

continued operation of raft float trips from below Hoover Dam to the public, and provide limited visitor service at Willow Beach Site within Lake Mead National Recreation Area. The temporary concession contract will be for a team of not more than three years. This short-term concession contract is necessary to avoid interruption of visitor services while the National Park Service finalizes the development of the Prospectus to be issued for a long-term concession contract. This short-term contract will be for a three-year period ending December 31, 2004. This notice is pursuant to 36 CFR part 51, section 51.24(a).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The concession authorization at Lake Mead National Recreation Area for the raft float trips expired on November 30, 2001. The operation is seasonal and operates primarily from February through November and provides visitors with an opportunity to take raft float trips from below Hoover Dam to a designated takeout point down lake from the dam on Lake Mohave. In addition, to the operation of the float trips limited visitor services will be conducted at Willow Beach Site. This service will be for those visitors who are disembarking from the float trips as well as those visitors who are recreating on the upper portion of Lake Mohave within Lake Mead National Recreation Area. Lake Mead National Recreation Area is in a process of reviewing its visitor services plan and developing a Prospectus for the solicitation of a long-term concession contract that meets the requirements of the park's General Management Plan regarding commercial services offered to the public. The short-term concession contract will allow for this action to take place without a long-term delay in service to the public.

Information about this notice can be sought from:

National Park Service, Chief, Concession Program Management Office, Pacific West Region, Attn: Mr. Tony Sisto, 1111 Jackson Street, Suite 700, Oakland, California 94607, or call (510) 817-1366.

Dated: January 30, 2002.

Patricia L. Neubacher,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific West Region.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Environmental Impact Statement on Vessel Quotas and Operating Requirements for Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

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

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) is preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) on vessel quotas and operating requirements for Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of the EIS is to evaluate a range of alternatives for establishing vessel quotas and operating requirements in Glacier Bay proper, Dundas Bay and Taylor Bay.

A reasonable range of alternatives will be developed for consideration in the EIS that are responsive to significant issues raised through public involvement and comment. The proposed action would continue vessel quotas and operating requirements in accordance with the 1996 regulations. Those regulations, 36 CFR 13.65(b), established a daily limit of two cruise ships, three tour boats, six charter boats and 25 private boats in Glacier Bay proper. Seasonal entries (June 1 through August 31) were established as follows: cruise ships (139), tour boats (276), charter boats (312), and private boats (468). The regulations further provide that the number of cruise ships could be increased to 184 if scientific and other information indicated such an increase would assure protection of the values and purposes of the park. Any increase under the regulations is subject to the maximum daily limit of two cruise ships per day.

Alternatives will consider raising motorized vessel entry quotas above those established by the 1996 regulations and reducing motorized vessel entry quotas. Companion operating requirements will be identified for each alternative. The range of alternatives will consider the following preliminary issues:

- The impact of motorized vessels on park resources and values, including federally endangered humpback whales and threatened Steller sea lions.
- The level and type of motorized vessel use, in all seasons, consistent with the purposes and values of Glacier Bay National Park.
- The use of vessel quotas and operating requirements consistent with

providing a range of visitor experiences including opportunities for solitude.

Scoping: The NPS requests input from federal and state agencies, local government, private organizations, recreational users, and the public. Written scoping comments are being solicited. Further information on this planning process will be available through public scoping meetings, press releases, and newsletters. Scoping meetings will be held in Anchorage, Juneau, Gustavus, Hoonah, Elfin Cove, and Pelican, Alaska and in Seattle, Washington. Specific dates, times, and locations of scoping meetings will be announced.

If individuals submitting comments request that their name or/and address be withheld from public disclosure, it will be honored to the extent allowable by law. Such requests must be stated prominently in the beginning of the comments. There also may be circumstances wherein the NPS will withhold a respondent's identity as allowable by law. The NPS will make available to public inspection all submissions from organizations or businesses and from persons identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations and businesses; and, anonymous comments may not be considered.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of this project should be received within 60 days of publication of this notice. The draft EIS is projected to be available in early 2003. Comments may be mailed to the address provided below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joan B. Darnell, Environmental Resources Team Manager, National Park Service, Alaska Support Office, 2525 Gambell Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99503. Telephone (907) 257-2648, Fax (907) 257-2517.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 3.3 million acre Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve encompasses 940 square miles of marine waters and is home to the endangered humpback whale. Glacier Bay is a major tourist destination where watercraft provides primary access to features of interest. Regulations modifying earlier vessel quotas, operating requirements, special use areas and mitigative measures were finalized in May 1996 (36 CFR 13.65) based on a May 1995 VMP/ Environmental Assessment. The plan was approved by a March 1996 Finding of No Significant Impact, and included a National Marine Fishery Service Biological Opinion on the humpback whale, Steller sea lion and gray whale. NPS has developed a research program based on the conservation

recommendations of the Biological Opinion.

