

	Number of respondents	×	Frequency of response	×	Hours per response	=	Burden Hours
Survey	3,000		1		.25		750

Total Estimated Burden Hours: 750.
Status: New.

Contact: Ndeye Jackson, HUD, (202) 708-5537 x105; Joseph F. Lackey, Jr., OMB, (202) 395-7316.

Dated: October 8, 1997.

[FR Doc. 97-27348 Filed 10-15-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-910-07-1020-00]

New Mexico Resource Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of council meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), 5 U.S.C. Appendix 1, The Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), announces a meeting of the New Mexico Resource Advisory Council (RAC). The meeting will be held on November 20 and 21, 1997 at the Amberley Suites Hotel, 7620 Pan America Freeway, Albuquerque, NM 87109.

This is a transitional meeting for newly appointed RAC members. The agenda for the RAC meeting will include agreement on the meeting agenda, any RAC comments on the draft summary minutes of the last RAC meeting of June 25-26, 1997 in Mescalero, NM., briefing on the status of the NEPA process for the RAC Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing, review and discussion of the June 26, 1997 New Mexico RAC Off Highway Vehicle recommendations, a BLM Weeds Program presentation and discussions about topics for future RAC meetings.

The meeting will begin on November 20, 1997 at 9 a.m. The meeting is open to the public. The time for the public to address the RAC is on the Thursday, November 20, 1997, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. The RAC may reduce or extend the end time of 5 p.m. depending on the number of people wishing to address the RAC. The length of time available for each person to address the RAC will

be established at the start of the public comment period and will depend on how many people there are that wish to address the RAC. At the completion of the public comments the RAC may continue discussion on its Agenda items. The meeting on November 21, 1997, will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The end time of 4 p.m. for the meeting may be changed depending on the work remaining for the RAC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bob Armstrong, New Mexico State Office, Planning and Policy Team, Bureau of Land Management, 1474 Rodeo Road, PO Box 27115, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115, telephone (505) 438-7436.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Resource Advisory Council is to advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with the management of public lands. The Council's responsibilities include providing advice on long-range planning, establishing resource management priorities and assisting the BLM to identify State and regional standards for rangeland health and guidelines for grazing management.

Dated: October 9, 1997.

Gilbert J. Lucero,

Associate State Director.

[FR Doc. 97-27352 Filed 10-15-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-FB-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Intent To Extend Existing Concession Contracts and Permits

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Act of October 9, 1965 (79 Stat. 969; 16 U.S.C. 20 *et seq.*), notice is hereby given that the National Park Service intends to extend the following concession contracts and permits. These extensions are necessary to allow the continuation of public services during the completion of the planning for the parks. The current concessioners have performed their obligations to the satisfaction of the Secretary and retain their rights of preference under this administrative action of extending the existing contracts and permits.

The following concession contracts and permits will be extended for a

period of one year through December 31, 1998: Jackson Hole Ski Corporation, LP-GRTE-024-90; Rendezvous Ski Tours, LP-GRTE025-90; Triangle X Ranch, CC-GRTE004-78; Triangle X Ranch, GRTE051-91; The National Outdoor Leadership School, LP-GRTE047-90; Spring Creek Ranch, LP-GRTE032-90; Greater Yellowstone Expeditions, LP-GRTE044-91; Samaritan Health System, CP-GLCA021-94; Silver Peaks Enterprises, Inc., CP-ROMO004-94.

The following concession contracts and permits will be extended for a period of two years through December 31, 1999: Wilderness River Adventures, Inc., CC-GLCA001-93; Edward Desrosier DBA Sun Tours, CP-GLAC010-94; Horseshoe Bend Marina, CP-BICA003-94; Rim House, CP-BLCA001-94; Lucon Corporation, CP-BICA007-94.

The following concession contracts and permits will be extended for a period of three years through December 31, 2000: Verkamps, Inc., CC-GRCA005-88; Grand Canyon Trail Rides, Inc., CC-GRCA004-88.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: These concession contracts and permits will expire on or before December 31, 1997, unless extended. The National Park Service will not renew these contracts and permits for an extended period until planning can be conducted to determine the future direction for concession services at these parks. The necessary planning processes are expected to begin shortly and will affect the future of these concessions. The planning processes are expected to take one, two, or three years to complete. Until the planning processes are completed, it will not be in the best interest of the National Park Service to enter into long term concession contracts and permits. For these reasons, it is the intention of the National Park Service to extend the current contracts and permits for a period of one, two, or three years beginning on or before January 1, 1998.

Information about this notice can be sought from: Chief, Concessions Management, Intermountain Region, Attention: Judy Jennings, National Park Service, 12795 West Alameda Parkway, P.O. Box 25287, Denver, Colorado 80225-0287, e-mail rmso^xconcessions@nps.gov, or call: (303) 969-2661.

