

(Organization Name)

**RESOLUTION  
SUPPORTING OPEN AND ACCESSIBLE BEACHES  
ON THE CAPE HATTERAS NATIONAL SEASHORE RECREATIONAL AREA**

**WHEREAS**, the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area (CHNSRA) was created by Congress in 1937 as America's first National Seashore with the promise that people would always have access for recreation; and

**WHEREAS**, a tourism based economy has been developed on Bodie Island, Hatteras Island and Ocracoke Island, where the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area is located, comprising part of the area known as the Outer Banks of North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, access to the beaches of this area has always been the defining element of the visitor's complete seashore experience and is the foundation of the area's economic base upon which thousands of families depend for their livelihood; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Park Service has managed the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area and in July of 2007, adopted an Interim Protected Species Management Plan (Interim Plan) to protect the natural resources of the CHNSRA while still providing for public access to the most popular and traditionally used beaches of the area; and

**WHEREAS**, in October 2007, environmental groups filed suit in U.S. Federal Court seeking to enjoin access to large areas of the CHNSRA resulting in a Consent Decree issued in April of 2008 by the U.S. Federal District Court modifying the Interim Plan and resulting in the closure to the public of large areas of the CHNSRA; and

**WHEREAS**, the unprecedented closures as a result of the Consent Decree has created significant economic harm to businesses in the area and disrupted a recreational heritage which has been responsibly enjoyed by families for generations; and

**WHEREAS**, in January 2009, Congressman Walter B. Jones (R-NC) introduced H.R. 718, to reinstate the Interim Management Plan on the CHNSRA, which he first introduced as H.R. 6233 on June 11, 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, H.R. 718 would set aside current mandates put in place in the wake of the Consent Decree, restore public access and improve economic conditions by reinstating the Interim Management Plan until the National Park Service establishes a long-term management plan for use of the CHNSRA.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the (Organization name) supports open public access to the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area consistent with promises made in the enabling legislation, and recognizes the importance of recreational access to sustain the economic viability of this unique area and finds the Interim Management Plan, of the National Park Service, the most effective tool available to regulate the area, until a long-term plan can be adopted.

This the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_(Organization Name)\_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name), (title)

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name), (title)