From:	Robert Sanders
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] AEC
Date:	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 8:57:57 AM

I'm in favor of keeping the AEC designations in place for all of the Outer Banks in NC especially Jockeys Ridge State Park. Thank you, Commissioner Bob Sanders

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Patrick Walsh
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Area of environmental concern.
Date:	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 5:44:13 PM

It disheartens me greatly to hear that Jockeys Ridge may lose its AEC standing. The government, state, and local authorities need to preserve this area in any way possible. Unfortunately, it seems like every year our natural resources become less and less. This is one of the busiest parks in North Carolina. Our elected officials need to do everything possible to preserve this for our children and our children's children's. Please help save the future by continuing the current status of Jockey's Ridge under the area of environmental concern.

Patrick Walsh 4202 N. Rivershore Dr. NEW BERN, North Carolina, 28560 252–671–6319

From:	Susan Blackwell
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Areas of Environmental Concern
Date:	Thursday, February 22, 2024 12:41:02 PM

Good afternoon,

As a resident of Nags Head, I am concerned to learn the Coastal Resource Commission cannot designate Areas of Environmental Concern. Our fragile island has a fragile ecosystem. I would hate to see places like Jockeys Ridge State park, Nags Head Woods Maritime Forrest and our oceanfront be at risk.

Please vote to allow local agencies, like the Coastal ResourceCommission the ability to protect environmentally fragile areas.

Thank you for your time, Susan Blackwell 441 W Bridge Lane Nags Head, NC

Math may not Add love or Subtract hate but it gives us hope that every problem has a solution." (anonymous)

From:	<u>Elizabeth</u>
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] CAMA RULES
Date:	Monday, February 19, 2024 11:30:28 AM

"Dear Coastal Resources Commission,

I am a NC resident living on the coast. Iam writing in support of the Coastal Resource Commission re-adopting all 30 of the longstanding CAMA rules (recently stripped away by the Rules Review Commission), BUT ESPECIALLY the 16

"emergency" rules, which are vital to allow CAMA to do their job to protect the quality of water and quality of life in coastal North Carolina. Please do the right thing for the people of NC."

Beth Duff Morehead City, NC 28557

From:	Julie Walter
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Environmental Concern (AEC) for Jockey's Ridge State Park
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 7:51:55 AM

I strongly urge the North Carolina Coastal Resources Commission to support the readoption of AEC status for Jockey's Ridge State Park. I am a resident of Nags Head, NC.

Julie

-

Julie A. Walter 252.480.1407 | jewels364@gmail.com

From:	Matt Doshier
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey's Ridge Development Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 22, 2024 12:38:31 AM

I am a lifelong resident of Dare County and I think the temporary rules on development pertaining to Jockey's Ridge should definitely be implemented. The dunes should also be replenished with sand, it's sad to see how the dunes have become smaller over my lifetime. If we can replenish the beaches we should be able to use the same funds to replenish Jockey's Ridge.

Thank you Matt Doshier

From:	Katie Morgan
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockeys Ridge AEC designation
Date:	Monday, February 19, 2024 10:52:02 PM

Good evening,

I feel sick to my stomach that I even have to write to you on this topic. Jockeys Ridge is a national treasure that is so unique. It is the largest living sand dune on the east coast and is a huge draw for tourism in Dare County. Why on earth would removing its protections even be on the table?

I'm honestly appalled and hope that you all do what's obviously the right thing.

Katie

From:	Annie Miller
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] Jockeys ridge development
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 1:48:28 PM

Good afternoon,

I writing you regarding the possible development of the Jockeys Ridge park. It has been brought to my attention that there is a possibility that the Jockeys ridge state could park to be developed. Jockeys ridge is a monumental landmark in the outer bank and it is also one of the things that make the outer banks whole. Many family and friends will grieve the memories made on the sand dunes and I think this will be detrimental to the little critters that reside at the beautiful park. Please my concerns. Thank you, Carolana Miller, 1044 George Daniels Rd, Manteo

From:	June Dixon
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge development
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 3:16:06 PM

Hi there, my name is June Dixon and I am a student at Manteo High School and a member of the SEAC club. I am writing you concerning the possible development of Jockey's Ridge. Ever since I was a child I have had a deep connection with Jockey's Ridge, I have gone from rolling down the dunes to watching a beautiful sunset with the people I love, I hate the thought that one day I will not be able to bring my children there to explore the wildlife. I will not be able to drive by the developed area without feeling my childhood slip away.

Please consider the people and environment,

June Dixon

118 Grenville St. Manteo NC, 27954

From:	alexandra klingelhofer
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge State Park AEC status
Date:	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 4:57:18 PM

As a former and once again current resident of North Carolina, I am personally stating my strong support for the readoption of Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) status for Jockey's Ridge State Park.

The Dunes are a focal point of the Outer Banks: used, enjoyed, and mesmerizing visitors and locals alike – but it was not always so. In the 1970's, the dunes were threatened by people who did not see their worth, but only the dollars they could make. I have been enjoying the dunes for over 60 years; I knew Carolista Baum; my father assisted in saving the dunes and creating Jockey's Ridge State Park. Yes, I have a strong attachment to the Park and am proud that until now the State has realized their importance by supporting its Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) status.

Even the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources recognized their unique qualities:

In 1973, the Division of Parks and Recreation issued a report in favor of <u>preserving Jockey's Ridge as a</u> <u>state park</u>, and a year later the dune was declared a National Natural Landmark. When the General Assembly appropriated funds to create the park in 1975, the preservation of the dune was secured for generations to come.

Thus, Jockey's Ridge is not only a State Park with protections but a National Natural Landmark. Preservation of the area is important on many levels, but it is also easily damaged by policies that may seem well-intended but allow for quiet inroads into the protections that preserve our State's unique treasure.

I respectfully request the North Carolina Coastal Resources Commission to whole-heartedly support the readoption of Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) status for Jockey's Ridge State Park.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Klingelhofer

2610 S. Bridge Lane

Nags Head, NC 27959

From:	Haley Heard
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge State Park Protection
Date:	Thursday, February 22, 2024 10:19:49 AM

## Good afternoon Ms. Willis,

I am writing regarding the possible change in regulations protecting Jockey's Ridge State park. I have grown up on the Outer Banks and am very familiar with Jockey's Ridge. I have many fond memories as a kid running up and cartwheeling down the dunes. Jockey's Ridge is a place where families come together to have fun and make new memories outdoors, which as our society becomes more tech focused is a very precious commodity. There is truly no other place that I have come across that is quite like Jockey's Ridge. That is exactly why I was so shocked to hear that Jockey's Ridge might have a change in regulations protecting the state park. Many people, including myself, would be brokenhearted if anything ever happened to this special place.

Sincerely,

Haley Heard

*Vice-President of the Manteo High School SEAC (Student Environmental Awareness Coalition)* 

From:	<u>Sebastian Rojas Abregu</u>
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge State Park
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 1:48:56 PM

Good afternoon Ms. Willis,

This is Sebastian Rojas - the president of the *Student Environmental Awareness Coalition* at Manteo High School. I am writing regarding the possibility of developments at Jockey's Ridge State Park.

As an Outer Banks resident, I believe that developments would negatively impact the environment through worsening climate change effects. According to the article "The Future of the Outer Banks: Climate change's effect on N.C.'s barrier islands," climate change has already started to affect the OBX through stronger storms, rising sea levels, and changes in the islands' vegetation. Developments would only increase these negative effects. Not only that but also, Jockey's Ridge State Park's importance goes **beyond** our **environment** and community, it also represents a very important piece of **history** in the area. Therefore, it should be considered as an area of environmental concern, preventing any type of development and conserving history.

Sincerely, Sebastian Rojas Manteo, NC

From:	Skylar Edmond
To:	Willis, Angela; Lea Dixon
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 7:32:22 PM

Hello! I feel like they shouldn't pass the rule for Jockey's Ridge. I feel they should protect Jockey's Ridge and all of the sites in Nags Head.

Thank you, Skylar Edmond

From:	Macey Chovaz
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockeys Ridge/ temporary rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 7:40:05 PM

Emailing to urge Jockey's Ridge designation remain.

Macey Chovaz DARE county. 27949

From:	Gitzelle Enciso-Ramirez
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] New project in Jockey"s Ridge State Park
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 1:49:08 PM

# Dear Mrs. Willis,

My name is Gitzelle Enciso-Ramirez and I am part of Manteo High School's SEAC club. I recently read a news article regarding a new project in Jockey's Ridge State Park that was proposed. I am disappointed to hear that Jockey's Ridge could possibly no longer have as much protection as it does now. I live in Manteo but the town of Nags Heads is a very important place to me and many people on the Outer Banks. Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Sincerely, Gitzelle Enciso-Ramirez

From:	Robyn Stone
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Plz don't take our Jockey
Date:	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 9:42:22 PM

Please don't take away our giant sand hills, I took my son sledding on those sandy hills and my dog n self love running up n down the giant dunes! So fun, please don't destroy! Senserouly yours, OBX native Robyn Rachelle stone

From:	Frederick Smith
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Readoption of AEC Designation for Jockey's Ridge and Feeder Dunes
Date:	Thursday, February 22, 2024 4:39:28 PM

### Dear Ms. Willis,

I grew up in Raleigh and my extended family and I have visited Nags Head and Jockey's Ridge for more than 60 years. Four generations of my family have enjoyed the amazing outer banks and have climbed, hang glided and jumped off Jockey's Ridge every year. My late father, Dr. Henry B. Smith of North Carolina State University and a former chair of the North Carolina Mining Council, worked with local jeweller Carolista Baum and many others to protect Jockey's Ridge and its feeder dunes, culminating in the establishment of the State Park.

Back then, someone had the bright idea to remove the dunes to supply sand for a glass factory. Now I suspect it has captured the eye of real estate developers. As I've understood it, the dunes are held in place by variable wind currents that keep them in place but change their character every year. It is unknown how nearby development might affect this delicate balance and whether the dunes would remain in place with development impact on wind currents. This is why Jockey's Ridge and its feeder dunes require protection.

Natural and Cultural AECs are defined as 'areas containing environmental, natural or cultural resources of more than local significance in which uncontrolled or incompatible development could result in major or irreversible damage to natural systems or cultural resources, scientific, eucational, or associative values or aesthetic qualities' (15A NCAC 07H.0501). Jockey's Ridge ticks all of these boxes. It is a natural and environmental resource of enormous significance to North Carolina and its heritage, and a natural attraction to millions of visitors drawn to its recreational, educational, and natural value. Pirate jockeys walking nags with lanterns to lure ships to the shallow coastal waters form the namesake, history, and lore of the dunes, Nags Head town and its unique worldwide attraction. I find it inconceivable that North Carolina is considering reducing the environmental protection it has previously given to Jockey's Ridge, endangering one of the reasons so many people choose to come here every year.

Experience has shown us that if we do not strongly protect our natural treasures they will be eroded by the unrelenting pressures of commercial development. Protecting Jockey's Ridge serves environmental, economic, natural and educational values as a protected Jockey's Ridge is a significant tourist attraction that brings income to the Outer Banks while preserving a rare geologic feature and its unique ecosystem.

I strongly support the readoption of AEC status for Jockey's Ridge State Park and the position of the 'Friends of Jockey's Ridge' in their statement in support of

readoption.

**Please readopt the AEC designation for Jockey's Ridge State Park.** Do not take a step backward and risk the future of a North Carolina treasure. Roughly 50 years ago, it was protected from being hauled off to make glass, let's protect Jockey's Ridge for the next 50 years and all the people who will enjoy Jockey's Ridge and all the other attractions that OBX has to offer.

Sincerely,

Frederick W. Smith

From:	Betty Krikorian
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Supporting AEC designation of Jockey's Ridge
Date:	Thursday, February 22, 2024 2:41:14 PM

# Dear Ms. Willis,

My family and I have been visiting Jockey's Ridge for over 60 years and it is a beloved place for three generations of us. My late father, Dr. Henry B. Smith of North Carolina State University, worked with Carolista Baum to protect Jockey's Ridge and its feeder dunes, culminating in the establishment of the State Park. I find it inconceivable that North Carolina is considering reducing the environmental protection it has previously given to Jockey's Ridge. Experience has shown us that if we do not strongly protect our natural treasures they will be eroded by the unrelenting pressures of commercial development. Protecting Jockey's Ridge serves both environmental and economic values as a protected Jockey's Ridge is a significant tourist attraction that brings income to the Outer Banks while preserving a rare geologic feature and its unique ecosystem.

I strongly support the position of the 'Friends of Jockey's Ridge' stated below.

"Craig Honeycutt, Chairman of the Board, stated in a letter to the Coastal Resources Commission, "The recent decision by the Rules Review Commission to potentially remove this crucial designation poses a significant threat to the environmental integrity and long-term well-being of this unique coastal geologic formation."

The AEC designation acknowledges Jockey's Ridge as a unique coastal geologic formation and places it under environmental protection. It is a critical piece to the preservation of the landmark from possible development, as well as maintaining migrating sand off property be replenished to the dune. Removing this designation could be detrimental to this local landmark visited by over 1 million visitors each year.

The Board of Directors strongly urges the North Carolina Coastal Resources Commission to support the readoption of AEC status for Jockey's Ridge State Park."

Please readopt the AEC designation for Jockey's Ridge State Park. Do not take a step backward and risk the future of a North Carolina treasure.

Sincerely,

Betty L. Krikorian

From:	Sarah Harrison
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External]
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 1:47:31 PM

Hi my name is Sarah Sage Harrison and I am a student at Manteo High School and A member of the Seac club. I am Writing you concerning the possible development of Jockey's Ridge. This very much concerns me because ever since I was a little girl I have absolutely loved Jockey's Ridge. Me and my friends would bring our boogie boards and we would skim down the steepest of hills and it truly brings me joy to this day. This makes me so sad to think that my kids and future generations will not be able to experience the joy and the imagination that comes with Jockey's Ridge. Please consider my concerns. The OBX wouldn't be the same without it. Thank You.

-Sarah Sage Harrison

From:	Grace Godwin
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] temporary rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 1:41:54 PM

### Dear,

Ms. Willis

My name is Grace Godwin and I am a part of the Manteo High School seac club I am emailing you concerning the recently released article on Jockeys Ridge. I believe that Jockeys Ridge should remain protected from development. Jockey Ridge is one of the largest dunes on the east coast I feel like we should be preserving them. while nothing has been set in stone about development on a jockeys ridge I don't think that it should ever be a possibility it is a state park and should stay that way for future generations to cherish and love.

Sincerely

Grace Godwin

144 Sunnyside Dr

From:	Grace Godwin
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] temporary rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 1:41:54 PM

### Dear,

Ms. Willis

My name is Grace Godwin and I am a part of the Manteo High School seac club I am emailing you concerning the recently released article on Jockeys Ridge. I believe that Jockeys Ridge should remain protected from development. Jockey Ridge is one of the largest dunes on the east coast I feel like we should be preserving them. while nothing has been set in stone about development on a jockeys ridge I don't think that it should ever be a possibility it is a state park and should stay that way for future generations to cherish and love.

Sincerely

Grace Godwin

144 Sunnyside Dr

From:	Heather Boney
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 2:14:42 PM

Dear Coastal Resources Commission-

I am a NC resident living on the coast. I am writing in support of the Coastal Resource Commission re-adopting all 30 of the longstanding CAMA rules (recently stripped away by the Rules Review Commission), BUT ESPECIALLY the 16 "emergency" rules, which are vital to allow CAMA to do their job to protect the quality of water and quality of life in coastal North Carolina. Please do the right thing for the people of NC."

Do you love the NC coast? Bird watching? Seeing dolphins? Swimming and fishing in clean water? Eating good local seafood?

# Heather

Heather Boney Life Enrichment Coordinator Carteret Community College - ConEd 252-222-6207 office 919-612-5236 cell



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From:	Emile Cumpston
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 3:01:04 PM

It has come to my attention that an Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) designation is needed to protect Jockey's Ridge State Park in Nags Head, NC in order to preserve the unique environmental, historical value, cultural and economic impact of the park. As a permanent resident of Dare County, I support the AEC designation and hope that the State of NC will value this landmark as much as the residents and millions of tourists have throughout time.

There are many reasons to designate Jockey's Ridge as an AEC including environmental concerns. Jockey's Ridge is a part of three different ecosystems including Roanoke Sound, the maritime forest that surrounds it and the sand dunes themselves. However, there are also historical reasons to protect the park. Jockey's Ridge is a part of Outer Banks maritime history due to the fact it was the tallest structure around and was used as a landmark for navigational purposes. Legend has it that the Wright Brothers also explored Jockey's Ridge in order to choose an area for their flight experiments due to its high vantage points that provided insight not easily found without climbing the dunes.

The importance of protecting Jockey's Ridge is profound in many ways including that it is a part of the culture of Dare County. So many people continue to discover the uniqueness of the park and find solace being at the top of the "Ridge" to enjoy the magnificent sunsets. They also continue to appreciate just having an open space to play and participate in hang gliding and flying a kite with family and friends. Visitors come to the Outer Banks not just to be on the beach but to also visit Jockey's Ridge and connect with a unique part of nature that is over 3000 years old. Jockey's Ridge has become a relevant and vital part of the economy on the Outer Banks due to the many jobs and yearly festivals that are associated with its presence.

What a joy it is to have Jockey's Ridge be a part of Dare County. It is a part of a fragile ecosystem, it is a bridge to our past, it provides a cultural opportunity for locals and our millions of visitors which also contributes to the economy of our area.

Please protect our beloved Jockey's Ridge for generations to come by designating it as an "Area of Environmental Concern."

Thank you for your consideration

Ms. Emile Cumpston 206 Old Main Road Manteo, NC 27954 Dare County, NC

From:	<u>Nikki Deane</u>
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 7:35:57 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

As a resident of the Outer Banks and a business owner in Nags Head, my vote is to keep the rules in place! Not quite understanding why something so iconic would not be protected anymore. It is the duty of the citizens and public officials to keep areas like Jockeys Ridge and Nags Head Woods protected from development. Thank you.

Nikki Bradley Secret Spot Surf Shop 252-441-4030 Sent from my iPhone

From:	Jami McCall
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 7:40:35 AM

To whom it may concern:

Please continue the Coastal Resource Commission's authority to create zones labeled as Areas of Environmental Concern (AEC) especially in respect to Jockey's Ridge State Park located in Nags Head, NC. I have been a resident of Dare County for over 35 years and I am very concerned about environmental areas being preserved! Please consider my opinion when making your decision regarding this issue. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Jami McCall

From:	Mays Roger
To:	Willis, Angela
Cc:	Carteretcounty Wildlifeclub
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 12:54:40 PM

21 February 2024

TO: NC Coastal Resources Commission

FROM: Carteret County Wildlife Club, Roger Mays, mays52@yahoo.com, 252-723-1612

Re-adoption of Coastal Area Management Act rules is essential for safeguarding North Carolina's coastal areas. A number of longstanding rules that were stricken from the state Administrative Code must be restored.

These regulations ensure responsible and sustainable coastal development. These rules protect vital natural resources, guide permit processes, and maintain the delicate balance between development and conservation. Federal funding under the Coastal Zone Management Act is based on a strong state regulatory program. These rules maintain a robust, protective, and federally compliant coastal management program.

CAMA rules help protect natural places as Jockey's Ridge and Permuda Island Reserve near Topsail Island. With strong rules the state can influence on major projects such as offshore drilling and seismic blasting tests.

These rules regulate land and water use. These rules safeguard coastal fisheries by guiding responsible development and wise use of marine resources. North Carolina's fishing industry relies on the ecological health of its waters. Clear guidelines for coastal development prevent pollution, preserve habitats, and maintain healthy aquatic environments.

Adoption of these CAMA rules protects the water quality that sustains marine life, supports local economies, and ensures the well-being of coastal communities.

The Carteret County Wildlife Club supports strong state oversight of our valuable coastal resources.

From:	Sam Carey
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 22, 2024 7:28:26 PM

A. Willis,

I support the work that the Coastal Resources Committee does. The ability to create zones of environmental protection is critical to the health and protection of our natural resources on the Outer Banks.

Sincerely, Sam Carey

Sam Carey 430 W. Palmetto St. Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948 410-960-4897 sam@tr2corp.com

From:	Mollie Vann
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary rules
Date:	Thursday, February 22, 2024 4:33:03 PM

Hi Angela,

I'm writing as a resident of Kill Devil Hills to show my support for Jockeys Ridge as an AEC/area of environmental concern.

This unique environment must continue to be protected for generations to come, and without the AECs this area requires, it could easily lose its soul.

Thank you, Mollie Vann

From:	Valerie Netsch
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 22, 2024 10:31:01 AM

#### Dear Angela,

I am unsure of the politics as to why now the North Carolina Rules Review Commission has determined the state's Coastal Resource Commission does not have the authority to create zones of Area Environmental Concern. This shift is unacceptable period. AEC are extremely important in preserving areas of protection such as our beautiful Jockey's Ridge State Park, thee most attended State Park in North Carolina. The CRC has carefully established and reviewed AEC in order to protect our living shoreline, and protect our delicate balance of infrastructure systems. I am wildly concerned that other AEC established here in Nags Head and in other adjacent towns will come under scrutiny which could change the fabric of our life here as residents and visitors alike.

Please do not allow the North Carolina Rules Review Commission to take away any authority from the CRC! The town of Nags Head has done an excellent job of preserving our towns character while maintaining acceptable building construction codes, setbacks etc to preserve and protect our natural resources. This would not be possible if the CRC did not establish necessary AEC. The CRC must maintain their authority to continue necessary efforts of protection here in Nags Head and all neighboring towns of the Outer Banks of NC.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns.

Sincerely, Valerie Netsch

From:	Grant Tyler
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 22, 2024 6:26:38 AM

# Hi Ms. Willis,

I'm emailing to emphasize my support for the continuation of AEC designation for Jockey's Ridge in Nags Head, NC. This is a unique geologic feature and plays a key part in our community identity - it would be a huge mistake to allow development in this area. The pressures of over development are too great to allow any kind of loophole at all.

Thank you for recording my comment,

Grant Tyler Kill Devil Hills, NC

From:	David Hill
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 22, 2024 5:42:40 AM

Ms. Willis:

Please enact the Temporary or Emergency rules that the Coastal Resources Commission is attempting to restore to the state Administrative Code after they were recently removed by the NC General Assembly. These rules (and the other 14 others that were removed) are critical to protecting coastal resources such as habitat, fisheries, recreation areas, human development, offshore energy sources, etc. resources which affect the environment and humans alike. These rules protect these resources now and in the future from threats to their quality.

I have spent 2 weeks in the last 4 months visiting Oak Island, NC. It is a state treasure that these rules help to protect.

Thank you very much.

David Hill Graham, NC

From:	Corey Schaible
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 22, 2024 3:27:48 AM

I strongly oppose and disagree with the idea to turn Jockeys Ridge into a development of any sort. I've been a waterman, business owner, citizen, and resident of Nags Head for 34 years and understand it's significance role in the protection of the Outer Banks as well as it's economical value. I understand that the only value that *matters* in capitalism is the economic value. Allocating any portion of Jockeys Ridge to development will assist in erosion. The pine tree forest surrounding collects sand and builds elevation creating an abundance of a mandatory natural resource many *scientist* overlook called Elevation. Once the forests are removed global warming is assisted, and elevation begins to diminish. There is not a need for more development residential or commercial Nags Head and it's hard to grasp that there is a mindset out there that sees otherwise. I know that a very large majority of visitors engage in visits to the OBX just for Jockeys Ridge. Families and friends utilize Jockeys Ridge as one of the few 'things to do on the Outer Banks'. Take that from them and you lose that economy. Enjoy your life and leave a portion of the natura world just that, Natural.

From:	Megan Lambert
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 11:59:05 PM

I am writing today to urgently ask that the temporary rules for AEC protections are put in place in for Jockeys Ridge immediately and permanent rules allowing AEC designation and protections put in place as soon as possible. Our Beautiful town of Nags Head takes a great deal of pride and works very hard to preserve the natural beauty and unique landscape of our town. Jockeys Ridge is not only at the heart of that but the entire park is located in Nags Head as well.

AEC designation protects not only Jockeys Ridge, as well as many other precious areas, and ensures careful examination of any activities and provides the necessary time to consider consequences by others actions . To say that it is very special to our visitors and our residents alike would be a massive understatement . It is for these reasons and many others that I ask that you please help us protect Jockeys Ridge and put the temporary rules in place until permanent rules allowing AEC designations and ultimately protections can be restored. It is a slippery slope we are currently on and I am certain if we do not act fast, the future of Jockeys Ridge (and other areas) could be in grave danger. Please help us protect what our community, our town and our visitors hold so very dear. Help us protect Jockey's Ridge.

Thank you for your time . Megan Lambert Sent from my iPhone

From:	Hayley Carey
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 9:09:32 PM

# Hello Ms. Willis,

I am a Nags Head resident and live in a neighborhood adjacent to Jockeys Ridge State Park, a beloved and extremely popular natural area unlike any other in the Outer Banks or the entirely of Eastern North Carolina. I also have a masters degree in coastal and ocean policy. Jockeys ridge an example of an incredibly fragile ecosystem within an already incredibly fragile barrier island system the idea that these regions or any of the surrounding areas should not be treated as areas of environmental concern (AEC) is shocking.

Thus, I am writing to express major concern about the possibility of Jockeys Ridge and other surrounding areas being stripped of the AEC designation and the questioning of the CRCs authority protect it as such. Please vote against this measure and ensure that restrictions on development and use in and around jockeys ridge and other Outer Banks AECs stay in place.

We're counting on you to listen to the thousands of local voices speaking up here.

Sincerely,

Hayley Carey

From:	Riley Lewis
То:	Willis, Angela
Cc:	Lisa Rider; Miller, Tancred
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules Public Comment
Date:	Friday, February 16, 2024 2:49:46 PM

Hello Angela,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. Please submit the following as a public comment on "Temporary Rules":

As a resident of coastal North Carolina and an advocate for community coastal resilience, I feel it is critical to protect coastal areas through the implementation of these temporary rules. The proposed temporary CAMA rules play a vital role in ensuring the sustainability of our unique environment, guiding responsible development, and preserving the delicate balance between progress and conservation. It's a commitment to safeguarding the legacy of our coastal heritage for the well-being of our community and the prosperity of generations to come.

The CAMA rules are pivotal in safeguarding North Carolina's coastal communities. These regulations are designed to ensure responsible and sustainable coastal development. By defining standards, policies, and guidelines, these rules protect vital natural resources, guide permit processes, and maintain the delicate balance between development and conservation. Their significance extends beyond local concerns, influencing federal consistency and funding under the Coastal Zone Management Act.

The ongoing debate surrounding CAMA rules holds profound implications for coastal fisheries in North Carolina. These rules establish policies governing land and water use in the coastal area. For fisheries, they provide essential guidelines for responsible development, ensuring the sustainable utilization of marine resources. The rules contribute to maintaining the health and balance of coastal ecosystems, a key factor in sustaining vibrant fisheries. Adoption of these rules are crucial for preserving the delicate harmony between development and the long-term well-being of coastal fisheries, influencing the trajectory of North Carolina's fishing industry and the ecological health of its waters.

These rules are pivotal in regulating land and water use, ensuring responsible practices that directly impact water ecosystems. By setting clear guidelines for coastal development, the rules contribute to preventing pollution, preserving habitats, and maintaining the overall health of aquatic environments. Adopting these rules is not just a bureaucratic formality; it is a crucial step in protecting the water quality that sustains marine life, supports local economies, and ensures the well-being of coastal communities. Careful consideration and endorsement of these rules underscore a commitment to preserving the pristine waters that define North Carolina's coastal identity.

Many thanks for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Riley Lewis (she/her) White Oak Waterkeeper
252-460-1450 | RileyL@coastalcarolinariverwatch.org www.CoastalCarolinaRiverwatch.org

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?	?		

Become a Member Today!

From:	Brent Nultemeier
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules regarding Jockey"s Ridge and Nags Head Woods
Date:	Thursday, February 22, 2024 11:21:42 AM

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab.

Please keep Jockey's Ridge and Nags Head Woods preserved as they are! They are aesthetically a crucial part of our small "charming" beach town.

Brent Nultemeier 188 Watersedge Drive Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948 Phone) 804-683-3123 Email) brent@BNdesign.us

<u>Casablanca</u>
<u>Willis, Angela</u>
[External] Temporary Rules
Tuesday, February 20, 2024 10:15:15 AM

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Coastal Resources Commission,

My family lives on the North Carolina coast. I am writing in support of the CAMA regulations. I feel that all 30 rules need to be re-instated but especially the 16 emergency rules. Please re-adopt all CAMA regulations to keep our coastal lands and waters clean, safe, and not overdeveloped. Please do what is best for the long-term of the NC coast and its residents and vacationers!

Mrs. Nancy White

Sent from my iPad

From:	Dale Tilson
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules-CAMA
Date:	Monday, February 19, 2024 2:32:28 PM

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### Ms. Willis,

On this, the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the N.C. Coastal Area Management Act, please restore ALL 30 of the rules that were pulled, but in particular the 16 "Temporary Rules" that the Division of Coastal Management needs to function.

As a landowner with wetland property, it is important that wetlands be protected, especially since the US Supreme Court gutted the EPA in that regard.

Thank you.

Dale Tilson 319 Durham Creek Ln Edward, NC 27821



**TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS** 

Land Where Flight Began

# **Resolution Supporting the Coastal Resource Commission's Temporary Rules**

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) was enacted in 1974 to protect coastal resources by developing regulations to protect Areas of Environmental Concern (AEC); and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to CAMA, the State established the North Carolina Coastal Management Program to establish a comprehensive, coordinated approach for the protection, preservation, and orderly development of the State's coastal resources. The management program is primarily based on the legislative authority contained in CAMA that established the Coastal Resources Commission (CRC) as a regional resource management body; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina has historically applied a two-tiered approach to coastal resources management through AEC designations, alongside management and coordination with State authorities and local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, coastal North Carolina has largely avoided many possible environment-changing disasters due to CAMA and its establishment and regulation of AECs. AEC creation requires a closer examination of proposed activities and interventions and provides everyone time to completely consider the consequences of particular actions.

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Rules Review Commission (RRC) voted to return 30 longstanding rules to the CRC on October 5, 2023, following the adoption of Session Law 2023-134. As a result, the Codifier removed these rules from the Administrative Code, ultimately resulting in the CRC and RRC currently in litigation to resolve the dispute over these rules; and

WHEREAS, the CRC called a special meeting on December 13, 2023, to consider temporary emergency rules as a means to reinstate these nullified rules in the NC Administrative Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the CRC developed 16 proposed temporary Coastal Resource management rules (07H .0507, .0508, .0509, 07I .0702, 07J .0203, .0204, .0206, .0207, .0208, 07M .0401, .0402, .0403, .0701, .0703, .0704 and .1101) for critical day-to-day administration of the North Carolina Coastal Management Program in response to the RRC decision and ongoing litigation. While the rules are not new, the CRC included amendments that address RRC objections. These amendments focus on what the RRC considered to be vague and ambiguous language, and clarified procedures, definitions, and citations addressing statutory authority. These amendments impose no additional requirements on the regulated community as these rules were already in existence as of October 5, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the CRC conducted public hearings on January 9 and 10, 2024, to accept comments on the proposed temporary rules, and has extended the public comment period on these rules until February 22, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the proposed temporary rules are necessary under the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA). The loss of these rules could trigger a re-review of North Carolina's CAMA program, which could potentially result in the loss of federal benefits, such as those utilized for beach nourishment projects; and

WHEREAS, the Coastal Resource management rules are necessary to protect valuable state resources, including 'unique geologic formations' and 'significant coastal archeological resources' found at sites such as Jockey's Ridge State Park and Permuda Island Reserve; and

**WHEREAS**, the CRC's objective is to preserve unique resources, such as these heritage sites that are more than just of local significance, to ensure that the areas and their natural processes shall be preserved for and be accessible to the scientific and educational communities for study purposes, and to protect their educational and aesthetic qualities; and

WHEREAS, the Coastal Resource management rules are necessary for the evaluation and issuance of CAMA permit applications. Loss of these rules could impact local governments' ability to collect permit fees and process permit applications in a legally defensible manner. Not only would this create confusion and inconsistency within permitting, but applicants would also be required to seek separate, individual U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits, instead of streamlined joint permits through the Division of Coastal Management.

WHEREAS, the Coastal Resource management rules create and explain necessary policies, and without these rules, the State may not be able to engage in consistency determinations, impacting its ability to govern beneficial use of dredged materials; and

**WHEREAS**, the loss of these Coastal Resource management rules jeopardizes North Carolina's ability to avail itself of federal consistency review privileges and federal funding under the CZMA that depend upon the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration's approval of the State's coastal management program; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners for the Town of Kill Devil Hills expresses its strong support for the implementation of the proposed Coastal Resource management temporary rules 07H .0507, .0508, .0509, 07I .0702, 07J .0203, .0204, .0206, .0207, .0208, 07M .0401, .0402, .0403, .0701, .0703, .0704 and .1101; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners urges the CRC to adopt and implement these temporary rules; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners implores the North Carolina Rules Review Commission to revisit its decision to nullify long-standing rules affecting the management of North Carolina's coastal resources. This 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2024.



NA John Vindley Mayor

ATTEST:

SEAL

James Michael O'Dell Town Clerk



February 20, 2024

Via Email Angela. Willis@deq.nc.gov Tancred Miller, Deputy Director Division of Coastal Management 400 Commerce Avenue Morehead City, NC 28557

Re: Letter of Support for Coastal Resources Commission Temporary Rules: 15A N.C.A.C. 07H .0507, .0508, .0509 15A N.C.A.C. 07I .0702 15A N.C.A.C. 07J .0203, .0204, .0206, .0207, .0208 15A N.C.A.C. 07M .0401, .0402, .0403, .0701, .0703, .0704, .1101

Dear Mr. Miller:

Please accept these comments in support of the above-referenced rules, submitted by the Southern Environmental Law Center on its own behalf and on behalf of the North Carolina Coastal Federation. Our organizations have a longstanding interest in maintaining and preserving North Carolina's coastal resources and in advocating for a robust and effective permitting program to authorize and manage responsible development at North Carolina's coast. The sixteen proposed temporary rules at issue in the current rulemaking are integral, longstanding components of the regulations that implement the North Carolina Coastal Area Management Act ("CAMA"), and without them in place, the State's ability to protect its invaluable coastal resources for the benefit of all North Carolinians and to receive certain federal benefits is jeopardized. Particularly now, as the State and the Coastal Resources Commission ("CRC") celebrate the 50th anniversary of North Carolina's highly successful and beneficial CAMA program, we urge the CRC to keep the program intact and fully functioning by adopting the sixteen proposed temporary rules currently before it.

The proposed temporary rules would still be part of the State's CAMA regulations had the North Carolina Rules Review Commission ("RRC") not inappropriately and inadvisably blocked the rules from readoption during the statutorily required periodic review and readoption process<sup>1</sup> based on faulty guidance from its staff attorneys. We applaud the efforts of the CRC and the Division of Coastal Management of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality ("DCM") to re-adopt the rules as temporary rules to restore the functionality of the State's CAMA program during the pendency of the ongoing litigation challenging the RRC's unlawful actions in blocking the rules and undermining the CAMA program.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-21.3A.

## I. <u>The Proposed Temporary Rules Are Necessary Under the Federal Coastal</u> Zone Management Act.

The sixteen proposed temporary CAMA rules listed above should be promptly readopted to safeguard North Carolina's ability to fully participate in the federal Coastal Zone Management Act program.

Congress promulgated the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 ("CZMA") "to preserve, protect, develop, and where possible, to restore or enhance, the resources of the Nation's coastal zone for this and succeeding generations."<sup>2</sup> Congress found, among other things, that there are "important ecological, cultural, historic, and esthetic values in the coastal zone," and that "habitat areas of the coastal zone . . . are ecologically fragile and consequently extremely vulnerable to destruction by man's alterations."<sup>3</sup>

The CZMA creates a framework of partnership between the federal government and coastal and Great Lakes states.<sup>4</sup> The federal statute requires each participating state to develop its own coastal management program pursuant to federal requirements and encourages states to create coastal management plans that "achieve wise use" of coastal resources while giving "full consideration to ecological, cultural, historic, and esthetic values as well as the needs for compatible economic development."<sup>5</sup> When a state's coastal management plan is submitted to and approved by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Office of Coastal Management ("NOAA"), the state receives two primary benefits in return: (1) federal funding,<sup>6</sup> and (2) the right to review federal actions for their consistency with enforceable state policies.<sup>7</sup>

Through the federal consistency review process, states with approved coastal management programs are able to ensure that any "Federal agency activity within or outside the coastal zone that affects any land or water use or natural resource of the coastal zone shall be carried out in a manner which is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of approved State management programs."<sup>8</sup> Specifically, any applicant for a federal permit to conduct any activity affecting any land or water use or natural resource of the state's coastal zone must provide the state with a certification "that the proposed activity complies with the *enforceable policies* of the state's approved program and that such activity will be conducted in a manner consistent with the program."<sup>9</sup> A state may object to the consistency

<sup>6</sup> 16 U.S.C. §§ 1455, 1456-1.

<sup>8</sup> 16 U.S.C. § 1456(c)(1)(A). The term "consistent to the maximum extent practicable" means "fully consistent with the enforceable policies of management programs unless full consistency is prohibited by existing law applicable to the Federal agency." 15 C.F.R. § 930.32(a)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 16 U.S.C. § 1452(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451(d)-(e).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451, et. seq.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 16 U.S.C. §§ 1452(1)-(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 16 U.S.C. § 1456(c).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 16 U.S.C. § 1456(c)(3)(A) (emphasis added).

certification if it disagrees with the applicant's assessment of the proposed activity's impacts,<sup>10</sup> at which point the permit applicant cannot receive the permit unless they successfully appeal to the federal Secretary of Commerce to override the state's objection.<sup>11</sup> This consistency determination process allows a state like North Carolina with an approved program to weigh in on significant activities such as offshore drilling, military training activities, and harbor expansions that could affect its coastal resources, such as commercial fishing, tourism, recreation, and wildlife habitat, and potentially block those activities that will significantly adversely affect the state's values and interests.

North Carolina's coastal management plan was approved by NOAA in 1978 and periodically re-evaluated as recently as 2021.<sup>12</sup> It is comprised primarily of the North Carolina Coastal Area Management Act ("CAMA") and the rules promulgated by the CRC thereunder,<sup>13</sup> the North Carolina Dredge and Fill Law,<sup>14</sup> and local land-use plans of the State's coastal counties and municipalities.<sup>15</sup> Through CAMA, the General Assembly established the following goals for the state's coastal management plan:

- (1) To provide a management system capable of preserving and managing the natural ecological conditions of the estuarine system, the barrier dune system, and the beaches, so as to safeguard and perpetuate their natural productivity and their biological, economic and esthetic values;
- (2) To insure that the development or preservation of the land and water resources of the coastal area proceeds in a manner consistent with the capability of the land and water for development, use, or preservation based on ecological considerations;
- (3) To insure the orderly and balanced use and preservation of our coastal resources on behalf of the people of North Carolina and the nation;
- (4) To establish policies, guidelines and standards for:
  - a. Protection, preservation, and conservation of natural resources including but not limited to water use, scenic vistas, and fish and wildlife; and management of transitional or intensely developed areas and areas especially suited to intensive use or development, as well as areas of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 16 U.S.C. § 1456(c)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 15 C.F.R. §§ 930.120–930.131.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> NOAA, State of North Carolina Coastal Management Program and Final Environmental Impact Statement (1978), https://repository.library.noaa.gov/view/noaa/34175/noaa\_34175\_DS1.pdf; NOAA, Final Evaluation Findings, North Carolina Coastal Management Program: September 2011 to October 2020 (Mar. 2021), https://coast.noaa.gov/data/czm/media/nc-cmp.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> See N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 113A-100 to 113A-134.3; 15A N.C. Admin. Code ch. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> N.C. Gen. Stat. § 113-229.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> See, e.g., 15A N.C. Admin. Code 07B .0601, .0701-.0804.

significant natural value;

- b. The economic development of the coastal area, including but not limited to construction, location and design of industries, port facilities, commercial establishments and other developments;
- c. Recreation and tourist facilities and parklands;
- d. Transportation and circulation patterns for the coastal area including major thoroughfares, transportation routes, navigation channels and harbors, and other public utilities and facilities;
- e. Preservation and enhancement of the historic, cultural, and scientific aspects of the coastal area;
- f. Protection of present common-law and statutory public rights in the lands and waters of the coastal area; and
- g. Any other purposes deemed necessary or appropriate to effectuate the policy of this Article.<sup>16</sup>

The CAMA statute requires the CRC to adopt rules implementing its provisions,17 including by adopting rules that are "consistent with the goals" listed above and that establish "objectives, policies, and standards to be followed in public and private use of land and water areas within the coastal area."18 The CRC periodically updates and clarifies these rules.

Important here, the CRC's CAMA regulations largely articulate the "enforceable policies" that form the basis of CZMA consistency determinations for federal actions affecting North Carolina's coastal resources.<sup>19</sup> If the sixteen rules proposed for readoption as temporary rules and the policies contained therein are not readopted, North Carolina will lose the right to review federal agency activities under the CZMA based on these rules.

## II. <u>The Sixteen Proposed Temporary Rules Are Necessary Components of North</u> <u>Carolina's CAMA Program.</u>

Just as the CAMA statutes and rules are necessary under federal law generally, so too are each of the sixteen rules currently being proposed for adoption as temporary rules. In February 2023, after the CRC had engaged in its required periodic review and readoption of all the CAMA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> N.C. Gen. Stat. § 113A-102(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 113A-107(a), (b), 113A-124(c)(8), 113-229(c1)-(c2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 113A-107(a)–(c), -124(c)(8).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> N.C. Gen. Stat. § 113A-107(a) (guidelines to be promulgated by regulation are to be used for the "review of and comment on proposed public, private and federal agency activities that are subject to review for consistency with State guidelines for the coastal area").

rules, the RRC voted to object to thirty of those rules and therefore blocked them from going into effect. Pursuant to a change of law in October 2023,<sup>20</sup> those thirty rules were returned by the State Codifier of Rules to the CRC and deleted from the North Carolina Administrative Code. The blocking of each of the rules, and their subsequent deletion from the North Carolina Administrative Code, leaves a hole in the coastal development regulatory scheme that prevents North Carolina's CAMA program from operating as intended and leaves valuable coastal resources vulnerable to damaging development and other activities.

The health and beauty of North Carolina's beaches, fisheries, and other coastal areas are important drivers of the State's economy. For instance, one recent study determined that "North Carolina's wild-caught seafood industry contributes nearly \$300 million in value and 5,500 jobs to the state's economy."<sup>21</sup> Moreover, tourism spending in the State's twenty CAMA counties accounted for a whopping \$6.5 billion in 2022, with the top five coastal counties alone accounting for fifteen percent of all tourism spending in the State.<sup>22</sup> Without the reasonable and longstanding limitations on coastal development that the CAMA rules provide, the coastal resources that support coastal fisheries and inspire such high levels of tourism would be significantly impaired. As a result, the State needs a complete set of CAMA rules and a fully functioning CAMA program in order to preserve the coastaline's ability to provide these values.

Accordingly, we strongly support the readoption of the sixteen currently proposed temporary rules as the most necessary of the thirty blocked rules.

### A. The 07H Rules Are Necessary to Protect Valuable State Resources.

Subchapter 07H of the CAMA rules is entitled "State Guidelines for Areas of Environmental Concern" and comprises the rules that describe the various categories of areas of environmental concern or AECs, as well as regulations for how AECs are identified and managed. They form the bedrock of the entire CAMA regulatory scheme. The CAMA statute specifically instructs the CRC to designate AECs in different categories, including "fragile or historic areas, and other areas containing environmental or natural resources of more than local significance, where uncontrolled or incompatible development could result in major or irreversible damage to important historic, cultural, scientific or scenic values or natural systems."<sup>23</sup> The statute goes on to list "state parks," "public recreation areas," "[a]reas containing unique geological formations," and "[h]istoric places" as among those to be designated.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> N.C. 2023 Appropriations Act, N.C. Sess. L. 2023-134, § 21.2(m) (eff. Oct. 3, 2023).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Sea Grant North Carolina, *Demand for N.C. Seafood and the Commercial Industry's Economic Impact of the State*, <u>http://go.ncsu.edu/NCSeafoodDemand</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Visit NC, *Economic Impact Studies*, <u>https://partners.visitnc.com/economic-impact-studies</u> (select hyperlink titled "2022 County Level Visitor Expenditures by Total Expenditures," which opens a chart entitled "North Carolina – All Counties - 2022 – Sorted by Total Spending").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 113A-113(b)(4), 113A-101.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 113A-113(b)(4)(a), (g), and (h).

Yet among the thirty rules blocked by the RRC were the two that describe the "unique coastal geologic formations" AEC (07H .0507) and the "significant coastal archaeological resources" AEC (07H .0509), and a third that governs the standards for permit applications for development within those designated fragile coastal natural or cultural resource areas (07H .0508). Without these three rules in place, two important categories of AECs would go unprotected from development, contradicting both the General Assembly's specific direction to protect those exact categories and the broader legislative goal of preserving and enhancing the State's "historic, cultural, and scientific" coastal resources.

Significantly, these rules not only describe the AECs generally, but they explain how designation of those AECs may be accomplished. They specifically identify the area surrounding Jockey's Ridge as a "unique coastal geologic formation" AEC,<sup>25</sup> and Permuda Island as a "significant coastal archaeological resource" AEC.<sup>26</sup> The former does not simply identify Jockey's Ridge State Park as the AEC, but it serves to prevent development and sand removal activities near the park that would undermine and destabilize the park. Moreover, the rules also allow for additional areas to be designated as geological or archaeological AECs if and when additional resources merit such protection.

