:29 AM
516	no trolley, thank you! the people of chincoteague are gracious and wonderfully kind folks who have done a terrific job of self promoting their wonderful home. thank you.	Aug 8, 2010 3:35 AM
517	absolutely necessary for beach parking!! no trolley/bus system!!	Aug 8, 2010 3:38 AM
518	parking very good	Aug 8, 2010 4:02 AM
519	please keep the same, wonderful manner you are handling this pony penning	Aug 8, 2010 4:05 AM
520	please do not take away the parking. i love this beach. i've been coming since i was a kid and now i bring my kids every year.	Aug 8, 2010 4:15 AM
521	my family has been coming to chincoteague for 50 years. our family reunions have taken place there for the last 16 years. the numbers that attend are usually between 50 and 120. limiting the access to the beach would change most of the peoples minds in coming to chincoteague - personally i would hate for that to happen	Aug 8, 2010 4:19 AM
522	I guarantee you that tourists like me would no longer come to Chincoteague if we have to bus to the beach. You would destroy the town. VOTE NO!	Aug 8, 2010 2:16 PM
523	Please don't move te parking to beach access. My family has been coming for years and we come bc we live being able to come and go easily and quickly with the children should a need arise. We will not come if parking to beach access is moved.	Aug 8, 2010 2:33 PM
524	Please don't move te parking to beach access. My family has been coming for years and we come bc we live being able to come and go easily and quickly with the children should a need arise. We will not come if parking to beach access is moved.	Aug 8, 2010 2:33 PM
525	Part of the beauty of coming to Assateague for the beach IS the parking. We can bring all our chairs, blankets, towels, umbrellas, kids toys, water, food, sun screen, watertoys, fishing rods etc. etc. etc. with us IN our car. It is extremely impractical to have to haul this on a trolley. Have you ever tried this? Unless you provide us someone to do this for us. I'm not sure how nice it would be to stand in line (with all of this) on pavement waiting for a bus to come along. Incidentally, where would all our stuff go on said trolley? Hmm. I also see potential law suits with the next person in line being poked with an umbrella. I do believe you would be liable. Ok. So we have been waiting for say, 15 min. for said trolley. Takes at least 10 min. to load up said trolley. There are at least 5 families behind us. The 2nd family gets on board with all of THEIR stuff. Oh. Too bad. No more room for the other 3 families on this trip. Look....in the meantime, 4 other families are in line. No, if I could NOT park AT Assateague, like we have always done, I would not come. I would be more inclined to stay at a hotel pool. And then I would not go to Chincoteague. What would happen to Chincoteague without the revenue coming in from visitors? I shudder to think. I'm not sure you have thought this through with all the impraticalities involved. I would be very sad to not be able to come again in the future. We have family reunions there. We would have to take all our "stuff" and money elsewhere, to a place much more willing to accomodate us and our money. You would be making a drastic and dire mistake in going thru with these plans. Please don't.	Aug 8, 2010 2:34 PM
526	Look at the orginal I agreement to give the island to the government.	Aug 8, 2010 3:32 PM
527	Other towns north of Assateague seem to get help refurbishing their beaches (O.C., Rehoboth, ect.) Why doesn't Assateague do the same? Why doesn't the good State of Virginia get help from the Army Corps of Engineers like Md. does? If not the State then why doesn't the Feds. take care of one of their own beach...which belongs to all of us.....I hate to see the town of Chincoteague loose what they have because of a few people ...!	Aug 8, 2010 3:41 PM
528	Leave it be	Aug 8, 2010 6:13 PM

Response Text		
529	get rid of the idiot fools who came up with such a stupid idea	Aug 8, 2010 7:00 PM
530	parking spaces are needed at the beach even garage parking.	Aug 8, 2010 9:35 PM
531	we have friends on CI and have heard about the Refuge plans - please don't change things!! thanks.	Aug 9, 2010 12:21 AM
532	the nature of a barrier island is to move - we must be adaptable finding ways to keep easy access that works in harmony with the nature of barrier beaches...easy access is important, if people come with kids, boogie boards and umbrellas they'll begin to care about the island itself: wildlife, birds, etc. as a hayaker, i prefer access from my vehicle - i can launch directly into tom's cove or the surf (not on a trolley!). a family with 'equipment' is not going to pack up their caravan, stuff it on a bus, unpack it, pack it back on a bus, pack it back in their car...this is one place public transport isn't as useful as personal transportation...a bus as a supplement would perhaps be useful	Aug 9, 2010 12:36 AM
533	there is no way people can get all of their beach umbrellas, beach chairs, sand toys, blankets, and towels on a bus. and wouldn't it get wet and sandy on the bus? what about the fishing poles, caught fish, and live crabs people come back with? (and bait?)	Aug 9, 2010 12:38 AM
534	i would be concerned about transporting all of my family's gear using public transportation. my suggestion would be to keep the parking just like it is.	Aug 9, 2010 12:40 AM
535	i think a reasonable option would be more limited parking with a bus or biking option. therefore, those with definite automobile access needs would simply need to get over to the beach earlier. this would help protect the beach, lessen resoration needs, yet leae vacations an option.	Aug 9, 2010 12:43 AM
536	Please allow us to enjoy the islands just as they are now. We don't want change.	Aug 9, 2010 12:44 AM
537	i come with a disabled person and if i could'nt drive her to ranger station and beach myself then i would not come and have to sell my place on chincoteague. let people with disabilities drive to the beach and shuttle the day or weekend tourists only.	Aug 9, 2010 12:55 AM
538	i will try to sell my home on chincoteague if possible and move, if beach parking is not available. i will also move if the fishing area is closed. (the 4 wheel drive area)	Aug 9, 2010 1:02 AM
539	can't believe eliminating parking would/could be a positive move. disaster, especially for the community - occupancy and meals tax = 0	Aug 9, 2010 1:04 AM
540	would not come to chincotegue if beach access was limited!	Aug 9, 2010 1:19 AM
541	will find another beach if parking is denied	Aug 9, 2010 1:20 AM
542	would never come here if no beach parking!	Aug 9, 2010 1:22 AM
543	i wouldn't want to ride a bus with hot sweaty people. if the beach is so sensitive, how stable would the shelter be? trolley service would be nice for those who want it, but expensive to run, it has to be more than the cost of moving parking or replenishing beach	Aug 9, 2010 1:25 AM
544	i would find another beach if you restricted parking on assateague island	Aug 9, 2010 1:27 AM
545	don't kill town - restore beach parking	Aug 9, 2010 1:29 AM
546	serve families by maintaining parking	Aug 9, 2010 1:30 AM
547	shelters on the beach is not a viable plan as everyone would want to leave the beach at the same time. assateague beach is attractive for the family who carry surf boards, boogie boards, umbrellas and chairs to the beach	Aug 9, 2010 1:33 AM
548	This would be a huge deterrent for many, many families who love this island and faithfully come every year. My family actually purchased a mobile home and has it located in a lovely adult community and we would be extremely upset if our families and friends were unable to drive to Assateague Beach - I will support any other plans or ways to keep the parking area, expand or move the areas. Just please, do not implement a trolley, car, buses or any other mode of public transportation to the beach. You will ruin this community!! Mary and Thomas Berry	Aug 9, 2010 1:46 AM

Response Text		
549	We have been coming to Chincoteague for about 10 years. While it has gotten more expensive over the years, we have continued to vacation there mainly because of the safety of the community and the convenience of the beach. If you move to a trolley system, we will not be back - and that is a guarantee!	Aug 9, 2010 1:48 AM
550	With four children it would be difficult to transport everything we would need for the beach via a trolley or bus. I believe this would be a major concern for many families.	Aug 9, 2010 2:58 AM
551	Why is this trolley access not being discussed on the Maryland side of the beach. This needs to stop now and parking at the beach needs to stay. you have got to be completely nuts if you think that trolleys to the beach will do anything but deystroy tourism and make folks not want to visit Chincoteague.	Aug 9, 2010 12:51 PM
552	I travel down several times w/my family, every year, to Chincoteague. We spend money on lodging and restaurants, but we go for the beach. I absolutely would not come, even once, if the parking was not available. I would NOT ride a trolley and tote all our belongings w/us. I would just go to another beach, probably in MD. I mentioned this to some of my friends and co-workers and they, too, said they wouldn't even entertain the idea of vacationing on Chincoteague if the parking wasn't available at the beach. I actually think, Chincoteague will "close up" if this happens. Is that the intention? It seems that way b/c this seems ridiculous from a vacationer's point of view. I hope you do what the people really want. You know what they want and it's not this agenda. Thank you. Kara Gallaher	Aug 9, 2010 1:20 PM
553	the current beach location provides tourist opportunities prior to arriving to the recreational beach. this is a plus for families and paying 1 price for the total package to enter.	Aug 9, 2010 1:43 PM
554	i already love the faily atmosphere of the beach. no commercialization. the parking allows you to bring your necessities for a nice family gathering.	Aug 9, 2010 1:44 PM
555	beach restoration/replenishment should occur as it does in other nearby beach resort areas.	Aug 9, 2010 1:46 PM
556	i truly believe that we should at least be making an effort to restore our beach as well as the northern assateague does. they continue to fill their end of the beach and ours washes away.	Aug 9, 2010 1:49 PM
557	snow fencing is/would be a very cheap way to restore natural sand dunes, with added grasses this would also make the birds happy! we would not vacation if beach parking was replaced with a trolley/bus.	Aug 9, 2010 1:52 PM
558	i think assateague beach and parking are perfect just as it is!! please don't change!	Aug 9, 2010 1:54 PM
559	move to the north sounds very practical	Aug 9, 2010 1:56 PM
560	this beach is family oriented and with 2-4 kids, plus beach chairs, coolers, packnplay's, it would be difficult to transport families to the beach by bus, and then i's sure there would be an additional fee for transportation. i would not like waiting for a bus to take me to my car. i say extend the beach area and extend the parking lot.	Aug 9, 2010 1:59 PM
561	keep it as is.	Aug 9, 2010 2:00 PM
562	i feel you are not taking into consideration that assateague is and has always been valued as a family vacation location. families come with lots of stuff... it is unreasonable to provide transportation for all of these items. it just cannot be done. also considr emergencies. these could not be handled with speed.	Aug 9, 2010 2:03 PM
563	restoring the parking after each major storm is like operating the town with grant funds. you are dependant upon the fes to provide the funds which will probably not be available after a couple of back to back storms. based upon the erosion pattern and sea level predictions, i'd recommend to put the pressure on the fes for a new road and parking lot behind the dunes to the north. this would be a longer term solution and could be justified to secure the economic stability of the town.	Aug 9, 2010 2:08 PM

Response Text		
564	our town will die if families cannot park on the beach. raise taxes, charge more for entry. relocate. do this by whatever means necessary!	Aug 9, 2010 2:13 PM
565	a combination of parking and trolley/bus might be best. perhaps hotels could offer shuttles for their guests to cut some traffic.	Aug 9, 2010 2:14 PM
566	this is the only public seaside beach for Virginia. i want my taxes to go towards maintaining!! we are disabled and find access to the beach difficult. a boardwalk out to a level area would really help us out. what north beach are you talking about? i haven't seen that in the papers.	Aug 9, 2010 2:16 PM
567	hap4@meckcom.net	Aug 9, 2010 2:17 PM
568	where would you get the land for remote parking? it seems that you will destroy a part of the island in order to protect the beach. the current setup is a big draw for families. changing it would destroy chincoteague's economy for the worse.	Aug 9, 2010 2:20 PM
569	we purchase an annual pass for the carload each year. what would the cost structure be for park entrance in the remote parking scenario? thank you for asking these questions!	Aug 9, 2010 2:22 PM
570	we will not visit the beach if parking is by trolley/bus. carrying umbrellas, chairs, coolers and children will be such a hassle, less trips to chincoteague will take place.	Aug 9, 2010 2:31 PM
571	if beach parking is eliminated, chincoteague will disappear as a vacation destination. nobody can carry on a trolley all the stuff they need for the beach, especially if you have children.	Aug 9, 2010 2:46 PM
572	beach parking is very important - if an emergency arises and you need to leave you won't want to wait for bus/trolley to return you to your vehicle or if you are ill.	Aug 9, 2010 2:49 PM
573	we've been coming here every year for the last 20 years but probably wouldn't come back if we couldn't drive to the beach.	Aug 9, 2010 2:50 PM
574	i cannot carry everything i need for the beach up and down the steps of a trolley/bus system. i also don't want to be on a bus/trolley with tired, screaming children. i go to the beach to enjoy nature, not create more problems in a stress filled life.	Aug 9, 2010 2:52 PM
575	no assateague beach and/or no parking at the beach, chincoteague will become a 'ghost town'	Aug 9, 2010 2:53 PM
576	the beach and fishing are the reasons we've visited here for nearly 30 years and after buying a home here last year, please don't screw it up.	Aug 9, 2010 2:55 PM
577	the beach is the single biggest attraction. the newly voted #1 beach town would be foolish without one. the same processes used on state and federal land up and down the east coast must be applied here or chincoteague will look like horntown.	Aug 9, 2010 2:57 PM
578	replenish the sand on the beach. my husband is disabled and uses a wheelchair and i would like to know how he would use the trolley. how would people lug babies, lunch, chairs, umbrellas and other beach things on a trolley. we've been coming here 30 years and have seen many, many changes not all for the better of the beach, but the trolley is a terrible idea. we definitely wouldn't return to the island.	Aug 9, 2010 3:00 PM
579	what ever you paid the federal government for assateague village, see if you can get your money back. if the feds decide to take away public privileges of the beach and refuge, where will that leave chincoteague and the towns on the mainland...in the wake? do whats best for chincoteague and the good will of the residents and fishermen.	Aug 9, 2010 3:03 PM
580	find out why Maryland got lots of money and Virginia didn't, for refuge purposes	Aug 9, 2010 3:04 PM
581	if you just got voted best beach town in america why change? i do believe the saying that goes 'if it ain't broke don't fix it!'	Aug 9, 2010 3:07 PM
582	enforce alcohol prohibition	Aug 9, 2010 3:08 PM
583	rake the beach better for sanitation	Aug 9, 2010 3:08 PM

Response Text		
584	as a parking/transportation consultant, my experience with shuttle bus systems, although very effective in urban environments, such an application as proposed in chincoteague is not an effective use of resources and will not likely provide a satisfactory solution, nor will it be accepted by the tourists who visit the island and its wonderful beach area. Chance Management Advisors, Inc. Phila. PA	Aug 9, 2010 3:12 PM
585	trolley/bus system would certainly be inconvenient for seniors, handicap, waiting for transportation may be dangerous in the bad weather.	Aug 9, 2010 3:14 PM
586	i feel a trolley/bus system would be very inconvenient for families who travel with many items to make children and grandparents comfortable	Aug 9, 2010 3:15 PM
587	maintain driving to beach by moving parking lots north. get political support for maintaining the only beach on VA eastern shore. publish/contact supporters of maintaining the beach - as we know it for political letter writing/financial support for consultants/legal advice as needed.	Aug 9, 2010 3:17 PM
588	do not make it too modern. it's charming as it is now.	Aug 9, 2010 3:21 PM
589	need safe bike path to beach	Aug 9, 2010 3:23 PM
590	put it back the way it used to be with the dunes. fancy parking isnt necessary - this is a beach	Aug 9, 2010 3:24 PM
591	i have been visiting the island for about 35 years, at least once a year, and would most likely stop visiting if remote parking was instituted. traveling by bus and or trolley with all that beach stuff would be inconvenient.	Aug 9, 2010 3:26 PM
592	The only part of Assateague Beach that is experiencing net erosion is the one where they currently have the existing parking lots. North and South of this area the beaches are more stable. They could accomodate new parking areas (PS - I am a Certified Professional Geologist, so I know). As for beach shuttles, I grew up in NY City where many people did not have cars and access to the beach meant taking the bus or subway to Coney Island. It was not a pleasant experience - it was an ordeal. So we did not go to the beach very often, and often regretted it when we did. If they try to establish a shuttle system at Assateague, I do not believe it will be any more pleasant than my childhood experience going to Coney Island. NPS and USF&W need to do the right thing here by the people, and give some consideration to more than the wildlife - the wildlife can have 95% of the island - all I want is about 2 miles of beach and adequate parking nearby. Thar's more than fair.	Aug 9, 2010 4:55 PM
593	We take umbrellas and chairs with us to the beach. We feel it would be very difficult to do this in any way other than by using our personal vehicle. Perhaps consturcting the parking area several feet higher than sea level would help protect the parking site, or at least make it easier to remove sand in the springtime. Extending safe parking further north and south would give more beach access too. This may be a more sustainable long-term solution to allow citizens automobile access to the beach.	Aug 9, 2010 10:15 PM
594	A combination of improved parking and an alternate system of transportation should be considered.	Aug 10, 2010 3:25 PM
595	We love this beach party for the easy access to the water/sand. It is a beautiful location and I would hate to see the residents suffer because of the parking being taken away.	Aug 10, 2010 8:47 PM
596	i believe the economy of chincoteague would virtually sink if there were no beach parking! don't know the solution!!	Aug 11, 2010 12:23 AM
597	My family has been coming to Chincoteague for over 30 years. Not having direct beach parking at Assateague beach would destroy Chincoteague as a tourism/beach town for family fun.	Aug 11, 2010 2:00 PM
598	With two young children, having to transfer from our car to a trolley or bus to access the beach would definitely impact our vacation choice. We love Chincoteague and would miss our yearly visits. But we are unwilling to take a shuttle to the beach. :(	Aug 11, 2010 3:47 PM

