

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



## Cape Cod National Seashore Dune Shack District Preservation and Use Plan Environmental Assessment



**Please join us  
October 19, 2009 for a  
Public Scoping Meeting**

**6:00 to 9:00 PM  
Center for Coastal Studies  
5 Holway Avenue  
Provincetown, MA**

## Background

The Dune Shacks of the Peaked Hill Bars Historic District, located within Cape Cod National Seashore, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Its approximately 1,500 acres includes both the dune shacks and the dune landscape. Eighteen of the 19 historic buildings (dune shacks) are owned by the National Park Service (NPS) and currently occupied by different groups and individuals under a variety of management tools. The national seashore is beginning a planning process to establish how the buildings and adjacent landscape will be protected and interpreted, and how visitors will use the historic district in the future, consistent with the qualities for which the district was determined eligible for the National Register.

The determination of eligibility found that the district is an important historic cultural landscape significant for its architecture; its role in the development of American art, literature, and theater; and its association with the life of American poet Harry Kemp. Although in 2007 the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places determined that the district did not meet the National Register criteria for recognition as a Traditional Cultural Property, in the planning process for the Dune Shack District Preservation and Use Plan/ Environmental Assessment, the NPS seeks to recognize both the elements that made the district eligible for the National Register and its traditional cultural ethnographic values.

## Your Participation

Because of your interest in Cape Cod National Seashore, we are requesting your comments on developing a Cape Cod National Seashore Dune Shack District Preservation and Use Plan. Scoping is the first step to involve the public in the management strategy for the dune shacks. NPS uses your comments to ensure that it is considering all issues of concern and a full range of alternatives for the management of the dune shacks.



The purpose of the public scoping meeting is to provide the public information on the planning process and an opportunity to comment on the development of the plan. Next year, after alternatives for preservation and use of the dune shacks have been developed, the national seashore will hold an alternatives public meeting and provide another opportunity for public comment before the alternatives are finalized for impact analysis. After impact analysis is completed and the plan/EA is distributed for public review, the national seashore will seek your comment again.

National Park Service  
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Cape Cod National Seashore  
99 Marconi Site Road  
Wellfleet, MA 02667



## Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose of this project is to establish a Dune Shack District Preservation and Use Plan that provides clear direction and consistency for NPS managers, dune shack dwellers, users, and advocates.

Action is needed at this time to provide for the long-term protection of the historic district as a whole, including the structures, cultural landscape, and natural environment. A sustainable plan is needed that is economically feasible, conforms to applicable law and NPS policies, and can be implemented with available federal administrative instruments. Examples of these instruments are long-term leases up to 20 years and short-term permits.

## Objectives

- ❖ Continue to provide the opportunity for contemplative solitude in support of art and literature.
- ❖ Recognize the ethnographic values highlighted in the Wolfe report by supporting long-term relationships.
- ❖ Provide appropriate opportunities for the public to experience the themes and resource values of the district.
- ❖ Take advantage of partnership opportunities where appropriate.
- ❖ Minimize interfering with the natural dune processes that are part of the overall dune system.

- ❖ Describe preservation maintenance practices and consultation processes between the national seashore and dune shack occupants that will protect the historic structures and adhere to the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.



## Collaboration with the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission

In addition to review and consideration by the national seashore, public comment received during public scoping will be summarized and made available to the dune shack subcommittee of the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission. NPS has engaged the Consensus Building Institute (CBI) to facilitate the work of the subcommittee.

The role of the subcommittee is to develop a range of alternatives for the full advisory commission to consider recommending to the national seashore for evaluation.

## Anticipated Timeline

**2009**

Fall → Public Scoping  
Collaborative Work with Dune Shack Subcommittee

**2010**

Winter/Spring → Collaborative Work with Dune Shack Subcommittee

Spring → Public Comment on Draft Alternatives

Fall/Winter → Public Review and Comment on Plan/EA

**2011**

Spring → Decision/Final Plan Issued



## Meeting Time and Location

**Monday, October 19, 2009, 6:00 to 9:00 PM**  
**Center for Coastal Studies**  
**5 Holway Avenue**  
**Provincetown, MA**

The meeting will begin with an open house for 15 minutes, followed by a short presentation by the NPS about the project and the planning process. After the presentation, NPS and CBI staff will be on hand to visit with you, answer questions, and record your input. Attendees may also submit comments on written forms available at the meeting, by letter, or on-line at the address below.

## How to Comment

- ❖ Attend the public scoping meeting
- ❖ Submit comments electronically at:  
<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/CACO>
- ❖ Submit comments by mail to:  
Superintendent  
Cape Cod National Seashore  
99 Marconi Station Site Road  
Wellfleet, MA 02667

**Please submit comments by November 12.**

Please be sure to include your full name and address with the comments so we may add you to our mailing list for information on future items in this process.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment - including your personal identifying information - may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.