

# **4 – WHEEL DRIVE BEACH ACCESS FISHING GUIDE**

**NYS PARKS  
LONG ISLAND REGION**



**New York State  
Parks, Recreation and  
Historic Preservation**

# Table of Contents

Night Fishing & Parking	Page 2
About the 4-Wheel Drive Fishing Permit	Page 3
Permit Conditions	Page 4
Required Equipment and Tips	Page 5
Safety Equipment and Getting Un-Stuck	Page 5
Napeague State Park	Page 6
Montauk Point State Park	Page 7
Hither Hills State Park	Page 8
Gilgo	Page 9
Sore Thumb	Page 10
Robert Moses State Park/Democrat Point	Page 11
Piping Plover	Page 12

## **NIGHT FISHING & PARKING**

The Four-Wheel Drive Beach Access Permit entitles the holder to the same allowances of the Night Sport Fishing Permit. Parking is permitted at the following locations between sunset and sunrise for fishing only, from April 1 to December 31 unless specified differently.

### **Captree State Park**

\*Main Field

\*Overlook Field

\*Captree Launch Parking Field – Sept 15<sup>th</sup> to Dec 31<sup>st</sup> only

\*Captree Drawbridge (north side only)

### **Jones Beach State Park**

\*Fields 6, 10, West End 2, West End Boat Basin

\*West End Work Dock Area (24 hr access)

\*Green Island (24 hr access)

### **Robert Moses State Park**

\*Field 2

\*Field 3 – September 15 to December 31 only (24 hr access)

\*Field 4 – April 1 to June 21 (7pm-7am) and September 15 to December 31 (24 hr access)

### **Hither Hills State Park**

\*April 1 to Memorial Day Weekend and Labor Day to December 31 only

### **Montauk Point State Park**

\*Lower Parking Lot Only

### **Sunken Meadow State Park**

\*Fields 1 and 3 (24 hr access)

### **Wildwood State Park**

\*Main Field

### **Orient Beach State Park**

\*Main Field

### **Hallock State Park Preserve**

\*Main Field

# **FOUR WHEEL DRIVE BEACH VEHICLE FISHING PERMIT**

***Sold from December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to March 31, 2024, and Tuesday after Labor Day to December 31, 2024***

**Fee:** \$80 NYS resident / \$125 non-NYS resident

**Requirements:** Valid Motor Vehicle Registration, Valid Driver's License, must have a valid enrollment in NYS DEC Recreational Marine Fishing Registry ID # and dates of validity.

**This permit allows 4-wheel drive access for FISHING ONLY at the following parks:**

Hither Hills, Montauk Point, Napeague: Year-round, 24-hr. access

Robert Moses: Democrat Point: April 1 - December 31, open 24 hrs. Must enter Before 7am or after 5pm, from Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day.

Sore Thumb: April 1 - December 31, 24-hr. access

\*Gilgo: April 1 – December 31, 24-hr. access

**\*For the most update to information on access to Gilgo State Park, please contact the Robert Moses Park Office, 631-669-0449.**