Response Text		
599	I would support an extra fee added to the admission charge at the refuge, and earmarked for a special fund to be used for weather related 'disaster' relief!	Aug 11, 2010 8:38 PM
600	I think it is great the way it is. I visited the island back when the lot was paved and the beach houses were standing. I think that the way the parking is set up now is easily fixed in storms and very wildlife friendly.	Aug 12, 2010 12:24 AM
601	It's our 12th summer vacation year in Chincoteague and be sure we will not return if cars are not permitted in Assateague. How can I travel in a trolley with 2 umbrellas, 4 chairs and beach towels. I really think you have a wonderful town but be sure we will say to you goodbye if beach parking is replaced by trolleys. This year we noticed that the parking missed some places. We use to go far from the lifeguard area and we're not the only ones. We had to go on the sides.	Aug 13, 2010 3:48 AM
602	Would need more details with the beach restoration process to come up with ideas	Aug 13, 2010 12:57 PM
603	NO TROLLY or BUS!!! We will go to another vacation spot!	Aug 13, 2010 3:38 PM
604	Think it is just fine. Realize the restriction the island has, and willing to wait or change date to visit beach....Love the freedom to choos.	Aug 13, 2010 10:24 PM
605	If you adapt a no parking at beach code, we will go to Ocean City instead.	Aug 13, 2010 10:37 PM
606	A trolley system would not work with alot of families needing to carry extras and I appreciate the convience of having my vehicle. I enjoy visiting Assateague and would second guess about visiting having to deal with the trolley system.	Aug 13, 2010 11:33 PM
607	Keep it simple	Aug 14, 2010 12:11 AM
608	Parking at the beach is CRUCIAL to the economics of the Chincoteague community/town.	Aug 14, 2010 6:19 PM
609	picture 2-4 adults and as many kids getting on/off public conveyence with cooler, umbrellas, toys, etc.!!!	Aug 15, 2010 12:49 AM
610	if it would be possible maybe the dunes could be restored then kept in place with some type of hard scaping	Aug 15, 2010 1:04 AM
611	I don't think it would be fun to ride a trolley to the beach with fishermen and there stinky equipment - or with strangers who are hot and in wet bathing suits. It would be hard to bring coolers, umbrella. chairs etc.	Aug 15, 2010 3:19 AM
612	A trolley on the weekends could help with the overcrowding and allow more people to visit.	Aug 15, 2010 9:57 AM
613	I would never consider loading my children, parents, and all the gear we take to the beach on a trolley, bus or any other public transportation to go to Assateague Beach. I would vacation elsewhere. This really is a stupid idea.	Aug 15, 2010 11:30 AM
614	If parking was eliminated it would have major negative impact on all business in Chincoteague including home rentals and the owners of those homes.	Aug 15, 2010 11:42 AM
615	No trolley, yes to direct access	Aug 15, 2010 1:22 PM
616	Being able to park at the beach if very important - especially if you have handicapped persons in your group. If we couldn't part at the beach, we would spend our time and money at other beach.	Aug 15, 2010 8:13 PM
617	Do not have a trolley to replace parking... if you want a trolley, it should be for the locals or those vacationing on Chincoteague Island to get from outside the gate area to certain points of interest within the island. The trolley itself will not handle Pony week....	Aug 15, 2010 8:52 PM
618	Love it down here, repeat off and on for 40 years. Go with the changes to the north most likely the best idea that is feasible. Trolley or bus system will be detrimental to the local area.	Aug 16, 2010 2:19 PM
619	Thanks for allowing my family to provide feedback regarding a favorite vacation destination.	Aug 16, 2010 3:38 PM
620	Not restoring parking and going to a bus/trolley system would be VERY detrimental to the area.	Aug 16, 2010 3:54 PM

Response Text		
621	We come and very much enjoy Assateague beach several times a year. I f we have to take a trolley to the beach, we will move our vacation money up or down the coast where we can park close. No trolley for us. Let me know so I can make our October 2010 plans. Kathleen E. McDonald	Aug 16, 2010 4:01 PM
622	I think one should have an option of parking directly at the beach or taking a bus/trolley	Aug 17, 2010 3:46 AM
623	keep the parking as it has been for the last 40 years.	Aug 17, 2010 3:29 PM
624	one of the reasons we love to come to Assatague is the parking. no transferring your stuff,your right there at the beach,if you want to go you can just go.	Aug 17, 2010 6:10 PM
625	Please do not make us use a trolley	Aug 17, 2010 6:16 PM
626	I think it's great to have the parking at the beach with showers and toilets ... it makes it an extremely family friendly beach. Without the parking (and toilets) we would not be able to vacation at Assateague.	Aug 18, 2010 6:58 PM
627	Why can the dunes be rebuild and keep the beach natural and parking available as it is now. It would also cost money to have buses, land to store buses and employees to drive, maintenance, etc. I would not come to chincoteague if the beach was changed to include buses to the beach. My family comes to Chincoteague for a family reunion week each summer and will have anywhere from 20 to 60 people here at one time, we would move to another beach/state if the beach does not have public parking as it does now. Please do not change this wonderful paradise. We do believe the town would literally dry up if the beach is not left alone. No buses please!!!!	Aug 18, 2010 8:50 PM
628	Thank you for the opportunity to comment; my family and I love Chincoteague and Assateague, in large part, because of the beach access parking. I expect many of us would be willing to pony up (ha!) a few extra dollars for the weekly or daily pass to help support keeping that parking available each year.	Aug 19, 2010 8:18 PM
629	We have been coming to Chincoteague for 15+ years and come to visit from Pennsylvania at least once a year, often twice a year. If direct beach parking was no longer available and a trolley/bus was put in place instead we would very seriously have to reconsider the length of our stay in Chincoteague, since we most likely would stop going to the beach altogether.	Aug 20, 2010 2:37 PM
630	Install I think they are called "jetties".To keep the sand put during tides and storms. Just like most major beaches have. so we do not keep losing the sand. I remember when there was a paved road and parking lots all the way down the beach to the OSV entrance. and the dunes where about 12 ft tall with grass growing on them....	Aug 20, 2010 3:36 PM
631	If onsite beach parking was removed I would absolutely not return for a vacation here. How do you expect to load kids, boards, towels, food, toys, diapers, etc.. onto a trolley/bus and have an easy time of it?? To even suggest that would work for families is outrageous!!!!!!!!!!!!	Aug 20, 2010 4:15 PM
632	Why not charge an additional fee for parking at the beach and use the revenue from that fee to repair storm damage to the parking areas?	Aug 20, 2010 5:05 PM
633	The beach, with direct parking, is an essential part of a CI vacation. If the access were not there, it wouldn't be worth buying a pass. I'd miss seeing the ponies, but the beach and ponies together are what make the cost worth it.	Aug 20, 2010 5:45 PM

Response Text		
634	I think it will be a disaster for the Town of Chincoteague if there is no direct beach parking. You will loose the majority of your seasonal visitors. Most people have too much beach gear, from umbrellas, chairs, coolers, etc to carry on a trolley or bus. If there were a fast-moving thunderstorm how could you possibly have enough shelters for the entire beach full of people and their gear, and how long would everyone have to wait for how many trolleys/buses that it would take to evacuate them all? I see this alone as an insurmountable difficulty with possibly dangerous repercussions. Doesn't the Fish and Wildlife Bureau oversee the Assateague beach? Would it be possible to build up some kind of emergency beach restoration fund via private and public donations? The kind of massive storms that caused this past year's damage are only occasional, not yearly, right? So in the long run it would probably be a financial wash for the cost of rebuilding the parking lots when necessary over the long term costs of establishing a satellite parking lot and purchase, upkeep and maintenance of enough trolleys or buses, and cost of drivers, fuel, etc. to run a beach transportation service. I believe the Town needs to work out a solution with the Fish and Wildlife Service for financing the repairs of the beach parking lots when and if they suffer storm damage through a Federal and Private partnership of financing to establish some kind of endowed trust for this purpose. I am sure the millions of people who are in on the secret of Chincoteague and enjoy its treasures would be willing to make contributions to get such a fund started.	Aug 22, 2010 12:51 AM
635	I would want more info about question #4. Would this "natural" beach with additional parking require the leveling of dunes? If so, I would vote NO for relocating the recreational beach. Please continue to preserve the simple beauty of the island. No hotels. No more tour buses. If you have to do away with parking, and can still provide access to this beautiful natural environment, I can support that, but not if you'll continue to add structures and tourism ventures.	Aug 22, 2010 5:20 AM
636	The distance north of the other beach was not given. If the travel time was not more than an additional 5-10 minutes, moving to that beach might be acceptable.	Aug 23, 2010 3:46 AM
637	charge each car a few dollars more to offset the cost of repairing the damage	Aug 23, 2010 5:30 PM
638	too much equipment to carry on trolley for both fishing and beach chairs/umbrella/lankets/etc. Business for bikes, scooters, 3 wheeled beach cars may benefit	Aug 23, 2010 5:38 PM
639	we mostly do surf-fishing and some crabbing and clamming. this requires equipment that would be difficult to transport via trolley or bus	Aug 23, 2010 5:40 PM
640	we bring all of our stuff to the beach for the day - including fishing gear - and feel we would need our vehicle	Aug 23, 2010 5:42 PM
641	would try returning once to try it out	Aug 23, 2010 5:44 PM
642	direct personal access is a plus for all beach activities. please keep doing that. i do not believe bus transportation would work for you. make Obama redistribute the wealth to fix the park when needed. that would be a good wealth change when the park needs fixing.	Aug 23, 2010 5:47 PM
643	we thought the beach parking was great. should be a 'no smoking' beach though!	Aug 23, 2010 5:51 PM
644	assateague is a barrier island and should allow nature to take its course	Aug 23, 2010 5:56 PM
645	increase beach size/parking size	Aug 23, 2010 5:57 PM
646	excellent facilities and upkeep, plenty of parking. perhaps have people selling water or light snacks. add recycling receptacles and additional trash dumpsters	Aug 23, 2010 6:00 PM
647	bike trail the whole way up 'beach road' to beach. lack of direct bike trail encourages more driving. the other trails are great but a direct straight route to beach via beach road would be better, expecially as you get closer to beach. more lifeguarded areas on beach. too many people with children especially need to crowd guarded areas.	Aug 23, 2010 6:02 PM
648	umbrella and boogie board rentals	Aug 23, 2010 6:03 PM

Response Text		
649	four generations spend our summer vacation at assateague beach. with small children and senior citizens in the group, it would be very difficult to manage with a trolley system from chincoteague. how hadicapped accessible would the trolley be? we fully support keeping assateague beach as natural as possible. indeed, it is the reason we choose to come here. but we also need to consider the comfort of the people in our family. please keep us informed of your most difficult decision. have you considered paid parking at assateague beach to offset the cost of repoairs after storm damage? we would definitely pay!	Aug 23, 2010 6:09 PM
650	improve bicycle access paths - vehicular access and parking is a must - people take too much stuff to the beach to make trolleys effective - maybe offer trolley service but keep parking!	Aug 23, 2010 6:11 PM
651	provide combination of trolley service and beach parking	Aug 23, 2010 6:12 PM
652	we have come to chincoteague island to go to assateague beach every summer for at least 10 years. it is wonderful as is and i am sorry to hear direct beach access may be threatened in any way. we would not want to haul all of our beach gear on a trolley and there have been numerous times we needed to get back to our car quickly due to bad weather or mosquitos. i hope the federal government is not threatening to stop beach parking repairs and maintenance, that is a worthy use of my tax dollars. please keep me updated on this issue and i would be glad to contact any public official in support of keeping this beach access open to parking.	Aug 23, 2010 6:23 PM
653	bike trails should all be asphalt. it is hard to ride on gravel path with a road bike.	Aug 23, 2010 6:25 PM
654	great as is today!	Aug 23, 2010 6:26 PM
655	leave it alone. just imagine a family with small children and all their sand pails, beach umbrellas, boogie boards etc. getting on a trolley	Aug 23, 2010 6:28 PM
656	there should be an area for families, with small children, where surfers are not allowed! fishing only.	Aug 23, 2010 6:31 PM
657	happy with the way it is	Aug 23, 2010 6:32 PM
658	it is such a unique area that easy access and departure for families is important, thus, beach parking and access should be maintained	Aug 23, 2010 7:06 PM
659	you must continue to provide parking at the beach. it would be too much of a hassle to catch a trolley or bus from a remote parking lot in chincoteague. think about it - families bring a lot of things with them when they go to the beach....	Aug 23, 2010 7:09 PM
660	if beach parking was prohibited businesses may actually benefit by renting out scooters, golf carts, bikes, trailers for bikes, etc. these vehicles take up far less room on the beach than cars and may be a good compromise	Aug 23, 2010 7:13 PM
661	build a parking garage at the visitors center and shuttle from there, as well. provide multiple shuttle lines through differenc regions of chincoteague to make shuttle route as short as possible. trollies are really fun, especially for kids.	Aug 23, 2010 7:14 PM
662	we believe that beach parking is critical to the maintenance of the tourist population on assateague beach, which in turn, supports all business on chincoteague. we also believe that tourism will be severely hurt without automobile access to the beach.	Aug 23, 2010 7:20 PM
663	we come to assateague because of the natural setting. we want anything that preserves that.	Aug 23, 2010 7:22 PM
664	if relocation is the only option, please spread out the parking. the beach is not as wide and people would be stacked up worse than it is now. we are more than willing to pay higher gate fees to pay for rebuilding the parking after a storm. ex. \$20 or 25 per week pass	Aug 23, 2010 7:24 PM
665	if beach parking is eliminated the people of chincoteague will lose their livelihood as it is now.	Aug 23, 2010 7:26 PM

Response Text		
666	please use the money that would go to busses, drivers, gas, chincoteague parking, shelters and widening of the assateague channel bridge to relocating a recreational beach to the north, with strict regulation of the dunes and heavy fines of infringement of same.	Aug 23, 2010 7:28 PM
667	expand pony express trolley to assateague beach and include daytime service. what would happen to beach access during fall, winter and spring? might discourage visitors	Aug 23, 2010 7:29 PM
668	as a senior, i appreciate the current parking location. it would discourage many elderly disabled, or families with small children if they had to rely on buses to get around.	Aug 23, 2010 7:35 PM
669	i very much like your beach system. \$15 a week is very reasonable, the lifeguards are not overbearing, areas without lifeguards are a nice freedom. i like that fires are allowed. parking was tight but available at all times. it was our first visit.	Aug 23, 2010 7:38 PM
670	do whatever is necessary to maintain the beach and its on-beach parking. the 'feds' seem to have money for anything else. let's help the USA and its economy and small towns.	Aug 23, 2010 7:41 PM
671	dredge sand to the beach. the town depends on the people that come here with their families to vacation. take it away it will become a ghost town. the federal government can spend money freely on other countries, but i feel they forgot about their own country and its needs and happiness. we have a home here where come quite often from York PA. we would most likely sell our house here and take a gigantic loss if we could even sell it.	Aug 23, 2010 7:44 PM
672	dredge in sand, but maintain the parking on the beach. if a bus system is used, and with children, how would we get all the coolers, canopies, umbrellas, etc? would the bus system run until 10 at night and start at 5am or would hours be cut? i don't think a bus system/parking garage etc. would be cost effective in the long run. spending the money by the federal government should not be an issue regarding the beach. they waste money on many useless and unnecessary projects. oh, by the way, did they find the 7.5 million dollars unaccounted for the afghan war??!!	Aug 23, 2010 7:47 PM
673	build a jetty to protect the beach	Aug 23, 2010 7:49 PM
674	booths for ticket holders	Aug 23, 2010 7:55 PM
675	more handicapped parking next to the beach is necessary and required by law!	Aug 23, 2010 7:56 PM
676	please make arrangements so that people with passes need not wait for people without passes!!!	Aug 23, 2010 7:57 PM
677	keep the beach parking! no busing! we won't come here.	Aug 23, 2010 7:58 PM
678	maybe a daily beach fee to pay for annual repairs - not duck stamps, etc. but an actual fee per auto, in addition to passes and duck stamps	Aug 23, 2010 8:02 PM
679	never have a problem with parking, remember, without the people coming, there is no park...or jobs!	Aug 23, 2010 8:04 PM
680	we enjoy assateague beach because it is one of the few beaches left in a natural state. i feel people should be less spoiled and learn to do without so many things when they go to the beach. if taking a trolley would allow me to continue to enjoy the beach at assateague, i am all for it!	Aug 23, 2010 8:07 PM
681	if dependent transportation to beach? room to bring blankets/umbrellas/cooler/water/food and beach toys for children, how would this be done? a day at the beach requires more than a back pack. children are the future of this and all national parks/wildlife - very important to have a quiet transition to the beach - time to take in the wonders of a natural barrier island. please consider this when designing the new road (the current one is awesome)	Aug 23, 2010 8:10 PM