Without the rules defining these AEC designations and use standards in place, irreplaceable treasures belonging to the state and all of its people could be irreparably damaged or destroyed. As a case in point, a developer who received a CAMA major permit for a residential subdivision in 2022 is now complaining about the readopted rules protecting such resources. According to the complaint the developer filed in state court, the 2022 permit required it to investigate for archaeological materials on its proposed construction site in Carteret County as a permit condition requested by the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources ("DNCR").<sup>27</sup> The developer is now complaining about the readoption of rules 15A N.C. Admin. Code 07H .0508, .0509 (which cover use standards for AECs designated as "significant coastal archaeological resources" and allow DCM to require investigation of such AECs for archaeological materials), and 07J.0207, .0208 (pursuant to which DCM consults with other state agencies and incorporates limits those agencies propose as permit conditions). Although the permit was issued prior to the readoption of the rules currently before the CRC and is thus not affected by them,<sup>28</sup> the developer complains that the readopted rules will somehow limit its ability to construct a large residential housing development in an area that DNCR has determined to contain significant archaeological resources belonging to all North Carolinians.<sup>29</sup> As the developer's lawsuit makes clear, readoption of the 07H rules together with other CAMA rules is

 $^{28}$  Id. at § 59 (permit issued on July 28, 2022).

<sup>29</sup> *Id.* at ¶¶ 33–35, 49, 58–63, 68 (essentially claiming that 15A N.C. Admin. Code 07H .0508 and .0509, and 07J .0203, .0207. and .0208 are harming it by protecting an area that may contain valuable archaeological resources).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> 15A N.C. Admin. Code 07H .0507(d).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> 15A N.C. Admin. Code 07H .0509(e).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Cedar Point Developers, Inc. v. Coastal Resources Commission, Complaint ¶¶ 54–59, Wake County Superior Court 24-CV-121 (Jan. 2. 2024) (describing issuance of the CAMA permit and inclusion of the permit condition at DNCR's recommendation).

necessary to preserve those special places that have already received designation as AECs, as well as to enable the State to identify and protect additional resources and areas that could qualify for future designation as an AEC.

# **B.** The 07I and 07J Rules Are Necessary for the Evaluation and Issuance of CAMA Permit Applications.

The rules of subchapters 07I and 07J are essential to the implementation of a successful coastal management permitting program that functions at both the state and local levels. Accordingly, we support readoption of proposed temporary rules 15A N.C. Admin. Code 07I .0702 and 15A N.C. Admin. Code 07J .0203, .0204, .0206, .0207, and .0208.

Through subchapter 07I, the CRC created a system of rules allowing local governments to obtain funds necessary to implement approved local programs to issue and enforce CAMA minor development permits.<sup>30</sup> These provisions ensure that local governments are treated in a fair and equal way in their ability to protect their coastal resources and that less affluent localities are not burdened by the cost of implementing a local CAMA permitting and enforcement program.<sup>31</sup> The policies articulated in subchapter 07I include, in relevant part, the provisions of proposed temporary rule 07I.0702, which maintains a clear limit on the delegation of CAMA minor permitting authority to local governments by explicitly specifying that the scope and extent of a local permit-letting agency's authority is "limited to consideration of applications" proposing minor development as defined in the Coastal Area Management Act."<sup>32</sup> The regulation goes on to state that actions of local permit-letting agencies in excess of this authority shall be considered null and void, and that determinations of the CRC on jurisdiction shall be binding on local permit-letting agencies.<sup>33</sup> Far from being "unnecessary" as the RRC has claimed, this regulation is not redundant with or superfluous to the mandates of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 113A-117, § 113A-121, or related statutory provisions. Rather, the regulation outlines an important contour of the cooperative state-local permitting system envisioned by CAMA. Removing this rule sows needless confusion as to whether there have been changes in the bounds of state or local authority, and the CRC should readopt this rule to prevent overreaches of authority from either the local or state side.

Through subchapter 07J, the CRC promulgated rules establishing "procedures for processing and enforcement of major and minor development permits, variance requests, appeals from permit decisions, declaratory rules, and static line exceptions."<sup>34</sup> These regulatory provisions are essential to the successful implementation of CAMA's permitting scheme.

Perhaps most importantly, proposed temporary rule 07J .0204 sets out the procedures for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> 15A N.C. Admin. Code 07I .0102 ("Policy").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Proposed Temporary Rule to be codified at 15A N.C. Admin. Code 07I .0702.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> See 15A N.C. Admin. Code 07J .0101-.1206.

processing CAMA major and minor permit applications and modifications to such permit applications. This regulation specifies the required contents of CAMA permit application forms, including the required application fee for both CAMA major and minor permits.<sup>35</sup> In addition, it lists all the categories of information about a project that must be included in an application.<sup>36</sup> It also protects the interests of adjacent riparian property owners beyond the public notice requirements of the CAMA statute by requiring permit applicants to provide proof of notice given to adjacent landowners along with their application and requiring DCM to consider adjacent landowners' comments. The proposed temporary rule provides an array of detailed permit application requirements that are necessary for permitting agents to ensure that their decisions are made in compliance with CAMA and other controlling state and federal statutes.<sup>37</sup> Without the provisions of 07J .0204, DCM and local permitting authorities would be left to decide arbitrarily what information to require and consider for each project and could be left with insufficient information to make justifiable decisions about whether to issue permits, while the regulated public would not be assured of fair, equitable, and predictable treatment from one application to the next. Indeed, as explained further below, applicants or third parties could challenge DCM's consideration or issuance of CAMA permits without this rule being readopted.

If the CRC fails to adopt proposed temporary rule 07J .0204, no schedule will exist of required permit application fees for both CAMA major and minor permit applications except for the statutory maximum of \$400.<sup>38</sup> Without these provisions, both the regulated public and DCM and local government permitting agencies will be left in a state of confusion as to the authority of the government to collect permit application fees and how those permit application fees are to be set. The absence of this regulation would render local governments unable to collect permit fees and process permit applications in a legally defensible manner, and the entire permitting system may grind to a halt. At minimum, it would jeopardize the ability of local governments and DCM to continue to fund essential government functions to implement CAMA.

Other proposed temporary rules under subchapter 07J, including 07J .0203, .0206, .0207, .0208 also serve important functions of providing standardized guidelines for the contents of CAMA permit application components and requirements for the application review process.

The proposed temporary regulation at 07J .0203, for example, sets out standards for the required contents and formatting of project plans and work plats submitted with CAMA permit applications. Without these standards, permit applicants would be at a loss as to how much detail must be provided in their application and how fine of a scale their plans must be drawn. The proposed temporary regulation includes, for example, a mandatory scale of 1'' = 200' or less and specifies existing and proposed features and water depths that plans must show, including the

 $<sup>^{35}</sup>$  Proposed Temporary Rule to be codified at 15A N.C. Admin. Code 07J .0204(b)(5)(A) (major development permit application fees), .0204(c)(1)(N) (minor development permit application fees).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Proposed Temporary Rule to be codified at 15A N.C. Admin. Code 07J .0204(b)(1) (Major permit application), 07J .0204(c) (minor permit application).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> See, e.g., Proposed Temporary Rule to be codified at 15A N.C. Admin. Code 07J .0204(c)(1)(L) (requiring disclosure of relevant stormwater permitting information at the site of proposed development).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> See N.C. Gen. Stat. § 113A-119.1(a).

presence of wetlands in the area of proposed work.<sup>39</sup> These details are critical to ensure that local, state, and federal permitting agencies and members of the public who are reviewing the work plan have an accurate understanding of the full scope of the proposed work, and that other permitting agencies do not inadvertently approve a project that would have far more severe consequences than indicated in the work plan or a project that would violate the requirements of CAMA. For the permitting agencies to ensure that an application contains a sufficient level of detail without this rule being readopted would require a time-consuming ad hoc process that would waste state and local agency resources and foster an arbitrary system that inherently fails to provide for the uniform and fair treatment of permit applicants.

Proposed temporary rule 07J .0206 sets forth a requirement for public notice that serves an important function of protecting the procedural due process rights of other persons affected by permitting decisions of DCM or local authorities. This rule reinforces the high priority given to public notice requirements under CAMA and helps to inform the regulated public of their right to participate in permitting decisions. As such, it should be reinstated.

The proposed temporary regulations at 07J .0207 and 07J .0208 similarly provide for the thorough and consistent permit application review processes that are essential to implement the requirements and fulfill the purposes of CAMA. Section 07 J .0207, for example, requires that DCM conduct an on-site investigation and prepare a field report on each CAMA major permit and/or dredge and fill permit application it accepts for processing, share these permit applications with relevant state agencies, and consider comments and recommendations provided by those agencies on the application. The regulation also provides that DCM will itself prepare comments on these applications and may seek additional information from the permit applicant as necessary on behalf of itself and/or other reviewing agencies. These processes ensure that thorough and comprehensive reviews of major development proposals occur that are ground-truthed through on-site inspections by DCM and analyzed by other state agencies with relevant expertise. This is precisely what regulatory reviews should generally aspire to, rather than a siloed process of one agency that accepts all facts alleged by a permit applicant as true without so much as a field visit. This process is in accordance both with the statutory authorities of CAMA and the broader organizational purpose of the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality.

Moreover, the provisions of temporary proposed rule 07J .0208 similarly advance the purposes of CAMA and are in accordance with statutory authority. This regulation provides that reviewing state, federal, and local agencies may provide specific recommendations for conditions that they believe should be included in a proposed major development or dredge and fill permit pertaining to the operation and maintenance of the completed project to ensure protection of the public interest, which DCM may choose to include in the final permit. Under recent law, DCM must already provide legal authorities for any and all conditions applied to a CAMA permit. <sup>40</sup> Likewise, local permit officers may condition minor development permits upon amendments pursuant to this regulation. These enforceable permit conditions help achieve the balance between smart coastal development and resource protection that lies at the heart of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> See, e.g., Proposed Temporary Rule to be codified at 15A N.C. Admin. Code 07J .0203(a), (b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> N.C. Regulatory Reform Act of 2023, N.C. Sess. L. 2023-137, § 13 (eff. Oct. 10, 2023).

CAMA by allowing projects to still move forward while being specifically tailored to ensure that they are sufficiently protective of coastal resources in light of the particular circumstances and unique natural features that may be present in a given area.

In sum, the proposed temporary 07J rules represent such a large portion of the rules governing the issuance of CAMA permits that failing to readopt these rules would create unnecessary confusion, inefficiencies, and leave some significant coastal resource protections in limbo. This in turn can have repercussions for other types of permits for the same project. Most significantly, coastal construction today frequently proceeds under a "regional general permit" issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that authorizes individuals who receive a CAMA permit in one of North Carolina's twenty coastal counties to conduct the permitted construction without seeking a separate, individual permit from the Corps.<sup>41</sup> Without being able to proceed under the regional general permit, proponents of development projects with the potential to impact coastal waters or wetlands would instead be required to go through an additional, timeconsuming permit review process to procure an individual permit from the Corps under section 404 of the Clean Water Act or section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Like the CZMA benefits of funding and consistency, the existence of the Corps' regional general permit depends on North Carolina maintaining a viable coastal management plan and a working permitting program. Thus, if the proposed temporary rules are not readopted, particularly the 07J rules, then would-be developers will likely be required to shoulder the burden of seeking individual permits from the Army Corps of Engineers.

## C. The 07M Rules Create and Explain Necessary Policies.

As described in more detail below, the statements of policy found in subchapter 07M are well within the authority, and indeed the mandate, of the legislature to the CRC. The proposed temporary rules to be codified at 15A N.C.A.C. 07M .0401, .0402, .0403, .0701, .0703, .0704, and .1101 are particularly integral parts of the CAMA program, and, together with the remainder of subchapter 07M, support the state of North Carolina in consistency determinations under the federal CZMA law. North Carolina's ability to review federal agency activities under the CZMA will be compromised without these important rules.

As stated above and as described in more detail below, section 113A-107 of the North Carolina General Statutes charges the CRC with adopting guidelines to implement CAMA, including "statements of . . . policies" that are "consistent with the goals of the coastal area management system." Section 07M .0400 (subsections .0401-.0403) sets out the state's policies governing coastal energy development. Subsection .0401 requires local governments and agency staff to consider and implement the state's policies when issuing permits and making consistency determinations for federal energy projects. The state's coastal energy development policies have been crucial in guiding the state's evaluation of, and responses to, various federal projects in recent years and insisting that such projects conform to the state's priorities and regulations.

For instance, several years ago, the state of North Carolina objected to an application to conduct seismic surveying – with powerful bursts of sound from air guns for more than half a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> See U.S. Army Corps of Eng'rs, General Permit No. 198000291 (eff. Jan. 01, 2022 – Dec. 31, 2026).

year – for oil and gas exploration in a massive offshore area that stretched from Virginia to South Carolina. North Carolina objected on the basis that the months-long blasting would harm recreational and commercial fishing, tourism, research, and endangered species and would be inconsistent with the state's CAMA policies. On appeal by the applicant oil and gas consultant, the federal agency overrode the State's inconsistency determination, and so North Carolina sued the agency and the Secretary of Commerce in federal court for violations of the CZMA. Ultimately, the consultant withdrew its application to conduct seismic surveying, and the court vacated the federal agency's decision by which it had overruled North Carolina's objection.<sup>42</sup>

Thanks in large part to the strength of North Carolina's CAMA program and its statement of policies, which guided the consistency review of the proposed seismic testing by the Division of Coastal Management and its ultimate objection, the State was able to assert its interests and protect its coast from the long-lasting and damaging seismic testing project. Without the readoption of 07M .0401, .0402, and .0403, and their policies, the State's ability to object to and block inconsistent projects in the future will be compromised. The same policies from these sections also apply to other energy projects (or portions of projects) that may be inconsistent with the State's coastal management program, including offshore wind projects, drilling, and other such development. Indeed, the state is actively engaged in evaluating current proposals to build offshore wind farms off the coast of North Carolina, ensuring that these projects sufficiently protect the state's valuable coastal resources. Among other things, the general energy development policy in subsection .0401, which mandates that State decisionmakers "shall assure that the development of energy facilities and energy resources shall avoid significant adverse impact upon coastal resources or uses, public trust areas, and public access rights," and the more specific policies in subsection .0403, will provide a basis for decisionmakers to evaluate myriad types of energy projects with the potential to harm fisheries, tourism, water quality, and other North Carolina coastal values.43

Similarly, section 07M .0700 (subsections .0701-.0705) sets out the state's enforceable policies governing mitigation for the unavoidable adverse impacts and loss of natural resources caused by coastal development projects and directs that decisionmakers use those policies when considering permit applications and consistency determinations. And section 07M .1100 (subsections .1101-.1102) sets out the state's policies governing the beneficial use of dredged materials from projects to maintain and excavate navigation channels and directs that decisionmakers use those policies when considering permit applications. The State's ability to protect its commercial and recreational fisheries, tourism, beaches and other public trust resources, coastal water quality, endangered species, other wildlife, and other valuable coastal resources depends on the adoption of these policies.<sup>44</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> North Carolina v. Raimondo, 561 F. Supp. 3d 578 (E.D.N.C. 2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> See, e.g., Mobil Oil Exploration & Producing Southeast, Inc. v. U.S., 530 U.S. 604, 613, 622 (2000) (discussing North Carolina's objection to CZMA consistency certification for offshore drilling project); *City of Virginia Beach v. Brown*, 858 F. Supp. 585, 586–87 (E.D. Va. 1994) (describing North Carolina's objection to CZMA consistency certification for a pipeline related to a hydroelectric project).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> See e.g. Village of Bald Head Island v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 833 F. Supp. 2d 524, 527–29 (E.D.N.C. 2011) (describing North Carolina's consistency review of a project to dispose of materials dredged from Wilmington Harbor Channel and deposited on Brunswick County beaches by the Corps).

## III. <u>The Rules Review Commission Erred When It Objected to These Rules</u>

The CRC finds itself in the position of having to re-adopt these rules as temporary rules only because the RRC erred in its initial review of the rules as adopted in 2022 and in voting to object to the rules and block them from continuing in effect. The RRC based its objection to thirty CAMA rules during the periodic review and re-adoption process on three grounds, explained in three memoranda written by its staff counsel in February 2023. Each of those three grounds were based on egregious errors by the RRC's counsel and led the commissioners to act in violation of the North Carolina Administrative Procedure Act ("APA"), as explained in more detail below.

The APA states that, when an agency presents rules that it has adopted to the RRC, the RRC should determine whether each rule meets of these and only these criteria:

- (1) It is within the authority delegated to the agency by the General Assembly.
- (2) It is clear and unambiguous.
- (3) It is reasonably necessary to implement or interpret an enactment of the General Assembly, or of Congress, or a regulation of a federal agency. The Commission shall consider the cumulative effect of all rules adopted by the agency related to the specific purpose for which the rule is proposed.
- (4) It was adopted in accordance with Part 2 of this Article.<sup>45</sup>

The APA goes on to state that the RRC "shall not consider questions relating to the quality or efficacy of the rule but shall restrict its review to determination of the standards set forth in this subsection."<sup>46</sup> The three grounds upon which the RRC's staff counsel recommended objecting to the sixteen rules, while putatively based on the criteria above, were not in fact grounded in these exclusive criteria. Rather, they exceeded the scope of the RRC's authority and reflected the attorneys' striking misunderstanding of the law generally, and of the CAMA and CZMA laws in particular.

# A. The Term "Significant Adverse Effect" Is Not Ambiguous.

First, RRC staff counsel recommended that the RRC object to several of the rules that contained the phrase "significant adverse effect" or a similar phrase, on the grounds that it did not meet the criterion that rules be clear and unambiguous. The RRC staff counsel memorandum stated that the objection applied to five of the current sixteen proposed temporary rules: 07H .0508, .0509 and 07M .0401, .0402, and .0403.<sup>47</sup> The RRC staff counsel's premise was that the phrase is too ambiguous for the regulated community to understand and that it will subject

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-21.9(a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Memorandum from Lawrence R. Duke, Brian Liebman, and William W. Peaslee to All RRC Commissioners (February 15, 2023), <u>https://www.oah.nc.gov/significant-adverse-impact-memo/open</u>.

property owners to arbitrary regulation. The objection defied well-settled law and decades of implementation of the rules with no confusion of the type described by the memorandum.

The question whether an impact or effect is "significant" necessarily depends on the facts of a given situation, including for instance, the nature of the resource or use that will be affected, the size and nature of the proposed development or other project, the nature of its impact, special protections that may apply to the resource or use, etc. Consequently, the term is not susceptible to a precise definition that will fit all situations that arise. However, the CRC did define the terms "significant," "adverse impact," "adverse impacts," and "adverse effects" in 15A N.C Admin. Code 07H .0208 and .0308, and the RRC approved those definitions at its December 14, 2023, meeting. <sup>48</sup> Although doing so was not necessary, proposed temporary rule 07M .0402 has similarly corrected any imagined ambiguity by defining the terms "significant," "adverse impacts," and "adverse effects" – for itself and for 07M .0401 and .0403 – by using virtually identical language as the definitions that the RRC approved in December.

While proposed temporary rules 07H .0508 and .0509 do not similarly incorporate that definition, they do not need to, for several reasons. First, the phrase uses common English terms – significant, adverse, impact, and effect – that are easily understood by lay persons. Second, the phrase has been included in various places in the CAMA rules and implemented by DCM for decades without causing any apparent ambiguity or confusion for the regulators or the regulated community.

Third, all three branches of the North Carolina government have proven their ability and comfort with applying the terms "significant adverse impact" and "significant adverse effect" in a variety of contexts. Since 1980, at least seventeen North Carolina appellate court decisions have used those terms in a variety of contexts with no apparent confusion, including four Supreme Court cases<sup>49</sup> and thirteen Court of Appeals cases.<sup>50</sup> The North Carolina General

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> The language of these rules, as approved by the RRC in December 2023, is available in the RRC's archives at: https://www.oah.nc.gov/follow-matter-crc-final-revised-rules/open. And the annotation showing approval is available on the RRC's website at: <u>https://www.oah.nc.gov/approved-permanent-rules-december-2023pdf</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Sound Rivers, Inc. v. N.C. DEQ, 385 N.C. 1, 18 (2023) (Earls, J. dissenting) (describing how environmental agency staff made conclusions about how a proposed discharge of pollutants into a river would have "no likely significant adverse effects to aquatic life"); *Town of Midland v. Wayne*, 368 N.C. 55, 59 (2015) (discussing whether an easement would have "significant adverse impact" or "effects" on a property owner's ability to develop his land); *Beroth Oil Co. v. N.C. Dept. of Transp.*, 367 N.C. 333, 343 (2014) (describing trial court's conclusions about "significant adverse effects" of actions by NCDOT`); *In re Broad & Gales Creek Cmty. Ass'n*, 300 N.C. 267, 281–83 (1980) (discussing whether a dredging project would cause a "significant adverse effect");

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Davis v. Craven Cnty. ABC Bd., 259 N.C. App. 45, 49 (2018) (describing witness testimony regarding "no significant adverse effects" from a medication); EnvironmentaLEE v. N.C. Dep't of Env't & Nat. Res., 258 N.C. App. 590, 592 (2018) (describing allegations regarding "significant and adverse impact" of using coal ash as fill at open pit mines); Hagerman v. Union Cnty. Bd. of Adjustment, 258 N.C. App. 564, at \*1 (2018) (discussing whether operating an animal boarding business would have "significant adverse impact" on residential neighbors); State ex rel. Util. Comm'n v. Carolina Water Serv., Inc. of N.C., 225 N.C. App. 120, 124 (2013) (discussing whether an action of the utility commission would have a "significant adverse impact" on the rates of utility customers); Stark v. N.C. Dep't of Env't & Nat. Res., 224 N.C. App. 491, 512 (2012) (discussing whether a mining operation had any "significant adverse impact" on groundwater); Parker v. New Hanover Cnty., 173 N.C. App. 644, 658–59 (2005) (quoting 15A N.C. Admin. Code 7M .0202 without questioning its use of the term "no significant environmental

Assembly has employed the term in the General Statutes in a variety of contexts,<sup>51</sup> and several executive branch agencies besides the CRC have likewise used the term in their administrative regulations.<sup>52</sup> Last but not least, the term has been used in the CAMA statute and rules that the CRC has implemented for decades without causing confusion for agency staff or the regulated community.

In sum, for the RRC to have concluded that the terms "significant adverse impact" and "significant adverse effect" are impermissibly ambiguous and to use that supposed ambiguity as a basis for objecting to longstanding rules was unjustified. By blocking these five rules on this basis, the RRC was acting in excess of its authority and applying mistaken interpretations of the law.

<sup>51</sup> N.C. Gen. Stat. § 74-51(d)(5) (Permits [for mines and quarries] – Application, granting, conditions); N.C. Gen. Stat. § 78C-90 (Certificate of registration [as athlete agent]; issuance or denial; renewal)(b); N.C. Gen. Stat. § 113A-115.1(f)(4) (Limitations on erosion control measures); N.C. Gen. Stat. § 113-229(e) (Permits to dredge or fill in or about estuarine waters or State-owned lakes); N.C. Gen. Stat. § 113A-4(2) (Cooperation of agencies; reports; availability of information); N.C. Gen. Stat. § 113A-9(4) (Definitions [for Environmental Policy Act]); N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-215.120(a)(2)–(5) (Criteria for permit removal; time frame; permit conditions; other approvals required); N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-355.7(a)(6) (Water supply development; State-local cooperation); N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143B-437.01(a)(5) (Industrial Development Fund Utility Account); N.C. Gen. Stat. § 159C-7(b)(2a) (Approval of industrial projects and pollution control projects by Secretary of Commerce); N.C. Gen. Stat. § 159D-7(b)(2a) (Approval of project by Secretary of Commerce); N.C. Gen. Stat. § 159D-7(b)(2a) (Definition [for water infrastructure]).

<sup>52</sup> 1 N.C. Admin. Code 25 .0401(d), (e) (N.C. Environmental Policy Act: Environmental Assessment: Method of Compliance); 1 N.C. Admin. Code 25 .0502(3) (N.C. Environmental Policy Act: Environmental Assessment: Content); 1 N.C. Admin. Code 25 .0505(3) (N.C. Environmental Policy Act: Environmental Assessment: Content of FONSI); 4 N.C. Admin. Code 19L .1012(b) (N.C. Community Development Block Grant Program: Compliance Requirements: Clearinghouse Review) ; 15A N.C. Admin. Code 1C .0208(b)(2),(3) (Conformity with NC Environmental Policy Act: Incomplete or Unavailable Information); 15A N.C. Admin. Code 1C .0306(1) (Conformity with NC Environmental Policy Act: Preparation of Environmental Documents: Activities of a Special Nature); 15A N.C. Admin. Code 05H .1309(a)(3),(5) (Oil and Gas Conservation: Permitting: Denial of Application); 19A N.C. Admin. Code 02F .0103(1)–(3) (NC Department of Transportation's Minimum Criteria: Exceptions to Minimum Criteria).

impacts"); Clark Stone Co. v. N.C. Dep't of Env't & Nat. Res., 164 N.C. App. 24, 32 (2004) (discussing whether an entity's mining operations would have "significant adverse impact" on the Appalachian Trail); Visual Outdoor Advert., Inc. v. Town of Franklinton Bd. of Comm'rs, 159 N.C. App. 469, at \*2 (2003) (discussing whether proposed billboards would have "significant adverse impact" on neighboring properties); Steg v. Steg, 148 N.C. App. 717, at \*5 (2002) (discussing whether s medical condition would have a "significant adverse effect" on a person's future earning capacity); Shell Island Homeowners Ass'n, Inc. v. Tomlinson, 134 N.C. App. 217, 219 (1999) (discussing whether an installation of erosion control structures would cause "significant adverse impact" on adjacent properties); Rusher v. Tomlinson, 119 N.C. App. 458, 468 (1995) (Greene, J., dissenting) (discussing whether application of statute regarding "significant adverse effect" of proposed construction project); King .v N.C. Env't Mgmt. Comm'n, 112 N.C. App. 813, 817 (1993) (discussing whether an action would have a "significant adverse effect" on wetlands); Orange Cnty. v. N.C. Dep't of Transp., 46 N.C. App. 350, 364 (1980) (applying statute that used the term "significant adverse environmental effects").

# B. The CRC Is Not Prohibited from Stating "Policies" in the CAMA Rules.

RRC counsel also recommended that the RRC object to several of the readopted CAMA rules on the grounds that they stated "policies" in violation of a supposed ban on policies being included in rules. The RRC staff counsel explained in a memorandum that a "policy" does not meet the definition of a "rule" set out in the North Carolina Administrative Procedure Act ("APA"), insofar as the APA states that the term "rule" "does not include ... [n]onbinding interpretive statements."<sup>53</sup> The RRC staff counsel's memorandum applied this objection to six of the sixteen proposed temporary rules: 07H.0507, .0508, and .0509 and 07M .0401, .0701, and .1101. Yet this objection contradicts the clear words that the legislature enacted into the General Statutes, and the objection also ignores the fact that the CAMA rules to which they applied this objection state binding, enforceable policies that must be applied as specified within each rule.

In fact, the General Assembly specifically tasked the CRC with developing exactly the type of policies and guidelines that the RRC's attorneys erroneously labeled as objectionable. Section 113A-107(a) of the North Carolina General Statutes reads as follows:

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 113A-107. State guidelines for the coastal area

(a) *State guidelines for the coastal area shall consist of* statements of objectives, *policies,* and standards to be followed in public and private use of land and water areas within the coastal area. Such guidelines shall be consistent with the goals of the coastal area management system as set forth in G.S. 113A-102. They shall give particular attention to the nature of development which shall be appropriate within the various types of areas of environmental concern that may be designated by the Commission under Part 3. Land and water areas addressed in the State guidelines may include underground areas and resources, and airspace above the land and water, as well as the surface of the land and surface waters. *Such guidelines shall be used in the review of applications for permits* issued pursuant to this Article and *for review of and comment on proposed public, private and federal agency activities that are subject to review for consistency with State guidelines for the coastal area.* Such comments shall be consistent with federal laws and regulations.

(b) The Commission shall be responsible for the preparation, adoption, and amendment of the State guidelines....

(c) *The Commission shall mail proposed as well as adopted rules establishing guidelines for the coastal area* to all cities, counties, and lead regional organizations within the area and to all State, private, federal, regional, and local agencies the Commission considers to have special expertise on the coastal area.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Memorandum from Brian Liebman and William Peaslee to All RRC Commissioners, 1, 3 (February 15, 2023), <u>https://www.oah.nc.gov/memo-policy-and-rules/open</u>.

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(f) *The Commission shall review its rules establishing guidelines for the coastal area* at least every five years to determine whether changes in the rules are needed.

(g) ... As required by G.S. 150B-21.19(1), each guideline shall cite the law under which the rule was adopted.

As the italicized passages above show, the language of the statute clarifies that the legislature intended for the guidelines to be adopted as rules and explicitly directed the CRC to do so. Subsection (b) charges the CRC with adopting guidelines, and subsection (a) states that those guidelines "shall ... consist of statements of ... policies," and goes on to provide that those "guidelines shall be consistent with the goals of the coastal area management system as set forth in G.S. 113A-102." Subsections (f) and (g) speak of those policies being established by rules adopted by the CRC. Accordingly, the legislature, through the CAMA statutes, specifically empowered and directed the CRC to adopt policy statements as rules.

More generally, each of the six proposed temporary rules does satisfy the APA's definition of "rule." The APA definition of "rule" includes "[a]ny agency regulation, standard, or statement of general applicability that implements or interprets an enactment of the General Assembly ... or that describes the procedure or practice requirements of an agency." N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-2(8a). While it is true that the APA excludes "nonbinding interpretive statements ... that merely define, interpret, or explain the meaning of a statute or rule," the proposed temporary rules do not fall into that exception. Instead, the CAMA rules at issue each state a *binding*, enforceable standard. Moreover, they do not simply restate or explain a statute. That is, the CAMA statute directs the CRC simply to adopt policy statements governing land uses within the coastal area of the state to guide DCM staff and local governments as they review CAMA permit applications and comment on proposed federal activities for consistency with state priorities and regulations,<sup>54</sup> but that statute does not specify the content of those policies or even list all the topics to be addressed by those policies. The CRC, in adopting the CAMA rules, had to determine, considering the broad coastal goals identified by the legislature, which categories of land and other natural resources needed to be protected and which uses of that land needed to be addressed. The CRC had to decide, for instance, whether to set policies to govern land uses such as coastal mining, dredging, offshore energy projects, military training activities, and the use of coastal airspace, to name a few. The CRC then had to determine the content of those policies to guide agency staff and local governments as they issue permits and make federal action consistency determinations within those categories of land and activities. None of these decisions amounted to simply restating information included in a statute, and thus these enforceable policy standards do not run afoul of the APA as claimed by the RRC's staff counsel.

Each of the six proposed temporary rules subject to this objection does exactly what the legislature tasked the CRC with doing. They exercise the general authority given to the CRC, and they state specific enforceable policies governing various types of coastal natural resources

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> N.C. Gen. Stat. § 113A-107(a).

and/or regulated activities. They specifically instruct that those policies "be used in the review of applications for [CAMA] permits" and/or be used "for review of and comment on proposed public, private and federal agency activities that are subject to review for consistency with State guidelines for the coastal area."

For instance, subsections 07M .1101(b) and .1102 establish a policy governing the use material dredged from navigation channels; subsection .1101(a) explains that the policy is enforceable and mandates that local governments and DCM staff implement the policy when issuing CAMA permits, when "implementing the coastal management program," and when "commenting on federal permits and activities" in making consistency determinations. Subsections 07M .0401(a) and .0701(a) use identical language to mandate the enforcement of the policies contained in subsections 07M .0401(b), .0403, .0701(b), and .0703 to govern, respectively, coastal energy projects and mitigation for coastal development. It is not even clear how the RRC staff counsel's objection applies to subsections 07H .0507, .0508, and .0509, as those sections do not set out policies per se. Sections 07H .0507 and .0509 do set out "management objectives," but, like the policies in 07M, they are explicit, enforceable, specific, and not merely duplicative of the statute.

In sum, by creating enforceable policies and adopting them as rules, the CRC is acting exactly as directed by the legislature. By blocking these six rules on the grounds that the CRC cannot do so, the RRC was acting in excess of its authority and applying mistaken interpretations of the law.

## C. The CAMA Rules Are Necessary.

Finally, RRC staff counsel recommended that the RRC object to several of the rules on the grounds that each one was not necessary because, in the counsel's opinion, "the content of the rule is entirely, or in substantial part, a repetition of statutory language found in Chapter 113A of the General Statutes."<sup>55</sup> The RRC staff counsel's memorandum stated that this "necessity" objection applied to two of the current sixteen temporary rules: 07I .0702 and 07J .0206. Specifically, the memorandum states that the former (07I .0702) codifies a "common maxim of black letter law that an action taken without jurisdiction is void *ab initio*."<sup>56</sup> Yet, because all of the members of the regulated community cannot be assumed to have attended law school or be familiar with "common black letter law," the CRC is doing a service to the regulated community. The rule clarifies what will happen if a local government entity attempts to exceed its purview of considering applications for minor development permits and notifies the members of the regulated community that they can appeal to the CRC for recourse in that event. In so doing, the rule does not merely repeat the contents of a statute.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Memorandum from Brian Liebman to All RRC Commissioners (February 14, 2023), <u>https://www.oah.nc.gov/significant-adverse-impact-memo/open</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> Id. at 2.

Similarly, the RRC staff counsel memorandum states that one of the sentences of 07J .0206 merely did "little more than repeat" information from a statute regarding notice to the public of significant modifications to major permit applications.<sup>57</sup> Yet that information was helpful to anyone interested in knowing how to get information about permit applications that could affect them. In a triumph of form over substance, the RRC's objection caused the CRC to remove the repetitious language and insert a simple reference to the statute in its place, forcing members of the public to divine what the referenced statute regards, determine whether it might be relevant to them, and then go look it up in the General Statutes. Thanks to the RRC, any repetition in the rule has been removed, and inconvenience and opacity have been substituted in its place.

By blocking these two rules on the grounds that, in part, they repeat information found either in a statute or in general principles of common law, the RRC acted in excess of its authority and applied mistaken interpretations of the law.

# D. The RRC Failed to Identify Specific Reasons for Blocking the Remaining Proposed Temporary Rules.

Finally, according to the "in re" lines of the three RRC staff counsel memos, none of them applied to the remaining proposed temporary rules (07J .0203, .0204, .0207, .0208, and 07M .0703 and .0704). And, in any event, for the reasons described above, those objections would not be valid grounds for the RRC to block these remaining rules.

# IV. <u>Conclusion</u>

In conclusion, we enthusiastically support the CRC's adoption of the sixteen proposed temporary CAMA rules. These rules constitute a substantial portion of the cooperative state and local CAMA permitting scheme that ensures that coastal development proceeds in a manner compatible with the preservation of North Carolina's unique and invaluable coastal resources, and the RRC's objections to these rules were unjustified. If these rules no longer exist in the North Carolina Administrative Code, then unique coastal sites will be left unprotected; both DCM and local permitting authorities will be unable to evaluate permit applications in a clear and consistent manner; prospective permittees may be forced to seek individual permits from the Army Corps of Engineers and will be more vulnerable to third party appeals; and DCM and local governments will be deprived of guidelines they use to review the consistency of proposed federal activities under the CZMA. For these reasons, as the State and CRC celebrate the 50th anniversary of CAMA, we urge the CRC to adopt the proposed temporary rules to help ensure that North Carolina continues to implement a robust, protective, and federally compliant coastal management program.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> *Id.* at 3.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

Julie Jourgman

Julie Furr Youngman Senior Attorney

Elizabeth Rashed

Elizabeth Rasheed Senior Associate Attorney

cc (via email): Mary Lucasse, Counsel to the Coastal Resources Commission Braxton Davis, North Carolina Coastal Federation

### Willis, Angela

From:	Carteretcounty Wildlifeclub <ccwc1985@gmail.com></ccwc1985@gmail.com>
Sent:	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 5:27 PM
То:	Willis, Angela; gnclev@earthlink.net; Michael.Lazzara@ncleg.gov
Subject:	[External] Coastal Area Management Act

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TO: NC Coastal Resources Commission

FROM: Carteret County Wildlife Club, Cindy Conlon, Secretary. Members of this group live and work in Onslow, Carteret, Jones, Craven, Pamlico and Brunswick counties in North Carolina. We are exceptionally concerned with the quality and sustainable management of the NC coastline.

Re-adoption of Coastal Area Management Act rules is essential for safeguarding North Carolina's coastal areas. A number of longstanding rules that were stricken from the state Administrative Code must be restored.

These regulations ensure responsible and sustainable coastal development. These rules protect vital natural resources, guide permit processes, and maintain the delicate balance between development and conservation. Federal funding under the Coastal Zone Management Act is based on a strong state regulatory program. These rules maintain a robust, protective, and federally compliant coastal management program.

CAMA rules help protect natural places as Jockey's Ridge and Permuda Island Reserve near Topsail Island. With strong rules the state can influence on major projects such as offshore drilling and seismic blasting tests.

These rules regulate land and water use. These rules safeguard coastal fisheries by guiding responsible development and wise use of marine resources. North Carolina's fishing industry relies on the ecological health of its waters. Clear guidelines for coastal development prevent pollution, preserve habitats, and maintain healthy aquatic environments.

Adoption of these CAMA rules protects the water quality that sustains marine life, supports local economies, and ensures the well-being of coastal communities.

The Carteret County Wildlife Club supports strong state oversight of our valuable coastal resources.

# Moore & Van Allen

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Tancred Miller [*by email and U.S. Mail*] Director, Division of Coastal Management 400 Commerce Avenue Morehead City, NC 28557 Tancred.miller@deq.nc.gov

Re: Temporary Rules 15A NCAC 07H .0507, .0508, .0509, 07I .0702, 07J .0203, .0204, .0206, .0207, .0208, 07M .0401, .0402, .0403, .0701, .0703, .0704, and .1101

Dear Ms. Willis and Director Miller,

On behalf of Cedar Point Developers, LLC ("Cedar Point"), we submit the following comments on the temporary rules being proposed by the Coastal Resources Commission ("CRC") to implement the Coastal Area Management Act ("CAMA") as set forth in its December 13, 2023 Notice of Temporary Rulemaking. Earlier, permanent versions of the rules now being proposed in parallel as emergency and temporary rules were first submitted by the CRC to the Rules Review Commission ("RRC") for review on June 15, 2022 as part of the decennial periodic review process of N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-21.3A. The RRC objected to the rules at its September 15, 2022 meeting and set forth those objections in a letter dated September 17, 2022. The CRC submitted changes to several of the rules on November 23, 2022 and again on January 18, 2023. The RRC renewed many of its objections to the revised rules during its February 2023 meeting, stating that the changes made by the CRC did not satisfy the RRC's objections. A February 22, 2023 letter from the RRC to the CRC explained the basis for its objections. The CRC took no further action to submit new proposed permanent rules in response to the RRC's objections.

S.L. 2023-134 became effective on October 3, 2023. Section 21.2(m) of S.L. 2023-134 stated that, for all state agencies, proposed permanent rules would be "immediately returned to the agency" if (i) the RRC has notified the agency that it has objected to the proposed permanent rule; (ii) the agency has not submitted a change to the rule to satisfy the RRC's objection; and (iii) more than 60 days have passed since the RRC first notified the agency of the RRC's objection to the proposed rule. Because much more than 60 days had passed since the RRC provided its objections (indeed, its original objections had occurred 383 days prior), the RRC requested that the rules be "immediately returned to the agency" in accordance with S.L. 2023-134. The rules were returned to the CRC on October 5, 2023. Less than a month later, the CRC filed a complaint for a declaratory judgment that the RRC's objections to its proposed rules were invalid. *See North Carolina Dept. of Environmental Quality, et al. v. North Carolina Rules Review Commission, et* 

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*al.*, 23CV031533-910 (Superior Court Division, Wake County, North Carolina) (the "CRC-RRC Lawsuit"). The CRC requested a temporary restraining order which was denied.

Rather than continue to address the RRC's objections or make additional revisions to the rules, the CRC is now attempting to circumvent the permanent rulemaking process and the decennial rule review process by proposing that those same objectionable rules be adopted through the emergency and temporary rulemaking processes. Importantly, the emergency rulemaking process – unlike the permanent and temporary rulemaking processes – does not require RRC review. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. 150B-21.1A(b), when reviewing emergency rules, the Codifier of Rules ("Codifier") must evaluate the proponent agency's statement of need to determine whether it meets the criteria for enacting emergency rules set forth in the North Carolina Administrative Procedures Act ("APA").

The CRC held a specially called meeting to discuss the emergency rules on December 13, 2023. The CRC then submitted the emergency rules and its statement of need on December 14, 2023 ("Statement of Need"). It was clear during the meeting that many Commission members did not agree that the emergency rulemaking was an appropriate method for returning the rules to the Code.

As required by the APA, the emergency rules are now being considered in parallel as temporary rules. The temporary rules contain the same statement of need as that submitted with the emergency rules. Cedar Point filed comments on December 18, 2023 stating its objections to the emergency rulemaking. December 18, 2023 Letter to Ashley Snyder, Codifier of Rules ("December 18, 2023 Letter to the Codifier"). A copy of those comments is attached for reference. For the reasons stated in our December 18, 2023 Letter to the Codifier, and for additional reasons explained herein, the proposed adoption of these rules on either an emergency or temporary basis is inappropriate, and the Statement of Need for each is insufficient.

### I. <u>The CRC has provided no evidence that immediate adoption of the proposed rules</u> is necessary or proper.

An agency may only adopt a temporary rule without adhering to the notice and hearing requirements applicable to permanent rules when it finds that (1) doing so would be "contrary to the public interest," and (2) the immediate adoption of the rule is required by one of the reasons enumerated in N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-21.1(a). An agency must also prepare a written statement of its findings of need for a temporary rule – called a "statement of need" – stating "why adherence to the notice and hearing requirements [for permanent rules] would be contrary to the public interest and why the immediate adoption of the rule is required." *See* N.C. Gen. §150B-21.1(a).

The CRC's Statement of Need justifying the temporary rulemaking inadequately explains how either of the requirements for a temporary rulemaking have been satisfied. In her December 15, 2023 response to the CRC in connection with the emergency rulemaking, the Codifier affirmed this inadequacy, stating that the CRC failed "to show that the notice and hearing requirements of temporary and permanent rulemaking are contrary to the public interest," and that "[e]ntering the rules into the Code without public notice or comment would be in direct conflict with Session Law 2023-134 and is not in the public's interest." December 15, 2023 Letter from Ashley Snyder, Codifier of Rules to Renee Cahoon, Coastal Resources Commission Chair (the "Codifier's

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December 15, 2023 Letter"). The Codifier reiterated this position in her subsequent December 19, 2023 letter. *See* December 19, 2023 Letter from Ashley Snyder, Codifier of Rules to Renee Cahoon, Coastal Resources Commission Chair (the "Codifier's December 19, 2023 Letter"). As the Statement of Need discussed in the Codifier's December 15, 2023 and December 19, 2023 Letters remains unchanged as to the temporary rules, it fails to satisfy the requirements in the temporary rulemaking context as well.

# a. <u>The CRC's Statement of Need does not explain how adherence to the rulemaking</u> process would be contrary to the public interest.

As we stated in our December 18, 2023 Letter to the Codifier, the CRC's Statement of Need has not adequately demonstrated that adherence to the notice and hearing requirements of N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-21.2 would be contrary to the public interest for the following reasons:

- 1. The CRC has argued that public notice and hearing are unnecessary because the Rules "have been included in the Code for decades and more recently, the public was provided an opportunity to comment during the periodic readoption process." See Statement of Need. This argument is unpersuasive for three reasons. First, whether the notice and hearing process is unnecessary or duplicative is not the statutory standard. The statutory standard is that the process may not be ignored unless following that process is contrary to the public interest. Second, the argument is disingenuous. We agree that the public had an opportunity to comment on the rules when they were initially presented for review on June 15, 2022 as part of the decennial periodic review process. However, during the course of negotiations with the RRC over the last almost two years, the versions of the rules that were presented on June 15, 2022 have undergone multiple rounds of revisions. The public has not had the ability to comment on those revisions. Third, as a result of the many rounds of edits, the versions of the rules included in the temporary rulemaking are *significantly* different than those in existence prior to the decennial review. Those differences include several revisions that could have a significant – and potentially detrimental – impact on the regulated community and that could make substantial changes to the way in which the CRC may be able to implement its programs, including by providing the CRC with more breadth to regulate stakeholders. For example (in addition to other examples provided throughout this letter):
  - a. Rule 07J .0208 no longer restricts the limitations that can be imposed on developments to those that are "reasonable."
  - b. Rule 07H .0509 was amended to make the definition of "significant coastal archaeological resources" broader by (i) going from stating that such resources "are associated with historic events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history" to now stating that they must simply be "associated with historic events," and (ii) changing the language in subsection (4) to state that they "may yield," rather than "may be likely to yield" to information important to history or prehistory.
  - c. Rule 07H .0509(d)(2) added language clarifying that archaeological investigation and resource management plans be "implemented by the applicant," where it was

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previously silent, which could impose significant, open-ended, and cost-prohibitive obligations on the regulated community.

By contrast, several of the other CRC rules that were reviewed by the RRC during the decennial process (and were since approved and retained in the Administrative Code) have only contained very minor changes. Unlike the wholesale modifications to several of the rules that are subject to this temporary rulemaking, those changes included addressing minor nits such as changing inadvertent references to "113-119.1" to "113-119<u>A</u>.1" or updating references to "the Department" to be "Department of Environmental Quality." *See e.g.*, Rules 15A NCAC 07H .1103, 07H .1203, 07H .1303, 07H .1403, 07H .1503, 07H .1903, 07H .2003, 07H .2103, 07H .2203, 07H .2403, 07H .2503, 07H .2703 (each amended effective January 1, 2024).

2. The CRC also argues in its Statement of Need that the temporary rulemaking process is necessary because without temporary rules in place, the state supposedly "cannot rely on these rules to issue permits for development in the coastal counties, make enforcement decisions, and can no longer review certain federal projects for consistency with State law pursuant to these rules." *See* Statement of Need. However, after the RRC objected to the rules in September 2022, "[t]he CRC did not satisfy the RRC's objections and did not request the return of the rules. As a result of the CRC's failure to act, the rules remained pending on RRC's agenda for over a year until the General Assembly stepped in." Codifier's December 15, 2023 Letter. The CRC cannot now invoke the emergency and temporary rulemaking process to address the gap in the rules caused by its own delays when there is no justifiable statutory basis for using that process.

Moreover, the CRC's Statement of Need fails to demonstrate how DCM's authority has or will be limited in the absence of the temporary rulemaking. The rule giving DCM authority to issue permits, 15A NCAC 07J .0201, remains in effect and is unchanged. The CRC fails to provide examples of situations where DCM was unable to issue or enforce a permit, or of which "certain federal projects" it allegedly has been unable to review. Instead, a cursory review of publicly available information indicates that DCM has in fact issued at least twenty CAMA major permits since the rules were removed from the Code on October 5, 2023. Furthermore, the Court in the CRC-RRC Lawsuit denied the CRC's Motion for Temporary Restraining Order, which similarly claimed that "DCM is unable to rely on and use the rules to carry out its statutorily required duties." (*See* Pls.' Verified Compl., filed Nov. 3, 2023, ¶ 81.)

