

Sandy Hook Unit, Gateway National Recreation Area Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook Proving Ground National Historic Landmark Middletown Township, Monmouth Co., New Jersey



























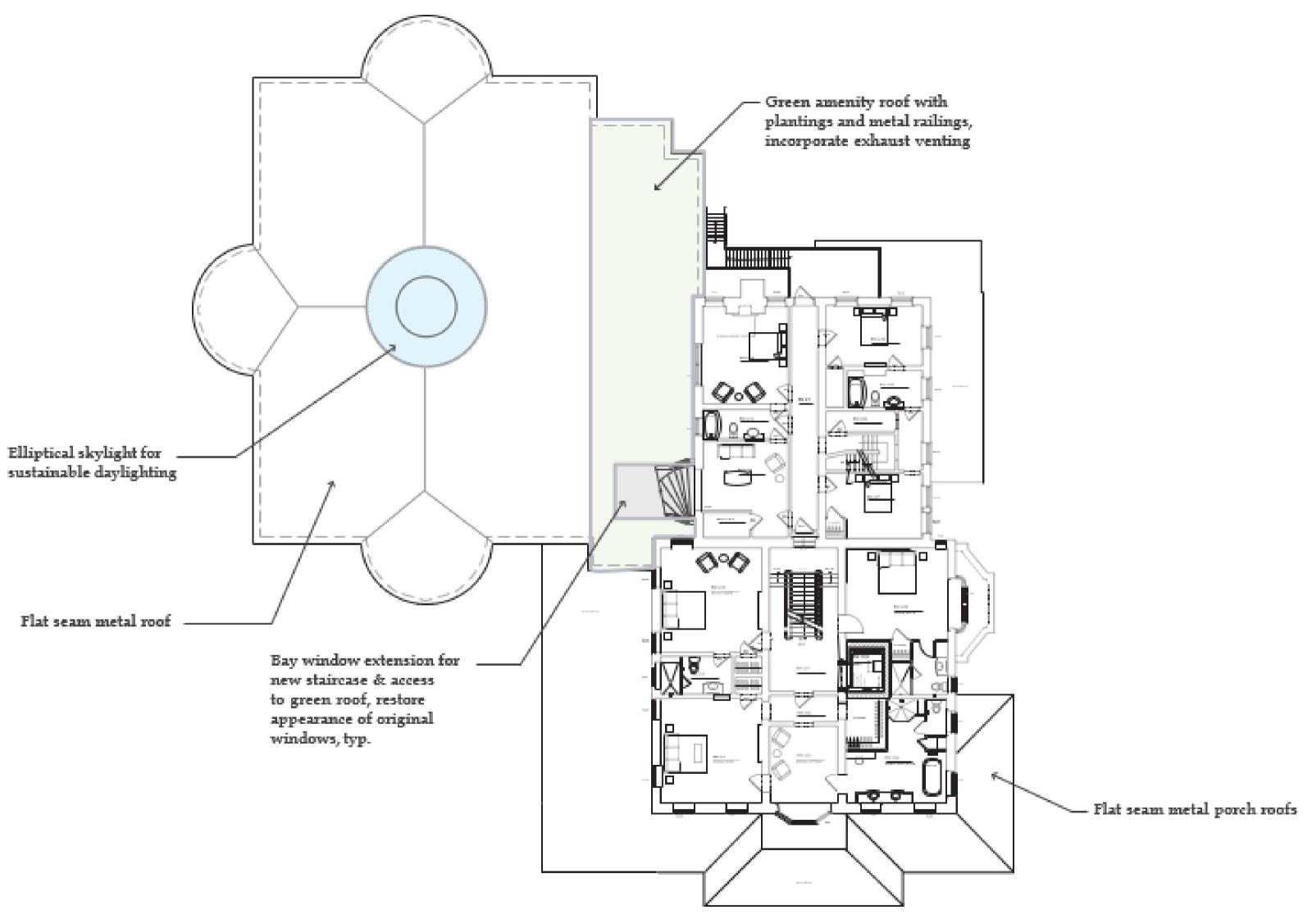
