

creeks to meander naturally). A "no-action" alternative, entailing no changes in current hydrologic regime, will also be assessed. Restoration actions undertaken as part of the initiative would be designed to ensure that flood risks to adjacent private residences and property will not be aggravated beyond current conditions. As part of the alternatives development, the NPS will also explore the potential for both land- and water-based recreational opportunities (but which do not conflict with Tomales Bay ecosystem processes).

The possible larger-scale issues or concerns associated with the proposed restoration project include potential impacts (both positive and negative) to threatened or endangered species protected under the federal Endangered Species Act; potential impacts to soils designated as Farmland of Statewide and Local Importance; change in land use; opportunities for and constraints on public access; and potential effects (both positive and negative) on flooding and saltwater intrusion into local groundwater supplies, including Point Reyes Station, stemming from implementing restoration actions.

Scoping/Comment Process

As noted, the NPS will undertake a conservation planning and environmental impact analysis process to address issues and identify alternatives for the Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project. Federal, state, and local agencies, affected individuals, and interested organizations and groups are encouraged to participate in the scoping process. The level of California state or local involvement in the environmental impact analysis process is also yet to be determined. If an environmental document is required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the NPS will coordinate the NEPA-CEQA public involvement and analysis process with the designated local lead agency (or agencies) responsible for fulfilling requirements under CEQA.

A key opportunity during the scoping phase will be a public meeting to be held on October 19, 2002. For those persons unable to attend the meeting, a scoping document will be available through the Seashore. At this time, primary topics expected to be addressed at the public meeting include: background information on the purpose and need for restoring the wetlands; local issues and concerns (*i.e.*, opportunities and constraints) in developing the restoration project; potential alternative courses of action with regards to restoration; potential impacts of these courses of action; and

appropriate strategies for mitigation and monitoring, if needed. All interested individuals, organizations, and agencies are encouraged to provide comments or suggestions. Written comments regarding the Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project must be postmarked not later than 45 days following publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. As soon as this date has been determined, it will be announced on the park website (noted below). To provide comments or information pertinent to the proposal, inquire about the public meeting, or to request a copy of the scoping document, please contact the Superintendent, Point Reyes National Seashore, Attn: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956 (Telephone (415) 464-5102; FAX (415) 663-8132; E-mail: ann_nelson@nps.gov). Duplicate informational updates are to be regularly posted on the Point Reyes National Seashore Web site http://www.nps.gov/pore/home_mngmntdocs.htm, as well as the GGNRA Web site <http://www.nps.gov/goga/admin/planning/index.htm>.

If individuals submitting comments request that their name or 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: the NPS will make available for 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

At this time, the draft EIS is expected to be available for public review in winter 2003/2004; and the final environmental document will be completed in winter 2004/2005. As a delegated EIS, the official responsible for the final decision is the Regional Director, Pacific West Region. Subsequently the Superintendent, Point Reyes National Seashore, would be responsible for implementing the approved restoration and management actions.

Dated: August 20, 2002.

Arthur E. Eck,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

[FR Doc. 02-24065 Filed 9-20-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice To Extend Public Scoping Period for the Colorado River Management Plan, Environmental Impact Statement, Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice to extend the public comment period on scoping issues for preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Colorado River Management Plan, Grand Canyon National Park.

SUMMARY: On June 13, 2002, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the public was advised that the National Park Service intends to prepare an EIS for the Colorado River Management Plan (CRMP) for Grand Canyon National Park. Due to public interest, following five successful public scoping meetings in August, the agency will extend the written public comment period and conduct two additional public scoping meetings in the San Francisco/Oakland and the Washington, DC/Baltimore areas.

DATES: The public scoping period is being extended to November 1, 2002. Submissions should be in writing or by e-mail (*see ADDRESSES* below). Meeting dates and location information will be available on the CRMP Web site at www.nps.gov/grca/crmp.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on issues to be addressed in the EIS/CRMP should be sent to CRMP Project, Grand Canyon National Park, P.O. Box 129, Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Comments may be submitted by any one of several methods. You may mail comments to CRMP Project, Grand Canyon National Park, P.O. Box 129, Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023. You may also comment via electronic mail (e-mail) to grca_crmp@nps.gov. Please submit e-mail comments as a text file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Please also include your name, e-mail address, and return address in your e-mail message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that we have received your Internet message, contact Linda Jalbert at 928-638-7909. Finally, you may hand-deliver comments to Grand Canyon National Park, or provide at one of the public scoping meetings. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individuals 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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph Alston, Superintendent, Grand Canyon National Park, (928) 638-7945.

