

## How to Comment on Proposed Changes to the FINS Driving Regs

### **WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT ??**

FINS has opened a 30-Day period for comments about their proposed new driving regulations. The attached FINS Newsletter explains their program and preliminary proposed regulations.

### **HOW CAN I COMMENT?**

1. There are two public meetings next week that you can attend (One is virtual and one in person in Ocean Beach--see information on the attached flyer)

2. At the meetings you can make verbal comments, but to have your opinions included in the record, **you MUST submit your ideas in writing.**

3. There are three ways that you can submit written comments:

#### **A. Electronically on the Park web site: (preferred method)**

- [National Park Service - PEPC - Fire Island Off Road Vehicle Civic Engagement Newsletter -Submit Comments \(nps.gov\)](#)

#### **B. Submit your written comments at the in-person public meeting on May 6**

**C. Submit written comments in person to the NPS headquarters in Patchogue, NY, or send them by mail to:**

Off Road Vehicle Management Plan  
Superintendent  
Alexcy Romero Fire Island National Seashore  
120 Laurel Street Patchogue, New York 11772

### **WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO ORGANIZE MY COMMENTS?**

#### **1. Please organize your comments around FINS Questions for your written Comments:**

- What elements of the preliminary proposed action (PPA) are most important and why?
- What other information should the planning team consider when developing alternatives? (In order words, what is missing, and why should it be considered?)
- Are there other ideas or topics that should be considered ?

**(This public comment period ends on MAY 20, 2022.)**

#### **2. Selected Consensus Points you may want to use in your response:**

- FINS hasn't explained why they are revising the ORV regulations. What is the compelling need?
- The existing Blue Book framework does a reasonable job of balancing the competing needs; a major overhaul is not required, but rather clarifying/updating

- The roadless, car-free character of the island must be preserved; We cannot have unlimited permits.
- FINS should retain control of permitting process and enforcement; it should NOT be turned over completely to the Towns of Islip and Brookhaven.
- Any changes to the current regulations should support the year-round community and emergency responders who sustain our island.
- The “Burma Road” is not a road but a patchwork route through many communities; can only sustain a certain amount of driving; increased driving would mean additional damage to community infrastructure.
- Due to the inter-connected complexities of island life, caution must be taken to avoid unintended consequences that will negatively impact quality of life, emergency response, business community, and year round residents and their families.
- Geography of the island and related access issues must be considered each community has its own driving concerns and logistical challenges
- FINS should adhere to the General Management Plan and partner with the communities on Fire Island when drafting new driving regulations.
- **Additional consensus points?**