identify appropriate access and development in the park, particularly balancing growing park use and resource protection; and (3) identity 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]

BILLING CODE 4310–70–P

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,