plan for achieving refuge purposes and contributing toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS), consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and our policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction on conserving wildlife and their habitats, CCPs identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education and interpretation. We will review and update the CCP at least every 15 years in accordance with the Improvement Act.

CCP Alternatives and Selected Alternative

Both our draft and final CCP/EIS identified several major issues. To address those issues, we developed and evaluated three alternatives for managing Ash Meadows and Moapa Valley NWRS and four alternatives for managing Desert and Pahranagat NWRS. These alternatives are outlined in the final CCP/EIS Summary document available at http://www.fws.gov/desertcomplex/ccp.htm.

Our decision is to adopt Alternative C for Ash Meadows, Desert, and Moapa Valley NWRS and Alternative D for Pahranagat NWR, as described in the ROD. The ROD details the basis of our decision, which we made after considering the following: the impacts identified in Chapter 4 of the draft and final CCP/EIS; the results of public and other agency comments; how well the alternative addresses the relevant issues, concerns, and opportunities identified during the planning process; and other relevant factors, including fulfilling the purposes for which the wildlife refuges were established, contributing to the mission and goals of the NWRS, and statutory and regulatory guidance. We have determined that Alternative C for Ash Meadows, Desert, and Moapa Valley NWRS and Alternative D for Pahranagat NWR include the suite of activities that best achieve the stated purpose and need for action and the goals for each wildlife refuge presented in the final CCP/EIS Chapter 1. These alternatives were selected for implementation because they provide the greatest number of opportunities for the wildlife refuges to make a significant contribution to the conservation of fish, wildlife, and habitat needs in the region, balanced with opportunities for high-quality wildlife-dependant recreation.

Dated: January 26, 2010.

Ren Lohofener,
Regional Director, Pacific Southwest Region, Sacramento, California.
[FR Doc. 2010–2046 Filed 1–29–10; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Temporary Concession Contract for Lake Mead National Recreation Area, AZ/NV

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intention to award temporary concession contract for Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 36 CFR 51.24, public notice is hereby given that the National Park Service intends to award a temporary concession contract for the conduct of certain visitor services within Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Arizona and Nevada, for a term not to exceed 3 years. The visitor services include marina and boat rentals, overnight accommodations, food and beverage, retail, fuel, and short term trailer villages. This action is necessary to avoid interruption of visitor services.

DATES: The term of the temporary concession contract will commence (if awarded) no earlier than February 1, 2010.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The temporary concession contract is intended to be awarded to Forever Resorts, a qualified person (as defined in 36 CFR 51.3). The existing concessioner, Seven Resorts, Inc., has informed the National Park Service (NPS) that it will be concluding its operations at Echo Bay under CC–LAME010–71 within Lake Mead National Recreation Area effective January 31, 2010.

The National Park Service has determined that a temporary concession contract is necessary in order to avoid interruption of visitor services and has taken all reasonable and appropriate steps to consider alternatives to avoid an interruption of visitor services.

This action is issued pursuant to 36 CFR 51.24(a). This is not a request for proposals.

January 5, 2010.

Jonathan B. Jarvis,
Director, National Park Service.
[FR Doc. 2010–1861 Filed 1–29–10; 8:45 am]