

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service****General Management Plan Revision,
Final Environmental Impact Statement,
Petrified Forest National Park, AZ**

AGENCY: National Park Service,
Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the Record of Decision on the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan Revision, Petrified Forest National Park.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 83 Stat. 852, 853, codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(C), the National Park Service announces the availability of the Record of Decision for the General Management Plan Revision, Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona. On October 15, 2004, the Director, Intermountain Region, approved the Record of Decision for the project. As soon as practicable, the National Park Service will begin to implement the preferred alternative contained in the FEIS issued on August 25, 2005. The following course of action will occur under the selected alternative: Reusing and maintaining the historic integrity of Painted Desert headquarters complex will be a priority. Visitor services at Painted Desert Inn (rehabilitated) will be expanded. Facility improvements will be made at Rainbow Forest. Park lands will be managed similar to now, but with greater protection for natural and cultural resources from increased monitoring and adapting to new information. Some trails and turnouts will be added, and visitor hours will be expanded in the north. Most park collections will be housed in a new facility. This course of action, along with a no action alternative and two other action alternatives were analyzed in the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements. The full range of foreseeable environmental consequences was assessed, and appropriate mitigating measures were identified.

The Record of Decision includes a statement of the decision made, synopsis of other alternatives considered, the basis for the decision, a description of the environmentally preferable alternative, a finding on impairment of park resources and values, a listing of measures to minimize environmental harm, an overview of public involvement in the decision-making process, and a conclusion.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lee Baiza, Superintendent, Petrified Forest National Park, P.O. Box 2217, Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona 86028, (928) 524-6228, lee_baiza@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of the Record of Decision are available from the Superintendent listed above or on the Internet at: <http://planning.nps.gov/plans.cfm>.

Dated: October 15, 2004.

Stephen P. Martin,

Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Service.

[FR Doc. 04-27608 Filed 12-16-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312-52-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service****Notice of Availability of the Final
Environmental Impact Statement for
the Arrowhead-Weston Transmission
Line River Crossing/Right-of-Way
Request, Saint Croix National Scenic
Riverway, WI**

AGENCY: National Park Service.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of the final environmental impact statement (FEIS) for the Arrowhead-Weston Transmission Line River Crossing/Right-of-Way Request, Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway, Wisconsin.

DATES: There will be a 30-day waiting period before the record of decision is signed on the final from the day the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the FEIS will be sent to agencies, Tribes, and individuals that made substantive comments on the draft EIS, and to public libraries throughout the project area. Please check the Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway (SACN) website for a listing of the libraries to which the FEIS will be sent. The FEIS is approximately 600 pages in length with many figures and oversize color plates. Due to the size of the document, it was not possible to provide it over the Internet. A limited number of hardcopies are available upon request on a first-come first serve basis. Additional copies are available on compact disk. To request a hardcopy of the FEIS or a copy on compact disk, please write to the Superintendent, Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway, P.O. Box 708, St. Croix Falls, WI 54024, Attention: Kevin Iverson or telephone him at 715-483-3284, Extension 606.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jill Medland, Planning and Compliance Specialist, Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway, P.O. Box 708, 401 Hamilton Street, St. Croix Falls, WI 54024, or by telephone 715-483-3284, Extension 609.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Arrowhead-Weston Project (Project) is a 345kV Electric Transmission Line proposed by Minnesota Power, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, and American Transmission Company (Applicant) that would run for 220 miles from Duluth, Minnesota, to Wausau, Wisconsin. The governmental entity with approval authority for the overall Project is the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW). The PSCW approved the Project in 2001 and re-approved it in 2003. According to the Applicant, and as reflected in the PSCW decision, the purpose of the overall Project is to: (1) Strengthen the bulk transmission system by providing a second high-capacity connection across the Minnesota-Wisconsin interface; and (2) to transmit electricity from the upper Midwest to markets in the eastern Wisconsin area.

The State-approved route of the Project would cross the Namekagon River, which is part of the Riverway, in Washburn County at a location approximately 10 miles downstream of the city of Hayward, Wisconsin. The NPS has received a right-of-way (ROW) request from the Applicant to cross the Riverway with the State-approved Project. To reach a decision about the ROW request and comply with the NEPA, the NPS is preparing an EIS. The Corps of Engineers is a cooperating agency on the EIS, since they would also need to issue a permit for the river crossing.

