

address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Dated: May 15, 2002.

R. Everhart,
Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Service.
[FR Doc. 02-24070 Filed 9-20-02; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Environmental Statements; Notice of Intent

AGENCY: National Park Service.
ACTION: Notice of intent for a General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for Monocacy National Battlefield (NB), Maryland.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service (NPS) is preparing an environmental impact statement for the general management plan (GMP) for Monocacy National Battlefield. The planning effort will result in a comprehensive general management plan that encompass preservation of cultural and natural resources, visitor use and interpretation, and necessary and appropriate facilities. In cooperation with local interests, attention will also be given to resources outside the boundaries that affect the integrity of the battlefield. Alternatives to be considered include no-action, the preferred alternative, and other alternatives addressing the following major issues:

- How can the important natural and cultural resources be best protected and preserved, while providing for visitor use for present and future generations?
- What level and type of use is appropriate to be consistent with the park's purpose and to relate to the park's significance?
- What facilities are needed to meet the mission goals of the park regarding natural and cultural resource management, visitor use and interpretation, partnerships, and operations?

The NPS is planning to hold public scoping meetings regarding the project during the week of July 29, 2002. Specific dates, times, and locations will be announced in the local media, and can be obtained by contacting the park superintendent. The purpose of these meetings is to explain the planning process and to obtain comments concerning appropriate resource management desired visitor use, interpretation, facilities, and issues that need to be resolved. In addition to attending scoping meetings, people wishing to provide input to this initial phase of developing GMP may address comments to the superintendent. Scoping comments should be received no later than 60 days from the publication of this Notice of Intent.

Comments: If you wish to submit issues or provide input to this initial phase of developing GMP, you may do so by any one of several methods. In addition to attending scoping meetings, you may mail comments to Park Manager, Monocacy National Battlefield, 4801 Urbana Pike, Frederick, Maryland 21704-7307. You may comment via the Internet to susan_trail@nps.gov. Please submit Internet comments as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Please also include "Attention: GMP Team" and your name and return address in your Internet message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that we have received your Internet message, contact Park Manager Susan Trail, directly, at (301) 662-6980. Finally, you may hand-deliver your comments to park headquarters, Monocacy National Battlefield, 4801 Urbana Pike, Frederick, Maryland. Scoping comments should be received no later than 60 days from the publication of this Notice of Intent. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home addresses from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold, from the record, a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of

organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Park Manager Susan Trail, 4801 Urbana Pike, Frederick, Maryland 21704-7307; telephone: (301) 662-6980; fax: (301) 662-3420; e-mail: susan_trail@nps.gov.

Terry R. Carlstrom,
Regional Director, National Capital Region.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Fire Management Plan, Environmental Impact Statement, Saguaro National Park, Arizona

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the Fire Management Plan for Saguaro National Park.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service is preparing an environmental impact statement for the Fire Management Plan for Saguaro National Park. This effort will result in a new wildland fire management plan that meets current policies, provides a framework for making fire-related decisions, and serves as an operational manual. Development of a new fire plan is compatible with the broader goals and objectives derived from the park purposes that governs resources management. Alternatives to be considered include no-action, the Fire Management Unit Based Plan Natural Ignition, and Landscape Plan. The no-action alternative maintains the current 1991 fire management plan strategy of suppression, prescribed natural fire, and prescribed burning. The Fire Management Unit Based Plan Natural Ignition alternative would allow fires to burn in certain areas of the park under conditions which meet resource objectives. Prescribed fires would be carried out by park personnel to reduce hazardous fuel accumulations around developments and near park boundaries. The Landscape Plan calls for the National Park Service and adjacent U.S. Forest Service to jointly formulate a fire management plan that covers the entire landscape of the Rincon Mountains or a more naturally bounded portion of the range.

Major issues include environmental effects of the FMP that are potential problems and include depression of plant and wildlife populations,

disturbance of unique sites, increased erosion or debris flow, increased air pollution, hazards to life and property, visitor inconvenience, and damage to cultural resources.

A scoping brochure has been prepared describing the issues identified to date. Copies of the brochures may be obtained from Sarah Craighead, Superintendent, Saguaro National Park, 3693 S. Old Spanish Trail, Tucson, AZ 85730, (520) 733-5153.