Response Text		
682	we love assateague and all the work that is done to balance visitors and nature. it seems that as the island changes our access will change. keeping the public access is important but we come for the nature so that should first. We have been visiting since i was 5 or 6 and now bring our own children. my mom also comes so your work is teaching, entertaining and improving the lives of three generations every summer! keep up the good work we feel that both agencies and the town are doing a wonderful job, we love chincoteague and assateague. thanks.	Aug 23, 2010 8:13 PM
683	the assateague beach is a natural treasure that nees to be preserved	Aug 23, 2010 8:14 PM
684	Please don't take our right to drive on to our beautiful beach. Many of us work here on the Island and it depends on the amount of people coming to the beach and staying here on Chincoteague.	Aug 24, 2010 11:16 AM
685	we experienced trolly service at the National seashore beach in Cape Cod; will not go back, lot of work, unload beach gear, haul to trolly pick up site or else wait for others to get loaded/unloaded; long haul to beach from trolly drop-off zone, all beach goers congregate as close to drop off zone to avoid long hard walk dragging gear thru sand to a beach spot, causes big congestion within 200 yds of drop zone; not fun, will not go back; avoid the trolly system if possible! why not go North on beach? our friends visited this year and all said your beach is the best Atlantic coast beach they have ever been to; it is a jewel!	Aug 24, 2010 11:56 AM
686	put the beach back the way it was before the government started messing with mother nature , the high dunes were there for over thirty years that i have been coming there, it was fine till the the government stopped preserving the dunes, once assateague is gone you can kiss chincoteague good by.some one needs to get their head out of their ass and realize this.	Aug 25, 2010 12:12 AM
687	Chincoteague is a beach town. It has respectfully worked in a mutually beneficial relationship with Assateague management and our public servants have historically collaborated to maintain the interests of wildlife and recreation. These services are funded by the citizens and the citizens are due the right to be given every opportunity to have full input into the decision making processes regarding the use of their land. Beach access for recreational use has been in place since mid 20th century. It has been a vital benefit to the community of Chincoteague. Changing access to no people or measured& highly restrictive use would virtually shut down the community. This would mean devastation to thousands and generations of people. The parking for private vehicle access to the Assateague Beach must be maintained at least at the current levels.	Aug 25, 2010 2:15 AM
688	Is there a place to park/lock bikes?	Aug 25, 2010 8:57 PM
689	I suggest an additional dollar increase in the entrance fee to be specifically earmarked for future beach parking lot repairs.	Aug 26, 2010 4:15 PM
690	As a property owner who has beenc coming to the island for 59 years I do not want to see my house value go down and restricting beach access will do that.	Aug 26, 2010 7:07 PM
691	seems that question 7 is an attempt to scare folks. Been coming here for 15 years and don;t recall such a fast-moving thunderstorm on good beach days.	Aug 27, 2010 3:29 AM
692	Alternative shuttle service with plenty of room for beach gear	Aug 27, 2010 3:52 PM
693	Should a artificial reef be placed out farther to keep from further eroson? If not then we will lose the whole bottom half of the island, Then Chincoteague Island would be next to erode.	Aug 27, 2010 9:16 PM
694	Moving to the natural beach could be good and even a shuttle would be good if done right. The important part of that statement is-if done right. And it could definitely be done and made a lot GREENER in the process.	Aug 27, 2010 9:33 PM
695	If you are asking for people to go too the beach on the Maryland side it is to far away and they let the horses take control of the beach.I wouldn't take my family to visit that place .I'm afraid the children would try playing with the horses.	Aug 27, 2010 9:48 PM
696	No bus or trolley will work. We carry chairs, umbrellas, lunch, towels, suntan lotion and more. How could you possibly get all that gear on a bus. Who ever came up with that idea is clueless.	Aug 27, 2010 10:09 PM

Response Text		
697	We are driving 14 hours from Quebec City, Canada to enjoy that beach. If parking is removed, we will go south and reach VA Beach.	Aug 28, 2010 2:39 PM
698	We own a home on Chincoteague; however, we believe that a trolley type system for transportation to the beach would severely and detrimentally impact the tourist business on the island. A Trolley system would make it impossible for families to transport all of the necessary beach supplies/equipment.	Aug 28, 2010 11:54 PM
699	Put it back the way it was, buses and trolleys is a terrible idea	Aug 29, 2010 3:17 PM
700	beautiful the way it was!	Aug 29, 2010 9:29 PM
701	do not so much beach, due to the piping plover. stupid, birds will survive. good old ESA	Aug 29, 2010 9:33 PM
702	do whatever ppl management is needed to protect the beach	Aug 29, 2010 9:34 PM
703	relocating the parking offsite will be devastating to businesses, property owners and landlords. raise the fees to enter the park and establish a fund to replace and maintain the parking lots. do not let the Feds do this! It will be worse than a #5 hurricane.	Aug 29, 2010 9:36 PM
704	we love the showers and changing areas. we would like a trash can at the biking beach. continue to have on site parking. chincoteague will suffer greatly if the parking is offsite	Aug 29, 2010 9:38 PM
705	we have come here for 10 years with our family and would be devastated to lose the assateague beach.	Aug 29, 2010 9:40 PM
706	please spray for mosquitos/flies ouch!!	Aug 29, 2010 9:41 PM
707	i support the beach, the downtown shops, and the lifestyle we experience during our brief stay each year. if necessary to pay a fee i would do that rather than lose what you have now.	Aug 29, 2010 9:42 PM
708	refer to question #4. a charge earmarked for this project as non profit	Aug 29, 2010 9:43 PM
709	we are starting on a third generation to come here for a vacation from New England. we support the services and local businesses and hope to see things remain as is. if there was only public transportation for the beach it would stop us coming.	Aug 29, 2010 9:45 PM
710	i think no parking for the beach would really hurt chincoteague businesses	Aug 29, 2010 9:46 PM
711	charge more for entrance to beach and use proceeds to pay for beach parking. contemplating buying in chincoteague - could change decision.	Aug 29, 2010 9:49 PM
712	set up trust fund for funds to repair beach parking and facilities - if duck stamps bought land, let public or an association support beach access	Aug 29, 2010 9:50 PM
713	maintain status quo as long as possible, relocation over trolley	Aug 29, 2010 9:54 PM
714	carrying beach chairs, coolers, boogie boards, etc. from remote parking would be a great hardship	Aug 29, 2010 9:55 PM
715	I would rather pay a slightly higher fee for the beach passes than loose the parking on the beach. I live just an hour an a half from the Jersey Shore and drive 4 hours to Chincoteague for the beach. Dragging all your stuff from a parking space 4 blocks from the beach or (worse yet) on a shuttle bus is not what people who come here look for. When we first started coming to CI years ago, it was because someone told us about it and the big draw was the fact that even on crowded days the beach is never crowded and parking allows you to be 20 yards from your car. I usually book in October for two weeks the following summer. This year I won't until I find out what you are doing with the beach. I won't drive 4 hours if I can get the same inconvinience an hour and a half from my house.	Aug 30, 2010 1:32 PM

Response Text		
716	I think that the idea of trolley/bus to get people onto Assateague is a ludicrous idea and should be scrapped right out. The park service is well aware of the continued beach shift from year to year and the appropriate measures needed to maintain adequate parking for the patrons. This should be no surprise and should be line itemed into the annual budget each year. Continued direct access to the beach is the only way to guarantee continued support from vacationers from year to year and is critical since they make up the life-blood of the annual town revenue. Being someone that has been coming to Chincoteague every year for over 30 yrs I implore the town to scrap the trolley/bus idea immediately.	Aug 31, 2010 1:03 PM
717	I believe that parking should remain as it is. Trolley or bus will not work. How will people bring beach gear on a bus or trolley? A "temporary shelter" in a Thunderstorm does not sound safe. What if someone has other reasons for needing to get off of the beach in a hurry (medical, family emergency)?	Aug 31, 2010 1:15 PM
718	the way it is now is absolutely fantastic and we would be greatly dissappointed to see it changed. it would would determine our likeliness of returning after 6 straight years of coming here.	Aug 31, 2010 6:03 PM
719	I suggest that if trolleys or shuttle buses were the only way to access the beach, the town would die. I would sell my home on the island as would most of my fiends who own property here and live elsewhere.	Aug 31, 2010 11:09 PM
720	The way it is, can't be improved on. Don't kill our ocean beach.	Sep 1, 2010 12:43 AM
721	Maintaining and/or creating new parking for the beach are critical to the survival of not only the beautiful, natural island of Assateague but also necessary for the Chincoteague economy. There HAS TO BE a way to compromise and preserve the beauty and protection of wildlife with the practicality of a thriving family centered beach and tourist economy.	Sep 1, 2010 2:08 AM
722	no trolley. stick with direct parking. open up north end of beach with direct parking. pump up sand on south end for beach goers and wildlife too.	Sep 1, 2010 5:29 PM
723	with beach belongings we need our own vehicle	Sep 1, 2010 5:30 PM
724	i like the trolley idea in addition to beach parking. rental storage units for chairs and umbrellas for weekly renters on the island may be nice and attract trolley users. additional note for the future - more than one fee booth must be opened if the refuge continues to collect on the morning the north herd is brought down. thanks for another magic summer - all of the hard work you all do does not go unnoticed!	Sep 1, 2010 5:33 PM
725	all you need is one tragedy due to a storm or accident and i'm sure you don't want that. restore south end of beach and open north end too. how would hundreds of people fit into a shelter in a astorm with all their beach stuff? restore the beach sand. every other beach in Del, NJ and MD does it, wo why not assateague, va?	Sep 1, 2010 5:35 PM
726	you need more handicapped parking! maybe offer trolley for those that can and want to use it. maybe free trolley but keep parking pass at a purchase price - you may encourage some people to use trolley.	Sep 1, 2010 5:37 PM
727	i've been coming here for the last 10 years and can't imagine it changing that dramatically. it's never changed, and that's the appeal of this island.	Sep 1, 2010 5:43 PM
728	i believe you should just let nature thake its course and if erosion eventually leaves no direct beach parking then that should be the only reason for no beach access. i believe the town would be crippled if you took it away rather than just letting it happen naturally.	Sep 1, 2010 5:45 PM
729	since there are no consession stands at the beach, people need to bring coolers etc. not convenient on a bus or trolley - would rather keep parking at beach than have concession stands.	Sep 1, 2010 5:53 PM
730	i like the way it is.	Sep 1, 2010 5:53 PM

Response Text		
731	needs more info on this survey to fully understand question 4. we really enjoy chincoteague town and truly believe a trolley/bus would be disasterous to local businesses.	Sep 1, 2010 5:56 PM
732	trolley system would be my last resort but it would not keep us from coming here. if trolley service is used, beach umbrella and chair rentals at beach would be nice. saves carrying all that on a trolley.	Sep 1, 2010 5:58 PM
733	the current configuration of beach access and parking is ideal for families. a trolley/bus system would be a severe detractor for us to come back again	Sep 1, 2010 6:01 PM
734	we have visited for over 10 years and like parking on beach. we bring chairs, umbrellas, coolers, towels, etc. using the trolley would make it difficult and inconvenient	Sep 1, 2010 6:03 PM
735	beautiful beach needs concession stands selling hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks. island needs more areas for pet walks. our sheltie is part of our family too!!	Sep 1, 2010 6:07 PM
736	right now, it's as good as it's ever been. thanks for the multiple showers and bathrooms!	Sep 1, 2010 6:10 PM
737	it would be nice to have a trolley system and some parking	Sep 1, 2010 6:13 PM
738	designated fishing area	Sep 1, 2010 6:17 PM
739	we were planning on purchasing real estate on the island this summer. but will now wait to see the outcome first. i feel that taking away beach parking will impact the value of real estate on chincoteague. all 'teagers will be affected in some way.	Sep 1, 2010 6:22 PM
740	we would like to be able to have drive on access to the beach opened. what would assateague island like better on beaches...people or birds! we won't be back till the drive on beach stays open.	Sep 1, 2010 6:24 PM
741	replenish the beach and have full direct parking!!!	Sep 1, 2010 6:33 PM
742	have parking all year all round	Sep 1, 2010 6:35 PM
743	we use the beach early am - noon for swimming and evening for fishing. i think it would be difficult to provide trolley service to suit everyone's needs. i would support additional parking fees, if needed, to offset the cost of parking lot restoration.	Sep 1, 2010 6:36 PM
744	a study by a tranportation systems center (volpe) would certainly recommend a shuttle system, because it financially benefits transportation. keep the beach in the current location, and pump the sand out to enlarge the beach when necessary. the roads and visitor centers are already in place for this beach in this location.	Sep 1, 2010 6:38 PM
745	more postings of where we can do recreational activities like crabbing, clamming, and fishing, and have them more clearly marked.	Sep 1, 2010 6:39 PM
746	like the beach with direct parking. would not like having to wait for a trolley.	Sep 1, 2010 6:41 PM
747	you should consider a bus to alleviate environmental impact. also, with so many overweight individuals walking to and from a bus stop is not a bad idea. americans drive far too much!!	Sep 1, 2010 6:43 PM
748	this was an excellent vacation, loved the beach - loved the town...we will be back	Sep 1, 2010 6:44 PM
749	pony swim need portapotty	Sep 1, 2010 6:45 PM
750	i would hate to have to take all os our beach stuff out of the truck on a trolley or bus and then go to the beach. this would be a very difficult process. long waits. we love comin here and have been coming with 30 to 40 family members every year. however, we may not return if beach parking is by bus. makes it very hard!	Sep 1, 2010 6:48 PM
751	more parking is needed on the beach	Sep 1, 2010 6:49 PM
752	please keep the downtown alive - it is very nice. maddox is too commercialized	Sep 1, 2010 6:53 PM
753	please keep it free of commercial services	Sep 1, 2010 6:54 PM
754	an additional parking fee would help fund beach parking restoration	Sep 1, 2010 6:56 PM

Response Text		
755	improved parking at north parking lot. improve shower facilities	Sep 1, 2010 6:58 PM
756	need beach parking!	Sep 1, 2010 7:01 PM
757	if beach parking is replaced by a trolley, i stongly feel that the town of chincoteague will no longer bring families to vacation and will ultimately impact local business to the point that many will close.	Sep 1, 2010 7:02 PM
758	Just like this past year, fix the parking lots after the winter.	Sep 1, 2010 8:05 PM
759	why not have everyone buy a beach tag? if it is a matter of \$\$ to restore each year.	Sep 1, 2010 8:14 PM
760	i think the park system is doing a wonderful job, might have to increase fees for beach access	Sep 1, 2010 8:15 PM
761	1% local tourist tax (tax on items used at beach)	Sep 1, 2010 8:16 PM
762	no suggestions, other than to retain beach parking. key to why we choose, and our family and friends, to come here.	Sep 1, 2010 8:21 PM
763	use our tax dollars for us no others!	Sep 1, 2010 8:22 PM
764	better bike paths - reopen bike path that ran parallel to beach -	Sep 1, 2010 8:24 PM
765	it is a very well managed beach as it stands. it has porta potties, life guards, the currents are watched and flags are placed for the surfers and boogie boarders. however a porta pottie service on pony swim lane for the pony swim would be appreciated	Sep 1, 2010 8:26 PM
766	don't kill your economic engine - i won't take a bus to the beach.	Sep 1, 2010 8:30 PM
767	placing a requirement for trolley/bus access will completely destroy the existing character of this place, destroy local businesses, drive away long time recurrent visitors to the island and will take away all the spontaneity of going for a beach vacation.	Sep 1, 2010 8:32 PM
768	i think that the beach we have access to is very beautiful, clean and relaxing. i think the other beach in question should be left for the wildlife, and that the current beach we use should remain that way because i believe that beach should be open for visitors to walk along the beach and look for dolphins and other marine life, watching or birds, and basically just to observe and enjoy the beautiful scenery, wildlife in their natural setting, no cars, no loud 'just hanging out', no swimming, fishing or crabbing.	Sep 1, 2010 8:41 PM
769	it would be very difficult, if not impossible to use the beach without parking. how could you carry all your equipment on a trolley? it would cost the town more in the long run to set up a trolley/bus service than whatever it might cost, from time to time, to repair the beach parking lots, not to mention the need for parking by the trolley/bus pick-up shuttle point. and doesn't the national park service help with some funding? surely there must be some federal funds available to help when there are bad storms.	Sep 1, 2010 8:45 PM
770	i think relocation to the more stable beach is a good idea	Sep 1, 2010 8:51 PM
771	have both parking and trolley	Sep 1, 2010 8:52 PM
772	i think the beach parking is perfect	Sep 1, 2010 8:54 PM
773	it's perfect - we have been coming for several years now and would not come back if we had to take a trolley bus to get to the beach	Sep 1, 2010 8:57 PM
774	preserving the natural beauty of assateague and chincoteague too, and avoiding further building or commercialization is important. i do, though, think beach parking is important - our past experience with trolly or bus service has been frustrating - lots of waiting, tough to bring things (how would i get my surfboard on a crowded trolly?) etx. also, you could not pull off the side of the road to catch a serendipitous pony sighting etc.	Sep 1, 2010 9:02 PM
775	Not having access to the beach by car would be very hard on elderly, disabled and families with young or multiple children	Sep 1, 2010 11:15 PM