**Permit also allows all privileges of Night Sport Fishing Permit (listed below under #9).**

## **Permit Conditions:**

1. This Permit expires December 31, regardless of issuing date.
2. This permit allows 4-wheel drive vehicles access to designated beach areas at Robert Moses (Democrat Point and Sore Thumb), Gilgo, Hither Hills, Montauk Point, and Napeague State Parks for the **purpose of fishing only**. **ALL LOCATIONS**- vehicle use fee must be paid during hours of collection, when applicable; vehicle may remain on the beach for no more than 48 consecutive hours or two nights in a row, after which you must leave for 48 hours or two consecutive nights. **HITHER HILLS, MONTAUK POINT AND NAPEAGUE**-Permit valid 24hrs daily. **ROBERT MOSES (DEMOCRAT POINT)**-Permit valid 24hrs daily from April 1 thru December 31. Beginning the Saturday before Memorial Day until Labor Day, vehicles may enter before 7 AM and after 5 PM ONLY. **GILGO AND ROBERT MOSES (SORE THUMB)**-Permit valid 24 hours daily April 1-December 31.
3. All vehicles must be equipped with a shovel, rope or tow chain, portable toilet, jack and jack board, approved (35"x12.5"MAX) tires, which are **aired down to one-half the maximum rate tire pressure prior to passing the Beach Vehicle checkpoint location**, a full-size spare tire, and tire gauge to register a minimum 5 PSI. Permittee and each passenger over 12 years old will be required to possess a fishing rod, reel, line, bait and hooks, or lures, and show upon request of State Parks employee.
4. ANY type of open fires, barbecues, camping, portable generators, trailers, boats, inflatables, bathing, surfing (except with separate permit for surfing), jet skis, spear fishing, SCUBA-diving (except with separate permit for diving), wind-surf/sailing, alcoholic beverages and pets are **strictly PROHIBITED**. (**EXCEPTION:** Dogs are permitted on a 6-foot leash at Hither Hills, Montauk Point and Napeague State Parks in designated areas ONLY. Dog owners are expected to clean up after their dogs). Take all litter and debris with you and discard in trash receptacles. Do not destroy sand fence, it is helpful in maintaining a stable beach environment. Tents and portable shelters PROHIBITED sunset to sunrise.
5. This permit is valid ONLY for vehicle bearing license plate number indicated on front. There will be NO REPLACEMENTS or REFUNDS FOR LOST or REVOKED PERMITS. Duplicate permits will not be issued. Temporary permits will not be issued for loaner/rental vehicles. Limited to only ONE license plate change per permit per year and MUST be approved by a Long Island State Representative by visiting a State Park Office.
6. Environmental conditions and endangered species management may require temporary or permanent closure of all or part of beach areas accessed by this permit.
7. The permittee shall be responsible for any damage to park property or facilities which may result from the use thereof. The permittee assumes all risk and shall hold harmless the State of New York and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation for damages, for injury or death of themselves or others, resulting from activities under this permit or by reason of any unauthorized activities undertaken in contravention of the permit conditions. Violation of any condition of this permit or any rule of STATE PARKS or the Long Island Park Region may result in the immediate revocation of the permit (NO REFUND) and POSSIBLE ISSUANCE OF A TICKET.
8. Follow designated access roads to the beach. Vehicles are prohibited from parking on the access roads or around entrance areas; vehicles left unattended at these locations will have their permit revoked immediately. Do not exceed 10 MPH at any time. Vehicles are permitted to fishing access areas ONLY; vehicles are not permitted elsewhere in offroad travel. Vehicles are prohibited from driving through bathing areas from 7AM to 5PM beginning Saturday before Memorial Day weekend until after Labor Day at specific designated parks. Pedestrians have the right-of-way; please be courteous to people walking on the beach. DO NOT DRIVE ON DUNES, WETLANDS, BEACH GRASS, BIRD NESTING AREAS, OR IN SEAL HAUL OUT AREAS.
9. Beach Vehicle Access Permits also allow all privileges of Night Sport Access Permits, which are valid Apr 1-Dec 31 for after sunset parking in designated parking lots for the purpose of accessing park areas for night fishing ONLY at Captree, Hallock, Hither Hills, Jones Beach, Montauk Point, Orient Beach, Robert Moses, Sunken Meadow and Wildwood State Parks. Also required for daytime parking access at Green Island and West End Work Docks area. **ALL LOCATIONS:** vehicle use fee must be paid during hours of collection, when applicable; vehicle may remain in Park for no more than 48 consecutive hours or two consecutive nights after which you must leave for 48 consecutive hours or two consecutive nights, **CAPTREE**-Main Field, Overlook Field and Captree Drawbridge (north side only). Vehicles with boat trailers, parking is permitted from Apr 1 to 5pm on Friday of Memorial Day weekend and from Sept 15 to Dec 31, **HALLOCK**-Main Field, Main Beach. **HITHER HILLS**- except Friday of Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day, **JONES BEACH**- Fields #6, #10, West End #2, West End Boat Basin, West End Work Docks Area (24hr access) and Green Island (24hr access, January included). **MONTAUK POINT**-Lower Parking Lot ONLY, **ORIENT BEACH**- Main Field, Main Beach. **ROBERT MOSES**- Field #2 (24hr access, Apr 1-Dec 31), Field #3 (24hr access, Sep 15-Dec 31), Field #4 (7pm-7am, Apr 1- June 21 & 24hr access, Sep 15-Dec 31), **SUNKEN MEADOW**-Fields #1 & #3 (24hr access), **WILDWOOD**-Main Field. Permit may not be used to bridge two camping reservations.

