



Attachment 4

Character Photo Collection

Kitty Hawk North Wind
Visual Impact Assessment

30 September 2022

tjd&a

LCA: CONSERVATION AREAS



Entrance to the NWR.



Visitors are restricted in parts of the NWR to protect critical habitat.



Typical view of dunes facing Atlantic Ocean.



Access to the beach at the visitor center.



An extensive series of trails guide visitors through the NWR.



Visitors to False Cape State Park can leave their vehicles at the NWR and walk/bike several miles to the park.

CONSERVATION AREAS: Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge. The National Wildlife Refuge abuts the north side of False Cape State Park and provides a place for visitors to park when then bike or walk to False Cape.

LCA: CONSERVATION AREAS



Interior of the visitor center.



Biking is one way to access the park; private vehicles are not permitted.



Camping is permitting at two wooded locations. However, many campers prefer to camp on the beach.



Beach camping is a popular activity, restricted to a limited portion of the shoreline.



The state operates a tram service to provide access to and through the park for visitors.



Trails are in specific areas to minimize impacts on the dune system.

CONSERVATION AREAS: False Cape State Park. False Creek State Park in Virginia Beach, Virginia, is a unique natural environment that draws a limited number of visitors to experience a shorefront that is virtually untouched by human development. See Visualization V01 for additional context photos.

LCA: CONSERVATION AREAS



Visitors engaging with the Memorial.



Wright Brothers sculpture below the Memorial.



Full scale model of the Wright Brothers' plan in the Visitor Center below the Memorial.



Interpretive displays throughout the Memorial tell the story of the first flight.



Visitors walking the path of the first flight.

CONSERVATION AREAS: Wright Brothers National Memorial. Viewers are drawn to the Wright Brothers National Memorial to learn about the beginning of aviation and to experience the place and the people involved. See Visualization V08 for additional context photos.

LCA: CONSERVATION AREAS



Hang gliding display.



Hang gliders on the sand dunes.



Visitors are attracted by the shifting sands, constant winds, and 360° views.



View toward the open ocean and the Project.



Kite flying is a popular activity in the park.



Trails and boardwalks from the visitor center lead to scenic overlooks.

CONSERVATION AREAS: Jockey's Ridge State Park. Viewers are drawn to the Park for a number of reasons, primarily related to the sand dunes and the views of the surrounding landscape/seascape. See Visualization V09 for additional context photos.

LCA: CONSERVATION AREAS



Access to the top of the lighthouse is tightly controlled.



Rangers introduce the history of the lighthouse to people waiting to climb the tower.



The Park Service encourages visitors to avoid certain areas.



Part of the boardwalk leading to the marsh overlook.



Boardwalk from the marsh overlook is a popular destination for families and birdwatchers.



The Park Service offers a variety of educational programs throughout the day.

CONSERVATION AREAS: Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Bodie Island Light Station. Cape Hatteras National Seashore is a highly sensitive visual environment known for its undeveloped nature, iconic historic resources, and memorable seascapes. See Visualization V11 for additional context photos.

LCA: COASTAL COMMUNITIES



Highway commercial development.



Commercial development in Duck.



Strip development near the main roadway.



Highway commercial areas also serve as utility corridors.



Town center in Duck.



Main highways offer a variety of tourist attractions.

COASTAL COMMUNITIES: Commercial Development. Coastal Communities are comprised of the developed land area between the Developed Beachfront and the Sound on the west side of The Outer Banks. These are the residential and commercial areas that provide housing, commercial, institutional, and other services for the general population and visitors to The Outer Banks

LCA: COASTAL COMMUNITIES



Recently built community of single-family homes.



Modifications to capture rooftop views to the ocean/sound.



A few single-story homes remain on the Outer Banks. Most homes are raised to avoid storm surges.



Older residential neighborhood.



Modest homes inland from the ocean. Garages and storage areas are typically located on the ground floor.



Residential community near Currituck Sound.

COASTAL COMMUNITIES: Single Family Residential. Single-family housing runs the gamut from small one-story cottages to expansive homes in a wide variety of settings.

