

Park Access

- Encourage interpretive guide boat and eco tours in Mosquito Lagoon and its islands
- Use boating restrictions (such as wake speed or pole-on/pole-off areas) when needed for natural and cultural resource protection and public safety
- Disperse beach users throughout the 24 miles of beaches
- Allow for more beach use but do not create a feeling of overcrowding
- Keep the park open around the clock, especially the beaches, or open the park early enough to enjoy sunrise or early morning birding

Coordination of Government Agencies

- Improve public communications about area closures, seasonal restrictions, and changes in national seashore policy
- Coordinate with local communities and other government agencies concerning fire management and disaster recovery efforts
- Provide seamless coordination of all government agencies when managing for visitor use

Facilities and Services

- Improve facilities and services that support park users
- Continue to manage the seashore in a fairly undeveloped manner
- Provide more parking spaces, drinking water, showers, and improved restroom facilities at beach access locations (Apollo Beach)
- Provide more boat launches and docks with temporary tie-ups throughout Mosquito Lagoon
- Develop sites for large group activities in national seashore areas that are near local communities to accommodate family and organized outings, environmental education, and community events
- Provide facilities for picnicking, horseback riding, and hiking
- Offer a diverse range of camping opportunities - from vehicle/trailer camps to more remote and dispersed primitive camping sites on the islands and near beaches
- Consider locating a visitor center in or near Titusville, Florida
- Include more active and diverse, guided and unguided interpretive programs (e.g., boat tours, wayside exhibits, interpretive trails, guided walks and talks at the historic sites, and formal seminar programs)
- Upgrade current visitor center facilities to meet user's demands and improve interpretive exhibits
- Improve visitor orientation/information at locations inside and outside the national seashore
- Help visitors understand the boundaries of the park

If you have any other thoughts to add to the above summary, please include them on the enclosed mail-back response form or email your comments to CANA_gmp_planning@nps.gov.



Caption

PURPOSE AND SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENTS

Purpose Statement

A purpose statement provides direction for management and use of each unit of the National Park Service. It also reaffirms the reasons why an area was established as part of the national park system. A purpose statement helps neighbors, visitors, cooperating agencies, and other interested parties understand the framework in which park managers make decisions.

The following purpose statement has been refined over time and is based on the seashore's enabling legislation (Public Law 93-626-January 3, 1975): "*Canaveral National Seashore's purpose is to preserve and protect the natural, scenic, scientific, ecological, archeological, and historical values and resources within the park and to provide for public outdoor recreational use and enjoyment of those values and resources.*"

Significance Statements

Significance statements build on a park's purpose and state why, within a national or regional context, the park's resources and values are important enough to warrant inclusion in the national park system. These statements identify the resources and values that are central to managing the area and express the importance of the area to our natural and cultural heritage. The following are the significance statements for Canaveral National Seashore:

- The 24-miles of beach within Canaveral National Seashore constitute the longest extent of undeveloped pristine beach along the Florida Atlantic Coast and provide opportunities for uncrowded seashore recreation.
- Mosquito Lagoon, part of one of the most diverse and productive estuaries in North America, is designated an Estuary of National Significance and an Outstanding Florida Water.
- The seashore contains prime habitat that provides sanctuary for sixteen federally threatened and endangered species of birds, mammals and reptiles, including nesting beach for several thousand endangered marine turtles.
- Canaveral National Seashore encompasses a transition zone that includes a variety of temperate and subtropical plant and animal species, found together only in east-central Florida, and classic elements of subtropical dune and hammock plant communities.
- The seashore's cultural resources reflect the span of human history in the Florida peninsula from 2000 B.C. to the early 20th century. These resources include over 100 identified Native American middens and burial mounds and four historic buildings associated with late 19th and early 20th century Florida settlement.