

National Seashore Gets Congressional Approval

Only LBJ Signature Is Needed

By ROY PARKER JR.

News and Observer Bureau

WASHINGTON — The bill establishing Cape Lookout National Seashore on the North Carolina Outer Banks moved almost to the end of its congressional journey Wednesday.

Meanwhile, the National Park Service said it would have a fulltime superintendent "on the spot" of the seashore playground "within 30 days" after the measure was signed by President Johnson.

The House passed the bill on a voice vote following a 33-minute debate which consisted completely of praise for North Carolina's "generosity and foresight" in donating most of the land for the 58-mile-long park.

The bill, which had already passed the Senate in slightly different form, was sent back there for routine approval of some technical amendments added by the House Interior Committee.

Early Action

Such approval takes only a moment, and Sen. B. Everett Jordan said it could be accomplished within the next few days, clearing the measure for President Johnson's signature.

Clark Stratton, assistant director of the National Park Service, said a superintendent for the area would move to the Beaufort area within a month after passage of the measure to take charge of a land acquisition program on Shackleford Banks.

The service will shift personnel and other expense funds from existing programs to operate the superintendent's acquisition office, he said.

Purchase Set

Under the bill establishing the seashore area, the Park Service will purchase eight-mile-long Shackleford Banks.

More than 80 per cent of the acreage in Portsmouth Island and Core Banks, the other islands in the area, has been purchased by the State and acquisition is continuing.

The State donation of that land won all the praise as the bill passed the House.

Congressman Wayne Aspinall, the Colorado Democrat who heads the Interior Committee, said the State "has once again demonstrated its happy ability to show good will toward the people of the nation, and its sense of responsibility for the economic and recreational welfare of its own people in donating the land.

Rep. David Henderson of the Third District, who sponsored the House bill and in whose district the new national playground would be located, pointed out that the measure had the backing of North Carolina political officialdom, local government and business leaders, President Johnson, and conservationists generally.



Cape Lookout Lighthouse and beach that will be part of National Seashore.

Recreation Plan Okayed

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WASHINGTON — The full House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs gave routine approval Wednesday to a bill establishing Cape Lookout National Seashore.

The measure, already passed by the Senate, could clear the House next week.

It is expected to be welcomed enthusiastically at the White House. President Johnson urged establishment of the national playground on the North Carolina Outer Banks last year.

Congressman Roy Taylor of the mountainous 11th District, a member of the House committee, will be floor manager for the measure in what is expected to be routine consideration.

Strongly backed by State and local political leaders and business interests, the legislation calls for a 30,000-acre national recreation preserve on a 58-mile stretch of Tar Heel coast.

The National Park Service, which would administer it, plans a \$3.2 million development program on Portsmouth Island, Core Banks, and Shackleford Banks.

Congressman Roy Taylor of the 11th District, floor manager of the bill, said it was "another fine example of how North Carolina cooperates with the

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federal government" in developing its recreation resources.

Only a score of House members, including most of the North Carolina delegation, were present for the voice vote.

First District Congressman Walter Jones, sworn in only last Thursday, got in his maiden remarks before the bill passed, congratulating Henderson and Taylor for their work.