National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Assateague Island
National Seashore

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Assateague Island National Seashore
News Release

Date: 11/21/12

For Immediate Release

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Assateague Island National Seashore Recovery
Update #6

Progress continues in Hurricane Sandy recovery efforts. A National Park Service Type III incident management team has been supervising the recovery working with park staff and with assistance from other NPS employees from around the country. The damage to the park's two districts included:

- Maryland – Dunes were breached in front of the group campsites, the walk-in campsites, and South Ocean Beach parking area, causing them to either be totally washed away or covered by over four feet of sand. The bayside picnic area and the end of bayside parking lot were lost into the bay; the bayside "Life of the Marsh" and "Life of the Forest" trails were severely damaged or destroyed. The Old Ferry Landing naturalist shack was lifted off of its pilings and washed onto its side. Most boardwalks in the park were destroyed or damaged. Blind A, the blind available to disabled hunters, was destroyed. All backcountry roads suffered significant damage.
- Virginia – The boathouse dock at the U. S. Coast Guard Station, a National Historic Landmark, received significant damage. The beach parking lots sustained severe damage, and part of the beach road was washed out.

The following areas are open to the public:

- Assateague Island Visitor Center in the Maryland District and Toms Cove Visitor Center in the Virginia District are open seven days a week.
- All user fees are in effect.
- North Ocean Beach parking area in the Maryland District is open.
- The Toms Cove Visitor Center and the Virginia District beach area may be accessed on foot or by bicycle.
- Oceanside Drive-in campground loops 1 and 2, Bayside Drive-in campground and Group camping is open.
- Little Levels backcountry campsite is open.
- The Over-Sand Vehicle (OSV) zone has reopened, however, high tides may limit access.
- Hunting is open on a limited basis in the Maryland District.

Significant progress is taking place in the following areas:

- Contractors for Maryland Department of Transportation are working to repair the pedestrian/bicycle trail next to Maryland Route 611.
- A crane has removed damaged boardwalks from the Life of the Marsh trail and moved the naturalist shack from its pilings.
- Damaged asphalt from the parking areas has been removed.
- A saw crew has removed downed and hazardous trees.
- Damaged administrative backcountry roads are being filled utilizing heavy equipment.
- Sand removal continues from overwashed South Ocean Beach parking area.

No injuries have occurred during recovery operations.

Please call 410-641-1441 for more information or check our website at www.nps.gov/asis for updates. Follow Assateague Island National Seashore on Facebook, Twitter and Flickr.

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