

the public of this proposed three-year program and to request comments on the program and the proposed approach.

Under provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and 5 CFR part 1320, Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements, the National Park Service is soliciting comments on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the NPS, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the NPS estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) how to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Sixty-day Notice of Intention to Request Clearance of Collection of Information—Opportunity for Public Comment was published in the **Federal Register** on September 30, 1997, Vol. 63 No. 189 pgs. 51133–51143. Several comments were received from the public as a result of the **Federal Register** Notice and have been integrated into this final proposal.

DATES: Public Comments will be accepted on or before August 31, 1998.

Send comments to: Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, ATTN: Desk Officer for the Interior Department, Washington, DC 20503. Also send a copy of these comments to Mr. Jared D. Ficker, Social Science Specialist, National Park Service, Social Science Program, 1849 C Street NW, MS 3127, Washington, DC 20240.

The OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days. Therefore, to ensure maximum consideration, OMB should receive public comments on or before August 31, 1998.

All comments will become a matter of public record. Copies of the proposal requirement can be obtained from Mr. Jared D. Ficker, Social Science Specialist, National Park Service, Social Science Program, voice 202–208–6330, fax 202–208–4620, e-mail <jared_ficker@nps.gov>. In addition, a complete copy of the proposal is available at the NPS Social Science Program website at <http://www.nps.gov/socialscience/tech/survey.htm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Programmatic Approval for NPS Visitor Surveys.

Bureau Form Number: None.

OMB Number: To be assigned.

Expiration Date of Approval: To be assigned.

Type of Request: Request for new clearance.

Description of Need: NPS needs to sponsor information collection surveys of the public to provide to park managers information for improving the quality and utility to the public of park programs. NPS finds the current process by which it secures OMB approval of proposed collections of information can be improved with respect to securing public comment and can be made more efficient for the federal government through reducing current levels of personnel and funding necessary for preparing and reviewing the proposed collections of information. NPS believes it has developed an alternative approach for processing proposed collections of information that will be both more effective and more efficient. This proposal is designed to test the alternative approach using one subset of NPS information collection surveys for a 3-year test period.

Automated Data Collection: At the present time, there is no automated way to gather this information, since the information gathering process involves asking visitors to evaluate services and facilities that they used during their park visits. The intrusion on individual visitors is minimized by rigorously designing visitor surveys to maximize the ability of the surveys to use small samples of visitors to represent large populations of visitors and by coordinating a program of surveys to maximize the ability of new surveys to build on the findings of prior surveys.

Description of Respondents: A sample of visitors to parks or of people who have relationships to parks.

Estimated Average Number of Respondents: The proposal does not identify the number of respondents because that number will differ from individual survey to individual survey, depending on the purpose and design of each individual survey.

Estimated average number of responses: The proposal does not identify the average number of responses because that number will differ from individual survey to individual survey, depending on the purpose and design of each individual survey. For most surveys, each respondent will be asked to respond only one time, so in those cases the number of responses will be the same as the number of respondents.

Estimated average burden hours per response: The proposal does not identify the average burden hours per

response because that number will differ from individual survey to individual survey, depending on the purpose and design of each individual survey.

Frequency of response: Most individual surveys will request only 1 response per respondent.

Estimated annual reporting burden: The proposal identifies the requested total number of burden hours annually for all of the surveys to be conducted under its auspices to be 10,000 burden hours per year. The total annual burden per survey for most surveys conducted under the auspices of this proposal would be within the range of 100 to 300 hours.

Diane M. Cooke,

*Information Collection Clearance Officer,
WASO Administrative Program Center,
National Park Service.*

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BILLING CODE 4310–70–M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

**Trail of Tears National Historic Trail
Advisory Council**

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Establishment.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) is giving notice of the establishment of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail Advisory Council in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (PL 92–463, 86 Stat. 770, 5 U.S.C. Appx., section 10).

The Council was originally established by PL 100–192, which amended the National Trails System Act to designate the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. Under the general authority of Section 5(d) of the National Trail System Act, PL 90–543, as amended, October 2, 1968, an advisory council with a 10-year term is required for each established national scenic or national historic trail. The Council's statutorily prescribed 10-year term will expire July 7, 1998. Because the need for the Council is expected to continue until such time as trail plan implementation and administration have broadened and matured to become fully effective and responsive to operational and partnership responsibilities, the National Park Service is administratively re-establishing the Council in the same form as it existed under its expiring statutory authority. In this way, the Council may continue its work without interruption.