LCA: COASTAL COMMUNITIES



Housing at near the bridge in Southern Shores.



Entrance to a resort community. Many communities have adopted architectural design standards for new construction.



Fanciful architectural styles and colors are common throughout the Outer Banks.



Landscaping provides separation between the main roadways and resort communities.



Entrance gate to a resort community.



View from the Currituck Lighthouse shows the density of new development along the Outer Banks.

COASTAL COMMUNITIES: Private Communities / Planned Development. Much of the recent development on The Outer Banks has been in the form of planned resort developments, with restricted access and abundant amenities.

LCA: COASTAL COMMUNITIES



Water tower with co-located communications equipment, Currituck.



Transmission line and communications tower in Kill Devil Hills.



Wire utilities paralleling Route 12 in Corolla.



Contemporary monopole transmission tower near Route 12 in Southern Shores.



Water tower with co-located communications equipment, Duck.



Transmission lines paralleling Route 158 in Kitty Hawk.

COASTAL COMMUNITIES: Utilities. Some of the most prominent structures on the Outer Banks are the various utilities that serve the Coastal Communities. Water towers, communications towers, transmission lines, and distribution lines are common and visible in each of the character areas.

LCA: COASTAL COMMUNITIES



Biking in Nags Head.



Multi-use pathways parallel the main roadways in many communities.



Biking and walking are popular activities throughout the Outer Banks.



Shared roadways with bike/golf cart lanes.



Several golf courses are found in the coastal communities.



Sidewalks or dedicated pathways are absent in many communities.

COASTAL COMMUNITIES: Activities. In addition to beach access, the coastal communities offer a wide variety of recreational facilities.

SCA: DEVELOPED BEACHFRONT



Kayaking in the surf.



Paddleball on the beach.



Kite flying in the abundant wind.



Photography.



Fat-tire biking.



Surfcasting.

DEVELOPED BEACHFRONT: Beach Activity. The long stretch of sandy beach is the focal point of the Outer Banks. Activities range from the purely passive – like relaxing and watching the hypnotic movement of the waves – to highly active – biking, kayaking, surfing, and swimming.

SCA: DEVELOPED BEACHFRONT



Hunting for crabs by flashlight.



Birdwatching.



Beach walking / shell collecting.



Early morning yoga class.



Dog walking.



Hang gliding over the dunes.

DEVELOPED BEACHFRONT: Beach Activities

SCA: DEVELOPED BEACHFRONT



Swimming and body surfing are popular activities along the Outer Banks beaches.



Typical beach scene, with homes peering above the dunes.



The day after a hurricane.

DEVELOPED BEACHFRONT: Beach Scenes.

SCA: DEVELOPED BEACHFRONT



One of many interpretive/educational signs at Jennette's Pier.



Fish cleaning stations are common on fishing piers.



Captain Andy's fishing pier, Nags Head.



Multi-functional spaces at Jennette's Pier.



Avalon Pier, Kill Devil Hills.



Fishheads Bar & Grill, OBX Fishing Pier, Nags Head.

DEVELOPED BEACHFRONT: Fishing Piers. There are five fishing piers on the Outer Banks within the study area. Each has a distinct character and set of attractions. Most charge a small fee to walk the pier or spend time angling for saltwater fish. Most are lit, allowing night fishing.

SCA: DEVELOPED BEACHFRONT



Shade shelters provide a comfortable place to watch the beach.



Volleyball court on the dune overlooking the beach.



Many of the beaches facilitate access with walkways, changing buildings and restrooms, parking lots, and interpretive/directional signage.



Most of the larger beaches have lifeguard stands near the access point.



Bike racks and access ramp leading to the beach.



Most beaches have parking lots that are sized to accommodate moderate numbers of beach-goers.

DEVELOPED BEACHFRONT: Facilities. The variety and extent of facilities found at the beachfronts vary by town. Photographs show a representative sampling of facilities to enhance beachgoers' enjoyment of the ocean.

SCA: DEVELOPED BEACHFRONT



Homes are often built up to and on the dunes.



Many small cottages have been removed to make way for multi-story multi-family vacation homes.



