

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



Construct an Accessible Waterfowl Hunt Blind and Wildlife Viewing Platform on Bodie Island

Public Scoping Meeting

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Purpose and Need

- Provide an accessible hunt blind and wildlife viewing platform for all visitors
- Increase more hunting and fishing opportunities
- Education
- Wildlife viewing/photography



Description of Project

- 6 foot wide elevated boardwalk
- 8' x 14' covered platform over the water
- Parking (5-6 vehicles)
 - One accessible space
- Proposed for summer 2019



Potential Partnerships

- Ducks Unlimited
- North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
- Outer Banks Forever



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Bodie Island Federally Authorized Hunt Area

- 1940 Congress amended Cape Hatteras' enabling legislation to authorize hunting
- 36 CFR Sec 7.58 designates hunt locations, acreage and regulations
- 1,500 acres
- Waterfowl only
 - Ducks, Mergansers and Coots
 - Swan and Geese



Existing Bodie Island Hunt Program

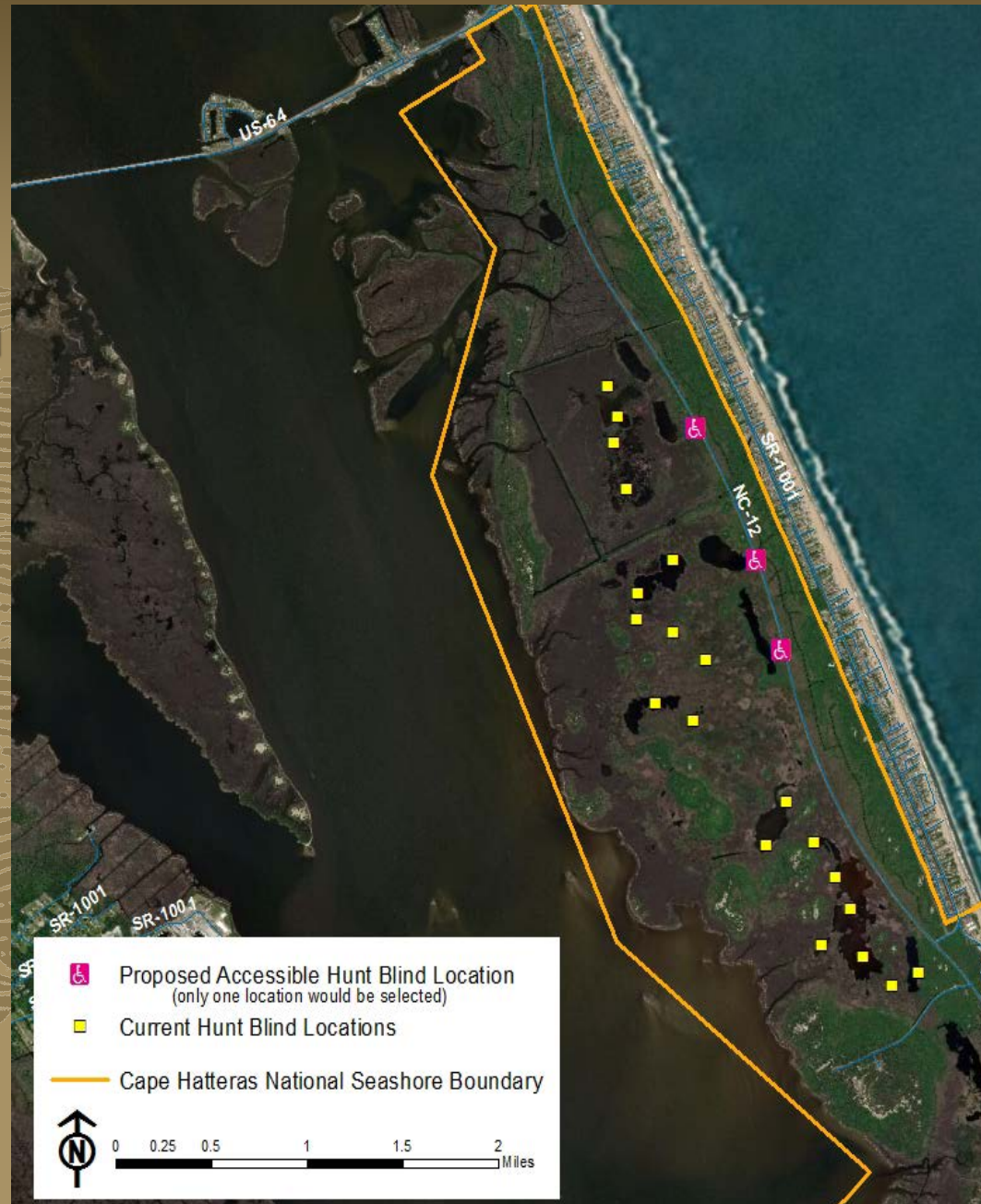
- 20 hunt sites
- Daily hunt drawings for sites
- Reservations available for specific dates
- Hunting areas only open to permitted hunters during hunt seasons-closed to general public
- 855 hunters annually
 - 10 year avg (2007-2017)
- Early October (4 days)
- November-January
 - dates depend on specific waterfowls as listed by the state:
 - <https://www.ncwildlife.org/Hunting/Seasons-Limits/Waterfowl-Seasons-Limits>



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Proposed Locations

- Within the federally authorized hunt area
- Only one location would be selected as a preferred site
 - Based on minimum impacts to park resources



Preliminary review of 3 sites proposed



Location 1
400 feet to pond



Location 2
175 feet to pond



Location 3
200 feet to pond



- Access from Highway 12
- Impact to other existing hunt sites
- Length of access from parking area to open water
- Total area of disturbance needed for parking area and boardwalk & platform

Resources to consider

- Wetlands
- Floodplains
- State Natural Heritage Area
- Wildlife
- Soils
- Vegetation
- Viewshed
- Visitor Use and Experience



Examples of hunt blind/boardwalk



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Provide seating



Camouflage for blind



Provide stairs to
access water

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Signage



Planning Process

- Public Scoping-
July-August 2018
- EA Distributed for
Public Review-
Fall 2018
- Decision Document
Winter 2018/2019



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How to Comment on EA

- Provide comments at meeting
- Comment online
 - PEPC (Planning, Environment and Public Comment) website
https://parkplanning.nps.gov/caha_accessible_HuntBlind_WildlifeViewing
- Mail in a comment form
 - Superintendent, Cape Hatteras National Seashore, 1401 National Park Dr., Manteo, NC 27954

Thank you

Questions/Comments?



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