**EXISTING CONDITIONS** 





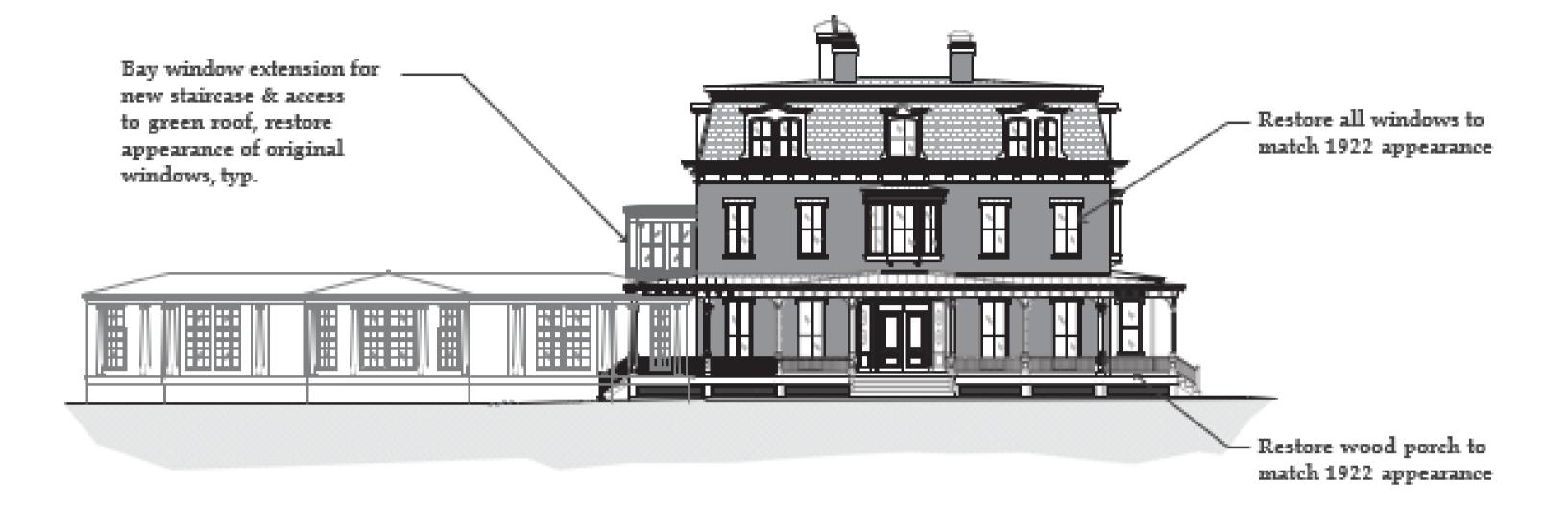
HISTORIC RESEARCH - CIRCA 1922









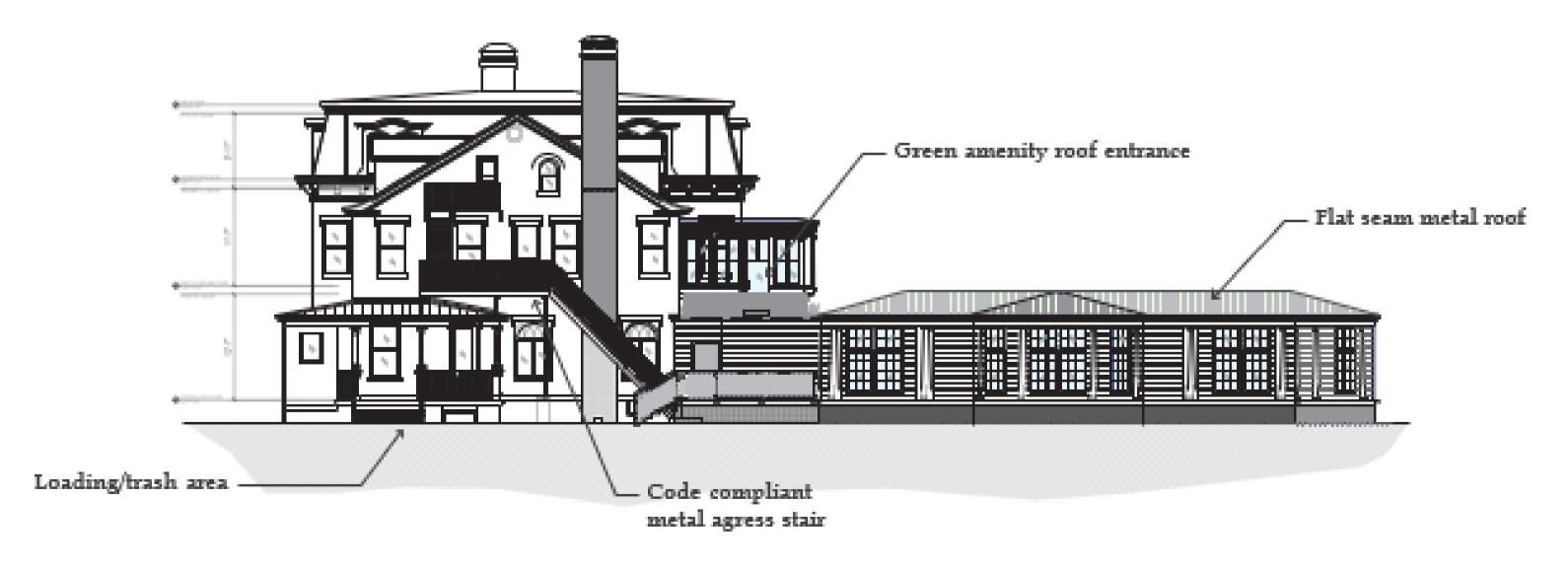




#### ARCHITECTURAL ELEVATIONS















**AERIAL RENDERING LOOKING NORTH** 



#### **Buildings Currently Leased**

Building 23 Barracks MAST Educational Use

