

management philosophy for the Preserve 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 four action alternatives for the future management direction of the Preserve. A no action alternative is also evaluated.

Alternative A is the no-action alternative. It provides a baseline for comparison of the other alternatives. Each of the action alternatives would strive to achieve all desired futures for the preserve, including those related to prairie enhancement, natural and cultural resources protection, and visitor experiences. The primary difference between alternatives is their central focus. The Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action) would focus on the integrated management of the natural and cultural resources of the Preserve. The alternative is based on the ideas that the Preserve was established to preserve, protect, and interpret a remnant of the tallgrass prairie ecosystem and that the remnant prairie exists today because of a complex history of interaction between people and the land. Alternative B would focus primarily on the preservation, protection, and interpretation of the Preserve's cultural resources, although the prairie ecosystem would be enhanced and natural resources protected. Alternative C would emphasize visitor experience goals. This alternative would provide the broadest range of visitor experiences over the largest area of the Preserve. Alternative D would center on the story of ranching in the Flint Hills region, along the story of human interaction with the tallgrass prairie ecosystem. Finally, Alternative E would more fully focus on management of the natural landscape, including unplowed prairie and associated creeks, springs, and seeps.

The responsible official is Mr. William Schenk, Midwest Regional Director, National Park Service.

Dated: November 15, 1999.

William W. Schenk,

Regional Director, Midwest Region.

[FR Doc. 99-30857 Filed 11-26-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

National Park Service

Anacapa Island Restoration Project, Channel Islands National Park, Ventura County, California; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

SUMMARY: Pursuant to § 102 (2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law 91-190) and Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1508.22), the National Park Service intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement that addresses eradicating the non-native Black Rat (*Rattus rattus*) from Anacapa Island. In addition, park managers desire to implement preventative actions to keep rats and other non-native rodents from establishing on other islands in the park. These proposed activities would take place within Channel Islands National Park, Ventura County, California.

Background: Anacapa Island, located 17 miles southwest of the Ventura Coast, is comprised of three islets totaling about 700 acres. Known for both its beauty and its biological diversity, Anacapa Island serves as both a destination for visitors as well as habitat for marine and terrestrial species. Anacapa Island as a whole is the largest California Brown Pelican colony in the Southern California Bight. To protect the California Brown Pelican (listed as Endangered under the Endangered Species Act) and its habitat, the west islet has been set aside as a Research Natural Area. The non-native Black Rat impacts the seabird population through predation, and threatens the ecological integrity of intertidal and terrestrial ecosystems. The Black Rat also damages park infrastructure, threatens health and safety, and decreases visitor enjoyment. After careful examination of known impacts of rats on islands generally (and known and potential effects on Anacapa Island in particular), park resource managers and other resource experts conclude that island-wide Black Rat eradication is a prudent management action. This proposed action is consistent with exotic species management direction provided in the Channel Islands National Park General Management Plan (1985) and subsequent Resource Management Plan (1994). Additionally, no other islands in the park are known to have rats. There is a threat of introduction of rats, or other non-native rodents, from shipwrecks or transport of people and materials. Park managers need to have

the capability to respond rapidly to eradicate new introductions of non-native rodents.

Scoping: The NPS is requesting comments regarding this proposed initiative from interested individuals, organizations, and agencies. Respondents should address potential environmental issues, applicable research or mitigations, and reasonable alternatives which they feel should be considered in the EIS. Written comments must be postmarked by January 1, 2000, and should be sent to the Superintendent, Channel Islands National Park, 1901 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura, CA 93001. A public scoping meeting is scheduled to be held in Ventura at 7:00pm, December 8, 1999. Additional information, including specific times and locations for public meetings, will be given via local and regional press releases, public notices, the park's website, and direct mailings.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Updated information regarding the conservation planning and environmental impact analysis process for this initiative and proposed actions identified to date will be distributed and periodically updated via direct mailings, regional and local news media, and the park's website (<http://www.nps.gov/chis/naturalresources/airp.html>). To request being added to the mailing list, interested parties may contact Steve Ortega, Restoration Biologist, at (805) 658-5784 (or HYPERLINK mailto:CHIS_AnacapaRats@nps.gov chis_restoration@nps.gov).

Review and Decision Process

The Draft EIS is expected to be available for public review and comment during winter-spring, 1999-2000. Availability of the Draft EIS for review and written comment will be formally announced by Notice in the **Federal Register**, through local and regional news media, the internet, and direct mailing. At this time it is anticipated that the Final EIS will be completed by July, 2000. Subsequently, notification of an approved Record of Decision would be published in the **Federal Register** not sooner than thirty (30) days after the Final EIS is distributed. This is expected to occur by September, 2000. The official responsible for the decision is the Regional Director, Pacific West Region, National Park Service; the official responsible for implementation is the Superintendent, Channel Islands National Park.