3. Finally, the CRC argues that the removal of the Rules from the Code "severely impacts the commission's rules and creates confusion related to permitting procedures for the State's coastal management program and the regulated public." *See* Statement of Need. However, the CRC's Statement of Need fails to provide any examples of instances since October 5, 2023 when there has been confusion related to the permitting procedures or incidences when the commission's rules were "severely impact[ed]." *Id.* As we noted in our December 18, 2023 Letter to the Codifier, potential confusion – if it even exists – does not equate to justification for circumventing rulemaking procedures.

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At the December 13, 2023 CRC meeting, members of the CRC expressed doubt that adherence to the notice and hearing requirements would be contrary to the public interest. For example, Commissioner Hennessy spoke against the need to bypass these requirements and voted against the motion along with Commissioner Yates.

### b. <u>The CRC's Statement of Need fails to demonstrate that a "serious and unforeseen</u> threat to the public health, safety, or welfare" exists

Further, immediate adoption of the rules as temporary rules is not required by any of the reasons enumerated in N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-21.1(a). Specifically, the CRC has failed to demonstrate that there is a "serious and unforeseen threat to the public health, safety, or welfare" if the rules are not adopted immediately. See N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-21.1(a)(1)(emphasis added). The CRC does not point to any examples of "serious" or "unforeseen" threats to public health or safety that have resulted from the rules not being included in the Administrative Code over the last approximately four months. It states that removal of these rules would "pose a serious threat to public safety regarding the loss of protection of coastal lands and waters," but it fails to provide any support for this position, especially given that permits including requirements to protect such lands and waters have been issued during this period. Importantly, the CRC has also failed to even state, much less explain, how rejection of the temporary rules would cause an "unforeseen" threat to public health, safety, or welfare. Under N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-21(a), both showings must be made to bypass the permanent rulemaking process. Even assuming that the CRC has properly alleged serious and unforeseen harm, the CRC has not demonstrated that the inability to issue permits, make enforcement decisions, or comment on federal projects is a threat to public (human) health or safety.

Moreover, many of the proposed temporary rules relate to inert cultural resources rather than the protection of public health or safety. While such resources are critical in many respects, they do not meet the statutory standard for bypassing the permanent rulemaking process. The Statement of Need fails to explain how enactment of those rules through the temporary rulemaking process is necessary to address a serious and unforeseen threat to the *public health, safety, or welfare*.

During the December 13, 2023 CRC meeting discussed above, members of the CRC also expressed doubt that the temporary rulemaking process was required to avoid a serious and unforeseen harm. Again, Commissioners Hennessy and Yates voted against the motion, along with Commissioner Shuttleworth.

The CRC's Statement of Need is insufficient from a procedural basis, as well. As we noted in our December 18, 2023 Letter to the Codifier, the CRC has also failed to provide justification for the alleged serious and unforeseen threat that requires passage of each of the proposed rules. This is a critical detail, as the purported basis presumably would differ for each rule.

### II. <u>Even if temporary rules were warranted in this case, these proposed rules still fail</u> to satisfy the requirements of N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-21.9(a).

The RRC evaluates temporary rules in accordance with the standards set forth in N.C. Gen. 150B-21.9. See N.C. Gen. Stat. §§150B-21.8. According to the statute, the RRC must determine whether a rule meets all of the following criteria:

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(1) it is within the authority delegated to the agency by the General Assembly;

(2) it is clear and unambiguous;

(3) it is reasonably necessary to implement or interpret an enactment of the General Assembly, or of Congress, or a regulation of a federal agency. The Commission shall consider the cumulative effect of all rules adopted by the agency related to the specific purpose for which the rule is proposed;

(4) it was adopted in accordance with Part 2 of this Article [of the APA].

See N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-21.9(a). Even if the temporary rules were warranted to address some pressing regulatory need (which, as described above, they do not), they still fail to satisfy the substantive requirements of Section 150B-21.9(a).

### a. <u>The temporary rules are not within the authority delegated to DCM by the General</u> <u>Assembly.</u>

The temporary rules are not within the authority delegated to DCM by the General Assembly because they attempt to give DCM a means to regulate outside of their physical jurisdiction under CAMA, and they impermissibly give other state and federal agencies authority to influence the granting of and the conditions contained within CAMA major permits, which is not expressly authorized under CAMA.

DCM is only permitted to regulate development activities within Areas of Environmental Concern ("AEC"). See N.C. Gen. Stat. §113A-118(a). The language in the temporary rules attempts to expand the scope of DCM's authority to permit it to regulate activities outside of the AEC, as well. This is not within the authority that was delegated to DCM by the General Assembly. For example, 15A NCAC 07J .0203 previously included explicit language stating that DCM would not require subsequent permits, permit modifications, or other agency approval for work performed outside the AEC so long as the work performed was consistent with that described in the application. Removal of that language in the temporary rule version of Rule 07J .0203 could be read as an attempt to extend DCM's jurisdiction to areas outside AECs. This is not within the authority expressly delegated to DCM by the General Assembly under CAMA and is therefore improper.

The temporary rules also impermissibly give other state and federal agencies the functional equivalent of permit issuing authority. Specifically, as revised, Rule 07J .0208 states that reviewing agencies may "submit 'specific recommendations ... and limitations' on the work performed pursuant to these permits and on any operation or maintenance of the completed portion thereafter" that may in turn be enforced as "permit conditions." As noted in the February 2023 RRC Memorandum, this language "essentially circumvents G.S. 113A-118's commandment that permits shall be obtained 'from the Secretary' of DEQ or from the Commission and allows the permit conditions to be set by any other State, federal, or local 'reviewing agency." February 22, 2023 Letter from Brian Liebman, RRC Commission Counsel to Jennifer Everett, Coastal Resources Commission (containing February 2023 and December 2022 RRC Staff Opinions) ("February 2023 RRC Memorandum"). The rule does not specify which agencies could be considered "reviewing agencies," and it ostensibly gives DCM broad authority to unilaterally

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determine who should be considered "reviewing agencies." Not only is this authority not conferred by CAMA, but CAMA expressly limits the CRC's authority in this regard.

In addition to impermissibly giving other agencies the ability to dictate permit conditions, the proposed rules grant that authority to an even wider scope of parties. Originally, Rule 15A NCAC 07J .0208 stated that state reviewing agencies could submit recommendations for the proposed work. However, the temporary rule version of Rule 07J .0208 expands this provision, stating that "[e]ach of the state, *federal, and local* reviewing agencies" may submit such recommendations.

The proposed versions of temporary rules 07J .0207, 07J .0208 and 07H .0509 include references to incorrect statutory sections in its grant of reviewing authority, as well. Originally, Rule 07J .0207 stated that major development permits would be circulated "to the several state review agencies having expertise in the criteria enumerated in G.S. 113A-120." The criteria enumerated in G.S. 113A-120 are the reasons that the "responsible official or body" (i.e., DCM) shall deny an application for a permit. However, in the temporary rules, the language has been amended to state that the state reviewing agencies (or in the case of 07J .0208 and 07H .0509, the federal and local agencies, as well) to whom the permit application would be circulated are those "having expertise in the criteria enumerated in G.S. 113A-113(b)(1) through (b)(9)." N.C. Gen. Stat. §113A-113(b)(1) through (b)(9) set out the factors that the CRC may consider in designating an AEC, not the factors pursuant to which the CRC may deny a permit application. Thus, the reference to N.C. Gen. Stat. §113A-113(b)(1) through (b)(9) in this context is inappropriate because other state agencies do not have the authority to designate AECs, and because those factors are not the same as those in G.S. 113A-120, pursuant to which a CAMA major development permit may be denied. Further, Section 113(c) specifically sets forth the instances in which a specified agency is authorized to make AEC determinations. In this way, CAMA expressly enumerates the instances where agency input is permissible, and CRC cannot expand those instances by rule without statutory authorization. The proposed language purports to grant permission to agencies other than DCM to evaluate permit applications under a broader range of factors, when that authority is found nowhere in CAMA.

In response to the RRC's comments about lack of statutory authority, the CRC has attempted to revise the regulations to include statutory references in the "History Notes", apparently to give itself the authority the RRC has stated it lacks. These attempts are fruitless without express statutory authority, which does not exist. The CRC's justifications are unpersuasive as explained below:

N.C. Gen. Stat. §113A-120(a)(2). In Rules 07J .0207(b) and 07J .0208(a), for example, the CRC added language stating that its authority to solicit input from state and federal agencies on all CAMA major development permit applications derives from the need to "comply with G.S. 113A-120(a)(4)." References to N.C. Gen. Stat. §113A-120(a) were added to each of the respective History Notes, as well. However, Section 113A-120(a)(4) provides that the responsible DCM official or body – and no one else – shall deny an application for a permit upon finding, "[i]n the case of a fragile or historic area, or other area containing environmental or natural resources of more than local significance, that the development will result in major or irreversible damage to one or more of the historic, cultural, scientific, environmental or scenic values or natural systems identified in RECEIVED

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subdivisions a through h of G.S. 113A-113(b)(4)." See N.C. Gen. Stat. §113A-120(a)(4). Nothing in that statutory section requires – or even permits – DCM to circulate permit applications or solicit other agency input to conduct its review and determine whether to deny the permit application.

- 2. N.C. Gen. Stat. §113A-127. The CRC also added a reference to N.C. Gen. Stat. 113A-127 in both 07J .0207 and 07J .0208 in their respective History Notes. Section 113A-127 requires DCM to keep federal and other state agencies informed and to take certain actions in the event that their policies conflict with federal or interstate agency plans. However, as the RRC stated in its February 2023 RRC Memorandum, that section does *not* give DCM authority to consult other agencies with respect to permits and permit conditions. As the RRC noted, "review of that statute reveals that it requires only that State agencies 'shall keep informed of federal and interstate agency plans, activities, and procedures' and take 'reasonable steps ... to preserve the integrity' of their policies where they conflict with federal or interstate agency plans. It is staff's opinion that this does not resolve the existing objection for lack of statutory authority." February 2023 RRC Memorandum. Indeed, this provision references generally applicable policies, not individual permit decisions based on site-specific development activities.
- 3. N.C. Gen. Stat. §113-229. In Rule 07J .0208, the CRC added a reference to N.C. Gen. Stat. §113-229 in the History Notes. That reference was already included in the prior version of Rule 07J .0207. Section 113-229 refers to DCM's authority to issue dredge and fill permits but does not apply to the balance of CAMA major permits. While the statute grants DCM authority to seek input on CAMA dredge and fill permit applications, it does not provide authority for the CRC to invite outside agency input on all other CAMA major permit applications. The RRC commented as follows in its September 17, 2022 Staff Opinion:

"However, neither G.S. 113A-120 nor the statutes cited by the agency for statutory authority directs CRC to provide applications to any other state agency for review. While G.S. 113A-229 states that CRC 'shall' circulate fill and dredge permit applications 'among all State agencies and, in the discretion of the Secretary, appropriate federal agencies having jurisdiction over the subject matter which might be affected by the project so that such agencies will have an opportunity to raise any objections they may have' *this statutory provision does not appear to reach CAMA [major development] permits issued under G.S. 113A-118.*" September 17, 2022 Rules Review Commission Staff Opinion (emphasis added).

We agree that the statutory language on this issue is clear. The statute specifically references dredge and fill permits in the discussion of agency input, while at the same time, omitting reference to other types of CAMA permits. Moreover, the very section of the statute that gives DCM authority to solicit input is titled "*Permits to dredge or fill* in or about estuarine waters or State-owned lakes." *See* N.C. Gen. Stat. §113-229 (emphasis added). Plainly, while the General Assembly intended to give other agencies the ability to

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comment on dredge and fill permits, it intentionally omitted other CAMA permits from that grant.

Allowing DCM to seek outside input on all CAMA major permit applications, and to impose conditions on them resulting from that input, flies in the face of CAMA's directive that DCM make decisions and issue permits based on specific factors set forth in the statute. It also sets a dangerous precedent. Permit applications submitted to DCM have been circulated to outside agencies, and DCM has allowed such agencies to recommend and impose conditions on the work covered by those CAMA major permits. This practice gives other agencies outside of DCM the ability to regulate development or other activities over which they do not otherwise have any authority. This type of jurisdiction must be expressly granted by the General Assembly; otherwise, this interpretation could be used to open the door to virtually unlimited regulation of development activities through the mechanism of CAMA major permits.

#### b. The Rules are not clear and unambiguous.

In addition to lacking statutory authority, many of the proposed temporary rules are not "clear and unambiguous" as required by N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-21.9(a). Throughout the review of the rules, the RRC has noted a laundry list of terms and concepts that are impermissibly vague, ambiguous, and subjective.

One of the terms to which the RRC has specifically objected time and time again is the term "significant adverse impact." In response to the RRC's comments that certain rules were not clear and unambiguous, CRC added the term "significant adverse impact" to several of them. For example, other terms in rules 15A NCAC 07H .0508, 07H .0509, 07M .0401, 07M .0402, 07M .0403, and 07M .0703 (such as "shall not adversely impact," or "significantly impact") were replaced with "significant adverse impact." Despite the RRC's continued objection to the use of that term, including for the reasons laid out in the February 15, 2023 Memorandum from Lawrence R. Duke, Brian Liebman, and William W. Peaslee to All RRC Commissioners, the proposed temporary rules 07H .0508, 07H .0509, and 07M .0401, 07M .0403, and 07M .0703 still contain the phrase "significant adverse impact."

Again, the RRC stated the following with respect to use of the term "significant adverse impact":

"In the aforementioned proceedings before the Commission, the CRC consistently argued that 'significant adverse impact' was a term of art which had a meaning known to the General Assembly, the various environmental agencies, the regulated public, and North Carolina's courts. Nonetheless, the agency has repeatedly declined to articulate this known meaning in writing, incorporate it into its Rules, or provide specific references to this extensive usage other than citations to other equally opaque CRC rules, an inapposite statute, and a case which mentions but does not construe the term." RRC Staff Opinion dated August 14, 2023.

We agree with the RRC's comments. The CRC's argument that the term is a "term of art" that is understood by the regulated community also is unpersuasive. The CRC implies that the regulated community should and does understand the meaning of the term because they are familiar with it.

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Even if that were true, "terms of art" do not have meaning in law or regulation until they are defined (even if by reference to another source). This term is not defined anywhere in CAMA or its implementing regulations. Further, the term was not part of DCM's rules until it was added as part of the pending rulemaking. Thus, up to this point, the regulated community has no benchmark for what a "significant adverse impact" means in this particular context.

Without a definition of "significant adverse impact" or language clarifying how that concept is quantified and interpreted, the rules unfairly subject the regulated community to a standard that is vague and ambiguous. As the RRC noted, "[t]he result will be the arbitrary regulation of property owners against whom the process will be the punishment. Permits denied must then be either abandoned or litigated, both of which will have high costs for the regulated public." February 15, 2023 Memorandum from Lawrence R. Duke, Brian Liebman, and William W. Peaslee to All RRC Commissioners.

In addition, proposed temporary rule 07J .0203 states that "[n]othing in this Rule would prohibit an applicant from proceeding with work outside an AEC that is determined by the Division of Coastal Management to not have a direct impact on the AEC while a permit application for work in the AEC is pending, provided that all other necessary local, state, and federal permits have been obtained." Again, the RRC notes that the language is not clear and unambiguous because, by referencing "direct impacts," it implies there are also "indirect impacts," neither of which is a defined term. We agree. In fact, DCM recently has attempted to regulate activities in areas outside an AEC on the basis that such activities have to the potential to "adversely affect" the AEC. August 17, 2023 Stop Work Order and Notice of Regulatory Requirements re: CAMA Permit No. 79-22. Yet, there is no explanation in the rules as to what "direct" impacts are or how they are quantified.

The RRC has also objected to a number of rules because they contained vague and subjective language that was "a blend of ambiguous or subjective terms and policy language." Some examples of these rules are discussed further below. However, the RRC's objections to the ambiguous language in 15A NCAC 07H .0501 is particularly telling. The RRC raised concerns about the purported definition of "[n]atural and cultural resource areas" in temporary rule 15A NCAC 07H .0501, stating that "the definition offered is not only self-referential but uses terms that are subjective and susceptible to any reading the agency wishes to give them." February 2023 RRC Memorandum. Further:

"The agency does not define these values or qualities or give any explicatory examples. The agency does not explain what kind of development would be 'uncontrolled or incompatible' with these 'resources.' The agency does not state who makes the termination that any particular piece of land or water satisfies the provided definition. No term mentioned herein appears to have a settled meaning within Section 07H or within the portions of Ch. 113A cited by the agency in its History note ... the revisions [to the rule] leave such significant ambiguity that it is unclear whether CRC is adopting a 'rule' as defined in G.S. 150B-2(8a) or a policy statement." February 2023 RRC Memorandum.

The vague and ambiguous terms used throughout the proposed rules leave them lacking in the clarity that is necessary for them to meet the requirements of N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-21.9(a).

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Therefore, they should not be adopted until they can be revised with sufficient clarity that the regulated public will understand just how they are being regulated.

c. <u>The Rules are not reasonably necessary to implement or interpret an enactment of</u> <u>the General Assembly, or of Congress, or a regulation of a federal agency and they</u> were not adopted in accordance with the <u>APA</u>

The third and fourth criteria enumerated in N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-21.9(a) are whether a proposed rule is "reasonably necessary to implement or interpret an enactment of the General Assembly, or of Congress, or a regulation of a federal agency," and whether the rule "was adopted in accordance with Part 2 of [the APA]." *See* N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-21.9(a). The language in a number of the proposed temporary rules does not meet the definition of a "rule" pursuant to Section 150B-2(8a). Therefore, their adoption as rules would be in contravention of N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-21.9(a) because such adoption is not within the authority granted to DCM and they are not "reasonably necessary." Moreover, their adoption is not consistent with N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-21.9(a)(4), which requires they be adopted pursuant to the APA.

N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-19.1(a)(1) states that "[a]n agency may adopt only rules that are expressively authorized by federal and State law and that are necessary to serve the public interest." Section 150B-2(8a) defines a "rule" as "any agency regulation, standard, or statement of general applicability that implements or interprets an enactment of the General Assembly or Congress or a regulation adopted by a federal agency or that describes the procedure or practice requirements of an agency ...". Section 150B-2(8a) goes on to list several things that are specifically excluded from the definition of a "rule," including, for example, nonbinding interpretive statements or statements of agency policy.

According to the RRC, many of the temporary rules do not meet the definition of a "rule," because they are "a blend of ambiguous or subject terms and policy language." For example, Rule 07H .0510 attempts to define the term "significant coastal historic architectural resources." The proposed definition, however, contains ambiguous phrases such as "more than local significance to history" and "uncontrolled or incompatible development." As the RRC stated in its objections, "[w]ithout further specificity, this paragraph appears to be a mere policy statement." February 2023 RRC Memorandum.

The February 2023 RRC Memorandum contains examples of other instances of policy-type language in the temporary rules, as well:

"Paragraph (c) [of 15A NCAC 07H .0510] describes the 'management objectives' for these resources, and as in Rules .0506, .0507, and .0509, contains self-described 'policy statements.' As with numerous other rules in Section .0500, these 'policy statements' are expressed in terms of preserving or conserving the vaguely defined 'values' of a particular resource. For instance, paragraph (c)(1) [of 15A NCAC 07H .0510] states that the agency shall seek to 'conserve' these resources as 'a living part of community life and development ... to give a sense of orientation to the people of the State[.]' This is facially subjective and ambiguous language ... the revisions leave such significant ambiguity that it is unclear whether CRC is adopting a 'rule' as defined in G.S. 150B-2(8a) or a policy statement."

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Because several of the proposed temporary rules, including those described above, do not meet the definition of a "rule," they are not "reasonably necessary" and were not adopted in accordance with the APA. Should the CRC wish to develop and implement particular policies in relation to its goals of conservation and protection, and "for the protection of coastal waters," it can certainly develop and publish policies on its website, as the RRC suggested. However, such policies may not be adopted as "rules" and as such, may not have the force of law.

### III. <u>Conclusion</u>

For the reasons set forth above, the CRC's actions in pursuing the temporary rulemaking process for these rules as currently proposed is improper. The CRC has not shown the required justification for bypassing the permanent rulemaking process, and its proposed rules do not meet applicable legal requirements. The RRC has already notified the CRC that its proposed rules exceed its statutory authority, are vague and ambiguous, and are not reasonably necessary in violation of N.C. Gen. Stat. 150B-21.9(a), and we urge the CRC to acknowledge these deficiencies and revise its rules accordingly.

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Mary Katherine Stukes

Enclosure

cc:

Christine Goebel, Esq., NCDEQ Assistant General Counsel (by email only) Phil Feagan, Esq., NCDNCR General Counsel (by email only) Roy Brownlow, Tidewater Associates Inc. (by email only) Steven Kellum, Cedar Point Developers, LLC (by email only)

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## DCM-MHD CITY

December 18, 2023

VIA EMAIL (ashley.snyder@oah.nc.gov)

Ms. Ashley Snyder Codifier of Rules NC Office of Administrative Hearings 1711 New Hope Church Road Raleigh, NC 27609

### Re: Bridgeview Subdivision, 1180 Cedar Point Boulevard, Cedar Point, Carteret County, NC

Dear Ms. Snyder,

We represent Cedar Point Developers, LLC ("<u>Cedar Point</u>") related to a proposed residential development at 1180 Cedar Point Boulevard in Carteret County, North Carolina. As you know, the North Carolina Coastal Resources Commission ("<u>CRC</u>") called a December 13, 2023 Special Meeting (the "<u>Meeting</u>") to evaluate and pass an emergency rulemaking for sixteen rules which were then submitted to you on December 14, 2023 (the "<u>Rules</u>"). Cedar Point's proposed development is subject to a CAMA Major Permit and is therefore impacted by the status of the Rules and CRC's implementation of them.

Pursuant to NCGS 150B-21.1A(b), you are charged with evaluating the CRC's statement of need for passing the emergency rulemaking and determining whether the statement meets the criteria for adoption of an emergency rule under that section. NCGS 150B-21.1A(b) states that, in connection with her consideration of an emergency rulemaking, the Codifier of Rules may consider any information submitted by the agency or another person. As such, we are writing to submit comments on the emergency rulemaking, and to notify you of our position that the emergency rulemaking does not meet either of the criteria set forth in NCGS 150B-21.1A(a). Further, we do not believe that approval of the emergency rulemaking during the Meeting was proper because many CRC Commissioners (some of whom were attending their first meeting on the CRC) were unfamiliar with the issues and the apparent reasoning for the rulemaking on which they were voting.

The Rules do not meet the statutory criteria for an emergency rulemaking. As you know, an agency may adopt an emergency rule without prior notice or hearing when it finds that: (1) "adherence to the notice and hearing requirements ... would be contrary to the public interest" and (2) "the immediate adoption of the rule is required by a serious and unforeseen threat to the public health or safety." NCGS 150B-21.1A(a). The emergency rulemaking does not meet either of these criteria and is therefore inconsistent with the process set forth under state law.

North Carolina law requires an agency to demonstrate that an emergency rulemaking is necessary because a situation exists where rulemaking through the typical process would be "contrary to the public interest." NCGS 150B-21.1A(a). However, the CRC's statement of need fails to articulate how the public interest would be harmed or otherwise impacted by evaluation of the Rules through the normal rulemaking process. Moreover, the CRC has not provided such justification for each specific rule proposed.

First, the CRC argues that public notice and a public hearing are unnecessary because the Rules "have been included in the Code for decades and more recently, the public was provided an opportunity to comment during the periodic readoption process." This statement assumes that the rules being considered for emergency rulemaking are identical to those that existed in the Code prior to October 5 2023. However,

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# Moore & Van Allen

Mary Katherine Stukes Attorney at Law

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100 North Tryon Street Suite 4700 Charlotte, NC 28202-4003 this argument is disingenuous and inaccurate. The Rules contained in the proposed emergency rulemaking contain several revisions and edits that could have a significant impact on both the regulated community and on how the agency carries out its statutory mandate for rule promulgation. Thus, codification of emergency rules *without* time for the public to adequately evaluate and comment on these changes would be decidedly contrary to the public interest. CRC's statement of need does not provide any substantive basis as to why adherence to the process set forth under state law would be "contrary to the public interest." Even assuming that the rules do not change the status quo (which we dispute), such a status does not make the rulemaking process contrary to the public interest.

Second, the CRC argues that an emergency rulemaking is necessary to bypass adherence to the notice and hearing requirements because the state "cannot rely on these rules to issue permits for development in the coastal counties, make enforcement decisions, and can no longer review certain federal projects for consistency with State law pursuant to these rules." However, the CRC's statement of need fails to substantiate this assertion that its authority has or will be limited in the absence of the emergency rulemaking. The rule giving DCM authority to issue permits, 15A NCAC 07J .0201, is unchanged and in full force and effect. The CRC's statement does not include examples of situations where the agency was unable to issue or enforce a permit. Nor does it provide any detail on the "certain federal projects" that it is allegedly unable to review (for example, what federal agencies are involved, what types of projects are at issue, whether those projects involve issuance of permits or enforcement-related issues, etc.). As of the date of this letter, the Rules have not been part of the Code for approximately seventy days, and their status has been in question for over a year. A cursory review of publicly available information from the past seventy days indicates just the opposite, as the agency has in fact continued to issue major CAMA permits and conduct enforcement actions since the rules were removed from the Code on October 5, 2023.

The CRC goes on to argue that the removal of the Rules from the Code "severely impacts the commission's rules and creates confusion related to permitting procedures for the State's coastal management program and the regulated public." Again, the CRC has not provided any examples of instances during the last seventy days when there has been confusion related to the permitting procedures, or incidences when the commission's rules were "severely impact[ed]." Potential confusion does not equate to a justification for circumventing rulemaking procedures. These broad and general assertions do not provide sufficient justification for the emergency rulemaking pursuant to North Carolina law.

In addition to demonstrating that adherence to the typical notice and hearing requirements for rulemaking is contrary to the public interest, the statement of need must explain why the agency believes the emergency rulemaking is necessary to address "a serious and unforeseen threat to the public health or safety." NCGS 150B-21.1A(a). In their statement of need, the CRC merely argues that it believes the emergency rulemaking is necessary "[t]o ensure the stability and effectiveness of the coastal rules for the benefit of the regulated public, and to ensure the CRC's compliance with statutory mandates for rule promulgation under N.C. Gen. Stat. Chapter 113A, Article 7, the Coastal Area Management Act." However, the CRC does not point to any examples of "serious" or "unforeseen" threats to public health or safety that have resulted during the last seventy days, or that would result in the future, from the rejection of the emergency rules. Further, such justification should be enumerated for each specific rule proposed. This detail is critical, as the purported basis presumably would differ from rule to rule.

The CRC notes that removal of the rules would "pose a serious threat to public safety regarding the loss of protection of coastal lands and waters." While we acknowledge that protection of coastal lands and waters is essential to preserve our state's natural resources, the CRC has not provided in its statement of need any justification for its statement that the removal of such protections would pose a serious threat to public (human) health or public safety. Indeed, the statement does not even allege that the threat is unforeseen, as required by 150B-21.1A(a). Similarly, 15A NCAC 07H .0509 regarding archeological resources deals entirely with inert cultural resources, not protection of public health or safety. Again, the CRC has not **RECEIVED** 

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shown how emergency enactment of this rule is required because of a serious and unforeseen threat to the public health or safety.

Nor does the statement of need provide any explanation of how the stability and effectiveness of the coastal rules is or will be jeopardized. For instance, and as previously noted, the statement of need does not state that the CRC has lost its permitting authority entirely or provide details from instances when the CRC was unable to comply with statutory mandates for rule promulgation. Thus, it is our belief that the statement of need does not meet the statutory requirement to address a serious or unforeseen threat to public health or safety.

For the reasons stated herein, the emergency rulemaking passed on December 13, 2023 by the CRC does not meet either of the criteria set forth in NCGS 150B-21.1A(a) and therefore should not be codified as an emergency rule.

We appreciate your consideration of these comments. Please let us know if you have any questions about this submittal or if you would like to discuss.

Sincerely,

MyKstul

Mary Katherine H. Stukes Moore & Van Allen PLLC

Cc: Christine Goebel, Esq., NCDEQ Assistant General Counsel Phil Feagan, Esq., NCDNCR General Counsel Roy Brownlow, Tidewater Associates Inc. Steven Kellum, Cedar Point Developers, LLC

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Steven Kellum 1010 Country Club Drive Jacksonville, NC 28546

Ms. Angela Willis (by email only) Angela.willis@deq.nc.gov

Tancred Miller (by email and U.S. Mail) Directors, Division of Coastal Management 400 Commerce Avenue Morehead City, NC 28557 <u>Tancred.miller@deg.nc.gov</u>

Re: Temporary Rules 15A NCAC 07H .0507, .0508, .0509, 07I .0702, 07J .0203, .0204, .0206, .0207, .0208, 07M .0401, .0402, .0403, .0701, .0703, .0704, and .1101

Dear Ms. Willis and Director Miller,

I am writing to express my deep concern about the NC Coastal Resources Commission (CRC)'s plan to adopt emergency and temporary rules, specifically as related to CAMA development permits and associated requirements related to coastal archaeological resources. Not only do the proposed rules impose significant additional burden on the regulated community, but the CRC's attempt to adopt the rules through the emergency rulemaking process is an unjustified attempt to circumvent the required permanent rulemaking process. This overreach by the CRC has caused and threatens to cause serious problems for commercial and residential development along North Carolina's coast, from both a cost and planning standpoint.

As you know, the existing rule, 15A NCAC 07H .0509, establishes standards for identifying, managing, investigating, and protecting archaeological resources along our coast which are currently effective, yet can cause extraordinary financial burdens on property owners in CAMA counties wanting to make improvements to their property. These requirements are not justified under CAMA's statutory directive regarding the permitting process.

The proposed emergency rules raise serious concerns due to the lack of justification for use of that process, as evidenced by the codification of the emergency rules over the Codifier of Rules' objection. Further, the CRC's action demonstrates a **lack of transparency and public engagement**. Scheduling an emergency rulemaking session with minimal notice and limited public input undermines the democratic process and erodes public trust in the Commission's decision-making.

Nor do the proposed temporary rules meet the standard for shortcutting the permanent rulemaking process. We fully support the comments with respect to these rules being submitted by Cedar Point Developers.

Finally, the proposed rules do not meet North Carolina's legal standard for adoption of rules. The Rules Review Commission has already informed the CRC that their proposed rules are inadequate, yet the CRC continues to push its agenda through legal action and through the present procedural manipulation. As described in more detail in legal pleadings, RRC objections, and the enclosed comments submitted by Cedar Point Developers, the proposed rules are improper because:

- Lack of Statutory Authority: There is no statutory basis in CAMA for many of the proposed rules. A state agency cannot promulgate regulations, especially on topics that would expand its authority, without express authority from the General Assembly to do so.
- Vagueness and Ambiguity: The proposed changes are unclear, open to interpretation, and potentially subjective. This lack of clarity creates uncertainty for stakeholders and opens the door for potential misuse and misinterpretation.
- Increased Uncertainty for Stakeholders: Lack of clarity could lead to inconsistencies in application, creating challenges and financial burdens on property owners, developers, researchers, and the public. The rising costs associated with inflation, taxes, and coastal insurance, coupled with these potentially burdensome rules, could drive up costs for repairs, renovations, and replacements in coastal counties and stifle future development. This could potentially displace residents, particularly those on fixed incomes, due to not being able to afford to live in NC coastal counties. It could also create serious threats to the public health, safety, and welfare if certain repairs are unable to be made, creating potentially hazardous or dangerous conditions.
- Rushed Process and Potential Harm: Rushing through vague and potentially harmful changes without proper public input and transparency is not the way to protect resources. Rules should be well-thought-out and analyzed for potential impacts on legitimate development projects.
- Expansion of DCM Authority: The rules appear to increase DCM's authority to check local government actions and impose limitations on development beyond permitted land disturbance. Besides being outside DCM's statutory authority, these changes could strain an already understaffed DCM regulatory section and create friction with local governments.

Therefore, I urge you to:

- **Postpone or Eliminate the Rules:** Allow for adequate time for public review and comment or eliminate the proposed rule changes altogether. This will ensure a transparent and informed process.
- **Demand Clarity and Specificity:** The Commission must clearly articulate the rationale behind the proposed changes and ensure they are statutorily

authorized, specific and unambiguous to minimize confusion and potential misuse.

• **Prevent Overreach:** Ensure that NCDEQ staff are not given unchecked authority that can be abused.

I implore you to use your legislative power to intervene and ensure the Commission acts with transparency, public participation, proper authority, and reasonable protection for property owners, local officials, and the economic well-being of coastal communities.

Sincerely Stoven Kellum

910-358-4187 stevenkellum@gcenc.com

Elijah T. Morton Sr. 221 Grimaldi Lane Swansboro, NC 28584

Ms. Angela Willis (by email only) Angela.willis@deg.nc.gov

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910-389-6610 Elijahm@mortontrucking.com James E. Maides 1054 Country Club Drive Jacksonville, NC 28546

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910-389-1825 jamesmaides@csbenc.com Chris Whaley 229 Roland Batchelor Rd. Beulaville, NC 28518

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Tancred Miller (by email and U.S. Mail) Directors, Division of Coastal Management 400 Commerce Avenue Morehead City, NC 28557 Tancred.miller@deq.nc.gov

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Finally, the proposed rules do not meet North Carolina's legal standard for adoption of rules. The Rules Review Commission has already informed the CRC that their proposed rules are inadequate, yet the CRC continues to push its agenda through legal action and through the present procedural manipulation. As described in more detail in legal pleadings, RRC objections, and the enclosed comments submitted by Cedar Point Developers, the proposed rules are improper because:

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- Vagueness and Ambiguity: The proposed changes are unclear, open to interpretation, and potentially subjective. This lack of clarity creates uncertainty for stakeholders and opens the door for potential misuse and misinterpretation.
- Increased Uncertainty for Stakeholders: Lack of clarity could lead to inconsistencies in application, creating challenges and financial burdens on property owners, developers, researchers, and the public. The rising costs associated with inflation, taxes, and coastal insurance, coupled with these potentially burdensome rules, could drive up costs for repairs, renovations, and replacements in coastal counties and stifle future development. This could potentially displace residents, particularly those on fixed incomes, due to not being able to afford to live in NC coastal counties. It could also create serious threats to the public health, safety, and welfare if certain repairs are unable to be made, creating potentially hazardous or dangerous conditions.
- Rushed Process and Potential Harm: Rushing through vague and potentially harmful changes without proper public input and transparency is not the way to protect resources. Rules should be well-thought-out and analyzed for potential impacts on legitimate development projects.
- Expansion of DCM Authority: The rules appear to increase DCM's authority to check local government actions and impose limitations on development beyond permitted land disturbance. Besides being outside DCM's statutory authority, these changes could strain an already understaffed DCM regulatory section and create friction with local governments.

Therefore, I urge you to:

- **Postpone or Eliminate the Rules:** Allow for adequate time for public review and comment or eliminate the proposed rule changes altogether. This will ensure a transparent and informed process.
- **Demand Clarity and Specificity:** The Commission must clearly articulate the rationale behind the proposed changes and ensure they are statutorily

authorized, specific and unambiguous to minimize confusion and potential misuse.

• Prevent Overreach: Ensure that NCDEQ staff are not given unchecked authority that can be abused.

I implore you to use your legislative power to intervene and ensure the Commission acts with transparency, public participation, proper authority, and reasonable protection for property owners, local officials, and the economic well-being of coastal communities.

Sincerely

Čhris Ŵhaléy 910-330-4520 chriswhaley@qcenc.com Danny L. Whaley 213 Lyman Road Beulaville, NC 28518

Ms. Angela Willis (by email only) Angela.willis@deq.nc.gov

Tancred Miller (by email and U.S. Mail) Directors, Division of Coastal Management 400 Commerce Avenue Morehead City, NC 28557 Tancred.miller@deq.nc.gov

Re: Temporary Rules 15A NCAC 07H .0507, .0508, .0509, 07I .0702, 07J .0203, .0204, .0206, .0207, .0208, 07M .0401, .0402, .0403, .0701, .0703, .0704, and .1101

Dear Ms. Willis and Director Miller,

I am writing to express my deep concern about the NC Coastal Resources Commission (CRC)'s plan to adopt emergency and temporary rules, specifically as related to CAMA development permits and associated requirements related to coastal archaeological resources. Not only do the proposed rules impose significant additional burden on the regulated community, but the CRC's attempt to adopt the rules through the emergency rulemaking process is an unjustified attempt to circumvent the required permanent rulemaking process. This overreach by the CRC has caused and threatens to cause serious problems for commercial and residential development along North Carolina's coast, from both a cost and planning standpoint.

As you know, the existing rule, 15A NCAC 07H .0509, establishes standards for identifying, managing, investigating, and protecting archaeological resources along our coast which are currently effective, yet can cause extraordinary financial burdens on property owners in CAMA counties wanting to make improvements to their property. These requirements are not justified under CAMA's statutory directive regarding the permitting process.

The proposed emergency rules raise serious concerns due to the lack of justification for use of that process, as evidenced by the codification of the emergency rules over the Codifier of Rules' objection. Further, the CRC's action demonstrates a **lack of transparency and public engagement**. Scheduling an emergency rulemaking session with minimal notice and limited public input undermines the democratic process and erodes public trust in the Commission's decision-making.

Nor do the proposed temporary rules meet the standard for shortcutting the permanent rulemaking process. We fully support the comments with respect to these rules being submitted by Cedar Point Developers.

Finally, the proposed rules do not meet North Carolina's legal standard for adoption of rules. The Rules Review Commission has already informed the CRC that their proposed rules are inadequate, yet the CRC continues to push its agenda through legal action and through the present procedural manipulation. As described in more detail in legal pleadings, RRC objections, and the enclosed comments submitted by Cedar Point Developers, the proposed rules are improper because:

- Lack of Statutory Authority: There is no statutory basis in CAMA for many of the proposed rules. A state agency cannot promulgate regulations, especially on topics that would expand its authority, without express authority from the General Assembly to do so.
- Vagueness and Ambiguity: The proposed changes are unclear, open to interpretation, and potentially subjective. This lack of clarity creates uncertainty for stakeholders and opens the door for potential misuse and misinterpretation.
- Increased Uncertainty for Stakeholders: Lack of clarity could lead to inconsistencies in application, creating challenges and financial burdens on property owners, developers, researchers, and the public. The rising costs associated with inflation, taxes, and coastal insurance, coupled with these potentially burdensome rules, could drive up costs for repairs, renovations, and replacements in coastal counties and stifle future development. This could potentially displace residents, particularly those on fixed incomes, due to not being able to afford to live in NC coastal counties. It could also create serious threats to the public health, safety, and welfare if certain repairs are unable to be made, creating potentially hazardous or dangerous conditions.
- Rushed Process and Potential Harm: Rushing through vague and potentially harmful changes without proper public input and transparency is not the way to protect resources. Rules should be well-thought-out and analyzed for potential impacts on legitimate development projects.
- Expansion of DCM Authority: The rules appear to increase DCM's authority to check local government actions and impose limitations on development beyond permitted land disturbance. Besides being outside DCM's statutory authority, these changes could strain an already understaffed DCM regulatory section and create friction with local governments.

Therefore, I urge you to:

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- Demand Clarity and Specificity: The Commission must clearly articulate the rationale behind the proposed changes and ensure they are statutorily

authorized, specific and unambiguous to minimize confusion and potential misuse.

• **Prevent Overreach:** Ensure that NCDEQ staff are not given unchecked authority that can be abused.

I implore you to use your legislative power to intervene and ensure the Commission acts with transparency, public participation, proper authority, and reasonable protection for property owners, local officials, and the economic well-being of coastal communities.

SinCerely, Đănny L. Whaley

910-389-3686 dannywhaley@csbenc.com

## Willis, Angela

From:	Barbara Marzetti <bmarzetti@corollacivicassociation.com></bmarzetti@corollacivicassociation.com>	
Sent:	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 12:34 PM	
То:	Biser, Elizabeth	
Cc:	Edward.Goodwin@ncleg.gov; Sen. Bobby Hanig; Bob White; Selina Jarvis; Ike.McRee@currituckcountync.gov; Kugler, Tameron; Willis, Angela; Miller, Tancred	
Subject:	[External] Proposed NCDEQ Coastal Resources Commission rules	
Attachments:	Proposed NCDEQ Coastal Resources Commission rules.pdf	

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab:



Dear Secretary Biser,

Please see the attached letter which has comments on the proposed Coastal Resources Commission rules, submitted on behalf of the *Corolla Civic Association*. *CCA* is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization founded in 2011 to represent the residents, owners, visitors and businesses on the Currituck Outer Banks.

Respectfully,

Barbara H. Marzetti, President Corolla Civic Association P.O. Box 444 Corolla, NC 27297 info@CorollaCivicAssociation.com

"One voice to preserve, protect & enhance the Currituck Outer Banks for residents, owners, visitors & businesses"



Corolla Civic Association P.O. Box 444 Corolla, NC 27927 info@CorollaCivicAssociation.com

One voice to preserve, protect & enhance the Currituck Outer Banks for residents, owners, visitors & businesses

The Honorable Elizabeth S. Biser, Secretary North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality 217 West Jones Street Raleigh, NC 27603

# **RE:** North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's request for comments on several proposed Coastal Resources Commission rules.

### Dear Secretary Biser,

The Corolla Civic Association (CCA) was formed specifically to address actions, regulations, laws, etc. that have a community-wide impact. Our constituents are the residents, property owners, business owners and tourists of the region. Your request for input on the proposed, temporary CRC rules is a perfect example of why we exist. We appreciate the opportunity to respond, and our input follows.

### 15A NCAC 07H .0508 USE STANDARDS

Paragraph "(2) No alternative sites are available outside the designated AEC." Recommend insertion of the words "reasonable and equivalent" such that the paragraph reads, 'No alternative, reasonable, and equivalent sites are available outside the designated AEC.' Corolla is a geographically isolated area. Saying a project should be disapproved because an alternative site is available outside our immediate confines doesn't help if we can't get there in a reasonable amount of time or doesn't fit the unique needs.

### 15A NCAC 07J .0204 PROCESSING THE APPLICATION

The work required to meet the requirements of this paragraph, while appropriate, is voluminous and has the potential to yield many process-driven false starts. This is especially true for an organization that has never applied before. Recommend a liaison from either NCDEQ or CRC is made available to organizations working on a permit. Liaison should be responsible to help the submitting organization prepare their input. A liaison's success should be determined by how many successful applications are submitted.

### 15A NCAC 07J .0206 PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

Recommend the required methods to achieve the goal of this paragraph are specified. This would include but not be limited to: e-mail to distribution lists of citizens who have specified a general interest, web announcements on appropriate sites, Facebook announcements on appropriate pages, X announcements to followers, Instagram announcements to followers, physical signs, and local radio and print media. This seems like a long list but it covers the bulk of where people get their information in current culture. Corolla residents are interested in things happening in our area but too often are surprised by actions half-way to fruition before we become aware of them because notification was limited to a physical sign or an obscure web site.

# 15A NCAC 07J .0207 REVIEW OF MAJOR DEVELOPMENT AND DREDGE AND FILL 3 APPLICATIONS

Paragraph "(d) Each reviewing agency may make an independent analysis of the application and submit recommendations....." Recommend adding, "When a reviewing agency recommends disapproval, they will also specify what should, or could, be done to gain their approval." This kind of agency output will significantly help the submitting agencies achieve their goals while simultaneously protecting the resources within an agency's domain.

### 15A NCAC 07M .0401 DECLARATION OF GENERAL POLICY

Recommend adding a subparagraph (b)(3) "preserve the residents', owners', businesses', and visitors' use of the natural resources." This puts the users' enjoyment of natural resources on an equal level as the resource itself.

### 15A NCAC 07M .0402 DEFINITIONS

Paragraph (b) Recommend adding the following words at the end of the first sentence, "... done in conjunction with the residents, property owners, businesses, and visitors that create the economic engine and societal fabric of a given area." This will give the impact analysis the accuracy requisite for the decision-making process.

15A NCAC 07M .0403 COASTAL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT - SPECIFIC POLICY STATEMENTS Recommend adding a paragraph "(g)(10)(L) natural resources residents, owners, businesses and tourists define as vital to enjoyment of the proposed area." This puts enjoyment and use of the natural resource on the same par for protection as the resource itself.

Thank you for considering our suggestions. We also request that you meet with the CCA and other Corollabased community organizations within the next 90 days to discuss long term, partner-based solutions to beach management and access to the Currituck Sound.

Sincerely,

Barbara H. Marzetti, President Corolla Civic Association

 Cc: The Hon. Bobby Hanig, North Carolina Senator The Hon. Edward Goodwin, North Carolina Representative The Hon. Bob White, Chair, Currituck County Board of Commissioners The Hon. Selina Jarvis, Vice Chair, Currituck County Board of Commissioners Donald McRee, Jr., County Manager, Currituck County Tameron Kugler, Director of Travel and Tourism, Currituck County Tancred Miller, Director, Division of Coastal Management, NCDEQ, 400 Commerce Avenue, Morehead City, NC 28557 Angela.Willis@deq.nc.gov

### Willis, Angela

From:	derrickacrandall@gmail.com
Sent:	Thursday, February 22, 2024 11:11 AM
То:	Biser, Elizabeth; 'Sen. Bobby Hanig'; Biser, Elizabeth;
	Bob.White@CurrituckCountyNC.gov; 'Selina Jarvis'; lke.McRee@currituckcountync.gov;
	Kugler, Tameron; Willis, Angela; Miller, Tancred; Gay, Rebecca
Cc:	Edward.Goodwin@ncleg.gov; Ben Stikeleather; amyadams74@gmail.com; Mike Hassett;
	'#315-A Siemens, Tina'; 'Mike Goddard'; derrickacrandall@gmail.com
Subject:	[External] Submission of comments on NCDEQ Rulemaking Temporary Rules
Attachments:	NCDEQ Temporary Rules Comments Feb 2024 final.pdf; NCDEQ Temporary Rules
· ·	Comments Feb 2024 final.docx

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The Corolla Light Community Association submits the attached comments on NCDEQ's rulemaking regarding a variety of CAMA-related rules. In addition to the comments on specific rules, we urge the Department to recognize the importance of these rules to our community and the outdoor recreation and tourism industries vital to our sustainability. This can be done by facilitating the involvement of agencies and organizations with vital information on these economic engines for northeast North Carolina in DEQ consideration of proposals and applications.

