

found suitable for disposal, the United States would offer it for direct sale to Byron and Teresa Blakely at fair market value, with a conservation easement retained by the BLM. This action would resolve litigation entitled *United States v. Byron Blakely and Teresa Blakely* (Civ. 99-339-E-BLW) over disputed ownership of lands. The public is invited to provide scoping comments on the issues that should be addressed in the plan amendment and environmental assessment. The following resources will be considered in preparation of the plan amendment: Lands, wildlife and migratory birds, recreation, wilderness, range, minerals, cultural resources, watershed/soils, threatened/endangered species, and hazardous materials. Staff specialists representing these resources will make up the planning team. Planning issues will include the same planning criteria originally considered for the Medicine Lodge RMP; however, issues for this amendment are expected to primarily involve the adjustment of land tenure. No public meetings are scheduled.

Current land use planning information is available at the Idaho Falls BLM office. Office hours are 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday except holidays.

Dated: July 1, 2004.

Glen Guenther,

Acting Field Manager, Idaho Falls Field Office.

[FR Doc. 04-17093 Filed 7-26-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Public notice.

SUMMARY: Public notice is hereby given that the National Park Service proposes to award two temporary concession contracts, one at Watch Hill and the other at Sailor's Haven to include the operation of marina, food service, campground, and sundry merchandise sales facilities and services for the public at these locations within Fire Island National Seashore, New York for a term not to exceed October 31, 2004. It is necessary to award these contracts in order to avoid the interruption of visitor services.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: These temporary concession contracts are being awarded to the Davis Park Marine Service, Inc., Patchogue, New York and the Howard T. Rose Company, Inc., Sayville, New York.

This action is issued pursuant to 36 CFR 51.24(a). This is not a request for

proposals and no prospectus is being issued at this time. The Secretary intends to issue a competitive solicitation for offers for a long-term operator for various services in the near future. You may be placed on a mailing list for receiving information regarding the competitive solicitation by sending a written request to the following address: Superintendent, Fire Island National Seashore, 120 Laurel Street, Patchogue, NY 11772.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 26, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Concession Program Manager, National Park Service, Washington, DC 20240, Telephone 202/513-7156.

Dated: March 27, 2004.

Richard G. Ring,

Associate Director, Administration, Business Practices and Workforce Development.

[FR Doc. 04-16990 Filed 7-26-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312-53-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice To Prepare a Revised Draft EIS

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice to prepare a Revised Draft Backcountry Management Plan, General Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement for Denali National Park and Preserve.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) announces its intent to prepare a Revised Draft Backcountry Management Plan, General Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Denali National Park and Preserve. The Revised Draft EIS will evaluate four new action alternatives in addition to the no-action alternative which will replace the four action alternatives included in the February 2003 Draft Backcountry Management Plan and EIS (**Federal Register**, 68 FR 8782, 2003). The NPS decision to revise the plan is in response to public comment on the February 2003 draft which indicated the need for revised management area descriptions and additional actions. The Revised Draft Backcountry Management Plan and EIS will be available in Fall 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mike Tranel, Chief of Planning, Denali National Park and Preserve. Telephone: (907) 644-3611.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Park Service (NPS) is preparing a backcountry management plan and EIS that will amend the 1986 General Management Plan for Denali National

Park and Preserve. The purpose of the plan and EIS is to formulate a comprehensive plan for the backcountry of Denali National Park and Preserve, including designated wilderness that will provide management direction over the next 15-20 years. The backcountry of Denali National Park and Preserve is defined to include the entire park except for those areas designated specifically for development in the entrance area and along the road corridor. The NPS initiated this backcountry management plan EIS (**Federal Register**, 64 FR 49503, 1999) to address the rapidly growing level and diversity of uses, resource management needs, and the anticipated demand for future uses not foreseen or addressed in the 1986 General Management Plan. In the February 2003 Draft Plan and EIS, the NPS presented a range of four action alternatives based on planning objectives, park resources, and public input which described actions related to management area designation, recreational activities, and administrative activities.

The Revised Draft Plan and EIS will present four new action alternatives that respond to public comment on the February 2003 Draft Backcountry Management Plan and EIS. The revised alternatives will broaden the range of potential actions, clarify the descriptions of management areas, and describe methodologies for managing access to the park and preserve. It will also refine other actions described in the draft plan in response to substantive comments related to guided activities and commercial services, facilities, and administration.

Ralph Tingey,

Acting Regional Director, Alaska.