Response Text		
776	We have been visiting Chincoteague annually for over 20 years because of Assateague Beach. If car parking is not available it will seriously impact use of the beach by visitors like our family. The trolley/bus will NOT work, and will drive people away. Don't do it to Chincoteague!	Sep 2, 2010 4:12 AM
777	Keep trash down. Post signage deterring people from combing the beach looking for (often live) shells. Keep up the great nature programs (kayaking, bird watching etc.)!	Sep 2, 2010 11:38 AM
778	If parking on Assateague is not an option I think a mono-rail system or electric rail but not a bus system that needs to have operators and uses gas. Should be used.	Sep 2, 2010 1:11 PM
779	I am a firm believer in a COMBINATION of providing parking AND trolley service to alleviate the HEAVY traffic on islands. Why only either or? Not everybody lugs heavy coolers/chairs etc. Some of us just bring a small back pack with a towel, drink and snack.	Sep 2, 2010 3:00 PM
780	I saw the 3 proposals and think all 3 need to be implemented. There needs to be at least 500 beach front parking spaces, perhaps another group in a small filled in area of the swan pond, and then they could also have a second lot north. I would like to see off-road vehicle access via this northern lot so ORVs could use the northern end of the beach. I definitely think a northern lot is a good idea.	Sep 2, 2010 3:52 PM
781	support limited car access	Sep 2, 2010 6:15 PM
782	we are thankful for this beautiful beach and resort area just the way it is.	Sep 2, 2010 6:18 PM
783	move to north, yes, but only if it disrupted the flora and fauna less.	Sep 2, 2010 6:19 PM
784	i was here after the last major nor'easter and they did an absolutely remarkable restoration to parking	Sep 2, 2010 6:24 PM
785	trolleys are very good. try to keep it as 'natural' as possible. there will always be people not happy if they don't have their own car, but we don't need to always build and destroy the ecosystem. thanks!	Sep 2, 2010 6:29 PM
786	make more barriers. talk to army corps of engineers	Sep 2, 2010 6:48 PM
787	very difficult to get to seclusive beach areas	Sep 2, 2010 6:49 PM
788	we love coming here at all times of the year but we definitely would not come as often if we did not have the access to the beach as we do now. we have noticed big changes in the beach area over the past 15 years, but hope it can continue as it is.	Sep 2, 2010 6:52 PM
789	please remove tree or bush stumps quickly after storm because it is not safe for swimmers or walkers. stumps appeared due to beach erosion after a storm. this part of beach should be closed or cordoned off.	Sep 2, 2010 6:53 PM
790	it is awesome as it exists today! visited 8/14 - 8/21	Sep 2, 2010 6:55 PM
791	we came on Sunday and it was a free entrance to the beach. if we had to wait for all of those people coming and going using a trolley system, we would not have the positive experience we had. too many impatient people in our party.	Sep 2, 2010 6:57 PM
792	taking a trolley to the beach would definitely be a deal breaker. i am not waiting on a line with all our beach stuff.	Sep 2, 2010 7:01 PM
793	i drive ten hours from Atlanta for the past 7 years, if you think i will return here to take a trolley to the beach you are kidding me! i can drive 4-6 hours and not have to take a trolley, why drive 10 to be inconvenienced more?	Sep 2, 2010 7:02 PM
794	pilot trolley/bus system for those who seek an alternative and see if it has merit.	Sep 2, 2010 7:07 PM
795	please don't make us use public transport. letting that area go natural (as it should to recover) would be great. relocate to further north would be a great idea!	Sep 2, 2010 7:09 PM
796	this idea sounds really rough for families with young children like ours! i'd feel trapped.	Sep 2, 2010 8:07 PM

Response Text		
797	one of the biggest reasons we come here is that we can come and go to the beach with all our daily beach things in our car. if we had to use a bus/trolley and take all our things I believe we would find a new vacation destination. on average we spend \$1,500/week between rental, food, and souvenirs, a loss when you consider other families that feel the same and would find a new destination.	Sep 2, 2010 8:11 PM
798	our family has been coming here since 1973. without direct beach access we do not see us continuing.	Sep 2, 2010 8:12 PM
799	it's an awesome place like it is :)	Sep 2, 2010 8:14 PM
800	more places to rinse off. more parking spaces	Sep 2, 2010 8:15 PM
801	honestly - i would not return to chincoteague/assateague for our annual 1 week vacation (now in our 7th year, along with 3 other families) if direct beach parking was replaced by some form of public shuttle.	Sep 2, 2010 8:19 PM
802	we could never carry everything on a shuttle. also, in an emergency our car would get us where we need to go and a shuttle would not.	Sep 2, 2010 8:20 PM
803	the trolley/bus system if a storm hits the beach wouldn't provide enough safety to the public. the public would be exposed to the elements of the bad weather and what about children as well. we experts in our government such as the army corps. i am sure they can come up with a solution!	Sep 2, 2010 8:22 PM
804	we loved our stay in this nice area! i think preserving part of refuge for natural is good and your set up now helps people to appreciate and enjoy at the same time. balance is key word.	Sep 2, 2010 8:25 PM
805	if there is no parking there will be no people. business would fail, the tax base would deteriorate. chincoteague and assateague would die.	Sep 2, 2010 8:27 PM
806	the only way we can access the beach is by private car. my husband is crippled and i have copd. we moved here in 1997 because we could be near the beach. your idea of trolley/bus service to beach is a really bad idea!! i thought assateague was a national seashore - for the citizens use - who pays for your wages and the upkeep of the shore - do you forget you owe us a usable beach with parking nearby?? you do!! we pay for it!	Sep 2, 2010 8:31 PM
807	i own a vacation home here and visitor numbers will crash without beach access. chincoteague island is family resort and families need to haul much stuff to the beach, and come/go to beach on 'kid time'. waiting for a bus does not work. 90% of visitors are here for the beach, 10% for the refuge.	Sep 2, 2010 8:35 PM
808	keep the parking lots like they are now. they are fine.	Sep 2, 2010 8:35 PM
809	restore P-1 and bike trail	Sep 2, 2010 8:37 PM
810	i think it would be a real hardship to bring sand chairs, children, toys, umbrellas on a shuttle	Sep 2, 2010 8:49 PM
811	think its ok the way it is. we just had a bad storm - no way i would want to b in a shelter with my grandchildren in such a storm.. did't even want to be on my screened in deck!	Sep 2, 2010 8:50 PM
812	people came for the beach long before 'fish and wildlife' even came here. primary reason is beach, dunes, trails, not birding.	Sep 2, 2010 8:53 PM
813	I don't understand how you would think a trolley or bus would work, have you ever observed what people bring to the beach? One car alone could have 4 chairs, 2 umbrellas, 2 coolers, 2 boogie boards, one pack-n play, sand toys & beach towels.now multiply that by the average number of visitors a day.	Sep 3, 2010 3:22 AM
814	if more funda are needed to maintain a proper budget including annual parking maintainence raise the entry fees. DO NOT remove direct beach access/parking it will certainly be a death blow to the local economy and real estate value. I am a Chincoteague homeowner.	Sep 3, 2010 12:27 PM
815	Loss of beach parking would have a negative impact on the number of visitors to Assateague Beach in my opinion and would hurt the economy of Chincoteague.	Sep 3, 2010 12:40 PM

Response Text		
816	Would go to Maryland beach instead if there was no beach parking. People that surf and like to bring items to the beach would not come to Chincoteague. With no beach parking you will ruin the economy of Chincoteague. Don't they collect enough money at the toll booth to fix the parking lot, and if not get some private contractors to donate their time. Busing people to the beach is a ridiculous idea and will only hurt the economy in Chincoteague. This town is just starting to look better and attracting people from all over. Invest in the parking lot and save your town, you have a long way to go.	Sep 3, 2010 1:16 PM
817	Current access is very good. In regards to the above question of how many people, often there are more of us visiting at one time.	Sep 3, 2010 2:12 PM
818	Please keep the parking. It's not real easy now to pack up and travel to the beach in your own car. Why would someone agree to the trolley. People are going to travel to Maryland and enjoy the beach there.	Sep 4, 2010 12:42 AM
819	Possibly expand parking in the wildlife loop parking lot and run shuttles from there	Sep 4, 2010 12:54 AM
820	I could only believe that the Federal Government would be the only one source to come up with such an idiotic idea as to bus people to the beach. Anyone that dumb should go bury their head in the sand!	Sep 4, 2010 3:47 PM
821	A trolley system is UNSAFE!! The Mon before Pony Penning when 2000 tried to leave at once after the pony walk, it took so long we'd have died in a thunderstorm!	Sep 4, 2010 7:44 PM
822	Parking lots should be maintained using crushed shells or other materials compatible with the beach environment. Parking should be increased to handle at least 1500 vehicles, vice the 961 at present. The Fish & Wildlife service and the National Park service should establish a Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Chincoteague that would jointly establish maintain an IDIQ contract which could tap local truckers, dirt haulers, and road contractors to assist with the rapid restoration of parking in cases of beach washovers. Dirt, shells, etc should be prepositioned on Assateague at a predetermined "High ground" location not subject to washover. The beach access farther north could be developed in addition to the current Tom's Cove Hook, access being by electric vehicles rented out by commercial vendors on Chincoteague in order to stimulate further business. More bike access should be encouraged for the wildlife loop area. Comment: Why is the Maryland end of Assateague operated so differently than the VA end? It appears that the MD end is more "business friendly", with camping, more over sand access, concession restaurant, etc.	Sep 4, 2010 8:04 PM
823	While I would love to see a system where the car would take a back seat to public transportation. I have been in to many fast approaching thunder and lightning storms where outside public transportation not only a major inconvenience but a dangerous inconvenience. If shelters that could accommodate hundreds of people could be developed with minimal environmental impact close to the beaches then possibly my attitude would change. As for the Survey it would be greatly appreciated if a map showing exact locations on proposed parking could be shown, in order for a more informed input to this survey. In short the survey is tainted towards the car and one should not take this survey to seriously	Sep 5, 2010 1:21 AM
824	Encourage bike use--increase safe bike routes on Chincoteague so we can take our families by foot or bike through the town to the beach.	Sep 5, 2010 2:19 AM
825	move the parking north on the beach to a better location	Sep 5, 2010 8:21 PM
826	The question about the beach north of the current beach did not contain enough info to answer - if it were 2 - 5 minutes north, it would be ok... more than that - not ok	Sep 6, 2010 12:23 PM

Response Text		
827	We are very happy with the present set up, or alternate direct parking on Assateague. We would not return to Chincoteague or Assateague if we had to use some type of shuttle or trolley service to access the beach.	Sep 6, 2010 6:41 PM
828	more spaces, if possible	Sep 7, 2010 3:11 PM
829	i support portions on the refuge accessible by car including beach and portions not accessible by car - natural areas	Sep 7, 2010 3:12 PM
830	keep parking and add more. we take umbrella, suntent, cooler, beach chairs, towels, books, - too much to take on a trolley or bus. also we would not stop and shop on the way to and back from beach. not safe in sotrm to wait at a shelter! we have been coming for over 20 years. keep parking!	Sep 7, 2010 3:15 PM
831	please keep the beach the same. what you propose will affect the wildlife and innocence of the island and wildlife refuge.	Sep 7, 2010 3:16 PM
832	as much as we love the wildlife refuge and have learned from visits, with no beach access we would absolutely go to another place with beach access.	Sep 7, 2010 3:18 PM
833	you're doing a great job maintaining this natural habitat - keep up the good work - it is extremely important!	Sep 7, 2010 3:19 PM
834	we always bike and love that the bike access is no longer connected to the main parking area	Sep 7, 2010 4:58 PM
835	why not construct a dune or berm with vegetation between the beach and the parking area?	Sep 7, 2010 4:59 PM
836	the experience of chincoteague/assateague is driving through the refuge to enjoy wildlife, ponies, and nature. a lot of people already no not come to chincoteague because of the drive to the beach and prefer to rent a house on the beaches of outer banks. waiting for a bus or trolley would deter ever more vacationers.	Sep 7, 2010 5:04 PM
837	i personally like the beach because there are places where are not highly populated by other visitors.	Sep 7, 2010 5:06 PM
838	increase price on parking	Sep 7, 2010 5:08 PM
839	we'll sell our house here and get one further south - too much stuff to cart to beach on a trolley	Sep 7, 2010 5:09 PM
840	more toilet facilities and hand washing - signs of what you can and cannot do in life guarded areas. too much stuff to carry on alternate transportation. need to mass evacuate quickly when need be.	Sep 7, 2010 5:11 PM
841	the current beach/parking is #1, i like it very much. it is very convenient if you are with a person with mobility issues. #1 beach in USA! why mess with #1!	Sep 7, 2010 5:15 PM
842	more restrooms.along beach area - for 3 mile walks along beach	Sep 7, 2010 5:17 PM
843	removal of beach access parking will kill chincoteague as a beach community	Sep 7, 2010 6:01 PM
844	comments about street signs coming into town, better single source of tourism info, loves town tour by trolley	Sep 7, 2010 6:47 PM
845	i do not feel a multi story parking structure has a place on chincoteague!	Sep 7, 2010 7:03 PM
846	we would like it to temporarily park there. we don't spend the day but visit it often.	Sep 7, 2010 7:04 PM
847	people would be willing to pay more for beach parking if needed. the beach is a huge asset to this community. my family doesn't swim in any other beaches on the atlantic.	Sep 7, 2010 7:06 PM
848	we'd be willing to pay additional fee for access if specifically earmarked for parking restoration.	Sep 7, 2010 7:08 PM
849	we come here every year. we do not want to ride a trolley/bus to the beach!	Sep 7, 2010 7:09 PM
850	i have been coming to chincoteague for 40 years. the beach is very important.	Sep 7, 2010 7:10 PM

Response Text		
851	i would need to see this other beach area to determine suitability and the width/length of beach in that area. remote parking lot would be extremely impractical, as everyone carries chairs/umbrellas/tents/fishing gear from their vehicle directly to the beach. transporting all this paraphernalia on a trolley/bus would not be feasible. also the cost of this transportation service fro the town would be very high. perhaps a separate parking fee could be charged temporarily in those years when a majority of the parking area has been restored due to severe storm damage.	Sep 7, 2010 7:14 PM
852	please don't do trolley.	Sep 7, 2010 7:18 PM
853	we always go to the beach when visiting chincoteague and believe direct private vehicle access should be maintained, even if relocated to another section of beach.	Sep 7, 2010 7:19 PM
854	please keep it open ! there is no place like it.	Sep 7, 2010 7:20 PM
855	i support the maintenance of all national parks which includes efficient and appropriate access to them.	Sep 7, 2010 7:22 PM
856	cut down the barbed wire - nasty for horses!	Sep 7, 2010 7:24 PM
857	please do not limit private personal vehicle access to the beach.	Sep 7, 2010 7:25 PM
858	if a trolley/bus from a remote parking area was used how would people with disabilities be accomodated? have would families be able to transport coolers, chairs, umbrellas, etc.? having parking at the beach is important to attract tourists.	Sep 7, 2010 7:31 PM
859	beautiful beach/wildlife area - keep it pristine!	Sep 7, 2010 7:32 PM
860	as a non-driver, i rely on friends to get from DC area to the eastern shore. i'd come here more often on my own if i knew of good bus or train connections to eastern shore. i'd suggest increasing use of trolley to get people to shopping district/main street, dureing the day. also you could charge more to park to offset costs of maintaining the beach.	Sep 7, 2010 7:34 PM
861	main street merechants should put out flyer/map for motels to hand out. it should show location of shops and public parking. road signs for business district should be on both sides of maddox blvd and bridge intersection.	Sep 7, 2010 7:36 PM
862	keep the parking!	Sep 7, 2010 7:37 PM
863	if the cost is in reason. how in the world would one ever be able to take on a trolley the items you would normally take. that is definately not feasible.	Sep 7, 2010 7:39 PM
864	if the current beach area can't be sustained at a reasonable cost, i would support 'yes' to question #4 aboave.	Sep 7, 2010 7:40 PM
865	we have enjoyed coming here for over 20 years. if we were to be bussed to the beach, i doubt we would return. we enjoy the way things are now, our freedom to come and go as we please. we certainly hope this continues.	Sep 7, 2010 7:42 PM
866	raise the parking fee. people want to take all their beach gear. they don't want to wait in lines. should there be a thunderstorm they will all try to leave at once.	Sep 7, 2010 7:43 PM
867	i think you should offer the troley services to the beahc for people who want to use it. but also allow parking at the beach. it is too difficult to ride a trolley with beach chairs, umbrellas and coolers.	Sep 7, 2010 7:51 PM
868	can't imagine a trolley bus - trying to pack and load the bus up with umbrellas, chairs and personal things. no to mention children and all the things necessary to take to the beach! trolley or shuttle buses will vener work. there are too many beaches where tha'ts not a problem. people will stop coming here. very bad idea!!!	Sep 7, 2010 7:53 PM
869	increase beach user fee to help offset costs to repair beach - daily use fee, peak season fee, yearly fee - all in addition to current federal fees for beach access.	Sep 7, 2010 7:59 PM
870	increase fees if needed, there is room for increases for this beach.	Sep 7, 2010 8:00 PM
871	wonderful beach - please do not change! especially for handicapped access - good to be able to drive out to shore	Sep 7, 2010 8:02 PM

