

Further information to address this concern has been included in section 1.8 (pp. 18–19) of the Final SEIS.

The Nevada Health Division requested further information on the potential for the construction of new water and sewage treatment facilities. Clarifications and new information regarding this element of the proposed action has been included in section 3.0 (pp. 29 and 35) of the Final SEIS.

Printed or CD-ROM copies of the Final SEIS may be obtained upon request to the Park Superintendent, Great Basin National Park, Baker, Nevada, 89311. The telephone number for the park is (775) 234–7331. In addition the document may be obtained via the Internet at <http://www.nps.gov/grba>.

If individuals responding to release of the Final SEIS request that their name or/and 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 may also 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 and businesses; and, anonymous comments may not be considered.

Decision Process: The Proposed Alternative would amend the General Management Plan to allow the placement of a Visitor Learning Center outside of the main park area, on an administrative site located within the Baker townsite. A Record of Decision may be executed no sooner than 30 (thirty) days after publication of EPA's notice of filing of this Final SEIS in the **Federal Register**. As a delegated EIS, the official with responsibility for approving the Final SEIS is the Regional Director, Pacific West Region; subsequently the official responsible for implementation is the Superintendent, Great Basin National Park.

Dated: February 3, 2003.

Arthur E. Eck,

Deputy Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

[FR Doc. 03–8495 Filed 4–7–03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Final Environmental Impact Statement/Lake Management Plan, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Nevada and Arizona; Notice of Approval of Record of Decision

Summary: Pursuant to § 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Pub. L. 91–190, as amended) and the implementing regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR part 1505.2), the Department of the Interior, National Park Service has prepared, and the Regional Director, Pacific West Region has approved, the Record of Decision for the Lake Management Plan for Lake Mead National Recreation Area, in southeast Nevada and southwest Arizona. The requisite 30 days no-action period was officially initiated January 17, 2003, with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's **Federal Register** notification of the filing of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Decision: As soon as practicable the NPS will begin to implement the Lake Management Plan described and analyzed as Alternative C (the Preferred Alternative) contained in the Final EIS. The selected plan features a deliberate, long-term strategy to protect significant cultural and natural resources, while allowing for a spectrum of recreational use. Boating carrying capacity is established at 5055 boats, waters are zoned for a variety of recreational settings including a shoreline flat wake zone to improve shoreline safety, and new sanitation and public education measures will be initiated. Carbureted two-stroke engines will be prohibited beginning December 31, 2012, and personal watercraft use is authorized in specified zones (the final rulemaking to authorize personal watercraft use is scheduled to be published immediately, while separate rulemaking will be pursued to implement other components of the selected plan). This plan was deemed to be the “environmentally preferred” alternative, and it was further determined that no impairment of park values would ensue based on its implementation.

This course of action and three alternative plans were identified and analyzed in the Final EIS, and previously in the Draft EIS (the latter was distributed in April 2002). The full spectrum of foreseeable environmental consequences were assessed, and appropriate measures to minimize harm were identified, for each alternative. Beginning with early scoping, through

the preparation of the Draft and Final EIS, numerous public meetings were conducted, and media (local and regional) and Web site updates were regularly produced. All written comments responding to the Draft and Final EIS were duly considered, and are maintained in the administrative record of the overall conservation planning and environmental impact analysis process. Key collaborations which aided in the preparation of the Draft and Final EIS involved (but were not limited to) numerous county and city agencies and boards in Arizona and Nevada, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Game and Fish Dept., Nevada Div. of Wildlife, all interested native American Tribes, affected Colorado River law enforcement agencies, Nevada and Arizona State Historic Preservation Offices, and the U.S. Geological Survey.

Copies: Interested parties desiring to review the Record of Decision may obtain a complete copy by contacting the Superintendent, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, 601 Nevada Way, Boulder City, NV 89005; or via telephone request at (702) 293–8986.

Dated: March 18, 2003.

Patricia L. Neubacher,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

[FR Doc. 03–8547 Filed 4–7–03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Draft General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (GMP/EIS), Saguaro National Park, AZ

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for a general management plan, Saguaro National Park, Arizona.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Park Service is preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) for a general management plan for Saguaro National Park. The environmental impact statement will be approved by the Director, Intermountain Region.