# Long Island State Park Beach Driving Permit Conditions

9 N.Y.C.R.R. 372.1 – 372.6; 415.4

*In addition to the conditions that appear on your permit, the following specific conditions must also be followed:*

1. All permits will expire on December 31, regardless of the date issued.
2. Permits are valid for 4-wheel drive vehicles only and allow access to designated beach areas for the purpose of fishing only.
3. Tires shall not exceed either 35 inches in diameter or 12.5 inches in width as measure at the widest point.
4. Before pass the Beach Vehicle Checkpoint location, all beach vehicle tires must be aired down to one-half the maximum rated tire pressure.
5. Vehicles are prohibited from driving through bathing areas from 7am to 5pm beginning the Friday before Memorial Day Weekend until after Labor Day at specifically designated parks.
6. Follow designated access roads to the beach. Do not exceed 10 MPH at any time. Vehicles are permitted access to fishing areas only; vehicles are not permitted elsewhere in off-road travel. Always stay to the right when approaching oncoming vehicles. DO NOT DRIVE on dunes, wetlands, beach grass, bird nesting areas, or in seal haul out areas.
7. Do not destroy the sand fence. This fence is helpful in maintaining a stable beach environment.
8. Pedestrians have the right-of-way; please be courteous to people walking on the beach.
9. Please help us maintain a safe, clean, and attractive environment for the enjoyment of everyone. Return unwanted fish to the water. Take litter and debris with you and discard in trash receptacles.
10. Smoking on beach is Prohibited.

**FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ANY OF THE PERMIT CONDITIONS WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE REVOCATION OF PERMIT. PERMIT WILL BE REVOKED FOR ONE YEAR FROM DATE OF REVOCATION. THERE WILL BE NO REPLACEMENTS FOR LOST, STOLEN, OR REVOKED PERMITS. DUPLICATE PERMITS WILL NOT BE ISSUED. PERMITS WILL NOT BE ISSUED APRIL 1 THROUGH LABOR DAY**

# REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

ALL NEW YORK STATE PARKS

**Fishing Tackle**, including **Rods**, and **Reels**

*(For all persons age 12 and over)*

**Portable Toilet**

**Tow Rope or Tow Chain**

**Jack, Jack Board, Shovel**

**Approved Tires, Spare Tire**

*(Maximum of 35 inches in diameter by 12.5 inches in width)*

**Tire Gauge**

*(Capable of registering a minimum of 5 PSI.)*

## TIPS AND PRACTICES

- Wherever possible, use existing tracks.
- Driving all over the beach is reckless and can be harmful.
- Use designated access roads only. Undesignated area access is illegal and can cause erosion leaving the beach vulnerable to storm damage.
- Ruts and holes caused by a stuck vehicle must be filled in after said vehicle has been removed.
- Tire pressure should be at least one half the maximum recommended pressure located on the sidewall of the tire.
- A pressure of 16 to 20 pounds is a safe range.
- Stay away from all vegetation as the weight of the vehicle could destroy root systems.
- Avoid the high-water rack line, as birds often feed in this area, and it is subject to debris and hard conch shells that could damage your tires.

## WHAT IF I GET STUCK?

\*Do not spin your tires

\*Check and make sure you are in 4-wheel drive.

\*Lower tire pressure between 15 and 19 PSI.