Dated: November 17, 1999.

James R. Shevock,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

[FR Doc. 99-30856 Filed 11-26-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Public Meeting To Be Held on Clean Up and Planning for Use of Kenilworth Park, Washington, DC

ACTION: Announcement of a public meeting regarding clean up of Kenilworth Park and commencement of a new recreational plan for the park's use.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service will hold a public meeting, to apprise the community of the ongoing park directed clean-up and stabilization activities in Kenilworth Park. The meeting will also allow the community to offer their interests and ideas to be considered in a plan that will explore alternatives for future recreational uses of Kenilworth Park. An Environmental Assessment will be prepared for the development plan at Kenilworth Park. The public will be offered varied methods to provide comments to the National Park Service. The comment period will remain open for ten days after the meeting to allow for additional written comments.

DATES: The meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 30, 1999 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at Kenilworth Elementary School located at 1300 44th Street, NE (at Nash Street), Washington, DC.

For more information, contact the National Capital Parks—East public information officer at (202) 690-5185.

Dated: November 22, 1999.

John Hale,

Superintendent, National Capital Parks—East.

[FR Doc. 99-30855 Filed 11-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council; Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (P.L. 92-463) that the Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council will meet on Thursday, September 16, 1999. The

meeting will convene at 4 p.m. at the University Club, University of Massachusetts, 100 Morrissey Boulevard, Healey Library, 11th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts.

The Advisory Council was appointed by the Director of National Park Service pursuant to Public Law 104-333. The 28 members represent business, educational, cultural, and environmental entities; municipalities surrounding Boston Harbor; and Native American interests. The purpose of the Council is to advise and make recommendations to the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership with respect to the development and implementation of a management plan and the operation of the Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area.

The Agenda for this meeting is as follows:

1. Introductions and remarks from Robert Durand, Chair, Boston Harbor Islands Partnership.
2. Discussion of the status of the general management plan.
3. Briefing on the economic development plan for the park.

The meeting is open to the public. Further information concerning Council meetings may be obtained from the Superintendent, Boston Harbor Islands. Interested persons may make oral/written presentations to the Council or file written statements. Such requests should be made to: Superintendent, Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area, 408 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 228, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110, telephone (617) 223-8667.

Dated: September 9, 1999.

Bruce Jacobson,

Assistant Superintendent, Boston Harbor Islands NRA.

[FR Doc. 99-30890 Filed 11-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Elephant Butte/Caballo New Mexico Reservoirs Resource Management Plan

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Colorado Region, is announcing today the extension of the comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Elephant Butte/Caballo Resource Management Plan (RMP).

DATES: The comment period is being extended an additional 30 days from November 23, 1999, to December 23, 1999. All comments are due on or before close of business on December 23, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be sent to the Bureau of Reclamation, Attn: ALB-156, Albuquerque Area Office, 505 Marquette NW, Suite 1313, Albuquerque, NM 87102-2162. If you wish to have your name and/or home address withheld from public documents related to the DEIS, please indicate that with your written comments and we will honor your request to the extent allowable by law. For a complete copy of the DEIS, contact Ms. Rosemary Romero, Public Involvement Specialist, Western Network, 811 St. Michaels Drive, Suite 106, Santa Fe, NM 87505, telephone 1-800-326-9805. A summary of the DEIS is also available to download or view online at <http://uc.usbr.gov>. See the Supplementary Information Section for locations where the DEIS may be inspected and reviewed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Clay McDermeit, telephone (505) 248-5391.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A Notice of Availability (NOA) and a summary of the proposed action was published in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 24964) on September 24, 1999. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement, prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation, Albuquerque Area Office, and presently available for public review, analyzes the environmental consequences of proposed future management activities on Elephant Butte and Caballo Reservoirs.

The DEIS may be inspected and reviewed at the following locations:

- Santa Fe Public Library, 145 Washington Ave., Santa Fe, NM 87501.
- Rio Grande Valley Library, 501 Cooper Ave. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

- Socorro Public Library, 401 Park Street, Socorro, NM 87801.

- Truth or Consequences Public Library, 325 Library Lane, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901.

- Las Cruces Public Library, 200 East Picacho, Las Cruces, NM 88001.

- El Paso Public Library, 501 North Oregon Street, El Paso, TX 79901.

- Bureau of Reclamation, Elephant Butte Field Division, HC-32, Box 312, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901, Telephone 505-894-6661.

- Bureau of Reclamation, El Paso Field Division, 700 E. San Antonio Ave., Room B318, El Paso, TX 79901, Telephone 915-534-6300.

- Bureau of Reclamation, Albuquerque Area Office, 505 Marquette