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Draft Compatibility Determination for Terminal Groin on Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Available for Public Review and Comment

Mike Bryant, Manager for Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge announced today that the Draft Compatibility Determination for Retention and Maintenance of the Terminal Groin on Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge is available for public review and comment. The deadline for comments is September 14, 2011.

The N. C. Department of Transportation requested a new Permit from Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge for the purpose of retaining the Terminal Groin within the current alignment and footprint to protect the bridge being planned to replace the existing Herbert C. Bonner Bridge over Oregon Inlet. During the environmental review process for the new bridge NCDOT determined that it would be necessary to retain the Terminal Groin for the purpose of protecting the integrity of the southern sections on the new bridge.

Federal wildlife refuges are required by law to determine the compatibility of any proposed use with the mission of the national wildlife refuge system and the purpose for which a particular refuge was established. As part of the compatibility determination process, the refuge is seeking public comment with regard to benefits and impacts from issuing the Special Use Permit. If you wish to provide comments, please send them in writing to the Refuge Manager, Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge, P. O. Box 1969, Manteo, NC 27954 or email them to mike_bryant@fws.gov. If you wish to review the draft Compatibility Determination, copies are available at the Refuge Administrative Office (708 North Highway 64/264, Manteo, NC), at the Dare County Public Libraries in Manteo, Kill Devil Hills, and Hatteras, and online at <http://www.fws.gov/peaisland>. [If you need additional information, contact Dennis Stewart, Refuge Biologist at \(252\) 473-1131 ext 231. All comments must be submitted no later than close of business \(4:00 PM\) on September 14, 2011.](#)

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