



Highest conservation priority black Skimmers arriving on the spit.

Photo by Kathy Heikes

Spit Spats

[Ed. Note: Historical background on this and other recent KDP permit requests can be found on page 15. September and October, 2008 TALK articles on revetment and spit can be found at www.kiawah.org. Scroll down the column on the right, click on each article.]

Passion is defined as any powerful or compelling emotion or feeling. Captain Sam's Spit may be small in size, but it has generated a large amount of "passion" from property owners and environmentalists. At the June 10 public hearing on Kiawah Development Partners, II's request for a stormwater permit to construct a corrugated steel bulkhead on a bend of the Kiawah River, 16 of the 18 speakers urged SCDHEC-OCRM (Office of Coastal Resource Management) to deny the request.

Approximately 60 people attended the hearing held at Berkeley Electric Co-op offices on Maybank Highway. Only Kiawah Island Mayor Bill Wert and Town Council

Member Alan Burnaford spoke in favor of the proposed project. Wert's only comment was, "The Town Council supports this project for the sheet piling application." As was pointed out by one speaker, "The 2005 Development Agreement (DA) between the Town and KRA/KDP requires the Town to support its plans to develop Captain Sam's Spit." www.kiawah.org/Docs.com He urged OCRM to recognize this when considering the permit request.

Because it is a pristine area, because of its natural beauty, for protection of its wildlife and the preservation of its ecosystem, and because this stormwater permit request is just another way for KDP to build an erosion control structure for future development of the area as part of a Larger Common Plan for Development or Sale (LCP) as stated in the several Notices of Intent (NOI) filed by KDP, II's engineering firm Thomas & Hutton, speakers strongly urged OCRM to deny the permit.

continued on page 12