

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service****Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park; Richmond, California; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement**

SUMMARY: In accordance with § 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et. seq.*), the National Park Service (NPS) is undertaking a conservation planning and environmental impact analysis process to determine what approaches to take concerning resource protection and visitor use in the development of the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, Contra Costa County, California. Notice is hereby given that a public scoping process has been initiated to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and General Management Plan (GMP). The purpose of the scoping process is to elicit public comment regarding the spectrum of issues and concerns, including a suitable range of alternatives, and the nature and extent of potential environmental impacts and appropriate mitigation strategies which should be addressed in the planning and environmental analysis process.

Background

As authorized by Pub. L. 106-352, the NPS is preparing a General Management Plan for the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, California. The Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park includes the Ford Assembly Building, the Richmond Shipyard #3 (currently known as the Port of Richmond, Terminals 5, 6 and 7), the Maritime and Ruth Powers Child Development Centers, Atchison Village housing, Kaiser Field Hospital, Fire Station 67A, the Rosie the Riveter Memorial, the S.S. Red Oak Victory, and city parks referred to in the authorizing legislation as Shimada Peace Memorial Park, Westshore Park (now known as Lucretia Edwards Park), Sheridan Observation Point Park, Vincent Park, and the Bay Trail/Esplanade. The National Park Service does not own or manage these sites, but is authorized to interpret the story of Rosie the Riveter and the World War II home front, conduct and maintain oral histories, operate an education center, provide visitor services, provide technical assistance, enter into agreements to support preservation and interpretation, and acquire technical assistance, enter

into agreements to support preservation and interpretation, and acquire technical assistance, enter into agreements to support preservation and interpretation, and acquire certain structures from willing sellers. The NPS will work in cooperation with the public and private owners of these sites to plan for and encourage their preservation and use.

Pub. L. 106-352 requires the General Management Plan to include a plan to preserve the historic setting of the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park, which must be jointly developed and approved by the City of Richmond. Legislation also requires the General Management Plan to include a determination of whether there are additional representative sites in Richmond that should be added to the park, or sites elsewhere in the United States that relate to the industrial, governmental, and citizen efforts during World War II that should be linked to and interpreted at the park.

In preparing the General Management Plan, the NPS will develop management prescriptions for each area of the park. These management prescriptions will specify desired resource conditions, desired visitor experiences, and appropriate types and levels of management, use and development. The General Management Plan will serve as a blueprint for the next ten to fifteen years to guide park management decisions relating to park operations, facilities, staffing, interpretation and community involvement.

Scoping Comments

Formal scoping for the General Management Plan and EIS is hereby initiated. Public meetings will be held at various locations in Richmond, CA, and in other parts of the San Francisco Bay Area, with locations and dates to be determined. These public meetings will be announced via local and regional news media and by direct mail. All interested individuals, organizations and agencies wishing to provide comments, suggestions, or relevant information, or those wishing to be added to the project mailing list, should respond to: National Park Service, Attn: Martha Crusius, Planning and Partnerships, 1111 Jackson St. #700, Oakland, CA 94607. All written comments must be postmarked not later than August 30, 2002.

If individuals submitting comments request that their name or/and address be withheld from public disclosure, their requests will be honored to the extent allowable by law. Such requests must be available to public inspection all submissions from organizations or

businesses and from persons identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations and businesses. Anonymous comments may not be considered.

Decision Process

Availability of the draft GMP/EIS for review and written comment will be announced by **Federal Register** notice, via local and regional news media, and direct mailing. At this time the draft GMP/EIS is anticipated to be available for public review in 2003, and that subsequently a final GMP/EIS will be completed in 2004. To afford additional opportunity to comment on the draft GMP/EIS after it is distributed, public meetings will be held in the City of Richmond and San Francisco Bay Area (dates and locations to be determined). Notice of the availability of the final GMP/EIS will likewise be published in the **Federal Register**. As this is a delegated EIS, the official responsible for approval is the Regional Director, Pacific West Region, National Park Service; subsequently the official responsible for implementation will be the Superintendent of Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park.

Dated: January 11, 2002.

John J. Reynolds,

Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service****Fire Management Plan; Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Lost Angeles and Ventura Counties, California; Notice of Scoping to Prepare Environmental Document**

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et. seq.*) that public scoping has been initiated for a conservation planning and impact analysis process for updating the current fire management plan at Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. The purpose of the scoping process is to elicit early public comment regarding issues and concerns, a suitable range of alternatives and appropriate mitigating measures, and the nature and extent of potential environmental impacts which should be addressed.