Building 56 Mess Hall MAST Educational Use

Building 53 Post as a Café (in use)

Building 21 Duplex for Lodging (in use)

Building 104 Quarters for Office (in use)

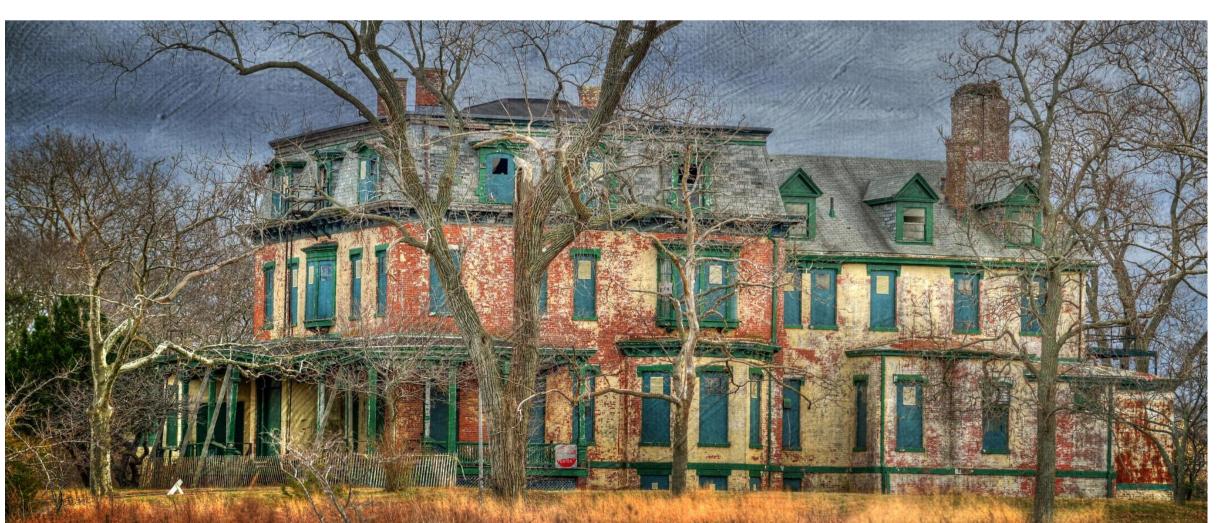
Building 52 Quarters for Lodging (in use)