Our comments are attached in both Word and PDF formats.

Thank you.

Derrick

Derrick A. Crandall Chair, Corolla Light Long Range Planning Committee Member, Corolla Light Board of Directors 7628 Huntmaster Lane McLean, VA 22102 Brigadune: 1127 Franklyn Street, Corolla, NC 27927, PO Box 246

703-624-0495, derrickacrandall@gmail.com



February 22, 2024

The Honorable Elizabeth S. Biser, Secretary North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality 217 West Jones Street Raleigh, NC 27603

### **RE: Temporary Rules**

Dear Secretary Biser:

We appreciate the opportunity to respond to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's request for comments on several proposed Coastal Resources Commission temporary rules. Our comments are directed at most of those subject to recent public hearings: 07H .0507, .0508, .0509, 07I .0702, 07J .0203, .0204, .0206, .0207, .0208, 07M .0401, .0402, .0403, .0701, .0703, .0704 and .1101.

These proposed rules are important to Currituck Sound and the shoreline of the Atlantic Ocean, the western and eastern boundaries of our community in Corolla, NC.

We believe that information shared in this submission can and should influence the final outcoming of this rulemaking and deserves additional consideration for changes that may rely on additional action by the Department and the North Carolina Legislature.

#### Profile of Corolla Light and Its Operational Entity

Corolla Light is a PUD comprised of approximately 240 acres of Outer Banks delight. We are preparing to celebrate its 40th anniversary in 2025. Our resort was designed from its inception to be the Outer Banks' finest family friendly resort. We are blessed with unrivaled natural and constructed amenities. More than 450 owners now comprise the resort's operational entity, the Corolla Light Community Association (CLCA). Historically our community has served the remarkable demand for quality summertime family experiences connected with our ocean and sound access. Corolla Light now includes a growing number of year-round and long-term residents, aided by transportation enhancements along NC 168/158 and NC 12, technologies including cell phones and broadband access and changing demographics and work patterns.

The investments of CLCA owners in our community's shared and individual infrastructure exceed \$500 million and contribute mightily to Currituck County and the state in property taxes, sales taxes, tourism taxes and employment. Our resort and similar communities in the Currituck OBX region form the basis for the county's strong economy and statewide leadership in tourism.

Our units range from large oceanfront and soundfront homes to townhome villas, all a short walk to a best-in-class oceanfront complex with wide sandy beaches, three large pools, a recreation zone with volleyball, basketball and shuffleboard courts, snack bar and dining service, and additional playground equipment. The resort includes a soundfront Inn at Corolla and condominium units. This diversity in housing offerings translates into diversity in our owners and guests.

Corolla Light's soundside amenities include new pickleball courts, an extraordinary year-round Sports Center with indoor tennis, a competition-capable pool and complete fitness and activities offerings. The resort features trolley service for intra-resort transportation, trails and walkways, and a network of private streets ideal for bikes and ebikes as well as other vehicles. Our activities and classes rival the offerings of top city park and county recreation agencies. In summer, the population of our resort swells to some 5,000 active people. We adjoin and actively integrate offerings with Historic Corolla Park.

### Corolla Light Relies on State Programs for Dredging, Managing Aquatic Weeds and Managing Beaches

The vitality of Corolla Light depends upon continuation of diverse leisure activities long found in the Currituck OBX, including fishing, hunting, boating and other on-water adventures – wind-, wave- and power-driven, beach activities and wildlife-viewing ranging from birds to wild horses, to turtles and dolphin.

These leisure activities have evolved and changed and will continue to do so. Currituck Sound was not long ago a windsurfing and bass fishing mecca. Access issues and changes in the sound from weeds to navigation have influenced shifts to kayaking and kitesurfing – but the allure for on-water fun continues. Innovative technologies including electric-powered boats and new composite materials and fabrics are emerging and will be aided by small businesses committed to exceeding guest expectations. And Currituck County has shown full support for partnering with our community. The physical assets of Historic Corolla Park – the Whalehead Club, the Wildlife Education Center, the Maritime Museum and more – are remarkable. The programming of activities and events is growing and demonstrates tremendous potential during both the summer season and other times, including the Christmas holidays.

Currituck County underscores the importance of tourism to the county's future. The county's future plan (<u>https://currituckcountync.gov/imagine-currituck/</u>) states, in part:

## COROLLA SERVES AS THE BACKBONE FOR CURRITUCK'S TOURISM INDUSTRY. THE AREA EXPERIENCES A SURGE IN RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS DURING THE SPRING AND SUMMER MONTHS WHO COME TO VISIT COROLLA'S OUTSTANDING NATURAL RESOURCES AND BEACHES

We have visible evidence of the need for new, strong efforts by partners, including the state of North Carolina. The basin at Historic Corolla Park, with its restored boat house and docks which once served uses of Currituck Sound, sits empty and unusable because of weeds and shifting sand blocking access. Access to and enjoyment of Corolla's soundfront was again denied in 2023 by weeds killed farther out in the sound by water salinity changes, water levels, and water temperatures which were then pushed by winds against the western shoreline. Rafts of dead weeds extended thirty feet from the shoreline and were many feet deep. The decay produced offensive smells and fears of health impacts, and the weeds made launching of canoes and kayaks and bank fishing impossible. These rafts of weeds may have adversely impacted the normal aquatic community in the vicinity, including crabs, and Currituck County and CLCA homeowners have documented major damage from sulfur emitted by rotting weeds. Including the to the copper roof and drainpipes of the Whalehead Club.

Oceanside, Corolla Light has been spared in recent years from dramatic beach changes. But a nowcompleted three year study documents that there are danger zones along the Currituck OBX oceanfront where noreasters and other storms have put more than a dozen homes at risk and have made the beaches at our resort narrower, with sand shifting eastward into the ocean portion of our "beach box," exacerbating crowding on the remaining beaches and challenging the signature features of our beaches – easy access to waves and ample opportunities for beach play involving footballs, frisbees and kites. The study is available at <a href="https://currituckcountync.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022-beach-monitoring-stability-report.pdf2022">https://currituckcountync.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022-beach-monitoring-stability-report.pdf2022</a> [BEACH MONITORING AND BEACH STABILITY ASSESSMENT, CURRITUCK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, PREPARED FOR CURRITUCK COUNTY PREPARED BY COASTAL PROTECTION ENGINEERING OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. ENGINEERING LICENCE CERTIFICATE#: C-2331. Key excerpts from the study are attached. The report found:

"The report provides an assessment of both long-term and short-term shoreline change trends, an analysis of the impact of projected long-term shoreline changes over 10-, 20-, and 30-year horizons, and a final vulnerability analysis.

"In total, 158 houses were shown to be impacted over the 30-year horizon in the Corolla Section. Out of these 158 houses, 66 were shown to be impacted over the 20-year horizon and 11 houses were shown to be impacted over the 10- year horizon ..."

"In total, 43 oceanfront homes were determined to be vulnerable from a storm similar in characteristics to Hurricane Isabel, which impacted the County in 2003."

"Coastal communities both north and south of the Currituck County shoreline have constructed beach nourishment projects as a result of long-term erosional trends and vulnerability of oceanfront structure to storms. North of the Project Area, in Sandbridge, Virginia, a beach nourishment project was constructed in 1998. This project was re-nourished in 2003, 2007, and 2013. South of the Project Area, erosional trends and storm vulnerability prompted the Northern Dare County Towns of Duck, Southern Shores, Kitty Hawk, Kill Devil Hills, and Nags Head to implement beach nourishment programs. Initial construction of the beach nourishment project at Nags Head was constructed in 2011, while the projects at Duck, Kitty Hawk, and Kill Devil Hills were initially constructed in 2017. The Nags Head project has since been re-nourished twice, while the Kitty Hawk and Kill Devil Hills projects were re-nourished in 2022 at the same time as the initial construction of the project in the Town of Southern Shores. The Duck project is scheduled to be re-nourished in 2023."

### **Action Requests**

We believe the rulemaking process now underway can be an important portion of the response to the needs and opportunities facing Currituck County and CLCA. We have both comments on specific rules and on broader concepts regarding the overall consideration of applications for permits and public involvement in the department's decision making.

As an overarching comment, we urge NCDEQ to modify all proposed rules to be certain that consideration of applications give appropriate consideration to the economic and health benefits of outdoor recreation and tourism. These are bedrock industries for CLCA and Currituck OBX. The strength of these industries has allowed public and private investment in sustainable operations, including investments in water protection, wildlife habitat preservation and more. While the primary mission of NCDEQ is not economic development, the vitality of communities has been and will be key to support for and compliance with departmental policies and initiatives. State and county agencies responsible for the state's economic health must be active partners in the decision making on the actions covered under this rule making. Our comment on specific rules will reiterate this need and expand on its implementation.

15A NCAC 07H	Permits for development	We support key portions of this rule, including "Mitigation
.0508 USE	in designated fragile	measures shall be incorporated into the project plan" and
STANDARDS	coastal natural or cultural	"The project shall be of equal or greater public benefit
	resource areas	than those benefits lost or damaged through

		development." We suggest adding a provision to encourage mitigation in proximity to the proposed permit.
		Corolla has significant archaeological sites, visibly reflected
15A NCAC 07H	Archaeological remains	in our lighthouse but also in links to historically important
.0509	(objects, features, and/or	people. America's 41 <sup>st</sup> President returned to stay in our
SIGNIFICANT	sites) that have more than	
COASTAL	local significance to history	community after leaving office and shared stories about
ARCHAEOLOGICAL	or prehistory	use of our area for naval aviator training, including his
RESOURCES		own. NCDEQ should assist in capturing such memories.
15A NCAC 07J	Technical standards for	CLCA and others are disadvantaged in playing an active
.0204	application content	role in either advocating or commenting on permit
PROCESSING THE		applications of relevance to our community. NCDEQ
APPLICATION		should provide organizations like ours with effective
		participation in these proceedings, and communicate the
		availability of such assistance
15A NCAC 07J	Division of Coastal	We applaud current NCDEQ efforts to provide notices
.0206 PUBLIC	Management shall issue	about proposed development. We urge better
NOTICE	public notice of proposed	documentation of contemporary means to reach those
REQUIREMENTS	development	likely to be interested in applications and obtaining needed
		information, including community organizations like ours.
15A NCAC 07J	Department shall prepare	This rule is likely to apply to proposals to allow the return
.0207 REVIEW OF	a field report on each	of boats to Historic Corolla Park, which will almost
MAJOR	major	certainly involve dredging, as well as possible beach
DEVELOPMENT	development and/or	nourishment in future years. NCDEQ plays a role as a
	dredge and fill permit	commenter as well as the decision-making agency,
AND DREDGE		reviewing comments of other agency comments. We need
	application accepted for	help in the form of deadlines, identification of invited
APPLICATIONS	processing. Such a report	
	shall be prepared after an	agencies, inclusion of agencies with economic
	on-site investigation is	development, outdoor recreation and tourism expertise
	completed. The report	and a balanced process able to allow deserving proposals
	shall include project	to reach a positive outcome. Once again, internal
	location, environmental	assistance from NCDEQ is needed.
	setting, project description	
	and probable	
	environmental impact	
15A NCAC 07J	Each State, federal and	While theoretically useful, this empowers a variety of
.0208 PERMIT	local reviewing agencies	specialized agencies to impede permit issuance, imposing
CONDITIONS	may submit specific	our community to dangerous economic vulnerability. We
	recommendations	need help in the form of identification of inclusion of
	regarding the manner in	agencies with economic development, outdoor recreation
	which the proposed	and tourism expertise and a balanced process able to
	development should be	allow deserving proposals to reach a positive outcome
	accomplished including	without unneeded conditions.
	limitations on the	
	development in order to	
	protect the public interest	
	General welfare and public	CLCA supports clean energy, including wind farms. But
SECTION .0400 -		wind farm development will require land-based services.
COASTAL ENERGY	interest require that	Permits for such use must protect the economic basis for
DEVELOPMENT -	reliable sources of energy	our community – outdoor recreation and tourism – as well
GENERAL	be made available to the	
POLICIES	citizens of North Carolina	as the environment.

.

15A NCAC 07M	"Adverse impact," "adverse	Barrier islands are identified for special protection. The
.0402	impacts," "adverse	emphasis is on energy issues. The economic risks to
DEFINITIONS	effects," or similar	outdoor recreation and tourism must be defined and
	formulations, are defined	considered.
	as an effect or impact 5	
	that is opposed or	
	antagonistic to the goals of	
	the Coastal Area	
	Management Act	
15A NCAC 07M	The siting and operations	CLCS endorses protection of beaches and other resources
.0403 COASTAL	of major energy facilities	vital to our economic needs. Provision includes turtle
ENERGY	impacting the use of public	nesting area protections, fishing, but no specific
DEVELOPMENT -	trust waters and adjacent	consideration of areas vital to tourism and recreation, or
SPECIFIC POLICY	lands, or coastal resources	actions which jeopardize existing and planned state/local
STATEMENTS	of North Carolina shall be	investments.
STATEMENTS	done in a manner that	investments.
	allows for protection of	
	the environment and local	
	and regional socio-	
	economic goals	CLCA urges language requiring protection of recreational
15A NCAC 07M	require that adverse	and tourism uses and asserting that recreation and
.0701	impacts to coastal lands	
DECLARATION OF	and waters be mitigated or	tourism can be sustainable uses.
GENERAL POLICY	minimized through	
	planning, site selection,	
	compliance with	
	Commission's standards	
	for development, and	
	creation or restoration of	
	coastal resources	
15A NCAC 07M	Mitigation criteria	CLCA urges that improved access to public lands and
.0703		waters are appropriate and allowed mitigation steps.
MITIGATION		
PROJECTS		
15A NCAC 07M	Division of Coastal	CLCA urges inclusion of language that ties mitigation to
.0704	Management shall	unwanted consequences and to the scope of the impact.
MITIGATION -	consider mitigation	In many cases, development activities are unlikely to
SPECIFIC POLICIES	requests based on the	create impacts which will be naturally mitigated within the
	following order of	broad ecosystem of Currituck Sound.
	preference:	
	Mitigation proposals may	
	be the basis for approval	
	of a development which is	
	otherwise in conflict with	
	general or specific use	
	standards set forth in 15A	
	Standards Set Iorth III TOA	
Beneficial Use of	NCAC 07H .0208	CLCA notes that its barrier island has uses for dredged
Beneficial Use of	NCAC 07H .0208 It is the policy of the State	CLCA notes that its barrier island has uses for dredged materials to mitigate climate change and rising water
Beneficial Use of Dredged Materials	NCAC 07H .0208	CLCA notes that its barrier island has uses for dredged materials to mitigate climate change and rising water levels.

	15A NCAC 07M	of navigation channels be
.	.1101	used in a beneficial way
	DECLARATION OF	wherever practicable.
(	GENERAL POLICY	

Thank you for considering our suggestions. We applaud the recent visit of Mr. Miller to Corolla arranged by Senator Hanig and suggest additional meetings with CLCA and other county and Corolla organizations to discuss long term, partner-based and environmentally responsive solutions to our needs.

Sincerely,

CLCA Board of Directors P.O. BOX 490, Corolla, NC 27927

Cc: The Hon. Bobby Hanig, North Carolina Senator

The Hon. Edward Goodwin, North Carolina Representative The Hon. Bob White, Chair, Currituck County Board of Commissioners The Hon. Selina Jarvis, Vice Chair, Currituck County Board of Commissioners Donald McRee, Jr., County Manager, Currituck County Rebecca Gay, Assistant County Manager, Currituck County Tameron Kugler, Director of Travel and Tourism, Currituck County Tancred Miller, Director, Division of Coastal Management, NCDEQ Angela.Willis@deq.nc.gov

## Willis, Angela

From:	O'Dell, Michael <odell@kdhnc.com></odell@kdhnc.com>	
Sent:	Thursday, February 22, 2024 8:33 AM	
То:	Willis, Angela	
Cc:	BOC; Diaz, Debora P; Allen, Charlene; Guns, Meredith; Ray, Cameron	
Subject:	[External] Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners: Public Comment - CRC Temporary	
-	Rules	
Attachments:	2024.2.21.Resolution_Supporting_CRC_Temporary_Rules.pdf	

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Angela,

Good morning. Please see the attached *Resolution Supporting the Coastal Resource Commission's Temporary Rules,* adopted by and submitted for Public Comment by the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners.

Thank you,

Michael



Michael O'Dell Town Clerk

Town of Kill Devil Hills

p: 252-449-5306 a: 102 Town Hall Drive, P.O. Box 1719, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948 w: www.kdhnc.com

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# TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

Land Where Flight Began

## **Resolution Supporting the Coastal Resource Commission's Temporary Rules**

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) was enacted in 1974 to protect coastal resources by developing regulations to protect Areas of Environmental Concern (AEC); and

WHEREAS, in addition to CAMA, the State established the North Carolina Coastal Management Program to establish a comprehensive, coordinated approach for the protection, preservation, and orderly development of the State's coastal resources. The management program is primarily based on the legislative authority contained in CAMA that established the Coastal Resources Commission (CRC) as a regional resource management body; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina has historically applied a two-tiered approach to coastal resources management through AEC designations, alongside management and coordination with State authorities and local governments; and

WHEREAS, coastal North Carolina has largely avoided many possible environment-changing disasters due to CAMA and its establishment and regulation of AECs. AEC creation requires a closer examination of proposed activities and interventions and provides everyone time to completely consider the consequences of particular actions.

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Rules Review Commission (RRC) voted to return 30 longstanding rules to the CRC on October 5, 2023, following the adoption of Session Law 2023-134. As a result, the Codifier removed these rules from the Administrative Code, ultimately resulting in the CRC and RRC currently in litigation to resolve the dispute over these rules; and

WHEREAS, the CRC called a special meeting on December 13, 2023, to consider temporary emergency rules as a means to reinstate these nullified rules in the NC Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, the CRC developed 16 proposed temporary Coastal Resource management rules (07H .0507, .0508, .0509, 07I .0702, 07J .0203, .0204, .0206, .0207, .0208, 07M .0401, .0402, .0403, .0701, .0703, .0704 and .1101) for critical day-to-day administration of the North Carolina Coastal Management Program in response to the RRC decision and ongoing litigation. While the rules are not new, the CRC included amendments that address RRC objections. These amendments focus on what the RRC considered to be vague and ambiguous language, and clarified procedures, definitions, and citations addressing statutory authority. These amendments impose no additional requirements on the regulated community as these rules were already in existence as of October 5, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the CRC conducted public hearings on January 9 and 10, 2024, to accept comments on the proposed temporary rules, and has extended the public comment period on these rules until February 22, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the proposed temporary rules are necessary under the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA). The loss of these rules could trigger a re-review of North Carolina's CAMA program, which could potentially result in the loss of federal benefits, such as those utilized for beach nourishment projects; and

WHEREAS, the Coastal Resource management rules are necessary to protect valuable state resources, including 'unique geologic formations' and 'significant coastal archeological resources' found at sites such as Jockey's Ridge State Park and Permuda Island Reserve; and

WHEREAS, the CRC's objective is to preserve unique resources, such as these heritage sites that are more than just of local significance, to ensure that the areas and their natural processes shall be preserved for and be accessible to the scientific and educational communities for study purposes, and to protect their educational and aesthetic qualities; and

WHEREAS, the Coastal Resource management rules are necessary for the evaluation and issuance of CAMA permit applications. Loss of these rules could impact local governments' ability to collect permit fees and process permit applications in a legally defensible manner. Not only would this create confusion and inconsistency within permitting, but applicants would also be required to seek separate, individual U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits, instead of streamlined joint permits through the Division of Coastal Management.

WHEREAS, the Coastal Resource management rules create and explain necessary policies, and without these rules, the State may not be able to engage in consistency determinations, impacting its ability to govern beneficial use of dredged materials; and

WHEREAS, the loss of these Coastal Resource management rules jeopardizes North Carolina's ability to avail itself of federal consistency review privileges and federal funding under the CZMA that depend upon the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration's approval of the State's coastal management program; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners for the Town of Kill Devil Hills expresses its strong support for the implementation of the proposed Coastal Resource management temporary rules 07H .0507, .0508, .0509, 07I .0702, 07J .0203, .0204, .0206, .0207, .0208, 07M .0401, .0402, .0403, .0701, .0703, .0704 and .1101; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners urges the CRC to adopt and implement these temporary rules; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners implores the North Carolina Rules Review Commission to revisit its decision to nullify long-standing rules affecting the management of North Carolina's coastal resources. This 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2024.





John Mayor Vindley

ATTEST:

James Michael O'Dell Town Clerk

### Willis, Angela

From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachments: Brittany Iery <brittany@ncconservationnetwork.org> Wednesday, February 21, 2024 3:12 PM Willis, Angela [External] Temporary Rules Temporary Rules\_CRC.pdf

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Hello,

Please see the attached petition signed by 651 North Carolina residents urging the Coastal Resources Commission to finalize and adopt strong temporary coastal management rules, and then, in the months ahead, propose and adopt permanent rules to provide permanent protection.

Thank you, Brittany

Brittany lery NC Conservation Network Digital Campaigns Manager


## North Carolina Conservation Network

234 Fayetteville Street 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Raleigh, NC 27601 919.857.4699

#### February 21, 2024

Angela Willis, Assistant to the Director Division of Coastal Management 400 Commerce Avenue Morehead City, NC 28557

**RE: Temporary Rules** 

Dear Coastal Resources Commission,

Please see the attached petition signed by **651** North Carolina residents urging the Coastal Resources Commission to finalize and adopt strong temporary coastal management rules, and then, in the months ahead, propose and adopt permanent rules to provide permanent protection.

The Federal Coastal Zone Management Act sets standards for states to manage their coastlines, and the proposed coastal management temporary rules will keep us in compliance with federal law, as well as protecting our fragile coastal environments.

Thank you,

Brittany Iery, Digital Campaigns Manager NC Conservation Network Dear Coastal Resources Commission,

We write as North Carolina residents who cherish North Carolina's beautiful and threatened coastal environments: beaches, marshes, sea-grass beds, forests, and swamps.

For over 30 years, the Coastal Resources Commission's coastal management rules have required local governments to plan for the future and have guided development away from the most environmentally sensitive areas. Without these rules, North Carolina may lose access to federal funds, including funds to maintain beaches, and lose the power to influence key actions, like where federal agencies dispose of dredge material.

The Federal Coastal Zone Management Act sets standards for states to manage their coastlines, and the proposed coastal management temporary rules will keep us in compliance with federal law, as well as protecting our fragile coastal environments.

Please finalize and adopt strong temporary coastal management rules, and then, in the months ahead, propose and adopt permanent rules to provide permanent protection.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

	First Name	Last Name	Address	City	State	Zip
1.	Joan	Roberts	68 5Th Ave	Asheville	NC	28806-4103
2.	Pat	Cole	6 Galahad Pl	Asheville	NC	28806-2006
3.	Tonya	Clark	19 1/2 W Oakview Rd	Asheville	NC	28806-1409
	Suzanne	Schneiderman	59 Mark Twain Rd	Asheville	NC	28805-9725
5.	Djuna	Roberts	165 Gashes Creek Rd	Asheville	NC	28805-2503
6.	Edith	Simpson	15 Springdale Rd	Asheville	NC	28805-1736
7.	Christy	Fritz	5 Patti Ln Apt 101	Asheville	NC	28804-9756
8.	Pamela	Culp	42 River Walk Dr	Asheville	NC.	28804-4405
9.	Peter	Lourekas	31 Lorraine Ave	Asheville	NC	28804-2528
10.	Howard	Yarborough	14 Beaver Valley Rd	Asheville	NC	28804-1802
11.	Marla	West	81 Wild Cherry Rd	Asheville	NC	28804-1726
	Keely	Brennan	184 Pineview Rd	Asheville	NC	28804-1328
13.	Amy	Pfaffman	29 Wyntree Dr	Asheville	NC	28803-9102
14.	Adrienne	Ferriss	27 Pheasant Dr	Asheville	NÇ	28803-3370
15.	Meriwether	Beatty	3 Forest Rd	Asheville	NC	28803-2907
16.	Charles	Hampton	76 Saint Dunstans Cir	Asheville	NC	28803-2618
17.	Julia	Terrell	111 Wedgewood Ln	Asheville	NC	28803-1888
18.	J.A.	Perry	24 Ridge Ave	Asheville	NC	28803-1432
19.	Beth	Stanberry	33 Coxe Ave Unit 468	Asheville	NC	28802-0140
20.	Buck	Schall	31 Elizabeth St	Asheville	NC	28801-2267
21.	Betty	Lawrence	142 Hillside St	Asheville	NC	28801-1206
22.	Chris	Mitchell	149 Cold Springs Rd	Hendersonville	NC	28792-9495
23.	Deborah	Dobson	32 N Clear Creek Rd	Hendersonville	NC	28792-8133
24.	Mary	Mcqueen	171 Inglenook Rd	Hendersonville	NC	28792-0097
25.	Laura	Bannister	11 Surrey Run	Hendersonville	NC	28791-1653
26.	. Cathy	Nieman	312 Ivy Hill Rd	Weaverville	NC	28787-9652
27.	. Tina	Vazquez	50 Compass Park Dr	Weaverville	NC	28787-4517
28	. Evelyn	Coltman	90 Evergreen Cir	Waynesville	NC	28786-7508
29.	Anthony	Scardaci	298 East St	Waynesville	NC	28786-4069
30.	. Danna	Mclintock	920 Tumbling Fork Rd	Waynesville	NC	28785-6010
31	. Kim	Adams	516 Melrose Avenue Ext	Tryon	NC	28782-3374
32	. Alice	Summey	Po Box 460	Saluda	NC	28773-0460
33	Laura	Boggess	501 Bailey St	Mars Hill	NC	28754-6209

34.	Dena	Watts	139 S Turkey Creek Rd	Leicester	NC	28748-6501
35.	Michael	Roche	7 Briarwood Ln	Fletcher	NC	28732-8417
36.	Marilyn	Hamer	220 Dye Leaf Rd	Fairview	NC	28730-9651
37.	Kathleen	<b>Basiewicz</b>	Po Box 1204	Dana	NC	28724-1204
38.	George	Rector	947 Bo Cove Rd	Cullowhee	NC	28723-6930
39.	Heide	Coppotelli	383 Seldon Emerson Rd	Cedar Mountain	NC	28718-9017
40.	Chanda	Farley	47 Ford St	Canton	NC	28716-1295
41.	Jude	Pasqualini	354 Davis Creek Rd	Candler	NC	28715-8193
42.	Lenore	Madeleine	700 Vista Lake Dr Apt 308	Candler	NC	28715-7191
43.	D	Rosengrant	385 Purple Finch Rd	Brevard	NC	28712-5087
44.	Herschel	Flowers	80 Walker Cove Rd	Black Mountain	NC	28711-8715
45.	Martha	Johnson	4 Daniel Ln	Black Mountain	NC	28711-8712
46.	Mary	Tharp	906B Montreat Rd	Black Mountain	NC	28711-3228
47.	Robert	Swett	301 Montreat Rd	Black Mountain	NC	28711-3119
48.	Roberta	Rosell	219 Pine St	Black Mountain	NC	28711-3021
49.	Tom	Schultz	414 Hiawassee Ave	Black Mountain	NC	28711-2829
50.	Justin	Landry	119 Chestnut Pl	Arden	NC	28704-2902
51.	Julia	Hartman	70 Dalmatian Trl	Alexander	NC	28701-9210
52.	Iris	Carman	327 Lakewood Dr	Wilkesboro	NC	28697-8459
53.	Michael	Genovese	1355 Twogreen Ln	Newton	NC	28658-8872
54.	Helen	Fisher	506 Jefferson Ct	Lenoir	NC	28645-8366
55.	Mary	Pasquill	1149 Hidden Lake Dr	Granite Falls	NC_	28630-8592
56.	Carol	Hoke	5092 Gold Leaf Trl	Conover	NC	28613-8499
57	Marna	Napoleon	250 Yarrow Ln	Boone	NC	28607-9691
58	Wes	Weaver	342 Dogwood Knl	Boone	NC	28607-8134
59	Kristina	Heiks	2786 NC Highway 194 N	Boone	NC	28607-7709
60	Lidia	Lucaciu	2446 27th Avenue Cir NE	Hickory	NC	28601-7238
61	Carole	Newsome	7211 Emerald Dr	Emerald Isle	NC	28594-3010
62	. Mary	Forsyth	650 Cedar Point Blvd Apt B15	Cedar Point	NC	28584-8212
63	. Anthony	Bond	108 Doe Ln	New Bern	NC	28562-9197
64	. Jo	Flynn	210 Ne 66Th St	Oak Island	NC	28465-4631
65	. Jill	Welte	498 Peru Rd	Sneads Ferry	NC	28460-6662
66	. Len	Gregorio	1332 Cape Fear National Dr	Leland	NC	28451-6477
67	. Sandra	Sly	3075 3Rd St	Surf City	NC	28445-8628

68.	Larilyn	Swanson	35 Sea Hawk Ln	Hampstead	NC	28443-6509
69.	Frederick	Mayer	214 Hickory Ln	Hampstead	NC	28443-2531
70.	Dawn	Fisher	507 Birmingham Ave	Carolina Beach	NC	28428-5218
71.	Sherry	Wibberley	1609 Zion Hill Rd Se Unit 2	Bolivia	NC	28422-8297
72.	Tom	Riggins	710 Bayshore Dr	Wilmington	NC	28411-9421
73.	Sondra	Vitols	8208 Baid Eagle Ln	Wilmington	NC	28411-9307
74.	Gloria	Green	1306 Maple Ridge Rd	Wilmington	NC	28411-7410
75.	Esther	Murphy	7235 Darden Rd Apt 127	Wilmington	NC	28411-5101
76.	Marie	Montemurro	1319 Military Cutoff Rd	Wilmington	NC	28405-3174
77.	Miles	Murphy	5052 Park Ave	Wilmington	NC	28403-7023
78.	Jen	Johnson	1720 Orange St	Wilmington	NC	28403-1000
79.	м	Stanley	126 Central Blvd	Wilmington	NC	28401-6947
80.	Terri	Lefler	305 Martin St	Wilmington	NC_	28401-6235
81.	H. Alan	Helsing	2500 E Indiana Ave	Southern Pines	NC	28387-7400
82.	Amanda	Brewer	735 Ann Rd	Orrum	NC	28369-9758
83.	с	Grimes	6317 Rustic Rdg	Hope Mills	NC_	28348-2712
84.	Kristen	Britt	3315 Auburn Dr	Fayetteville	NC	28306-9353
85.	Henry Louis	Rodriguez Cruz Jr	7718 Eunice Dr	Fayetteville	NC	28306-8625
86.	Brett	Little	2711 Bennington Rd	Fayetteville	NC	28303-5235
87.	Edward	Turner	11226 Coachman Cir	Charlotte	NC	28277-9173
88.	Deborah	Griffith	11210 Hickory Trail Ln	Charlotte	NC	28277-6124
89.	Barry	Goldfarb	2420 Lynbridge Dr	Charlotte	NC	28270-7773
90.	Michele	Mcguirt	1708 Whispering Forest Dr Apt 307	Charlotte	NC	28270-2341
91.	Samuel	Todd	8801 Brigadier Ln	Mint Hill	NC	28227-9731
92.	Deborah	Steiner	10102 Mountain Apple Dr	Mint Hill	NC	28227-5246
93.	. Cheryl	Williams	8930 Glencroft Rd	Mint Hill	NC	28227-4581
94	. Kimberly	Shelton	6141 Rhone Dr	Charlotte	NC .	28226-8904
95	. Steve	Copulsky	6614 Lynn Ave	Charlotte	NC	28226-8010
96	. Fred	Martin	3215 Ravencliff Dr	Charlotte	NC	28226-7332
97	Alex	Blaine	10518 Kettering Dr	Charlotte	NC	28226-4742
98	Larry	Coughlin	7324 Ricewell Rd	Charlotte	NC	28226-3824
99	. Debora	Hilton	4701 Carberry Ct	Charlotte	NC	28226-3270
100	. Maureen	Kivney	5105 Top Seed Ct	Charlotte	NC	28226-3216
101	. Brandon	Williams	7239 Lockmont Dr	Charlotte	NC	28212-6451

I

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				Charlotte	NC	28210-7208
		Hemenway	7700 Covey Chase Dr		NC	28209-4509
			1116 Scaleybark Rd Apt 116B	Charlotte		28209-3439
_			531 Manning Dr	Charlotte	NC	
		Kirschner	326 Tranquil Ave	Charlotte	NC	28209-2116
106.	Betty	Gunz	1409 Maryland Ave	Charlotte	NC	28209-1527
107.	Mary	Bowman	1612 Myers Park Dr	Charlotte	NC	28207-2670
108.	Christie	Driscoll	2327 Laburnum Ave	Charlotte	NC	28205-6045
109.	Mary	Tuma	4020 Larkspur Ln	Charlotte	NC	28205-4972
110.	Karen	Hodges	2641 Palm Ave	Charlotte	NC	28205-2239
111.	Pamela	Thomas	Po Box 313	Wingate	NC	28174-0313
112.	Jeffrey	Wilson	10512 Rocking Chair Rd	Matthews	NC	28105-7187
113.	Rich	Graham	7930 Vinings Oak Ln Apt 412	Matthews	NC	28105-5113
114.	Nadine	Blancato	12717 Windyedge Rd	Huntersville	NC	28078-2236
115.	Joel	Trujillo	9001 Cherrys Ford Ct	Harrisburg	NC	28075-9650
116.	Richard	Mccrary	1759 Yellowstone Ct Apt I	Gastonia	NC	28054-1772
117.	Mary	Jeffrey	4906 Looking Glass Trl	Denver	NC	28037-9032
118.	Martin	Shapiro	6259 Scuttle Ln	Denver	NC_	28037-0839
119.	Barbara	Burns	1021 Churchill Rd	Davidson	NC	28036-9098
120.	George	Slaton	1230 South St	Cornelius	NC	28031-8163
121.	Chris	Micolucci	20811 Island Forest Dr	Cornelius	NC ·	28031-7099
122.	Cynthia	Bernett	10636 Rippling Stream Dr NW	Concord	NC	28027-8264
123.	Darla	Gottsabend	1651 Wild Turkey Ln	Concord	NC	28025-9000
		Hannah	476 Caldwell Dr Se	Concord	NC	28025-3602
125.	Ginny	Nolan	3204 S Memorial Ave	Nags Head	NC	27959-9362
126.	Christine	Hawes	424 Kitty Hawk Bay Dr	Kill Devil Hills	NC	27948-9164
127.	Michael	Fleming	2910 Mulberry Ln Unit D	Greenville	NC	27858-7824
128	Susan	Redding	601 S Elm St	Greenville	NC	27858-2825
	. Jeff	Robinson-Thomas	3633 Prestwick Pl	Greenville	NC	27834-8936
	. Diane	Jackson	123 Applecross Ct	Durham	NC	27713-9333
	, Catherine	Sims	1021 Red Hat Ln	Durham	NC	27713-8223
	. Claudia	Kaplan	4911 Victoria Dr	Durham	NC	27713-8023
	. john	Wiles	5205 Langford Ter	Durham	NC	27713-6542
	Lawrence Lee		101 Kaitlin Dr	Durham	NC	27713-2769
	. Carol	Young	5808 Williamsburg Way	Durham	NC	27713-2636

	<u> </u>		5306 Pelham Rd	Durham		27713-2532
	Tracy	Feldman	1105 Trails End Rd	Durham		27712-9101
	Beth	Livingston		Durham		27712-3247
	Beth	Harvat	3607 Cole Mill Rd	Durham	NC	27712-2214
	м	Win	1008 Pine Valley Dr	Durham		27707-5032
	Harriette	Frank	3603 Westover Rd			27707-2416
141.	Karla	Brown	3208 Waterbury Dr	Durham		27705-6180
142.	Marcia	Mandel	5 Radley Pl	Durham		27705-6027
143.	Vicky	Brandt	3318 Coachmans Way	Durham		
144.	Diane	Thomas	110 Pinecrest Rd	Durham	NC	27705-5813
145.	Susan	Saenger	6 Scotland Pl	Durham	NC	27705-5440
146.	Debby	Teplin	2211 Hillsborough Rd Apt 3063	Durham	NC	27705-4177
147.	Susan	Cates	910 Constitution Dr	Durham	NC	27705-2895
148.	Philip	Johnson	2600 Croasdaile Farm Pkwy Apt A104	Durham	NC	27705-1333
	Carol	Rist	1 Barratts Chapel Ct	Durham	NC	27705-1311
	Jeffrey	Nicolaisen	2528 Perkins Rd	Durham	NC	27705-1020
	Andrew	Hefner	709 Pleasant Dr	Durham	NC	27703-5135
	Michael	Eisenberg	1015 Athena Dr	Durham	NC	27703-0409
	Slosek	Brian	1108 Carroll Aly	Durham	NC	27701-3029
	John	Compton	404 W Knox St	Durham	NC	27701-1638
-	. Pam	Watkins	926 W Markham Ave	Durham	NC	27701-1514
	Gregory	Hargraves	8870 Elizabeth Bennet Pl	Raleigh	NC	27616-9039
	. Timothy	Throndson	7437 Capstone Dr	Raleigh	NC	27615-5711
	Laura	Luyendyk	325 Baytree Ln	Raleigh	NC	27615-1608
	John	Franklin	11504 Hyde Pl	Raleigh	NC	27614-9626
	. Karin	Petzold	3517 Mount Prospect Cir	Raleigh	NC	27614-7588
	. Michael	Fowler	10850 Oliver Rd Apt 201	Raleigh	NC	27614-7349
	. Nancy	White	13012 Melvin Arnold Rd	Raleigh	NC	27613-7202
	Elizabeth	Kearse	2113 Oakcrest Ct	Raleigh	NC	27612-6913
	Larry	Petrovick	1657 Village Glenn Dr	Raleigh	NC	27612-4341
	i, Jim	Smith	4620 Mial Plantation Rd	Raleigh	NC	27610-8510
	. Doris	Jackson	5405 Wheatcross Pl	Raleigh	NC	27610-2152
	Jessica	Heironimus	1225 Somerset Rd	Raleigh	NC	27610-1136
	. Jessica 3. Ken	Bosch	4404 Quail Hollow Dr	Raleigh	NC	27609-6018
			711 Kimbrough St	Raleigh	NC	27608-2723
169	J. Vickie	Penninger	1/11 KUIDI OUGU DV			

				Deleigh		27608-1818
170.		Blasko	506 Mial St	Raleigh	NC NC	27608-1411
	Joanne	Studders	2317 Byrd St	Raleigh		27607-7233
	Lynn	Eakes	605 Latta St	Raleigh	NC	
173.	Peg	Gjertsen	3347 Ridgecrest Ct	Raleigh	NC	27607-6764
174.	Jeffrey	Snow	3108 Hunters Bluff Dr	Raleigh	NC	27606-9623
175.	Andreas	Batz	3137 Aileen Dr	Raleigh	NC	27606-3690
176.	Cheryl	Mcgraw	1004 Braxton Ct	Raleigh	NC_	27606-1706
177.	Helen	Gray	1020 W Peace St Apt U8	Raleigh	NC	27605-1430
178.	Ken	Broome	1209 Filmore St Apt C	Raleigh	NC	27605-1278
179.	Chris	Conley	4800 Walden Ct Apt B	Raleigh	NC	27604-2703
180.	Ray	Derrickson	3607 Glenraven Dr	Raleigh	NC	27604-2523
181.	Todd	Fields	1725 Acorn Creek Ln	Wendell	NC	27591-6852
	Robert	Moore	1022 S Main St	Wake Forest	NC_	27587-9223
183.	Lisa	Lambert	1136 Mauldin Cir	Wake Forest	NC	27587-4420
	Tanya	Taylor	5859 Kiger Rd	Rougemont	NC	27572-8548
	Julie	Nye	407 River Trace Dr	Rougemont	NC	27572-6500
	Lynne	C.	6032 Kentworth Dr	Holly Springs	NC	27540-7670
-	Christine	Reel Brander	42 Ciclo Ct	Clayton	NC	27527-9369
	Mae	Basye	501 Quest Ridge Dr	Fuquay Varina	NC	27526-8719
_	, Michael	Lewandowski	3049 Willow Ranch Dr	Fuquay Varina	NC	27526-3961
	Stacie	Jones	312 Hunter Way	Clayton	NC	27520-7266
_	Donald	Houser	199 Cedardale Ct	Clayton	NC	27520-5554
	. Douglas	Evans	105 Summerwalk Ct	Cary	NC	27518-9146
	Arielle	Schechter	440 Bayberry Dr	Chapel Hill	NC	27517-9122
	. Rachel	Mcmanus	1 Carolina Mdws	Chapel Hill	NC	27517-8508
	, Maria	Salgado	1 Carolina Mdws Apt 307	Chapel Hill	NC	27517-8508
196		Kilzer	20016 Bragg	Chapel Hill	NC	27517-8358
	, Chris	Moses	125 Sprunt St	Chapel Hill	NC	27517-7810
	. Philip	Carl	345 Carolina Meadows Villa	Chapel Hill	NC	27517-7519
199		Yarnell	5722 Hideaway Dr	Chapel Hill	NC	27516-9567
200		Strauss	103 Stonehill Rd	Chapel Hill	NC	27516-8639
200		Daniel	1904 Jo Mac Rd	Chapel Hill	NC	27516-7816
201		Koppelman	2308 Wabash Rd	Chapel Hill	NC	27516-5827
	. Eli	Celli	407 Legends Way	Chapel Hill	NC	27516-4371
203				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · _ · · _ · · _ · = _ · _ ·		

				Chonel Uill	INC	27516-3418
	Dorian	Dagati	104 Butterfield Ct	Chapel Hill	NC	27516-2807
	Kate	Torrey	501 Dogwood Dr	Chapel Hill		27516-2807
	Janet	Tice	310 Umstead Dr	Chapel Hill	NC	
207.		Bleyman	1818 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd Pmb 146	Chapel Hill	NC	27514-7415
208.	Stephen	Edgerton	117 Virginia Dr	Chapel Hill	NC	27514-6636
209.	Marc	Pendergast	203 Glenview Pl	Chapel Hill	NC	27514-1950
210.	lvy	Brezina	120 Red Bud Ln	Chapel Hill	NĊ	27514-1736
211.	Gerry	Dudzik	139 Kingston Dr	Chapel Hill	NC	27514-1648
212.	Kaselehlia	Sielken	136 Kingston Dr	Chapel Hill	NC	27514-1644
213.	Burwell	Ware	126 Kingston Dr	Chapel Hill	NC	27514-1630
214.	Robert	Hellwig	750 Weaver Dairy Rd Apt 166	Chapel Hill	NC	27514-1482
215.	John	Hinnant	750 Weaver Dairy Rd	Chapel Hill	NC	27514-1440
216.	Susane	Boukamel	200 Fox View Pl	Cary	NC	27511-7223
217.	Jason	Cashwell	314 Fairfield Ln	Cary	NC	27511-5408
218.	Joan	Robertson	105 Convention Dr	Cary	NC	27511-4595
219.	Steven	Gordon	124 Fidelity St	Carrboro	NC	27510-2060
220.	James	Emery	106 Mary St	Carrboro	NC	27510-1232
221.	Joseph Ros	Burns	1015 W Abberley Ln	Apex	NC	27502-8106
222.	Debbie	Kenyon	509 Gablefield Ln	Apex	NC	27502-1361
223.	Suzanne	Nickel	602 Spring Leaf Ct	Greensboro	NC	27455-1497
224.	Mark	Rosa	6808 Renwick Ct	Greensboro	NC	27410-8379
225.	. Ann	Steighner	1218 Lakewood Dr	Greensboro	NC	27410-4440
	. Scott C.	Walker	712 Leawood Dr	Greensboro	NC	27410-4225
227	Anne	Jones	6100 W Friendly Ave Apt 3104	Greensboro	NC	27410-4055
-	Bruce	Kirchoff	5504 Ashmont Dr	Greensboro	NC	27410-3104
	Carol	Simpson	3000 W Cornwallis Dr	Greensboro	NC	27408-6730
	, Michael	Sileno	1509 W Cornwallis Dr	Greensboro	NC	27408-6311
	Mitchell	Ward	1403 Whilden Pl Apt B	Greensboro	NC	27408-2069
	Jasmine	Greenwood	4008 Waldenbrook Rd	Greensboro	NC	27407-7740
	Jamique	Chestnut	2302 Sidney Porter Dr	Greensboro	NC	27405-1691
_	. Robin	Davis	313 S Chapman St	Greensboro	NC	27403-1613
	Jay	Poole	6913 Wooden Rail Ln	Summerfield	NC	27358-9219
	. Karen	Mallam	810 Buckner Springs Rd	Siler City	NC	27344-8219
	. Susan	Abken	136 Rebecca Ln	Siler City	INC	27344-8099

