

within 30 days of the date of this publication.

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, *subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act*, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents to the following office within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone: (703/358-2104); FAX: (703/358-2281).

Dated: May 16, 2000.

Kristen Nelson,

Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 00-12710 Filed 5-19-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Reinstatement, Record of Decision on the Final General Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Missouri National Recreational River (59-Mile District), Nebraska and South Dakota

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and the regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1505.2), the National Park Service (NPS) is announcing the Record of Decision on the Final General Management Plan (GMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Missouri National Recreational River (MNRR), 59-Mile District. The MNRR is located in portions of Clay, Union, and Yankton counties, South Dakota and Cedar, Dixon, and Knox counties, Nebraska.

More specifically, the NPS is reinstating a Record of Decision previously suspended by the bureau. After the Record of Decision was originally signed, it was discovered that the FEIS was inadvertently not filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as required by 40 CFR 1506.9. Accordingly, the NPS suspended the Record of Decision (see 65 FR 10542), suspended implementation of the GMP, filed the FEIS with EPA, and reopened the required 30-day period of no-action.

DATES: The Regional Director, National Park Service, Midwest Region, and the District Engineer, Omaha District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers approved the

Record of Decision on December 17, 1999. That Record of Decision was reinstated effective April 10, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Hedren, Superintendent, Missouri National Recreational River, P.O. Box 591, O'Neill, Nebraska 68763, or by e-mail to MNRR_Superintendent@nps.gov, or call 402-336-3970.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The EPA published its notice of availability for the FEIS in the **Federal Register** on March 10, 2000 (65 FR 12992). The 30-day no-action period ended on April 10, 2000. No public comments were received during this period. Accordingly, the NPS has determined that no changes to the FEIS or the original Record of Decision are necessary. The Record of Decision as printed in the **Federal Register** on December 17, 1999 (64 FR 72359) is reinstated.

Dated: May 8, 2000.

David N. Given,

Acting Regional Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Niobrara National Scenic River

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Amended Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan, Niobrara National Scenic River, Nebraska.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service will prepare a General Management Plan (GMP) and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Niobrara National Scenic River (hereinafter, "the Park"), Nebraska, in accordance with section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), and a court decision invalidating a similar 1996 GMP/EIS and ordering a new one. This notice is being furnished as required by NEPA Regulation 40 CFR 1501.7, and serves to amend the Notice of Intent as published in the **Federal Register** on February 28, 2000 (65 FR 10542).

To facilitate sound planning and environmental assessment in the preparation of this EIS, the National Park Service intends to both validate information previously acquired for the 1996 GMP/EIS, and obtain suggestions and information from other agencies and the public on several court-driven issues to be addressed in the new EIS.

The National Park Service will scope this GMP/EIS via the media, a newsletter, and through a World Wide Web page. Comments and participation in this scoping process are invited.

DATES: A project newsletter is being prepared, which is expected to be ready by the end of May 2000. The newsletter will contain specific information about how to provide input to the scoping phase of this project. Availability of the newsletter will be announced through local and regional media outlets. The newsletter will be sent to all addressees of record in the planning of the park's 1996 GMP/EIS, and to others who request the newsletter. To request a copy of the newsletter and to be added to the project mailing list, contact the park superintendent at 402-336-3970 or by writing to one of the addresses below.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and information should be directed to Superintendent, Niobrara National Scenic River, P.O. Box 591, O'Neill, Nebraska 68763; or by email, niob_gmp@nps.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Superintendent, Niobrara National Scenic River, at either of the above addresses or at telephone number 402-336-3970.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Since the original notice of intent was published in February 2000, the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit overturned the boundaries for the Niobrara National Scenic Riverway which has been established as part of a 1996 General Management Plan (GMP) for the park. A federal district court had overturned that GMP and associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in a separate ruling. However, the district court ruling had retained the section of the GMP pertaining to the park's boundary. Therefore, the original notice of intent for the current project implied that boundaries were not within the scope of issues that would be addressed in the forthcoming GMP/EIS rewrite. The decision of the Court of Appeals has expanded the scope to include the park boundary.