Response Text		
872	this beach is very important to my family it should be properly maintained for years to come.	Sep 7, 2010 8:04 PM
873	good job!	Sep 7, 2010 8:05 PM
874	please keep our beach open and continue to restore as life for the island residents would never be the same for us, whow cherish our beach and the good times with family and friends and the great memories of our childhood the beach is a part of our life.	Sep 7, 2010 8:07 PM
875	have parking based on type of pass purchased, and make tag prices higher for beach improvement needs.	Sep 7, 2010 8:08 PM
876	could charge a nominal parking fee/day for parking on the beach, money could go toward restoring the beach each year - in addition to park entrance fee.	Sep 7, 2010 8:09 PM
877	keep the beach where you can park right at the sand. my husband can't walk far, he has bad legs and this beach area is great.	Sep 7, 2010 8:10 PM
878	more beach without cars!	Sep 7, 2010 8:12 PM
879	leave it as it has always been 'no change'	Sep 7, 2010 8:14 PM
880	would be happy to pay an additional fee for parking to help pay for parking lot repairs.	Sep 7, 2010 8:16 PM
881	i would rather pay an extra fee to have access to the beach/hiking areas than wait for a trolley/bus to get me whenever that schedule happens to be.	Sep 7, 2010 8:18 PM
882	have you considered making a golf course on the island?	Sep 7, 2010 8:19 PM
883	i have deer hunted north on the island at that time i've noticed large amounts of beach that was open and plenty wide to park. the ocean is the number 1 thing people come to the island. let's leave that opportunity open like it has always been	Sep 7, 2010 8:26 PM
884	just keep it.	Sep 7, 2010 8:29 PM
885	fine as is.	Sep 7, 2010 8:30 PM
886	please do not eliminate beach parking. we will not return and have been visiting every summer, multiple times per summer, for 12 years.	Sep 7, 2010 8:32 PM
887	please do not take the parking, and thereby the beach, away!!	Sep 7, 2010 8:38 PM
888	put back snow fence and build up dunes as it was done several years ago. IT HELPS!	Sep 7, 2010 10:10 PM
889	open service road for ovs fishermen or any surf fishermen during plover shut down. since u rope off sections for swimmers and not those of us who fish. having been in the sika hunt a few times i have seen some nice beach up north to fish on. charge a fee to go up there on a permit only,anything to give us a chance.dont forget we pay and spend alot more then swimmers.	Sep 8, 2010 1:21 AM
890	I also own a home on Chincoteague. I fully support direct beach access. The trolley system is a very bad idea and will only hurt the economy of Chincoteague	Sep 8, 2010 3:18 PM
891	I would not come to Chincoteague anymore if I had to lug all my beach stuff on a trolley. This would greatly impact Chincoteague vitalization.	Sep 9, 2010 10:17 PM
892	I would support the alternate beach if it was as large as the current beach, as accessible as the current beach, and with as many or more parking spaces.	Sep 10, 2010 12:42 PM
893	It is not possible to carry chairs,beach bags,coolers kites, umbrellas etc. on a trolley or bus.	Sep 10, 2010 1:07 PM
894	I would like to know how far up north the alternate beach is located. The beach is a major draw for our family.	Sep 11, 2010 4:45 AM

Response Text		
895	I can see there is a problem that is due to mother nature, and it's not just the 3 storms from last year. The beach is eroding, plain and simple and people need to understand that. I wish I had a suggestion or way to fix it, it's not a problem only in Chincoteague, but many beaches in Virginia and elsewhere. This may go against my responses to this survey, but honestly, I'd rather lose beach access altogether if it means saving the wildlife, including all the land, ponies and other animals in the long run.	Sep 11, 2010 4:11 PM
896	The importance of direct beach access depends upon what has to be done to retain it. If you eliminate beach parking, improve the bike lanes upon Maddox leading to the park. In any event, eliminate truck driving on the beach. we have been vacationing here for 26 years.	Sep 11, 2010 10:54 PM
897	I have been coming to Chincoteague for over 40 years! If you do not fix the beach, and parking each time, Chincoteague will become a ghost town!!! Raise the beach access rates if need be? make it 20, or 25 a week, and dedicate that money ONLY for repair. I love it there, and want to retire there! Thank You Ernie Reynolds, ohio	Sep 12, 2010 1:55 AM
898	Let nature take its course and work with it. Good luck I know it won't be easy!	Sep 12, 2010 9:54 AM
899	It can't be any other way- parking there is a necessity	Sep 13, 2010 8:59 PM
900	We know it is a major problem to keep the beaches open but it is very important to the economy. we appreciate your beautiful island.	Sep 14, 2010 10:36 AM
901	In addition to parking, something needs to be done to halt the beach erosion (i.e pumping sand, jetties, artificial kelp).	Sep 14, 2010 7:07 PM
902	Leave it as is, does not need to be bigger or better	Sep 14, 2010 11:43 PM
903	When visiting the island, we travel to the beach 3 or 4 times a day just to walk the shores, shuttle buses would be a deterrent for that and we would have to find another vacation spot with easier beach access.	Sep 15, 2010 1:10 AM
904	I look forward to coming from San Antonio, Texas to Assateague every year. Please keep the Beach and its parking accessible to all!	Sep 15, 2010 5:02 AM
905	Keep it natural with few services at beach. I do like the option of driving out there and parking but glad you abandoned the paved lots and bathhouses.	Sep 15, 2010 7:55 PM
906	I believe that if they would build the dunes w/ the fences and natural grass that were in place many years ago then the problem that exists now, having a flat low lying area, would not exist. The problems with the washing away of the beach/parking are a lot more frequent now that the beach is a flat area. Years and years ago the beach was one car on, one car off, and the dunes were built high enough that the beach never seemed to wash out like it has in the more recent past.	Sep 15, 2010 9:53 PM
907	Moving the main beach area north is a great idea. My question is...why is it that other beaches get help with erosion and we don't. Why is sand being dredged at the inlet and going to Wallops? Why is no one looking into the impact of the jetties to the north of us in Maryland? To lose parking on Assateague would greatly impact people going to the beach. It takes my husband and I two trips to the car to get our stuff out to the beach area...I can't imagine a family with kids being able to get their things to the beach comfortably on a trolley. What about people with limited mobility? Using a trolley could be a great hardship for many who now can get to the beach from their car parked close by. Chincoteague would lose a lot of income if the beach was less accessible!!!!!! Oh, and that means less tax revenue for the town and county, yes???? I certainly hope that all government entities at all levels will take this very seriously.	Sep 17, 2010 3:51 PM
908	Trolley/busing of tourists would be difficult with the amount of "stuff" everyone brings to the beach. And an evacuation order would just send everyone into chaos while waiting for buses.	Sep 19, 2010 1:16 AM

Response Text		
909	"You can't fool Mother Nature." Assateague Island itself is ephemeral, as are all barrier islands. If beach parking COULD be secured, that's fine. If not, we have no objections to a trolley/bus shuttle system. Shelter is a problem for quick storms that come up. Beachgoers need to assume their own responsibility, and be aware of local weather conditions and get off the beach as necessary. In such times, it would be handy for the trolleys to divert from their normal routes to make an "evac" run and waive the fee, though nominal , for that return trip to Chincoteague. Posted on trolleys, in that choice, should be signs noting that "for sudden thunderstorms, this trolley may not appear at your expected stop on schedule." We dearly love the trolley and ride it nightly when we are there. We stay at Pine Grove and several of the drivers are familiar with the couple from WV who jsut get on and ride around the island. Usually late June, sometimes September.	Sep 19, 2010 2:13 PM
910	I have been vacationning on Chincoteague for most of my thirty years (seven of which have been with my husband), with the latest trip having been last week. My husband and I consider it to be our special place having gotten engaged in 2005 and then married on Assateague in 2007. While we love Chincoteague and would continue to visit, we are beach bums and if beach access to Assateague was limited, the town would more than likely, sadly, become a one or two night stop on our way to the Outer Banks.	Sep 19, 2010 4:48 PM
911	leave parking in current location	Sep 19, 2010 5:29 PM
912	i enjoy visiting assateague because it is a safe clean beach i can drive directly to. i feel a trolley system would be completely unnecessary and more of a hassle than anything else. i would be less likely to visit if i knew my only means of transportation to the beach was a trolley.	Sep 19, 2010 5:32 PM
913	i have been coming to chincoteague/assateague for over 33 years. i own property on the chincoteague bay. i feel very strongly that access to the beach and ample parking are imperative to the recreation, preservation and economy of the town of chincoteague as well as the neighboring counties. in the past 30 years i have seen many changes in the infrastructure of the island of chincoteague but what stands out in front is the sacred hold on the ecosystem and the preservation of the natural environment of the island and the beach. there is more awareness and appreciation of wildlife - i firmly believe that it is the exposure of the wildlife and preservation that has made people aware of the importance, without exposure, children would not learn. the revenue of the island businesses would suffer. please strive to keep beach access parking available and plentiful.	Sep 19, 2010 5:37 PM
914	as older visitors, we do not stay for a prolonged time at the beach but come in many times a day.	Sep 19, 2010 5:39 PM
915	it would be nice to have a designated place to fish	Sep 19, 2010 5:42 PM
916	it is a beautiful beach and should remain as possible as nature will permit. god bless.	Sep 19, 2010 5:44 PM
917	if a trolley system is developed, it will also encourage more biking. therefore, there would need to be more bike racks at beach areas and a shower would be great at bike access areas. a move to the north would be okay as long as refuge or marsh is not lost. i hope your town has weathered the hurricane! we are watching and praying from up here in PA! we love your island!	Sep 19, 2010 5:48 PM
918	access beach via wildlife loop	Sep 19, 2010 5:51 PM
919	allow metal detecting, certain times of the year	Sep 19, 2010 5:53 PM
920	i would like to see the 'wildlife loop' used for beach access. use the 'beach access road' for wildlife. (map provided)	Sep 19, 2010 5:58 PM
921	keep as is and build additional beach parking. make an accurate cost estimate of your proposals and invest it in additional beach parking.	Sep 19, 2010 6:55 PM
922	don't ruin a good thing!!!	Sep 19, 2010 7:00 PM

Response Text		
923	if you don't provide 100% public parking at the beach, it will severely affect your wonderful town of chincoteague. people will be less likely to come to this area because it takes away your freedom to come and go as we please.. which is what vacation is all about.	Sep 19, 2010 7:04 PM
924	parking and access is essential! the public needs to be able to access your beautiful beach. a bus/trolley with people's beach chairs, coolers, kids, etc. would be like going to work on the train! i would not return if a bus/trolley system was put in place. there are many other beautiful beach/vacation spots.	Sep 19, 2010 7:07 PM
925	suggest raise entrance fees and earmark the increase to restore beach as required. should direct beach access/parking not be available to me throughout the year i will look to sell my home here on chincoteague and relocate to where there is beach parking for residents. have owned my home here since 1996 and beach is the reason why i am living here. thanks.	Sep 19, 2010 7:10 PM
926	without the ability to park at the beach, i would not return to chincoteague. i go to the beach several times a day. taking the trolley each time would not be practical. asking older people and families with kids to use a bus in peak season sounds like a disaster in the making.	Sep 19, 2010 7:12 PM
927	we love chincoteague! the park and the beach. we will happily pay an extra entrance fee to help the park service with parking facilities.	Sep 19, 2010 7:14 PM
928	I'm disabled and to have to take a trolley would not be feasible. We would need a whole trolley to take just us and our equipment so to shuttle 2000 or more people in the summer is totally unrealistic. If you open the northern beach and we have direct access by car from Chincoteague and am able to park close to the beach like we do now that might be a solution or why not have north beache opened .for overflow. If I can't have access to a beach like I do now, I will have to stop coming to Chincoteague.	Sep 19, 2010 11:15 PM
929	try to keep the beach the same with the limited parking you have now. the beach is not as crowded as other beaches. accessing the beach via bus/trolley would be virtually impossible for families. parking in chincoteague...i don't think that is an option!!	Sep 19, 2010 11:17 PM
930	how would we transport kayaks, etc.? what about emergencies that call for immediate departure from the beach? emergencies at our residence on chincoteague or at our home in NJ?	Sep 19, 2010 11:19 PM
931	don't feel safe without my car's availability, expecially because of our children; 3 of them are type-1 diabetics. also, i can't imagine how so many people going to the beach and all of their gear, food, boogie boards, kayaks, etc., would work on a trolley or public transportation. i think it's the wrong solution.	Sep 19, 2010 11:23 PM
932	it would be very difficult to transport your beach items for a day - cooler, chairs, beach blankets, towels, umbrella, toys - on a trolley - leaving the beach in a storm would be a nightmare. i would not ever like to see any concessions on the beach.	Sep 19, 2010 11:25 PM
933	any reduction in beach parking in any form is unacceptable and must be strenuously rejected.	Sep 19, 2010 11:27 PM
934	i do not have a problem with moving the beach north as long as the south end is still accessible after labor day.	Sep 19, 2010 11:28 PM
935	we love chincoteague and assateague beach. only aspect we don't love is that we have to drive to the beach, especially now that we have a youg child. we realize that what adds to the charm of chincoteague and makes it so affordable is the lack of 'beach front' development. fear that the trolley system would be too much of a hassle. understand and appreciate the cost and challenge of restoring beach and parking , but really think trolley system would be significantly less family-friendly.	Sep 19, 2010 11:35 PM
936	why not charge a nominal parking fee - it is too cumbersome to take a trolley/bus with chairs, umbrellas, coolers etc. if a storm comes up, i want to get in my own vehicle quickly. we have been coming for over 20 years - we seek out this 'natural' beach. save the beach! it's worth every penny.	Sep 19, 2010 11:37 PM

Response Text		
937	the beach is the main draw to most families. the small safe community supplements/supports the beach. if there is no parking at the beach most will not come to the beach and i see a major impact to local businesses! i would rather bike my family to the beach than ride a trolley and this would be very difficult with a large family.	Sep 19, 2010 11:40 PM
938	scooters	Sep 19, 2010 11:41 PM
939	improve maintenance and cleaning (the beach is too dirty with trash). place trash containers.	Sep 19, 2010 11:43 PM
940	no more condo or buildings on chincoteague	Sep 19, 2010 11:45 PM
941	i believe impossible to 'trolley' children and beach gear back and forth daily, without causing people to become agitated over it all.	Sep 19, 2010 11:48 PM
942	no suggestion, just like the beach and come may and september for years. i like having my van there - my things are with me and i can come and go as i please.	Sep 19, 2010 11:52 PM
943	charge a larger fee for parking, replace the dunes and rock barrier (natural landscapes to help with beach erosion)	Sep 19, 2010 11:56 PM
944	in a natural landscape, dunes tall grasses rocks barrier between beach and parking with less parking spaces. charge higher fees for parking.	Sep 19, 2010 11:58 PM
945	to take away beach parking will kill all economic business and or growth there - we come to chincoteague to enjoy the beach and because of the beach we then do other activities.	Sep 20, 2010 12:04 AM
946	if there was no parking at the beach we would not come here. the parking is needed for families - it would be impossible to bring the sun protection gear, water and other supplies needed to have a safe beach day without it. a trolley would not work. the ease of coming and going with kids, bikes, hiking gear etc. is what keeps us coming here. no move to the north unless there is direct beach access...no shuttle or trolley.	Sep 20, 2010 12:09 AM
947	more access to northern beach would be great!	Sep 20, 2010 12:10 AM
948	the slender spit of today's beach is not sustainable. a move to a northward beach is geologically necessary.	Sep 20, 2010 12:12 AM
949	didn't use the beach this time - did bike to beach	Sep 20, 2010 12:14 AM
950	Although we now come mostly for birding, when our girls were younger the beach was the main attraction. I don't think we would have come if we had to rely on a shuttle to come and go. Much too difficult with children and all the stuff you need for them for a day at the beach.	Sep 20, 2010 1:31 AM
951	I feel if your going to relocate the beach you need to have parking there not a trolley system to rake you to it	Sep 20, 2010 6:12 PM
952	How do you schlep all your stuff to the beach on a trolley? Older people cant do a trolley or bus, hard on them going in, even harder after a long day to get out.	Sep 20, 2010 8:38 PM
953	Better signage about safety, access, boundaries and wildlife protection. We LOVE Assateague Beach!	Sep 20, 2010 8:49 PM
954	The income that Assateague has come in from the tourist and the Locals, should make them want to do better and go to other beaches and see what kind of ideas they can give them, Come on people we are not the only beach around, Learn to ask for help there are people with ideas out there you just don't want to hear them. If you get rid of the parking lots there to the beach and use a trolley system, You might as well close up the Park all together, or maybe that is just what you want.	Sep 20, 2010 9:44 PM
955	I have been visiting Chincoteague for almost 40 years. I have seen and experienced many changes. As far as the north beach parking I brought this up many years ago when the southern parking lots where lost. As a 4 wheeler surf fisherman will this also be lost? Also being handicapped I can't see myself climbing over coolers and beach umbrellas on the trolley.This trolley idea is not new it was talked about 20 years ago as you probably know. I visted the lighthouse Sunday....What a shame...PAINT IT	Sep 21, 2010 12:59 AM

