

Cape Lookout

August 1, 1973

Mr. Woodrow Price  
Outdoor Editor  
News & Observer  
Raleigh, North Carolina

Dear Woodrow:

Hardly a week goes by that someone doesn't write another article on the Cape Lookout National Seashore, the property owners and the long, bureaucratic delays which have kept this project in limbo for some 10 years. Invariably, the writers either consciously or by design portray the property owners as the "bad boys" more concerned with the monetary values of the land than the creation of the Park.

Such is not the case, as I'm sure you know, but for some unknown reason to me we can't get the other side of the coin published. All of the "in depth" writers who have tackled the assignment in recent years have stayed away from us in droves when we attempted to offer rebuttal or clarify unfair or misleading statements.

The newest outcry against the owners concerns the 200 acres excluded from the National Seashore. Please remember we had no responsibility here because the first information we received concerning this exception came from you.

Although the two of us have never discussed this matter personally, I seriously believe you have a better working knowledge of the subject than any other writer in the state today. For that reason I'm asking you to tell it like it is for the best interest of all concerned. I'm enclosing a statement in which I have tried to tell the owners' side of the story to the best of my ability. I do hope that you can find space, time and the urgency to devote your attention to this matter.

Please let me know if there is anything else I could offer you which would be of assistance in a story you might undertake to write. I'd be glad to meet with you personally if you desire.

Sincerely yours,

Charles M. Reeves, Jr.

CMRJr/oed