



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Fire Island National Seashore 120 Laurel Street
Patchogue, NY 11772

631 289-4810 phone
631 289-4898 fax

Fire Island National Seashore News Release

Release date: Immediate

Contact(s): Paula Valentine, Public Affairs

Phone number: 631- 687- 4759

Date: May 14, 2008

Release code: 08-09

Public Review of Floodplain Findings for Fire Island National Seashore's New Ferry Terminal in Patchogue

Patchogue, New York— The National Park Service (NPS) announced today that a Draft Statement of Findings (SOF) for Floodplain Management for Fire Island National Seashore's new ferry terminal facility in Patchogue is now available for public review. The project entails the construction of a new ferry terminal along the Patchogue River, replacing an existing building with a larger 4,000 square foot year- round facility. The new building will be elevated and moved back from river's edge. Because the structure is within the 100- year flood plain, consideration of site-specific flood risks and impacts must be considered.

According to the park's acting superintendent, Sean McGuinness, a 30- day period of public review period is open through June 13, 2008 to comment on this document. "We are excited to be moving forward with this long- awaited project." No public meetings are scheduled for this portion of the planning process, but you may learn more about the project at the park's web site.

A new National Park Service ferry terminal in Patchogue, New York and a visitor center and new headquarters complex for Fire Island National Seashore were proposed in the park's 1978 General Management Plan. Park boundaries were expanded in November 1978 to include up to twelve acres of land in Patchogue for this purpose. A ten- acre parcel of land was purchased at the head of the Patchogue River in 1980, and the existing building was completed as a temporary structure in 1983. A *Development Plan for the Patchogue Ferry Terminal Site* was prepared in 1986. Funding for the parking lot was secured in the early 1990s, and a new elevated 178- car lot constructed in 1991. A schematic design plan for a *Fire Island Terminal and Interactive Learning Center* was started in 1995, and the *Development Concept Plan for the Patchogue Ferry Terminal Site* was produced in 1999. As part of the National Park Service's procedures to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this project was completed in January 2002. After a period of public review, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the preferred plan was signed on October 8, 2002.

(more)

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

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

Building plans were started in 2003, but completion of the planning process was put on hold until construction funding could be secured.

As an additional component of the planning and compliance process, a *Draft Statement of Findings for Executive Order 11988 (“Floodplain Management”), Ferry Terminal, Fire Island National Seashore, Patchogue, Long Island, New York* is now available for public review and comment.

You may view a copy of this document at park headquarters (120 Laurel Street, Patchogue NY 11772) or you may request that a copy be mailed to your address. The document is also available on Fire Island National Seashore’s website at:

www.nps.gov/fiis/parkmgmt/upload/DRAFT_2008_PatchogueFerryTerminal_StatementOfFindings-FloodplainManagement_4-29-08.pdf

For more information about this study, please contact Mike Bilecki, Fire Island National Seashore’s Chief of Resources Management, at 631-687-4760.

By June 13, 2008, comments on the project should be addressed to Acting Superintendent McGuinness at Fire Island National Seashore Headquarters, 120 Laurel Street, Patchogue, NY 11772. You may also post comments electronically at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>. Search through [Plans/Documents Open for Comment](#) for Fire Island National Seashore projects. *(Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time.)*

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

#