\*Pull a small amount of sand away from the front and rear of all four tires.

\*Slowly attempt to drive in reverse, where the sand is compacted.

\*Keep front tires straight, back up and attempt to free your vehicle.

\*Proceed evenly, keeping up your momentum without spinning your tires.

\*If buried, jack vehicle up first, then compact sand under tires.

## EXTRA SAFETY EQUIPMENT

\*Portable cellular phone \*Fire Extinguisher \*Tire Inflation Device

\*CB Radio \*Tool Kit \*Flashlight \*First Aid Kit \*Garbage Bags

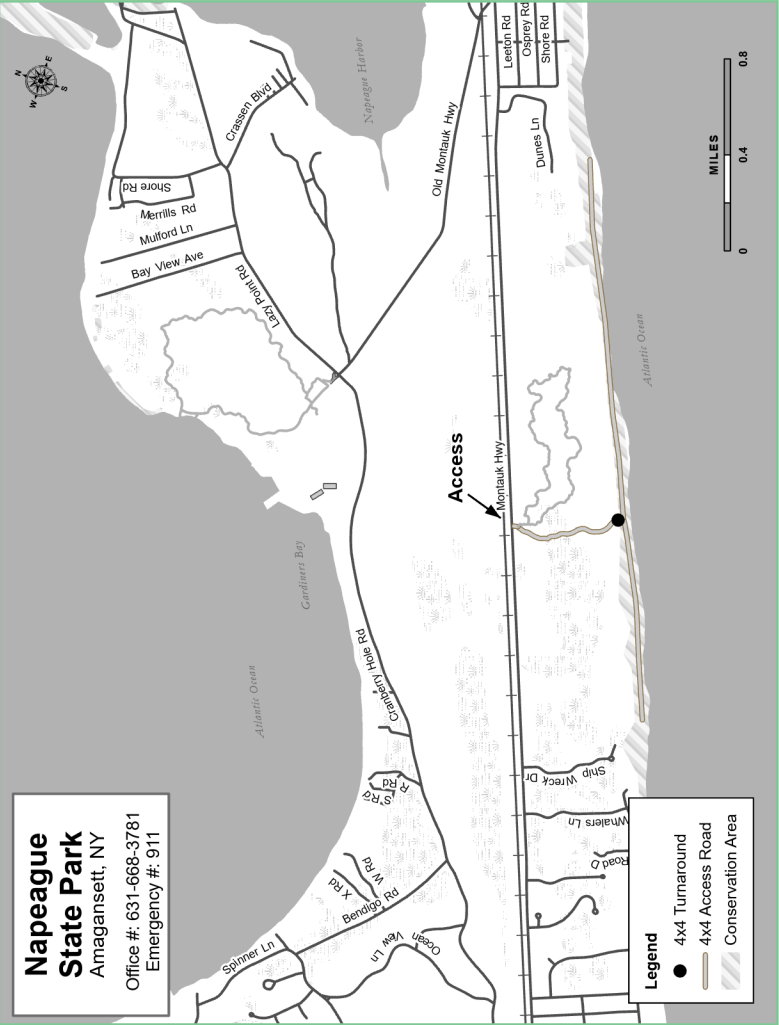
\*Gallon of water

# Napeague State Park

Amagansett, NY

Office #: 631-668-3781

Emergency #: 911



## Legend

- 4x4 Turnaround
- 4x4 Access Road
- ▨ Conservation Area

# Montauk Point State Park

Montauk, NY

Office #: 631-668-5000

Emergency #: 911

False Point



