

**DATES:** The MMS has extended the deadline for submission of written scoping comments for the EIS to October 17, 2008. Scoping comments must be received no later than October 17, 2008, to be included in the Scoping Report. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for public scoping meeting dates.

**ADDRESSES:** Written scoping comments should be mailed to: Minerals Management Service, Alaska Region, 3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 500, Anchorage, AK 99503-5823. Submittals should be labeled "Attn: Sale 214 NOI." Comments may also be submitted via e-mail to: [sale214NOI@mms.gov](mailto:sale214NOI@mms.gov). Please include "Attn: NAB Lease Sale 214 NOI" in the subject line and your name and return address in the body of the message.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Cleve Cowles, Regional Supervisor, Office of Leasing and Environment, Minerals Management Service, Alaska OCS Region, 3801 Centerpoint Drive #500, Anchorage, Alaska 99503-5820, phone (907) 334-5230.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR THE SCOPING PROCESS:** The Minerals Management Service (MMS) announced a Call for Information and Nominations (Call) and Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS for Sale 214 in the North Aleutian Basin in **Federal Register** Notice Vol. 73, No. 68, Page No. 19095, dated April 8, 2008. Proposed lease sale 214 is that subarea of the larger North Aleutian Basin Planning Area identified in the OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2007-2012. Readers are cautioned that this announcement is not a decision to hold a lease sale, but rather a continuation of the information gathering and evaluation process.

The EIS analysis will focus on the potential environmental effects of oil and gas exploration, development, and production in the proposed sale area and its vicinity. The Notice of Intent announced the initiation of the scoping process for the EIS, with public comments due July 7, 2008. The MMS has extended the deadline for submission of written scoping comments for the EIS to October 17, 2008 and has scheduled public scoping meetings to provide opportunity for public participation in the NEPA process.

Although the formal public scoping process will conclude on October 17, 2008, the MMS will continue to consider new information throughout the preparation of the EIS. Information about proposed OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sale 214 in the North Aleutian Basin Planning Area offshore of the State of

Alaska was published in **Federal Register** Notice Vol. 73, No. 68, No. 19095, dated April 8, 2008. Additional information on proposed lease sale 214 is on the MMS Web site: <http://www.mms.gov>.

1. *Notice of Public Scoping Meetings.* The MMS has scheduled seven public scoping meetings on the following dates and locations:

(1) August 18, 2008, 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., King Salmon, AK, Lake and Peninsula Borough Administration Building.

(2) August 19, 2008, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Naknek, AK, Bristol Bay Borough Assembly Chambers.

(3) September 2, 2008, 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Dillingham, AK, City Council Chambers.

(4) September 15, 2008, 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Sand Point, AK, Aleutians East Borough Offices.

(5) September 16, 2008, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Nelson Lagoon, AK, Nelson Lagoon Community Building.

(6) September 16, 2008, 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Cold Bay, AK, Cold Bay Community Center.

(7) September 17, 2008, 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., King Cove, AK, King Cove City Council Chambers.

Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments and other interested parties help the MMS to determine significant issues, reasonable alternatives, potential mitigation measures to be analyzed in the EIS, as well as relevant information sources and recommendations for additional information. Alternatives include, at a minimum, the proposed action and taking no action. Alternatives developed through the scoping and analytical processes would be considered in the decision-making process.

2. *Background Information.* In addition to the seven public scoping meetings planned for August and September 2008, the MMS held three public scoping meetings for proposed Lease Sale 214 in the communities of Dutch Harbor/Unalaska, Kodiak, and Anchorage in May and June 2008.

The MMS makes comments, including names and addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual commenters may request that MMS withhold their addresses from the public record. MMS will honor such requests to the extent allowable by law. There may also be circumstances in which the MMS would withhold identity, as allowable by law. If an individual would like the MMS to withhold their name and/or address, this must be stated prominently at the beginning of the comment. The MMS will not consider anonymous

comments. Submissions from organizations, businesses, individuals identified as representatives, or officials of organizations and/or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Additional information may be found at the following Web site: <http://www.mms.gov/alaska/re/index.htm>.

Dated: July 3, 2008.

**John T. Goll,**

*Regional Director, Alaska OCS Region.*

[FR Doc. E8-18709 Filed 8-12-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for Cottonwood Cove and Katherine Landing Development Concept Plans; Lake Mead National Recreation Area; Clark County, NV and Mohave County, AZ

**AGENCY:** National Park Service.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** The National Park Service is initiating the conservation planning and environmental impact analysis process for new development concept plans for the Cottonwood Cove and Katherine Landing developed areas at Lake Mohave in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. A range of reasonable alternatives will be developed through this EIS process and will include, at a minimum, a no-action (baseline) alternative and the agency-preferred alternative: the "environmentally preferred" course of action will also be identified.