Dated: August 29, 2002.

Michael D. Synoes,

Director, Intermountain Region, National Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Integrated Multimodal Transportation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement, Grand Teton National Park, WY

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for an Integrated Multimodal Transportation Plan, Grand Teton National Park.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Park Service is preparing an environmental impact statement for an Integrated Multimodal Transportation Plan for Grand Teton National Park. The environmental impact statement will be approved by the Director, Intermountain Region.

The Integrated Multimodal Transportation Plan will serve as a management and decision making tool for developing short and long-term solutions to problems associated with transportation in and around Grand Teton National Park. The primary objectives of the plan include (1) regional partnerships between the park and its gateway communities to reduce traffic impacts in both the park and surrounding communities, minimize duplication of services and facilities, and provide links to regional pathways to improve recreational opportunities in the park; (2) increasing the range of travel mode choices within the park, other than via private automobile,

available to visitors, residents and employees of all ages and physical abilities; (3) provisions for safe travel throughout the park by all modes; and (4) protection of the park's natural and cultural resources from impacts attributable to vehicles and visitor use, including inappropriate parking along roadways or parking lot edges, noise, air quality, and wildlife mortality.

The National Park Service conducted public scoping (public meetings and solicitation of comments from state, county and town agencies and organizations; park neighbors; state historic preservation officer; and associated American Indian tribes) for the Integrated Multimodal Transportation Plan from December, 2001 to January, 2002 and began preparing an environmental assessment for a range of draft alternatives. Due to the degree to which potential impacts are uncertain, the National Park Service is proceeding with preparation of an environmental impact statement.

DATES: The National Park Service will conduct further public scoping for the draft alternatives and environmental impact statement for a period of 30-days beyond publication of this Notice of Intent.

ADDRESSES: You may mail comments to: Integrated Multimodal Transportation Plan, Superintendent's Office, Grand Teton National Park, PO Drawer 170, Moose, WY 83012. You may also hand-deliver comments to the Superintendent's Office, Grand Teton National Park, Moose, Wyoming (Attn: Integrated Multimodal Transportation Plan).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Superintendent Steve Martin, Grand Teton National Park, PO Drawer 170, Moose, WY 83012; Tel: (307) 739-3410; FAX: (307) 739-3440; e-mail: grte_superintendent@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 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. 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.

Dated: June 21, 2002.

R. Everhart,

Acting Director, Intermountain Region.

[FR Doc. 02-24062 Filed 9-20-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Wildland Fire Management Plan, Environmental Impact Statement, Mesa Verde National Park, CO

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the Wildland Fire Management Plan, Mesa Verde National Park.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service is preparing an environmental impact statement for a wildland fire management plan for Mesa Verde National Park. This effort will result in a new wildland fire management plan that meets current policies, provides a framework for making fire-related decisions, and serves as an operational manual. Much has changed in the park and within the agency since the park's current fire management plan was adopted in 1996. Since that time, Mesa Verde was subjected to three large catastrophic fires that have physically altered over 60% of the landscape. In addition, recent policy changes resulting from the 2000 National Fire Plan indicate that a new plan is necessary. The plan will be developed in consultation with local communities, other federal and state agencies, the 24 tribes legally associated with the park, including the neighboring Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, and all other interested and affected organizations and individuals. A range of alternatives will be developed through this planning process and will include a no-action alternative and all other reasonable alternatives. The alternatives will consider fuel condition, weather, air quality, natural and cultural resources, safety, and structure protection, and include a range of appropriate strategies including full fire suppression, fire use such as through prescribed fire, and mechanical fuels treatment such as removal of hazardous fuels. The plan will identify the agencies preferred alternative and the environmentally preferred alternative.

Issues to be addressed include the safety of the public, employees and firefighters; protection of natural and