Montauk Point  
State Park

Camp Hero  
State Park

Oyster Pond

Access

Air  
Station

Old Montauk Hwy

Camp Hero Rd

Montauk Hwy

MILES

0 0.1 0.3

**Legend**

— 4x4 Access Road

# Hither Hills State Park

Hither Hills, NY

Office #: 631-668-3781

Emergency #: 911

Hick's  
Island

*Gardiners Bay  
Atlantic  
Ocean*

*Napeague  
Harbor*

*Atlantic  
Ocean*

Quince  
Landing

Access

Access

Access

Old Montauk Hwy

\*Air Station at  
Camp Office Parking

Montauk Hwy

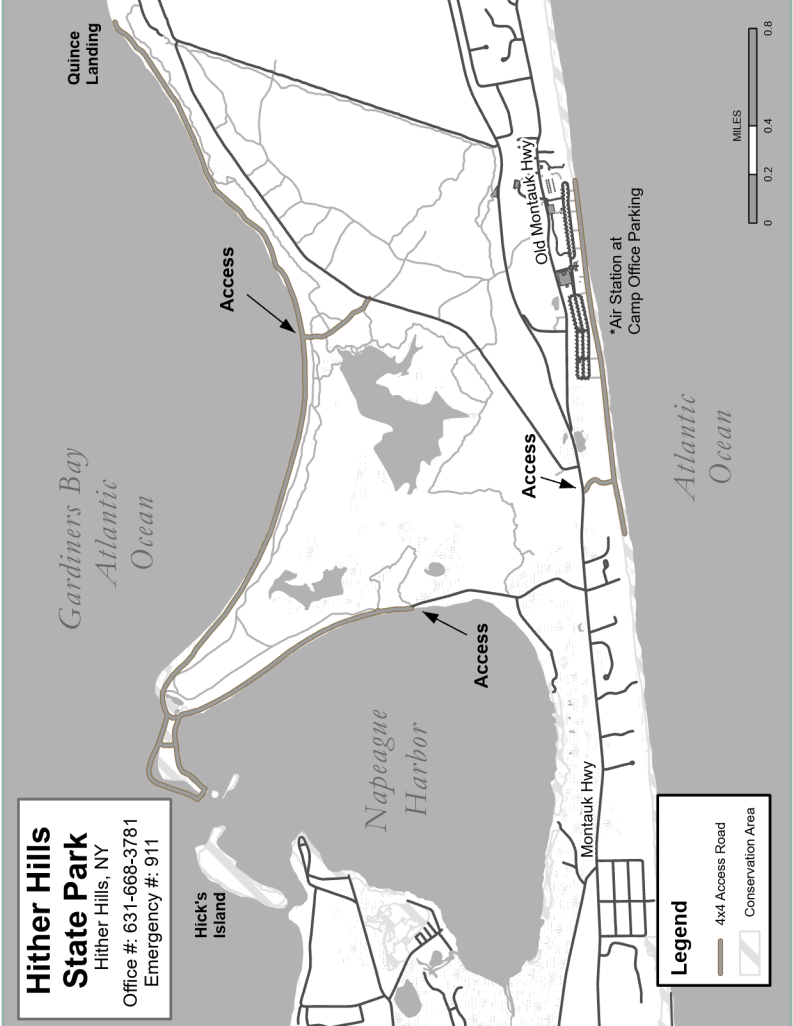
## Legend

4x4 Access Road

Conservation Area

MILES

0 0.2 0.4 0.6





# Gilgo State Park

Babylon, NY

Office #: (631) 669-0449

Emergency #: 911

Entrance



Ocean Pkwy

Ocean Pkwy

*Atlantic  
Ocean*

## Legend

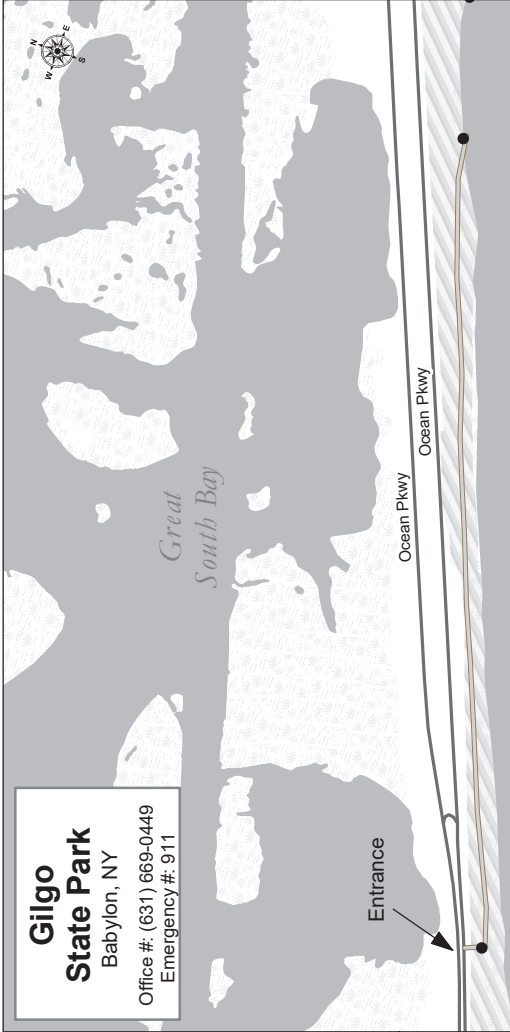
- 4x4 Turnaround
- 4x4 Access Road
- ▨ Conservation Area

