

wilderness was designated in 1976, and the park does not have an approved wilderness management plan. The purpose of this draft WBMP EIS is to satisfy that requirement and bring ISRO into compliance with NPS policies. This draft WBMP EIS does not propose any changes in wilderness boundaries within ISRO, but it does propose formalizing and implementing some changes in how that wilderness is managed. The draft plan proposes several alternatives for management actions that would achieve the goals of wilderness management in the park consistent with The Wilderness Act and NPS policies. The primary issues being addressed in the plan that may result in management changes include: managing permitting for overnight camping and boating in the park, managing organized day tours in the park, managing campfires, the maintenance or removal of fire towers, the maintenance or removal of picnic tables in wilderness campgrounds, the use of treated lumber for trail maintenance, and the application of the minimum tool decision tree to determining the appropriate tools for maintenance, research, and other management practices within the park's wilderness.

Persons wishing to comment may do so by any one of several methods. They may mail comments to the Superintendent, Attn: WBMP, Isle Royale National Park, 800 East Lakeshore Drive, Houghton, Michigan 49931, or call the Chief of Resource Management at 906-487-9080 extension 34. They may comment via e-mail to isro_wbmp@nps.gov (include name and return address in the e-mail message). Finally, they may hand-deliver comments to park headquarters at 800 East Lakeshore Drive, Houghton, Michigan.

The NPS practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request 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 identify themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Dated: November 5, 2004.

Ernest Quintana,

Regional Director, Midwest Region.

[FR Doc. 04-28287 Filed 12-27-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Final Environmental Impact Statement/ Fire Management Plan Point Reyes National Seashore Marin County, CA; Notice of Approval of Record of Decision

SUMMARY: Pursuant to § 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law 91-190, as amended) and the implementing regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1505.2), the Department of the Interior, National Park Service has prepared, and the Regional Director, Pacific West Region has approved, the Record of Decision for the updated Fire Management Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore. The formal no-action period was officially initiated September 10, 2004, with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's **Federal Register** notification of the filing of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Decision: As soon as practicable the park will begin to implement as its updated Fire Management Plan the "Increase Natural Resource Enhancement and Expand Hazardous Fuel Reduction" alternative contained in the Draft and Final EIS (also described and analyzed as the Alternative C). The selected plan features a long-term, coordinated strategy to restore native plant cover, reduce infestations of invasive non-native plants, increase abundance of federally listed species, and protect or enhance cultural resources and historic scenes. Use of prescribed fire or mechanical treatments on up to 3,500 acres could be undertaken, so as to protect high priority areas having hazardous fuels (any actions deemed essential to occur within Wilderness would be executed only after first determining the "minimum tool" appropriate to accomplish the necessary work). As documented through the EIS process, this plan was also deemed to be the "environmentally preferred" alternative.

This course of action and two alternatives were identified and analyzed in the Final EIS, and previously in the Draft EIS (the latter was distributed in spring, 2004). The full spectrum of foreseeable

environmental consequences was assessed, and appropriate mitigation measures identified, for each alternative. Beginning with early scoping, through the preparation of the Draft and Final EIS, several public meetings and numerous interagency reviews were conducted, and newsletter updates were regularly provided (only seven written comments responding to the Draft EIS were received, with minor points raised). Key consultations which aided in preparing the Draft and Final EIS involved (but were not limited to) the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Fish and Game, State Historic Preservation Office, native American Tribes, regional air quality management districts, and adjoining land managing agencies. Local communities, county and city officials, and interested organizations were contacted extensively during initial scoping and throughout the fire planning process.

Copies: Interested parties desiring to review the Record of Decision may obtain a complete copy by contacting the Superintendent, Point Reyes National Seashore, Point Reyes, CA 94956; or via telephone request at (415) 464-5100.

Dated: October 29, 2004.

Jonathan B. Jarvis,

Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

[FR Doc. 04-28293 Filed 12-27-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

General Management Plan, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River, Texas

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan, Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service announces the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan for Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River, Texas. This is being done pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4332(C).

DATES: The National Park Service will execute a Record of Decision (ROD) no sooner than 30 days following publication by the Environmental Protection Agency of the notice of

availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement are available from the Superintendent, John King, Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River, P.O. Box 129, Big Bend National Park, TX 79834-0129, (432) 477-1101. Public reading copies of the document will be available at the following locations:

Office of the Superintendent, Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River, c/o Big Bend National Park, 1 Headquarters Dr., Big Bend National Park, TX 79834.

