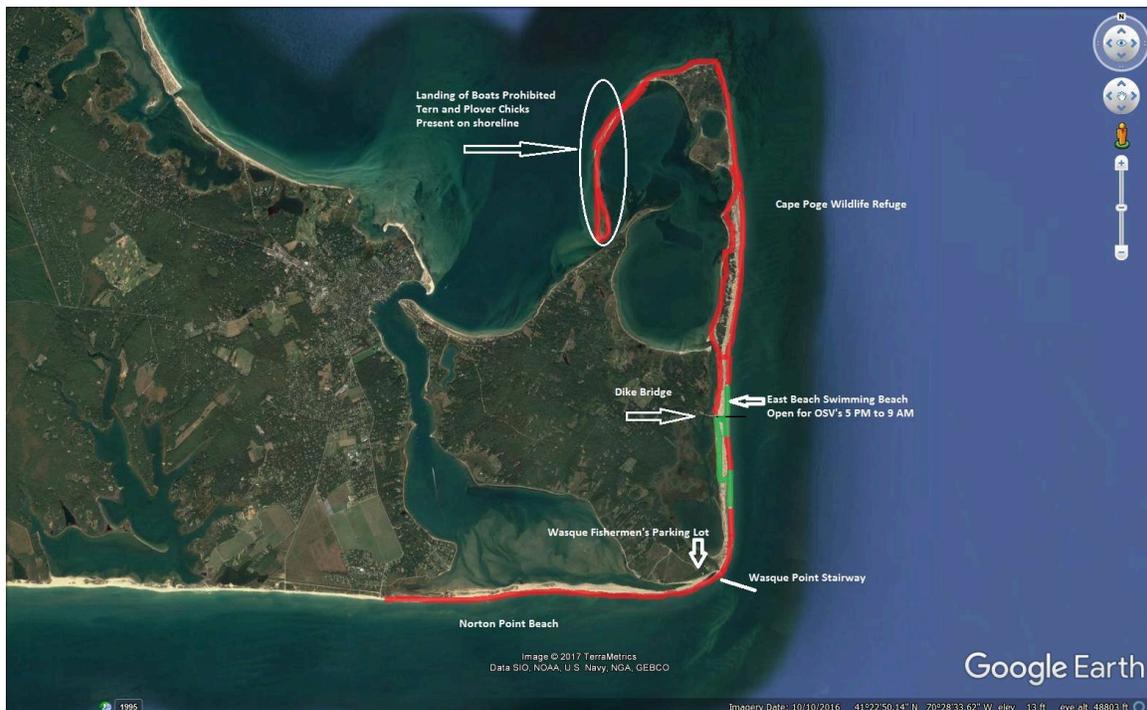




Martha's Vineyard Oversand Vehicle Access Alert Effective Saturday, July 1, 2017

We are entering the peak of shorebird nesting and chick rearing and it is apparent from looking at this map what that means for OSV drivers. Some plover chicks are due to fledge over the next week to 10 days so we expect that subsequent maps should be showing more green. Please note that foot access is allowed in all areas whether they are colored red or green.



You will note that ALL of Norton Point Beach will be closed to OSV's as of midnight tonight. We are anticipating the hatching of three plover chicks close to the Norton Point Gatehouse. Under state and federal buffer zone laws we do not have enough area between these chicks and vehicles to safely allow OSV's onto the beach. This vehicle restriction will stay in place until the chicks fledge (fly) which can take up to 35 days or perhaps sooner if the chicks are lost due to predation or other natural causes. If you choose to walk the beach please remain close to the shoreline to avoid chicks.

Vehicles with Norton Point Permits will be honored at all Trustees gatehouses on Chappy for PARKING and walking onto the property. Here's your chance to checkout the Fishermen's Parking Lot and new stairs at Wasque Point, or how about trying out the swimming beach at East Beach? Haven't been to Long Point for awhile? Take your vehicle with your Norton Point permit attached and get into Long Point for \$5!

At Chappy, about 1/3 miles of outside beach remain accessible to vehicles. We are now opening the East Beach Swimming Beach to OSV access from 5 PM to the following morning at 9 AM. Fishermen and families seeking a spot for a late afternoon cookout are welcome to use this stretch of beach. Plover chicks in the area are still on the move so the boundaries for these areas

will change but we are feeling more optimistic that this part of the outside beach will remain open for now.

Please note that the area from the Cape Pogue Gut to the Elbow has been deemed a NO BOAT LANDING AREA. Several boaters have recently landed in the area with dogs off of leashes and have allowed their dogs and passengers to enter the closed shorebird areas. We have several hundred chicks and nests in this area which is unusual, which, in turn, necessitates this move. Marine Police will be assisting Trustees Rangers in enforcing the shorebird landing closure for boaters. Landing at other Trustees beach locations is still allowed but dogs must remain off of the beaches for now.

The Bluefish bite has been pretty consistent at Wasque Point and Leland Beach areas for the past week with most fish being caught late in the day.

Finally, we at the Trustees understand the frustration of our loyal supporters and vehicle drivers, but if we keep things in perspective and take a deep breath, we will soon be seeing things change for the better--slowly at first but more dramatically as we move towards the end of the month. These shorebirds have no other place to nest and raise their young. Your understanding is appreciated.