

Posey County

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service**

[NPS–NCR–POHE–0911–7946; 3991–0101–SZS]

Notice of Availability, Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of a “Foundation for Planning, Administration, Management and Interpretation of Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail Segments and for Coordination among Trail Segment Management Partners.”

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Trails System Act of 1968 (as amended), the National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of a “Foundation for Planning, Administration, Management and Interpretation of Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail Segments and for Coordination among Trail Segment Management Partners (Foundation).” This document is intended to serve as a resource for NPS staff and Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail (Trail) segment management partners and to help create continuity of experience throughout the Trail network.

DATES: The “Foundation” is available for review and reference on the NPS Web site as of January 11, 2012.

ADDRESSES: The “Foundation” and appendices are available online at <http://www.nps.gov/pohe/parkmgmt/planning.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald E. Briggs, Superintendent, Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail, National Capital Region, National Park Service, at (304) 535–4016 or by email at don_briggs@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In 1983, based on a feasibility study completed by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation in 1974, Congress amended the National Trails System Act of 1968, designating a corridor for the Trail between the mouth of the Potomac River and the Allegheny Highlands in western Pennsylvania. Based on extensive coordination among the staff of local, regional, state and other federal agencies; representatives of non-profit organizations; volunteers; and other Trail stakeholders, the Trail network

today includes over 830 miles of existing and planned Trail segments for non-motorized travel. Communities have invested in the Trail concept for a variety of reasons, including a desire to increase opportunities for outdoor recreation, non-motorized transportation, education and/or heritage tourism.

The Foundation assembles in one document decisions and recommendations made over the past 11 years and establishes a basis for future local, regional, state and Federal planning; NPS administration of the Federal interest in the Trail; management of individual Trail segments, including Trail segment marking; interpretation; coordination among Trail management partners; and creating “continuity of experience” through the diverse Trail network.

The document recognizes a change in authorizing legislation—Trail segments are recognized through cooperative management agreements between the NPS and Trail segment management partners, replacing an application process—and emphasizes that Trail blazes, where used to mark Trail routes, should employ a color used in the official Trail marker. The Foundation, along with regional and state plans to be added in the future as appendices, will serve as a comprehensive management plan for the Trail network, will reflect accurately the Trail as a set of partnerships, and will provide a means to address efficiently the need for adaptive planning and management.

Dated: July 21, 2011.

Stephen E. Whitesell

Regional Director, National Capital Region.

[FR Doc. 2012–280 Filed 1–10–12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service****Proposed Concession Contract for Shenandoah National Park—Alternative Formula for Calculating Leasehold Surrender Interest**

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service invites public comments on a proposed alternative formula for the value of leasehold surrender interest to be included in its proposed ten-year concession contract for Shenandoah National Park. The contract will cover operation of the lodging, food and beverage, retail sales, gasoline, and horseback riding operations at the Park.

DATES: Public comments will be accepted on or before February 10, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Ms. Jo A. Pendry, Chief, Commercial Services Program, National Park Service, 1201 Eye Street NW., 11th Floor, Washington, DC 20005 or via email at jo_pendry@nps.gov or via fax at (202) 371–2090.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jo A. Pendry, (202) 513–7156.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The National Park Service will be soliciting proposals for operation of the lodging, food and beverage, retail sales, gasoline, and horseback riding operations at Shenandoah National Park in 2012. The new contract is intended to be for a term of 10 years and will include an alternative formula for calculating leaseholder surrender interest. In this notice, we are soliciting comments on our use of this alternative formula. While we aren't required by law to solicit comments on this alternative formula, we are providing an opportunity for public comment because this is only the second time that we have proposed using an alternative LSI formula.

Leasehold surrender interest (LSI) is the interest in real property improvements that a concessioner provides under an NPS concession contract. Public Law 105–391 of 1998 (the 1998 Act) established the standard LSI valuation formula. The formula is generally as follows:

- The initial construction cost of the related capital improvement.
- adjusted by the percentage increase or decrease in the Consumer Price Index (CPI).
- less physical depreciation of the related capital improvement.

The 1998 Act also allows alternative LSI-value formulas for contracts with an LSI value over \$10 million. Because the new contract for Shenandoah National Park will exceed \$10 million, we are proposing to use an alternative LSI formula. Under our proposed alternative formula, the LSI value of all eligible capital improvements will be depreciated annually, in equal portions, on a forty (40) year, straight-line basis during the contract's 10-year term.

We Have Made Two Determinations

We have determined, subject to consideration of public comments, that:

- The proposed alternative LSI formula, in comparison to the standard LSI formula, is necessary to provide a fair return to the Government and to foster competition for the new contract by providing a reasonable opportunity for profit to the new concessioner.