Director’s Order Number 2 (Park Planning) and Director’s Order Number 12 (Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis, and Decision-making) the NPS announces the availability of the ROD for the GMP/FEIS for the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site, Tuskegee, Alabama. On August 11, 2010, the Regional Director, NPS, Southeast Region, approved the ROD for the project. The ROD includes a description of the project’s background, a decision statement, synopses of other alternatives considered, the basis for the final decision, findings on impairment of the site’s resources and values, a description of the environmentally preferable alternative, and an overview of public and agency involvement in the planning process.

DATES: The ROD was signed by the Regional Director, NPS, Southeast Region, on August 11, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the ROD are available by contacting the Park Superintendent at the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site (NHS), 1616 Chappie James Avenue, Tuskegee, Alabama 36083; telephone: 334–727–6390.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Five alternatives were evaluated in the EIS. Alternative A, the no-action alternative, described current management of the site and served as a basis for comparison in evaluating the other alternatives. Alternative B emphasized the natural environment by keeping Tuskegee Airmen NHS largely undeveloped and natural in character outside of the core historic area. Alternative C aims to restore much of the Park to its historic 1945 appearance. Alternative D is the selected alternative. It preserves and protects cultural resources and the core historic area while offering the most diversity of visitor interpretive programs, natural areas, and recreational opportunities. Alternative E preserved the core historic area and offered the most recreational opportunities.

Among the five alternatives considered, the selected alternative best protects the diversity of Park resources while also maintaining a range of quality visitor experiences, meets NPS purposes and goals for the Tuskegee Airmen NHS, and meets National Environmental Policy Act goals. The selected alternative will not result in the impairment of Park resources and will allow the NPS to conserve Park resources and provide for their enjoyment by visitors.

Authority: The authority for publishing this notice is 40 CFR. 1500.6.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact the Superintendent, Tuskegee Airmen NHS, at the address and telephone number shown above. An electronic copy of the ROD is available on the Internet at http://parkplanning.nps.gov.

The responsible official for this ROD is the Regional Director, Southeast Region, NPS, 100 Alabama Street, SW., 1924 Building, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.


David Vela,
Regional Director, Southeast Region.

[FR Doc. 2010–29539 Filed 11–23–10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312–KB–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[2031–A046–409]

General Management Plan/Wilderness Study/Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Big Cypress National Preserve Addition, Florida

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.


SUMMARY: Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and National Park Service (NPS) policy in Director’s Order Number 2 (Park Planning) and Director’s Order Number 12 (Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis, and Decision-making), the NPS announces the availability of a Final Environmental Impact Statement for the GMP/WS/ORV Plan for the Big Cypress National Preserve, Florida.

The 1991 GMP for the original Preserve contains no guidance for the approximately 147,000 acres added to the Preserve in 1988 by Public Law 100–301 (the Addition). A GMP is needed to clearly define resource conditions and visitor experiences to be achieved in the Addition.

DATES: The National Park Service will execute a Record of Decision (ROD) no sooner than 30 days following publication by the Environmental Protection Agency of the Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

ADDRESSES: The document will be available for public review online at http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov/bicy. In addition, a limited number of CDs and hard copies will be made available at Preserve headquarters. You may also request a hard copy or CD by contacting Big Cypress National Preserve, 33100 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, Florida 34141–1000; telephone 239–695–1103.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public scoping was initiated in the summer of 2001. Public meetings and seven newsletters were used to keep the public informed and involved throughout the planning process for the Addition. The Draft GMP/WS/ORV Plan/EIS was distributed to other agencies, interested organizations, and individuals for their review and comment during the summer of 2009. Four public meetings and wilderness hearings were held.

The draft document was revised as a result of public and agency feedback received during the public comment period. The Final GMP/WS/ORV Plan/ EIS provides a framework for management, use, and development options for the Addition by the NPS for the next 15 to 20 years. It describes four management alternatives for consideration, including a no-action alternative that continues the current management framework. The three action alternatives present a range of ORV opportunities, proposed wilderness, and visitor facilities. The document analyzes the environmental impacts of the alternatives.

The four alternatives (with names as they appear in the document) are as follows:

• Alternative A: No-Action Alternative—the continuation of current management practices and trends. The enabling legislation would be the long-term document to guide management and development of the Preserve.

• Alternative B: The concept for management under alternative B would be to enable visitor participation in a wide variety of outdoor recreational experiences. It would nearly maximize motorized access to sustainable trails (up to 132 miles of motorized trails), provide the least amount of proposed wilderness (about 37,567 acres), and develop limited new hiking-only trails. The entire off-road vehicle (ORV) trail system would be implemented without phased establishment and the assessment of monitoring results. New visitor and operations facilities along the I–75 corridor would also be provided.