The general management plan (GMP) will establish the overall direction for the park, setting broad management goals for managing the area over the next 15 to 20 years. The plan will prescribe desired resource conditions and visitor experiences that are to be achieved and maintained throughout the park. Based on the desired

conditions, the plan will outline the kinds of resource management activities, visitor activities, and developments that would be appropriate in the park. Among the topics that will be addressed are protection of natural and cultural resources, protection of riparian resources, appropriate range of visitor uses, impacts of visitor uses, adequacy of park infrastructure, visitor access to the park, education and interpretive efforts, wilderness suitability, park partnerships, and external pressures on the park. In cooperation with local, State, tribal, and other Federal agencies, attention will also be given to cooperative efforts to address issues that affect the integrity of Saguaro National Park, such as the management of the urban/park interface, traffic congestion in and around the park, fires, threatened and endangered species and their habitat, and biological corridors that lead into and out of the park.

A range of reasonable alternatives for managing the park, including a no-action and preferred alternative, will be developed through the planning process and included in the EIS. The EIS will evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the alternatives.

As the first phase of the planning and EIS process, the National Park Service is beginning to scope the issues to be addressed in the GMP/EIS. All interested persons, organizations, and agencies are encouraged to submit comments and suggestions regarding the issues or concerns the GMP/EIS should address, including the suitable range of alternatives and appropriate mitigating measures, and the nature and extent of potential environmental impacts.

DATES: Written comments on the scope of the general management plan/environmental impact statement will be accepted for 60 days beyond the publication of this notice of intent. In addition, public scoping sessions will be held in Tucson and surrounding communities in the winter of 2003. Locations, dates, and times of these meetings will be provided in local and regional newspapers, and on the Internet at <http://www.nps.gov/sagu>.

ADDRESSES: Written comments or requests to be added to the project mailing list should be directed to: Sarah Craighead, Superintendent, Saguaro National Park, 3693 S. Old Spanish Trail, Tucson, AZ 85730 telephone (520) 733-5101; e-mail: sagu_information@nps.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Superintendent, Sarah Craighead, Superintendent, Saguaro National Park, 3693 S. Old Spanish Trail, Tucson, AZ

85730 telephone (520) 733-5101. General information about Saguaro National Park is available on the Internet at <http://www.nps.gov/sagu> and <http://friendsofsaguaro.org>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Please submit Internet comments as a text file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Be sure to include your name and return street address in your Internet message.

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that their home addresses be withheld from the public record, which will be honored to the extent allowable by law. Requests to withhold names and/or addresses must be stated prominently at the beginning of the comments. However, submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Dated: February 3, 2003.

Karen P. Wade,

Director, Intermountain Region.

[FR Doc. 03-8502 Filed 4-7-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Schuylkill River Valley National Heritage, Management Plan Update

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of Interior.

ACTION: Availability of draft environmental impact statement for the Schuylkill River Valley National Heritage Area Management Plan Update.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Schuylkill River Valley National Heritage Area Management Plan Update. The Schuylkill River Valley National Heritage Area Act of 2000 requires the Schuylkill River Greenway Association, with guidance from the National Park Service, to prepare an update of their 1995 Schuylkill Heritage Corridor Management Action Plan. The Management Plan Update is expected to include: (A) Actions to be undertaken by units of government and private

organizations to protect the resources of the Heritage Area; (B) an inventory of the resources contained in the Heritage Area, including a list of any property in the Heritage Area that is related to the themes of the Heritage Area and that should be preserved, restored, managed, developed, or maintained because of its natural, cultural, historical, recreational, or scenic significance; (C) a recommendation of policies for resource management that considers and details application of appropriate land and water management techniques, including the development of intergovernmental cooperative agreements to protect the historical, cultural, recreational, and natural resources of the Heritage Area in a manner consistent with supporting appropriate and compatible economic viability; (D) a program for implementation of the management plan by the management entity; (E) an analysis of ways in which local, State, and Federal programs may best be coordinated to promote the purposes of this title; and (F) an interpretation plan for the Heritage Area.

The study area, designated as the Schuylkill River Valley National Heritage, includes parts of the counties of: Schuylkill, Berks, Chester, Montgomery and Philadelphia in southeastern Pennsylvania as associated with the Schuylkill River corridor.

The National Park Service (NPS) maintains two park sites within the region: Valley Forge National Historical Park and the Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site. Otherwise the majority of land is non-federal and the NPS assumes a management role only within their park units. Instead, conservation, interpretation and other activities are managed by partnerships among federal, state, and local governments and private nonprofit organizations. The Schuylkill River Greenway Association manages the national heritage area. The National Park Service has been authorized by Congress to provide technical and financial assistance for a limited period (up to 10 years from the time of the designation in 2000).

DATES: The DEIS will remain on Public Review for sixty days from the publication of the notice in the **Federal Register** by the Environmental Protection Agency.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peter Samuel, Project Leader, Philadelphia Support Office, National Park Service, U.S. Custom House, 200 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106, peter_samuel@nps.gov, 215-597-1848.