Building 36 Mule Barn for Dining, Event Space



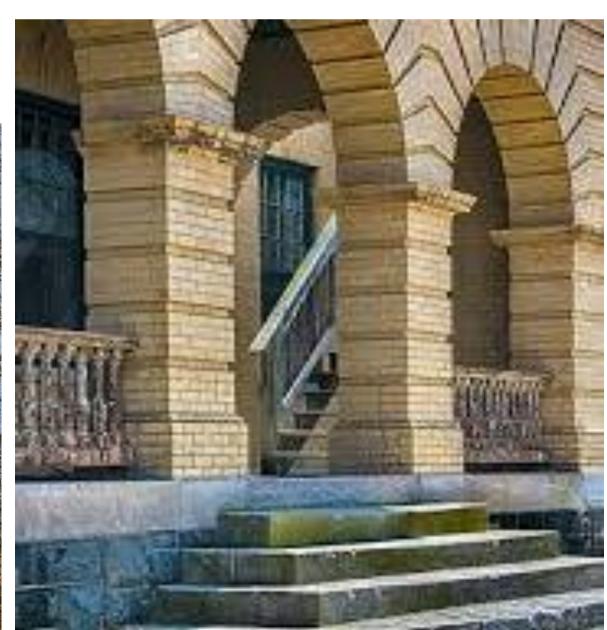


Buildings for which Letters of Intent are currently in effect (Buildings 24, 25, 40, and 114)





Buildings 24 (above) and 25 (below)
Former Barracks
Proposed residential use
One Bedroom/Studio Mix



### **Gateway National Recreation Area**



# Questions?





# Gateway National Recreation Area



The Fort Hancock 21st Century Federal Advisory Committee (FACA) was established to advise Gateway National Recreation (GATE or Park Area) on how to preserve the historic buildings of the Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook Proving Ground National Historic Landmark through adaptive reuse by leasing.

The FACA established a workgroup to identify and make recommendations regarding potential impacts of leasing to support the overall goal of adaptive reuse through leasing. All maintenance, repairs, rehabilitation, and restoration of historic properties must be done consistent with the Secretary of Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. This includes adaptive reuse through leasing.

The Workgroup has spent considerable time over the past year learning about the Park's current management practices and requirements to manage potential impacts, as well as identified additional concerns and possible management and research measures. Specifically, the Workgroup has had in-depth sessions on the following topics:

- Ecological impacts (dark night skies, soundscapes, migratory wildlife, habitat, air/water quality, groundwater impacts, stormwater, fertilizer/herbicide/pesticide use)
  Parking and Traffic
  Capacity/Density

- Climate change considerations

## Recommendations:

- Many of the Workgroup's management and research recommendations raised over the
  past year cut across different resource-related concerns. Below are tables that seek to
  capture the range of ideas put forward by the Workgroup in a way that demonstrates how
  those individual recommendations address multiple concerns simultaneously. It also
  seeks to highlight current park management measures already in place to address such
  concerns.
- We note that this table does not include recommendations related to social equity considerations as the Working Group has not yet discussed that suite of topics. We highlight this at the end of the table and will make this point very clear to the Advisory Committee and seek their advice on how best to engage stakeholders on that important topic.
- Workgroup recommendations presented in the table are not in any rank order.

