

LETTER ON STATE COOPERATION WITH NATIONAL
SEASHORE DEVELOPMENT AT ASSATEAGUE ISLAND*

July 11, 1968

The Honorable Stewart L. Udall
Secretary of the Interior
C Street, between 18th & 19th, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Secretary Udall:

Thank you so much for your letter of July 3, regarding future development of Assateague Island.

I fully agree with you that cooperative management and planning this summer will give both the State of Maryland and the Department of the Interior substantial experience upon which most profitable discussions can be conducted in the future.

I have requested our Director of Forests and Parks to make every effort to cooperate with the director and staff of the Assateague Island National Seashore, and have further requested him to send me regular progress reports on his efforts in this area.

You may be assured that I will contact you at the end of summer so that we can examine the situation at that time and determine what our next step should be.

*In reply to the Governor's letter of May 7, 1968, the Secretary of the Interior wrote on July 3, 1968, "Your decision to retain and continue development of Assateague State Park is, of course, a prerogative of the State. . . ." The Secretary urged solution of "the long range problems of a dual administration of the Assateague Island seashore area" and concluded: "As we continue to operate and plan jointly through this summer our respective management organizations will gain additional visitor use experience. From this there may be valuable lessons and indications which we should discuss together at a time which is mutually convenient."—Ed.