

consultation with local residents, to assess whether sea gull eggs can be collected in the park on a limited basis without impairing the biological sustainability of the gull population in the park. The Act further requires that if the study determines that the limited collection of sea gull eggs can occur without impairing the biological sustainability of the gull population in the park, the Secretary shall submit recommendations for legislation to Congress. Sea gull eggs cannot be collected absent legislation.

NPS commissioned ethnographic and biological studies to inform the analysis included in this draft LEIS. The draft LEIS considers a reasonable range of alternatives based on project objectives, park resources and values, and public input that include:

Alternative 1 (No Action): This alternative would not propose legislation to authorize the harvest of glaucous-winged gull eggs in Glacier Bay National Park. Glaucous-winged gulls would continue to breed in Glacier Bay without human disturbance.

Alternative 2: This alternative would propose legislation to authorize harvest of glaucous-winged gull eggs at up to two designated locations on a single pre-selected date on or before June 9 of each year. Approximately 12 tribal members would have the opportunity to harvest eggs each year.

Alternative 3 (NPS Preferred Alternative): Alternative 3 would propose legislation to authorize harvest of glaucous-winged gull eggs at several designated locations in Glacier Bay National Park on two separate dates. The first harvest would occur on or before June 9th; a second harvest at the same sites would occur within nine days of the first harvest. The logistics of vessel transportation would limit the number of sites that could be visited in a given day. Depending on weather and other conditions, as well as the sites selected, harvest would likely occur at three to four sites. Approximately 24 tribal members would have the opportunity to harvest eggs each year.

Both action alternatives would propose legislation authorizing the management of harvest activities under the guidelines of a harvest management plan cooperatively developed by the NPS and the HIA. NPS would conduct monitoring activities to ensure that park resources and values were not impacted. The Superintendent would retain the authority to close gull colonies to harvest.

Public hearings are scheduled in Alaska at the following locations: Anchorage, Juneau, Gustavus, and Hoonah, Alaska. The specific dates and

times of the meetings and public hearings will be announced in local media.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us to withhold your personal identifying information from public review we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. We will always make submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives of or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Dated: October 17, 2008.

Sue E. Masica,

Regional Director, Alaska.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Draft General Management Plan Amendment/Environmental Impact Statement, Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Termination of Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan, Petrified Forest National Park, in favor of an Environmental Assessment.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) is terminating preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the General Management Plan amendment, Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona. A Notice of Intent to prepare the EIS for the Petrified Forest National Park General Management Plan Amendment was published at 72 FR 159, pages 46244 and 46245, August 17, 2007. The National Park Service has since determined that an Environmental Assessment (EA) rather than an EIS is the appropriate level of environmental documentation for the plan.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Petrified National Park Expansion Act of 2004 (Pub. L. 108–430) added approximately 125,000 acres in private and other agency ownership to the existing Petrified Forest National Park, and directed the National Park Service to develop a plan to manage the addition lands. A general management plan amendment will establish the

overall management direction of the addition lands for the next 15 to 20 years. The plan amendment was originally scoped as an EIS. Publication of the **Federal Register** Notice was followed with a newsletter to affected agencies and interested parties, and a public meeting in Holbrook, Arizona. However, few comments were received during the scoping process. The NPS planning team has developed two alternative management concepts for the addition lands. The “*No-Action*” concept would allow for the continuation of existing conditions, and the addition lands would remain a mix of private, state, and NPS ownership, with a small proportion of those lands owned and managed by the NPS. Current land uses, activities, and structures would remain, and resources would not necessarily be well protected.

The “*Preferred*” concept would allow for cautious NPS management of addition lands within NPS jurisdiction, while gathering as much information about them as possible. Resource inventories, condition assessments, and research would be conducted to increase understanding of the addition lands. This concept provides for a higher level of resource protection than the *No-Action* concept. These management concepts will be expanded upon and refined through the planning/environmental assessment process.

DATES: The NPS will notify the public by mail, Web site, and other means, of public review periods and meetings associated with the draft GMP amendment/EA. All public review and other written public information will be made available online at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/pefo>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cliff Spencer, Superintendent, Petrified Forest National Park, P.O. Box 2217, Petrified Forest, Arizona 86028; telephone, (928) 524–6228, extension 225; e-mail cliff_spencer@nps.gov.

Dated: December 8, 2008.

Michael D. Snyder,

Regional Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Service.

[FR Doc. E8–30135 Filed 12–18–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–7V–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Southern Delivery System, Colorado

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of Southern Delivery System Final