

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service****Notice of Availability of the Draft General Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, Arkansas**

AGENCY: National Park Service.

Pursuant to section 102(2) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service announces the availability of the draft general management plan/draft environmental impact statement (DGMP/DEIS) for the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site (hereafter "the Historic Site"). This notice also announces public open houses for the purpose of receiving public comments on the DGMP/DEIS.

DATES: There will be a 60 day public review period for comments on this document. Comments on the DGMP/DEIS must be received by December 26, 2001, or 60 days after the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its notice of availability in the **Federal Register**, whichever date is later. Public open houses for information about, or to make comment on the DGMP/DEIS will be held on November 13, 2001, in Little Rock, Arkansas. Information about time and place will be available by contacting the park's visitor center at 501-374-1957.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the DCMP/DEIS are available by request by writing to Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, 2125 Daisy L. Gatson Bates Drive, Little Rock, AR 72202, by phone 501-374-1957, or by e-mail CHSC_Visitor_Center@nps.gov. The document can be picked-up in person at the Historic Site's visitor center, 2125 Daisy L. Gatson Bates Drive, Little Rock, AR.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Superintendent, Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, Federal Building, Box 3527, 700 West Capitol Ave., Little Rock, AR 72201 or at telephone number 501-324-5683.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As established, the Historic Site consists of lands and interests therein comprising the Central High School campus and adjacent properties in Little Rock, Arkansas. Congress established the Historic Site to preserve, protect, and interpret for the benefit, education, and inspiration of present and future generations, Central High School and its role in the integration of public schools and the development of the Civil Rights movement in the United States.

The purpose of the general management plan is to set forth the basic management philosophy for the Historic Site and to provide the strategies for addressing issues and achieving identified management objectives. The DGMP/DEIS describes and analyzes the environmental impacts of a proposed action and three action alternatives for the future management direction of the Historic Site. A no action alternative is also evaluated.

Persons wishing to comment may do so by any one of several methods. They may attend the open houses noted above. They may mail comments to Superintendent, Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, Federal Building, Box 3527, 700 West Capitol Ave., Little Rock, AR 72201. They also may comment via e-mail to dave_forney@nps.gov (include name and return address in the e-mail message). Finally, they may hand-deliver comments to the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site visitor center at 2125 Daisy L. Gatson Bates Drive, Little Rock, AR 72201. 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 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 Mr. William Schenk, Midwest Regional Director, National Park Service.

Dated: August 7, 2001.

David N. Given,

Acting Regional Director, Midwest Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service****Notice of Availability; Record of Decision, New Bedford Whaling National Historic Park**

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: The National Park Service announces the availability of the Record of Decision of the final impact statement for the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park General Management Plan.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service has prepared the Record of Decision of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park General Management Plan pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality at 40 CFR 1505.2. A Record of Decision is a concise statement of the decision made, the basis for the decision, and the background of the project, including the decision making process, other alternatives considered, and public involvement. Concurrent with adopting this Record of Decision on the Final Environmental Impact Statement, New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park General Management Plan is approved.

The National Park Service began planning for the management of New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park in 1997. The National Park Service presented and evaluated three management scenarios (the Proposed Management Option and 2 Alternatives) in a Draft General Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The draft plan underwent sixty days of public and interagency review. After considering public and agency comment, the National Park Service produced the Final Environmental Impact Statement, which was available to the public for thirty days beginning on July 2, 2001. The National Park Service took no action for the thirty-day period of public availability, after which time the Park Service prepared the Record of Decision, selecting the Proposed Management Option as the final plan. In the selected option the National Park Service would share responsibility with its partners for protecting the park's historic resources and offering effective programming to the visiting public. The National Park Service would bring the story of New Bedford and American whaling to a national audience. Public education, interpretation, research, and technical

training aimed at generating understanding and fostering greater resource stewardship would be emphasized through National Park Service activities. Under this management option, the National Park Service's role and responsibilities would be expanded with regards to historic preservation and universal access. The Record of Decision is now approved and available to the public.

Availability: Copies of the Record of Decision are available at New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, 33 William Street, New Bedford, Massachusetts. For further information, please contact the Superintendent, New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, 33 William Street, New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740; voice at (508) 996-4469; fax at (508) 994-8922.

Dated: September 14, 2001.