Response Text		
956	It's fine like it is. It's very easy to deal with and the beach is very wide there. We are grateful for it and that we can unload umbrellas, chairs, picnic lunches and boogie boards with only a short distance to set up for several hours.	Sep 21, 2010 3:21 AM
957	NONE AT THIS TIME.	Sep 21, 2010 3:24 PM
958	Please do what you can to make sure my family can continue to visit Assateague by car. Thank you.	Sep 22, 2010 1:20 AM
959	Designate a specific parking area for RVs and towed vehicals. They always park long ways and take up many spaces. Also scotters tend to take up a full space that a car could park in.	Sep 24, 2010 8:22 PM
960	rv camping lots	Sep 26, 2010 1:34 PM
961	if parking was removed from the beach, then we would stop coming down to assateague beach. for many it is the parking availability that makes it possible to visit the beach and removal of parking would remove the accessibility.	Sep 26, 2010 2:17 PM
962	more and better rest rooms are needed at the beach	Sep 26, 2010 2:21 PM
963	we have come to chincoteague since 1976 - annually since 1980. it would be a pity for some harebrained, environmentalist-driven government scheme - like bussing people and their beach paaphrenalia to assateageue - to put an end to this long, enjoyable, rewarding tradition that we have introduced so many others to over the years.	Sep 26, 2010 2:24 PM
964	i use the remote parking at harpers ferry and love it	Sep 26, 2010 2:27 PM
965	keep the beach parking and keep it fixed up. spend some of the money you are paid to fix parking lots and other things.	Sep 26, 2010 2:28 PM
966	i think trolley/bus transportation would be very discouraging for those with small children and an inconvenience as far as being able to stay at the beach all day (having a cooler of food/water etc.)	Sep 26, 2010 2:31 PM
967	suggest that trolley service be put in place when parking is full. people bring a lot of 'stuff' to the beach - carrying it to a trolley stop/taking on trolley would be a big hassle, expecially for young families - this would be a deterrant to business	Sep 26, 2010 2:35 PM
968	the beach is great the way it is	Sep 26, 2010 2:41 PM
969	improving the beach need not to be improved or the parking	Sep 26, 2010 2:42 PM
970	jetties?	Sep 26, 2010 2:44 PM
971	we should always be able to go to the beach in our own vehicle. never by bus	Sep 26, 2010 2:45 PM
972	you're doing a phenomenal thing here -	Sep 26, 2010 2:48 PM
973	given the amount of items people bring to the beach a trolley might prove too difficult expecially at peak hours.	Sep 26, 2010 2:49 PM
974	at times when it's busy, a ranger to control traffic would be helpful	Sep 26, 2010 2:58 PM
975	this was our 1st visit and we were extremely impressed with beach access, parking and facilities. it reminded me of beach trips when i was a child (west coast). no boardwalks, tacky souvenir shops, photo vendors and planes flying overhead advertising everything under the sun. you have a great natural beach and we will be coming back.	Sep 26, 2010 3:04 PM
976	make parking off the wildlife loop where it meets up with the sand dunes. allow beach access thru a designated area via ramp and steps over the dune. direct beach parking is very important - i can lock my phone and cash in my car. people bring chairs, umbrellas and ice chests which are bulky on a trolley.	Sep 26, 2010 3:07 PM
977	build a beach wall using rocks on chicken wire cages like the ones used to protect homes along the shoreline. add concrete outer layer. this will keep water from damaging parking area (refer to beach wall in seabright, NJ) direct beach parking is important for personal access to items like first aid kit etc. which i may not want to cart to the beach.	Sep 26, 2010 3:09 PM
978	rebuild it like you've done for so many years. no one will come otherwise.	Sep 26, 2010 3:14 PM

Response Text		
979	rebuild the parking lots using common sense. look at what's available and build access fro direct parking. what are you going to do? move the shelters every time? that seems to be just as much effort and work long-term as moving the parking.	Sep 26, 2010 3:17 PM
980	don't bring in more fast food joints and other common businesses that attract people. even though you are suffering many storms lately that will not be constant. repairing the roads and beaches also makes jobs. thank you for all you will do to keep assateague and chincoteague a wonderful place to be peaceful with one's family.	Sep 26, 2010 3:22 PM
981	seems beach is critical to chincoteague life - more parking is useful for chincoteague life - extend parking area - this is important for the american people. other activities include sika hunt	Sep 26, 2010 3:25 PM
982	i think you should really check the annual passes. mine is never checked efficiently and the passes could easily get passed around from person to person. you are losing money this way that could be going to repair the beach every year. i think you could also charge more.	Sep 26, 2010 3:26 PM
983	to replace sand take it from the hook. so tom's cove doesn't close in.	Sep 26, 2010 3:38 PM
984	a shell/gravel parking lot that moves with the island is the best. you can't bus a family with kids, beach equipment and food.	Sep 26, 2010 3:41 PM
985	moving beach to the north sounds encouraging - what about bringing sand dunes back? no beach access by car equals no town of chincoteague. there should be more federal taxes allotted to reserve for parking with town of chincoteague input and authority to oversee how money is spent.	Sep 26, 2010 3:44 PM
986	showers and changing station at bike/hike entrance to beach.	Sep 26, 2010 3:45 PM
987	like it like it is now!!	Sep 26, 2010 3:46 PM
988	the most unpleasant part of our trip was all the cars and the lack of recycling in town. invest in more and safer bike routes and forget about the cars!	Sep 26, 2010 3:48 PM
989	painted parking lines! we've seen all too often cars/trucks taking up space that could've easily fit another car if the cars were spaced properly!	Sep 26, 2010 3:50 PM
990	just keep the parking as it is! nobody wants to carry chairs, coolers, hold children's hands etc. while waiting for trolleys and busses. what a terrible inconvenience for our tourists and regular beach goers. you will lose your summer visitors. (we go to two churches and have our ministry on CI)	Sep 26, 2010 3:52 PM
991	i would be unable to handle all the items i need for a day at the beach. returning to my car, then to my cottage to eat is not desireable	Sep 26, 2010 3:56 PM
992	transporting 2 small children and gear via trolley is unacceptable!	Sep 26, 2010 3:57 PM
993	please no buses to the beach. can you see a crowded bus with kids, chairs, umbrellas, ice chests???	Sep 26, 2010 3:58 PM
994	i have been visiting chincoteague every year for 35 years. it is my vacation spot - period. catching a trolley to the beach is not acceptable in our life/vacation style. i would definately find another vacation location - much to my sorrow - if beach access, wildlife loop, island access were only available by trolley.	Sep 26, 2010 4:04 PM
995	most beaches north of us do not offer oceanfront parking. however, they do offer beach chair and umbrella rentals. many people walk long distances to get to the beach. trolley or bus access along with some parking might increase the number of beach visitors.	Sep 26, 2010 4:06 PM
996	keep parking as is.	Sep 26, 2010 4:07 PM
997	charge extra entry fee to cover cost of restoring parking. shuttle is not an option. cost of parking for one week - \$30 is cost of 3 people to one move. you 'national people' (like yellowstone/teon entry) have to genin recognizing the VALUE of what belongs to us. we spent \$800 on cottage, lunch everyday at J and B, dinner out 6 nights, all to some other community if you go the shuttle route.	Sep 26, 2010 4:12 PM
998	we need direct access to the beach - think of all the equipment folks bring? not feasible by trolley -	Sep 26, 2010 4:14 PM

Response Text		
999	a lot of space is unused for parking because there are no individual space markers. spaces marked for compact cars would also allow for more parking since these spaces are quite a bit smaller than those required for trucks, vans or SUVs.	Sep 26, 2010 4:21 PM
1000	family has been coming to chincoteague for 20 years. direct beach parking is extremely important especially with children and for elderly.	Sep 26, 2010 4:22 PM
1001	assateague wildlife refuge must come first. recreational beach second, its a barrier island!! the last 20+ years have been nice.	Sep 26, 2010 4:24 PM
1002	make the refuge car free. allow only trolleys and bicycles	Sep 26, 2010 4:26 PM
1003	i have been coming here since 1972 (i am 52). it is time to realize that AI is being impacted and that smarter - more sustainable options are at hand. placing visitors on a trolley/bus will not negatively impact CI economy. empty stores at maddox bridge and other areas will have greater impact. please act to protect what is best about AI. we will all still come - not matter a trolley, bus (expanded bike business) etc. you have the opportunity to do something unique and important. you'll have my family's support.	Sep 26, 2010 4:29 PM
1004	if you take direct parking at the beach away you will probably lose 1/2 of your tourism = \$	Sep 26, 2010 4:30 PM
1005	please keep the beach exactly how you have it.	Sep 26, 2010 4:33 PM
1006	please keep beach parking!! and auto access to assateague!!	Sep 26, 2010 4:34 PM
1007	it is so nice the way it is!	Sep 26, 2010 4:38 PM
1008	continue to provide parking at the beach!	Sep 26, 2010 4:39 PM
1009	we love the beautiful beach at assateague and appreciate the easy access to the beach via car. i think that not allowing cars to park at the beach would have a negative impact on tourism in the area.	Sep 26, 2010 4:42 PM
1010	we enjoyed our visit on both islands. in mid august the beach parking accomodation was pretty full. additional 'charm' on chincoteague could be further enhanced with a bit more local investment! the 'big box' hotels are there already - not that we would stay in them.	Sep 26, 2010 4:44 PM
1011	the idea of bus transportation to the beach would signal the death of the town of chincoteague, who would come here? what about the revenue the government would lose from beach traffic, i am a fisherman and know how fast a storm can develop, (mass confusion)	Sep 26, 2010 4:47 PM
1012	multi-generational families come to assateague - provide direct beach access parking for all day beach trip with chairs, coolers, umbressas etc. (each vehicle has a high people volume) would like more consistent, reliable water features showers/toilets	Sep 26, 2010 4:50 PM
1013	its getting to crowded need beaches! you do nothing to stop the erosion, stone cages 3 high, trees, sand fence, marsh grass, restore like OC redid their dunes. that would help.	Sep 26, 2010 4:57 PM
1014	if there was a storm it would be a mess trying to get to the shelters.	Sep 26, 2010 4:58 PM
1015	it seems that it would be prohibitive to ride a bus/trolley to the beach.	Sep 26, 2010 5:02 PM
1016	while we love the beach we fully support access closures for native wildlife protection!	Sep 26, 2010 5:05 PM
1017	we have been coming for 30 years and had purchased a house on the island as a vacation property for the above activities listed.	Sep 26, 2010 5:08 PM
1018	get more parking spots	Sep 26, 2010 5:09 PM
1019	public beach access and parking should be restored until rising sea level makes it impractical	Sep 26, 2010 5:11 PM
1020	nees a lot of work done more parking spots	Sep 26, 2010 5:12 PM
1021	more rinse off facilities needed on both sides of parking	Sep 26, 2010 5:15 PM

Response Text		
1022	tables with benches or beches to be able to sit and look out at ocean, not all can access beach due to handicaps	Sep 26, 2010 5:16 PM
1023	trolley/bus access would be difficult for us because we like to have chairs and a tent - that is a lot to fit in a bus!	Sep 26, 2010 5:17 PM
1024	restore what we once had and enjoyed please	Sep 26, 2010 5:22 PM
1025	the beach is beautiful. need automobile to transport kids, sunshelter/umbrella, boogie boards, chair, cooler, sunscreen, kite and whatever other sand toys required.	Sep 26, 2010 5:23 PM
1026	love coming here, would hate to stop if beach parking was not available	Sep 26, 2010 5:24 PM
1027	it was great to see more ponies on assateague	Sep 26, 2010 5:28 PM
1028	my family, plus 6 other families, have vacationed at chincoteague (beach) for 18 years. we meet the 1st week of august and total 30-40 people. please do not consider moving parking on beach	Sep 26, 2010 7:15 PM
1029	already more people are going to north assateague. more amenities, (dogs, camping, etc). seems to me the park service and fish wildlife service clash!	Sep 26, 2010 7:17 PM
1030	we love the beach, wouldn't change it at all!!	Sep 26, 2010 7:18 PM
1031	concerned that 'the bus' would hinder my ability to access other points in refuge (ie lighthouse, trails). enjoy the freedom to come and go as i please. who is interested in/owns bus company which would financially benefit at the expense of local business owners???	Sep 26, 2010 7:26 PM
1032	30 years ago to approx 10 years ago sand dunes acted as a natural barrier to parking/bath houses - bring them back. on site/beach parking is necessary - especially for young and old...had it not been an option with young children we would have gone elsewhere	Sep 26, 2010 7:31 PM
1033	ease of access to the beach is the reason our family goes to VA assateague several times per week through the summer rather than the MD side.	Sep 26, 2010 7:32 PM
1034	would also really miss tom's cove	Sep 26, 2010 7:34 PM
1035	both free parking and paid beach parking (\$5 to 10) to supplement trolley. if people want to park at the beach they should pay extra. this would satisfy the affluent and not affluent population.	Sep 26, 2010 7:36 PM
1036	i'm sorry but the trolley/bus idea is one of those expensive ideas that always fail - unless your poiint is to encourage people to go elsewhere!	Sep 26, 2010 7:37 PM
1037	could see parking back from beach area as it was many years ago. a long walk then.	Sep 26, 2010 7:40 PM
1038	some sort of bathouses at beach would be nice but i understand why no permanent structures can be placed there.	Sep 26, 2010 8:01 PM
1039	please bring back bath houses with showers at the beach in some form. thanks.	Sep 26, 2010 8:03 PM
1040	assateague beach is a major attraction for vacationers - should be preserved/maintained regardless of costs	Sep 26, 2010 8:05 PM
1041	people already have to drive to the beach from chincoteague. i don't think anyone wants to wait for a shuttle/trolley to take them to their car. it would just take too long and you will lose tourists.	Sep 26, 2010 8:08 PM
1042	we love driving out to the beach and sometimes just sitting in our car watching the waves and sunsets	Sep 26, 2010 8:09 PM
1043	i bring my kayak and surfboard to the beach. that would be difficult with a trolley system/bus. so i support parking at the beach. however, from an ecological standpoint, i support natural beach dynamics/evolution of the shoreline. so moving the beach access north seems like the best solution to me. thanks	Sep 26, 2010 8:12 PM
1044	maybe parking/beach north but keep some parking/beach on original location	Sep 26, 2010 8:14 PM
1045	we love it here just the way it is! thanks	Sep 26, 2010 8:15 PM
1046	keep it the way it is now	Sep 26, 2010 8:16 PM
1047	keep the beach beautiful!	Sep 26, 2010 8:19 PM

Response Text		
1048	the capabilities for handicap is important so please keep the parking going. please let us know in the future your decisions. thanks love your island.	Sep 26, 2010 8:22 PM
1049	replace dune fencing, allow dunes to rebuild	Sep 26, 2010 8:24 PM
1050	changing the beach would utterly destroy the lives of an incredible amount of people	Sep 26, 2010 8:25 PM
1051	raise annual fee to at least \$50,00 per year to help offset cost of parking lot repair	Sep 26, 2010 8:27 PM
1052	do all you can do to maintain this beautiful beach. get federal dollars	Sep 26, 2010 8:28 PM
1053	as is, please.	Sep 26, 2010 8:29 PM
1054	just keep it so you can park and drive there	Sep 26, 2010 8:33 PM
1055	provide bike access (without cars) to/from the beach	Sep 27, 2010 12:24 AM
1056	we'd have too much stuff to drag on a trolley and we would not pay to rent these things.	Sep 27, 2010 12:25 AM
1057	bring back the dunes with the beach grass	Sep 27, 2010 12:26 AM
1058	restore the dunes at the beach	Sep 27, 2010 12:27 AM
1059	parking at the northern edge of the beach should be expanded	Sep 27, 2010 12:30 AM
1060	it is the nature of a barrier island to be unstable. it is the nature of people to want freedom of mobility. this is a difficult dilemma.	Sep 27, 2010 12:31 AM
1061	keep the parking at the beach - would be to hard to transport all our things on a trolley with small children, diaperbags, umbrella, sand toys, beach chairs, coolers, surf boards etc. restore parking other places restore beaches, or move it please.	Sep 27, 2010 12:33 AM
1062	carting all our beach things to a trolley, then the beach sounds horrible. we have come 25 summers and many winters. unfortunately, we probably would not come back if we had to go to the beach on trolleys. we have been chased off the beach many times by a storm. having to crowd into a shelter then wait for a trolley would feel unsafe. we would have to look for a different beach for our family vacations. seems to me, that chincoteague and assateague would both be better off if they just replace the parking each year. we would even expect an increase in park fees, if need be. we hate the trlley idea - don't do it. a frequent tourist.	Sep 27, 2010 12:37 AM
1063	we will not return to chincoteague if there is no beach parking. umbrellas, chairs, tents, coolers, toys, sports equipment (boards) do not fit on a trolley	Sep 27, 2010 12:38 AM
1064	i understand the current situation. however, if a trolley/bus system was implemented, how would passengers transport coolers, chairs, umbrellas, and other beach essentials with relative ease, expecially with a large party?	Sep 27, 2010 12:41 AM
1065	you built a bridge for the tourists who come because they can drive up to the beach and park.	Sep 27, 2010 12:42 AM
1066	no trolleys!!	Sep 27, 2010 12:43 AM
1067	trolley service and parking at the beach might work but i believe you will definately lose people with children if you only have trolley service to the beach.	Sep 27, 2010 12:45 AM
1068	i like it the way it is now.	Sep 27, 2010 12:47 AM
1069	section of beach for surf fishing only	Sep 27, 2010 12:48 AM
1070	we visited the beach on two different days on our vacation and we had no complaints. we enjoyed our time at the beach.	Sep 27, 2010 12:50 AM
1071	has anyone given thought to how are you going to handle all the beach gear? if people do not have the ability to bring this stuff, they will not want to go to your beach. they can easily drive to a neighboring beach.	Sep 27, 2010 12:53 AM
1072	we love it here, we hope you find a good solution to this problem	Sep 27, 2010 12:57 AM
1073	one of the reasons we continue to vacation on CI is the ease of access to the beach. the quiet beach and ability to come and go as we please is another major reason we vacation here.	Sep 27, 2010 1:00 AM
1074	no trolley	Sep 27, 2010 1:01 AM