238.	Tim	Mengel	6118 Branson Davis Rd	Randleman	NC	27317-7110
	Eilen	Cohen	363 Fearrington Post	Pittsboro	NC	27312-8517
	Susan	Brinkley-Clayton	101 W Smith Rd	Pittsboro	NC	27312-7987
	Jacalyn	Strouble	541 Meadow Branch Rd	Pittsboro	NC	27312-7057
	Sally	Bassett	929 Berry Patch Ln	Pittsboro	NC	27312-6086
	Kathy	Dowd	510 Easy St	Pittsboro	NC	27312-5852
	Ellen	Pearson	246 Indian Orchard Rd	Pittsboro	NC	27312-5103
	Eileen	Mccorry	4103 Fearrington Post	Pittsboro	NC	27312-5049
	Kicab		878 Fearrington Post	Pittsboro	NC	27312-5037
	Michelle	Wright	221 Fair Oaks Ct	Mebane	NC	27302-7984
	Elizabeth	Chappell	7217 Bobby Jean Rd	Julian	NC	27283-9232
	Betsy	Hundley	410 Wyndwood Dr	Jamestown	NC	27282-9724
	Carl	Worthy	4712 Barrington Place Ct	Jamestown	ŅC	27282-7975
	Brenda	Haves	403 St Marys Rd	Hillsborough	NC	27278-2556
	Don	Wells	308 Mitchell St	Hillsborough	NC	27278-2130
	Sandra	Dishman	1883 Prince Edward Dr	Elon	NC	27244-9172
254.		Dang	1236 Jamestowne Dr	Elon	NC	27244-8322
	Anne	Tooley	4402 Bradford Ridge Rd	Efland	NC	27243-9473
	Diane	Clark	4115 Castleford Dr	Colfax	NC	27235-9704
	Claude	Morris	4627 Springbrook Dr	Burlington	NC	27215-7023
	Kristiana	Van Eyk	632 Mountain Rd	Asheboro	NC	27205-4222
· · · · · ·	Velvet	Кеу	389 Rosewood Dr	Winston-Salem	NC	27127-9256
	Carol	Keeser	1976 Tiger Eye Ct	Winston-Salem	NC	27127-8008
261		Frey	903 Marguerite Dr	Winston-Salem	NC	27106-5829
262	. Don	Bergey	144 Greenvalley Rd	Winston-Salem	NC	27106-4811
	. Debora	Horning	3619 Marlowe Ave	Winston-Salem	NC	27106-4118
264	Richard	Marter	3250 Midkiff Rd	Winston-Salem	NC	27106-3030
_	. Tom	Mann	3625 Bechler Ln	Winston-Salem	NC	27106-2869
	. Benjamin	Miller	242 Ridge Forest Ct	Winston-Salem	NC	27104-3552
	. Matilda	Phillips	185 Driftwood Ln	Winston-Salem	NC	27104-3452
	. Clemens	Sandresky	1244 Arbor Rd Apt 441	Winston-Salem	NC	27104-1139
	. Luba	Havraniak	2270 Sunderland Rd Apt 17A	Winston-Salem	NC	27103-6596
_ + _	. Tom	Adkisson	1398 Hannaford Rd	Winston-Salem	NC	27103-2906
	Bobbie	Calgaro	7285 Orchard Path Dr	Clemmons	NC	27012-8564

272.	Mary Anne	Adelman	1000 Olde Eastwood Village Blvd Unit A311	Asheville	NC	29803
	Belinda	Thomas	261 Gleneagles Rd E	Statesville	NC	29625
274.		Heimlich	149 Dream Maker Ln	Murphy	NC	28906
	Terrie	Balino	721 Five Forks Dr	Murphy	NC	28906
	Adam	Matar	59 Cedar Hill Rd.	Asheville	NC	28806
	Deidre	Duffy	67 Craggy Ave	Asheville	NC	28806
	Gloria	Shen	40 Rocking Porch Ln	Asheville	NC	28805
	Kathleen	Labarbera	24 Mann Dr	Asheville	NC	28805
	Alan	Bernard	18 Plateau Road	Asheville	NC	28805
281.	Debbie	Mcmannis	467 Governors View Road	Asheville	NC	28805
	Barbara	Deguzis	301 Buck Cove Ter	Asheville	NC	28805
	Carol	Greenberger	705 New Haw Creek Road	Asheville	NC	28805
	Barbara	Sloss	5 Wagon Road	Asheville	NC	28805
285.		Milnes	200 Robinhood Road	Asheville	NC	28804
286.		Read	23 Spring Cove Rd	Asheville	NC	28804
	Terry	Faulkner	160 Chatham Rd.	Asheville	NC	28804
	Raymond	Lee	160 Chatham Road	Asheville	NC	28804
	Judith	Selz	183 Treetops Ln	Asheville	NC	28803
	Marilyn	Bollinger	28 Forestdale Dr	Asheville	NC	28803
	Anne	Roberts	400 Charlotte Street	Asheville	NC	28801
	Walter	Kross	32 Imperial Dr	Hendersonville	NC	28792
	George	Phillips	1140 Carousel Ln	Hendersonville	NC	28792
	Karen	Waltman	517 Burge Mountain Rd	Hendersonville	NC	28792
	Catherine	Krug	1103 Woodmont Drive	Hendersonville	NC	28791
	Liston	Smith	1512 Ridgewood Blvd	Hendersonville	NC	28791
	Sandy	Roberts	214 Dove Mtn	Whittier	NC	28789
	Joe	Nowak Jr	38 Morningside Drive	Weaverville	NC	28787
	. Marion	Danforth	9 Williams St	Weaverville	NC	28787
	. Anne	Mosser	120 Water Leaf Dr	Weaverville	NC	28787
	. Emily	Robertson	14 Dula Springs Rd	Weaverville	NC	28787
	, Doug	Franklin	383 Boundary St.	Waynesville	NC	28786
1	Misty	Mathes	191 Balsam Dr	Waynesville	NC	28786
	Kaaren	Stoner	2225 Coleman Mt. Rd.	Waynesville	NC	28785
	Shelly	Whiteside	218 Markham Road	Tryon	NC	28782

200	C		15 Mill Race Lm Sw	annanoa	NC	28778
	Susan	Brown	15 Mill Race Elli			28768
	Douglas	Fisher	5565 Wilson Ru	autiteration		28768
	Ann	Green	7 to thick this has been	gantionest		28761
	Bridget J	Dunford				28758
	Debra	Rhymer	10 00x 174	Barream	NC	28753
	Linda	Raper	701 Feters cove nu	aronan		28753
	Patricia	Momich	7655 NC 200 HWy.			28745
	Donna	Dupree	1500 50 110 20	ite samaras a	NC	28739
	Julie	Shoemaker	1303 Tony Road		NC	28739
	Geri	Conley	1525 чиглос и дось	inder sonne	NC .	28733
316.	Connie	Кауе	DI W, COVC LII.			28734
317.	Susan	Goodman	234 Summerneturi		NC	
318.	Catherine	Carter	241 Oak tolest blive	ino tine e	NC	28723
319.	William	Spencer			NC	28723
320.	Heidi	Haehlen	10 bilgudeen Et	700	NC	28721
321.	Rob	Allyn			NC	28715
322.	Halcyon	Learned	013 Opper browns creek nd		NC	28714
323.	Teal	Chimblo Fyrberg			NC	28714
324.	Carol	McCroskey			NC	28714
325.	Mellie	Burns		yson City	NC	28713
326.	Donna	Вусе	137 E35CK C0	revard	NC	28712
327.	Jennifer	Harper	192 Ole Looney Coon Rd Br	revard	NC	28712
328	Martha	Spencer	Sob field y Mountain Roda	revard	NC	28712
329.	Sylvan	Copelof	100 Park Ave Br	revard	NC	28712
330	. D	Rosengrant	385 Purple Finch Rd Br	revard	NC	28712
331	. Kristin	Stroup		lack Mountain	NC	28711
332	John	Bromer	255 Lakey Gap Acres Bl	lack Mountain	NC	28711
333	. Christina E	Dickson	109 Tabernacle Rd Bl	lack Mountain	NC	28711
	. Christiana	Brinton	5000 Aventine Dr Apt 209 Ar	rden	NC	28704
	. Patricia	English	313 Deer Creek Lane W	/ilkesboro	NC	28697
336		Diers	254 Heronwood Rd St	tatesville	NC	28677
	Donna	Thompson	14591 Elkin Hwy 268 Re	onda	NC	28670
338		Tucker		orth Wilkesboro	NC	28659
_	. Donna	Cox	415 Union Methodist Ch Rd N	lorth Wilkesboro	NC	28659

340.	Katriba	Syetson	PO Box 1434	Lenoir	NC	28645
341.		Pass	115 Hill St	Elkin	NC	28621
	Paul	Adams	3894 Newhall Dr Nw	Conover	NC	28613
	Daniel	Mclafferty	6998 Nobby Lail Rd	Connelly Springs	NC	28612
	Fredrick	Milano	201 Smokey Mt. Rd.	Boone	NC	28607
	Gavin	Cusack	144 Poplar Grove Rd.	Boone	NC	28607
	Thomas	Johnson	2455 Holloway Mountain Rd	Blowing Rock	NC	28605
	Michele	Martin	2184 Finger Bridge Rd	Hickory	NC	28602
	Andrea	Snyder	228 F 14th Ave Se	Hickory	NC	28602
	Derek	Chase	55 40Th Avenue Dr Ne	Hickory	NC	28601
	Chrisanne	Mitchell	810 32Nd Ave Dr Nw	Hickory	NC	28601
	William	Garrard	472 22Nd Ave Ne	Hickory	NC	28601
	Karen	Boyd	2705 N Center St Apt 16	Hickory	NC	28601
	Scottie	Lutz	3987 Section House Rd Lot 11	Hickory	NC	. 28601
	Jennifer	Dimarco	1715 Kool Park Rd NE	Hickory	NC	28601
	Cindee	Roberts	7023 Ocean Dr	Emerald Isle	NC	28594
	John	Mantia	7211 Emerald Drive	Emerald Isle	NC	28594
	April	Hardee	7528 Sound Dr	Emerald Isle	NC	28594
	William	Kenneke	402 Holly St	Emerald Isle	NC	28594
	Jerry	Mcroy	1017 Van Gert Dr	Winterville	NC	28590
	Linda	Kehew	211 Buckingham Dr.	Winterville	NC	28590
361.	Diane	Peterson	106 Walnut Drive	Swansboro	NC	28584
362.	Barbara	Benson	104 Deerfield Court	Cedar Point	NC	28584
363	Terry	Halpern	306 Whittaker Pt Rd	Oriental	NC	28571
	Jordan	Depina	422 Frida Rd	New Bern	NC	28560
	. William	Сохе	908 Pelican Dr	New Bern	NĈ	28560
	. Deborah	Fox	102 Balboa Court	New Bern	NC	28560
	. Teresa	Rice	105 S 28Th	Morehead City	NC	28557
	Anne	Golub	123 Woodbury Farm Dr	Jacksonville	NC	28540
	Elaine	Levine	575 Adams Creek Rd	Havelock	NC	28532
	. Walter	Wood	304 Hedrick St	Beaufort	NC	28516
-	Jeffery	Merrell	145 Ingram Rd	Beaufort	NC	28516
-	. Joyce	Clear	279 Gatsey Ln	Beaufort	NC	28516
	. Kimberly	Lang	3931 N Hills Dr	Ayden	NC	28513

374.	Flora	Shedd	164 Oakleaf Drive	Pine Knoll Shores	NC	28512
	Karen	Dunn	622 Waynick Blvd Unit 102	Wrightsville Beach	NC	28480
	Randall	Dail	495 River Bluff Dr. Unit 3	Shallotte	NC	28470
	Terrell	Shortsleeve	6367 Havencrest Drive SW	Ocean Isle Beach	NC	28469
78.	Craig	Brown	670 Kings Trl	Sunset Beach	NC	28468
79.	Lauren	Judy	346 Sea Trail Dr E	Sunset Beach	NC	28468
80.	Doug	Vanluvender	1051 Fayetteville Ave	Calabash	NC	28467
81.	George	Czerw	703 Alyssum Ave	Caswell Beach	NC	28463
82.	Bonnie	Westbrook	3795 Ridge Crest Drive	Southport	NC	28461
83.	Ann	Cullen	3616 Gleneagle Dr	Southport	NC	28461
84.	Aidan	Bush	7610 Albright Rd Ne	Raleigh	NC	28451
	Carolyn	Riday	2313 Amorosa Loop NE	Leland	NC	28451
	Jane	Crowder	1016 Bellerby Cove	Leland	NC	2845
387.	Donna	Maher	2017 Forest View Cir	Leiand	NC	2845
88.	Katherine	Solomita	1010 Leesburg Dr	Leland	NC	2845
89.	Jack	Balsinger	1312 Taswell Court	Leland	NC	2845
390.	Margot	Clark	451 Anderson Blvd	Topsail Beach	NC	2844
391.	Cheryl	Hunter	819 S Topsail Drive	Surf City	NC	2844
	Brenda	Coleman	103 Ravenswood Rd	Hampstead	NC	2844
393.	Marjorie	Ulcickas	398 Mallard Bay Rd	Hampstead	NC	2844
394.	Andy	Wood	PO Box 1008	Hampstead	NC	2844
395.	George	Brown	580 Sea Holly Drive	Castle Hayne	NC	2842
396.	Jason	Rooker	3329 Oakley Circle	Castle Hayne	NC	2842
397.	Rhetta	Walter	3611 Lazaret Court	Castle Hayne	NC	2842
398.	Bill	Carley	111 Longstreet Drive	Wilmington	NC	2841
399.	Helaine	Berman	728 Sago Bay Drive	Wilmington	NC	2841
400.	Scott	Sigmon	4613 Indian Trail	Wilmington	NC	2841
401.	Tracey	Laszloffy	4414 Worthylake Run	Wilmington	NC	2841
402.	John	Herrmann	403 The Cape Blvd	Wilmington	NC	2841
403.	Barbara	Schmale	3408 Laughing Gull Tet	Wilmington	NC	2841
404.	Johnette	Fields	3206 Graylyn Terrace	Wilmington	NC	2841
405	Monica	Rolquin	8205 Winding Creek Cir	Wilmington	NC	2841
	Carl	Fullerton	8725 Bald Eagle Ln	Wilmington	NC	2841
	Susan	Skoda	7727 Monarch Drive	Wilmington	NC	2841

408.	Clarissa	Kiser	426 Biscayne Dr	Wilmington	NC	28411
	Tim	Holder	7601 Quail Woods Road	Wilmington	NC	28411
410.	Peggy	Fry	115 Pine Cone Rd	Wilmington	NC	28409
_	Beth	Hansen	3722 Amber Dr	Wilmington	NC	28409
412.	Andrew	Marhevsky	5017 Dockside Drive	Wilmington	NC	28409
	Traci	Hamilton	3328 Chalmers Dr	Wilmington	NC	28409
	Rachel	Magallon	713 Clearwater Court Apt F	Wilmington	NC	28405
	Peter	Schulz	2616 Hargate Ct	Wilmington	NC	28405
416.	James	Zizzo	2304 Wrightsville Ave.	Wilmington	NC	28403
417.	David	James	124 Edgewater Lane	Wilmington	NC	28403
418.	David	Zora	381 Darlington Ave Unit 303	Wilmington	NC	28403
419.	Karen	Langelier	3613A Saint John'S Ct	Wilmington	NC	28403
420.	Sam	Shores	6229 Wrightsville Avenue, H	Wilmington	NC	28403
421.	Kimberly	West	1912 Washington Street	Wilmington	NC	28401
	Dana	Sargent	617 Surry St.	Wilmington	NC	28401
423.	Robert	Milton	114 So. 3Rd Street	Wilmington	NC	28401
424.	Terry	Williams	121 Chestnut St Apt 4-11	Wilmington	NC	28401
425.	Dagmar	Williams	1750 Wade Stedman Rd	Stedman	NC	28391
426.	Barbara	Bera	10 Ranger Ln	Spring Lake	NC	28390
427.	Joanne	Thornton	PO Box 2162	Southern Pines	NC	28388
428.	John	Scott	73 Little Coharie Ln	Roseboro	NC ·	28382
429.	Jacquelyn	Hawkins	305 Andrews Road	Red Springs	NC	28377
430.	Karen	Hodges Cotton	119 Frank Hodges Ln	Raeford	NC	28376
431.	Cathleen	Pritchard	4 Georgia Court	Pinehurst	NC	28374
432.	. Hason	Montoya	117 Buck Hill Rd	Mount Olive	NC	28365
433.	. Emily	Scott	6 Mill Street	Lumberton	NC	28358
434	. Ryuu	Nishikawa	2900 Freedom Dr	Lumberton	NC NC	28358
435	. Liv	Pierce	200 Coral Rd	Dudley	NC	28333
436	. James	Britt	201 Fairview St	Clinton	NC	28328
437	Jennifer	Boyd	885 Hancock Rd	Cameron	NC	28326
438	Kathy	Wright	620 Lighthorse Circle	Aberdeen	NC	28315
439	. Griselda	Sutton	2789 Tom Geddie Road	Eastover	NC	28312
440	. Laura	Faber	6346 Pawling Ct	Fayetteville	NC	28304
441	. Paula	Mcphail	2122 Clinchfield Drive	Fayetteville	NC	28304

442.]	John	Poulos	489 Windwood On Skye	Fayetteville	NC	28303
	Barbara	Goodrich	8316 Dallas Bay Rd	Charlotte	NC	28278
	Monika	Klein	8215 Shadow Oaks Dr Apt 421	Charlotte	NC	28269
	Dane	Bowen	8740 Blair Rd	Mint Hill	NC	28227
	Ricardo	Arã©Valo	6403 Rockshire Dr	Charlotte	NC	28227
447.		Doty	8419 Timbercrest Cir	Charlotte	NC	28226
	Karen	Blaine	10518 Kettering Dr	Charlotte	NC	28226
	Lee	Lumpkin	3530 Carmel Rd	Charlotte	NC	28226
	Linda	Buckel	7732 Hammond Dr	Charlotte	NC	28215
	Billie	Anderson	3011 Eastburn Rd	Charlotte	NC	28210
	Helena	Guiles	3722 Park Rd	Charlotte	NC	28209
	Rebecca	Barham	516 E Woodlawn Rd	Charlotte	NC	28209
	Janet	Palmer	5326 Silabert Avenue	Charlotte	NC	28205
	Caro	Yanez	4938 Central Ave	Charlotte	NC	28205
	Jennifer	Barbara	609 Appomatox Dr	Marvin	NC	28173
	Daniel	Daugherty	140 Coventry Hills Ln	Troutman	NC	28166
-	Jennifer	Drum	1011 Caldwell Cir	Shelby	NC	28150
	Isabel	Cervera	2118 S Main St # 25	Salisbury	NC	28147
	Stacey	Cannon	1903 Stokes Ferry Rd.	Salisbury	NC	28146
	Stefon	Lira	303 W Council St	Salisbury	NC	28144
462.	Billy	Donahue	1170 Gilboa Church Rd	Rutherfordton	NC	28139
463.	Linsay	Ammons	136 Autumn Woods Blvd	Mt Holly	NC	28120
464.	Christi	Dillon	175 Forest Ridge Rd	Mooresville	NC	28117
465.	llene	Weiner	1207 Avalon Place	Matthews	NC	281.04
466	Frank	Stroupe	329 Raintree Drivve	Matthews	NC	28104
467	Forrest	Chambless	PO Box 1181	Lincolnton	NC	28093
468	. Mark	Sullivan	4016 Logan Cir	Indian Trail	NC	28079
469	Stephanie	Woelfle	8146 Townley Rd	Huntersville	NC	28078
470	Jonathan	Brown	7218 Chaddsley Dr	Huntersville	NC	28078
471	. James	Davis	613 Center St	Gastonia	NC	28054
472		Henderson	824 Adams Dr	Gastonia	NC	28052
473	. Gary	Andrew	319 N Downing St	Davidson	NC	28036
474		Steel	103 Union Street North	Concord	NC	28025
475	Dianne	Miller	910 Woodbrook Pi Ne	Concord	NC	28025

476.	Carrie	Goodykoontz	2206 Jackson St	Belmont	NC	28012
	Susan	Oneal	130 Howard St.	Ocracoke	NC	27960
478.		Carson	148 Blackfoot Rd	Knotts Island	NC	27959
	Kimberly	Emery	4727 S Cobia Way	Nags Head	NC	27959
	Kevin	Tillett	143 Holly Ridge Rd	Manteo	NC	27954
	Cheryl	Hopkins	50092 Treacher Ln	Frisco	NC	27936
	Elizabeth	Lindemann	1032 Corolla Dr	Corolla	NC	27927
	Terri	Krebs	510 Continental Drive	Elizabeth City	NC	27909
	Susan	Howell	3862 Dunhagsn Rd., #306	Greenville	NC	27858
	Kenneth A	Morris	2351 Staton Mill Rd	Bethel	NC	27812
	Rosemary	Clark	1111 Rosedale Ave	Rocky Mount	NC	27804
	Gillian M	lery	608 Short Spoon Circle	Rocky Mount	NC	27804
	Judy	Mesko	327 Clifton Rd	Rocky Mount	NC	27804
_	Cathy	May	5705 Fayetteville Rd Apt 2119	Durham	NC	27713
	Nancy	Botzek	3205 Stones Throw Ln Apt 5	Durham	NC	27713
	. Katarina	Caskey	1661 Snowmass Way	Durham	NC	27713
	Reagan	Mcguinn	1303 Meadston Dr	Durham	NC	27712
	. Jim	Slaughter	816 Snow Hill Rd	Durham	NC	27712
	. Keith	Levene	405 Carolina Cir	Durham	NC	27707
	. м. т.	Boatwright	2040 Englewood Ave	Durham	NC	27705
	. Thomas	Struhsaker	2953 Welcome Dr	Durham	NC	27705
	. Michael	James	3863 Keohane Drive	Durham	NC	27705
	. Patricia	Dutile	2733 Sevier St	Durham	NC	27705
	. Susan	Regier	501 Valley Dr	Durham	NC	27704
	. Frank	Hartig	1220 Thompson Road	Durham	NC	27704
501		Hamby	1106 W Murray Ave	Durham	NC	27704
	. Val	Shumate	5319 Summer Rose Ln	Durham	NC	27703
	. David	Biesack	510 Langhorne Dr	Durham	NC	27703
	Aaron	Reuben	309 Edward St	Durham	NC	27701
	. Zialliah	Ascalon	7703 Cape Charles Dr	Raleigh	NC	27617
	6. Cindy	Levey	8012 Clear Brook Dr	Raleigh	NC	27615
	. Nyon	S.O	1001 Fox Hunt Ln Apt C	Raleigh	NC	27615
-	. Cathy	Chester	10376 Dapping Dr Raleigh	Raleigh	NC	27614
-	Chris	Magri	4501 Pike Road	Raleigh	NC	27613

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510.I	Frances	Melott	4305 Southwind Drive	Raleigh	NC	27613
	Stephen	Melott	4306 Southwind Drive	Raleigh	NC	27613
512.		Berlin	9428 Macon Rd	Raleigh	NC	27613
-	Shannon	Vasamsetti	1928 Bowling Green Trl	Raleigh	NC	27613
	Donaid	Fuchs	4609 Wee Burn Trail	Raleigh	NC	27612
	Patricia	Crissman	4307 Edgehill Court	Raleigh	NC	27612
	Nancy	Mollenauer	4711 Shannonhouse Drive, Apt 208	Raleigh	NC	27612
	loe	Bearden	1809 Lakepark Dr	Raleigh	NC	27612
	Brittany	lery	1116 Holburn Pl	Raleigh	NC	27610
	Margaret	Vaughn	818 Chatham Lane	Raleigh	NC	27610
_	Mike	Lento	405 Bart Street	Raleigh	NC	27610
	Sterling	Bowen	109 N King Charles Rd	Raleigh	NC	27610
522.		Dulberg	555 Pine Ridge Pl	Raleigh	NC	27609
	David	Hambridge	2408 White Oak Rd	Raleigh	NC	27609
	Christina	Stableford	1508 Nature Ct	Raleigh	NC	27609
525.		Schreiner	423 Chesterfield Rd	Raleigh	NC	27608
	John	Sauls	3010 Grant Avenue	Raleigh	NC	27607
	Anne	Kepplinger	2844 Wycliff Rd	Raleigh	NC	27607
	Shannon	Foreman	5936 Terrington Ln	Raleigh	NC	27606
529.		Sutek	5501 Cedar Mill Drive	Raleigh	NC	27606
	John	Gerwin	1008 Ravenwood Dr	Raleigh	NC	27606
531.		Richardson	3712 Bryn Mawr Ct	Raleigh	NC	27606
	Judy	Mangum	4828 Pine Dr	Raleigh	NC	27604
	Shannon	Wylam	3405 Victor Pl	Raleigh	NC	27604
	Candace	1	3311 Marie	Raleigh	NC	27604
	Janice	Butterworth	5516 Holland Farms Way	Raleigh	NC	27603
	Melanie	Kaufman	6260 Oak Passage Drive	Raleigh	NC	27603
	Asheville	Sledge	204 Noble Deer Way	Wendell	NC	27591
	Sharon	Peplinski	179 Misty Hollow Road	Timberlake	NC	27583
_	Kenneth	Crews	3589 West Thollie Green Road	Stem Granville	NC	27581
	, Tonya	Taylor	PO Box 2703	Smithfield	NC	27577
	. Glen	Cotten	705 Keystone Park Dr.	Morrisville	NC	27560
_	Jackie	Kosnik	1208 Amber Acres Ln	Knightdale	NC	27545
	Karin	Hess	304 Milburnie Rd	Knightdale	NC	27545

544.	Debra	Hanks	1703 Farm Lake Drive	Holly Springs	NC	27540
545.	Mel	Hanks	1703 Farm Lake Drive	Holly Springs	NC	27540
	Francesca	Mahoney	113 Creekhill Dr	Holly Springs	NC	27540
	Marilyn	Jamal	8253 NC 42	Holly Springs	NC	27540
	Erika	Bort	2205 Newleaf Drive	Арех	NC	27539
	Catherine	Byrd	600 East Forest Hill Drive	Goldsboro	NC	27534
	Courtney	Bolton	206 Ashland Drive	Goldsboro	NC	27530
	Joel	Myers	2504 Freedom Court	Raleigh	NC	27529
	Lisa	Lewis	112 Carrington Dr	Garner	NC	27529
	Lesia	Mills	PO Box 1183	Clayton	NC	27528
	Chris	Dowdle	69 Plum Lane	Clayton	NC	27527
	Ronald	Marchesano	376 Norwood Dr	Clayton	NC	27527
556.		Fowler	2129 Water Marsh Trl	Fuquay Varina	NC	27526
	Tammy	Zukoski	PO Box 376	Four Oaks	NC	27524
	Nancy	F	Jordan Lake	Apex	NC	27523
559.		Baker	Po Box 1008	Creedmoor	NC	27522
559.	Pam	Solomon	320 Shotwell Rd Apt 324	Clayton		27520
561.		Hooker	510 Fisher St.	Clayton	NC NC	27520
	William	Faut	401 Garrison Ave	Clayton	NC	27520
	Michael	Welke	3108 Bluff Oak Drive	Cary	NC	27519
		Chen	607 April Bloon Ln.	Cary	NC	27519
	Peggy	Schlatzer	114 Ripplewater Lane	Cary	NC	27518
	R Karl Lori	Campbell	105 Woodgrove Ln	Cary	NC NC	27518
		Enichen	104 Lochwood East Dr	Cary	NC	27518
	Don	Moul	224 Galway Dr	Chapel Hill	NC	27517
<u> </u>	Ellen	Desrochers	10 Birchtree Circle, Apt 1001	Chapel Hill	NC	27517
		Vanderwoude	1200 Bayberry Dr	Chapel Hill	NC	27517
	Denise	Kenan	100 Europa Dr Ste 525	Chapel Hill		27517
	Tom		123 Grace Ave.	Chapel Hill	NC NC	27517
-	Dr.Dan	Graham Metelits	411 Cedar Club Cir	Chapel Hill	NC	27517
	. Joy		411 Cedar Club Cli 414 Dark Forest Dr	Chapel Hill	NC	27516
	Leslie	Stewart	52 Hill Creek Blvd	Chapel Hill	NC	27516
	Frank	Moore	* 329 Granville Towers Ln E	Chapel Hill	- INC	27514
	Preston	Szczesniak	1109 Shadowood Dr	Chapel Hill	NC	27514
577	. Michele	Clark		Chaperrin		

578.	Catherine	Edbrooke	1705 Castalia Drive	Cary	NC	27513
579.	Linda	Schroeder	210 Trafalgar Ln	Cary	NC	27513
580.	Rob	Rowe	105 Spivey Court	Cary	NC	27513
581.	Farshid	Bondar	128 Castlewood Dr	Cary	NC	27511
	Susan	Stone	112 Rock Spring Court	Carrboro	NC	27510
583.	Christine	Fearing	708 Brittley Way	Apex	NC	27502
	Stephen	Boletchek	1106 Elbury Dr	Apex	NC	27502
	John	Speltz	112 Altair Circle	Apex	NC	27502
586.	Charlotte	Speltz	112 Altair Circle	Арех	NC	27502
587.	Robert	Brown	333 Chinaberry Ln	Angier	NC	27501
	Laura	Lennon	2421 Old Towne Dr	Greensboro	NC	27455
	Gene	Hammond	10 Waterline Dr	Greensboro	NC	27455
	Katherine	Tripp	4240 Lake Brandt Rd	Greensboro	NC	27455
	Nancy	Kondracki	5211 Flintrock Ct.	Greensboro	NC	27455
	Ervin	Kelman	6 Fleming Terrace Cir	Greensboro	NC	27410
_	John	Porter	5810 Kacey Meadows Dr	Greensboro	NC	27410
	Sandra	Resner	7607 Middle Dr	Greensboro	NC	27409
	Walter	Betts	2312 N Elm St	Greensboro	NC	27408
	Claudia	Lange	2512 East Woodlyn Way	Greensboro	NC	27407
	Marla	Stevens-Hilliard	4609 Brookhaven Dr	Greensboro	NC	27406
	Tracy	Obrien	3381 Rebecca Dr	Summerfield	NC	27358
599.		Hales	528 Will Be Lane	Siler City	NC	27344
ļ	. Tamara	Lewis	418 Arlington Cir	Sanford	NC	27330
	Samuel	Mclean	287Oak Branch Ln.	Sanford	NC	27330
	Elizabeth	Harless	2605 Swallow Road	Reidsville	NC	27320
	. Ellen	Osborne	6731 Hunt Rd	Pleasant Garden	NC	27313
	. Gary	Simpson	82 Cynthia Ln	Pittsboro	NC	27312
	Eileen	Hovt	98 Nicks Bnd W	Pittsboro	NC	27312
	, Ilana	Dubester	97 Box Turtle Rd	Pittsboro	NC	27312
	Louise	Hobbs	115 Hobbs Road	Pittsboro	NC	27312
	. Teresa	Ladd	601 Jamestown Rd	Pittsboro	NC	27312
	Earlene	Gentry	10620 NC Highway 700	Pelham	NC	27311
610		Stevenson	2615 Oak Ridge Rd	Oak Ridge	NC	27310
	. Victoria	Childers	8718 Morrow Mill Road	Mebane	NC	27302

612.	Victoria	May	210 W Crawford St	Mebane	NC	27302
	Andrea	Graham	6490 Alamance County Line Rd	Liberty	NC	27298
614.	Wanda	Buckmaster	3895 Randolph Church Rd	Liberty	NC	27298
	Tammy	Daniels	130 Turtle Path Ct	Lexington	NC	27295
616.		Bacon	514 Myers Park Dr	Lexington	NC	27292
	Susan	Mcmillan	236 E Center St	Lexington	NC	27292
	Jennifer	Atkins	620 Friendly Rd	Eden	NC	27288
	Diane	Wallace	2503 Nc Highway 66 S	Kernersville	NC	27284
	William	Reavis	1105 Piney Grove Rd	Kernersville	NC	27284
	Michael	Patton	263 Porter Field Lane	Jackson Springs	NC	27281
	April	Ingle	6240 Spurgeon Way	High Point	NC	27265
	Zachary	Dean	4388 E Greensboro Chapel Hill Rd	Graham	NC	27253
-	Anne	Cassebaum	3469 Amick Road	Elon	NC	27244
-	Alexis	Lamere	3265 Northwest Trace	Elon	NC	27244
	David	Andes	4005 Stoney Creek Church Road	Elon	NC	27244
627.		Brower	440 Tall Pine St	Asheboro	NC	27205
	Sean	Ross	1047 Old Forest Ct	Asheboro	NC	27205
	Gwen	Auman	388 Vista Pkwy	Asheboro	NC	27205
	John	Freeze	648 Chaney Road	Asheboro	NC	27205
	Sandra	Petteway	465 Collingswood Dr	Winston-Salem	NC	27127
	Alondra	Dominguez	1100 Charles St	Winston-Salem	NC	27107
	Gloria	Cook	318 Apache Dr	Winston-Salem	NC	27107
	Grace	Fuchs	4912 Miller Rd	Winston-Salem	NC	27106
	Anthony	Masciello	4224 Saddlewood Forest Dr	Winston-Salem	NC	27106
	Kenneth	Hoglund	5037 Cobblestone Rd	Winston-Salem	NC	27106
637.	Ruby	Coughenour	2705 St Johns Pl	Winston-Salem	NC	27106
	Jacqueline	Abou-Rizk	3959 Quilling Road	Winston-Salem	NC	27104
	Anne	Jones	158 Buckingham Road	Winston-Salem	NC	27104
	Marshall	Gravely	1010 Huntington Rd.	Winston-Salem	NÇ	27104
641	Kimberly	Nelson	501 Commonwealth Drive	Winston-Salem	NC	27104
<u> </u>	Susan	Andrews	110 Hearthside Dr	Winston-Salem	NC	27104
	. Carol	Faley	415 South Poplar Street	Winston-Salem	NC	27101
	Beth	Thoresen	310 W 4th St Apt 1409	Winston-Salem	NC	27101
	Jeffrey	Overbey	298 Birchwood Lane	Mocksville	NC	27028

646.	Jolanta	Lewtak	211 Parsley Ln	Mocksville	NC	27028
	Katherine	Williams	2102 Bryant St	Madison	NC	27025
_	Andra	Eich	117 Windermere Way	King	NC	27021
649.		Chepeska	960 Hindenburg	Germanton	NC	27019
	Grace	Hepler	1879 Harper Road	Clemmons	NC	27012
	Janet	Grav	216 Range Rd	Hope Mills	NC	23432

To: Tancred Miller, Director Division of Coastal Management 400 Commerce Ave Morehead City, N.C. 28557

From: Robert F. Norris, President Atlantic Crest Townhomes 3314 South Virginia Dare Trail Nags Head, N.C. 27959

Dear Mr. Miller,

I am contacting you on behalf of the Atlantic Crest Townhomes Owners Association to provide public comment against the development of Jockey's Ridge State Park region.

Any change of land management rules and regulations that would jeopardize the area of environmental concern (AEC) designation for Jockey's Ridge should be avoided.

The view from Atlantic Crest Townhomes initially included Jocky's Ridge. The uncontrolled development of the area since 2002 has obscured natural habitat. The lay of the land, environmental safety and loss of living space for native species of plants and animals would all be damaged by the development of Jocky's Ridge State Park region. The designation of being a N.C. State Park should in itself protect the Sand Dunes.

It appears we are returning to the time frame of 1973—1975 and the need for a "Save Our Sand Dunes---SOS" campaign.

Return the protective status of Jocky's Ridge State Park/Sand Dunes to preserve nature and history. Nages Head and OBX N.C. locations cannot sustain additional loss of natural treasures.

Please consider Atlantic Crest Townhomes Owner Association request to protect Jocky's Ridge.

Robert F. Norris, President

FEB 15 2024

RECEIVED

DCM-MHD CITY

he Outer Bat

THE OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU One Visitors Center Circle, Manteo, NC 27954

#### 252.473.2138 | outerbanks.org

## RECEIVED

Coastal Resources Commission

February 15, 2024

Dear Commissioners:

FEB 2 0 2024

## DCM-MHD CITY

The Dare County Tourism Board, on behalf of the Friends of Jockey's Ridge, strongly supports the readoption of Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) status for Jockey's Ridge State Park. The recent decision by the Rules Review Commission to potentially remove this crucial designation poses a significant threat to the environmental integrity and long-term well-being of this unique coastal geologic formation.

Jockey's Ridge holds immense ecological, scientific, and cultural significance, making it a vital treasure that requires thoughtful preservation measures. The AEC designation, as outlined in 15A NCAC 07H .0507, acknowledges Jockey's Ridge as a unique coastal geologic formation and places it under environmental protection, emphasizing the importance of preventing uncontrolled or incompatible development that could jeopardize its irreplaceable features.

The benefits and protections offered by the AEC designation are indispensable for the preservation of Jockey's Ridge. One such advantage is the regulation that ensures sand migrating off the state property is replenished on the dune, maintaining its volume and preventing relocation or commercial sale. Furthermore, the AEC designation not only safeguards the park from undesirable development but also brings national attention, as evidenced by its listing on the National Park Service website.

During the recent public meeting held by the Coastal Resources Commission, Nags Head Mayor Ben Cahoon highlighted the urgency of the situation. An AEC requires a closer examination of proposed activities and intervention, providing time to consider the consequences of actions that could impact this environmental treasure. The national recognition garnered through the AEC designation further enhances the visibility of Jockey's Ridge, attracting over a half million visitors each year from across the country.

We understand the complexities surrounding the Rules Review Commission's actions and the challenges posed by changes in legislative law. However, we firmly believe that the reinstatement of the AEC status is crucial for the continued protection of Jockey's Ridge. It is our collective responsibility to preserve this natural landmark for future generations and ensure that it remains accessible for scientific, educational, and recreational purposes.

In conclusion, we urge the North Carolina Coastal Resources Commission to act swiftly and decisively in support of the readoption of AEC status for Jockey's Ridge State Park. Your commitment to preserving this unique coastal geologic formation is paramount in maintaining the ecological balance and cultural significance that Jockey's Ridge holds for the community and visitors alike.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to the continued protection of Jockey's Ridge State Park.

Sincerely,

Monica Thibodeau, Chair Dare County Tourism Board

Lee Nettles, Executive Director Outer Banks Visitors Bureau

Duck | Southern Shores | Kitty Hawk | Kill Devil Hills | Nags Head | Roanoke Island | Hatteras Island | Dare Mainland

## Willis, Angela

From:	Samantha Simmons <treyandsamsimmons@gmail.com></treyandsamsimmons@gmail.com>
Sent:	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 6:21 PM
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) NEEDS TO BE PROTECTED!!
Attachments:	Copy of Report.pdf

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab.





Thankfully, Town of Nags Head, has worked diligently over many decades to preserve the essence of what makes our community special and to protect our fragile environment.

One of these tools is currently under threat. 22 A Changes are on the horizon that could impact the careful balance our amazing community has worked so hard to achieve.

The North Carolina Rules Review Commission has said that the state's Coastal Resource Commission does not have the authority to create a zone called an Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) for Jockey's Ridge State Park, a cherished and extremely popular part of our town. (There are other rules impacted and there is now a lawsuit between these two agencies, but we're focusing on this one rule.)

These safeguards can include:

- Measures crafted to protect human life and safety from natural hazards
- Requirements for developments or enhancements to minimize their impacts
- Verifications that public infrastructure systems are appropriately sized, located, and maintained for the respective areas
- Efforts to minimize land use conflicts with significant historical, cultural, scenic, or environmental value to the town

The removal of Jockey's Ridge and properties in its neighboring communities from the AEC designation may likely be the camel peaking its nose under the tent. Put simply, if the CRC loses its authority to designate an AEC for Jockey's Ridge, other distinctive areas in Nags Head, such as the oceanfront, the soundfront, Nags Head Woods, or the area near the fresh pond, might also be at risk of losing their AEC protections.

As an example, the AEC on the oceanfront has provided long standing protections that restrict development along the shoreline, create setback requirements, and prohibit hardened structures, such as bulkheads and groins, which have been problematic in other states.

It's essential for us to continue to have protections over these spaces!!! I read this to my daughters and they immediately got to work crafting a letter and drawing a picture (attached). We adore Carolista Baum and what she did to save Jockeys Ridge. Please do not change the way we govern our land!!

# Obx

Why we should protect it



## Introduction

Obx is my home, your home and many others home, and now people want to take it away. I read an essay about the federal wanting to take away our rights to make places like nags head woods and jockeys ridge unable to build on or tear apart, but the federal want to take that right away. We need to stand up so that the federal can't take away our right to protect our land.

#### Why?

Jockey's ridge and nags head woods and all the other protected lands are very important to the outer Banks. If these things are taken away, most of our tourist attractions will also be taken away, which could lead to less money for the outer Banks and lead to our town becoming poverty. A lot of people in the outer Banks live by nags Head woods. They know that it is a beautiful place and a respected one too; we can't just have that taken away.

How?

Look on Facebook for the report about this spread the word around !WE'VE PROTECTED THE OUTER BANKS FOR ALL THESE YEARS THEY CAN'T JUST TAKE THAT AWAY! SO COME TOGETHER AND WITH EVERYBODY'S HELP WE CAN SAVE OUR TOWN!

From:	Carol Peoples
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Sunday, February 18, 2024 11:57:37 AM

Dear Coastal Resources Commission-

I am a NC resident living on the coast. I am writing in support of the Coastal Resource Commission re-adopting all 30 of the longstanding CAMA rules (recently stripped away by the Rules Review Commission), BUT ESPECIALLY the 16 "emergency" rules, which are vital to allow CAMA to do their job to protect the quality of water and quality of life in coastal North Carolina. Please do the right thing for the people of NC.

Sincerely, Carol Peoples Emerald Isle, NC

From:	Sharon Burtner (sharon@sharonburtner.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Sunday, February 18, 2024 11:46:32 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

Please protect our coast, and the wildlife and industries that depend on it, and depend on you for safeguards.

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

North Carolina's seaboard counties are rightly world-famous for their distinctive and breathtaking natural features. Their communities thrive thanks to the region's intrinsic appeal and economic strength. Please continue to do your best to protect our coast for all who know and love it.

Sincerely,

Sharon Burtner 123 Otter Way Hertford, NC 27944 sharon@sharonburtner.com (703) 380-8337

From:	Deborah Milkowski (debmilkowski@centurylink.net) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Sunday, February 18, 2024 7:49:14 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

Protecting North Carolina's beautiful coasts is a win for everyone. Our coasts provide a steady stream of revenue for North Carolinians through tourism, fishing and other industry; healthy coasts will help protect our citizens from natural disasters and healthy coasts will ensure a sustainable ecosystem for our states wildlife.

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Deborah Milkowski 573 Deer Run Rd New Bern, NC 28562 debmilkowski@centurylink.net (252) 571-4330

From:	Caroline Bader (carolinepbader@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Saturday, February 17, 2024 11:45:13 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

Please help preserve the NC coastline and its wildlife, and keep it beautiful and clean for me and my children. Please vote to reinstate the protections now. Thank you!!

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Caroline Bader 6800 Ronda Ave Charlotte, NC 28211 carolinepbader@gmail.com (323) 559-8265

From:	Michelle Graziosi (michellegraz@yahoo.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Saturday, February 17, 2024 1:48:52 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

There used to be shrimp boats daily when I visited North Topsail Beach. The Sneads Ferry fishermen now have to go further south most days, which takes more expensive gas and valuable time. There needs to be dredging to help them access the ocean.

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Michelle Graziosi 1075 Davenport Place Winterville, NC 28590 michellegraz@yahoo.com (252) 531-4757

From:	Anja Collette (anja.collete0919@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 6:21:23 AM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Anja Collette 48 Vernon St Bangor, ME 04401 anja.collete0919@gmail.com (252) 378-8715

From:	Richard Jones (rmaj73@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Monday, February 19, 2024 4:18:26 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

Protect Our Coast!

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

North Carolina's seaboard counties are rightly world-famous for their distinctive and breathtaking natural features. Their communities thrive thanks to the region's intrinsic appeal and economic strength. Please continue to do your best to protect our coast for all who know and love it.

Sincerely,

Richard Jones PO BOX 806 Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948 rmaj73@gmail.com (757) 344-0658
From:	V. Chambers (quicksandwitch@yahoo.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 6:42:43 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

This environment where we live, work and play is not only for us to enjoy but for generations yet unborn. We must endeavor to be good stewards of this place we call home. Let us not live like pigs. Let us show our love for each other by taking care of this place, this space we all share. Let us not politicise our efforts to protect our home. This earth is all we know. It's our home. We are here for a purpose. Let it be positive. Let it be uplifting. Let it be so that generations yet unborn may be proud of us who came before.

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

V. Chambers 906 N 20th Street Morehead City, NC 28557 quicksandwitch@yahoo.com (704) 607-0696

From:	<u>Elizabeth</u>
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] CAMA RULES
Date:	Monday, February 19, 2024 11:30:28 AM

"Dear Coastal Resources Commission,

I am a NC resident living on the coast. Iam writing in support of the Coastal Resource Commission re-adopting all 30 of the longstanding CAMA rules (recently stripped away by the Rules Review Commission), BUT ESPECIALLY the 16

"emergency" rules, which are vital to allow CAMA to do their job to protect the quality of water and quality of life in coastal North Carolina. Please do the right thing for the people of NC."

Beth Duff Morehead City, NC 28557

From:	<u>C Saunders</u>
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Monday, February 19, 2024 9:55:38 PM

Greetings,

I stand in full support of both temporary and permanent environmental protections for Jockey's Ridge State Park and the surrounding areas.

The unique, beautiful and fragile environment is worth preserving, always, for its diverse habitat.

But also the park's importance to the local tourism industry, the local economy and the state as a whole (because it attracts people from all over the world to our state) cannot be overstated. It's the smallest but also consistently the most visited state park. That speaks volumes to the millions of people who both value and enjoy it. Keep our state unique. Keep our natural resources protected.

Please enact these protections, both now and forevermore.

Best regards from Dare County, C.S. and family

From:	Luke Baer
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Monday, February 19, 2024 1:06:21 PM

### Hello Ms. Willis

I'm writting to express my concern about designation removal of Jockey's Ridge State Park (and other locations) from classification as an Area of Environmental Concern due to the North Carolina Rules Review Commission's ruling that the Coastal Resource Commission does not have the authority to designate JRSP as an AEC.

JRSP is an incredibly beautiful and unique ecological feature of the Outer Banks and the state of North Carolina. It has provided incredible unforgettable memories for residents and vistors alike for generations, and hopefully for generations to come. The ecosystem in and of itself if worth preserving as so much of the rest of the Outer Banks and Coastal NC are being pushed to the limits with development.

I hope that you will register my comment as being in favor of JRSP being reclassified as an Area of Environmental Concern.

thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Luke Baer --Mobile: +12524068855 Dare County Resident 40+ years

From:	Bonnie Carter (bonbons12@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024 10:11:41 AM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Bonnie Carter 2550 Hemphill Streer Charlotte, NC 28208 bonbons12@gmail.com (704) 564-3867



February 15, 2024

RECEIVED

Director Tancred Miller Division of Coastal Management 400 Commerce Avenue Morehead City, NC 28557 RE: Temporary Rule

FEB 2 0 2024

DCM-MHD CITY

Dear Director Miller:

The Topsail Island Shoreline Protection Commission (TISPC) is a collaborative effort for beach preservation activities by five government entities that have authority for governing Topsail Island. TISPC supports the temporary rules: <u>07H.0507, .0508, .0509, 07I .0702, 07J .0203, .0204</u>, .0206, .0207, .0208, 07M .0401, .0402, .0403, .0701, .0703, .0704 and .1101.