Vessel numbers and operating requirements for cruise ships, tour boats, charter boats, and private boats have been in place for Glacier Bay National Park since 1979. Regulations implementing the 1996 Vessel Management Plan increased vessel entries above 1985 levels for cruise ships (30 percent increase initially; up to 72 percent increase) charter boats (8 percent increase) and private vessels (15 percent increase). Vessel operating requirements were also set for all vessel types, including tour boats.

On February 23, 2001, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals determined that the portion of the 1996 VMP and the implementing regulations that authorized an increase in vessels into Glacier Bay violated NEPA because an EIS was not prepared. Accordingly, further increases in vessel traffic were prohibited and current traffic levels were returned to their pre-1996 levels. On November 5, 2001, Pub. L. 107-63 (155 Stat. 414) was signed into law. Section 130 of the act requires preparation of an EIS to identify and analyze the possible effects of the 1996 increases in the number of vessel entries issued for Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. Section 130 further provides that the EIS is to be completed by January 1, 2004.

Dated: February 7, 2002.

Robert L. Arnberger,

Regional Director, Alaska.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

National Capital Memorial Commission; Notice of Public Meeting

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act that a meeting of the National Capital Memorial Commission (the Commission) will be held at 9:30 a.m., on Friday, March 1, 2002, at the National Building Museum, Room 312, 5th and F Streets, NW., Washington, DC.

The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss currently authorized and proposed memorials in the District of Columbia and environs.

In addition to discussing general matters and conducting routine business, the Commission will review the following:

Action Items

(1) Consideration of a recommendation relative to placement, within Area I as established by the Commemorative Works Act of 1986, of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial (Public Law 106-79, October 25, 1999).

(2) Site Selection.

(a) Alternative Site Study for the Tomas G. Masaryk Memorial (Public Law 107-61, November 5, 2001).

(b) Alternative site study for the plaque to be placed at the Lincoln Memorial commemorating the "I Have a Dream" speech of Martin Luther King, Jr. (Public Law 106-365, October 2, 2000).

(3) Design Concept Review. Design concept review of the plaque to be placed at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial honoring post-war casualties of the Vietnam War (Public Law 106-215, June 14, 2000).

(4) Legislative Proposals introduced in the 107th Congress to establish memorials in the District of Columbia and its environs.

The Commission was established by Public Law 99-652, the Commemorative Works Act, to advise the Secretary and the Administrator, General Services Administration, (the Administrator) on policy and procedures for establishment of (and proposals to establish) commemorative works in the District of Columbia and its environs, as well as such other matters as it may deem appropriate concerning commemorative works.

The Commission examines each memorial proposal for conformance to the Commemorative Works Act, and makes recommendations to the Secretary and the Administrator and to Members and Committees of Congress. The Commission also serves as a source of information for persons seeking to establish memorials in Washington, DC, and its environs.

The members of the Commission are as follows:

Director, National Park Service; Chairman, National Capital Planning Commission; Architect of the Capitol; Chairman, American Battle Monuments Commission; Chairman, Commission of Fine Arts; Mayor of the District of Columbia; Administrator, General Services Administration; Secretary of Defense.

Due to the continued delay of mail delivery to the Main Interior Building and communication difficulties resulting from restricted modem and Internet access for all Department of the Interior agencies, this notice could not be published at least 15 days prior to the meeting dates. The National Park

Service regrets this delay but is compelled to hold the meeting as scheduled because of the significant sacrifice re-scheduling would require of committee members who have adjusted their schedules to accommodate the proposed meeting dates, and the high level of anticipation by all parties who will be affected by the outcome of the committee's actions. Since the proposed meeting dates have received widespread publicity in areas news media and among the parties most affected, the National Park Service believes that the public interest will not be adversely affected by the less-than-15-days advance notice in the **Federal Register**.

The meeting will be open to the public. Any person may file with the Commission a written statement concerning the matters to be discussed. Persons who wish to file a written statement or testify at the meeting or who want further information concerning the meeting may contact Ms. Nancy Young, Executive Secretary to the Commission, at (202) 619-7097.

Dated: February 7, 2002.

Joseph M. Lawler,

Acting Regional Director, National Capital Region.

[FR Doc. 02-4379 Filed 2-21-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places; Notification of Pending Nominations

Nominations for the following properties being considered for listing in the National Register were received by the national park Service for February 9, 2002. Pursuant to section 60.13 of 36 CFR part 60 written comments concerning the significance of these properties under the National Register criteria for evaluation may be forwarded by United States Postal Service, to the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1849 C St. NW, NC400, Washington, DC 20240; by all other carriers, National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 800 N. Capitol St. NW, Suite 400, Washington DC 20002; or by fax 202-343-1836. Written or faxed