

1 15A NCAC 07H .0507 is adopted under emergency procedures as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 07H .0507 UNIQUE COASTAL GEOLOGIC FORMATIONS**

4 (a) Description. Unique coastal geologic formations are defined as sites that contain geologic formations that are  
5 unique or significant components of coastal systems, or that are notable examples of geologic formations or processes  
6 in the coastal area. Such areas shall be evaluated by the Commission after identification by the State Geologist per  
7 G.S. 113A-113.

8 (b) Significance. Unique coastal geologic areas are important educational, scientific, or scenic resources that would  
9 be jeopardized by uncontrolled or incompatible development.

10 (c) Management Objectives. The CRC's objective is to preserve unique resources of more than local significance that  
11 function as key physical components of natural systems, as important scientific and educational sites, or as valuable  
12 scenic resources. Specific objectives for each of these functions shall be related to the following:

13 (1) To ensure that the designated geologic feature shall be able to interact with other components of the  
14 identified systems. These interactions are often the natural forces acting to maintain the unique  
15 qualities of the site. The primary concern is the relationship between the geologic feature and the  
16 accompanying biological component associated with the feature. Other interactions which may be  
17 of equal concern are those relating the geologic feature to other physical components, specifically  
18 the relationship of the geologic feature to the hydrologic elements; ground water and surface runoff.

19 (2) To ensure that the designated geologic feature or process shall be preserved for and be accessible to  
20 the scientific and educational communities for study purposes.

21 (3) To protect the values of the designated geologic feature as expressed by the local government and  
22 citizenry. These values shall be related to the educational and aesthetic qualities of the feature.

23 (d) Designation. The Coastal Resources Commission hereby designates Jockey's Ridge as a unique coastal geologic  
24 formation area of environmental concern. The boundaries of the area of environmental concern shall be as depicted  
25 on a map approved by the Coastal Resources Commission on December 4, 1987, and on file with the Division of  
26 Coastal Management, available at 400 Commerce Ave., Morehead City, NC 28557. This area includes the entire rights  
27 of way of US 158 Bypass, SR 1221 (Sound Side Road), Virginia Dare Trail, and Conch Street where these roads  
28 bound this area. Jockey's Ridge is the tallest active sand dune along the Atlantic Coast of the United States. Located  
29 within the Town of Nags Head in Dare County, between US 158 and Roanoke Sound, the Ridge represents the  
30 southern extremity of a back barrier dune system which extends north along Currituck Spit into Virginia. Jockey's  
31 Ridge is an example of a medano, a large isolated hill of sand, asymmetrical in shape and lacking vegetation. Jockey's  
32 Ridge is the largest medano in North Carolina and has been designated a National Natural Landmark by the U.S.  
33 Department of the Interior.

34 (e) Use Standards. Jockey's Ridge. Development within the Jockey's Ridge AEC shall be consistent with the  
35 following minimum use standards:

36 (1) Development which requires the removal of greater than ten cubic yards of sand per year from the  
37 area within the AEC boundary shall require a permit;

- 1           (2) All sand which is removed from the area within the AEC boundary in accordance with 07H  
2           .0507(e)(1) shall be deposited at locations within the Jockey's Ridge State Park designated by the  
3           Division of Coastal Management in consultation with the Division of Parks and Recreation;  
4           (3) Development activities shall not significantly alter or retard the free movement of sand except when  
5           necessary for the purpose of maintaining or constructing a road, residential/commercial structure,  
6           accessway, lawn/garden, or parking area.  
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8           History Note: Authority G.S. 113A-107(a),(b); 113A-113(b)(4)g.; 113A-124;  
9           Emergency Adoption Eff. January 1, 2023.