Workgroup Recommendation	Related Resource Concerns	Related Current Park  Management
Work group composition is not sufficient to consider social and economic justice issues – additional representation is needed; work group has not yet begun to discuss this topic so recommendations on this topic are not provided in this list	Social and economic justice	
Develop and implement adaptive management framework for continued monitoring and evaluation of thresholds for ecological impacts.	<ul> <li>Night sky (Artificial Lighting)</li> <li>Soundscape (Noise)</li> <li>Human disturbance of resident and migratory wildlife</li> <li>Habitat</li> <li>Air quality</li> <li>Water quality</li> <li>Fertilizers</li> <li>Pesticides</li> </ul>	DOI and NPS have an adaptive management framework there is not currently adaptive management plan in place for Sandy Hook; NPS Inventory and Monitoring Program and park monitor some vital signs at Sandy Hook to inform long-term management
Require native plantings and provide tenants with a list of approved species and parameters relative to vegetation planting	<ul> <li>Human disturbance of resident and migratory wildlife</li> <li>Habitat</li> <li>Fertilizer</li> </ul>	Most leases will not have land assignment; management of vegetation within Fort Hancock Historic Post area is informed by Cultural Landscape Treatment Plan; NPS policies require use of native species of locally sourced genetic material to the greatest extent possible; all planting will require park review and approval in advance

Workgroup Recommendation		Related Resource Concerns	Related Current Park  Management
Potential impacts of expanded leasing			For NHPA Section 106, the area of potential
should be considered over the entire Sandy			effects is the "geographic area within which
Hook Unit and not limited to the Fort			an undertaking may directly or indirectly
Hancock Post area			cause alterations in the character or use of
			historic properties"; The National
			Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires
			evaluation of direct, indirect and cumulative
			impacts
Evaluate a range of possible environmental	•	Night sky	Lessees will be subject to same access
impacts given changes in diurnal activity in	•	Human disturbance of resident	restrictions as other visitors with exception
the park		and migratory wildlife	of 24/7 access to leased property; current
	•	Habitat	existing restrictions include public operation
	•	Air quality	hours (6 am – 9 pm) except by permit,
	•	Water quality	public access is restricted to trails, dune cuts
	•	Fertilizers	and designated areas, seasonal restrictions,
	•	Pesticides	and closures
Research and identify impacts on wildlife	•	Soundscape	Best available existing science is used to
(i.e., sound impacts on turtles; human	•	Night sky	identify and assess potential impacts of any
disturbance on bald eagles and seal haul-	•	Human disturbance of resident	proposed park project
outs)		and migratory wildlife	
	•	Habitat	
Use scientific literature and engage experts	•	Soundscape	Best available information is used to identify
to inform possible need for quiet zones	•	Night sky	and assess potential impacts for projects as
(both light and noise impacts)	•	Human disturbance of resident	part of National Environmental Policy Act
		and migratory wildlife	(NEPA) review of proposed federal actions

Workgroup Recommendation	Related Resource Concerns	Related Current Park Management
Developers should bear costs associated with mitigation and adaptive management for impacts from leasing program [Note: entity holding lease from NPS is lessee. In case of Stillman proposal, lessee is also the developer. Lessee may sublease only with NPS review and approval of sublease document.]  Include lighting restrictions in leases	<ul> <li>Human disturbance of resident and migratory wildlife</li> <li>Habitat</li> <li>Air quality</li> <li>Water quality</li> <li>Fertilizers</li> <li>Pesticides</li> <li>Night sky</li> </ul>	Lessees will be responsible for costs of adaptive rehabilitation, building maintenance and utilities and some cost recovery charges for trash management, snow removal, etc.  All park projects including leasing, are reviewed
Monitor avian collisions (light, windows and reflections) to inform management of leasing related light impacts on migratory and resident birds; asking NPS lessee to fund; assess any ecosystem change and/or diversity	<ul> <li>Human disturbance of resident and migratory wildlife</li> <li>Night sky</li> <li>Human disturbance of resident and migratory wildlife</li> </ul>	for compliance with night sky best management practices
Include noise restrictions in leases.	Soundscape     Human disturbance of resident and migratory wildlife	Sandy Hook quiet hours are from 10 pm to 6 am; Park Compendium prohibits noise levels exceeding 60 decibels measured on the A- weighted scale at 50 feet, fireworks are prohibited without park issued permit; personal watercraft are prohibited within park boundaries except within designated navigation channels; aircraft are not permitted within Sandy Hook (except permitted uses by USCG and for emergency response); no plans for development of a marina

