



**Currituck Banks Reserve**  
**Local Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**March 26, 2013, 9:30 – 11:30 am**  
**Currituck County Library, Corolla, NC**

**Attendance**

<b><u>LAC Members</u></b>	<b><u>Affiliation/Interest</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
Mike Hoff	USFWS	Yes
Officer Steve Jarvis	NC Wildlife Resources Commission, Enforcement	No
Sheriff Susan Johnson	Currituck County Sheriff's Dept	No
Aaron McCall	The Nature Conservancy	Yes
Mary Riley	Community Member	Yes
Donna Robinson	Community Member	No
Bill Robinson	Community Member	Yes
Dr. Clarence Styron	NC WRC Outer Banks Center for Wildlife Education	No
Holly White	Currituck County	No
<b><u>Others</u></b>		
Bryan Daggett	Community Member	Yes
Rebecca Ellin	DCM, Reserve Manager	Yes
Scott Crocker	DCM, Northern Sites Manager	Yes

## Reserve Update – Rebecca Ellin

- The new Northern Sites Manager Scott Crocker was introduced to the LAC and a brief background was given.
- The Reserve's budget outlook for the next fiscal year, including possible impacts of federal sequestration on the Reserve's federal funding for the program, were discussed. Neither the state nor federal budgets for next fiscal year have been finalized.

## Site Update – Scott Crocker and Rebecca Ellin

- An update was given on the hunting information from this fall and winter. Approximately 181 hunters applied for permits to hunt at the Currituck Banks and Kitty Hawk Woods Reserves with 151 permitted to hunt the Currituck Banks Reserve. Twelve deer (4 bucks and 8 does) were reported taken from Currituck Banks Reserve but several others who harvested deer did not designate which site the deer were taken on. Thirty-two hogs (13 male, 11 female, 8 unknown) were reported harvested from the Reserve this season.
- The Reserve will host another hunting workshop in late summer/early fall to educate hunters on any changes. Aaron McCall suggested Scott also attend TNC hunter workshops to increase the number of hunters reached.
- Hog trapping was discussed and traps may be placed out on USFWS and TNC property after the hunting season to reduce the hog population through coordination with USFWS (run by Friends of Mackey and Currituck) and TNC (trained hunters will man the traps). Coordination with NCWRC will be necessary to ensure appropriate procedures are followed.
- The parking lot condition was discussed and options are being pursued to have the lot repaved with permeable surfaces. Ways to fill main hole in parking lot may need to be pursued to get through the summer. Bill mentioned he would contact Mark Thompson and Michael Jarret regarding possible options.
- The County easement projects appear to be complete and follow-up is needed with Holly White to confirm.
- The Reserve is updating its habitat map for the site and Mike Hoff requested information on the scale of the mapping and if it can be used to detect shoreline erosion. Kevin McVerry will be contacted and provide information to Mike.
- An update was provided on the Reserve's participation on the Currituck County Wild Horse Advisory Board; discussion centered around the herd size and updating the wild horse management plan.
- Summer intern opportunities were discussed and the YAIO internship is the only internship opportunity available for the summer. The group discussed other sources of help for projects. Bill offered to volunteer on projects as needed.

## **Member Roundtable and Other Comments**

- Mary asked about presence of coyotes on previously deployed motion-activated cameras. Aaron confirmed cameras have captured images of coyotes in the area.
- Bill offered to assist with volunteer help for projects at Currituck Banks. Bill also recommended Bryan Daggett as a future member of the LAC.
- Bryan asked about monitoring and usage of the parking lot and the beach access easement area and suggested that numbers of visitors would be beneficial data to assess use over time. Aaron suggested using smartphone scanning apps to capture some user data. Aaron also suggested a sign-in book at the boardwalk may be possible.
- Bill suggested having Scott speak at an upcoming Corolla Civic Association meeting to introduce himself and make community contacts.
- Mike reported 23 reported hog kills on USFWS property. Data suggested that hogs seem to be using different habitat than years past.

## **Follow Up**

- The next meeting of the Currituck Banks LAC will be set in the fall and is TBA; this meeting will include a discussion of the finalized habitat map.
- An updated list of LAC members will be sent out to the LAC.