**DATES:** Written comments must be postmarked or transmitted no later than October 14, 2008. We will announce the dates and places of public meetings in the local media.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit written comments to the planning team by mailing comments to Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Attn: DCP-EIS, 601 Nevada Highway, Boulder City, NV 89005 (you may also comment electronically at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/lame>).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Jim Holland, Park Planner, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, (702) 293-8986.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION;**

*Background:* The National Recreation Area encompasses Lake Mead to the north formed by Hoover Dam and Lake

Mohave to the south created by Davis Dam. Cottonwood Cove and Katherine Landing are two of the major developed areas on Lake Mohave. Cottonwood Cove is located on the Nevada shore of the lake, approximately 22 miles north of Davis Dam. The development was designed in a somewhat linear fashion up the wash (a dry streambed subject to occasional water flows), away from the lakefront, rather than along the shore. Katherine Landing is located near the southern end of the lake in Arizona, approximately 1.5 miles north of the Davis Dam. The majority of development lies within Katherine Wash, but also extends to the north, encompassing South and North Telephone Cove, Cabinsite Cove, and Princess Cove. Both developments accommodate a wide variety of recreational activities and provide public launch facilities and commercial marina services as well as other public use and support facilities.

*Purpose and Need:* The 1986 Lake Mead National Recreation Area General Management Plan (1986 GMP) addresses the need to provide recreational opportunities while preserving and protecting natural and cultural resources. The 1986 GMP established land-based management zones and included development concept plans for the Cottonwood Cove and Katherine Landing that identify limits on the development, establish the number and type of facilities for the development, and address flood hazards. The 1986 GMP's vision for both areas is to accommodate increasing use, enhance the visitor experience, and mitigate flood hazards.

The 2003 Lake Mead National Recreation Area Lake Management Plan (2003 LMP) further refined management of Lakes Mead and Mohave, the associated shorelines, and developed areas to ensure protection of park resources while allowing a range of recreational opportunities to support visitor needs. At Cottonwood Cove, the 2003 LMP authorized an increase in boating capacity and called for separation of public and commercial marina operations. At Katherine Landing, the 2003 LMP maintained existing boating capacities and provided for separating recreational activities.

The purpose of the subject Cottonwood Cove and Katherine Landing development concept plans is to revisit the implementation strategies identified in the 1986 GMP and 2003 LMP. A number of the management actions identified in both approved plans require more site specific development planning, including a transportation analysis to evaluate

parking and traffic circulation and an economic feasibility study of concession operations, prior to implementation. The subject development concept plans will be consistent with the management direction established in both previous plans, including the purpose and significance statements, management zoning designations, and overall strategies for managing each developed area, although specific actions (e.g., facility locations, roadway circulation) could differ from those recommended in the previous plans.

*Preliminary Issues:* The park's preliminary assessment of issues and conditions which warrant a new and detailed examination of development and operational needs for Cottonwood Cove and Katherine Landing include the following:

- Congestion and conflicts between users is a key issue to be resolved, which derives from numerous people, facilities, and activities occurring within the limited land based areas of both developments. The areas require a focused analysis of development needs, including a parking and circulation assessment, to identify possible facility improvement, relocation, and expansion. Facility development must be consistent with the approved lake carrying capacity.

- Both developed areas contain Mission 66-era historic districts, structures, and cultural landscapes eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The Mission 66 program was a large scale effort by the NPS to upgrade national park infrastructure after World War II. Planning must evaluate strategies to balance the need for preserving cultural resources while providing a more functional development layout and design in keeping with contemporary design standards and visitor needs.

- With the growth of communities outside of the park near both development areas, there is a need to evaluate which services and support facilities are necessary and appropriate at Cottonwood Cove and Katherine Landing, and which services should be accommodated outside of the park.

- Concession services and facilities support a variety of visitor activities. Economic feasibility of all concession operations needs to be evaluated for any preliminary development proposals that may affect facilities operated by the park's concession.

- Cottonwood Cove and Katherine Landing are both high hazard areas for flash flooding. Flood mitigation is of paramount importance to assure public safety and protection of property. Design for structural flood protection at

both developments has been updated and needs to be integrated into the implementation planning.

*Public Involvement:* Public and agency involvement will be solicited at key steps in the overall EIS process including initial scoping, drafting of preliminary alternatives, and review of the draft development concept plan/EIS. The objectives of the public scoping phase include: (1) Encourage broad participation from federal, tribal, state, local governments and other interested parties; (2) Inform all interested parties about the scope of the problem and the need to find solutions; (3) Identify a preliminary range of management options (in addition to a no-action alternative that maintains existing conditions, and which serves a baseline from which proposed management changes can be compared and evaluated); (4) Identify relevant natural and cultural resources, recreational uses, socioeconomic and other factors which warrant detailed environmental impact analysis, and eliminate issues or topics which do not require analysis; (5) Identify potential environmental impacts and suitable mitigation strategies sufficient to avoid unacceptable impacts and impairment of park resources and values.

