

grant assistance. The National Park Service uses the information to ensure compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act and government-wide grant requirements.

Respondents/Record Keepers: State, Tribal, and Local Governments.

Estimate of Burden: NPS estimates that the public reporting burden for this collection of information will average 9.06 hours per response and 0.60 hours per record, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed and reviewing the collection of information.

Estimated Number of Respondents/Record Keepers: NPS estimates that there are 450 respondents and 83 record keepers. This is the gross number of respondents and record keepers for all of the documents included in this information collection. The net number of States, Tribal, and local governments participating in this information collection annually is 136. The frequency of response varies depending upon activity. States complete Grant application and end-of-year report documents once a year. NPS requires project documents at the beginning and end of each subgrant with a large Federal share. NPS reviews each State's program once every four years. NPS requires information from a local government when it applies for certification. NPS requires that each State maintain one record for each property in its inventory and one record per project for tracking its responses to Federal agency requests for State review. Pursuant to Section 101(d) of the National Historic Preservation Act, federally recognized Indian Tribes, after agreement with the National Park Service (NPS), may assume responsibilities specified in Section 101(b)(3) and therefore use related information collections.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Number of Records per Record Keeper: 350.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 4,078 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Record Keepers: 17,430 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 21,508 hours.

You may obtain copies of this information collection from Mr. John W. Renaud, Project Coordinator.

NPS is soliciting comments regarding:

(1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of NPS, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of the burden estimate including the validity of the method and assumptions used;

(3) The quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

(4) Ways to minimize the burden, including through the use of automated collection or other forms of information technology; or,

(5) Any other aspect of this collection of information.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: October 25, 2000.

Leonard E. Stowe,

*Information Collection Clearance Officer,
National Park Service.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

General Management Plan Revision, Environmental Impact Statement, Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the general management plan revision, Petrified Forest National Park.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Park Service is preparing an environmental impact statement for the general management plan (GMP) revision for Petrified Forest National Park. The environmental impact statement will be approved by the Director, Intermountain Region.

Petrified Forest National Park was established as a unit of the National Park System to preserve the mineralized remains of Mesozoic Forests (commonly known as the "Petrified Forest"), additional features of scenic and scientific interest, and the area's natural environment and cultural resources, for public use and benefit. It is located in northeastern Arizona. The Petrified Forest National Park Final General Management Plan/Development Concept Plans/Environmental Impact Statement was approved in 1992. The new GMP revision will address new perspectives on several key elements that were not fully considered at the time of the plan: (1) The potential impact of building/expanding proposed new facilities into previously undeveloped areas, particularly the increased visibility of facilities from

busy visitor areas and wilderness, was not comprehensively addressed in the existing GMP; (2) The existing GMP did not recognize that many existing structures have historic significance and warrant full evaluation for adaptive re-use rather than the proposed removal. Further, the planned arrangement of buildings, parking, courtyards, and trails comprise significant cultural landscapes which would have been substantially altered by the existing plan without recognition of these values. There is a much greater awareness now of cultural values that warrant revision of the plan, including historic structures, cultural landscapes, archeology, ethnography, and the Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act; (3) It is unlikely that Petrified Forest National Park would receive the funding necessary to implement the proposals in the existing GMP; (4) The sustainability of proposing a lot of new construction versus the feasibility and sustainability of re-using existing structures was not adequately addressed in the existing plan; (5) More up-to-date information about handicapped accessibility is available; (6) Effectively preventing wood theft remains a very high priority, and more information on visitor behavior is now available; and (6) Bring plan into conformance with current NPS planning standards (NPS Director's Order 2).

The National Park Service is planning to begin public scoping in November, 2000 via a newsletter to American Indian tribes, neighboring communities, county commissioners, organizations, state and federal agencies, researchers and institutions, the Congressional Delegation, and visitors who signed up to be on the mailing list. There will also be a web site and press releases. The purpose of the newsletter, web site, and press release is to explain the planning process and to obtain comments concerning revision of the GMP. Comments may be addressed to the Superintendent, and should be received no later than 60-days from the publication of this Notice of Intent.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Superintendent Michelle Hellickson, Petrified Forest National Park, P.O. Box 2217, Petrified Forest, AZ 86028; Tel: (520) 524-6228; FAX: (520) 524-3567; e-mail: michelle_hellickson@nps.gov.

Dated: October 13, 2000.

Ron Everhart,

Director, Intermountain Region.

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