

NATURIST ACTION COMMITTEE

ACTION ALERT

<http://www.naturistaction.org>

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DATE: August 27, 2010

SUBJECT: New York : Fire Island National Seashore

TO: Naturists and other concerned citizens

Dear Naturist,

Together with the local naturists of *Save Lighthouse Beach*, the Naturist Action Committee is asking for your immediate action on an important matter concerning Fire Island National Seashore. With permission and by request, this NAC Action Alert follows (and is largely taken from) a similar alert released by *Save Lighthouse Beach*. NAC asks that you email and/or fax a letter immediately to the National Park Service, requesting that consideration of clothing-optional recreation be included in the General Management Plan, as that plan moves toward completion. Details follow.

BRIEF BACKGROUND

Each National Park Service unit has a General Management Plan (GMP) that guides the actions of unit managers. Those plans are updated from time to time, however, the GMP for Fire Island National Seashore (FIIS) has not been updated for 30 years. The process of revising and updating the FIIS GMP began in 2007 and is presently approaching its final stages. The new GMP is expected to affect Fire Island National Seashore for the next 15 to 20 years. For decades, clothing-optional recreation has been a popular choice among visitors to Fire Island National Seashore. Park Service managers have largely managed FOR clothing-optional use, despite the lack of guidance from the existing GMP. You have a chance to be heard on issues that will guide the next two decades.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING COMMENTS

You **MUST** act quickly. The comment period for the Fire Island National Seashore General Management Plan ends **September 6 at 11:59 PM.**

WHAT IS NAC ASKING YOU TO DO?

The Naturist Action Committee is asking you to do just **ONE** thing: **1)** Immediately send your comments by e-mail, fax or surface mail, supporting clothing-optional recreation as an important part of ANY plan for Fire Island National Seashore. Send your e-mails to the National Park Service at the addresses listed below.

WHO SHOULD WRITE? NAC is asking ALL NATURISTS and other concerned individuals to write, regardless of your residence. National Parks and Seashores belong to ALL of us.

WHERE TO SEND YOUR COMMENTS You have choices of how to send your comments. Please choose one (or more than one!) Time is short. Please send your comments immediately.

EMAIL fire_island_gmp@nps.gov

POSTAL MAIL

Fire Island National Seashore GMP
15 State Street,
Boston, MA 02109
attn: Ellen Carlson, Project Manager
FAX (617) 223-5164

TO PARK SERVICE THROUGH ITS ONLINE COMMENT FORM

<http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov/commentForm.cfm?documentID=33410>

Regardless of which you choose, NAC would appreciate the opportunity to read your comments. Please send a copy to:

NAC

P.O. Box 132
Oshkosh, WI
54903

or by e-mail to: fireisland@naturistaction.org

Unless you say otherwise, NAC will share your comments with the locally involved naturists at *Save Lighthouse Beach*.

WHAT TO SAY?

There are four management alternatives being considered. None of the four plans directly addresses clothing-optional use on beaches where it is currently accepted. It is important that each of the alternatives under consideration retains the traditional clothing-optional use of these areas.

Here are some suggested points you may wish to make:

1. Identify yourself. Anonymous correspondence is often disregarded. If you are a past or prospective visitor to Fire Island National Seashore, please say so prominently.
2. Be brief and polite.
3. You should STATE VERY CLEARLY that you wish clothing-optional recreation to be included in plans for the Seashore, REGARDLESS OF WHICH MANAGEMENT OPTION IS ULTIMATELY CHOSEN.
4. Point out that skinny-dipping and nude sunbathing are valid recreational choices. In 2006, the Naturist Education Foundation commissioned the independent Roper polling organization to survey Americans on the topic of clothing-optional recreation. Seventy-four percent of Americans believe that those who enjoy nude sunbathing should be able to do so at a place set aside for that purpose.
5. You may mention that in that same survey, a clear majority (54%) of Americans believe that government agencies should set aside public land specifically for clothing-optional recreation.

6. You may mention that traditional clothing-optional areas, like Lighthouse Beach within Fire Island National Seashore, contribute to the diversity of our National Parks.
7. Use your own experiences to personalize your comments. This is not the place for complaints. Skinny-dippers and nude sunbathers simply wish to be included in the General Management Plan.

MORE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Additional information and links are available, along with this NAC Action Alert on the Web site of the Naturist Action Committee.

www.naturistaction.org

Select "Alerts" and find this NAC Action Alert under Current Alerts. There you will find links to the Draft General Management Plan for Fire Island National Seashore, as well as a review of the four alternatives under consideration. You'll also find a link to the 2006 NEF Roper Poll. You will find additional valuable information at the Web site of Save *Lighthouse Beach*: www.savelighthousebeach.org .

PLEASE HELP NAC TO CONTINUE HELPING NATURISTS!

The Naturist Action Committee is a volunteer nonprofit organization that exists to advance and protect the rights of naturists throughout North America . To do its job, NAC relies entirely on the voluntary generosity of supporters like you. To donate to NAC, use the address below

NAC

**PO Box 132
Oshkosh, WI
54903**

Or call toll free (800) 886-7230 to donate by phone using your MasterCard, Visa or Discover Card. Or use your credit card to make a convenient online donation: www.naturistaction.org/donate/

Thank you for choosing to make a difference.

**Naturally,
Morley Schloss
Board Member Naturist Action Committee**

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