

R. 9 W., New Mexico Principal Meridian, Colorado, Group 1234, was accepted February 23, 2000.

These surveys were requested by the Bureau of Land Management for administrative purposes.

Darryl A. Wilson,

Chief Cadastral Surveyor for Colorado.

[FR Doc. 00-9224 Filed 4-12-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Yosemite Valley Plan, Yosemite National Park, Madera, Mono, Tuolumne, and Mariposa Counties, California; Notice of Availability

SUMMARY: Pursuant to § 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Pub. L. 91-190, as amended), and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Part 1500-1508), the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, has prepared a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement identifying and evaluating five alternatives for a Yosemite Valley Plan within Yosemite National Park, California. Potential impacts, and appropriate mitigations, are assessed for each alternative. When approved, the plan will guide management actions during the next 15-20 years.

Proposal

The proposed Yosemite Valley Plan (Alternative 2—Preferred) would restore approximately 180 acres to natural conditions. It would consolidate parking for day visitors at Yosemite Village, where a new Valley Visitor Center would be located, and in parking areas outside Yosemite Valley. There would be fewer campsites and lodging units than there are now. This alternative would result in a major reduction in vehicle travel in the eastern portion of Yosemite Valley during summer months. The area of the former Upper and Lower River Campgrounds would be restored to a mosaic of meadow, riparian, and oak woodland communities, roads would be removed from Ahwahnee and Stoneman Meadows, and parking would be removed from Curry Orchard. Southside Drive would be converted to two-way traffic from El Capitan crossover to Curry Village, and Northside Drive would be converted to a multi-use (bicycle and pedestrian) paved trail from El Capitan crossover to Yosemite Lodge.

Alternatives

Alternative 1 maintains the status quo in Yosemite Valley, as described in Chapter 3, Affected Environment. It provides a baseline from which to compare other alternatives, to evaluate the magnitude of proposed changes, and to measure the environmental effects of those changes. This no-action concept follows the guidance of the Council on Environmental Quality, which describes the no-action alternative as no change from the current management direction or level of management intensity.

Alternative 3 would restore approximately 200 acres to natural conditions. It would consolidate parking for day visitors in the Taft Toe area in mid Yosemite Valley. A new Valley Visitor Center would also be constructed there. There would be fewer campsites and lodging units than there are now. The area of the former Upper and Lower River Campgrounds and the Camp 6 parking area near Yosemite Village would be restored to riparian habitat, roads would be removed from Ahwahnee and Stoneman Meadows, and parking and the historic fruit trees would be removed from Curry Orchard. Northside Drive would be converted to a trail for pedestrians and bicyclists, without the immediate presence of motor vehicles, from Yosemite Lodge to El Capitan Bridge. Southside Drive would be converted to two-way traffic from Taft Toe to Curry Village.

Alternative 4 would restore approximately 190 acres to natural conditions. It would consolidate parking for day visitors in the Taft Toe area in mid Yosemite Valley and in three parking areas outside the Valley. A new Valley Visitor Center would also be constructed at Taft Toe. There would be fewer campsites and lodging units than there are now. The area of former Upper and Lower River Campgrounds and the Camp 6 parking area near Yosemite Village would be restored to riparian communities; roads would be removed from Ahwahnee and Stoneman Meadows; and parking would be removed from Curry Orchard. Northside Drive would be converted to a multi-use paved trail for hikers and bicyclists, without the immediate presence of motor vehicles, from Yosemite Lodge to El Capitan crossover. Southside Drive would be converted to two-way traffic from Taft Toe to Curry Village.

Alternative 5 would restore approximately 120 acres to natural conditions. It would designate parking for day visitors at Yosemite Village and Curry Village, and in parking areas outside of Yosemite Valley. There would be more campsites and fewer

lodging units than there are now. Traffic circulation would remain the same as at present; however, one lane of Northside and Southside Drives would be converted to multi-use paved trails. There would be minimal new development in mid and west Yosemite Valley, other than a traffic check station.

Planning Background

The draft Yosemite Valley Plan/SEIS was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. A Scoping Notice was published in the **Federal Register** on December 16, 1998. Lists of general issues already raised during the previous planning processes were provided to the public. Scoping comments were to be received by January 15, 1999, however based on requests from the public; the scoping comment period was extended through February 1, 1999.

During this comment period, the NPS facilitated over 100 discussions and briefings to park staff, congressional delegations, elected officials, public service organizations, educational institutions, and other interested members of the public. Nearly 600 letters concerning the Draft YVP SEIS planning process were received. The major issues raised during this period are summarized in Chapter 1, Purpose of and Need for the Action.

