

Your Name
Your Address
City, State, Zip Code
Email Address
Phone Number

Date

Appropriate Office or Contact Person
Address
City, State, ZIP Code

Dear Recipient's Name,

I am writing to express my grave concerns regarding the contamination and associated environmental hazards present at Cape Hatteras National Seashore. Recent findings have identified significant levels of petroleum, semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), heavy metals, and pesticides in an area of beach formerly occupied by the US Navy and the US Coast Guard and under current management of the National Park Service. These contaminants pose substantial risks to the local ecosystem, wildlife, and public health.

The environmental impact on local wildlife is particularly distressing. These pollutants threaten various species that rely on this unique ecosystem, potentially disrupting their habitats and food sources. The adverse effects extend to the local economy as well, particularly rental income and businesses that depend on a clean and safe environment to attract visitors. This area of beach has been closed since September 2023 and further closures are nearly certainly forthcoming if immediate action is not taken.

The cleanup efforts to mitigate these hazards have been disjointed, inadequate, and untimely. The delay in remediation perpetuates ongoing safety risks from physical hazards such as construction materials including cement, rebar, and foundations from previously deconstructed buildings, as well as cables, pipes, and PVC drain fields scattered throughout the area. This is in addition to environmental concerns.

It is profoundly concerning that such conditions are persisting within the nation's first National Seashore Recreational Area, a site of historical significance marked by the iconic Cape Hatteras Lighthouse.

Furthermore, the potential for water quality and groundwater contamination necessitates immediate action. Clean and safe water is paramount for the health of both the environment and the local community.

Considering these significant concerns, I respectfully request the immediate establishment of a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) program. This initiative will facilitate enhanced communication and collaboration between the responsible agencies and the affected community, ensuring that cleanup efforts are prioritized and effectively managed. Further, I implore all involved agencies to cease the decades-long practice of finger-pointing, blame-shifting, and compartmentalization of the areas and, instead, work together for a comprehensive solution.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this critical matter. I look forward to your swift response and decisive action to address these pressing environmental and public health issues.

Yours Sincerely,

Your Name
Your Title, if applicable
Your Organization, if applicable