

Final Environmental Impact Statements (EIS). The NPS will emphasize the preservation and maintenance of the park's collection, including the fleet of historic vessels, small watercraft, historic structures, library, and archival materials. Minimal measures to slow down deterioration of the steam schooner Wapama will be implemented, but the vessel's underlying structural decay will not be addressed. The park will pursue multiple strategies for ship restoration, such as continued use of commercial shipyards and appropriate agreements with San Francisco Bay Area dry dock facilities. Efforts will be made to seek out other agencies or private organizations interested in reconstructing or preserving Wapama as a dryberth exhibit. If such efforts are unsuccessful, the ship will be dismantled when it can no longer be maintained in a safe condition. Wapama will suffer an adverse effect if she is dismantled. Greater use of the park's collection by the public for research and interpretive purposes will be provided through the use of additional facilities, including rehabilitation of the Haslett Warehouse. The intersection of Hyde and Jefferson Streets will be redesigned to enhance pedestrian access and visibility of the pier and historic ships, and to expand interpretive opportunities. Aquatic Park will be enhanced and maintained as a public open space, and recreational activities in the lagoon such as swimming, rowing, and the temporary mooring of sailboats will continue to be provided to all users. Park volunteer programs will be enhanced and visitors will be encouraged to experience other related sites in the San Francisco Bay Area. Historic properties will generally benefit from a consistent maintenance and preservation approach aimed at perpetuating their historic integrity. The library and museum collection will receive the space, equipment, and staffing needed to protect, preserve, and use them appropriately. Local traffic patterns and parking will be affected during peak use times. There will be minor disturbance along the shoreline from construction activities.

Other Alternatives Considered

Two alternatives to the selected plan were detailed and evaluated in the Draft and Final EIS documents. Alternative B emphasized preservation and maintenance of the historic ships, small watercraft, historic structures, library, and archival materials. Space would be upgraded and expanded for the park's collection. The park would pursue multiple strategies for major ship restoration work. The intersection of

Hyde and Jefferson Streets would be further developed as an expanded-permanent pedestrian plaza with public seating, unobstructed views of the ships and Bay, and additional space for interpretive demonstrations, displays, and public programs. Impacts from Alternative B would be very similar to the selected action, except: the Eppleton Hall would be deaccessioned; there would be a permanent change in local traffic and parking patterns; the swimming and rowing clubs would be relocated to the west side of the Aquatic Park lagoon; and slightly more disturbance from construction activities along the shoreline would occur.

Alternative C (No Action-Minimum Requirements) would continue current management strategies, with minimum actions implemented to stabilize and preserve the park's collection and historic properties.

Environmentally Preferred Alternative

The NPS has determined Alternative A (the selected action) to be the environmentally preferred alternative. It causes the least damage to the biological environment; it best protects, preserves, and enhances historic, cultural, and natural resources; and it would disturb the least acreage. Both Alternative A and Alternative B would greatly benefit the preservation and maintenance of the park's collection. Both alternatives would improve the visitor experience through creation of a pedestrian plaza, although under Alternative B the plaza would be expanded and permanent. Creation of a pedestrian plaza would result in some adverse effects on traffic and parking, which would primarily be confined to certain times during summer weekends under Alternative A.

Basis for Decision

As presented in the Draft EIS, the National Park Service developed twenty-six (26) management objectives, covering resource management, visitor experience, park development/facility design, and local context. After evaluation of public comments on the alternatives presented in the Draft EIS, it was determined that the selected action best achieves the stated management objectives and achieves the park's purpose which is to preserve and interpret the history and achievements of seafaring Americans and the Nation's maritime heritage, especially on the Pacific Coast.

Measures to Minimize Harm

The NPS consulted with the California State Historic Preservation Officer and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation according to the

Council's implementing regulations (36 CFR 800). A Programmatic Agreement completed April 25, 1997 stipulates mitigative measures that will be implemented. Further conservation planning and impact analysis will be conducted for any individual construction projects, and recorded in separate environmental decision documents subject to public review. Appropriate mitigation, such as erosion control measures, would be identified during that time. A traffic and transportation analysis will be completed before implementing any vehicular access/circulation or parking proposals.

Conclusion

The above factors and considerations warrant selection of the alternative identified as the proposed action in the Final EIS.

Dated: October 9, 1997.

Patricia L. Neubacher,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Environmental Impact Statement/ General Management Plan; Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks, California; Notice of Intent

Summary

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law 91-190, as amended), and in accordance with the President's Council of Environmental Quality regulations promulgated at 40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22, the National Park will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a General Management Plan (GMP) intended to guide management activities for Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks during the next 10-15 years.

