



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Fire Island
National Seashore

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Fire Island National Seashore News Release

Release date: Immediate

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Date: December 20, 2007

Release code: 07- 26

Public Scoping Meeting for Proposed Storm Surge Protection Projects on Fire Island Scheduled for January 11, 2008

Patchogue, N.Y.—Environmental Assessments (EAs) that coincide with a number of plans for proposed work within the boundaries of Fire Island National Seashore will be made available for public review in 2008. The first of these EAs are expected to be for two separate projects that address storm surge protection on Fire Island. A public scoping meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 11, 2008, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the Town of Brookhaven Town Hall at One Independence Hill in Farmingville, New York, to review the proposed storm surge protection project plans before the two EAs are completed and made available for public review. As part of the National Park Service's procedures to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, every environmental assessment is made available for public review and comment.

Several Fire Island communities (which lie within the boundaries of the National Park Service unit) are consolidating their resources to create a plan for short- term beach nourishment from offshore sand sources and for beach scraping projects that would occur over the next few years. An environmental assessment is required before any permits can be issued and funding can be procured for projects of this nature.

Smith Point County Park is also proposing a beach nourishment project for 2008. This proposal is expected to call for the relocation of sand that has been dredged from Moriches Inlet and deposited on the dunes near the eastern end of Fire Island. One component of this proposed project involves the excavation of a pond, or borrow pit, after the built- up sand is removed. This project also includes the dredging of Moriches Inlet, with the placement of spoil material on eroded beach/dune areas in the Smith Point County Park and Cupsogue County Park.

Project presentation will be made by the consultants preparing the plans and impact analyses. The consultants for the community project are Coastal Planning & Engineering of Boca Raton, Florida and Land Use Ecological Services, Inc., of Riverhead, New York. For the county park projects, the consultant is Greenman- Petersen, Inc. Engineering and Construction Services.

(more)

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

The timely release of a new publication by New York State Sea Grant should provide good background material for a better understanding of coastal processes. *Long Island's Dynamic South Shore*, a 28-page primer on barrier islands and dynamic coastal processes, is available online at www.nyseagrant.org. (See "What's New?") Hard copies of the publication will also be available at the public scoping meeting on January 11, 2008. Links to additional studies can be found on Fire Island National Seashore's web site in its Nature & Science section.

You can review previous environmental assessments for Fire Island National Seashore at www.nps.gov/fiis/parkmgmt/management-documents.htm.

For more information about Fire Island National Seashore, visit the park's web site at www.nps.gov/fiis.

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