Chrysandra Walter,

Deputy Director, Northeast Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

General Management Plans, Draft Environmental Impact Statements, Sunset Crater Volcano, Walnut Canyon, and Wupatki National Monuments, Arizona

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Availability of draft environmental impact statements and general management plans for Sunset Crater Volcano, Walnut Canyon, and Wupatki National Monuments.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service announces the availability of draft Environmental Impact Statements and General Management Plans (DEIS/GMP) for Sunset Crater Volcano, Walnut Canyon, and Wupatki National Monuments, Arizona.

DATES: The DEIS/GMPs will remain available for public review on or after January 7, 2002. No public meetings are scheduled at this time.

COMMENTS: If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments by any one of several methods. You may mail comments to Superintendent, Flagstaff Area National Monuments, 6400 N. Hwy 89, Flagstaff, Arizona 86004. You may also comment via the Internet to FLAG_GMPS@nps.gov. Please submit Internet comments either as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special

characters and any form of encryption, as a Microsoft Word file, or as a Word Perfect file. Please also include your name and return address in your Internet message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that we have received your Internet message, contact us directly by calling Christine Maylath at 303-969-2851. Finally, you may hand-deliver comments to Intermountain Support Office-Denver, 12795 W. Alameda Parkway, Lakewood, CO (room 20) or to the park address above. Our 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. 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.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the DEIS/GMP are available from the Superintendent, Flagstaff Area National Monuments, 6400 N. Highway 89, Flagstaff, Arizona. Public reading copies of the DEIS/GMP will be available for review at the following locations:

Office of the Superintendent, Flagstaff Area National Monuments, 6400 N. Hwy 89, Flagstaff, Arizona 86004, Telephone: 928-526-1157

Planning and Environmental Quality, Intermountain Support Office—Denver, National Park Service, 12795 W. Alameda Parkway, Lakewood, CO 80228, Telephone: (303) 969-2851
Office of Public Affairs, National Park Service, Department of Interior, 18th and C Streets NW., Washington, DC 20240, Telephone: (202) 208-6843

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: These general management plans will guide the management of the Sunset Crater Volcano, Walnut Canyon, and Wupatki National Monuments for the next 10 to 15 years. The Sunset Crater Volcano DEIS/GMP considers four alternatives—a no-action and three action alternatives, including the NPS preferred alternative. The preferred alternative would provide increased educational opportunities and diverse experiences both within and outside of park boundaries. The park would be

viewed as a destination for education and learning. Partnerships with the U.S. Forest Service, affiliated tribes, and educational institutions would provide interpretation and more consistent management of sites and features outside the park that are primary to the park's purpose. Boundaries would be adjusted for ease of management and to better protect geologic features. Most existing uses would continue. The park would remain day-use only, with 24-hour access on FR545, and visitor use would be spread throughout more resources. A new multiagency visitor center would be built near US89 to serve as the primary location to orient and serve visitors, and the existing visitor center would be adapted for use as an education center.

Three alternatives were considered in the Walnut Canyon DEIS/GMP—a no-action and two action alternatives, including the NPS preferred alternative. The preferred alternative would preserve untrailed expanses, unfragmented natural systems, and relatively pristine conditions throughout much of the park. It would protect Walnut Canyon as a critical wildlife corridor. Visitation would be managed with the goal of providing quality learning opportunities in an intimate atmosphere while maintaining the health of the canyon ecosystem. The natural soundscape and tranquil setting of the canyon would be enhanced through strategic placement of facilities. The park would remain day-use only, with recreational uses of the western end prohibited. Efforts would be made to provide a broader range of educational offerings, and a greater number of archeological sites would be available for visitation.

The Wupatki DEIS/GMP considers five alternatives—a no-action and four action alternatives, including the NPS preferred alternative. The preferred alternative would include significant resources and landscapes north of the park within park boundaries, retain existing motorized sightseeing, focus on existing major visitor use areas, provide visitor orientation at the existing visitor center and at a new contact station at the north entrance, and diversify visitor experiences via new trails, new interpretive media and activities, and guided hikes to some cultural sites.

All three environmental impact statements assess impacts to archeological resources; historic character of the built environment; long-term integrity of ethnographic resources, natural systems and processes, and geological resources; threatened, endangered, and sensitive species; visitors' ability to experience park