Background

The purpose of the GMP is to set forth the basic management philosophy for the parks and provide strategies for addressing issues and achieving identified management objectives. The EIS will identify and evaluate foreseeable environmental impacts (and associated mitigation measures) of a range of alternatives formulated to address distinct management issues for the parks and strategies identified for resource protection, visitor uses, facility development, and adjacent federal, state, and lands. As a conceptual

framework for formulating these alternatives, the park's purposes and significance will first be identified. Based upon purpose, significance, and strategies identified, the GMP will identify and analyze programs, actions, and support facilities needed for implementation.

Public Information

Earlier in the scoping process a series of public forums was announced and conducted. Additional public open house/workshops are scheduled for fall 1997, which will be publicized through mailings, press releases, park information media, and public notices (details will be available upon request via the contact listed below). A record of all information obtained through these sessions will be maintained during the entire EIS process. Also, a series of newsletters will be distributed throughout.

Comments

All interested individuals, organizations, agencies, or entities that may be affected by the proposed plan are encouraged to share comments about issues or concerns which should be addressed during the EIS process. Written comments concerning the GMP/EIS should be postmarked no later than sixty (60) days from the publication date of this notice. All comments, or inquiries regarding public forums, should be addressed to: Planning Team Captain, National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 12795 West Alameda Parkway, Denver, Colorado 80225-0287 or via telephone at (303) 969-2280.

Decision

The draft EIS and plan are anticipated to be available for public review during summer, 1998. The final EIS and plan are expected to be completed one year later. A complete Record of Decision is to be executed no sooner than thirty days after the release of the final EIS. The responsible officials are John Reynolds, Regional Director, Pacific West Regional Office, National Park Service; Michael Tollefson, Superintendent, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

Dated: October 8, 1997.

Patricia L. Neubacher,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific West Region.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Subsistence Resource Commission; Notice of a Meeting

ACTION: Subsistence Resource Commission (SRC) meeting.

SUMMARY: The Superintendent of Aniakchak National Monument and the Chairperson of the Subsistence Resource Commission for Aniakchak National Monument announce a forthcoming meeting of the Aniakchak National Monument Subsistence Resource Commission.

The following agenda items will be discussed:

- (1) Call to order. (Chairman)
- (2) SRC Roll call; confirmation of quorum. (Chairman)
- (3) Welcome and introductions (Public, agency staff, others).
- (4) Review and adopt agenda. (SRC)
- (5) Review and adopt minutes from the February 1997 meeting.
- (6) Review commission's role and purpose.
- (7) Status of commission membership.
- (8) Old business:
 - a. Recommendation to designate Ivanof Bay and Perryville as resident zone communities.
 - b. Status of Board of Game and Federal Subsistence Board proposals to close Unit 9E to non-subsistence/sport taking of moose and caribou.
 - c. NPS Unit 9E moose and caribou population surveys.
 - d. Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve visitor use report for 1997.
 - e. Status of Aniakchak National Preserve Hunting Guide prospectus.
 - f. Status of NPS subsistence program document/SRC chair briefing session.
 - g. Review and approve final subsistence hunting program recommendations.
- (9) New business:
 - a. Federal Subsistence Program update.
 - b. Public and agency comments.
- (10) SRC work session (draft proposals, letters, hunting program recommendations).
- (11) Set time and place of next SRC meeting.
- (12) Adjournment.

DATES: The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 13, 1997 and conclude at approximately 7:00 p.m. The meeting will reconvene at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, November 14, 1997 and adjourn at approximately 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION: The meeting will be held at the Chignik Lake School in Chignik Lake, Alaska.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bill Pierce, Superintendent, or Karen C. Gustin, Unit Manager, Aniakchak National Monument, P.O. Box 7, King Salmon, Alaska 99613. Phone (907) 246-3305.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Subsistence Resource Commissions are authorized under Title VIII, Section 808, of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Pub. L. 96-487, and operate in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committees Act.

Marcia Blaszk,

Acting Regional Director, Alaska Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Meeting of Federal Interagency Panel on World Heritage

AGENCY: National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting of panel.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committees Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770, 5 U.S.C. App. I), of a meeting of the Federal Interagency Panel on World Heritage. It is expected that the following agenda items will be discussed:

Results of 21st Meeting of the World Heritage Bureau
Results of the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention
Agenda for and United States Representation at the 21st Meeting of the World Heritage Committee
Report on Legislative Proposals potentially affecting U.S. World Heritage Program
Public Information Activities, including new National Park Service World Heritage Leaflet
U.S. World Heritage Nomination Process for 1998

DATES: The meeting will be held on Monday, November 3, 1997. The meeting will begin at 2:00 pm and end by approximately 5 pm. The meeting is open to the public. It is expected that 10 persons will be able to attend the meeting in addition to the Panel members.

LOCATION: The meeting will be held at the Main Interior Building, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC., in Room 3121.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sharon J. Cleary, Chief, Office of International Affairs, or James H. Charleton, International Cooperation Specialist, Office of International