[FR Doc. 04-16993 Filed 7-26-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312-HT-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Merced Wild and Scenic River Revised Comprehensive Management Plan; Yosemite National Park, Mariposa and Madera Counties, CA; Notice of Intent To Prepare Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

Summary: Pursuant to provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (Pub. L. 91-190), the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (Pub. L. 90-542), and the Order of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California, the National Park Service is initiating public scoping for the conservation planning and environmental impact

analysis process necessary for revising the Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) and preparing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS). The revised plan will address factors identified by the Court, including user capacities throughout the entire park corridor and the river corridor boundary in El Portal. The purpose of this scoping phase is to elicit early public comments regarding issues and concerns to be addressed, including a suitable range of alternatives, appropriate mitigation measures, and the nature and extent of potential environmental impacts.

Background: In 1987, Congress designated 122 miles of the Merced River as Wild and Scenic, including 81 miles within Yosemite National Park and the El Portal Administrative Site. Subsequently the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management jointly completed a comprehensive management plan for those portions of the Merced River within their jurisdiction outside of Yosemite National Park. The National Park Service (NPS) completed all planning for the NPS administered river segments with the signing, on August 9, 2000, of the Record of Decision for the Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement (a revised Record of Decision) was signed on November 3, 2000). In February 2001, the Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan was released, which set forth the approved management policies and guidelines for the Merced Wild and Scenic River (analyzed as the Preferred Alternative in the Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement, and modified by the Record of Decision). In accord with the 1968 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the river segments within Yosemite National Park and the El Portal Administrative Site were classified, boundaries delineated, and outstandingly remarkable values identified.

In August 2000, subsequent to the original signing of the Record of Decision, a lawsuit was brought against the completed plan in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California by the Friends of Yosemite Valley and Mariposans for Environmentally Responsible Growth (Friends of Yosemite Valley v. Norton, 194 F.Supp.2d 1066). In April 2004, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit issued an Order granting "a temporary stay of proceedings and an injunction prohibiting NPS from implementing any and all projects

developed in reliance upon the invalid CMP.", and clarified its Opinion of October 27, 2003, stating the Court "held that the entire Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) is invalid due to two deficiencies: (1) A failure to adequately address user capacities; and (2) the improper drawing of the Merced River's boundaries at El Portal" (Friends of Yosemite Valley v. Norton, 348 F.3d 789, 803 9th Cir. 2003).

The Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement, its Record of Decision, the 2001 Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan, and the U.S. District Court Order defining the scope of this supplemental conservation planning effort, are available at <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planning/>. Copies of the 2001 Comprehensive Management Plan may also be obtained by phoning (209) 379-1365 or writing to the Superintendent at the address below.

Scoping and Public Meetings: Participation of interested individuals and organizations will be a key element of the current conservation planning and environmental analysis process. Concurrently, tribal, Federal, State, and local government representatives will be consulted. All written comments received during the scoping period and public meetings will aid in preparing the Merced Wild and Scenic River Revised Comprehensive Management Plan/Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. Suggestions regarding issues to be addressed and information relevant to determining the scope of the current conservation planning and environmental impact analysis process are being sought for a 30-day period beginning on the publication date of this NOI (and immediately upon confirmation of this date an announcement of the duration of the scoping period will be posted on the park Web site, and press releases distributed to local and regional media). Public scoping meetings will be held during July including the following locations: Yosemite Valley, Mariposa, and the San Francisco Bay Area; dates, times, specific locations, and additional information will be released via regional and local news media, and updates will also be available at the above website or phone.

Scope of issues identified to date include: Land management, user capacities, appropriate types and levels of recreation, and protection and enhancement of the Merced River's Outstandingly Remarkable Values. All scoping comments received will be incorporated into a comment database

and considered during revision of the CMP, and are to be addressed to the Superintendent, Attn: Merced River Plan, PO Box 577, Yosemite National Park, CA 95389, or faxed to (209) 379-1294, and must be postmarked not later than 30 days from the publication date of the NOI (if sent via e-mail or fax, transmitted by that date to Yose_Planning@nps.gov). Please note that names and addresses of people who comment become part of the public record. If individuals commenting request that their name 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 from the record 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 are not considered.

Decision Process: Announcements of future public involvement opportunities, including availability of the draft CMP/SEIS for review, will be achieved via regional news media, direct mailings, and the **Federal Register**. After due consideration of all comments received on the draft CMP/SEIS, a final document will be prepared and its availability similarly announced. As this is a delegated EIS, the official responsible for the final decision regarding the forthcoming plan is the Regional Director, Pacific West Region, National Park Service; the official responsible for subsequent implementation would be the Superintendent, Yosemite National Park.

Dated: June 9, 2004.

Jonathan B. Jarvis,

Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

[FR Doc. 04-16991 Filed 7-26-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312-FY-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places; Notification of Pending Nominations

Nominations for the following properties being considered for listing in the National Register were received by the National Park Service before July 17, 2004. Pursuant to section 60.13 of 36 CFR Part 60 written comments