Response Text		
1075	Do you really expect families to unpack coolers, umbrellas, boogie boards, chairs, towels and kids from the car into a trolley and then unpack again upon arrival? I'll keep rolling right on by to the Outer Banks.	Sep 27, 2010 4:36 PM
1076	The ponies used to roam free. Why do you keep them fenced in now? Assateague at Chincoteague beach used to have ponies on the beach. I can go to NJ and go to a beach. We go to Chincoteague and Assateague for the WILD ROAMING animals, not to bring binoculars to see the ponies. I can see shore birds anywhere along the coast.	Sep 28, 2010 9:56 PM
1077	1. Have a designated booth for season pass holders. 2. Comment: as a Chincoteague property owner, limited access to the beach by trolley would definitely impact not only Chincoteague businesses but also homeowners.	Sep 29, 2010 5:36 PM
1078	I just want to say how important being able to drive to the beach is. Thank you	Sep 30, 2010 12:28 AM
1079	Like the idea of providing access to the more northern beach with parking spaces. Families with children will not use a bus trolley system. Too much beach gear, food, coolers, etc.	Oct 7, 2010 6:45 PM
1080	Charge an extra \$1.00 for access to Assateague Island. That \$1.00 a day times 1,000 people over an average of 16 weeks would be \$112,000 a year that is sole for beach clean-up. "A dollar to save the beach".	Oct 9, 2010 12:19 AM
1081	Limited beach parking along with remote beach access by bus/trolley might be a good compromise.	Oct 13, 2010 6:12 PM
1082	Although my children are no longer children, like all families we have a typical amount of beach gear that we lug to the beach every day. I can't imagine how a trolley is going to handle all of the gear per family. I have been visiting the area for over twenty-five years. Please make thoughtful decisions about the public's use of the beach. Thank you!	Oct 15, 2010 12:43 AM
1083	tough to rebuild, but a shuttle system won't work	Oct 15, 2010 6:52 PM
1084	Put the dunes back to protect the parking lots. Thank you!	Oct 16, 2010 11:33 PM
1085	it would be impossible to go to the beach on a trolley with all the beach chairs and items people bring with them to the beach. We would be very sad to have to find a new vacation spot if we could no longer drive to the beach.	Oct 18, 2010 11:03 AM
1086	Put back the dunes and parking the way it was a few years ago.	Oct 18, 2010 1:09 PM
1087	On beach parking is critical to the businesses located on Chincoteague.	Oct 18, 2010 4:49 PM
1088	keep access simple, direct and family friendly	Oct 18, 2010 5:53 PM
1089	Failure to provide beach access and parking would destroy the economy of Chincoteague.	Oct 18, 2010 10:29 PM
1090	Without direct parking my handicapped husband would not be able to visit the beach as our personal vehicle is essential for him. Failure to continue beach access with direct parking would destroy the economy of Chincoteague and adversely affect the economy of the Eastern Shore. I would think the majority of visitors would not accept "moving" north to OC/Assateague an alternative.	Oct 18, 2010 11:01 PM
1091	failure to maintain beach access and parking will result in everyone currently involved in a business related to tourism loosing their business resulting in a devastating effect on the CI .tax base. Those not involved will not be able to afford to continue to live there with the necessary tax increase to support the infrastructure of CI.	Oct 18, 2010 11:18 PM
1092	When the existing parking spaces are full, visitors should be told to return at a later time that day, or another day. Introducing trolley or bus transportation (from where?) should be considered. Carrying children, umbrellas and other paraphernalia on a bus or trolley is totally impractical, especially in emergency situations.	Oct 19, 2010 3:59 AM

Response Text		
1093	Keep it open. I'm not sure about relocation of the beach, but if that is the only way to keep it open to cars with direct access then okay. Beach replenishment is a norm for other beaches, like Rehoboth Beach, Dewey, and Ocean City. It should be the norm for Assateague. It not only keeps access for people to enjoy nature, but protects the island of Chincoteague. It saves the government money for paying for storm damage to Chincoteague. If they keep letting the beach erode then the barrier island will not offer Chincoteague the protection it needs.	Oct 19, 2010 11:37 PM
1094	Seen find to me.Down 3x time a year. Have rental here.Love it as is.	Oct 20, 2010 3:49 PM
1095	the beach IS the main attraction for us - keep it as it is! we believe the 'town' would fold without it.	Oct 20, 2010 6:07 PM
1096	if convenient beach access changes we would be relocating our vacation to NC. this is a National Park - what is (we) the people, government, doing with our tax dollars -!	Oct 20, 2010 6:14 PM
1097	remote beach parking would probably be the beginning of the end!!	Oct 20, 2010 6:17 PM
1098	providing transportation to the beach in addition to parking at the beach would be another option	Oct 20, 2010 6:19 PM
1099	please remain as is.	Oct 20, 2010 6:22 PM
1100	we would certainly be willing to pay an 'access fee' to use the beach. we come to chincoteague several times per year to enjoy all the items in question #2. however with 2 - 85+ year olds in our party, a bus to the beach for them is not feasible. I hope this gets resolved resonably. thank you.	Oct 20, 2010 6:26 PM
1101	if we had to depend on public transportation to access the beach, it would be the end of our 32 year chincoteague experience. direct paved bike access to the beach - parallel to roadway - is needed. hundreds or thousands of people - including adults, children, infants, handicapped elderly people with beach equipment - all crushed into shelters would be a tragedy waiting to happen.	Oct 20, 2010 6:28 PM
1102	#4 how far north? why would i stay in chincoteague to travel north for the beach. our family has traveled here for years. we came here with our parents and hope to some day bring our grandchildren. i would absolutely not come here if i could not park at the beach. as a nurse at a level 1 trauma center you are setting yourself up for a disaster and many lawsuits if injury occurs during a storm. if you (the town) are providing transportation to and from the beach, then you are responsible for your people. the beauty of chincoteague is mother nature. visitors should not be punished.	Oct 20, 2010 6:34 PM
1103	if direct beach parking is eliminated, businesses in the area will suffer.	Oct 20, 2010 6:35 PM
1104	will not come back with beach parking gone.	Oct 20, 2010 6:36 PM
1105	prefer restored parking at present location. fewer parking spots in 2010 than in past years.	Oct 20, 2010 6:39 PM
1106	for families with children, direct beach access is important as it would be hard to carry everything on a trolley. a more stable, permanent parking area that would not have to be rebuilt as often would be a good investment. any development should be eco-sensitive!	Oct 20, 2010 6:45 PM
1107	would need more info about relocation of beach - what would it entail to reach? would you need to go back out towards route 13 and head north?	Oct 20, 2010 6:55 PM
1108	use of jetskis on the chincoteague and assateague bay significantly detracts from our experience - too noisy and smelly	Oct 20, 2010 6:57 PM
1109	while it would not affect my family's length of stay, i expect it would other's, and therefore local businesses also.	Oct 20, 2010 6:58 PM
1110	need bike path access along the road and better/safer bike paths around chincoteague and from chincoteague to assateague. mosquitos are deadly at certain times of day in woods trail and discourage viewing. need more spraying	Oct 20, 2010 7:01 PM
1111	the beach is beautiful and everything should remain the same. thank you.	Oct 20, 2010 7:02 PM
1112	we suggest a fully paved bike lane to the beach instead of the partial arrangement.	Oct 20, 2010 7:04 PM

Response Text		
1113	it is good as is. it would be nice if the dunes were back. question what habitat would be compromised if the beach were relocated north.	Oct 20, 2010 7:06 PM
1114	please, please, please spend some money and fix the potholes in the roads - all over the island. i know it does keep people from speeding but it is rough on the car! thanks.	Oct 20, 2010 7:07 PM
1115	would building a few jetties help to hold the beaches and parking areas? keep fishing and clamming in tom's cove available even if beach is relocated. who wants to come to the beach and stand in lines for a bus?? need more information about shelters.	Oct 20, 2010 7:09 PM
1116	i think the trolley would be difficult for people to manage their belongings and especially for families with young children. many people bring umbrellas, chairs, tents, picnic supplies, fishing gear, and other things which would be difficult to transport.	Oct 20, 2010 7:10 PM
1117	we use the beach parking handicap accessible spots which are important to us.	Oct 20, 2010 7:11 PM
1118	we have been coming here 18 years.	Oct 20, 2010 7:12 PM
1119	parking at the beach is why we come here! do not give up beach parking. trolley very hard for families with young children!!	Oct 20, 2010 7:15 PM
1120	this is our favorite beach; we typically bike to the foot/bike access beach though. i think it is important - very important - to have access to a vehicle and belongings (if we were to go to the 'parking lot beach')	Oct 20, 2010 7:18 PM
1121	it would be very inconvenient to carry strollers, picnic items etc. this would not be a vacation!	Oct 20, 2010 7:22 PM
1122	no trolley! keep parking lots.	Oct 20, 2010 7:24 PM
1123	don't give free weekends. provide beach parking at a more stable beach site. have busses/trolleys to take wildlife watches, birders etc. out to the island and beach. then let nature determine what happens to the island.	Oct 20, 2010 7:27 PM
1124	perfect as is!!	Oct 20, 2010 7:29 PM
1125	keep the parking. it would be an awful time getting around without your own car. add the extra parking.	Oct 20, 2010 7:30 PM
1126	i have walked this beach every august since '86 at 5am until 7am, carrying cameras, water bottles, and a bag to put shells in. i walk from the north parking lot to d-dike and back. i am 58 years old. will your bus carry me and my gear at the times i need? my wife and i were caught by a storm - yes, we know lightning over the ocean probably will not come ashore - but we had lightning from the chincoteague side as well at 5:15am in 2007. we were halfway to the bike path (where the solar powered phone was), and we were frightened. i thing, if we had to wait for a bus instead of getting to our own car as fast as possible, we would not be here this year. have you ever seen a golf course shelter after a direct hit on its lightning rod?	Oct 20, 2010 7:36 PM
1127	My suggestions: allow NO cars, vans, motorbikes, etc further than the wildlife education center and the lighthouse. A shuttle bus or open bud will transport beach goers. Parking should be limited to the national wildlife area at the entrance. overland vehicles should not be allowed National Wildlife programs should be reinstated so that visitors could understand that ALL of Assateague Island is a wildlife preserve. I have been a visitor to Chincoteague for the past 40 years and have observed the changes most of which have been for the worse. Wildlife preserves are not big profit centers but definitely for the betterment and saving of our country.	Oct 20, 2010 7:41 PM
1128	Maintaining direct beach parking at Assateague Beach is the essence of the Chincoteague/Assateague experience. If the US Government can bail out Wall Street, then the Government can certainly cover the cost to rebuild the Assateague parking spaces (as needed) and keep Chincoteague Main Street financially alive and well. This is a meaningful way to spend tax money!	Oct 21, 2010 2:51 PM
1129	we have been vacationing at chincoteague/assateague beach for the last 25 years	Oct 22, 2010 7:52 PM

Response Text		
1130	beach is great, works fine, parking was adequate, restrooms clean.	Oct 22, 2010 7:53 PM
1131	protect it from development - including vistas	Oct 22, 2010 7:55 PM
1132	family vacations in cape cod mass for 30+ years - really like the assateague beach direct parking - helps spread out the people, only beach i've been to that has direct parking and it is great! have been in a thunderstorm on cape cod with 'shelters' that did not fit even 1/3 of the crowd. that system did not work.	Oct 22, 2010 7:58 PM
1133	it's a wonderful beach. it's nice to have bathrooms and a place to change and rinse off.	Oct 22, 2010 7:59 PM
1134	been coming since 84 and remember the dunes...the beach has to be accessible.	Oct 22, 2010 7:59 PM
1135	we thought the beach and everything that goes along with it was just perfect. we love your beach.	Oct 22, 2010 8:04 PM
1136	question #4 has not enough information to give a knowledgable answer.	Oct 22, 2010 8:05 PM
1137	limited bus access may be a desireable option for small groups/teenagers, etc	Oct 22, 2010 8:06 PM
1138	we certainly understand the need to rearrange parking - but a trolley would be incredibly inconvenient with all of the stuff we take up to the beach - and when a storm comes in - we rush to get off the beach.	Oct 22, 2010 8:08 PM
1139	more showers...why not make the circle at the beach bike parking?	Oct 22, 2010 8:09 PM
1140	if relocation of beach would be to the hike/bike area, i would be completely opposed. this is one of the treasures of chincoteague, in my opinion.	Oct 22, 2010 8:10 PM
1141	i came to visit family sister lives on island	Oct 22, 2010 8:13 PM
1142	we love the whole atmosphere of chincoteague/assateague but if beach access was difficult (i.e. bus/trolley) we would very likely not return	Oct 22, 2010 8:14 PM
1143	keep up the good work! screen out NJ folks! :)	Oct 22, 2010 8:15 PM
1144	what about locals? trolley?	Oct 22, 2010 8:16 PM
1145	moving the recreation beach/parking northward may destroy that more stable, natural beach.	Oct 22, 2010 8:18 PM
1146	this beach needs to be more family friendly	Oct 22, 2010 8:18 PM
1147	wheelchair accessible?	Oct 22, 2010 8:19 PM
1148	does not need improving!!	Oct 22, 2010 8:22 PM
1149	should have considered restoring the dunes.	Oct 22, 2010 8:23 PM
1150	flush toilets at the beach	Oct 22, 2010 8:26 PM
1151	a more stable beach with parking sounds great as long as the beach remains as natural as possible with no concessions and only parking and shower/changing cabanas and outhouses. we come for the natural environment!	Oct 22, 2010 8:30 PM
1152	we love this place! expecially the hiking/biking only beach!	Oct 22, 2010 8:32 PM
1153	increase weekly admission fee to assateague beach and park to cover cost of having to rebuild the parking after storms	Oct 22, 2010 8:35 PM
1154	Direct parking MUST be retained ON Assateague. It is the only way!	Oct 28, 2010 10:12 AM
1155	beach replenishment via off shore dedging is used successfully in other states,it should be consitered for assateague thru the army corp of engineers.	Oct 29, 2010 2:38 AM
1156	Would it be possible to build a wall between the beach and the parking areas to protect the parking areas? A wall made with natural materials (i.e stones) which would be 4-5 ft high, parallel to the beach,with an interesting "natural" looking design	Oct 30, 2010 8:50 PM
1157	If you replace the dunes like they was many years ago that saved the beach and the parking lots that wasreally something to see for people that came down for the 1st time many people like it very much. thank you	Nov 4, 2010 2:18 AM

Response Text		
1158	Both Chincoteague and Assateague are beautiful places. I definitely would not return however, if I had to take a shuttle/trolley to the beach. I would not want to schlep beach umbrellas, chairs, cooler, towels, kids, etc. on a trolley/shuttle. Closing parking on Assateague would definitely have a serious negative impact on the hotels, restaurants and shops on Chincoteague. We have been visiting Chincoteague for over 26 years.	Nov 9, 2010 2:25 PM
1159	I feel beach access by car is important for sunrise and sunset; the times of the day when it is too dangerous for children to ride bikes (in the dark.) Also I am not sure people will take enough water, sunscreen, hats, etc. if they have to carry them in a tote bag.	Nov 9, 2010 6:33 PM
1160	Construct a breakwater to lessen the impact of waves on the beach, and to decrease the impact of beach erosion. This should help to preserve the existing parking on the beachfront.	Nov 9, 2010 11:44 PM
1161	I have no suggestions, but as a summer visitor, I would be devastated. My parents have taken my sister, friends and myself, since the early 80's. I am now 36 and come with my parents AND my children. My friends that traveled with us when we were young, no bring their families. PLEASE let traditions continue and don't kill the economy in Chincoteague. Regards, Kelly Henkel	Nov 10, 2010 12:32 AM
1162	I have been coming to chincoteague for 20+ years. I like being able to come and go on the beach as I please. Especially at night to see the milky way and watch the satellites go by. A trolly system will nevativle impact the economy.	Nov 10, 2010 12:38 AM
1163	more parking	Nov 10, 2010 2:02 PM
1164	we've been visiting Assateague/Chincoteague for 15+ years and have no complaints. the only suggestion is to add a few more parking spots. lack of direct beach parking is a very bad idea. it would destroy your economy.	Nov 10, 2010 2:04 PM
1165	we like staying on the beach for long hours; without beach parking, it would be difficult to bring chairs, cooler with drink and foot; umbrellas; boogie boards, etc. at bethany beach, housing is close to the beach to bring the above items to the beach...not so at chincoteague. we've been going to chincoteague for 16 years.	Nov 10, 2010 2:09 PM
1166	keep the same	Nov 10, 2010 2:11 PM
1167	we think it's well run and enjoy our visit every year!	Nov 10, 2010 2:13 PM
1168	we have been coming to chincoteague every august for 27 years, and occasionally before that as well. we love it, and we think the very best thing you could do to improve the vacation experience and attract more visitors would be to run trolleys to the beach.	Nov 10, 2010 2:15 PM
1169	we enjoy access to tom's cove	Nov 10, 2010 2:18 PM
1170	trolley is fine if it protects the environment!	Nov 10, 2010 2:21 PM
1171	the recycling center should have longer hours. it also needs to open on time. it is 9:45 am and i have twice attempted to drop off my recycling and garbage.	Nov 10, 2010 2:23 PM
1172	if shuttle - how to get chairs, umbrellas, coolers, kid toys, boogie boards, etc?	Nov 10, 2010 2:24 PM
1173	certain areas for people fishing on the beach	Nov 10, 2010 2:26 PM
1174	use beach road for parking	Nov 10, 2010 2:27 PM
1175	moving the recreational beach would be a hardship for the shops and rental cottages	Nov 10, 2010 2:29 PM
1176	there is no place like assateague - do everything you can to preserve this beautiful place. we love it - have been visiting since 1986	Nov 10, 2010 2:31 PM
1177	move the recreational beach north. build dune grass/fences	Nov 10, 2010 2:32 PM
1178	beautiful coastline and area...keep it as is. no more tourism shops. it's nice to visit a place that is 'just what it is'	Nov 10, 2010 2:34 PM