The NPS encourages early participation from federal and state agencies, Native Americans, local governments, private organizations, businesses, recreational users, and the public in identifying the spectrum of issues which should be addressed in this EIS. If you wish to comment on any issues or provide relevant environmental information, you may submit written comments to the planning team at the address as noted above. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment-including your personal identifying information-may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

At this time, it is anticipated that a series of public meetings will be hosted in neighboring communities during August-September, 2008; confirmed dates and locations will be announced through local and regional media, direct park mailings, and via updates posted on the park's Web site and on the NPS Planning, Environment & Public Comment Web site (<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/lame>).

*Decision Process:* Formal announcement of the availability of the Draft EIS will be published in the **Federal Register**, through local and regional media and the park and NPS Web sites and through distribution of the document to public libraries. Following due consideration of all comments received, a Final EIS will be prepared. As a delegated EIS, the official responsible for a final decision is the Regional Director, Pacific West Region. Subsequently the official responsible for implementing the approved development concept plans and for monitoring results is the Superintendent, Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Dated: May 15, 2008.

**George J. Turnbull,**

*Acting Regional Director, Pacific West Region.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### **Notice of Inventory Completion: Alaska State Office, Bureau of Land Management, Anchorage, AK; and Museum of the Aleutians, Unalaska, AK**

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

Notice is here given in accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3003, of the completion of an inventory of human remains in the control of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, Anchorage, AK, and in the possession of the Museum of the Aleutians, Unalaska, AK. The human remains were removed from Umnak Island, AK.

This notice is published as part of the National Park Service's administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA, 25 U.S.C. 3003 (d)(3). The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the museum, institution, or Federal agency that has control of the Native American human remains. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

A detailed assessment of the human remains was made by the Alaska State Office, Bureau of Land Management, Museum of the Aleutians, and Smithsonian Institution professional staff in consultation with representatives of the Native Village of Nikol'ski.

Between 1950 and the 1980s, human remains representing a minimum of 212 individuals were removed from various sites in the southwestern part of Umnak Island, located in the Fox Island group of the eastern Aleutian Islands, AK. These sites included the Chaluka site at the Native Village of Nikol'ski, Ogalodox site, Sandy Beach site, and other nearby smaller sites. The exact provenience for each individual can not be determined. All of the human remains were probably removed at the direction of the late Dr. William Laughlin from Umnak Island, as they were later found to be among his collections. No known individuals were identified. No associated funerary objects are present.

According to museum records, the 212 sets of human remains were probably first sent to the University of Wisconsin, but then removed by Dr. William Laughlin to the University of Connecticut at an unknown date. From there, they were shipped by Dr. Laughlin to the Museum of the Aleutians in 1998, where they are presently located.

During 1961-62, human remains representing a minimum of nine individuals were removed from the Chaluka site at the Native Village of Nikol'ski, on Umnak Island in the Fox Island group of the eastern Aleutian Islands, AK. The human remains were also probably removed at the direction of the late Dr. William Laughlin from Umnak Island, as they were later found to be among his collections. No known individuals were identified. No associated funerary objects are present.

The remains of the nine individuals were shipped to the University of Wisconsin for study by Dr. William Laughlin and remained there until after his death. In 2006, the human remains were sent to the Smithsonian Institution for inventory, where they are presently located.

Umnak Island has been inhabited for over 8,000 years by Aleut (Unangan) people. Based on geographical location, oral history, and archeological evidence, the human remains from this island are of Aleut (Unangan) origin. The Aleut (Unangan) are ancestors of inhabitants of the Native Village of Nikol'ski, the current and only Indian tribe and settlement on Umnak Island, AK.

Officials of the Bureau of Land Management have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (9-10), the human remains described above represent the physical remains of a minimum of 221 individuals of Native American ancestry. Officials of the Bureau of Land Management have also determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (2), there is a relationship of

shared group identity that can be reasonably traced between the Native American human remains and the Native Village of Nikol'ski.

Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with the human remains should contact Dr. Robert E. King, Alaska State NAGPRA Coordinator, Bureau of Land Management, 222 W. 7th Avenue, #13, Anchorage, AK 99513-7599, telephone (907) 271-5510, before September 12, 2008. Repatriation of the human remains to the Native Village of Nikol'ski may proceed after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for notifying the Chaluka Corporation and Native Village of Nikol'ski that this notice has been published.

Dated: July 8, 2008

**Daniel Odess,**

*Assistant Associate Director, Park Cultural Resources.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### **Notice of Inventory Completion: Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository, Kodiak, AK**

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

Notice is here given in accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3003, of the completion of an inventory of human remains in the possession of Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository, Kodiak, AK. The human remains were removed from Anton Larsen Bay, Kodiak Island, AK.

This notice is published as part of the National Park Service's administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA, 25 U.S.C. 3003 (d)(3). The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the museum, institution, or Federal agency that has control of the Native American human remains. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

A detailed assessment of the human remains was made by the Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository professional staff in consultation with representatives of the Afognak Native Corporation; Native Village of Afognak (formerly the Village of Afognak); Anton Larsen, Inc.; Koniak, Inc.; Ouzinkie