

[REDACTED]

Subject: new park rules

Date: Thursday, July 9, 2026 at 1:43:16 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Joe [REDACTED]

To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources)

I wanted to provide comments for and about the new rules effecting surf fishing on state beaches. It seems to me that while the new rules about having reservations during the peak seasons was an attempt to control how many people are using the beaches, there appears to be a lack of control on how people are using the beach once they are there. The problem isn't as much how many people are at the beach (although the total numbers are important) its more that once they are there, there are no rules for how they are to set up for fishing. The rangers who patrol the beach do not restrict the fisherman from placing their poles for several feet to "stake out" their claim to large areas of the beach. On multiple occasions I have witnessed fisherman park their cars and then set up 3-5 of their poles 10-20 apart. This allows one person to occupy up to 60' of coast line. So if the concern you have is to control the usage of the park, limiting how much space one car can occupy would be a good way.

I have lived in my house for over 20 years across from Fenwick Island State Park, and I, along with my neighbors, walk to the beach without a surf fishing vehicle so if there is a rule governing the number of poles allowed per person, or the maximum distance they are allowed to be set apart, please forward these regulations to me. In the event there are no regulations that govern how far apart poles can be set, I request that these be included in the new regulations.

Joseph Jacobs
Vice President
Elm Street Development Inc.

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