The broad array of issues identified in the 1996 GMP/EIS, including land ownership, landscape conservation, water resource protection, hunting, fishing, and trapping, and visitor education and protection appear valid but reaffirmation will be sought through scoping. Specific examples of other issues that will be addressed in the GMP are: (1) the extent and manner in which partnerships can and will be employed to achieve management objectives, (2)

identify appropriate access and development in the park, particularly balancing growing park use and resource protection; and (3) identify appropriate land protection strategies workable on a predominantly privately owned landscape. Other issues may be added to this list following completion of scoping.

The new GMP will set forth a management concept for the park; establish plans for resource conservation, public use, and development; and identify strategies for resolving issues and achieving management objectives. It is expected that the GMP will guide park management for a period of fifteen to twenty years.

The GMP/EIS will investigate alternatives ranging from no-action to a variety of management approaches designed to guide public use and protect natural and cultural resources.

The environmental review of the GMP for the Niobrara National Scenic River will be conducted in accordance with requirements of NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), NEPA regulations, and National Park Service procedures and policies for compliance with those regulations.

The National Park Service estimates the draft GMP and draft EIS will be available to the public in early 2001.

Dated: May 8, 2000.

David N. Given,

Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 00-12701 Filed 5-19-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Cumberland Island National Seashore, Georgia

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law 91-190, as amended), the National Park Service (NPS) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for a General Management Plan Amendment, a Wilderness Management Plan, a Resource Management Plan (Cultural and Natural) and a Commercial Services Plan. The DEIS will evaluate the environmental consequences associated with the proposed actions and the other alternatives on management of wilderness, cultural and natural resources, and commercial services.

DATES: A public scoping meeting will be scheduled this summer. Time and place of the public meeting will be publicized

in area newspapers. The DEIS will be available sometime in late summer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To provide comments on this planning effort and to receive copies of the DEIS, please contact: Art Frederick, Superintendent, Cumberland Island National Seashore, P.O. Box 806, St. Marys, Georgia 31558, Telephone: (912) 882-4336.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Since June 1996 the NPS has been engaged in a process to determine the management of the island's wilderness. During the discussions concerning wilderness management, the NPS realized that the planning effort should broaden its focus. As a result the NPS has prepared a series of plans addressing the management of wilderness, cultural resources, natural resources, and commercial services.

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 we withhold their home address from the rulemaking record which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the rulemaking record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish for us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Dated: May 11, 2000.

W. Thomas Brown,

Regional Director, Southeast Region.

[FR Doc. 00-12703 Filed 5-19-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Draft General Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement, Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve, Washington

AGENCY: National Park Service.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service will prepare a General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (GMP/EIS) for Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve.

A General Management Plan sets forth the basic management philosophy for a

unit of the National Park System and provides the strategies for addressing issues and achieving identified management objectives for that unit. In the GMP/EIS and its accompanying public review process, the National Park Service will formulate and evaluate the environmental impacts of a range of alternatives to address distinct management strategies for the park, including resource protection and visitor use. The plan will guide the management of natural and cultural resources and visitor use of those resources for the next 15-20 years. Development concept plans for selected facilities may be included with the GMP.

Scoping is the term given to the process by which the scope of issues to be addressed in the GMP/EIS is identified. Representatives of Federal, State and local agencies, American Indian tribes, private organizations and individuals from the general public who may be interested in or affected by the proposed GMP/EIS are invited to participate in the scoping process by responding to this Notice with written comments.

All comments received will become part of the public record and copies of comments, including any names and home addresses of respondents, may be released for public inspection. 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. Anonymous comments will not be considered. 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.

Among the major issues likely to be addressed in the Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve GMP/EIS are (1) resource information and protection, including a land protection plan, (2) cooperation with associated partners and interests, (3) interpretation, (4) visitor use and services, and (5) park administration. A full range of alternatives, including "no action", will be considered in the GMP/EIS to address these and other issues that may emerge during the planning process. The draft GMP/EIS is expected to be available for public review by the spring of 2001.

Because the responsibility for approving the GMP/EIS has been delegated to the National Park Service,