One of multiple large homes built to take full advantage of the beach and the view.



One of the largest complexes on the Outer Banks in Virginia Beach, just north of Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge.



Historic Kitty Hawk Lifesaving Station #7, now a vacation rental.

DEVELOPED BEACHFRONT: Residential development that defines the beachfront runs the gamut from historic homes and lifesaving stations to multifamily homes and multiplex buildings oriented to the water.

SCA: DEVELOPED BEACHFRONT



Northerly view from Jennette's Pier, Nags Head.



Northerly view of Southern Shores from Kitty Hawk Pier.



Southerly view from Avalon Fishing Pier, Kill Devil Hills.



Nags Head Beach Cottages Historic District, Nags Head, view from the beach.



Nags Head Beach Cottages Historic District, Nags Head, view from the road.

DEVELOPED BEACHFRONT: Virtually all the developed beachfront is backed up by homes of various sizes built into or on the dunes.

SCA: NATURAL BEACHFRONTS



The National Park Service allows personal vehicles to drive on portions of the beach at Cape Hatteras National Seashore.



Coquina Beach parking area and bathhouses near Bodie Island Light Station.



The NPS includes extensive interpretive signage in their facilities to educate the public about the natural environment.



Coquina Beach, Cape Hatteras National Seashore.



Strolling, swimming, fishing, and beach driving are some of the activities enjoyed by visitors to the natural beaches.



Wildlife blind near Bodie Island in Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

NATURAL BEACHFRONTS. Natural Beachfronts are undeveloped dune systems and sandy beaches that are found in protected locations throughout the length of The Outer Banks.

SCA: NATURAL BEACHFRONTS



Access over the dunes is carefully controlled to minimize damage to fragile vegetation.



Maritime forests – characterized by live oaks and loblolly pines – are found inland from the dune systems.



Typical view along the natural beachfront.



Sand dunes are a critical part of the natural defense of the Outer Banks. Access is carefully controlled in State Parks, NWRs, and National Seashore.



Beachgoers on Coquina Beach arrive on foot or by driving with reduced pressure tires.

NATURAL BEACHFRONTS. Access is carefully controlled and limited to avoid disruption to sensitive natural communities.

SCA: SOUNDS



Part of the boardwalk extending throughout much of the Sound shoreline in Duck.



Water-oriented residential development in Southern Shores.



Boating is a popular activity in Currituck Sound, Duck.



Developed Shoreline, Duck.



Route 158 bridge over Currituck Sound toward Southern Shores.



View from Currituck Beach Lighthouse over Corolla historic area toward Currituck Sound.

SOUNDS. Sounds are comprised of the waterbodies and adjacent shorefronts on the west side of The Outer Banks.

SCA: SOUNDS



Ferry landing, Currituck NC on the western shore of Currituck Sound.



Poplar Branch recreation area on the western shore of Currituck Sound.



Waterfront residential development in Poplar Branch on the western shore of Currituck Sound.



Sound Park in Point Harbor on the western shore of Currituck Sound.



Paddleboarding in the quiet waters of Currituck Sound.



Relaxing by the waters of Currituck Sound at Whalehead in Corolla.

SOUNDS. Recreational activities in/on the sound include hunting, fishing, boating, sailing, and nature observation.

SCA: SOUNDS



View from Bodie Island Light Station, Cape Hatteras National Seashore.



New development at the edge of Currituck Sound, Corolla.



Water access facilities into Currituck Sound near Whalehead Club, Corolla.



Maritime forests in Currituck Banks Reserve, Corolla



One of many interpretive signs common throughout the outer Banks. Currituck Banks Reserve, Corolla.



Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Virginia Beach, Virginia, overlooking Shipp's Bay.

SOUNDS. The primary value of the sounds – i.e., as destinations for hunting and fishing – is derived from the variety of habitats, the marshy islands, and the dense thickets of maritime forests that form the interface between land and water.

OCA: OPEN OCEAN



OPEN OCEAN. The ocean environment is dynamic and constantly changing, based on seasonality, phases of the moon, weather patterns, and distance to the shoreline. Lights from fishing and ocean-going vessels are commonly seen.