

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****National Park Service****Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision, Final Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan, Saint Croix Island International Historic Site, Calais, ME**

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, U.S. 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 of 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 Saint Croix Island International Historic Site, Washington County, Maine. 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 clearly define the site's mission, mission goals, and management direction. It provides a foundation to guide and coordinate all subsequent management decision-making.

**SUMMARY:** The Record of Decision is a concise statement of the decision made, the basis for the decision, and the background of the project (including the decision making process, other alternatives considered, and public involvement), along with any mitigating measures. The Record of Decision concludes compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act for decision making to approve the general management plan for Saint Croix Island International Historic Site. This compliance was initiated upon a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement which established a public scoping period and was published in the **Federal Register** on September 19, 1995. Notice of a 45-day comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement was published in the **Federal Register** on September 17, 1996. Twenty written comments were received by the National Park Service. The notice also announced a public meeting in Calais, Maine. Notice of availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement was published in the **Federal Register** on March 19, 1998. One written comment was received.

The National Park Service will now implement the proposal evaluated in the Final Environmental Impact Statement as described in the Record of Decision and set forth in the general management plan for Saint Croix Island International Historic Site.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Saint Croix Island International Historic Site is administered by the Superintendent of Acadia National Park in Hancock County, Maine. Administrative records are therefore not held at the historic site, but in Bar Harbor, Maine. To facilitate retrieval of information about the management of Saint Croix Island International Historic Site, related documents will be bound in a single volume which includes the Final Environmental Impact Statement, Record of Decision, General Management Plan, background information, and two implementing plans. Copies of the document are available upon request from: Superintendent, Acadia National Park, P.O. Box 177, Bar Harbor, Maine, 04609. Telephone: 207-288-3338.

Dated: October 21, 1998.

**Chysandra Walter,**

*Deputy Regional Director, Northeast Region (617) 223-5001.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****National Park Service****Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Interagency Bison Management Plan for the State of Montana and Yellowstone National Park; Extension of Comment Period**

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Extension of Public Comment Period for Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service announced on June 18, 1998 (**Federal Register**, Volume 63, Number 177) the availability of a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for the Interagency Bison Management Plan for the State of Montana and Yellowstone National Park. This announcement commenced a 120-day comment period, closing on October 16, 1998. During this time, the National Park Service received several requests for extensions to the comment period. The public comment period, therefore, will be extended for

15 days and will now close on November 2, 1998.

**DATES:** The public comment period will now be extended from October 16, 1998 to November 2, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on the DEIS should be sent to Sarah Bransom, National Park Service, DSC-RP, PO Box 25287, Denver, CO 80225-0287, Telephone: (303) 969-2310. Copies of the DEIS or the executive summary of the DEIS and a complete listing of libraries where the DEIS is available for review on the Internet at <http://www.nps.gov/planning/current.htm>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Since 1990, management of bison in and adjacent to Yellowstone National Park Service has been covered by a series of interim management plans. In 1992, the National Park Service (lead agency), state of Montana (co-lead), United States Forest Service (co-lead), and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (cooperating agency) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to prepare a long-term bison management plan/EIS.

The DEIS presents seven alternatives with a full range of management techniques for maintaining a wild, free ranging bison population while minimizing the risk of transmitting the disease Brucellosis from bison to domestic cattle on public and private lands in Montana adjacent to Yellowstone National Park. Management techniques used in various combinations to meet the plan's objectives include capturing and testing bison for Brucellosis, quarantining, slaughtering, hunting and vaccination. Impacts are analyzed on the following topics: bison population, recreation, livestock operations, socioeconomic, threatened, endangered and sensitive species, other wildlife species, human health, cultural resources, and visual resources. All review comments received on the DEIS will become part of the public record.

Dated: October 9, 1998.

**John E. Cook,**

*Regional Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Service.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Reclamation****Long-term Contract Renewal, Central Valley Project, California**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior.