

[From Spring 1999]

## **New Bicycle Trail Proposed for Chincoteague Refuge**

CNWR Manager, John D. Schroer, is seeking public input on a proposed bicycle trail connecting the Lighthouse Trail parking lot and Refuge Headquarters with the Chincoteague Refuge Visitor Center, and to a change in the bicycle policy for the refuge. "With the safety of refuge visitors as a top priority, this trail will give bicyclists a safe pathway to our administrative offices and the Lighthouse Trail" said Schroer.

Visitors will access the proposed new bicycle trail from the parking lot of the Refuge Visitor Center. The path will continue along the north side of Beach Road to the parking lot of Refuge Headquarters with a crossover to the Lighthouse Trail parking lot. Once completed, bicyclists will have safe access to all the major areas of public use, including the beach.

With these connections, and to further insure the safety of bicyclists, bicycles would then be prohibited from traveling on Beach Road. "The mixture of families on bicycles and the high volume of vehicular traffic on Beach Road, especially during the peak summer months, is a hazardous combination which could result in serious accidents and personal injury," said Manager Schroer. Bicyclists will be able to continue to reach the beach via Wildlife Loop and the Swan's Cove Trail. During the refuge hunt season, when these two trails are closed and when vehicular traffic is low, bicyclists would be permitted to access the beach and other public use areas by Beach Road," said Schroer.

Anyone who wishes to provide comment on these proposals can mail them to,

Refuge Manager  
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P.O. Box 62  
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