- The proposed temporary rules are necessary under the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act. The loss of these rules could trigger a re-review of NC's CAMA program and we could potentially lose federal benefits, such as those utilized for beach nourishment projects.
- The rules are necessary for the evaluation and issuance of CAMA permit applications. Loss of these rules could impact local governments' ability to collect permit fees and process permit applications in a legally defensible manner. Not only would this create confusion and inconsistency within permitting, but applicants would also be required to seek a separate individual permit from the USACE, instead of a streamlined joint permit through DCM.
- The rules create and explain necessary policies. Without these rules in place, the state may not be able to engage in consistency determinations, impacting their ability to govern beneficial use of dredged materials.
- The rules are necessary to protect valuable state resources. This includes, 'unique geologic formations' and 'significant coastal archeological resources' that protect heritage sites such as our neighbors at Jockey's Ridge and Permuda Island currently under the AEC designation.

We understand the complexities surrounding the Rules Review Commission's actions and the challenges posed by changes in legislative law. However, we firmly believe the loss of these regulations will jeopardize North Carolina's ability to avail itself of federal consistency review privileges and federal funding under the CZMA, along with creating confusion related to permitting procedures of the State's coastal management program and the regulated public.

Sincerely, redrich

Steve Smith TISPC Chairman Topsail Island Shoreline Protection Commission

# Willis, Angela

From:	Lori Ackerman <lackerman@townofduck.com></lackerman@townofduck.com>
Sent:	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 3:32 PM
То:	Willis, Angela
Cc:	Cross, Sandy; Havens, Drew
Subject:	[External] Resolution 24-02
Attachments:	24-02 Supporting CRC Temporary Rules Resolution.pdf

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Dear Ms. Willis,

Please find attached the Town of Duck's Resolution 24-02, a Resolution Supporting the Coastal Resource Commission's Temporary Rules.

If you need anything else, please let me know.

Sincerely, *Lorí A. Ackerman, MMC, NCCMC* Town Clerk Town of Duck P.O. Box 8369 Duck, NC 27949 (252) 254-5956 - Direct (252) 255-1234 - Main



# RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DUCK, NORTH CAROLINA, SUPPORTING THE COASTAL RESOURCE COMMISSION'S TEMPORARY RULES

#### Resolution No. 24-02

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) was enacted in 1974 to protect its coastal resources; and

WHEREAS, in addition to CAMA, the State established the North Carolina Coastal Management Program to ensure that all coastal issues are addressed by the State in a coordinated fashion; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's objective in developing a coastal management program is to establish a comprehensive, coordinated approach for the protection, preservation, and orderly development of the State's coastal resources. The management program is primarily based on the legislative authorities contained in CAMA that established the Coastal Resources Commission (CRC) as a regional resource management body; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina has historically applied a two-tiered approach to managing coastal resources through designations of Areas of Environmental Concern alongside management and coordination with State authorities and local governments; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Rules Review Commission (RRC) voted to return 30 long-standing rules to the CRC on October 5, 2023 following the adoption of Session Law 2023-134. As a result, the Codifier removed these rules from the Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, the CRC and RRC are currently in litigation to resolve the dispute over these rules; and

WHEREAS, the CRC held a specially called meeting on December 13, 2023 to consider emergency and temporary rules as a means to reinstate these nullified rules in the NC Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, the CRC developed 16 proposed temporary rules (07H .0507, .0508, .0509, 07I .0702, 07J .0203, .0204, .0206, .0207, .0208, 07M .0401, .0402, .0403, .0701, .0703, .0704 and .1101) critical to day-to-day administration of the North Carolina Coastal Management Program in response to the RRC decision and ongoing litigation. While these rules are not new, the CRC included amendments that address RRC objections. The amendments focus on what the RRC considered to be vague and ambiguous language and clarified procedures, definitions and citations addressing statutory authority. These amendments impose no additional requirements on the regulated community as these are rules that were already in existence as of October 5, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the CRC held public hearings on January 9 and 10, 2024 to accept comments on the proposed temporary rules; and

WHEREAS, the CRC has extended the public comment period on the proposed temporary rules until February 22, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the proposed temporary rules are necessary under the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA). The loss of these rules could trigger a re-review of North Carolina's CAMA program which could potentially result in the loss of federal benefits, such as those utilized for beach nourishment projects; and

WHEREAS, the Coastal Resource management rules are necessary to protect valuable state resources. This includes 'unique geologic formations' and 'significant coastal archeological resources' that protect heritage sites such as Jockey's Ridge and Permuda Island; and

WHEREAS, the Coastal Resource management rules are necessary for the evaluation and issuance of CAMA permit applications. Loss of these rules could impact local governments' ability to collect permit fees and process permit applications in a legally defensible manner. Not only would this create confusion and inconsistency within permitting, but applicants would also be required to seek separate individual permits from the USACE, instead of streamlined joint permits through the Division of Coastal Management.

WHEREAS, the Coastal Resource management rules create and explain necessary policies. Without these rules in place, the state may not be able to engage in consistency determinations, impacting their ability to govern beneficial use of dredged materials; and

WHEREAS, the entire CAMA permitting and implementation system could fail without these Coastal Resource management rules; and

WHEREAS, the loss of these Coastal Resource management rules jeopardizes North Carolina's ability to avail itself of federal consistency review privileges and federal funding under the CZMA that depend upon NOAA's approval of the State's coastal management program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DUCK, NORTH CAROLINA, that the Town Council hereby expresses its strong support for the implementation of the proposed Coastal Resource management temporary rules 07H .0507, .0508, .0509, 07I .0702, 07J .0203, .0204, .0206, .0207, .0208, 07M .0401, .0402, .0403, .0701, .0703, .0704 and .1101; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council hereby implores the CRC to adopt and implement these temporary rules; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council hereby implores the North Carolina Rules Review Commission to revisit their decision to nullify long-standing rules affecting the management of our coastal resources. Adopted this 21st Day of February, 2024.

Mayor

ATTEST: Fown Clerk



From:	James Zizzo (jzizzo@ec.rr.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 3:03:26 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

North Carolina's seaboard counties are rightly world-famous for their distinctive and breathtaking natural features. Their communities thrive thanks to the region's intrinsic appeal and economic strength. Please continue to do your best to protect our coast for all who know and love it.

Sincerely,

James Zizzo 2304 Wrightsville Ave. #106 Wilmington, NC 28403 jzizzo@ec.rr.com (910) 762-6218

From:Lea DixonTo:Willis, AngelaSubject:[External] AEC for Jockey"s Ridge State ParkDate:Thursday, February 15, 2024 5:54:37 PM

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab.

## Hi,

My name is Lea Dixon and I am a teacher in Manteo, NC. I have been coming to the Outer Banks since the womb and have lived here for 12 years. When my son was learning to speak and talk, we would ride by the Wright Memorial and Jockey's Ridge and I would give him facts about the landmarks as we passed them. To this day, Dayton knows that Jockey's Ridge is the largest sand dune on the East Coast. He also knows that there is not only a putt-putt golf course underneath it, but a hotel, both of which are buried by the natural progression of sand and time. We walk our dog through the park on the backside of the state park by the water, where our black lab puppy learned to swim for the first time. I slid down the sand dune when I was little in a trash bag, while my son used his boogie board to do it 30 years later. It is one of the best places to hang glide in the US. It is one of the reasons tourists come to our area, but more importantly, it is a landmark that is the most visited park in all of NC. Why? Why? Would anyone in their right mind want to destroy this amazing feat of nature to build housing? Oh right, greed. The only correct answer is greed. No matter how the argument is framed, the answer is still greed.

Yes, the Outer Banks needs affordable housing like every other place in the nation. I am even a teacher with a teacher spouse and a child and we are about to be forced to move away from the OBX unless teachers are given raises by the state or the exorbitant insurance hikes do not go through. Despite our lack of financial security, we would move away before we would live in an affordable house built on the carcass of the most important landmark in the state. They have already built "affordable" housing in the OBX. Guess what, nothing new that has been built here under the guise of affordable housing is in the affordable range for two teachers with over 20 years of experience and family privilege. They tell us it will be affordable and then after the build raise the prices to \$400,000. The people behind pushing to develop Jockey's Ridge know they will get away with building "affordable" houses to once again just raise the cost.

Please do NOT allow greed to remove our AEC designation. If this happens, it will set a dangerous precedent that will lead to the domination of development over nature. Nothing will be sacred anymore.

Thank you,

--Lea Dixon Manteo High School 9-12 English Teacher National Board Certified dixonle@daretolearn.org

From:	britreston@aol.com
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] CAMA Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 15, 2024 4:06:15 PM

Dear MS. Willis,

I am writing in support of the CAMA rules to help protect what is left of our beautiful coastal Carolina region. Living in Emerald Isle has allowed us to appreciate what we have. We the public have to protect our coast from the exploitation of wall street developmental companies. They will destroy what is left of our limited coastal resources. Enough is enough. Please support CAMA. We need to be smart on how we manage our coast. It is a limited resource. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Brian R Treston

## Ms. Angela Willis,

A friend of mine has made me aware of an issue/vote that will come before the NC legislature in the near future concerning CAMA rules. I would like to say that I agree to continue with the CAMA rules as these regulations are designed to ensure responsible and sustainable coastal development. These rules protect vital natural resources and maintain a necessary balance between development and conservation. This is no mere formality but a crucial step in protecting water quality that sustains marine life, supports our local economies, and the wellbeing of our coastal communities. We all have an obligation to save the waters that define our beautiful North Carolina coast.

Joel Foster

From:	Kelvin Wannamaker
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] CAMA Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 11:22:54 AM

Ms. Angela Willis, I would like to say that I agree to continue with the CAMA rules as these regulations are designed to ensure responsible and sustainable coastal development. These rules protect vital natural resources and maintain a necessary balance between development and conservation. This is no mere formality but a crucial step in protecting water quality that sustains marine life, supports our local economies, and the well-being of our coastal communities. We all have an obligation to save the waters that define our beautiful North Carolina coast.

Kelvin Wannamaker

Suzanne Wheatcraft
Willis, Angela
[External] COMMENTS ON CAMA
Wednesday, February 14, 2024 12:33:28 PM

The ongoing discourse on re-adopting CAMA rules is paramount for safeguarding water quality along North Carolina's coast. These rules are pivotal in regulating land and water use, ensuring responsible practices that directly impact water ecosystems. By setting clear guidelines for coastal development, the rules contribute to preventing pollution, preserving habitats, and maintaining the overall health of aquatic environments. The adoption of these rules is not just a bureaucratic formality; it is a crucial step in protecting the water quality that sustains marine life, supports local economies, and ensures the well-being of coastal communities. A careful consideration and endorsement of these rules underscore a commitment to preserving the pristine waters that define North Carolina's coastal identity.

Suzanne Wheatcraft 585-738-9085

From:	Josalyn Corbett
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockeys ridge
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 5:48:09 PM

hello I'm sending this email due to concern about trying to turn jockey's Ridge into housing. this was a place me and many of my Went to his children and hiked. This is A beautiful piece of land. There is no land to build on on the beach unless we start to turn state parks, like jockeys Ridge into land to build on. The Outer Banks is already overpopulated, and in the summer we don't enough workers. we don't need more housing. We need to take care of the state parks that are already here.

From:	<u>Alyssa Walston</u>
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockeys Ridge
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 4:18:14 PM

Do not turn Jockeys Ridge into housing. It is considered a protected park and should be kept as such. It is an important part of the Outer Banks and protects us from flooding and most of us students like myself spend/spent a good amount of our childhood there. There needs to be way more consideration and appreciation not to mention protection for the only spaces we have that aren't already packed full of useless housing and rentals as well as businesses and other unnecessary buildings. The OBX isn't just a place for realty companies to buy/build rentals and vacation and make money. People live here and this is our home and some of the only things we have left to do that don't cost money to enjoy. Let this be known before the decision is made.

From:	Rahkim Selby
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockeys ridge
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 4:05:50 PM

Do not turn jockeys ridge into housing

From:	<u>M Susan</u>
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] Strengthen CAMA Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 11:38:08 AM

Re-Adopt and **Strengthen** CAMA Rules. Safeguard Water Quality. Regulate Land Use. Protect natural resources, guide permit processes. Value Conservation over Development Prevent Pollution. Conserve Habitat.

I was Environmental Scientist for DCM 1980-82, then went sailing, got a doctorate, and taught Environmental Policy and Planning in college 30 years. Now I write poetry and garden.

thanks, Susan

Susan Schmidt, PhD 1527 Ann St Beaufort, NC 28516 (252) 269-0032 susu@susanschmidt.net www.susanschmidt.net https://www.the-efa.org/memberinfo/m-susan-schmidt-13097/

From:	Stan Keeler
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] TEMPORARY RULES
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 4:16:29 PM

I want to express my support of extending (keeping) the AEC status of Jockey's Ridge the Outer Banks! Jockey's Ridge is an anchor to our Outer Banks Tourist economy and any further degradation to it would negatively impact our economy!

Respectfully, Stan Keeler voice/text 630.803.6818 Stankeeler@gmail.com

From:	jeanlec@aol.com
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 3:16:36 PM

Please save Jockey's Ridge. It is a State Park and should be saved for the public to keep enjoying forever. My family has played there for years and do want my grandchildren to enjoy also.

Thank you

From:	Glenn Middleton (glenndavismiddleton@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 8:27:19 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

North Carolina's seaboard counties are rightly world-famous for their distinctive and breathtaking natural features. Their communities thrive thanks to the region's intrinsic appeal and economic strength. Please continue to do your best to protect our coast for all who know and love it.

Sincerely,

Glenn Middleton 99 Apgar Road Candler, NC 28715 glenndavismiddleton@gmail.com (828) 301-2074

From:	Barry Nash (barrywnash@aol.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 15, 2024 12:38:42 AM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

Protect our Shores and Waterways! They're not just ours- they belong to our children and grandchildren too!

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Barry Nash 114 Hawthorne Drive Pine Knoll Shores, NC 28512 barrywnash@aol.com (440) 787-9212

From:	Ralph Tramontano (rrtramonjk@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 15, 2024 10:17:40 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

North Carolina's most valuable resources are its coastal lands and waters. Protection of this area is essential if we are to maintain North Carolina's highly productive sport fishing industry and the state's extremely high recreational and esthetic value in general.

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Ralph Tramontano 460 Bogue Loop Rd. Newport, NC 28570 rrtramonjk@gmail.com (252) 764-2612

Richard LaPalme
<u>Willis, Angela</u>
[External] Temporary Rules
Tuesday, February 13, 2024 1:13:16 PM

#### Dear Director Miller,

The future economic health and enabling environmental infrastructure of North Carolina require the re-adoption of CAMA Rules. Rapid increase in population and an influx of business and real estate buyers are putting unsustainable pressure on our precious limited coastal environmental resources. Clean pristine coastal waters and a high functioning coastal wetland nursery areas are vital to a prospering population. We cannot sacrifice our limited and diminishing coastal resources in exchange for limited value special-interest consumption. Our coastal wetlands must be preserved for ALL succeeding generations, not consumed today by those who can afford todays land prices. Todays conversion of coastal wetlands into business and home parcels are not paying the price that future generations will bear at their loss.

Conversion of coastal wetlands is almost always a forever loss. Preservation of coastal wetlands is the only sensible forever action that should be taken at this time of our societal history.

Regards, Richard LaPalme Morehead City, NC

From:	Linda Kehew (Imkehew@hotmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 6:46:53 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

#### PLEASE DO THE RIGHT THING FOR OUR COASTLINES AND REINSTATE THESE RULES!

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Linda Kehew 211 Buckingham Dr., Winterville, NC 28590 Greenville, NC 28590 Imkehew@hotmail.com (252) 364-2152

From:	Karly Lohan (kalohan101@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 3:54:26 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

As someone who has received their education on coastal policy issues in North Carolina and calls Onslow County home, CAMA rules are key to protecting our coastal ecosystems that make our beaches such an amazing place to visit, live, and do business. Please consider supporting highest-priority rules for NC's coastal management and efforts to restore CAMA.

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Karly Lohan 717 Cattail Ct Jacksonville, NC 28540 kalohan101@gmail.com (267) 328-7043

From:	Peggy Fry (real folkie@yahoo.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 15, 2024 4:29:20 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Peggy Fry 115 Pine Cone Rd Wilmington, NC 28409, NC 28409 real\_folkie@yahoo.com (919) 685-5322

From:	John Calhoun (johnccalhoun@bellsouth.net) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 15, 2024 3:26:07 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

As our coastline has become increasingly populated and densely developed, the CAMA rules have served the indispensable purpose of protecting our vital coastal environment, wetlands, and estuaries. Now is clearly not the time to weaken them in any way. If anything, they should continue to be strengthened to protect our precious N.C. coastal resources!

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

John Calhoun 1416 Brookstown Avenue Winston Salem, NC 27101 johnccalhoun@bellsouth.net (336) 995-4084

From:	Lora Sharkey
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 3:13:18 PM

These comments are submitted to the N.C. Coastal Resources Commission.

I am offended that rules that provide the foundation for the protection of the public's common property, our shorelines, were lifted from the Coastal Management Act without consideration of how important those rules are to environmental management. As a North Carolina citizen, I want the rules to be reinstated and left unchanged. The Coastal Management Act benefits the greater community of North Carolina through protections and limitations on what disturbance can be performed in our water centric environments. Adoption of the Coastal Area Management Act 50 years ago moved North Carolina ahead of states that lack proactive management practices for coastal land. The CAMA rules have provided a means for environmental protective practices to be required, which is exactly what we need as humans continue to move into NC coastal counties.

Lora Sharkey 432 Cades Trail Southport, NC 28461 703-946-5333

From:	Izabella Baer
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 9:35:33 PM

Jockeys Ridge is a cherished landmark of North Carolina. Removing Jockeys Ridge from the AEC designation is a huge mistake and will be detrimental to efforts towards continuing to protect the coast of North Carolina. We cannot allow this to happen, it's unacceptable. Nags Head has already been developed to death in the last twenty years, we cannot stop protecting Jockeys Ridge.

From:	Lisa Rider
To:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Cc:	Riley Lewis; Miller, Tancred
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 4:20:07 PM

Hi Angela,

I hope this finds you well this week.

Please submit the following as a public comment on "Temporary Rules":

Growing up and residing in coastal NC, I feel a deep sense of responsibility to protect these coastal areas of concern for future generations. The proposed temporary CAMA rules play a vital role in ensuring the sustainability of our unique environment, guiding responsible development, and preserving the delicate balance between progress and conservation. It's a commitment to safeguarding the legacy of our coastal heritage for the well-being of our community and the prosperity of generations to come.

The CAMA rules are pivotal in safeguarding North Carolina's coastal communities. These regulations are designed to ensure responsible and sustainable coastal development. By defining standards, policies, and guidelines, these rules protect vital natural resources, guide permit processes, and maintain the delicate balance between development and conservation. Their significance extends beyond local concerns, influencing federal consistency and funding under the Coastal Zone Management Act.

The ongoing debate surrounding CAMA rules holds profound implications for coastal fisheries in North Carolina. These rules establish policies governing land and water use in the coastal area. For fisheries, they provide essential guidelines for responsible development, ensuring the sustainable utilization of marine resources. The rules contribute to maintaining the health and balance of coastal ecosystems, a key factor in sustaining vibrant fisheries. Adoption of these rules are crucial for preserving the delicate harmony between development and the long-term wellbeing of coastal fisheries, influencing the trajectory of North Carolina's fishing industry and the ecological health of its waters.

These rules are pivotal in regulating land and water use, ensuring responsible practices that directly impact water ecosystems. By setting clear guidelines for coastal development, the rules contribute to preventing pollution, preserving habitats, and maintaining the overall health of aquatic environments. Adopting these rules is not just a bureaucratic formality; it is a crucial step in protecting the water quality that sustains marine life, supports local economies, and ensures the well-being of coastal communities. Careful consideration and endorsement of these rules underscore a commitment to preserving the pristine waters that define North Carolina's coastal identity.

Many thanks for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Lisa Rider Executive Director

910-330-3140 | LisaR@coastalcarolinariverwatch.org www.CoastalCarolinaRiverwatch.org

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	? ?	
Donate to Protect the Quality of Water and Life in Coastal NC!		

Our lab is now located in Bookhout at Duke University Marine Lab, in partnership with Duke Wetlands Center, 135 Duke Marine Lab Rd, Beaufort, NC 28516.

Mail: 4915 Arendell Street Suite J, PMB 223 Morehead City, NC 28557

From:	Tom Adkisson (pivomaker@hotmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 15, 2024 7:10:45 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

Reinstate CAMA Rules

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

North Carolina's seaboard counties are rightly world-famous for their distinctive and breathtaking natural features. Their communities thrive thanks to the region's intrinsic appeal and economic strength. Please continue to do your best to protect our coast for all who know and love it.

Sincerely,

Tom Adkisson 1398 Hannaford Road Winston-Salem, NC 27103 pivomaker@hotmail.com (336) 705-9919

From:	Christine Danell-Tepper (howytepper@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 2:59:10 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

It is simple common sense to establish rules that set responsible, sustainable policies for North Carolina's coastal management.

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Christine Danell-Tepper 104 Lakeview Drive Greenville, NC 27858 howytepper@gmail.com (252) 558-6147
From:	Barbara Capps (bmodinoscapps@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 2:26:27 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

Save the NC Eastern Coastland wildlife/Sea life/ beaches/ sound(ICWaterway) to remain free from UNHEALTHY PRACTICES and PROJECTS!!! REINSTATE CAMA RULES!!!!

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

North Carolina's seaboard counties are rightly world-famous for their distinctive and breathtaking natural features. Their communities thrive thanks to the region's intrinsic appeal and economic strength. Please continue to do your best to protect our coast for all who know and love it.

Sincerely,

Barbara Capps 143 NE 13th St. Oak Island, NC 28465 bmodinoscapps@gmail.com (910) 685-3120



Coastal Resources Commission

February 15, 2024

Dear Commissioners:

The Dare County Tourism Board, on behalf of the Friends of Jockey's Ridge, strongly supports the readoption of Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) status for Jockey's Ridge State Park. The recent decision by the Rules Review Commission to potentially remove this crucial designation poses a significant threat to the environmental integrity and long-term well-being of this unique coastal geologic formation.

Jockey's Ridge holds immense ecological, scientific, and cultural significance, making it a vital treasure that requires thoughtful preservation measures. The AEC designation, as outlined in 15A NCAC 07H .0507, acknowledges Jockey's Ridge as a unique coastal geologic formation and places it under environmental protection, emphasizing the importance of preventing uncontrolled or incompatible development that could jeopardize its irreplaceable features.

The benefits and protections offered by the AEC designation are indispensable for the preservation of Jockey's Ridge. One such advantage is the regulation that ensures sand migrating off the state property is replenished on the dune, maintaining its volume and preventing relocation or commercial sale. Furthermore, the AEC designation not only safeguards the park from undesirable development but also brings national attention, as evidenced by its listing on the National Park Service website.

During the recent public meeting held by the Coastal Resources Commission, Nags Head Mayor Ben Cahoon highlighted the urgency of the situation. An AEC requires a closer examination of proposed activities and intervention, providing time to consider the consequences of actions that could impact this environmental treasure. The national recognition garnered through the AEC designation further enhances the visibility of Jockey's Ridge, attracting over a half million visitors each year from across the country.

We understand the complexities surrounding the Rules Review Commission's actions and the challenges posed by changes in legislative law. However, we firmly believe that the reinstatement of the AEC status is crucial for the continued protection of Jockey's Ridge. It is our collective responsibility to preserve this natural landmark for future generations and ensure that it remains accessible for scientific, educational, and recreational purposes.

In conclusion, we urge the North Carolina Coastal Resources Commission to act swiftly and decisively in support of the readoption of AEC status for Jockey's Ridge State Park. Your commitment to preserving this unique coastal geologic formation is paramount in maintaining the ecological balance and cultural significance that Jockey's Ridge holds for the community and visitors alike.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to the continued protection of Jockey's Ridge State Park.

Sincerely,

Monica Thibodeau, Chair Dare County Tourism Board

Lee Nettles, Executive Director Outer Banks Visitors Bureau

Christy
@aol.com
<u>Christy</u> ; <u>Willis, Angela</u>
rnal] CAMA rules
, February 15, 2024 4:25:51 PM

Good afternoon, Mr. Reston and thank you for your comment.

I am copying Ms. Angela Willis on this communication as she is the staff member receiving comments for the CRC. Respectfully, Christy Simmons

Get Outlook for iOS

From: britreston@aol.com <britreston@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2024 4:10:17 PM
To: Simmons, Christy <christy.simmons@deq.nc.gov>
Subject: [External] CAMA rules

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab.

Dear MS. Simmons,

I am writing in support of the CAMA rules to help protect what is left of our beautiful coastal Carolina region. Living in Emerald Isle has allowed us to appreciate what we have. We the public have to protect our coast from the exploitation of wall street developmental companies. They will destroy what is left of our limited coastal resources. Enough is enough. Please support CAMA. We need to be smart on how we manage our coast. It is a limited resource. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Brian R Treston

•

Email correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties by an authorized state official.

From:	Jane Brody (janekb@aol.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 11:01:29 AM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

North Carolina's seaboard counties are rightly world-famous for their distinctive and breathtaking natural features. Their communities thrive thanks to the region's intrinsic appeal and economic strength. Please continue to do your best to protect our coast for all who know and love it.

Sincerely,

Jane Brody 3500 amber drive Wilmington, NC 28409 janekb@aol.com (516) 851-7166

From:	Beverly Williams (beverly.williams2@comcast.net) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 9:44:09 AM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I believe that preserving our God given natural resources and natural habitat should not be an option or used as a negotiating chip. Please make it a priority to keep what little we have left. Respectfully yours, Beverly Williams

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Beverly Williams 2705 Royal Dr Winterville, NC 28590 beverly.williams2@comcast.net (224) 230-6824

From:	Liz Becker (lizmbecker@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 9:21:25 AM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

We need to protect our coast - it is imperative that we take action now!

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Liz Becker 133 Wyndchase L Beaufort, NC 28516 lizmbecker@gmail.com (919) 599-3405

From:	Sharlene Ackley (sharlene@atmc.net) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 9:06:41 AM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

Recently a developer want to build a new subdivision of 3,500 homes and townhomes in a sensitive drainage area in Brunswick co. Many other new construction developments are nibbling away at farm and forest land. Please help preserve our beautiful state!

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Sharlene Ackley 3243 Marsh View Dr SW Supply, NC 28462 sharlene@atmc.net (910) 842-3836

From:	Barry Auman (bauman@atmc.net) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 8:40:04 AM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

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Sincerely,

Barry Auman 543 Sunset Lakes Blvd. SW Sunset Beach, NC 28468 bauman@atmc.net (910) 579-1485

From:	Doreen Livermon (doreenlivermon@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 8:38:38 AM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

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Sincerely,

Doreen Livermon 3115 Cleere Ct. Greenville, NC 27858 doreenlivermon@gmail.com (252) 917-1510

From:	Elizabeth Mathews (emathews@currituck.k12.nc.us) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 8:21:02 AM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

As a teacher on the coast, it is important to protect these spaces. We take our students to a pier and an aquarium so help them understand the beauty and ecology of the area where they live, so it's important these places are preserved for us now and future students.

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth Mathews 118 Driftwood Dr Shiloh, NC 27974 emathews@currituck.k12.nc.us (919) 628-7338

From:	Karl Hammers (karljhammers@netscape.net) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 5:50:36 AM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

Our coast is what attracts people to our state. Tourism is a great source of revenue. Our coast is also what makes this state such a great place to live. Please support the reinstatement of the CAMA rules.

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Karl Hammers 318 E Wallace St Burgaw, NC 28425 karljhammers@netscape.net (910) 262-3563

From:	Henry Rhyne (harhyne6172a@att.net) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 5:01:21 AM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Henry Rhyne 202 Cedar Ave. Hampstead, NC 28443 harhyne6172a@att.net (910) 274-6603

From:	Laurene Rapoza (laurenerap@hotmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 4:23:06 AM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Laurene Rapoza 125 Glendale Dr Wilmington, NC 28401 laurenerap@hotmail.com (910) 232-5713

From:	Maryann Pitman (berts-girl2@hotmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 12:16:36 AM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

Protect our coast!

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Maryann Pitman 179 US Hwy 158 Bus E Gatesville, NC 27938 berts-girl2@hotmail.com (252) 357-0783

From:	Michele Sullivan (jmjsullivan124@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 10:43:55 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

Marking the 50th Anniversary of CAMA by taking away key coastal rules is not acceptable to North Carolina costal residents. As one of those residents I ask that you please look to reinstate the CAMA rules that were removed immediately. Those rules are so important to current issues facing the coast to climate change, resilience and sea level rise. Consistent and clear rules and regulations help everyone on the coast. We can not play politics with rules that strength such a beautiful natural resource and important recreational benefit to every resident in our state. It should be a high priority program to keep for preservation and restoration of our beautiful coast. Please return the rules!

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Michele Sullivan 108 Fawn Drive Emerald Isle, NC 28594 jmjsullivan124@gmail.com (252) 354-3111

From:	David Christiansen (dcedmd@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 10:34:00 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

David Christiansen 310 MacGregor Dr. Beaufort, NC 28516 dcedmd@gmail.com (215) 262-1335

From:	Steve Copulsky (scopulsky@gmail.comcom) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 10:22:51 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Steve Copulsky 6614 Lynn Ave Charlotte, NC 28226 scopulsky@gmail.comcom (704) 458-6651

From:	Tracy Gourville (sailandskimom@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 10:15:17 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Tracy Gourville 7931 Reunion Rd Wilmington, NC 28411 sailandskimom@gmail.com (910) 791-9358

From:	Susan Redding (redding47@aol.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 7:00:35 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Susan Redding 601 S. Elm St Greenville, NC 27858 redding47@aol.com (252) 758-7292

From:	Nathan Bales (nbales@ec.rr.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 7:07:52 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

One oil spill will cost us billions in lost tourism!!!!

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Nathan Bales 4709 Rushing Drive Wilmington, NC 28409 nbales@ec.rr.com (910) 632-6681

From:	Susan Schmidt (susu@ec.rr.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 7:10:43 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

Strengthen CAMA Rules

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Susan Schmidt 1527 Ann St Beaufort, NC 28516 susu@ec.rr.com (252) 269-0032

From:	Dave Garber (dave garber@outlook.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 7:12:59 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

As a new Outer Banks resident I ask tharpt you act to preserve our wonderful environment!

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Dave Garber 700 Skip Jack Ln C-3 Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948 dave\_garber@outlook.com (518) 859-1830

From:	Anthony Bond (bonda868@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 7:14:15 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Anthony Bond 109 Doe lane New Bern, NC 28562 bonda868@gmail.com (252) 617-3689

From:	Marty Stephenson (marty.stephenson@hotmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 7:19:22 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Marty Stephenson 24 Artisan Drive Hampstead, NC 28443 marty.stephenson@hotmail.com (513) 704-3088

From:	Marie James (mepjames@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 9:10:37 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Marie James 1105 Whispering Pines Dr Kernersville, NC 27284 mepjames@gmail.com (717) 982-7375

From:	Katherine Rogers (kenyakate2001@yahoo.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 8:55:38 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

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Sincerely,

Katherine Rogers 497, Church Street oriental, NC 28571 kenyakate2001@yahoo.com (757) 721-0224

From:	Christopher OConnor (moonpieoconnor@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 8:28:26 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

North Carolina's seaboard counties are rightly world-famous for their distinctive and breathtaking natural features. Their communities thrive thanks to the region's intrinsic appeal and economic strength. Please continue to do your best to protect our coast for all who know and love it.

Sincerely,

Christopher OConnor 1421 Grove Point Rd Wilmington, NC 28409 moonpieoconnor@gmail.com (910) 262-0160

From:	Karen Richele BURKE (karenrichele@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 8:06:13 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

North Carolina's seaboard counties are rightly world-famous for their distinctive and breathtaking natural features. Their communities thrive thanks to the region's intrinsic appeal and economic strength. Please continue to do your best to protect our coast for all who know and love it.

Sincerely,

Karen Richele BURKE 229 NATALIE LN HUBERT, NC 28539 karenrichele@gmail.com (804) 382-8085

From:	Deborah Warner (dwarnerjr@att.net) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 7:53:47 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

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North Carolina's seaboard counties are rightly world-famous for their distinctive and breathtaking natural features. Their communities thrive thanks to the region's intrinsic appeal and economic strength. Please continue to do your best to protect our coast for all who know and love it.

Sincerely,

Deborah Warner 151 Wintergreen Rd Wilmington, NC 28409 dwarnerjr@att.net (910) 465-2942

From:	Jeannie Yount (ecunurse68@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 7:29:15 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

North Carolina has some of the nation's most celebrated coastl areas. Only with careful and continued management efforts will they continue to be .

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

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Sincerely,

Jeannie Yount 205 Haven Way S Washington, NC 27889 ecunurse68@gmail.com (252) 717-4088

From:	Thomas Piech (tomp6325@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 7:27:07 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I have witnessed dramatic environmental improvements in the last 60 years. Let us not regress.

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

North Carolina's seaboard counties are rightly world-famous for their distinctive and breathtaking natural features. Their communities thrive thanks to the region's intrinsic appeal and economic strength. Please continue to do your best to protect our coast for all who know and love it.

Sincerely,

Thomas Piech 2517-3 Costmary Lane Wilmington, NC 28412 tomp6325@gmail.com (931) 261-0594

From:	Whitney Daughtry (first1out@charter.net) Sent You a Personal Message
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 12:53:49 PM

Dear NC Division of Coastal Management,

I am a native of Wilmington NC and have grown up on the coast my entire life. I currently live on the water and it is of the upmost importance to protect our water way, the surrounding areas and habitat for all creatures big and small.

I encourage and support your work to reinstate the highest-priority rules for North Carolina's coastal management, and your efforts to restore all CAMA rules that were recently stricken from the state Administrative Code.

As the Act marks its 50th anniversary, it is more critical than ever that we protect the unique natural features and species along North Carolina's sounds and coastline. These rules help prevent pollution, preserve habitat, and responsibly develop fisheries. They also enable North Carolina to fully participate in federal rulemaking, programs and funding that affect our coastline.

North Carolina's seaboard counties are rightly world-famous for their distinctive and breathtaking natural features. Their communities thrive thanks to the region's intrinsic appeal and economic strength. Please continue to do your best to protect our coast for all who know and love it.

Sincerely,

Whitney Daughtry 102 Live Oak Ln Wilmington, NC 28411 first1out@charter.net (910) 262-8944

Joann M. McDermon, Mayor Mike Benson, Mayor Pro Tem

Aldermen: Richard Grant Tom Leonard Connie Pletl Laura Olszewski



Alice Derian, ICMA-CM Town Manager

> Nancy Avery Interim Town Clerk

## MEMORANDUM

To: Tancred Miller, Director, Division of Coastal Management

From: Joann McDermon, Mayor, Town of North Topsail Beach

CC: Angela Willis (Angela.Willis@deq.nc.gov)

Subject: Temporary CRC Rules

## Date: February 15, 2024

The Town of North Topsail Beach supports use of the 'Temporary CRC Rules' until such time as the RRC and CRC can resolve the set of rules in question. Without adoption of the temporary CRC rules, North Topsail Beach could be denied the right to process permit applications and collect the associated fees. Since the COVID pandemic started people realized they could still enjoy our relatively uncrowded beaches and coastal waters in the relative safety of a beach house in an uncrowded community. We've had a tremendous number of weekly vacation visitors during the epidemic years and continuing today. In addition to the large number of vacation guests we've experienced a tremendous increase in new housing starts due to the increased demand for beach rentals that continues today. Without the 'normal' CAMA development rules in place a serious blow to our economy might occur. Please realize that most of the builders, their crews and the tradesmen that work together in construction of beach homes rely on the continuous process of CAMA permitting which is a critical component of the construction process in North Topsail Beach as well as elsewhere on the NC coast.

Secondly, our beach nourishment plans could be negatively impacted by potential loss of federal benefits which we have relied on extensively in the past few years. We recently received a matching \$10.5 dollar grant from the Coastal Storm Damage Mitigation fund to place much needed sand on a 2.5-mile section of town shoreline. Our near future plans call for a new project that would nourish an additional 5 miles of shoreline, but this project is dependent on coordination between the USACE and NCDCM especially for both CAMA and federal permitting. Again, the temporary rules need to be put in place.

We also understand from our conservation colleagues that these temporary rules are necessary to protect valuable state resources. These include 'unique geologic formations' and 'significant coastal archeological resources' that protect heritage sites such as Permuda Island between North Topsail Beach and the mainland as well as Jockey's Ridge would be at risk if these temporary rules are not put in place.

From:	2522561785@vzwpix.com
То:	Willis, Angela; Davis, Braxton C
Subject:	[External]
Date:	Tuesday, January 16, 2024 8:09:28 AM

We, Dare county citizens, oppose the removal of 30 crc's rules that protect Jockey's Ridge State Park and other area environmental concerns. Thank you. Katherine and Larry Bray

From:	Jen Smith
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] AEC designation for Jockeys Ridge State Park
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 7:02:23 AM

As a resident, property and business owner on the outer banks Jockeys Ridge is important to both my family and I and to our entire community. I strongly urge the North Carolina Coastal Resources Commission to support the readoption of AEC status for Jockey's Ridge State Park. Thank you for your consideration of this special coastal geographical landmark that not only brings important tourism dollars to our community but also so much joy to visitors and residents alike.

Jennifer Smith

From:	Worley, Kimberly
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] AEC Designation for Jockeys Ridge
Date:	Monday, January 29, 2024 9:12:19 PM

## Dear Ms. Willis,

I am writing to express my concern over the temporary rule where the NC Rules Review Commission has said that the Coastal Resource Commission does not have the authority to create an Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) for Jockey's Ridge.

I believe that the AEC is appropriate for Jockey's Ridge and have concerns for it's future. I specifically bought my home across from Jockey's Ridge knowing that this area would certainly be protected for it's historical value and hope that we can ensure that the AEC designation remains and option for Jockey's Ridge as well as other sensitive areas of Nags Head.

Thank you for your time.

**Kimberly B. Worley** 3523 S. Memorial Avenue Nags Head, NC

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Dear Angela:

I am writing you to express my opinion regarding the North Carolina Rules Review Commission stating that the Coastal Resource Commission does not have the authority to create a zone called an Area of Environmental Concern for Jockey's Ridge State Park.

My wife and I purchased our home in Nags Head, in large part due to the protected areas of oceanfront, as well as Jockey's Ridge, which we view from the rear deck of our home at 3638 S Virginia Dare Trail.

We do not rent our property, and spend a significant part of our time in Nags Head. If Dare County is no longer allowed to protect Jockey's Ridge and other areas, I fear Nags Head would lose much of its appeal.

We would like to see Jockey's Ridge, as well as other areas, protected as an Area of Environmental Concern.

Kindest Regards,

Halston Taylor

From:	John Manzella
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] AEC jockeys ridge
Date:	Sunday, January 14, 2024 12:26:44 PM

We have been homeowners in Old Nags Head place for 20yrs and strongly support maintaining the AEC designation for the magnificent Jockeys Ridge across the bypass from our home. Any proposed change would weaken and threaten the ability to maintain this valuable ecosystem that is truly a joy for our family. John and Irene Manzella.

Sent from my iPhone

# Hello Ms. Willis,

I am a property owner in Nags Head near Jockey's Ridge. I visit frequently on weekends. I am writing to express my concern over the temporary rule where the NC Rules Review Commission has said the Coastal Resource Commission does not have the authority to create an Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) for Jockey's Ridge.

We strongly believe the AEC is appropriate for Jockey's Ridge and other historic, environmentally sensitive areas of Nags Head and the Outer Banks in general.

*Please help us in ensuring the ability to use the AEC designation remains an option for Jockey's Ridge.* 

Respectfully,

Jay Collins 3632 S Virginia Dare Trail Nags Head, NC 27959

From:	David Elder
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] AEC-please return
Date:	Tuesday, January 30, 2024 12:18:04 PM

The loss of the AEC designation for the Jockeys Ridge park is a short sighted overreach. It creates many problems for reasons that we are not yet allowed to know. This rewrite will concentrate still more authority off of the northern outer banks and in the hands of an unrepresentative shadow of this formerly representative group. With the removal of AEC designation the CRC loses its authority to designate an AEC for Jockey's Ridge, other areas in Nags Head(oceanfront, soundfront, Nags Head Woods, and nearby woodlands) will be at risk of losing their AEC protections. This will effectively unwrap and unhinge processes that have been guiding growth responsibly for many decades all without resolving any conflict...without a plan, as none is yet clear. But what is next, what more awaits, what is the plan , purpose, agenda and what will be unsettled and undone. Please let's not wait for the other shoe to drop. Can we just go back and then forward after the proposal is made and it is furthered or not for meritorious reason. It is difficult to plan without plans, and grow with roots. This's the plan, that is one or ours roots, created with understanding, thought and process. David Elder

From:	Marcia Cline
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] ARC designation for Jockeys Ridge State park and other natural wonders of the Outer Banks
Date:	Tuesday, January 30, 2024 8:36:15 PM

# Hello

I am writing in response to threats to the Outer Banks in the AEC designation being removed around Jockey's ridge.

It needs to be straightened out language wise and whatever else could keep it tied up in legal whatnot and Reinstated.

I don't want to espouse all kinds of my personal story on anyone but please let me simply share that I've lived and worked in nags head for over 40 years and I simply see what's happened and keeps happening as destroying what brings tourists here-Not helping our economy.

I watched the entire Epstein tract of land go up in rental homes and pirates cove and outlet

mall built on marsh land and on and on - not to even mention the northern northern beaches!!!-And what we have wound up with is a certain percentage of tourism that puts us over into a frenzied trashy wasteful area where the workforce can't afford to live here and the rental houses are overflowing with consumption gone mad.

It's the truth and we all know it in our hearts.

We have just a few sacred areas left.

Jockeys ridge is one, Nags head woods, run hill,

And God forbid pea island gets into this mix where lines keep getting crossed

These places I mentioned are all that distinguishes the outer banks from Crowded beach town Anywhere USA

To say nothing of the natural habitats that these few bits of land still proved homes for - yesother creatures that live on this earth and keep it an actual spinning planet.

Thank you for listening, Please reinstate this designation.

Sincerely, Marcia Cline 427 west villa dunes dr Nags head 252 202 4711

From:	Rick Arthur
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Area of Environmental Concern
Date:	Sunday, January 14, 2024 8:48:34 AM

### Dear Ms. Willis,

My wife Barbara and I own a house on South Memorial street in Nags Head which is within walking distance of Jockey's Ridge State Park. We frequently walk there with our grandkids and thoroughly enjoy the natural and untarnished beauty of the largest sand dune on the east coast.

As such we were very concerned when we heard about the news of the temporary rule where the NC Rules Review Commission has said the Coastal Resource Commission does not have the authority to create an Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) for Jockey's Ridge. We also understand that other key areas that are important to Nags Head and its residents could become unprotected from unwanted or inappropriate development if the ability to designate areas as AECs is taken away from the Coastal Resource Commission.

For the protection of Nags Head and its residents, we are urging the NC Rules Review Commission (or the appropriate governmental body) to authorize the Coastal Resource Commission to create AECs. We believe AECs are a critical part of preserving the uniqueness and character of Nags Head.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Rick & Barbara Arthur 3535 South Memorial Avenue Nags Head, NC

From:	JASON WHEELER
To:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] CRC Authority
Date:	Friday, January 19, 2024 6:44:30 PM

Dear Ms. Willis,

As a resident in Dare County who regularly enjoys and supports the preservation of Jockey's Ridge, I want to express my support for reinstating the authority of the Coastal Resources Commission and specifically the Area of Environmental Concern designation for Jockey's Ridge State Park.

Sincerely, Jason Wheeler 123 W. Bias Drive Duck, North Carolina

From:	Tricia Driscoll
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Fwd: Protect our resources - Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, January 16, 2024 11:13:42 AM

I am writing in response to the recent meeting held in Dare County, NC. The very fabric of this community is its small, quaint and environmentally protected nature. It's why people love this quiet undeveloped stretch of 150 miles of beaches, without huge

It's why people love this quiet undeveloped stretch of 150 miles of beaches, without huge hotels, oversized big box retail, and maximized density so many other beach towns have fallen victim to.

Please continue to allow the Coastal Resource Commission (CRC) to govern over Areas of Environmental Concern (AEC) designations. These AEC areas are critical to preserving and protecting the natural beauty of our county.

With Respect,

Tricia Driscoll 571.213.0187 tricia@cbseaside.com www.SaltyHappyHomes.com

?

The Driscoll Team Coldwell Banker Seaside Realty

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From:	Karen Bachman
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Fwd: Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, January 17, 2024 3:20:12 PM

Dear Committee,

\_

Please KEEP the AEC designation for Jockey's Ridge in Nags Head NC. I would respectfully ask that you keep it on the National park list of environmental treasures and PROTECT it from commercial development.

The Coastal Review Committee aims to protect our coastal assets; Jockey's Ridge being regarded as a significant gem here on the Outer Banks. Please protect our natural beauty, and demonstrate how the Old North State values and safeguards our natural places.

Sincerely

Karen Bachman 167 Beech Tree Tr Kitty Hawk NC 27949

Ms. Willis,

The purpose of this letter is to express our concern regarding the temporary rule that the NC Rules Review Commission does not have authority to create an Area of Concern (AEC)for Jockey's Ridge.

We strongly believe the AEC is appropriate for Jockey's Ridge.

Please help us in ensuring the ability to use the AEC designation remains an option for Jockey's Ridge.

We are full-time residents of Nags Head, NC.

Sincerely, Timothy and Candace Engel 3405 S Linda Lane Nags Head, NC 27959 Sent from my iPad

From:	polkbwp gmail.com
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey's Ridge State Park AEC
Date:	Thursday, February 8, 2024 8:27:40 AM

I write to strongly urge that the AEC designation for Jockey's Ridge State park be readopted. This eastern North Carolina treasure must be preserved for the future. Residents, as well as countless visitors, must be able to continue to enjoy this wonderful geologic marvel.