MILES

0

0.15

0.3



# Sore Thumb

Babylon, NY

Office #: (631) 669-0449

Emergency #: 911



*Great South Bay*

Ocean Pkwy

Access

Engineers Rd

Oak Beach Rd

*Fire Island Inlet*

*Atlantic Ocean*

## Legend

● 4x4 Turnaround

— 4x4 Access Road

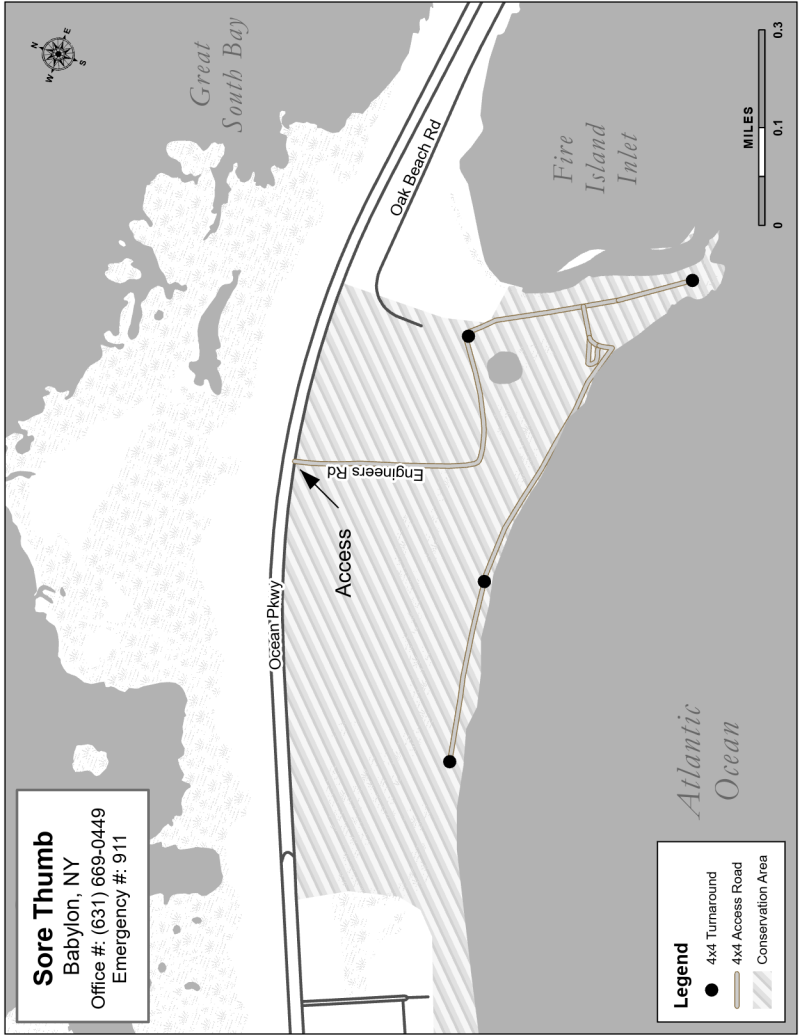
▨ Conservation Area

MILES

0

0.1

0.3



# Robert Moses State Park

Fire Island, NY

Office #: 631-669-0449

Emergency #: 911

Robert Moses Causeway

Captree State Park

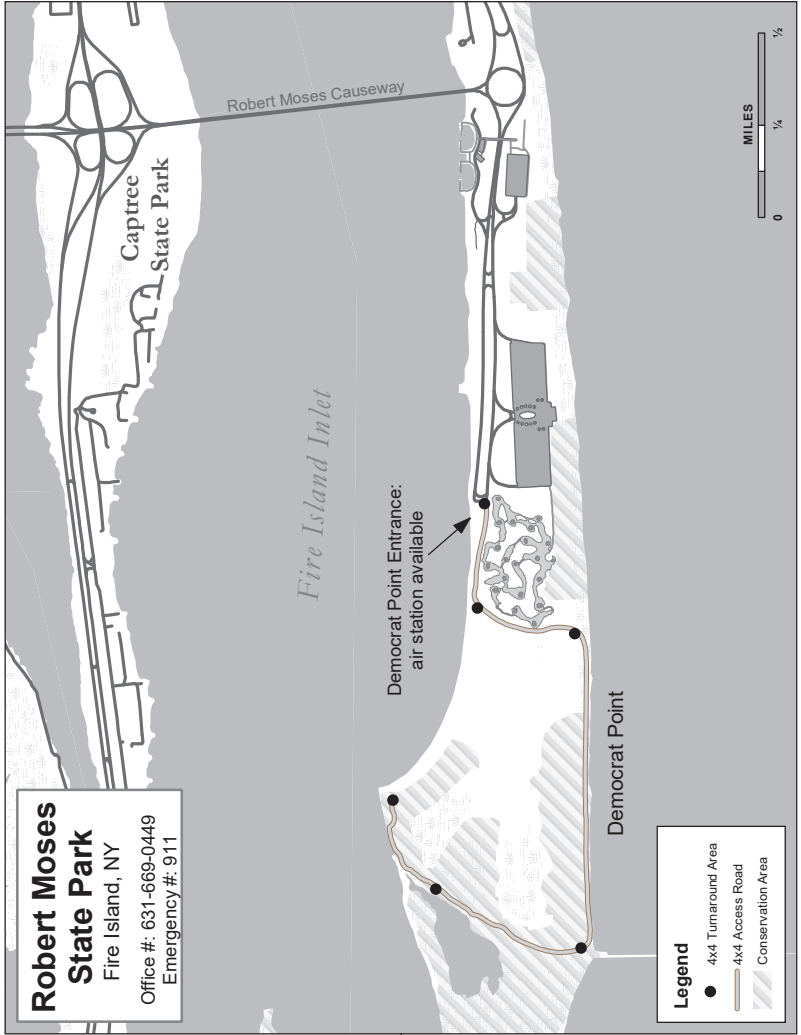
*Fire Island Inlet*

Democrat Point Entrance:  
air station available

Democrat Point

### Legend

- 4x4 Turnaround Area
- 4x4 Access Road
- ▨ Conservation Area



# PIPING PLOVER

## **Plovers, least terns and other endangered species**

Endangered and threatened species including piping plovers. Least terns and a rare beach plant called sea-beach amaranth can be found on some beaches. Please respect symbolic fencing and barricades that have been installed to protect these areas and wildlife. Persons may be arrested and fined for killing, harassing or in any way disturbing these species.

## **Beach is subject to closure during nesting season**



## **For your safety and safety of others ...**

Do not feed, attract, touch, or harass any wildlife. Animals in the park may seem tame, but they are still wild. Please report any odd behavior seen in animals, or any bites, scratches, or other contact with wild or domestic animals to a park official immediately.