The Applicants propose to cross the Namekagon River at an existing 161kV electric transmission line corridor granted to Xcel Energy as an easement by private landowners prior to NPS land acquisition in the area. All alternatives (except no action) would require additional right-of-way from the NPS. The following alternatives are under consideration for crossing the Namekagon River:

No Action (Deny ROW Request): 161kV line as present on 70' wood poles (would require that the utilities go around the Namekagon River and reopening of the State process);

Alternative 1: Double circuit the 345kV and 161kV lines overhead on 145-150' single steel poles (Applicant's preferred);

Long-span Option: Alternative 1 using long-span conductors (shorter poles set

back out of line of sight from the river, fewer, but thicker conductors);

Alternative 2: Single circuit 345kV overhead on 120–130' single steel poles, underground 161kV, transition structures at overhead to underground changeover;

Alternative 3: 161kV upgraded on 85–95' steel poles, 345kV underground, transition structures at underground to overhead changeover;

Alternative 4: 345kV and 161kV underground, transition structures at underground to overhead changeover.

The NPS preferred alternative is alternative 1: Long-span Option.

Persons wishing to comment on the FEIS may do so by any one of several methods. They may mail comments to Superintendent, Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway, P.O. Box 708, 401 Hamilton Street, St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin 54024, Attention: Jill Medland. They also may comment via e-mail to sacn_aw_row_eis@nps.gov (include name and return address in the e-mail message). Finally, they may hand-deliver comments to Riverway Headquarters, St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, 401 Hamilton Street, St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin 54024.

The NPS's practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses available for public inspection in their entirety.

The responsible official is Ernest Quintana, Midwest Regional Director, National Park Service.

Dated: October 18, 2004.

Alan M. Hutchings,

Acting Regional Director, Midwest Region.

[FR Doc. 04–27610 Filed 12–16–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312–96–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan for Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, Manteo, NC

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and National Park Service policy in Director's Order Number 2 (Park Planning) and Director's Order Number 12 (Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis, and Decision-making) the National Park Service will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan for Fort Raleigh National Historic Site. The authority for publishing this notice is contained in 40 CFR 1506.6.

The statement will assess potential environmental impacts associated with various types and levels of visitor use and resources management within the National Historic Site. This General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement are being prepared in response to the requirements of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978, Pub. L. 95–625. The National Park Service is currently accepting comments from interested parties on issues, concerns, and suggestions pertinent to the management of Fort Raleigh.

Suggestions and ideas for managing the cultural and natural resources and visitor experiences at Fort Raleigh are encouraged. Comments may be submitted in writing to the address listed at the end of this notice or through the GMP Web site, which is linked to the park's Web site at <http://www.nps.gov/fora>.

The National Park Service will publish periodic newsletters on the GMP Web site to present scoping issues and preliminary management concepts to the public as they are developed. Public meetings to present draft management concepts will be conducted in the local area. Specific locations, dates, and times will be announced in local media and on the GMP Web site.

Please note that due to public disclosure requirements, the National Park Service, if requested, is required to make the names and addresses of those who submit written comments public. Anonymous comments will not be considered. However, individual respondents may request that we withhold their names and addresses from the public record. If you wish to withhold your name and/or address,

you must state that request prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

DATES: Locations, dates, and times of public scoping meetings will be published in local newspapers and may also be obtained by contacting the National Park Service Southeast Regional Office, Planning and Compliance Division. This information will also be published on the General Management Plan Web site for Fort Raleigh.

ADDRESSES: Scoping suggestions should be submitted to the following address to ensure adequate consideration by the Service: Superintendent, Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, 1401 National Park Drive, Manteo, North Carolina, 27954. Telephone: 252–473–2111, ext. 150.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Superintendent, Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, 1401 National Park Drive, Manteo, North Carolina, 27954. Telephone: 252–473–2111, ext. 150.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Draft and Final General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement will be made available to all known interested parties and appropriate agencies. Full public participation by Federal, State, and local agencies as well as other concerned organizations and private citizens is invited throughout the preparation process of this document.

The responsible official for this Environmental Impact Statement is Patricia A. Hooks, Regional Director, Southeast Region, National Park Service, 100 Alabama Street SW., 1924 Building, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Dated: October 28, 2004.

Patricia A. Hooks,

Regional Director, Southeast Region.

[FR Doc. 04–27609 Filed 12–16–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312–KA–P

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Intent To Prepare a General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the National Park Service (NPS) announces its intent to prepare a General Management Plan and