Regards, Barbara W. Polk

From:	Diana Mason-Smelt
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey's Ridge
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 1:21:47 PM

Hello Ms. Willis,

I am strongly in favor of maintaining Jockey Ridge an area of environmental concern. It is a state natural treasure and needs to be preserved and protected. Thank you. Diana Smelt

From:	Diana Mason-Smelt
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey's Ridge
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 1:21:47 PM

Hello Ms. Willis,

I am strongly in favor of maintaining Jockey Ridge an area of environmental concern. It is a state natural treasure and needs to be preserved and protected. Thank you. Diana Smelt

From:	Sammy Fadel
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge
Date:	Saturday, January 13, 2024 6:40:06 AM

Please tell the politicians to go screw up their

own backyard and leave ours alone. Thank you.

From:	Katherine Bray
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 6:54:27 AM

As Dare County residences my husband and I support the state designation of Ridge State Park it is! Katherine and Larry Bray Sent from my iPad

From:	Carol Sykes
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 9:36:28 AM

# To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to voice concern over threats to the preservation of Jockey's,s Ridge in Nags Head. This is a landmark of great value to our community and visitors. Steps must be taken to preserve it. Please do not allow this special place to be negatively impacted.

Thank you,

Carol N Sykes

From:	Mary Stuart Hardy
То:	Willis, Angela; Davis, Braxton C
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge
Date:	Wednesday, January 17, 2024 9:19:23 AM

Dear Ms Willis and Mr. Davis,

I am writing in response to the stripping protections article on Jockey's Ridge State Park dated January 12, 2024. Though I do not fully understand what occurred with the striking of protections for Jockey's Ridge, it is most concerning. For over 60 years, my family and I have enjoyed the Outer Banks, especially Jockey's Ridge State Park. We vacation and own property in Nags Head proper and visit the ridge often. It is home to the tallest living sand dune system and provides so many educational and recreational activities. As a retired educator, it is imperative that our youth be offered parks of this status. The educational and recreational strengths of this park are endless. There are countless reasons for continued federal and state protection. I am in agreement with Coastal Resources Commission Chair Renee Cahoon, when stating that, " all rules need to be readopted". We believe that permanent and temporary protections in the form of an AEC are imminent. If there are other individuals that you suggest I contact, please share their information. In the meantime, we hope this issue is quickly resolved and that Jockey's Ridge continues to be what has been for generations, a unique system of sand that should continue to be enjoyed and protected for the next several generations.

Kindly

Mary Stuart Hardy

Attn: Angela Willis

Please preserve Jockey's Ridge. It seems incredible that the laws were changed. Please use all designations needed to preserve this area from encroachment.

Thank you,

Renee Wiman Norfolk, VA

Dear Ms Willis,

My husband and I are home owners in Nags Head, NC. We would like to express our concern over the temporary rule where the NC Rules Review Commission has said the Coastal Resource Commission does not have the authority to create an Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) for Jockey's Ridge.

We strongly believe the AEC is appropriate for Jockey's Ridge and other historic, environmentally sensitive areas of Nags Head and the beautiful Outer Banks of NC.

We greatly appreciate any help you can give so that Nags Head continues to have the ability to use the AEC designation for Jockey's Ridge.

Sincerely,

Susan White 3615 South Virginia Trail Dr Nags Head, NC Sent from my iPhone

From:	cserafin21@charter.net
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 7:18:46 PM

Protections for Jockey's Ridge State Park as an area of environmental concern MUST remain in place.



Virus-free.<u>www.avg.com</u>

From:	daniel725@mac.com
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 4:08:02 PM

This is my comment that "yes" Jockey's Ridge State Park and the other pertinent locations should remain as an area of environmental concern and to have restricted development under the rule designation. They should not be eliminated.

Jockey's Ridge State Park and its dunes should be protected. Jockey's Ridge like other sites are some of North Carolina's landmarks that are economically and historically important to North Carolina not just Nags Head.

Thank you, Marie Dills

From:	daniel725@mac.com
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 4:08:02 PM

This is my comment that "yes" Jockey's Ridge State Park and the other pertinent locations should remain as an area of environmental concern and to have restricted development under the rule designation. They should not be eliminated.

Jockey's Ridge State Park and its dunes should be protected. Jockey's Ridge like other sites are some of North Carolina's landmarks that are economically and historically important to North Carolina not just Nags Head.

Thank you, Marie Dills

Jane Moore
Willis, Angela
[External] Jockeys Ridge
Saturday, January 27, 2024 1:37:43 PM

Sentence from my iPhone

Please do not change any Environmental Protection Regulations!!!!!!

Jockeys Ridge is a treasure for the Outer Banks and the State of North Carolina. It needs to be protected, if for no other reason than to keep it as a place that belongs to the Outer Banks. There has already been so much land taken commercially and for huge Mega Mansions!!!!!

The Outer Banks, the lighthouses, unpopulated areas of beach and the National Parks on Pea Island, along with Hatteras are a part

of the history of our State.

History from at least the 1500's, possibly even further back to the 1400's!!!

Changing laws that could lead to non-protected sites that make up the Outer Banks would be totally irresponsible on our part as a State.

I truly believe our state is very special and all sites, Outer Banks to Murphy need to be kept in their natural state!!!! Any action to change laws that have been in existence to protect these would be detrimental for the state of North Carolina and its people.

I oppose any action, law, or policy that would lead to damaging or destroying these Historical Sites!

From:	Deb Taylor
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockeys Ridge
Date:	Saturday, January 27, 2024 9:35:08 AM

I strongly support the readoption of the AEC!!

Deb Taylor Nags Head Resident

From:	Robert Netsch
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] JR is an AEC!
Date:	Monday, January 15, 2024 7:09:52 AM

### Good AM,

Please know that my family and I feel Jockey's Ridge is a key area of environmental concern. JR is geographically unique and provides essential undeveloped habitat. The state park is more than the big dune, it includes non-hardened shoreline and maritime forest. This area deserves whatever protection our leaders can provide.

Thank You

---

Robert Netsch 221 West Soundside Rd Nags Head, NC 27959 (252)564-5123

From:	M EUGENE SHOAP
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] LEAVE THEM ALONE
Date:	Wednesday, January 17, 2024 4:51:46 PM

If it ain't broke don't try to fix it. We love Jockey's Ridge just the way it is. Myrl Shoap, Nage Head

From:	Stephen Goodwin
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Please allow the Coastal Commission to designate Areas of Environmental Concern!
Date:	Sunday, January 14, 2024 10:23:38 AM

#### Dear Angela,

I grew up in Virginia but my family has been visiting the Outer Banks since the 1960s. In large part this has been because of the protected natural environments - Jockey's Ridge State Park, Nags Head Woods, the National Seashore and many others too numerous to list. I am very concerned about restrictions on designating Areas of Environmental Concern - this must be left to the people who care about protecting the integrity of our local environments, including local authorities and the Coastal Commission.

My parents owned property in Kitty Hawk during the 1970s and 1980s. Although I now live in Indiana, I bought a second home in Nags Head in 2011 and visit the area often - I can walk to Jockey's Ridge State Park from my house (as well as Nags Head Pier, Galaxy Golf, Lucky 12 tavern and many other local attractions). I rent my house out during the season which contributes to the local economy plus I pay thousands of dollars a year in property taxes and for beach nourishment to maintain the integrity of our local surroundings. Because of the attraction of the area, one of my nephews who was living in Richmond, VA, also bought a house in Nags Head and he and his wife have now become North Carolina residents, in large part because of the beauty of the local area.

The town of Nags Head has done an excellent job of promoting development while (mostly) protecting the integrity of the environment. For example, there used to be an old amusement park in Nags Head that went out of business. That property was located right next to the elementary school on the main highway and was a prime site for development. However, rather than put up more businesses the town got a grant and used the money to put in a park called Dowdy Park, named after the former amusement park. This area has grills, basketball and pickleball courts, plus many play areas for kids. It is now used for a farmer's market every Thursday during the summer and concerts on other days and the kids from the elementary school can play there after classes. It is a great local asset that augments the quality of life. This is an example of why decisions are best left to local authorities who have the best interests of citizens and the environment in mind.

Our area is going to face many challenges going forward as climate change becomes more apparent and local authorities and residents will make the best decisions. As part of this effort the Coastal Commission needs to retain its ability to designate Areas of Environmental Concern - please make sure that this is so. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steve Goodwin Property owner of 205 E Curlew St in Nags Head

From:	Bill Culbertson
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Protect Jockey"s Ridge
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 11:46:10 AM

Please maintain all environmental protections for Jockey's Ridge, a unique coastal landmark rotation. I cannot stress how important it is to protect Jockey's Ridge, not just for North Carolina, but for all the visitors who come from all across the country and value it!

Thank you,

Leslie Culbertson 2328 Bayville Road Virginia Beach, VA 23455

From:	george barnes
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] re: temporary rules
Date:	Friday, January 26, 2024 4:40:52 PM

#### Dear Coastal Management Commissioners,

In 1975, Jockey's Ridge State Park became a testament to the collective commitment to environmental preservation. The collaborative efforts of the state, General Assembly, and federal government culminated in the acquisition of this ecological gem in 1975. This pristine landscape, now under the protective umbrella of the Area of Environmental Concern (AEC), stands as a testament to our dedication to preserving nature's wonders.

As the inaugural superintendent, I have witnessed firsthand the ecological significance of Jockey's Ridge. The park encompasses diverse ecosystems, from vibrant maritime forests to the awe-inspiring dunes that define its unique character. The delicate balance of flora and fauna here is a testament to the intricate biosystem of nature, and the AEC plays a pivotal role in maintaining this delicate equilibrium.

Beyond its ecological importance, Jockey's Ridge is a haven for recreation and education. Thousands of visitors annually are captivated by the park's natural beauty, engaging in activities while serving as a crucial habitat for numerous wildlife species, all the while fostering an appreciation for the environment. The AEC serves as a guardian, ensuring that human interaction harmonizes with the preservation goals set forth in 1975.

The foresight of those who envisioned the protection of Jockey's Ridge shines through in the legislative actions taken over four decades ago. The intent was clear – to create a space where nature thrives unimpeded, where generations can connect with the environment and learn the value of conservation. Upholding the AEC is not just a legal obligation; it is a moral imperative to honor the promises made to both the land and the people.

Let us rally together to secure the future of Jockey's Ridge State Park. By maintaining the AEC, we affirm our commitment to preserving this natural sanctuary, not just for ourselves but for the countless generations that will follow. May the winds that shape the dunes whisper a message of conservation and stewardship that resonates far beyond the boundaries of this beloved park.

Respectfully submitted via email 1-26-24.

George G Barnes

Former Superintendent of Jockey's Ridge State Park

From:	Becky Bartel
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] readopting of Area of Environmental Concern for Jockey's Ridge State Park
Date:	Tuesday, January 30, 2024 8:00:39 PM

### NC Coastal Resources Commission,

I am writing to express strong support for the readoption of Area of Environmental Concern (ACE) status for Jockey's Ridge State Park. As a resident of Dare County and a homeowner that lives adjacent to Jockey's Ridge, I am concerned that removal of this critical designation would threaten the long-term integrity and management of the ecological communities within the Park. The AEC designation acknowledges the unique coastal features and allows protections that restrict incompatible development. Uncontrolled development could result in environmental damage such as habitat loss or fragmentation, degraded water quality, and loss of biodiversity. In addition to the environmental impacts, reduced regulation of shoreline development could pose long-term public safety risks by allowing development that does not manage long-term risks associated with sea level rise and other climatic changes.

Jockey's Ridge is a treasure for NC residents and visitors alike and has served as a designation with irreplaceable features. I encourage the Commission to preserve these conditions and maintain the ecological community and cultural significance of Jockey's Ridge for our community and many visitors. It is my hope that the Park remains protected with the reinstatement of the AEC designation for future generations.

I appreciate the opportunity to submit a public comment.

Rebecca Harrison 341 Nags Way Ct. Nags Head, NC 27959

From:	Stan Keeler
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Support for Re-adoption of AEC status for Jockeys Ridge State Park!
Date:	Thursday, February 8, 2024 11:36:32 AM

I want to express my, and my household's, support of the Friends of Jockey's Ridge letter of Jan 22, 2024 requesting the re-adoption of the AEC status for Jockey's Ridge State Park.

The letter states very well the general feeling in the Outer Banks that Jockey's Ridge is a key part to the very foundation of our tourist economy here. The First Flight Memorial, the Beach, and Jockey's Ridge define the Outer Banks.

I support the re-adoption of the AEC status for Jockey's Ridge State Park.

Sincerely, Stan Keeler Kitty Hawk, NC voice/text 630.803.6818 Stankeeler@gmail.com

From:	Stan Keeler
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Support for Re-adoption of AEC status for Jockeys Ridge State Park!
Date:	Thursday, February 8, 2024 11:36:32 AM

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I support the re-adoption of the AEC status for Jockey's Ridge State Park.

Sincerely, Stan Keeler Kitty Hawk, NC voice/text 630.803.6818 Stankeeler@gmail.com

From:	Meade Gwinn
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Support for the CRC 16 Emergency Rules
Date:	Monday, January 15, 2024 4:17:25 PM

Dear Ms. Willis.....As a Dare County resident, living in Nags Head, NC., I wish to offer my total support to adopt the 16 emergency rules that will enable the Coastal Resource Commission to protect "places of significant cultural and ecological resources", including Nags Head's treasured Jockey's Ridge State Park.

I also want to thank you and the DEQ for working to restore all of the 30 rules that have worked well over the past 50 years to protect our beautiful historical and ecological fragile sites.

Respectfully,

Hardeman S M Gwinn 4913 S. Links Drive Nags Head, NC 27959-0543

From:	Jeff Pavlak
То:	Willis, Angela
Cc:	Pat Pavlak; JEFF PAVLAK
Subject:	[External] Supporting Maintaining Jockey"s Ridge as an Area of Environmental Concern
Date:	Wednesday, January 31, 2024 11:26:42 AM

Hello Ms. Willis, My name is Jeff Pavlak. My wife, Pat and I own property in Nags Head, NC. The address is; 3616 South Virginia Dare Trail Nags Head, NC 27959

Jockey's Ridge is directly behind our property. We are concerned over the temporary rule where the NC Rules Review Commission has said the Coastal Resource Commission does not have the authority to create an Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) for Jockey's Ridge.

We strongly disagree with that position. The AEC is appropriate for Jockey's Ridge, other areas in Nags Head, and the Outer Banks. Development is a good thing. Overdevelopment is not a good thing. The AEC helps to protect the Jockey's Ridge area and other areas from overdevelopment. It will help maintain the uniqueness of the Outer Banks.

Please help us to ensure Jockey's Ridge continues to have the AEC designation.

Thank you for your help. All the Best, Jeff & Pat Pavlak 215-205-9044

From:	Julie Walter
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] "Temporary Rule
Date:	Saturday, January 27, 2024 1:02:44 PM

I am a full-time resident of Nags Head. I strongly support the readoption of the AEC (area of environmental concern) status for Jockey's Ridge State Park. This crucial designation protects the ridge and its loss poses a significant threat to the delicate ecosystem and continued protection of Jockey's Ridge, the most visited State Park in North Carolina.

Julie

500 Villa Dunes Dr, Unit H-4 PO Box 1061 Nags Head, NC 27959

Julie A. Walter 252.480.1407 | jewels364@gmail.com
From:	<u>C. Carey</u>
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules - Please Permanently Reinstate them in NC Administrative Code
Date:	Tuesday, January 2, 2024 4:42:34 PM

Dear Ms. Willis:

I hereby respectfully submit the following comments for the record in advance of the January 9 public hearing in Dare County regarding temporary rules affecting the North Carolina coast.

I support the NC Coastal Resources Commission's efforts to reinstate 16 rules as part of North Carolina's administrative code to protect the environment.

As noted by the NC Division of Coastal Management, these rules had been in place for years, and serve to protect vulnerable coastal resources.

I support the reinstatement of these 16 rules into the NC Administrative Code. They should have never been removed in the first place.

Thank you for your consideration.

Chris Carey 44 Orman's Wy. Wanchese NC 27981 505-331-4944

From:	Nelson Paul
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules - Public Comments
Date:	Saturday, January 27, 2024 10:31:17 AM

Public Comments on Temporary Rules 15A NCAC 07M .0701, .0702, .0703

To the Director of the Division of Coastal Management:

Before the temporary mitigation rules outlined in 15A NCAC 07M .0701, .0702, .0703 are re-instated the Coastal Resources Commission has to address the long overdue issue of taking of private property without just compensation.

The original legislative findings and goals of the Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) at § 113A-102 (a) state, in part, "...private property rights shall be preserved in accord with the Constitution of this State and of the United States." This affirms Article V of the US Constitution which states "...nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation."

It is clearly understood that there are coastal wetlands below the mean high-water mark which are in the public domain, however, there are also extensive coastal wetlands above the mean high-water mark that are privately owned. In implementing the CAMA there is no distinction made between the two.

In regard to the temporary rules being considered for permanency in 15A NCAC 07M .0701, .0702, and 0703, there is no clearer evidence of a government "taking" than the government requiring private property owners pay to use their land by the implementation of wetland "mitigation."

Mitigation requires the rightful owners, who have received no compensation from the government as required by law, to pay the government to use the property they supposedly already own. Until the government pays the rightful owners for them taking the land, the government has no right to require the rightful owners pay for using their land.

I object to the re-reinstatement of 15A NCAC 07M .0701, .0702, .0703. They violate the § 113A-102 (a) of the CAMA and Article V of the US Constitution.

Please confirm you are in receipt of these comments.

Thank you!

Cordially, Nelson Paul (919) 271-8900 Nelson@NelsonPaul.com

From:	Connie Grizzard
To:	Willis, Angela; Davis, Braxton C
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules (Protect Jockey''s Ridge)
Date:	Sunday, January 21, 2024 12:45:29 PM

#### Dear Ms. Willis and Mr. Davis,

I am reaching out to you as a resident of Kill Devil Hills, NC, on the lovely and beautiful Outer Banks. I am asking you to PLEASE consider protecting Jockey's Ridge State Park in every way possible. Jockey's Ridge is a natural beauty that thousands of people enjoy on a daily basis. It is part of what the Outer Banks of NC truly used to be~raw, natural, undisturbed, undeveloped, TRUE beauty. Families from all over the world come to the Outer Banks to enjoy the largest sand dunes on the East Coast. I am asking you to please find it in your hearts to protect this State Park so people can continue to enjoy it for many years to come. Fewer and fewer open spaces are left in this area~---please don't destroy Jockey's Ridge~I cherish my memories of being a child and my family bringing me to the dunes, I raised my boys here on the OBX to love and appreciate these dunes and I look forward to one day bringing my grandchildren to Jockey's Ridge to make more priceless memories. Jockey's Ridge deserves to be protected and you have an important role in making sure it is!!! Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely,

Connie Grizzard

Connie B. Grizzard Second Grade Teacher FFES 441-1111 ext. 2055

From:	Heather Brugh
То:	Willis, Angela; Davis, Braxton C
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, January 16, 2024 5:44:24 PM

### Good afternoon,

I recently came across an article which referenced some concern on the part of the Nags Head mayor and others in the OBX community concerning the striiping of protections for certain areas - including Jockey's Ridge. Our family has vacationed in Nags Head and OBX area for decades and we always make a point to visit and support this majestic treasure! In fact, we happened to be there in August last year and attended the "Birthday Party" event and in November, while spending our Thanksgiving in the area (as we have done for the past 26 years), we joined in on a wonderful and very informative Dune Hike on Thanksgiving Day.

Please consider the vast and immense history of the dunes and the area and take all steps necessary to replace any rules or regulations needed to protect, preserve and maintain this special place.

Many thanks,

Heather Brugh

From:	Abby Lindsay
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, January 11, 2024 10:47:24 AM

Hi Angela,

I am a 14 year resident and a 35 yr vacationer to Nags Head. We have been living in North Ridge just to the North of Jockeys Ridge State Park for 14 years. We love calling this place our home and that's because of the natural beauty we are surrounded by. We know the regulations that were made by the AEC have helped protect Jockeys Ridge and our beaches. Please do not let guards down AND let the AEC go by the way side. We need regulations in place to help protect our precious beach for years to come.

Abby Carey http://www.firstflightadventurepark.com 252-715-3622 (office) 828-260-0383 (cell)

From:	Michele Luckenbaugh
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Monday, January 15, 2024 10:00:14 AM

I am writing in response to the NC Rules Review Commission's position that the Coastal Resource Commission does not have the authority to create zones called Area of Environmental Concern.

AECs are crucial to preserving the unique qualities of regions in our town including, but not limited to Jockey's Ridge. Without AECs, you strip protection for coastal lands and waters and create a potential threat to public safety. And, the CRC is in the best position to determine the need for AECs in our NC communities.

As a Nags Head resident who is blessed to live with Jockey's Ridge in my backyard, I am strongly opposed to any changes to the current process for designating AECs.

Sincerely, Michele Luckenbaugh

From:	Randi Eure
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, January 17, 2024 12:47:08 PM

#### Dear Sirs and Madam,

I am writing to you today to voice my opinion of the emergency protection for Jockey's Ridge State Park. I urge our congressman to vote to place Jockey's Ridge State Park into the AEC designation as deserved and as deserved by our tax paying Citizen's here in Dare County. It would be shameful to see the land not protected by our State or Federal Government after 40 years of planned use and conservation. As former employee of Cape Hatteras National Seashore in Protection, I would hate to see the beauty disrupted on the State property as others in our beautiful State. The income from tourism is just one reason to keep these areas protected. Thank you in advance for a positive outcome on your February meeting.

#### **Randi Eure**

TowneBank Mortgage - Your Hometown Mortgage Lender. NMLSR # 71974 Mortgage Loan Officer 4629 N. Croatan Hwy Kitty Hawk, NC 27949 Phone 252-261-9479 Fax 1-866-904-9957 Mobile 252-202-6106 Randi.Eure@townebankmortgage.com www.townebankmortgage.com/randieure Click Here to verify my NMLS

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From:	Ann-Cabell Baum
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] temporary rules
Date:	Wednesday, January 24, 2024 5:30:57 PM

Dear Director Davis via Ms Willis email -

As a concerned Dare County property owner, I am deeply disturbed by the recent decision of the Rules Review Commission to remove a 50-year-old Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) rule that has been instrumental in protecting the natural resource of Jockey's Ridge State Park. My distress stems from the potential threat this poses to the environmental integrity of this cherished coastal geologic formation in Nags Head, North Carolina.

This matter holds personal significance for me, Ann-Cabell Baum, as I, along with my brother and sister, are the three adult children of Carolista Baum. On August 15, 1973, we ran home to alert Carolista about a bulldozer on Jockey's Ridge. Carolista returned to the ridge that day and stood resolutely in front of the dozer operator until he shut down the equipment and left. This event forever shaped our family's commitment to preserving Jockey's Ridge, leading to Carolista's formation of People to Preserve Jockey's Ridge, a community wide awareness and fundraising campaign, countless hours of lobbying lawmakers at the state level and the dunes eventual purchase with both state and federal funds in 1975.

The AEC designation, established 50 years ago, has played a crucial role in preventing uncontrolled and what would seem inconceivable development over the years that could harm the irreplaceable features of Jockey's Ridge. The benefits and protections provided by the AEC rule are essential for preserving the park's ecological balance.

I urge the Rules Review Commission to reconsider its decision and maintain the AEC status for Jockey's Ridge State Park. The removal of this designation not only jeopardizes the park's environmental integrity but also disregards the decades-long efforts of concerned individuals, including my family, in safeguarding this natural treasure.

Having grown up on these Outer Banks and having watched the growth over the years, I must emphasizing the importance of upholding regulations that protect our valuable natural resources is of utmost importance. Jockey's Ridge holds immense ecological, scientific, and cultural significance, and it is our collective responsibility to ensure its continued protection for future generations.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter, and I sincerely hope that the Rules Review Commission will prioritize the long-term well-being of Jockey's Ridge State Park by maintaining the crucial AEC designation.

All my best, Ann-Cabell

Ann-Cabell Baum Mobile (919) 606-4074

From:	Michael O Brien
То:	Miller, Tancred; Willis, Angela
Cc:	Michael O"Brien
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Monday, January 29, 2024 12:19:19 PM

> We are writing to you today to urge you to protect Jockey's Ridge State Park.

>

> If there was any area on the coast that needs to remain an

> Area Of Environmental Concern

> It is Jockey's Ridge State Park.

>

> I have worked in the construction industry for 40 years and building has been and continues to

> boom on the Outer Banks of North Carolina.

> If they can build on it, they will.

> Removing this designation opens Jockey's Ridge State Park to development.

> We need to protect these diverse fragile areas before they are all gone.

>

> Jockey's Ridge faces enough challenges without the AEC designation and can only imagine what would become of the

> Park, if this was removed?

>

> One of my concerns is, who thought it was a good idea to remove the AEC and what was the thought process.

> Our Parks and open areas, the ones we have left, need to be preserved.

> AEC helps this effort.

>

> Save this designation and please come to Nags Head and enjoy a walk in

> Jockey's Ridge State park.

>

> It is a special place.

>

> Thank you

>

> Michael & Nancy O'Brien

> PO Box 902

> 2820 S Lost Colony Drive

> Nags Head NC 27959

> 252-202-2149

From:	Kathryn Earle
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 2:10:20 PM

# Hello,

I am writing to voice my support for Jockey's Ridge State Park maintaining its status as an Environmental Area of Concern, providing protections for the park and restricting development of the area. Jockey's Ridge is an important natural area that should be preserved for generations to come.

Sincerely, Kathryn Earle

From:	Cyndy Holda
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules Comment
Date:	Tuesday, January 23, 2024 8:48:44 AM
Attachments:	1-23-24 CHolda Comments.docx

Good Morning Angela! My comments are attached as well as pasted into the body of this email. They are exactly the same. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

# "Temporary Rules" - Coastal Resources Commission Public Comment Period

January 23, 2024

Braxton Davis, Director Division of Coastal Management "Temporary Rules" 400 Commerce Avenue Morehead City, NC 28557

# Subject Line: "Temporary Rules"

Dear Mr. Davis:

As a concerned full-time resident, landowner, taxpayer and life-long admirer of the coastal regions of North Carolina, my comments today are simply to encourage the reinstatement of all "temporary rules" for the Coastal Resources Commission. A failure to do so would strip the rights of citizens who have benefited greatly from the past 50 years of sensible environmental protections that safe-guard and ensure clean, non-polluted waters for the protection of our coastal resources and of all creatures, including humans, for generations to come.

My family are natives of the Outer Banks; my father was a commercial fisherman in his younger years and then made a living from a budding tourism/motel industry in Nags Head with two family-owned/operated motels while raising his family. The Outer Bank's greatest assets have always been our clean, coastal waters, pristine beaches and shorelines, fantastic boating opportunities, and bountiful forms of seafood and wildlife. All of these things depend on the clean tides, winds, and secluded sections of land in order to survive and raise their young.

Eastern North Carolina is very blessed and fortunate to have an expansive and productive estuarine system with over 200,000 acres of salt marshes. These wetlands are some of the most productive acreage on this Earth; providing critical fish and shellfish hatcheries, improved water quality for healthy seafood

harvests, and erosion protection for our shorelines from impacts of sea-level rise and flooding. Fortunately, many acres are under federal protection to ensure that wildlife have a chance to thrive and for people to recreate and play. It is vitally important that private landowners follow sound environmental practices and rules as well to do everything possible to compliment the healthy conservation of our beautiful region.

Without the Coastal Resources Commission's 50 years of sound and reasonable rules and protections that benefit creatures and humans alike, we stand to lose a lot more than just another election cycle for a few politicians. Politics has no place on the critically important Commission's mission and purpose. Please, I asked that the rules be reinstated so they can continue to be applied for the continued protection of our coastal waters, shorelines, and resources. The current trends of ever-increasing land values depend on it; the safety of our children to swim and play in the surrounding waters without threat of contracting vibriosis (or some other horrible bacteria) depends on it; the cleanliness and safety of the seafood, boating and wildlife eco-tourism industries depend on it.

Lastly, thank you for the opportunity to submit public comments on an issue that affects so many. Transparency in government and a healthy exchange of ideas is indeed one of the founding principles of democracy. "We the people" appreciate a chance to have our voices heard.

Please reinstate the rules! To do otherwise will have disastrous results for the future of the citizens of the Great State of North Carolina.

Cyndy M. Holda P.O. Box 172 Manns Harbor, NC 27953 cyndyholda@gmail.com

From:	loranw87
To:	<u>Willis, Angela; Davis, Braxton C</u>
Cc:	loranw87@aol.com
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Friday, January 12, 2024 10:36:03 PM

#### Dear Rules Committees,

I respectfully request the rules protecting all "AEC" areas of environmental concerns, including Jockey's Ridge State Park, are reinstated and become permanent.

With commercial expansion seeming to take over too many places, it is even more important to preserve natural resources and nature areas that still exist WHILE they still exist!

Coastal North Carolina is a treasured "tourist attraction" and generates revenue as such. Please maintain these areas that are becoming more rare.

Thank you very much for your consideration and support for this heartfelt request.

Sincerely, Lori Wright

------ Original message ------From: The Virginian-Pilot <pilotonline@nws.pilotonline.com> Date: 1/12/24 4:04 PM To: LORANW87@AOL.COM Subject: Editor's Pick: N.C. quietly stripped protections for Jockey's Ridge State Park. Coastal residents are fighting back.



From:	Gale Bryant
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules Jockeys Ridge
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 11:39:25 AM

Hello Angela, please add my name to list of people that want to continue any and all possible protections for the Jockey's Ridge area & State Park, against any development and lack of maintenance. I and my family are lifelong visitors and longtime Dare County property owners, and the Outer Banks, especially Corolla through Hatteras, is extremely rare in its beauty, history, and unique natural areas. Development of Jockeys Ridge would be devastating - it MUST be protected, not just temporarily, but permanently. Carolista Baum stood her ground years ago - we must continue to do the same. I urge you to protect it. ~ Gale Bryant

Cynthia Hatch
<u>Willis, Angela</u>
[External] Temporary Rules
Tuesday, February 6, 2024 1:43:15 PM

I do not agree with removing the Coastal Resource Commission authority for AEC protections for the Town of Nags Head. Please ensure that the Coastal Resource Commission retains authority for creating AEC (Area of Environmental Concern) designation for areas of Nags Head, especially for Jockey's Ridge and properties in its neighborhood.

Thank you, Cynthia Hatch for HD Resorts, LLC

<u>Susan Flora</u>
<u>Willis, Angela</u>
[External] Temporary Rules
Wednesday, February 7, 2024 9:01:19 AM

I am writing to support Jockeys Ridge being continued as a protected site.

I live in Va Beach and always encourage my company to visit Jockeys Ridge while in the area. It is an adventure; both visually and physically. It also is an historical part of our east coast history.

To not provide continued protection would be a permanent loss to our area as well as the rest of our country. I doubt that I will ever see Mount Rushmore (which is a man made creation) but it is nice to know that it is there for what it is and what it represents. Jockeys Ridge is nature made and allows us to see what our physical past looked like and offers lessons on what we need to learn as we construct our future development.

Please allow Jockeys Ridge the respect and protection it deserves so that it can continue to be a part of our present and survive into our future.

Susan Flora 1052 Downshire Chase Va. Beach, Va. 23452

Sent from my iPad

From:	<u>Jan Lambiase</u>
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 8:30:37 AM

Dear Miss Willis

Jockeys Ridge is a unique coastal geological formation and should be environmentally protected. Preservation of the landmark from possible development should be enforced by those who have the power. Removing this designation would be detrimental to this valuable landmark. We, the concerned, public, recommend that all the rules need to be re-adopted.

Janess Lambiase, R.N., BSN

From:	lauren creech
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 6, 2024 8:52:55 PM
Attachments:	Outlook-uhefrdsr.png
	Outlook-znnxncat.png
	Outlook-tdkfzlye.png
	Outlook-u5t1unhw.png
	Outlook-hrtgpvc5.png

Outlook-s1ef0py0.png

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The AEC designation officially recognizes Jockey's Ridge as a distinctive coastal geological formation, ensuring its placement under environmental protection. This designation is essential for safeguarding the landmark from potential development and for continuously replenishing migrating sand to the dune. Any attempt to revoke this designation could prove detrimental to the local landmark, which draws over 1 million visitors annually. The recent decision by the Rules Review Commission to eliminate this crucial designation poses a significant threat to the environmental integrity and long-term well-being of this unique coastal geological formation.

Moreover, the potential development of this area would not only compromise the unique character of Nags Head but also exacerbate sand-related issues in this and neighboring areas. The designated region is a major attraction, bringing in hundreds of thousands of visitors and contributing significantly to our area's tax revenue and tourist dollars. Revoking this designation threatens the site's environmental integrity and jeopardizes the economic benefits derived from its status as a popular destination. Furthermore, any development within this area could lead to substantial erosion problems, adding another layer of concern to the potential repercussions of removing this critical designation.

#### Alan and Lauren Creech, RSPS <u>Creech Realty OBX</u> Use our Website to get your Home Value, Market Reports & View all OBX Listings! At Outer Banks Realty Group 3712 N Croatan Hwy Unit B Kitty Hawk, NC 27949 252.455.1420 (Alan) 252.455.1421 (Lauren) 252-491-3333 (Office) Our Mission: To share our love of the Outer Banks and be superior real estate experts for our unique coastal

Our Mission: To share our love of the Outer Banks and be superior real estate experts for our unique coastal area. We provide unsurpassed professionalism to our clients by putting their best interests first through our commitment to value, advocacy, and transparency.



From:	fetzerab@ec.rr.com
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 1, 2024 6:57:49 AM

Good morning Ms. Willis,

I am a former resident of Eastern NC (Onslow County...20+ years) having owned a home in Hubert located on Queens Creek. My wife Arlene and I moved to Southern Pines several years ago but love and respect our coastal environment.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Temporary Rules. I noted this opportunity in a blog from the NC Coastal Federation at Coastal Review.Org.

My only comment is under 15A NCAC 07M .0403 COASTAL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT - SPECIFIC POLICY STATEMENTS on page 3 of 3, Paragraph 10B, line #3 entitled "In the siting of energy facilities and related structures, significant adverse impacts to the following areas shall be avoided/tracts of maritime forest in excess of 12 contiguous acres and areas identified as eligible for registration or dedication by the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program":

It seems to me that 12 contiguous acres of Maritime Forest is far too much maritime forest to allow "significant adverse impacts" (whatever "significant adverse impacts" really means. One person's significant adverse impacts could mean cutting down one live oak tree. Another person would deem clear cutting 12 acres as a "significant adverse impact".

Perhaps "significant adverse impact" is defined in the law someplace?

According to Audubon NC in their document "NC Coastal Plain" at their site here: <u>https://nc.audubon.org/sites/default/files/static\_pages/attachments/iba\_coastal.pdf</u>, "More than a million acres of forested wetlands have been lost in the past few decades; cleared, cut, drained, mined, and converted to agriculture..." and other uses.

The remnants remaining of our maritime forest in NC are too valuable to permit 12 acres of them to be "adversely" impacted, significantly or otherwise.

I do not know how the 12 contiguous acre figure was derived, but 12 acres is a lot of maritime forest. Too much. That number should be at least halved in our temporary rules. Since the rules are temporary, by halving that number, further study may be accomplished to determine what the real number should be in the permeant rules.

I don't know if this helps at all, but I love our maritime forests and they are vital to our beautiful natural environment, to our wildlife, and to the mitigation of coastal flooding.

Thanks for your efforts to help protect our fragile environment in our beautiful state, Ms. Willis.

Kind regards, Barry Barry R. Fetzer Cell: 910-915-6525 Email: fetzerab@ec.rr.com

From:	MaryAnn Toboz
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Saturday, January 13, 2024 9:55:46 AM

Ms. Willis,

Please work to support the resolution and restoration of the coastal environmental rules that are in emergency temporary status.

I support the utmost care for our environment.

Thank you, MaryAnn Toboz <u>maryanntoboz57@gmail.com</u> 757.754.4486

From:	Amy Wells
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] temporary rules reinstatement
Date:	Sunday, January 21, 2024 7:59:17 PM

I am a life long resident of the Outer Banks as were my relatives in generations before me. We have all worked and benefitted from our precious waters and coastal habitat. It is important to continue to do all we can to protect our natural resources.

It is also important that the Coastal Resources Commission does not become a political football. This talk of Jordan Hennessy jockeying for position to have Renee Cahoon removed from the Commission really disturbs me. His interests are not with the citizens and resources, but rather personal in nature. That should not happen with this very important commission. We need a very diverse group of concerned citizens and working professionals, not some partisanpoliticians.

Please reinstate the temporary rules.

Thank you so much.

Amy Wells 3749 Herbert Perry RD Kitty Hawk, NC 27949

Dear Ms. Willis:

I hereby respectfully submit the following comments for the record in advance of the January 9 public hearing in Dare County regarding temporary rules affecting the North Carolina coast.

I support the NC Coastal Resources Commission's efforts to reinstate 16 rules as part of North Carolina's administrative code to protect the environment.

As noted by the NC Division of Coastal Management, these rules had been in place for years, and serve to protect vulnerable coastal resources.

I support the reinstatement of these 16 rules into the NC Administrative Code.

Thank you for your consideration.

Angel Khoury 230 Mother Vineyard Road Manteo, NC 27954 252/473-6906 angelkhoury.com

From:	Brugh IV, Lynn K.
То:	Willis, Angela; Davis, Braxton C
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, January 16, 2024 4:57:40 PM

#### Dear Ms. Willis and Mr. Davis,

I do not fully understand exactly what transpired with the striking of 30 rules from the state code due to the passage of the budget bill but, it certainly sounds like there were "rules" in place to protect Jockey's Ridge State Park and now there are not. I am pretty confident that the overwhelming majority (if not all) of the residents, yearly tourists, occasional visitors or just admirers of the Outer Banks want their North Carolina leaders to put in place whatever protections are needed to preserve, maintain and improve Jockey's Ridge State Park for generations to come. Please do not let some bureaucratic debate leave one of North Carolina's true gems unprotected even for a minute. If you believe that I should direct my concerns to someone else, please let me know who that should be. Thank you for your help on this important matter.

Sincerely, Lynnie Brugh



Lynn K. Brugh IV Attorney T 804.420.6461 email | v-card | website | LinkedIn

Williams Mullen Center | 200 South 10th Street, Suite 1600 | P.O. Box 1320 (23218) | Richmond, VA 23219

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From:	bradley carey
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, January 11, 2024 10:48:43 AM

## Hi Angela,

I am a 14 year resident and a 35 yr vacationer to Nags Head. We have been living in North Ridge just to the North of Jockeys Ridge State Park for 14 years. We love calling this place our home and that's because of the natural beauty we are surrounded by. We know the regulations that were made by the AEC have helped protect Jockeys Ridge and our beaches. Please do not let guards down AND let the AEC go by the way side. We need regulations in place to help protect our precious beach for years to come.

## Bradley Carey,

# **First Flight Adventure Park**

P.O. Box 118, Nags Head, NC 27959 Cell: 252.564.5298 brad@firstflightadventurepark.com www.firstflightadventurepark.com

From:	Muriel Kruize
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, January 18, 2024 10:00:48 AM

I am writing you to voice my opinion about the current positioning of Jockey's Ridge State Park.

I urge those with voting power to return Jockey's Ridge to the protection of the AEC as a taxpayer and frequent visitor of the national park.

Residents of the Outer Banks have a right to determine the future of our island — and big developments in a cherished natural area are not in line with our communal vision or desires.

Please consider the potential negative outcomes of removing Jockey's Ridge from the AEC before your vote in February.

Thank you and take care!

All the best, Muriel

<u>Shawn</u>
<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Davis, Braxton C
[External] Temporary Rules
Monday, January 22, 2024 1:42:29 PM

Please keep Jockey's Ridge an AEC. This area is treasured by the citizens and visitor's alike. I have lived in Kill Devil hills for over 20 years, and have owned a business in the area for over 20 years.

Please not do anything that would allow building or would diminish the dunes in any way.

Thanks, Shawn O'Neill

From:	John Ratzenberger
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Sunday, January 21, 2024 3:03:03 PM

We write to endorse comments by CRC Chair Renee Cahoon and Nags Head Mayor Ben Cahoon that permanent protections for Jockey's Ridge in the form of an AEC and temporary protections be put in place as soon as possible until the dispute between the Coastal Resource Commission and the Rules Review Commission is resolved.

The RRC process in this matter seems to be retroactive and rushed – ignoring some decades of work by many people and commissions to protect and preserve significant natural resources that define and protect the North Carolina coast land and its' history.

It is important to remember Jockey's Ridge is the only state park lying fully within a town's boundaries and that fosters a strong working relationship between town and state. The Superintendent of Jockey's Ridge, Joy Greenwood, relies on the AEC status to provide the Division of Parks and Recreation regulatory authority to protect the dunes and conduct required maintenance with them.

Jockey's Ridge is not just a big natural sand formation, it forms a backbone along the dunes of the Outer Banks. The Outer Banks was the place of the First Flight and chosen because of the winds and dune formations but one can see how much it has changed in 120 years. It is constantly under assault by wind and water, not to mention development.

40 years ago, we saw what might happen to Jockey's Ridge – and once it is gone, it is gone – it cannot be rebuilt. This is urgent and important.

John & Amp; Annette Ratzenberger 119 Seawatch Ct Nags Head, NC, 27959 252-573-9016

From:	Shelly Blackstone
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Friday, January 19, 2024 4:15:31 PM

To: Angela Willis, Dept of Environmental Quality, North Carolina

Dear Ms. Willis,

# Summary: I support the AEC designation and reinstating the CRC's authority for the protection and conservation of Jockey's Ridge State Park.

I have owned a home in Nags Head for 15 years. My neighbors and the Friends of Jockey's Ridge State Park informed me of this situation. It's my understanding that the NC Rules Review Commission recently gained the authority to remove rules of the Coastal Resource Commission (CRC) and the designation of Areas of Environmental Concern (AEC). This authority was gained through a budget maneuver in October. Specifically, this negatively affects the conservation of Jockey's Ridge State Park, which was established 50 years ago with overwhelming public support, and has been protected by the AEC designation.

There is no doubt that Jockey's Ridge State Park is an area of environmental concern and removing the AEC designation has no basis. Please help us retain the AEC designation for Jockey's Ridge State Park and other coastal areas under the CRC's protection and advocacy.

Sincerely,

Shelly Blackstone

3630 S. Virginia Dare Trail, Nags Head, NC 27959

shellyKblackstone@gmail.com

P.S. Opinion and Concerns regarding lack of transparency:

It's my assessment that a budget maneuver, that bypasses the will of the people, enabled the NC Rules Review Commission to quietly remove authority from the Coastal Resources Commission (CRC) and the Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) designation that protects the State Park from adverse development. Temporary and emergency measures are holding the protections in place but are at risk of expiring. It is also my understanding that the only recourse is a lawsuit that the CRC has initiated which is the only reason the public is now given the opportunity to comment. Therefore, it appears that the special interests of a small segment of commercial developers are behind this. Due to the intentional lack of transparency, the names of those special interests to date remain behind closed doors. Nonetheless, the truth will eventually come to light.

I am sure that the vast majority of area residents and the many visitors who enjoy Jockey's Ridge State Park favor its conservation which is facilitated by maintaining the AEC designation and CRC's authority. Unfortunately, the timing is especially unfortunate as January is when many small businesses are closed and many residents are not in the area to hear of this or attend meetings.

Please take all this into consideration as I'm sure there will be a public outcry given more time to spread the word and organize.

From:	goodink@embarqmail.com
То:	Willis, Angela; Davis, Braxton C
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, January 18, 2024 10:12:46 PM

Dear Ms. Willis and Mr. Davis,

I am writing to express my shock and dismay that the protective area of environment concern (AEC) status has been reversed at Jockey's Ridge State Park and Permuda Island and that 14 other CRC rules have been stripped in coastal North Carolina.

The state designation of Jockey's Ridge State Park as an AEC is extremely important. Not only is this one of the most visited state parks in North Carolina, but also Jockey's Ridge is a unique geological formation and an important habitat for wildlife and plants in an area of much development. The staff at Jockey's Ridge State needs these rules in place to protect this vulnerable area. The AEC Rules have worked well for Jockey's Ridge for more than 40 years and there is no reason to change them now

I do not know why the AEC designation was stripped away, but if it has anything to do with the commercialization or development of this property, that is an absolutely terrible idea. Jockey's Ridge State Park is a haven of undeveloped land in a hugely developed coastal community, and it needs to stay that way. Likewise, Permuda Island in Onslow County is a significant coastal resource and deserves AEC protection from development.

I can see no possible gain in removing any of these 16 rules. I am imploring you to do all you can to reinstate the rules and ensure that AEC protections are not loosened for Jockey's Ridge State Park, Permuda Island or any other coastal site.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Molly Harrison

Nags Head, NC

goodink@embarqmail.com

From:	Caryl Burtner
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, January 24, 2024 12:44:07 PM

Dear Ms. Willis,

**Please do not allow development on Jockey's Ridge**! Keep this important state park pristine for all to enjoy. As former residents of Kill Devil Hills, we understand the historic and natural value of the sand dunes.

Thank you,

Caryl Burtner & David Stover 3228 Patterson Ave Richmond, VA 23221

From:	Billy Moseley
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Monday, January 29, 2024 7:36:58 AM

I being a neighbor of Jockey's Ridge State Park and a board member of the Friends of Jockey's Ridge, strongly support the readoption of the AEC (area of environmental concern) status for Jockey's Ridge State Park. This crucial designation protects the ridge and its loss poses a significant threat to the delicate ecosystem and continued protection of Jockey's Ridge, the most visited State Park in NC. The delicate nature of this ever shifting natural resource is the very reason that the AEC protection is mandatory. I welcome a call from your department and the members of the Rules Committee at their earliest convenience and before any vote is taken.

Sincerely,

Billy Moseley



www.thewindwardgroupltd.com

From:	Lauren Nelson
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Monday, January 29, 2024 7:33:56 AM

Dear Ms. Willis,

I, being a neighbor of Jockey's Ridge State Park and a member of the Friends of Jockey's Ridge, strongly support the readoption of the AEC (area of environmental concern) status for Jockey's Ridge State Park. This crucial designation protects the ridge and it's loss poses a significant threat to the delicate ecosystem and continued protection of Jockey's Ridge, the most visited State Park in NC. The delicate nature of this ever shifting natural resource is the very reason that the AEC protection is mandatory. I welcome a call from your department and the members of the Rules Committee at their earliest convenience and before any vote is taken.