• Preferred Alternative: The preferred alternative would provide diverse frontcountry and backcountry recreational opportunities, enhance day
use and interpretive opportunities along road corridors, and enhance recreational opportunities with new facilities and services. This alternative would provide substantial ORV access to sustainable trails (approximately 130 miles of motorized trails), provide a moderate amount of proposed wilderness (about 47,067 acres), provide nonmotorized trail opportunities and new camping opportunities, and develop a partnership approach to visitor orientation. Implementation of the ORV trail system would be phased to ensure protection of sensitive species and the environment. Areas found to be eligible for wilderness designation but not proposed as wilderness would be protected through management zoning that would maintain and protect natural values. New visitor and operations facilities along the I–75 corridor would also be provided.

Alternative F: Alternative F would emphasize resource preservation, restoration, and research while providing recreational opportunities with limited facilities and support. This alternative would provide the maximum amount of wilderness (about 71,260 acres), no ORV use, and minimal new facilities for visitor contact along I–75.

Authority: The authority for publishing this notice is 40 CFR 1506.6.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Big Cypress National Preserve at the address and telephone number shown above.

The responsible official for this Final EIS is the Regional Director, Southeast Region, NPS, 100 Alabama Street, SW., 1924 Building, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Dated: November 18, 2010.

Gayle Hazelwood,
Acting Regional Director, Southeast Region, National Park Service.

[FR Doc. 2010–29769 Filed 11–22–10; 4:15 pm]
BILLING CODE 4310–V6–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
National Park Service

Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Harvest of Glaucous-Winged Gull Eggs by Huna Tlingit in Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve Legislative Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.


SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Legislative Environmental Impact Statement (LEIS) on the Harvest of Glaucous-Winged Gull Eggs by Huna Tlingit in Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. The Record of Decision (ROD) documents the NPS determination that harvest of glaucous-winged gull eggs could be authorized in Glacier Bay National Park without impairing the biological sustainability of the Park’s glaucous-winged gull population or impacting other Park purposes and values. Implementation of the decision would require promulgation of public law and regulations, revising Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Section 4 of the Glacier Bay National Park Resource Management Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106–455) directed the NPS to “* * * undertake a study of sea gulls living within the park to assess whether sea gull eggs can be collected on a limited basis without impairing the biological sustainability of the sea gull population in the park.” The legislation also states that if the study determines collection could occur without impairing the biological sustainability of the gull population in the park, “* * * the Secretary shall submit recommendations for legislation * * *” to the House and Senate authorizing committees.

The ROD documents the NPS selection of Alternative 3 (Two Annual Harvest Visits to Five Locations) based on consideration of the Park’s purposes and mission, NPS policies, resource information and values analyzed in the Final Legislative Environmental Impact Statement (FLEIS), and comments received throughout the LEIS process. The FLEIS analysis determined this alternative would not adversely impact Park purposes and resources. Disturbance to nestling gulls is expected to be minimal. The FLEIS analysis concluded that these effects would be minor and would not affect sustainability of gull populations in the Park.

The basis for the decision stems from Park objectives and purposes and the need to respond to Section 4 of Public Law 106–455. Specifically, the decision was based on the following objectives:

• Provide for a limited gull egg harvest in the Park by tribal members of the Hoonah Indian Association (HIA)
• Not impair the biological sustainability of the Park’s glaucous-winged gull population
• Protect Park resources and values

The ROD briefly discusses the background of the project, states the decision and discusses its basis, identifies mitigating measures, summarizes public involvement, describes other alternatives considered, specifies the environmentally preferable alternative, provides a non-impairment determination, and provides a conclusion.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The ROD describes how the selected Alternative (Alternative 3—Two Annual Harvest Visits to Five Locations) could be implemented upon enactment of legislation to authorize the annual harvest of glaucous-winged gull eggs at up to five designated locations in Glacier Bay National Park on two separate dates by members of the Huna Indian Association (HIA). Legislative proposals from the NPS are subject to review by the Department of the Interior and the Executive Office of the President before transmittal to Congress can be approved. Thus, a legislative proposal is not included in the Record of Decision. If legislation authorizing the annual harvest of glaucous-winged gull eggs is enacted, each year the NPS and the HIA would prepare a harvest plan to identify sites open to harvest based on annual monitoring and harvest history. A first harvest visit could occur at each of the open sites on or before the