

## Lobsterville Beach

### Update on Progress on Implementation of March 2024 Recommendations<sup>1</sup>

(March 2024 Recommendations in standard back font. Updated observations *in red italics.*)

1. As the route from the road to the beach and them to high water mark consists of beach sand, a firm surface is necessary. A beach mat would work or a combination wooden walkway on the path (constructed of weather resistant materials) and a beach mat on the beach portion to the high water mark. That latter portion appears to be about 30'. Most of the route is at least 48 inches wide. A few places particularly at the beginning of the route are only about 34-36 inches and would have to be widened. There are also few sections again near the beginning of the route where the cross slope exceeds 2% due to erosion and needs to be levelled out. The running slope again near the beginning of the route needs to be checked as well. For sloping and grade specifications and dimensions, see attached resource sheet or USDA's Forest Service *Accessibility Guidebook for Outdoor Recreation and Trails, 8/2012* <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/Accessibility-Guide-Book.pdf>.

*No change with regard to the route to the beach and highwater mark. As was the case in the earlier visits, a beach wheelchair is available continuously and is in the parking area right near the entrance to the pathway to the beach.*

2. Where is a second entrance to the beach over .5 miles away, the town might consider making that entrance and beach accessible as well. This beach is 1.5 miles east from the first entrance. There is a parking area across from this section of the beach and should have at least one designated parking space. This should be the case whether or not the beach is made accessible. There is probably space to designate an accessible parking space close to the beach entrance instead, if the town were to make the beach route accessible.

*Did not visit on 9/8/24.*

3. As to the route to get onto this second entrance beach, from the road to the high-water mark, the areas is quite level and has the appropriate width (at least 48") for most of the way. Particularly at the beginning where the width ranges from 18"-36", it would have to be widened. The pathway and of course the beach consists of sand so the surface would have to be hardened in the same manner as described above. The distance to the water's edge is considerable, however.

*Did not visit on 9/8/24.*

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<sup>1</sup> The original recommendations were furnished in March 2024 and were based principally on June 2023 beach operators' self-surveys and September and October 2023 follow up on-site visits by Dukes County Assoc. Commissioner for Disabilities and therefore were done before the winter storms and the ensuant beach erosion and restoration and alterations. This update was based **on a 9/8/24** site visit. Observations and findings were based the USDA's Forest Service *Accessibility Guidebook for Outdoor Recreation and Trails, 8/2012*. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/Accessibility-Guide-Book.pdf>.

Field Code Changed

4. *For an update on the progress made on the cross-cutting recommendations with respect to this beach and Aquinnah's other beaches, see accompanying Progress report on those recommendations.*

Richard Cohen, Dukes County Associate Commissioner for Disabilities  
October 31, 2024