Response Text		
1179	on very busy beach days (such as the free admission weekend) it would be great to have a park employee direct parking so that the cars would be closer together. we have been vacationing in chincoteague for 7 years and if we aren't able to park at the beach in the future we will vacation somewhere else.	Nov 10, 2010 2:36 PM
1180	the beach is awesome!	Nov 10, 2010 2:37 PM
1181	the biggest issue about a trolley is not only moving people, but all the stuff they bring with them. if you do go to a trolley system, consider offering umbrellas and chair rentals at the beach. i am fully aware of the budget issues in the Park Service, perhaps you could also charge a parking fee to use the closer lot?	Nov 10, 2010 2:39 PM
1182	we have been coming the assateague/chincoteague for years. i mostly bike to the beach and would prefer it if there were fewer cars. the best part of the beach is that it is not developed.	Nov 10, 2010 2:42 PM
1183	we travel from philadelphia to get away from the jersey beaches. our joy is having close beach access to our car. please rethink ways to keep this.	Nov 10, 2010 2:44 PM
1184	walking is good for people. carrying (and eating) less good for us too. less driving and more public transit would be good for us!	Nov 10, 2010 2:45 PM
1185	the town will lose significant revenue if trolley and bus transportation goes into effect.	Nov 10, 2010 2:46 PM
1186	keep parking as is. people have chairs, umbrellas, ice chest, towels etc. to take to beach.	Nov 10, 2010 2:50 PM
1187	bus or trolley system is the dumbest idea that i have heard about	Nov 10, 2010 2:51 PM
1188	the beach needs restoring after storms. i would not want to take a trolley with an umbrella, cooler bags and kids. major inconvenience.	Nov 10, 2010 2:54 PM
1189	since 1987 we've spent many, many hours on assateague beach and have seen many changes from mother nature - assateague will survive and we can always find a way to enjoy the island and provide parking so all can enjoy the beauty of one of the most beautiful treasures in the nation park system. how would families take all the necessities on a shuttle?	Nov 10, 2010 2:56 PM
1190	a trolley bus would be inconvenient. you could not keep some items in your car at the beach, as you can now. there would be little or no service early in the morning or in the evening. at peak times there would be very long waits just to get a ride to the beach. buses would also be expensive. without real access to the beach, there would no longer be any sufficient reason for tourists to come to chincoteague. some of the fresh water impoundment areas for birds have been turned brackish by inflows from the ocean and may no longer be suited for their original purpose. possible to use some land there for parking.	Nov 10, 2010 3:02 PM
1191	it is lovely!	Nov 10, 2010 3:06 PM
1192	improve bike paths, minimize any threats to wildlife. no additional roads for cars.	Nov 10, 2010 3:07 PM
1193	we like the way it is now and will continue to come here every summer as long as it doesn't change	Nov 10, 2010 3:08 PM
1194	trolley/bus system is inconvenient, cumbersome, and expensive to maintain. appeal would decline. businesses would suffer.	Nov 10, 2010 3:09 PM
1195	i would not want to go to the beach at all if my family and i had to depend on other transportation when we come for the beach. my entire family comes which consists of 6 people. too much to carry on a trolley.	Nov 10, 2010 3:11 PM
1196	the addition of a trolley would be ok if you could get off and on at various locations. people require a car to get their many articles to and from and to provide security and shelter. and how big and how many temporary shelters would we impact the reserve with? a bus line would be more cost effective.	Nov 10, 2010 3:13 PM
1197	enjoy the park and beach just as it is!	Nov 10, 2010 3:13 PM

Response Text		
1198	i have two small boys. they love the horses and the beach but we could not possible carry all of our stuff on a shuttle bus to and from the beach. i could not hold everything plus their hands. and i could not even imagine the panic if a storm hit and i was stuck on the beach with 2 crying children and my arms full of stuff. i find it hard to believe that you thought this could work for families with children.	Nov 10, 2010 3:22 PM
1199	my husband and i love chincoteague and the beach. we would definitely prefer the privacy of our own car to come and go when we need to. although we love the island, a vacation definitely needs a beach. i could go to shops and restaurants anywhere - even staying home.	Nov 10, 2010 3:23 PM
1200	wildlife preserves and national parks were meant to be preserved for people to enjoy, appreciate and visit. preserving means to maintain so people can go there. what is the value in allowing the beach to wash away and disappear? the beach is definitely a significant part of the assateague/chincoteague experience.	Nov 10, 2010 3:25 PM
1201	leave it alone!	Nov 10, 2010 3:26 PM
1202	keep it the way it is. charge more for access to assateague wildlife refuge.	Nov 10, 2010 3:27 PM
1203	cape cod has the bus system and we hated it. which is one reason we started coming here every year for the last nine years.	Nov 10, 2010 3:36 PM
1204	i would be willing to pay extra to have parking	Nov 10, 2010 3:38 PM
1205	we like the flexibility of coming/going as we are able and not having to rely on a bus or trolley for transportation	Nov 10, 2010 3:40 PM
1206	provide garbage/recycling receptables. more dolphins. k. thanks bye.	Nov 10, 2010 3:43 PM
1207	this vacation location is served mostly by families. with children comes lots of stuff for the beach. a trolley wouldn't be able to accomodate it.	Nov 10, 2010 3:47 PM
1208	no trolley	Nov 10, 2010 3:48 PM
1209	keep the good work up just as it has been	Nov 10, 2010 3:51 PM
1210	keep as is!	Nov 10, 2010 3:52 PM
1211	i like parking at the beach. i have 2 children and it makes it easier	Nov 10, 2010 3:53 PM
1212	part of the trip to assateague beach is just slowing down and enjoying the natural environment. a trolley/bus system will make it like a trip to a theme park with many more problems	Nov 10, 2010 3:58 PM
1213	truck in sand	Nov 10, 2010 4:08 PM
1214	please leave well enough alone!!	Nov 10, 2010 4:10 PM
1215	would like to retain bicycle access to the beach	Nov 10, 2010 4:12 PM
1216	would love to see all motorized vehicles banned from assateague beach	Nov 10, 2010 4:14 PM
1217	we hold a senior pass for the park but would gladly pay an additional fee for mainenance. we visit each june and september for over 9 years running!	Nov 10, 2010 4:22 PM
1218	it is perfect as is - beach is clean, rest rooms readily available, attracts a nice group of people. having chincoteague so close makes it even better. please don't change anything!!	Nov 10, 2010 4:23 PM
1219	talk to congressmen and senators to save a couple of pennies out of the billions they spend on wall street to keep this american historic landmark in shape	Nov 10, 2010 4:25 PM
1220	if a trolley/bus system is implemented, i would never return to chincoteague. i have come for the past 7 consecutive septembers. the government has plenty of money to replace and restore the beaches and parking lots!	Nov 10, 2010 4:27 PM
1221	elderly access to wildlife photography depends on being able to drive on the beach access road and stop along the way - just as on the wildlife drive.	Nov 10, 2010 4:28 PM
1222	we vacation in chincoteague several times a year and hope its natural beauty will be preserved. please don't destroy nesting areas for wildlife.	Nov 10, 2010 4:29 PM
1223	please don't take away beach access. would a move to the north disturb wildlife and beach area - probably. if not then it would be ok.	Nov 10, 2010 4:31 PM

Response Text		
1224	parking in town is fine - can use trolley or bikes to beach.	Nov 10, 2010 4:34 PM
1225	just have obama re-direct some funds.	Nov 10, 2010 4:37 PM
1226	keep things the way they are	Nov 10, 2010 4:40 PM
1227	Where would cars park on chincoteague? where would people be picked up by trolley? not good idea for trolley system - too much to take with you - can't come and go as you please. just bad idea.	Nov 10, 2010 4:49 PM
1228	bring back the dunes, replenish the beach. it will be paid by the federal government as it is a manmade problem due to the jetties of ocean city. VDOT didn't provide that new bridge for an unoccupied town. the town of chincoteague is the 'gateway to the national seashore'!	Nov 12, 2010 1:43 PM
1229	driving to the beach or to one of the trails has advantages over trolley/bus 1) you can stop when you see something interesting 2) you can pack gear in the car that you can't carry on a bus	Nov 12, 2010 1:46 PM
1230	keep it in its natural state as much as possible	Nov 12, 2010 1:49 PM
1231	you can not bring what you need for fishing or beaching on trolley especially if disabled or with small kids!!!	Nov 12, 2010 1:51 PM
1232	i feel it should be restored after storms. maybe raise weekly fee for entering to help defray the cost of restoring the beach parking lot.	Nov 12, 2010 1:53 PM
1233	our family has been coming here for 26 years. love everything here. wildlife etc. maybe you could raise the weekly fee for entering to help defray the cost of replenishing the beach and clearing the parking places. using shuttle would not be good. where would people put the belongings?	Nov 12, 2010 1:55 PM
1234	would not want to see the car/bus. free wildlife loop compromised. we come regularly once or twice a year.	Nov 12, 2010 1:58 PM
1235	maintain beach and access of beach as is.	Nov 12, 2010 1:59 PM
1236	please be aware of your valuable asset of leisurely parking on the beach and enjoying the surroundings at one's independent pace. that is the biggest draw to your area. embrace what you now possess.	Nov 12, 2010 2:02 PM
1237	build parking lot near public beach within walking distance	Nov 12, 2010 2:03 PM
1238	parking wherever must not have a negative impact on the wildlife refuge including the road to the beach	Nov 12, 2010 2:07 PM
1239	easy direct beach access is extremely important!!	Nov 12, 2010 2:13 PM
1240	it's hard to walk far with a cooler, umbrella, chairs, fishing gear, etc.from car. impossible with a bus/trolley.	Nov 12, 2010 2:14 PM
1241	inform osv users when beach will be closed	Nov 12, 2010 2:17 PM
1242	charge a higher fee but allow parking at the beach	Nov 12, 2010 2:19 PM
1243	we love it the way it is, please don't change it!!	Nov 12, 2010 2:20 PM
1244	thanks!	Nov 12, 2010 2:24 PM
1245	direct beach parking is very very important	Nov 12, 2010 2:26 PM
1246	visiting assateague beach almost every year since the 80's. i feel any change in how the island is accessed would certainly have a negative effect on my photography hobby and be reason to find a new place to vacation.	Nov 12, 2010 2:27 PM
1247	we have been visiting chincoteague/assateague since the 1970's. there is no place like it.	Nov 12, 2010 2:28 PM
1248	even in off-season have defined surf fishing areas and defined swimming only areas	Nov 12, 2010 2:30 PM
1249	a large population of nature photographers comes here. having to lug our equipment from other locations would be a tremendous burden. also no idea what 'alternate location' is. bad idea.	Nov 12, 2010 2:39 PM
1250	keep beaches all natural!	Nov 12, 2010 2:41 PM
1251	it's so gorgeous - love hiking and biking to beach!	Nov 12, 2010 2:43 PM

Response Text		
1252	diversifying available vehicles (electric and pedal golf-cart type), encouraging biking, making a real campaign out of it; making umbrellas and food available on the beach to allow people to travel lighter.	Nov 12, 2010 2:46 PM
1253	busing people with all their beach equipment is a stupid, bad idea!! it would be very inconvenient. who thought up the busing idea - has never been to the beach!	Nov 12, 2010 2:48 PM
1254	visitors to chincoteague since 1977. considering all the stuff one car of people carries to the beach, what impact would that amount of stuff per family have on the use of a trolley? where on chincoteague is enough land to park the amount of cars that park at the ocean each day especially on saturday during the season? i come to walk the beach in january or february. would the trolleys be running? what precautions would be taken to protect visitors who miss the last trolley at the end of the day?	Nov 12, 2010 2:50 PM
1255	not having the ability to drive out to the beach would not help local business; american like their automobiles and like to make their own schedule for the beach. i can't imagine dragging all my beach gear onto some trolley. not a good idea. this has to be some 'green' suggestion from the likes of a liberal? can the idea and if the local hotels all wanted to pitch together for a trolley tha's local business deciding things.	Nov 12, 2010 2:53 PM
1256	we like it the way it is now.	Nov 12, 2010 2:54 PM
1257	it depends on the environmental impact of relocating the beach. is the land environmentally sensitive, what are the public recreational use impacts? in new jersey, the federal and state governments cost share on beach replenishment projects. the army corps of engineers is spending about \$1 billion to replenish nj beaches. nps and va should explore this option as the significance of the public recreational use of assateague and its economic impact to chincoteague warrants it. these needs must be balanced however against protecting assateague's natural resources.	Nov 12, 2010 2:59 PM
1258	shuttle bus service out west in national parks works really well. they have designated stops which pickup every 5-10 minutes. more efficient and saves parks from auto exhaust damage. nj beaches also charge a beach tag fee \$5 per day or \$10 per week to help pay for maintenance of beaches.	Nov 12, 2010 3:01 PM
1259	i don't think a shuttle is practically feasible, especially considering the number of visitors, the majority of whom are families with children. the change in infrastructure both to chincoteague and assateague islands would be an unfortunate price to pay.	Nov 12, 2010 3:05 PM
1260	offer a direct shuttle to the beach in addition to parking. beach shuttle could meet town trolley at oyster museum every half hour	Nov 12, 2010 3:06 PM
1261	sell water in bottles @ tom's cove visitor center! how about selling beach parking permits? some might enjoy using a trolley system to save money and others wouldn't mind paying extra to park at the beach.	Nov 12, 2010 3:08 PM
1262	a trolley system sounds very expensive, purchase, maintenance, salaries a lot more expensive than plowing sand off the parking lots.	Nov 12, 2010 3:10 PM
1263	it doesn't need to be changed. we buy a beach permit even though the over sand area is closed most of the summer. we understand the need to accommodate wildlife. closing the beach except for a bus service would be disastrous to local economy and to thousands of us who enjoy this resource	Nov 12, 2010 3:12 PM
1264	no 'improvements' are required	Nov 12, 2010 3:13 PM
1265	remain as it is currently	Nov 12, 2010 3:15 PM
1266	i would like to encourage visitors to use non-petrol sources of access. perhaps a new business could emerge that would rent peddle powered vehicles with storage for coolers, umbrellas for the able bodied to use. others could use the shuttle or be allowed to drive.	Nov 12, 2010 3:30 PM
1267	i would volunteer at gates or refuge to save money for parking restoration. part time/scheduled times only.	Nov 12, 2010 3:32 PM
1268	keep it as wild as possible	Nov 12, 2010 3:34 PM

Response Text		
1269	i am more interested in visiting the refuge. i usually visit in spring or fall season.	Nov 12, 2010 3:36 PM
1270	the trolley idea will kill so much of chincoteague's tourism. they still let u.s. citizens and others ride and park close to the grand canyon and so many other areas of natural beauty and wildlife	Nov 12, 2010 3:37 PM
1271	the logistics of getting chairs, umbrellas, blankets, food, etc. to the beach by trolley/bus are not feasible. are you trying to make chincoteague a ghost town?	Nov 12, 2010 3:42 PM
1272	stabilize beach parking area by digging it out and backfilling with boulders and then regrading	Nov 12, 2010 3:49 PM
1273	bike paths the entire way to the beach, we find it difficult to bike to the main beach on the current road.	Nov 12, 2010 3:52 PM
1274	it's a wonderful beach facility! we love the setup, the parking, the lifeguards, the clamshell parking lot. it's one of the best east coast beach experiences.	Nov 12, 2010 3:53 PM
1275	improve bike route to beach. better/safer route along the road, not weaving through the nature trail	Nov 12, 2010 3:55 PM
1276	might go to north beach, but not at expense of chincoteague businesses...and not to commercially developed area.	Nov 12, 2010 3:56 PM
1277	direct beach parking is extremely important	Nov 12, 2010 4:00 PM
1278	excellent handicap access is critical for us!	Nov 12, 2010 4:02 PM
1279	please strive to keep chincoteague as is without the ocean city influence. that is why we come here. hate the condos and big hotels!	Nov 12, 2010 4:03 PM
1280	i would leave parking as is with overflow parking with shuttle. direct beach parking is very important.	Nov 12, 2010 4:05 PM
1281	have parking more north as it was 15-20 years ago	Nov 12, 2010 5:02 PM