Sincerely,

Lauren Nelson

Friends of Jockey's Ridge Board Member



From:	Jomo Records
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Sunday, January 28, 2024 8:12:04 AM

#### Dear Angela,

The recent decision by the Rules Review Commission to potentially remove this crucial designation of AEC at Jockey's Ridge poses a significant threat to the environmental integrity and long-term well-being of this unique coastal geologic formation."

I strongly support the readoption of the AEC (area of environmental concern) status for Jockey's Ridge State Park. This crucial designation protects the ridge and it's loss poses a significant threat to the delicate ecosystem and continued protection of Jockey's Ridge, the most visited State Park in NC.

I personally worked alongside Carolista Baum and wrote a song to help raise funds to make Jockey's Ridge a State Park. I am proud that our beautiful dunes received the State Park designation and feel like any removal of protection of this area will result in uncontrollable or incompatible development and that would have a negative effect on this beautiful natural landmark.

Please readopt the AEC for our Ridge!

sincerely

Mojo Collins
From:	Michael O Brien
То:	Davis, Braxton C; Willis, Angela
Cc:	Michael O"Brien
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Saturday, January 27, 2024 1:09:17 PM

We are writing to you today to urge you to protect Jockey's Ridge State Park.

If there was any area on the coast that needs to remain an Area Of Environmental Concern It is Jockey's Ridge State Park.

I have worked in the construction industry for 40 years and building has been and continues to boom on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. If they can build on it, they will. Removing this designation opens Jockey's Ridge State Park to development. We need to protect these diverse fragile areas before they are all gone.

Jockey's Ridge faces enough challenges without the AEC designation and can only imagine what would become of the Park, if this was removed?

One of my concerns is, who thought it was a good idea to remove the AEC and what was the thought process. Our Parks and open areas, the ones we have left, need to be preserved. AEC helps this effort.

Save this designation and please come to Nags Head and enjoy a walk in Jockey's Ridge State park.

It is a special place.

Thank you

Michael & Nancy O'Brien PO Box 902 2820 S Lost Colony Drive Nags Head NC 27959 252-202-2149

From:	margaux kerr
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, January 31, 2024 4:48:23 PM

### Good afternoon Angela,

As a previous Planner for Currituck County in Corolla as well as the Town of Nags Head, I have experienced development at an unbelievable volume. I cannot even explain how important these AEC rules are for our barrier islands and let alone the Coastal Counties of North Carolina...

Without these rules in place we wouldn't have any CAMA Permitting which is essential for our coastal communities. If we did not have those AEC's in place with development it would be completely developed, we would have no way of protecting our natural resources that are being depleted and polluted.

CAMA regulations are important for any development, dredging, filing and excavation within the AEC. We have dealt with so many issues and having these regulations have been helpful and protective of these resources.

As our communities especially along the outer banks face high and dangerous erosion rates each year we move forward, the barrier island wants to move, we are in a battle against nature, and now more than ever we need to be proactive in our planning and set these AEC's and setbacks for future generations. We cannot fill our beaches forever, things change and we need more protection than ever. Do we want situations like in Rodanthe to keep occurring, how could we have planned for this, well we can try.

There needs to be a connection between Federal, State and Local agencies, we need to be progressive and have smarth growth and green building. There are water quality issues, increased stormwater issues, water table issues that most do not realize because counties are on septic. Many people want to put their septic in the dunes, without these regulations how would we keep that from happening?

Why do we all love the water, we are water and what are we doing? Who is going to protect these important areas if the CRC isn't. I am not sure why there are not stricter rules and regulations in place to stop from filling wetlands, building right on top of each other, conserving the beauty of natural raw earth that we live for....We need the AEC's for a buffer, we need Jockey's Ridge there forever, let's save what is left.

Thank you for your time, Respectfully,

Margaux Kerr

From:	EG
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, January 31, 2024 1:26:57 PM

Tancred Miller-Director

Division of Coastal Management

Morehead City, NC 28557

January 31, 2024

Dear Mr. Miller,

I am writing to comment on the temporary rules.

### 15A NCAC 07H.0507, 0508, 0509

Development in and around designated fragile coastal areas must continue to be done with careful consideration of the cultural and natural resources that are to be impacted. My late husband and my son were/are commercial fishermen. We have already seen too much of our coastal habitat destroyed. Places such as Jockey's Ridge and Permuda Island have almost a 50 year history of protection. North Carolina does not need to step backwards on these protections for these and other equally fragile and important coastal areas. These rules must be permanent.

## 15A NCAC 07I .0702

Without this rule localities could and would move without regard for state law. CAMA was

designed to support our coastal resources and must have precedence. Another rule that must be permanent in order to manage our coastal resources effectively.

## 15A NCAC 07J. 0203, 0204, 0206, 0207, 0208

Standards for work plats, processing applications and agency review of development/dredging permits are an essential part of the coastal management tool box. They are important for both governmental entities and the public. Everyone working in our fragile coastal environment needs to be on the same page. These rules provide the framework for folks to be on that same page.

Public notice plays an integral role in the management process. Property owners must be cognizant of development plans that may impact them. Why on earth would this rule be left out? I'm not sure about you but I would like some notice when someone plans to build a hotel and marina next to me.

A rule emphasizing permit conditions and the necessity of appealing those conditions is important for those building, government permitting agencies and the public. Another process rule worthy of permanent status.

## 15A NCAC 07M. 0401,0402,0403,

## 15A NCAC 07M. 0701,0703, 0704

As we begin more intensely to look for renewable energy sources and as we continue down the nonrenewable energy source road these rules provide the framework for managing these searches and potential developments in terms of protecting coastal resources and public trust access. Consistency of federal actions is a necessity in supporting our state's protections of coastal resources and public trust access. Mitigation nuts and bolts (definitions and process) are forward looking rules in need of permanency.

### 15A NCAC 07M. 1101

At any given time along the coast someone is dredging. Increased climate impacts on existing transportation routes necessitate constant attention which has not always been forthcoming(Hatteras Inlet). We have seen unintended impacts of that dredging so in terms of policy it would behoove us to of course consider the beneficial uses of dredge spoils. Why would we do otherwise? In fact the public could benefit from this rule being more specific and detailed. However, at the very least we should be able to use dredge spoils from navigational channels beneficially.. Make this rule a permanent one.

Sincerely,

K. Ellen Gaskill

64 Gaskill Lane

PO Box 336

Ocracoke NC, 27960

P.S.

Do not conclude that folks are not concerned about these and other rules . Many do not know where to begin. Many are too busy with everything life throws at them. There is so much...they are overloaded.

Many feel that development has gone too far and have given up. They still do care but are incredibly frustrated.

These protections for coastal resources and public trust areas are something that we have depended upon over the years.

From:	Sara Haigh
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, January 31, 2024 12:50:07 PM

### Hello, Ms. Willis,

I am writing in support of making permanent the Temporary Rules established by the Coastal Resources Commission in late 2023. These long-standing rules are critical to the operation of the Division of Coastal Management and essential to protecting and preserving our beautiful and fragile coastal environment. Please make the temporary rules a permanent part of the administration regulations governing the topics outlined in the rules.

Respectfully,

Sara Haigh 10342 S Colony South Dr, Nags Head, NC 27959 252-995-2036

From:	Suzanne Wheatcraft
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary rules
Date:	Wednesday, January 31, 2024 10:32:43 AM

I've just read an article about these rules being reinstated as emergency rules and all I can say is SHAME ON YOU NORTH CAROLINA.

All of these rules should be on the books for forever if this State cares one bit about her fragile coastal environment. This is what happens when politics trumps science in government.

Suzanne Wheatcraft 585 738 9085

From:	Christine Voss
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Friday, February 2, 2024 10:34:18 AM

To Whom It MAy Concern:

I write to emphasize the importance of sustaining the 16 rules that protect the unique natural assets of coastal NC. As a coastal ecologist, it is my professional opinion that these rules are needed to protect our coastal zone and its residents.

Sincerely, Christine Voss 106 Locust Ct. Pine Knoll Shores, NC 28512

Retired, UNC Institute of Marine Sciences

From:	Jack Simmons
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 8, 2024 2:46:53 PM

Please maintain the state designation of Jockey's Ridge State Park as an area of environmental concern and restrict development for that reason. This is important for the region and the state. Thank you.

From:	Chuck Voigt
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 8, 2024 11:11:21 AM

### Ms. Willis:

I am a resident of Dare County. I enjoy the benefits of living in a coastal community that strives to protect the beautiful environment in which we live. I firmly support maintaining the AEC designation for Jockey's Ridge State Park and other areas in Dare County designated as areas of environmental concern. I support the Coastal Resources Commission in their efforts to protect coastal environments and believe that the CRC should have the authority to designate AECs when the CRC finds it necessary to protect the unique qualities of coastal areas.

Sincerely,

Chuck Voigt 1108 Charlotte Lane Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948

Language is a projection of personal quality. Sally Jenkins, *The Washington Post*, September 11, 2019

Democracy is not only a form of state, it is not just something that is embodied in a constitution; democracy is a view of life, it requires a belief in human beings, in humanity... **Tomas Masaryk**, quoted in Albright, *Fascism: A Warning* 

"My mother wanted us to understand that the tragedies of your life one day have the potential to be comic stories the next." Nora Ephron

From:	<u>M.Chimento</u>
To:	Willis, Angela
Cc:	Ben.Cahoon@nagsheadnc.gov
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Thursday, February 8, 2024 10:57:43 AM

February 7, 2024

Tancred Miller, Director

**Division of Coastal Management** 

400 Commerce Avenue

Morehead City, NC 28557

For Public Comment

Nags Headers and all Bankers are resilient lovers of our land, sounds, and ocean. We are proud of our tallest living sand dune on the East Coast and we must do everything we can to protect and preserve it. Since Carolista Baum saved the dunes 51 years ago in 1973, there has been an ebb and flow of unnatural threats. We must be diligent and take proactive measures to save our dunes when it is within our control.

Jockey's Ridge State Park must be included as an Area of Environmental Concern before it becomes an Area of <u>Critical</u> Environmental Concern. JRSP meets the qualifications to have its historical, cultural, scenic values, and natural resources (birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, plants, etc.), protected from natural and unnatural hazards. We must maintain the ability to return windblown sand to the dunes so that the visual and environmental integrity are intact. The estuarine shoreline is crucial for the protection of this habitat that is under nature's constant threats of hurricanes, winds, waves, heavy rains, etc., as well as anthropogenic disturbances such as pollution and coastal development.

I suggest that the AEC includes whatever protection can be afforded to the soundside beach access within the Park as well. It is already contaminated by both natural and sewage-related bacteria and overpopulation. This is evidenced by the deaths and numerous illnesses suffered in 2023 as a result of vibrio and enterococci. According to the NC DEQ monitoring of Jockey's Ridge Soundside Access, the levels of enterococci (fecal waste) were in the red in 45% of tests reported from January 5-December 14 of last year, requiring posted warnings ignored by beachgoers. Given this current situation, protections need to be in place against worsening, long-term detrimental conditions.

Unlike economic services the Outer Banks offers, it is impossible to put a price on ecosystems, though revenue to the area brought by JRSP is impactful. It has been the #1 most visited State Park in North Carolina since 2019 and spending in National Parks in the State hit \$1.7 billion in 2021. If the protection of natural resources doesn't strike a chord, protecting the tourism dollars might.

In closing, I urge the appropriate agencies to bypass politics to protect Jocky's Ridge State Park and its adjacent properties by reinstating its AEC designation. I urge the agencies to protect the ecology where I live, not only on the Roanoke Sound, but in Nags Head Woods, and other important areas in our Town, County and our lovely, unique strip of land.

Sincerely,

Michelle May Chimento

4025 W. Soundside Road

Nags Head, North Carolina 27959 <u>mmchimento@gmail.com</u> 252 715 3990

From:	Pam Gavan
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 1:56:00 PM

Please keep the rules in place protecting Jockey's Ridge State Park. This landmark needs to be protected from any development. In addition, it is a very popular tourist destination and that converts to dollars for the state and income for the local community. Too much of our country is being destroyed in the name of development, and we need to do better at protecting areas like Jockey's Ridge State Park.

I hope the state of North Carolina will ensure the protection of Jockey's Ridge State Park for many years to come.

Pamela Gavan pmgavan@msn.com

Sent from <u>Outlook</u>

From:	Margaret Davis
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 3:35:08 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

Please take the necessary steps to protect Jockey's Ridge State Park from environmental concerns and please restrict it from development. Whatever rules are necessary, please implement them.

Thank you,

Margaret W. Davis Kill Devil Hills NC

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

From:	alan outerbanksrealtygroup.com
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 10:09:08 AM
Attachments:	Outlook-xljrjrsd.png

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my comments regarding the RRC decision to strip the AEC protections from our unique, valuable and vulnerable coastal geological formations. In particular I would like to address Jockey's Ridge, in Nags Head.

Jockey's Ridge is the largest living sand dune system on the east coast, and that alone should afford it the protections it has had until the current actions by the RRC. In addition, the site draws a million visitors per year, creating an economic windfall for our community in a way that protects our fragile coastal ecosystem. Lastly, Jockey's Ridge is an important part of our area's heritage and cultural identity.

I implore members of the RRC, in particular the conservative members, to rethink their decision to deny Jockey's Ridge the protections it deserves. Help us to conserve our cultural identity, our economy and our environmental integrity.

Graciously, Alan Creech REALTOR Kill Devil Hills

Alan Creech, RSPS <u>Creech Realty OBX</u> Use our Website to get your Home Value, Market Reports & View all OBX Listings! Creech Realty OBX At Outer Banks Realty Group 3712 N Croatan Hwy Unit B Kitty Hawk, NC 27949 252.455.1420 (Cell) Our Mission: To share our love of the Outer Banks and be superior real estate experts for our unique coastal area. We provide unsurpassed professionalism to our clients by putting their best interests first through our commitment to value, advocacy, and transparency.





mbwilsonxxl@charter.net
Willis, Angela
[External] Tempory Rules
Wednesday, February 7, 2024 8:54:13 PM

I am writing regarding the article that appeared in The Virginian-Pilot newspaper on February 4, 2024, referring to Jockey's Ridge protections. I am a homeowner in Kill Devil Hills, NC, and have climbed Jockey's Ridge several times with my children and grandchildren. It is a national treasure, both environmentally and historically. I am appalled that there are no permanent rules in effect protecting this State Park. It is my opinion that Jockey's Ridge State Park should be permanently designated as an area of environmental concern and restricted from any development. It is morally reprehensible and irresponsible not to protect this area in light of climate change and oceans rising. The Outer Banks is fragile and Jockey's Ridge has protected Nags Head for centuries. Any disturbance/development by man invites unintended perils that cannot be calculated. I implore you to stop the Rules Review Commission from removing Jockey's Ridge State Park as an area of concern and restrict development. I appreciate your attention to my concerns.

Sincerely, Martha Wilson 3300 Bay Drive Kill Devil Hills, NC

## Willis, Angela

From:	KBrown <kbrown@outerbankschamber.com></kbrown@outerbankschamber.com>
Sent:	Monday, January 22, 2024 10:53 AM
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] AEC protections for Jockey's Ridge and other parcels.
Attachments:	AEC protections for Jockey's Ridge and more.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab.

Good Morning, attached please find the Outer banks Chamber's response to the removal of Jockey's Ridge from the AEC Designation.

Thank you, Karen

Karen S. Brown, MBA, CCE, CCEC, IOM President & CEO Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce (252) 441-8144 (252) 564-2852 (CELL)





January 18, 2024

Braxton Davis, Director Mike Lopazanski, Deputy Director North Carolina Division of Coastal Management 400 Commerce ave. Morehead City, NC 28557

Dear Mr. Davis and Mr. Lopazanski,

The Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) represents over 800 businesses and organizations which account for over 3,000 employees in our area. The Chamber has long been a proponent of the local environment and the unique places that make the Outer Banks special.

The Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce is opposed to the removal of Jockey's Ridge and other properties in our area from the Areas of Environmental Concern (AEC) designation. AECs are coastal areas that contain natural hazards or important environmental, economic, or cultural resources. An AEC designation allows those designated areas to receive special protections aimed at preserving their unique qualities. The AEC's in the Outer Banks provide many benefits, including economic benefits, not only to local residents, but also to visitors. For instance, Jockey's Ridge State Park reported the highest visitation of all 41 parks and recreation areas in the North Carolina State Park system in 2021, with 1.8 million visitors. Furthermore, Jockey's Ridge State Park system in 2021, with 1.8 million visitors. Furthermore, Jockey's Ridge State Park is currently designated as a National Natural Landmark by the U.S. National Park Service. This designation was justified, in part, by the fact that Jockey's Ridge as a National Natural Landmark. Losing the AEC designation may jeopardize the designation of Jockey's Ridge as a National Natural Landmark. Losing this National Natural Landmark designation would negatively impact not only the protection of Jockey's Ridge State Park but tourism and the economic benefits that accompany it.

If the Coastal Resources Commission (CRC) loses its authority to designate Jockey's Ridge as an AEC, other properties might also be at risk of losing their AEC protections including the oceanfront, the soundfront, Nags Head Woods, and other important coastal areas in Dare and Currituck counties.

The Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce asks that you protect these areas as well as all areas in the State of North Carolina and opposes this change.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pobert

Robert DeFazio, Chairman of the Board

Karen

Karen Brown, President & CEO

Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 1757, 101 Town Hall Dr. Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948 www.outerbankschamber.com 252.441.8144

From Public Hearing

Good morning. My name is Ben Cahoon and I serve as the Mayor of the town of Nags Head. Thank you for this opportunity to speak.

I rise before you today to ask, on behalf of our citizens, business owners, and visitors, for two things. First, that permanent protections for Jockey's Ridge, in the form of an AEC, remain or be restored, in whichever way the parties at odds may resolve to do that. And secondly, that temporary-oremergency protections be put in place, again in the form of an AEC, as quickly as possible, until the foregoing dispute is resolved.

It is not hyperbolic to say that the need to act is urgent. One day in 1982, on the top of Little Sugar Mountain in Avery County, blasting began, to level the top of the mountain for a condominium project. There were no rules, you see, preventing such a thing. But so great and sudden was the rage across western North Carolina, about the damage to our landmark mountain-scape, that only one year later the Legislature passed the bipartisan Mountain Ridge Protection Act.

The damage was done however. Today that lonely, plain, rectangular, 10story building, now destined by law to be the only one of its kind, still mars the view from mountain peaks for 50 miles around. And will for God only knows how long. It only takes one ill-considered project to do lasting harm.

Not only buildings, of course, destroy beloved landscapes and natural features. In Sheffield and Plymouth, England recently City Councils cut down mature trees, under the cover of night, even hundreds in a single night, knowing that opposing citizens would protest during the day. It cost at least one Councilor his job. I use this example to also point out that units of government, like towns and departments of state, are not immune from such mistakes and temporary insanities.

Coastal North Carolina has largely avoided corresponding coastal environment-changing disasters due to CAMA and its establishment and regulation of AECs. The establishment of an AEC requires a closer examination of proposed activities and interventions, and gives everyone time to fully consider the consequences of particular actions. The CRC's designation of Jockey's Ridge as an AEC reads in part, that the CRC's objective is to preserve a unique resource of more than local significance, to ensure that the ridge and its natural processes shall be preserved for and be accessible to the scientific and educational communities for study purposes, and to protect the educational and aesthetic qualities of Jockey's Ridge. Those are legalistic and legislative ways of saying that Jockey's Ridge is beautiful, valuable, and beloved by our citizens and visitors. It is the only North Carolina State Park fully within the boundaries of a town our town - and it even plays a part in legends of our place name. It is very special to us. Please help us protect it.

Finally, having served as Mayor for over six years, I well understand that there can be debate about the nature and usefulness of certain rules, and the elimination of conflicts, inconsistencies, and ambiguities between them. That comes with rule-making. In Nags Head we can even wrestle ourselves with inconsistencies between our own LUP and our ordinances, parts of the LUP with other parts, and ordinance vs ordinance. But at the end of the day our job is to protect what our citizens value about our town. Please, whatever you do, protect the interests of the citizens of our State and what we all value. Set and keep in place the establishment of AECs and the regulation thereof.

Again, thank you for your time.



Friends of Jockey's Ridge

P.O. Box 358 Nags Head, NC 27959

The Board of Directors	
Craig Honeycutt, Chair	

Ann-Cabell Baum, Vice

Holly Nettles, Secretary

Jeanne Brook, Treasurer

Chair

Al Friedman Lauren Nelson

Julie Walter George Barnes

Billy Moseley Steve Brook

Bob Muller

January 22, 2024

**Coastal Resources Commission** 

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of the Friends of Jockey's Ridge to express our strong support for the readoption of Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) status for Jockey's Ridge State Park. The Friends of Jockey's Ridge is a community-based nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and advocacy of Jockey's Ridge State Park, working

collaboratively to protect and promote the environmental, scientific, and cultural significance of this unique coastal geologic formation in Nags Head, North Carolina.

The recent decision by the Rules Review Commission to potentially remove this crucial designation poses a significant threat to the environmental integrity and long-term well-being of this unique coastal geologic formation.

Jockey's Ridge holds immense ecological, scientific, and cultural significance, making it a vital treasure that requires thoughtful preservation measures. The AEC designation, as outlined in 15A NCAC 07H.0507, acknowledges Jockey's Ridge as a unique coastal geologic formation and places it under environmental protection, emphasizing the importance of preventing uncontrolled or incompatible development that could jeopardize its irreplaceable features.

The benefits and protections offered by the AEC designation are indispensable for the preservation of Jockey's Ridge. One such advantage is the regulation that ensures sand migrating off the state property is replenished on the dune, maintaining its volume and preventing relocation or commercial sale. Furthermore, the AEC designation not only safeguards the park from undesirable development but also brings national attention, as evidenced by its listing on the National Park Service website.

During the recent public meeting held by the Coastal Resources Commission, Nags Head Mayor Ben Cahoon highlighted the urgency of the situation. An AEC requires a closer examination of proposed activities and intervention, providing time to consider the consequences of actions that could impact this environmental treasure. The national recognition garnered through the AEC designation further enhances the visibility of Jockey's Ridge, attracting visitors from across the country.

We understand the complexities surrounding the Rules Review Commission's actions and the challenges posed by changes in legislative law. However, we firmly believe that the reinstatement of the AEC status is crucial for the continued protection of Jockey's Ridge. It is our collective responsibility to preserve this natural landmark for future generations and ensure that it remains accessible for scientific, educational, and recreational purposes.

In conclusion, we urge the North Carolina Coastal Resources Commission to act swiftly and decisively in



Friends of Jockey's Ridge P.O. Box 358 ◆ Nags Head, NC 27959

support of the readoption of AEC status for Jockey's Ridge State Park.

Your commitment to preserving this unique coastal geologic formation is paramount in maintaining the ecological balance and cultural significance that Jockey's Ridge holds for the community and visitors alike.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to the continued protection of Jockey's Ridge State Park.

Sincerely,

Craig Honeycutt,

Chairman of the Board of Directors Friends of Jockey's Ridge

This organization is a 501c(3) tax exempt organization, IRS Section 170(b)(2)(iii) for both federal and state tax purposes. Our federal tax identification number is 56-1739047.

FYI

Please note new Email

Mike Lopazanski Deputy Director N.C. Department of Environmental Quality Division of Coastal Management 252-515-5431 Mike.Lopazanski@deq.nc.gov

-----Original Message-----From: Angel Khoury <angel\_khoury@mac.com> Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 10:57 AM To: Lopazanski, Mike <mike.lopazanski@deq.nc.gov> Subject: [External] Jockey's Ridge AEC

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab.

Dear Mr. Lopazanski,

Please accept this email as my written comment in favor of retaining the designation of Jockey's Ridge State Park as an Area of Environmental Concern, along with all the protections that ensue, for this unique and precious environmental, cultural, and recreational resource beloved by Outer Banks residents and visitors alike.

As the tallest live dune on the East Coast, Jockey's Ridge needs and deserves the special protections afforded by an AEC designation.

Please ensure its safeguard for the benefit of all those who treasure this unique natural resource now and in the years to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Angel Khoury 230 Mother Vineyard Road Manteo, NC 27954 252/473-6906 angelkhoury.com Email correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties by an authorized state official.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone Get <u>Outlook for Android</u>

From: Corey Roberts <corey703@outlook.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 27, 2024 2:18:40 PM
To: Lopazanski, Mike <mike.lopazanski@deq.nc.gov>
Subject: [External] Jockey's Ridge Area of Environmental Concern Status

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab.

Mr. Mike Lopazanski,

It's come to my attention that Jockey's Ridge State Park is in jeopardy of losing its designation as an Area of Environmental Concern (AEC). I'm writing to encourage you to do all that is in your power to maintain this designation. It's part of what protects Jockey's Ridge from development and the AEC designation brings national attention to the park.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

**Corey Roberts** 

J. Corey Roberts PO Box 921 4614 S Cobia Way Nags Head, NC 27959 January 29, 2024

Corey703@outlook.com

Email correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties by an authorized state official.

Mr. and Mrs. George C. Harris 3541 S. Memorial Drive, Nags Head, NC 27959 757.615.2296, <u>messingabout@yahoo.com</u>

January 14, 2024

Mr. Mike Lopazanski Deputy Director, NC DEQ Division of Coastal Resources Commission 400 Commerce Avenue Morehead City, NC 28557

Reference: <u>https://www.outerbanksvoice.com/2024/01/10/coastal-resources-commission-and-resource-rules-commission-at-odds-over-jockeys-ridge/</u>

Dear Mr. Lopazanski,

The purpose of this letter is to voice our concern about the Rules Review Commission and Coastal Resources Commission engagement on the proposed removal of Jockey's Ridge State Park designation as an Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) which would directly jeopardize its protection from development and recognition as a National Park.

With great pride, we literally live across the street (across NC 158) from the entrance to Jockey's Ridge State Park – what an incredible North Carolina State, Dare County, City of Nags Head, and Outer Banks Community site that families and tourists flock to, year round. The AEC designation offers important benefits and protections for the park so generations to come, can still enjoy the running, rolling, hiking about, and looking in amazement at the "big dune" that epitomizes the natural wonder and beauty of an OBX adventure. It must be protected from encroachment and maintained!

We ask for your support for Jockey's Ridge State Park to retain designation as an AEC. We also believe that an independent committee of non-elected officials should not have empowerment to remove AEC designation without approval of the affected City and County residents, or at minimum the approval of our elected City and County officials.

Respectfully,

Chess and Karen Harris

# RECEIVED

JAN 18 2024

DCM-MHD CITY

## Willis, Angela

From: Sent: To: Subject: Lopazanski, Mike Tuesday, January 16, 2024 11:20 AM Willis, Angela Friends of Jockeys Ridge

**Craig Honeycutt**, chair of the Friends of Jockey's Ridge State Park board of directors, speaks in favor of continued protection for Jockey's Ridge State Park at the Coastal Resources Commission's public continued protection for Jockey's Ridge State Park at the Coastal Resources Commission's public hearing Tuesday afternoon. (Corinne Saunders/The Virginian-Pilot)

# Please note new Email

## Mike Lopazanski

Deputy Director N.C. Department of Environmental Quality Division of Coastal Management 252-515-5431 Mike.Lopazanski@deq.nc.gov



Email correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties by an authorized state official.

## "Temporary Rules" - Coastal Resources Commission Public Comment Period ending February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

January 19, 2024

Braxton Davis, Director Division of Coastal Management/"Temporary Rules" 400 Commerce Avenue Morehead City, NC 28557

## Subject Line: "Temporary Rules"

To Whom It May Concern:

As a concerned taxpayer of the State of North Carolina, I write today to encourage the reinstatement of all temporary rules. To do otherwise is stripping the rights of citizens to ensure safe, clean and non-polluted waters and the protection of our coastal resources for future generations.

My family has lived in Manns Harbor since the late 1700s. My grandfather was a commercial fisherman. My community thrives and depends on clean, coastal waters and has produced some of the finest sport-fishing boats on the East Coast.

I asked that the rules be reinstated so they can continue to be applied for the continued protection of our coastal waters, shorelines, and resources. The current trend of ever-increasing values of our property/homes (a prime investment!) depends on it; the safety of my grandchildren to swim and play in the surrounding waters without threat of contracting some horrible disease depends on it; the cleanliness and safety of the seafood, boating and tourism industries depend on it.

Please reinstate the rules! I cannot imagine how anyone would even consider tossing away 50 years of coastal resources protection measures! It will have disastrous results for citizens and the Great State of North Carolina in the future if you do not reinstate the rules!

Linda Harris P.O. Box 10 Manns Harbor, NC 27953

Jonda Carril Apris

JAN 2 5 2024

DCM-MHD CITY

January 25, 2024 To: Ms. Angela Willis NC Department of Environmental Quality

Dear Ms. Willis,

As property homeowners who have invested much in the location directly across from the entrance of Jockey's Ridge in Nags Head, NC, we are concerned over the temporary rule where the NC Rules Review Commission has said that the state's Coastal Resource Commission does not have the authority to create a zone called an Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) regarding Jockey's Ridge State Park. In our opinion, this would directly jeopardize Jockey's Ridge character as well as the character of other distinctive areas in the Nags Head community.

We must not forget how one individual back in 1973 put her life on the line to preserve the character and legacy of Jockey's Ridge. That individual was Carolista Fletcher Baum, whose true act of courage preserved a land that she and her family believed in and a land that they called home. That one stance, backed by a supportive community, brought an awareness to a natural landmark that today is a national landmark and one of the most highly sought-after tourist sites in the Outer Banks.

Now, what legacy are we leaving for future generations regarding Nags Head and the Outer Banks coastal region? We ask for your support in having Jockey's Ridge retain AEC designation. We believe that character preservation has a way of identifying us, connecting us, shaping us, and telling the story of who we are. Character preservation holds an attraction of our history and a sense of community pride. We made a choice to be part of the Nags Head community and all it has to offer and with respect, we put our support in our elected City and County officials to oppose changes that could have a significant impact on the long-term character of the Jockey's Ridge area and its surrounding natural environment.

Sincerely,

Charles and Susan Kalan 104 East Hollowell Street Nags Head, NC 27959

sykalan@gmail.com 610-657-7697



Ben Cahoon Mayor

Mike Siers Mayor Pro Tem

Andy Garman Town Manager Town of Nags Head Post Office Box 99 Nags Head, North Carolina 27959 Telephone 252-441-5508 Fax 252-441-0776 nagsheadnc.gov Kevin Brinkley Commissioner

**Bob Sanders** Commissioner

Megan Lambert Commissioner

January 16, 2024

Mr. Braxton Davis Director North Carolina Division of Coastal Management 400 Commerce Ave. Morehead City, NC 28557

RE: Comments Regarding Rule Changes Concerning Areas of Environmental Concern Designation

Dear Director Davis:

On behalf of Nags Head's Board of Commissioners, as well as our citizens, business owners, and visitors, I am writing to you with a critical request: that permanent protections for Jockey's Ridge, in the form of an AEC, remain or be restored, in whichever way the parties at odds may resolve to do that.

It is not hyperbolic to say that the need to act is urgent. One day in 1982, on the top of Little Sugar Mountain in Avery County, blasting began, to level the top of a mountain for a condominium project. There were no rules, unfortunately, preventing such a grievous act. But so great and sudden was the rage across western North Carolina, about the damage to our landmark mountain-scape, that only one year later the Legislature passed the bi-partisan Mountain Ridge Protection Act.

The damage was done, however. Today that lonely, plain, rectangular, 10-story building, now destined by law to be the only one of its kind, still mars the view from mountain peaks for 50 miles around. And will for God only knows how long. It only takes one ill-considered project to do lasting harm.

Not only do buildings, of course, disrupt cherished landscapes and natural features. In Sheffield and Plymouth, England recently, city councils cut down mature trees, under the cover of night, even hundreds in a single night, knowing that opposing citizens would protest during the day. It cost at least one councilor his job. This example also highlights that government entities, such as towns and state departments, are not exempt from making such errors and experiencing temporary lapses in judgment.

Coastal North Carolina has largely avoided corresponding coastal environment-changing disasters due to CAMA and its establishment and regulation of AECs. The creation of an AEC requires a

closer examination of proposed activities and interventions and gives everyone time to fully consider the consequences of particular actions.

The CRC's designation of Jockey's Ridge, the most visited state park in North Carolina, as an AEC reads in part, that the CRC's objective is to preserve a unique resource of more than local significance, to ensure that the area and its natural processes shall be preserved for and be accessible to the scientific and educational communities for study purposes, and to protect the educational and aesthetic qualities of Jockey's Ridge. These are legalistic and legislative ways of saying that Jockey's Ridge is beautiful, valuable, and beloved by all. It is the only North Carolina State Park fully within the boundaries of a town - our town - and it even plays a part in legends of our place name. It is very special to us. Please help us protect it.

Finally, having served as mayor for over six years, I well understand there can be debate about the nature and usefulness of certain rules, and the elimination of conflicts, inconsistencies, and ambiguities between them. That comes with rulemaking. In Nags Head we can even wrestle ourselves with inconsistencies between our own land use plan and our ordinances, parts of the land use plan with other parts, and ordinance versus ordinance. But at the end of the day our job is to protect what our citizens value about our town. Please, whatever you do, protect the interests of the citizens of our state and what we all value. Set and keep in place the establishment of AECs and the regulation thereof.

Sincerely,

BungCilin

Benjamin Cahoon Mayor

# **Public Hearing Record**

# **CRC Temporary Rules**

# **January 9, 2024**

Dare County Government Center, Manteo

Ben Cahoon, Town of Nags Head, made oral comments and submitted written comments in support of the temporary rules. These comments are included with all other written comments.

# **January 9, 2024**

Division of Coastal Management Headquarters, Morehead City

No comments.

## January 10, 2024

Onslow County Public Library, Hampstead

No comments.

From:	Jan Farmer
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] CAMA Rules comments
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 8:11:05 AM

#### Greetings,

I whole-heartedly support the adoption of all of the CAMA Rules that are currently being considered, <u>07H</u>..0507, .0508, .0509, 07I .0702, 07J .0203, .0204, .0206, .0207, .0208, 07M .0401, .0402, .0403, .0701, .0703, .0704 and .1101.

These rules are necessary for the continued protection of our coastal resources and I feel it was extremely irresponsible for the Rules Review Commission to have removed these rules without something to replace them with. This has the feeling of a political stunt and seems to be very bad governance.

Again, I am writing to support the adoption of ALL the temporary CAMA rules being proposed by the Coastal Resources Commission.

Sincerely, Janet Farmer Hampstead, NC 28443 919-753-7440

From:	Donna Roark
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge Designation
Date:	Friday, February 9, 2024 1:03:49 PM

As a long time resident (33 years) of the Outer Banks, I urge you all NOT to remove the protected status of Jockey's Ridge. My own daughter (28 years old) spent much of her childhood growing and learning from this incredible place.

Please, in this instance, do not cave to developers and protect this resource and beauty.

Sincerely, Donna L. Roark DC Children's Librarian

From:	Gerry Smelt
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge preservation
Date:	Sunday, February 11, 2024 3:07:43 PM

After seeing a recent news item concerning attempts to weaken the environmental protection provisions granted Jockey Ridge I had to write to express my displeasure. Due to the environmental importance of Jockey's Ridge to the immediate area as well as that of the overall barrier island ecosystem, it is vital that any attempt to weaken its designation as an area of environmental concern and restriction of development must be rejected. Too many of our unique natural features have been lost through our failures to protect what natural treasures remain.

Gerry Smelt
From:	Barb
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge State Park
Date:	Friday, February 9, 2024 9:21:02 AM

Dear Angela, it is imperative that we keep the designation of Jockey's Ridge State Park as an area of environmental concern and not allow any development of the area. The rules designating Jockey's Ridge as an AEC must be reinstated and maintained.

Barbara Morris 214 W. Market St. Hertford, NC 27944

--

Barbara Morris

If you receive an email purporting to be from me requesting funds, it is not from me and do not respond to it.

From:	joint dod@verizon.net
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Jockey"s Ridge
Date:	Friday, February 9, 2024 3:22:54 PM

Jockey's Ridge needs to be protected!

It is a national treasure located on the east coast that is very accessible to all.

It is a natural playground. Trying to run down it usually ends up in a slide instead.

It has teaching moments – how/why do the winds propel kites that support people.

Please put the protections back in place.

Jockey's Ridge has many enjoyable memories – dates before marriage, outing with our son, good exercise, and picnics.

While not a resident of North Carolina, Jockey's Ridge is a natural treasure for all Americans. PROTECT IT!

Merrilyn Dodson 411 Ilex Drive Yorktown, VA 23692

From:	Matt Walker
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] reinstate rules re: CAMA/AECs
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 8:39:45 AM

Dear Ms. Willis:

As a resident of the Outer Banks, I'm troubled to hear of the efforts to weaken protection for both CAMA and AECs, both of which threaten our precious resources — and our way of life.

Without these oversights bad actors could promote even more development on an already over-burdened sandbar. Furthermore, the weakening of existing rules is one more example of the state government is over-riding municipalities ability to self-govern.

Please reinstate the rules immediately so we can protect these resources for future generations.

Sincerely, Robert M. Walker Kill Devil Hills, NC

From:	<u>Tianna Stathis</u>
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] Save Jockeys Ridge
Date:	Friday, February 9, 2024 8:13:56 AM

Jockey's Ridge is not up for debate. This beautiful place is perfect and it must be maintained to save our barrier island. There is a reason why Jockey's is there and it's NOT for development. It is a vital ecological arm of the Outer Banks and if you keep taking away it's space, our island will suffer.

Please keep Jockey's Ridge preserved as a national park.

Thank you, Tianna Stathis Kill Devil Hills Resident

From:	Barbara Norris
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Saturday, February 10, 2024 3:24:25 PM

## Dear Ms. Willis,

We are contacting you as homeowners in Nags Head, <u>N.C.to</u> provide public comment against the development of Jockey's Ridge State Park region.

After decades of visiting the Outer Banks, we purchased our home in Nags Head in 2001. At that time we were able to view Jockey's Ridge. The uncontrolled development of the area since 2002 has obscured the natural habitat.

Any change of land management rules and regulations that would jeopardize the area of environmental concern (AEC) designation for Jockey;s Ridge should be avoided.

The lay of the land, environmental safety and loss of living space for native species of plants and animals would be damaged by the development of Jockey's Ridge State Park region. The designation of being a N. C. State Park should in itself protect the Sand Dunes.

It appears we are returning to the time frame of 1973--1975 and the need for a "Save Our Sand Dunes---SOS" campaign.

Return the protective status of Jockey's Ridge State Park/Sand Dunes to preserve nature and history. Nags Head and OBX N.C. locations cannot sustain additional loss of natural treasures. Please consider our request to protect Jockey's Ridge. Robert F. Norris Barbara M. Norris

Suzanne Rainey
Willis, Angela
[External] Temporary Rules
Friday, February 9, 2024 8:49:29 AM

## Good Morning,

I am a homeowner in Nags Head, North Carolina. I believe that the Coastal Resource Commission should have the authority to designate areas of environmental concern. Nags Head has some of the most beautiful areas of natural beauty. Our town works so hard to protect those areas and all of us who live here from things that can hurt the area. Please continue to keep Jockeys Ridge and the neighboring areas under the AEC designation. Please allow the Coastal Resource Commission to continue to do the amazing job they have been doing without interference from the North Carolina Rules Review Commission.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Rainey

Sent from my iPhone

From:	<u>Tianna Stathis</u>
То:	<u>Willis, Angela</u>
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Friday, February 9, 2024 8:15:33 AM

Jockey's Ridge is not up for debate. This beautiful place is perfect and it must be maintained to save our barrier island. There is a reason why Jockey's is there and it's NOT for development. It is a vital ecological arm of the Outer Banks and if you keep taking away it's space, our island will suffer.

Please keep Jockey's Ridge preserved as a national park.

Thank you, Tianna Stathis Kill Devil Hills Resident From:Erin SharafTo:Willis, AngelaSubject:[External] Temporary RulesDate:Thursday, February 8, 2024 8:41:56 PM

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab.

I strongly disagree with the recent decision by the Rules Review Commission to potentially remove the ability to protect Areas of Environmental Concern. This poses a significant threat to the environmental integrity and long-term wellbeing of our unique and fragile ecosystem. I urge more environmental protection not less.

Erin Sharaf 46281 Old Lighthouse Rd. Buxton, NC

From:	Debra Pagliughi
То:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 10:33:07 AM

Greetings Angela and Mr. Tancred Miller..

I am writing today to encourage the re-adoption of the CAMA rules. Those rules are extremely important to the management of development along the coast. Responsible management safeguards our most precious resource, our waters. Please re-adopt those rules and allow them to remain a common sense tool to reign in irresponsible development. Thank you for your consideration!

Debra Pagliughi 142 Hilltop Dr. Swansboro, NC 28584

From:	Anna Meadows Helvie
To:	Willis, Angela
Subject:	[External] Temporary Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 10:20:24 AM

Dear Ms. Willis and others,

I completely support the adoption or re-adoption of the CAMA rules that have been sent out for public comment.

Thank you,

Anna Helvie 650 Old Vanceboro Rd, New Bern, NC 28560



## Division of Parks and Recreation NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

## Governor Roy Cooper

Secretary D. Reid Wilson

February 6, 2024

Mike Lopazanski, Deputy Director Division of Coastal Management 400 Commerce Ave. Morehead City, NC 28557

RE: Jockey's Ridge State Park - Removal of Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) designation

This letter is in response to the Rules Review Commission's October 2023 ruling to remove the Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) designation from Jockey's Ridge State Park in Dare County, North Carolina. The AEC was established specifically to protect the Park's sand dune system from erosion by requiring that migrating sand be returned to the Park. This mandate is critical to the long-term conservation, restoration, and resiliency of the Park's significant natural and cultural resources. Therefore, the North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation (Division) recommends that the Jockey's Ridge AEC rule be reestablished immediately.

Established in 1974, Jockey's Ridge hosts more than one million visitors each year, making it one of the most visited parks in the State Park system. Soon after becoming a State Park, Jockey's Ridge was awarded National Natural Landmark status by the National Park Service, highlighting the largest active sand dune system in the Eastern US. The rare *Live Dune Barren* natural community and numerous state-threatened species within the Park prompted the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program to protect the Park as a Dedicated Nature Preserve.

Jockey's Ridge State Park is designated as a "Unique Coastal Geologic Formation" Area of Environmental Concern by the Coastal Resources Commission (15A NCAC 07H .0507). By establishing the AEC, the CRC recognized the natural and cultural significance of the dunes and the need to protect the system from the pressures of development outside park boundaries. The dune system's natural replenishment of sand is inhibited by the increasing number of large buildings and impervious areas that surround the park. As such, the AEC status provides pertinent

Brian L. Strong, Director NC Division of Parks and Recreation 1615 MSC - Raleigh, NC 27699-1615 919.707.9323 / ncparks.gov

NORTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS Naturally Wonderful Mike Lopazanski, Deputy Director Page 2 February 6, 2024

environmental protections by restricting activities that would adversely impact the "unique coastal geologic formation."

Specifically, the AEC requires that sand that migrates out of the park boundaries be returned to the dunes. The Division has utilized this rule twice in the past seven years in a combined effort with NCDOT and the Town of Nags Head to return sand that migrated onto nearby roads and residential neighborhoods. The accumulation of sand onto US 158 Bypass is an increasing danger to public safety and infrastructure. The provisions of the "Unique Coastal Geologic Formation" AEC allow the Division to continually utilize local resources and NCDOT to replenish the dunes while also protecting nearby infrastructure from migrating sand.

The mission of the Division of Parks & Recreation is to promote the conservation, recreation, and education of all parks within the State Park system. The protections provided by the "Unique Coastal Geologic Formation" AEC designation are critical to the Division's ability to fulfill this mission. The replenishment of sand into the dune system relies heavily on migrating sand being returned to the park – a requirement mandated under the AEC status. Therefore, the Division of Parks and Recreation requests that the Rules Review Commission reinstate the Jockey's Ridge AEC designation so that the Division can continue to protect the Park's resources in perpetuity.

Sincerely,

B.I. Atz

Brian L. Strong

From:	Simmons, Christy
То:	Bob Taylor
Cc:	Simmons, Christy; Willis, Angela
Subject:	RE: [External] CAMA Rules
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 9:33:20 AM
Attachments:	image001.png

Good morning, Mr. Taylor,

Thank you for your comment. I am copying the staff person who is collecting email comments for the CRC regarding the rules so that your comment may be part of the review process.

Respectfully,

Christy Simmons (she/her) Public Information Officer Division of Coastal Management North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Office: 252-515-5409 NEW: christy.simmons@deq.nc.gov

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From: Bob Taylor <staceybob@centurylink.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 9:11 AM
To: Simmons, Christy <christy.simmons@deq.nc.gov>
Subject: [External] CAMA Rules

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab.

Ms. Simmons, it is vitally important for North Carolina's coastal and inland waterways to be continually protected by a strong set of CAMA rules for both recreational and commercial reasons. My waterfront community has a Homeowners' Association which incorporates CAMA rules and a CAMA permit for any waterfront modifications. Experience tells us that had we not had a strong CAMA influence our marshes would have been seriously degraded. We strongly urge the reauthorization the CAMA rules.

Bob Taylor Pamlico County

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02/05/24

Pagelofl

Attn: Tancred Miller, Director Division of Coastal Management 400 Commerce Avenue Morehead City, NC, 28557 USA

February 5th, 2024

Re: Submission - Temporary Aules

Dear Director Tancred Miller,

Thank you all for extending the submission to Feb. 22nd of 2024. I amappreciative OF all of the work that you and your staff do inorder to make sure that all voices are head on matters of Public concerno As Far as this submission is concerned, I amacitizen of the United States, a registered voter, a tax Payer, and I have hever been convicted of a Felony crime.

Their are many concerns about the potential changes and its impacts. Before any decision is officially made on the issue, it is of my hope that you all will consult with environmental experts, including scientists pabout whether or not the pros outweigh the consult regard as to the potential change. I believe that if something is already working and their are no issues - I do not see why change is necessarily needed. Our Earth needs to have a healthy environment and environmental schemes and stability should always be a priority of the United States over profits.

As I have experience with being a Former commissioner with the city of Austin, the Former Student Body President of Austin community College District and Other experiences, I contell that this issue means a lot to people. I hope that you all will again consult with environmental experts, including Scientists, before anything is done (as in change) to ensure that the environment of Earth continues to be Safe and Stable.

Very Respect Fully, 15/ Isaiah X. Smith Weich R. Duith

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O www.isaiahxsmith.com

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