DATES: The Park Service will accept comments from the public for 30 days from the date this notice is published in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Information will be available for public review and comment in the Fire Management Office, Saguaro National Park, 3693 S. Old Spanish Trail, Tucson, AZ 85730, (520) 733-5130.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chuck Scott, Fire Management Officer, Saguaro National Park, (520) 733-5130.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: If you wish to comment on the scoping brochure, or any other issues associated with the plan, you may submit your comments by any one of the several methods. You may mail comments to Chuck Scott, Fire Management Officer, Saguaro National Park, 3693 S. Old Spanish Trail, Tucson, AZ 85730. You may also comment via the Internet to Chuck_Scott@nps.gov. Please submit Internet comments as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Please also include "Attn: Fire Management Plan" and your name and return address in your Internet message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that we have received your Internet message, contact us directly at the Fire Management Office (520) 733-5130. Finally, you may hand-deliver comments to the above address. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this preeminently at the beginning of your comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of

organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Karen P. Wade,
Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for a right-of-way request to cross the Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway (Riverway) with the Arrowhead—Weston Electric Transmission Line Project, Wisconsin.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), the National Park Service (NPS) will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to consider a right-of-way request from Minnesota Power and Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (the Utilities). The Utilities are requesting the right-of-way in order to cross the Namekagon River with the Arrowhead-Weston Electric Transmission Line Project.

The Arrowhead-Weston Electric Transmission Line Project is a proposed 345-kilovolt (kV) bulk electric transmission line that would reach 220 miles from the Arrowhead Substation near Duluth, Minnesota to the Weston Substation near Wausau, Wisconsin. According to the applicants, the purpose of the project is to strengthen the bulk transmission system by providing a second high-capacity connection across the Wisconsin-Minnesota transmission interface. The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, the State Agency with regulatory authority for the overall project, approved the routing for the line in late 2001. The Utilities are now seeking other necessary permits from Federal, State and local agencies.

The State-approved route for the Arrowhead-Weston Project crosses the Namekagon River in Stinnett Township, approximately 10 river miles west of Hayward, Wisconsin. The Namekagon River is part of the Riverway, which is administered by the NPS. The Utilities need a right-of-way permit from the NPS to cross the Riverway. The Utilities propose to cross at an existing 161-kV transmission line easement granted to

Xcel Energy by private landowners prior to NPS land acquisition in the area. The span of the transmission line that would be within the Riverway boundary is 4500 feet.

The EIS will consider a range of alternatives for the crossing including a double-circuit single overhead transmission line combined with the existing 161-kV line, undergrounding the existing 161kV with the proposed 345-kV line built overhead, undergrounding the 345-kV line with the 161-kV line built overhead, and undergrounding both lines. Depending on the alternative, an additional 10-55 feet of right-of-way would be required on the eastside of the existing transmission line easement. A no action alternative will be included to provide a baseline of existing conditions against which to compare the impacts of the action alternatives. An additional alternative will be considered that would go around the Namekagon River to the east in order to disclose the potential impacts should the right-of-way request be denied. Since the NPS has no authority to require such a route, this alternative will be explored in a general, rather than site specific, sense.

The Riverway was designated under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act in 1968 (Public Law 90-542, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1271-1287) to protect its free-flowing quality and its outstanding natural, scenic, aesthetic, cultural, and recreational values. The EIS will analyze the impacts of each alternative on natural and cultural resources, scenic values, recreation use, and social and economic resources. Major issues to be addressed in the EIS will include the impact of the proposed crossing on scenic values and the visitor experience. The responsible NPS manager must determine whether or not the proposed action could lead to impairment of park resources and values. The information presented in the EIS will be used to reach a decision about the right-of-way request.

Additional issues to be addressed in the EIS may be identified during the scoping process. Federal, State, local agencies, and individuals or organizations are invited to participate in the scoping process. The scoping process will include the identification of potential issues, the identification of potential impact topics and topics to be analyzed in depth, and the determination of potential cooperating agencies and assignment of responsibilities.

DATES: A public scoping meeting in an open house format will be held in the Hayward area in early fall. Public notice