Public Meetings

In order to facilitate public review and comment on the draft Yosemite Valley Plan/SEIS, the Superintendent has scheduled public meetings in the following California cities: San Francisco—May 22; Sacramento—May 23; Merced—May 24; Oakland—May 25; Yosemite—May 30; Oakhurst—May 31; Mariposa—June 1; Sonora—June 2; Costa Mesa—June 5; Los Angeles—June 6; San Diego—June 7; Mammoth—June 9; Fresno—June 15; San Jose—June 17. The following times are for all venues except San Jose. An open house will be conducted from 4 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and a public hearing will be held simultaneously from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. A brief presentation from 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. will precede the public hearing. The San Jose open house will be from 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., the presentation will be from 1:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. and the public hearing will be from 2 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Participants are encouraged to review the document prior to attending a meeting. Detailed information on location and times for each of the public meetings will be published in local and regional newspapers several weeks in advance, broadcast via radio and television stations, and listed on the

park's Webpage. Yosemite National Park management and planning officials will attend all sessions to present the draft Yosemite Valley Plan/SEIS, to receive oral and written comments, and to answer questions.

Comments

The draft Yosemite Valley Plan/SEIS will be sent directly to the park's general mailing list. Copies will be available at park headquarters in Yosemite Valley, the Warehouse Building in El Portal, and at local and regional libraries (*i.e.*, San Francisco and Los Angeles). Also, the complete document will be posted on the Yosemite National Park Webpage (<http://www.nps.gov/yose/planning>). Written comments must be received (or transmitted by e-mail) on or before July 7, 2000. All comments should be addressed to the Superintendent, Attn: Yosemite Valley Plan, P.O. Box 577, Yosemite National Park, California 95389 (or e-mailed to: Yose_Planning@nps.gov).

All comments received will be available for public review in the park's research library. If individuals submitting comments request that their name and/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: NPS will make available to 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 Process

Depending upon the degree of public interest and response from other agencies and organizations, at this time it is anticipated that the Final Yosemite Valley Plan/SEIS will be completed during October 2000; availability of the document will be duly noticed in the **Federal Register**. Subsequently, notice of an approved Record of Decision would be published in the **Federal Register** not sooner than thirty (30) days after the final document is distributed. This is expected to occur by the end of December 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, Yosemite National Park.

Dated: April 5, 2000.

John J. Reynolds,

Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

[FR Doc. 00-8998 Filed 4-12-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Meeting of the Conservation Advisory Group, Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project, Yakima, WA

AGENCY: Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: As required by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given that the Conservation Advisory Group, Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project, Yakima, Washington, established by the Secretary of the Interior, will hold a public meeting. The purpose of the Conservation Advisory Group is to provide technical advice and counsel to the Secretary and the State on the structure, implementation, and oversight of the Yakima River Basin Water Conservation Program.

DATES: Tuesday, April 25, 2000, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Bureau of Reclamation Office, 1917 Marsh Road, Yakima, Washington.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James Esget, Manager, Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project, P.O. Box 1749, Yakima, Washington 98907, (509) 575-5848, extension 267.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the meeting will be to review water marketing opportunities in the Yakima River Basin and develop recommendations.

Dated: April 6, 2000.

James A. Esget,

Program Manager.

[FR Doc. 00-9190 Filed 4-12-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Pursuant to the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act

In accordance with Departmental policy and 28 CFR 50.7, the Department of Justice gives notice that a proposed consent decree in the case captioned *United States v. Alcoa Inc.*, Civil Action No. EV0049C-Y/H (S.D. Ind.), was lodged with the United States District

Court for the Southern District of Indiana on March 13, 2000. The proposed consent decree addresses violations of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1251 *et seq.*, and the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*, by Alcoa Inc. ("Alcoa") at its primary reduction and secondary aluminum production plant in Newburgh, Warrick County, Indiana, and would resolve the violations alleged in the complaint in the case through the date of lodging of the consent decree.

The proposed consent decree would, among other things, require Alcoa to pay the United States a \$2.4 million civil penalty (plus interest on that amount accruing from the date of lodging), implement specified Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act compliance measures, and perform a Supplemental Environmental Project estimated by Alcoa to cost \$5.4 million.

The Department of Justice will receive, for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication, comments relating to the proposed consent decree. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, United States Department of Justice, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044-7611, and should refer to *United States v. Alcoa Inc.*, Civil Action No. EV0049C-Y/H (S.D. Ind.), and DOJ Reference No. 90-5-2-1-2222.

The proposed consent decree may be examined at: (1) the Office of the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, 46 East Ohio Street—5th Floor, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204; and (2) the United States Environmental Protection Agency (Region 5), 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604 (contact Jeffery Trevino (312-886-6729)). A copy of the proposed consent decree may also be obtained by mail from the Department of Justice Consent Decree Library, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044-7611. In requesting copies, please refer to the referenced case and DOJ Reference Number, and enclose a check for \$10.75 (43 pages at 25 cents per page reproduction costs), made payable to the Consent Decree Library.

Joel M. Gross,

Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

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