

APPENDIX C

OUTSTANDING NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES OF FIRE ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE AND VICINITY

Place Name	Ownership	Significance
Historic Resources		
Fire Island Lighthouse	Coast Guard	Principal historic structure on Fire Island
William Floyd Estate	Park Service	Architecturally and historically significant; manor house and grounds formerly owned by signer of Declaration of Independence
Natural Resources		
Skirted pine, Fire Island Lighthouse tract	Coast Guard	Rare manifestation of salt-spray effects on plant life
Sunken Forest	Park Service	Excellent example of maritime American holly/sassafras/shadbush forest
Maritime forest	Point O'Woods	Excellent example of maritime American holly/sassafras/shadbush forest
Old Inlet	Park Service	Site of former inlet; high secondary dunes; diverse vegetation, including freshwater marshes within dune area
Area south of Hospital Island	Park Service	Diverse high-marsh vegetation; island's best stand of beach grass
Watch Hill interpretive area	Park Service	Representative upland marsh communities of Fire Island, containing small stands of maritime forest; valuable as a diverse area for natural history interpretation near seashore's largest federal development

LANDS REQUIRING PROTECTION BECAUSE OF INHERENT VALUES

Area	Ownership	Values
Dune line	Variable	The line of dunes fringing the beach provides aesthetic continuity and serves as the island's main natural defense against erosive forces. Maintenance of a dune system without development is essential to the perpetuation of the island's ecological diversity and productivity.
Bog habitats	Variable	These rare freshwater habitats, with high degree of isolation, high species diversity, and unique assemblages of species, are rarely more than a few square yards in area. Bogs and freshwater marshes are scattered throughout the interdunal portion of the island and have been identified in the Fire Island Lighthouse tract, the eastern unit of Robert Moses State Park, Point O'Woods, the Sailor's Haven area, along the interpretive trail east of Watch Hill, near Old Inlet, and at various locations on Suffolk County lands.
Clam Pond	Saltaire	The small coves with fringing cordgrass marshes are most extensive and diverse in the tidal-marsh community west of Watch Hill.

Area	Ownership	Values
Maritime forest habitats	Variable	The American holly/sassafras/shadbush forest is best developed west of Sailor's Haven where it has long been considered an outstanding natural resource. Major stands are present in the eastern section of Point O'Woods. Smaller stands, many no more than patches within a matrix of high thicket, have been identified at Talisman and Watch Hill, and more may exist. These stands develop only in areas that are relatively stable geologically for a century or more; they are relatively rare components of the natural ecosystem complex, and have become progressively rarer as stands are cleared or thinned for development.
John Boyle Island	Brookhaven	John Boyle Island contains one of the last remaining nesting sites in the Long Island area for the common tern.
Tidal marshes, swamps, and ponds on William Floyd Estate	Park Service	This is the only tidal marsh and tupelo swamp on the Long island mainland within the seashore, and it provides valuable estuarine habitat.
Tidal marshes on Fire Island	Variable	Tidal marshes have special value as natural habitat wherever they occur. Their importance in preserving the quality and productivity of tidal estuaries is progressively increasing as marshes elsewhere are consumed for development. All wetlands and marshes within the communities also require protection because of their ecological value.