Background: The Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area is a 150,000 acre unit of the National Park System. Naturally occurring fire is an

important ecological process in maintaining the native plant communities of the park, but wildfire poses a hazard to life and property at the urban/wildland interface areas. The park has had a fire management program since 1986; the plan was updated in 1994. The park utilizes a limited number of forms of fire management to achieve natural and cultural resource management and hazard fuel reduction goals including complete suppression, prescribed burning and mechanical fuel reduction.

The current environmental impact analysis of the park's fire management program was initiated in 1986 and culminated in a Finding Of No Significant Impact. Since that time, a spectrum of new issues, improved information, and unforeseeable constraints have emerged which have the potential to affect the future direction of the fire management program within the park. Some of these factors include but are not limited to: a potential decline in ecosystem health due to anthropogenically increased fire frequency, increased hazards and costs associated with fire suppression at the urban/wildland interface, and more stringent air quality regulations.

Information and Comment: As noted, the National Park Service will undertake a conservation planning and environmental impact analysis effort to address issues and concerns regarding any update in the current fire management program, and identify new alternatives for fire management in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. At this time, it has not been determined whether an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared, however, this scoping process will aid in this determination.

As an early step in this undertaking, a series of four public scoping meetings will be conducted in April, 2002. California cities where scoping meetings will be held are: Calabasas/Agoura Hills, Malibu, Beverly Hills, and Thousand Oaks. For those unable to attend meetings, a scoping document will be available upon request. The main topics to be addressed in the scoping document and meetings are: background information on the fire management program; a review of relevant policy and law affecting the fire management program; an assessment of current fire management needs; and the identification of issues and potential alternatives related to future fire management in the park. All interested individuals, organizations, and agencies are encouraged to provide comments or suggestions. Written comments

regarding the fire management program update must be postmarked no later than August 31, 2002.

For confirmed details about the scoping meetings, or to request a copy of the scoping background material and provide comments, please contact: Superintendent, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area; Attn: Corrina Marote B—Fire Management Plan; 401 West Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, California 91360 or via telephone at (805) 370-1845.

If individuals submitting comments request that their name or/and address be withheld from public disclosure, it will be honored to the extent allowable by law. Such requests must be stated prominently in the beginning of the comments. There also may be circumstances wherein the NPS will withhold a respondent's identity as allowable by law. As always: NPS will make available to public inspection all submissions from organizations or businesses and from persons identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations and businesses; and, anonymous comments may not be considered.

Decision: The official responsible for final approval is the Regional Director, Pacific West Region, National Park Service. Subsequently, the official responsible for implementation would be the Superintendent, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. The draft fire management plan and environmental document are expected to be available for public review in June, 2002. At this time it is anticipated that the final plan and environmental document are to be completed in October, 2002.

Dated: February 8, 2002.

John J. Reynolds,

Regional Director, Pacific West.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

General Management Plan; Middle and South Forks Kings River Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan; North Fork Kern River Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan; Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks Tulare and Fresno Counties, California; Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) will prepare Comprehensive Management Plans for the Middle and

South Forks Kings River and the North Fork Kern River, which in 1987 were designated as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The purpose of these Comprehensive Management Plans is to provide direction and overall guidance on managing these wild and scenic rivers within the boundaries of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. These plans will be prepared concurrently with the park's ongoing General Management Plan (GMP), in accord with 40 CFR 1501.7 and 40 CFR 1508.22 of the regulations of the President's Council on Environmental Quality for the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Pub.L. 91-190). This notice supersedes a previous Notice of Intent which was published in the October 28, 1997 **Federal Register** (V62,N208,PP55827-28). The forthcoming Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the GMP will be expanded to include Comprehensive Management Plans for these river segments.

Background

Congress directed the NPS to revise the GMP for these parks to recognize these designations. The EIS will include an evaluation of the potential impacts, if any, and appropriate mitigation strategies, associated with implementing Comprehensive Management Plans (CMP) for wild and scenic river management. The CMPs will establish boundaries and identify appropriate classification of segments, and the GMP and CMPs will ensure that no development or use of park lands will be undertaken that is inconsistent with the designation of these river segments.

Comments

Comments concerning the scope of the CMPs, and any new information regarding the GMP, are encouraged at this time. Scoping comments regarding the GMP received previously are recorded in the administrative record and will also continue to be addressed (a synopsis of issues and concerns received overall will be available). Written comments concerning the CMPs or/and GMP should be sent to: Superintendent, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, 47050 Generals Highway, Three Rivers, CA 93271-9651. All written responses must be postmarked not later than March 29, 2002. For additional info, or requests to be added to the project mailing list, contact Dr. David Graber, GMP Coordinator, at the above address or via telephone at (559) 565-3173.

If individuals submitting comments request that their name or/and address