Composition: The Council, not to exceed 35 members, shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior as follows:

(1) The head of each Federal department or independent agency administering lands through which the trail passes, or a designee;

(2) A member appointed to represent each State through which the trail passes, and such appointments shall be made from recommendations of the Governors of such States;

(3) One or more members appointed to represent private organizations, including corporate and individual landowners and land users, which in the opinion of the Secretary have an established and recognized interest in the trail, and such appointments shall be made from recommendations of the heads of such organizations.

The Secretary of the Interior may also appoint a non-voting representative of each bureau of the Department of the Interior that administers land through which the trail passes, provided that such bureau is not otherwise represented by a voting member of the Council.

Copies of the Council's charter will be filed with the appropriate committees of the Congress and with the Library of Congress in accordance with section 9(c) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. appx.

Records of Meetings: In accordance with requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. Appx. 1994, the NPS will keep a record of all Council meetings.

Administrative Support: To the extent authorized by law, the NPS will fund the costs of the Council and provide administrative support and technical assistance for the activities of the Council.

Certification: I hereby certify that the administrative establishment of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail Advisory Council is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Department of the Interior by the Act of October 2, 1968, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1241 *et seq.*

Dated: July 15, 1998.

Bruce Babbitt,

Secretary of the Interior.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision, Final Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan, Cape Cod National Seashore, Wellfleet, MA

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

INTRODUCTION: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, (P.L. 91-190 as amended), and specifically to regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1505.2), the Department of the Interior, National Park Service has prepared this Record of Decision following the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan for Cape Cod National Seashore, Barnstable County, Massachusetts. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the environmental impact statement was prepared to assess the impacts of implementing the general management plan. The purpose of the General Management Plan is to guide the overall management, development, resource conservation and public use Cape Cod National Seashore. Presented are alternatives for the preservation, public use and management of the National Seashore and the impacts of implementing each alternative.

SUMMARY: The Record of Decision concludes compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act for decision making to approve a General Management Plan for Cape Cod National Seashore. This compliance was initiated upon a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement published in the **Federal Register** on April 24, 1992. A second **Federal Register** notice announcing the schedule for public scoping meetings in the six Outer Cape towns and Barnstable, Massachusetts was issued on June 11, 1992. Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and announcement of two public forums was made in the **Federal Register** on August 5, 1996. The comment period of about 75 days was scheduled to end October 31, 1996. This period was extended twice to December 31, 1996 by subsequent **Federal Register** notices on October 7, 1996 and November 20, 1996. The October 7, 1996 **Federal Register** notice also announced two additional public meetings. The Notice of Availability for the Final Environmental Impact Statement was published in the **Federal Register** on March 2, 1998.

The Record of Decision is a concise statement of the decisions made, other alternatives considered, the basis for the decision, the environmentally preferable alternative, the mitigating measures, and the public involvement in the decision making process.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan describes alternatives for management actions at Cape Cod National Seashore, the environment that would be affected by those actions, and the environmental consequences of implementing alternative actions. Three alternatives were presented, including the proposed general management plan, the selected action described in the Record of Decision.

Alternative 1 is a continuation of current management, often referred to as the "no-action" alternative. Under this alternative the Park Service would continue to manage the National Seashore to protect natural and cultural resources, while allowing for appropriate public use related to those resources. Essentially no new development for public use would be undertaken.

Alternative 2, the selected action, would guide the overall management of Cape Cod National Seashore for the next 10 to 15 years. The emphasis of the plan is on the management of natural and cultural resources; public use and interpretation; coordination with nonfederal landowners within the National Seashore; administrative, maintenance, and operational concerns; and working with local residents, town and county officials and interested agencies and persons to resolve problems of mutual concern. The plan is programmatic in that it gives guidance and criteria for day-to-day decision making and for producing more specific future action and development plans. It would seek to maintain an appropriate balance between resource protection and public use. More opportunities would be provided for the public to experience the resources of the National Seashore. Existing public use facilities and attractions would be improved. No major new development, however, is proposed, and the built environment or impacts from development would be reduced where possible. Under *Alternative 2* there would be more emphasis on preserving the "timeless" character of Cape Cod in terms of natural and dynamic landscapes, historic architecture and cultural landscapes, and customary activities. The National Park Service would work in partnership with local communities and officials to more effectively further