Workgroup Recommendation	Related Resource Concerns	Related Current Park Management
Manage lease related waste to avoid attracting predator and negative impacts on other wildlife;	Human disturbance of resident and migratory wildlife	Park conducts predator management to benefit shorebird nesting T&E species
Educate lessees and residents of impacts of feeding feral cats and wildlife (particularly species of concern and threatened and endangered species)	Human disturbance of resident and migratory wildlife	Feeding wildlife (including feral cats) is prohibited [CFR 36 Chapter 1 Section 2.2(2)]; Introducing wildlife, fish or plants into a park area is prohibited [36 CFR Chapter 1 Part 2.2(2); CFR 36 Chapter 1 Part 2.15 and the Superintendent's Compendium provide regulations regarding pets
Protect and manage existing forests	<ul> <li>Habitat</li> <li>Human disturbance of resident and migratory wildlife</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	2014 GATE General Management Plan established management zones – no leasing or development within natural zone or sensitive resource subzone
Adaptive reuse of vacant buildings may eliminate habitat for some species (i.e., additional nesting platforms for osprey; displacement of racoons and opossum from buildings)	<ul> <li>Human disturbance of resident and migratory wildlife</li> <li>Habitat</li> </ul>	Park has installed numerous Osprey platforms; osprey nests can only be removed from building with prior park permission between September 1 and March 13;
Manage mowing frequency and timing (seasonality) to manage risks to birds	<ul> <li>Human disturbance of resident and migratory wildlife</li> <li>Habitat</li> </ul>	Lessees generally do not have land assignment – NPS will continue to manage turf within Fort in area of leased buildings
Manage impacts from campfires or fireplaces from leased buildings	Air quality	Leases do not allow fires in fireplaces; lessees generally do not include outdoor spaces

Workgroup Recommendation	Related Resource Concerns	Related Current Park Management
Monitor air quality to track and inform management of increased vehicle emissions and other air pollution related to leasing; in park monitoring to detect change due to leasing; rules to restrict idling	Air quality	Air quality is a regional issue, Sandy Hook is in a non-attainment area; do not currently have any inpark air quality monitoring
Limit number of vehicles lessees can have and permit lessee parking; limit types of vehicles that lessees can have (i.e., do not allow big RVs)	Air quality	
Do not use anti-coagulant bait traps for pest control	• Pesticides	NPS policies do not allow use of anti-coagulant bait for pest control; all use of pesticides in any NPS unit must be approved and tracked through Pesticide Use Proposal System
Provide electric charging stations to encourage electric vehicles; grid capacity	<ul><li>Air Quality</li><li>Soundscape</li></ul>	GATE is beginning to transition some of park fleet to electric vehicles; potential project under funding consideration to update electrical system
Understand adequacy of current and future maintenance of stormwater facilities given climate change	Water Quality	
Ensure lessees understand risks of applying fertilizers at certain times of years	<ul><li>Fertilizers</li><li>Water quality</li></ul>	Fertilizers are not used for routine lawn care; proposed fertilizer use is reviewed as part of project compliance and evaluated for need and application rate and timing of application

Workgroup Recommendation	Related Resource Concerns	Related Current Park Management
Evaluate if increased tenancy can be supported by existing infrastructure (water, sewer, electric, storm water, etc.)  Manage Sandy Hook to protect	<ul><li>Water quality</li><li>Habitat</li></ul>	
native habitats and prevent/reduce/mange non-native invasive species (e.g., prohibit marinas or mooring to prevent aquatic invasives)	<ul> <li>Human disturbance of resident and migratory wildlife</li> </ul>	
Manage waste oil disposal from food establishments		US Public Health Services inspects all park food service operations
Do not use non PFA containing fire extinguishers and firefighting foams	Water quality	NPS guidance restricts purchase of PFA fire extinguishers and firefighting foams



Key Messages and Next Steps

Media invited to contact
Daphne Yun at 917-282-9393 or at
Daphne\_Yun@nps.gov