NPS Intermountain Support Office, Planning and Environmental Quality, 12795 W. Alameda Parkway, Lakewood, CO 80228, Telephone: (303) 987-6671.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lou Good, Management Assistant, Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River, P.O. Box 129, Big Bend National Park, TX 79834-0129, 432-477-1103.

Dated: November 3, 2004.

Steven P. Martin,

Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Service.

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elements of the system, while maintaining continuous service to existing users, to provide available capacity for future users, and implement a cost-effective project that minimizes capital and operating costs.

DATES: The Environmental Assessment, upon which the decision and FONSI were made, was available for public comment for 30 days in June-July 2003. Three responses were received in favor of the preferred alternative.

ADDRESSES: The Decision Notice and FONSI will be available for public inspection Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. through 4 p.m. at the GWMP Headquarters, Turkey Run Park, McLean, Virginia. The FONSI can also be viewed on the GWMP Web site at <http://www.nps.gov/gwmp>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Decision Notice and FONSI completes the Environmental Assessment process.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Sarah Koenen (703) 289-2540.

Dated: October 18, 2004.

Audrey F. Calhoun,

Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway.

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action, the NPS will provide additional and more convenient access to significant national lakeshore features, thus expanding opportunities for visitor use in the national lakeshore. Natural ecological processes will be allowed to occur, and restoration programs will be initiated where necessary. Federal lands in the Beaver Basin area in the national lakeshore (about 16 percent of the lakeshore) will be proposed for designation as wilderness. Vehicular access to Little Beaver Lake campground will remain, however structures within the proposed wilderness will be removed. Other roads in Beaver Basin will be closed and converted to trails or allowed to revert to natural vegetation. To accommodate possible increased use and to increase ease of access in the portion of the national lakeshore not proposed for wilderness, certain roads will be upgraded (upgrading portions of County Road H-58 will be recommended), and a drive-in campground in the Miners area and a boat-in campsite on Grand Sable Lake will be added. Operational facilities will be consolidated at the ends of the national lakeshore for efficiency. The selected action and four other alternatives were analyzed in the draft and final EIS. The full range of foreseeable environmental consequences was assessed.

Among the alternatives the NPS considered, the selected action best protects PIRO's natural and cultural resources, and its core wilderness resource, while also providing a range of quality recreational and educational experiences. It also meets NPS goals for managing the lakeshore, and meets national environmental policy goals. The preferred alternative will not result in the impairment of resources and values.

The ROD includes a statement of the decision made, synopses of other alternatives considered, the basis for the decision, the rationale for why the selected action is the environmentally preferred alternative, a finding of no impairment of park resources and values, and an overview of public involvement in the decision-making process.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Gustin, Superintendent, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, P.O. Box 40, N8391 Sand Point Rd., Munising, MI 49862-0040, or by calling 906-387-2607. The official responsible for this decision is Ernest Quintana, the Regional Director, Midwest Region.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of the ROD may be obtained from the contact listed above or may be viewed

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Proposal To Improve the Arlington County, VA Potomac Interceptor Sewer System

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Availability of the Decision Notice and FONSI for the proposal to improve the Arlington County, Virginia Potomac Interceptor Sewer System.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Council on Environmental Quality regulations and National Park Service (NPS) policy, the NPS announces the availability of the Decision Notice and FONSI for the Improvements to the Arlington County, Virginia Potomac Interceptor Sewer System. The Decision Notice and FONSI identify Alternative A as selected by the NPS for action. It is the preferred and environmentally preferred alternative in the Environmental Assessment. Under this alternative, improvements will be made to the existing sewer system which will minimize impacts to the environment and the community by providing additional sewer capacity to eliminate sewer overflows, back-ups and surcharging, to address the aging

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Environmental Statements; Record of Decision: Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, MI

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of a Record of Decision on the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan/Wilderness Study, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, Public Law 91-190, 83 Stat. 852, 853, as codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C), the National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the General Management Plan/Wilderness Study (GMP/WS), Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore (PIRO), Michigan. The Midwest Regional Director has approved the ROD for the GMP/WS. Specifically, the NPS has selected the preferred alternative as described in the Final General Management/Wilderness Study/Environmental Impact Statement (FGMP/WS/EIS). Under the selected