



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE CORPS AIR STATION
PSC BOX 8003
CHERRY POINT, NORTH CAROLINA 28533-0003

5090/05400

LN

June 30, 2003

William Schenk
National Park Service
Southeast Support Office
Sam Nunn Atlantic Federal Center, 1924 Building
100 Alabama Street, S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Mr. Schenk:

Please find enclosed a compact disc containing the Final Environmental Assessment for "Proposed Military Operations Areas in Eastern North Carolina". Also enclosed is a summary of the changes made to address comments and concerns expressed by your agency and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Cherry Point Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB) will now review the document prior to final review and approval by the Commanding General. The official comment process is complete. Any additional information you may provide will become a part of the administrative record and should be received prior to July 30, 2003.

Thank you for your letter of April 10, 2003. You mentioned the need for a long-term cooperative relationship between our agencies, and we agree. Specifically, we would welcome discussions on opportunities for our agencies to partner in efforts to increase knowledge of the potential impacts of noise on public land natural resources and visitors. Your letter listed as a main concern the need for acoustical measurements at Cape Lookout National Park. Please send us a proposal for this work. We would also like a copy of the park soundscape management plan mentioned later in your letter.

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In the meantime feel free to contact Robin Ferguson of the Environmental Affairs Department at (252) 466-5917, if you have any questions regarding the final EA.

Sincerely,



G. W. RADEFORD

Environmental Affairs Officer

By direction of the

Commanding General

Enclosure: 1. Environmental Assessment CD
2. Summary of Changes LANTDIV Kelly Knight

Copy to:
Ops Dir.