Dated: October 2, 1997.

John E. Crowley,

Acting Director, Intermountain Region.

[FR Doc. 97-27407 Filed 10-15-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Record of Decision; Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement; Nez Perce National Historical Park, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Big Hole National Battlefield, Montana

ACTION: Notice of approval of Record of Decision.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1505.2), the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, has prepared a Record of Decision on the Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for Nez Perce National Historical Park in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington, and Big Hole National Battlefield in Montana.

DATE: The Record of Decision was recommended by the Superintendent of Nez Perce National Historical Park, concurred by the Deputy Regional Director, Pacific West Region, and approved by the Regional Director, Pacific West Region, on September 23, 1997.

ADDRESS: Inquiries regarding the Record of Decision or the Environmental Impact Statement should be submitted to the Superintendent, Nez Perce National Historical Park, P.O. Box 93, Spaulding, ID 83551; telephone: (208) 843-2261.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The text of the Record of Decision follow.

The Department of the Interior, National Park Service, has prepared this Record of Decision on the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the General Management Plan for Nez Perce National Historical Park, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington and Big Hole National Battlefield, Montana. This Record of Decision is a statement of the decision made, the background of the project, other alternatives considered, public involvement in the decision making process, the basis for the decision, the environmentally preferable alternative, and measures to minimize environmental harm.

The Decision (Selected Action)

The National Park Service will implement the actions common to all sites and all alternatives along with the proposed actions and final boundaries for individual sites within the park. Some actions remain consistent with those presented in the Draft Environmental Impact. Others were modified in the Final Environmental Impact Statement to respond to public comments and concerns. Implementing actions are synonymous with Alternative 1 for 6 sites, Alternative 2 for 25 sites, and Alternative 3 for 7 sites.

Many overall actions would be designed to unify the various individual park sites. Nez Perce life ways would be respected. Plans would be developed to manage resources and vegetation, eliminate exotic and noxious plants, and reintroduce native species. The park would continue to work with local governments on issues that could affect park resources. Nez Perce people would be encouraged to participate in decisions about park planning, management, and operation. The current overall general park management approach would be retained with the appropriate additions and changes of selected, specific management techniques. Incremental steps would be taken to improve visitor services and operations. More cooperative agreements and other partnership mechanisms would be developed as needed to protect resources, and improve interpretation. Some facilities would be rehabilitated or expanded, modest developments would be added at some sites to meet requirements, and some historic structures would be adaptively used.

Background of the Project

The need to prepare the General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement resulted from the addition of 14 sites to the park in 1992 and because several important new issues needed resolution and revised direction and renewed focus was necessary.

Other Alternatives Considered

At each site, two other alternatives to the selected action were considered. The alternative that became the selected action varied from site to site. At each site, Alternative 1 was the No Action alternative. Under this alternative the accomplishment of many of the park's goals and objectives would continue to hinge on partnership through various types of formal and informal agreements, and viewsheds and cultural resources would continue to be

protected through cooperative agreements, memorandums of understanding, scenic easements, or purchase on a willing-seller basis. While some individual sites are already adequately protected, under the No Action Alternative adverse impacts to cultural resources would potentially occur at other sites because this alternative provides the least additional protection of resources compared to the other alternatives. At most sites, few or no impacts to natural resources would occur. Interpretive information for visitors would be improved at most sites. The visitor experience would be enhanced because the interconnection of the various park sites would be made clear.

Under Alternative 2, the general management direction of the park would be retained unchanged. But, appropriate management techniques, based on individual circumstances would be applied. Incremental steps would be taken to fulfill requirements and standards for land and resource protection, visitor services, and operations. More cooperative agreements and other partnership mechanisms would be developed as needed to protect and interpret resources. Studies would be conducted to amplify and correct the interpretive story and to identify and protect natural and cultural resources. The existing facilities would be rehabilitated or expanded, and modest developments would be added at some sites to meet operational and visitor use requirements. Some new visitor facilities would be built and others rehabilitated, and several overlooks and pullouts would be constructed or relocated. Some historic structures would be adaptively used. These actions would be accomplished in partnership with other agencies and organizations.

Under Alternative 3, more facility development and a greater capital investment to develop new visitor facilities and the operational costs associated with added personnel for certain locations would occur. At a few sites visitation would increase more, and in a few cases interpretation would be improved through the addition of more park personnel or their presence for more months each year. There would be more capital improvement expenditures for the construction of new interpretive facilities, the enhancement of existing interpretive facilities, and the rehabilitation of several historic buildings.

Basis for Decision

After careful evaluation of public comments throughout the planning