

and has an interest that may be adversely affected may protest approval of the Plan Amendment. Protest should be made to the BLM Director with the following information: (1) Name, mailing address, telephone number, and interest of the person filing the protest; (2) a statement of the concern or concerns being protested; (3) a statement of the part or parts being protested; (4) a copy of all documents addressing the concern or concerns that were submitted during the planning process by the protesting party or an indication of the date the concern or concerns were discussed for the records; and (5) a concise statement explaining why the BLM New Mexico State Director's decision is wrong. At the end of the 30-day protest period, the Proposed Plan, excluding any portions under protest, will become final. Approval will be withheld on any portion of the Plan under protest until final action has been completed on such protest. Individuals not wishing to protest the Plan, but wanting to comment, may send comments to the BLM, Las Cruces Field Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005. All comments received will be considered in preparation of the Decision Record.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the BLM Las Cruces Field Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico, during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of the RMP Amendment/EA. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

The direct sale will be subject to:

1. A reservation to the United States of a right-of-way for ditches or canals constructed by the authority of the United States in accordance with the Act of August 30, 1890 (43 U.S.C. 945).

2. All minerals shall be reserved to the United States, together with the right to prospect for, mine, and remove the minerals. A more detailed description of this reservation, which will be incorporated in the patent

document or other document of conveyance is available for review at this BLM office. Publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** will segregate the public land from appropriations under the public land laws including the mining laws but not the mineral leasing laws. This segregation will terminate upon the issuance of a patent or other document of conveyance, 270 days from date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or upon publication of Notice of Termination, whichever occurs first.

Any adverse comments concerning the direct sale will be evaluated by the State Director who may sustain, vacate, or modify the realty action. In the absence of any objections, the realty action will become the final determination of the Department of the Interior.

Dated: May 18, 1999.

Linda S.C. Rundell,

Field Manager, Las Cruces.

[FR Doc. 99-12998 Filed 5-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-VC-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Formal Planning and Development of a Soundscape Management Plan for Biscayne National Park, Homestead, FL

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Announcement initiating the planning and development of a Soundscape Management Plan for Biscayne National Park, Florida.

SUMMARY: This May, the National Park Service will begin formal planning and development of a Soundscape Management Plan for Biscayne National Park, Homestead, Florida.

The Park was established as a national monument in 1968. In 1980 it was enlarged to 181,500 acres and redesignated as a national park to protect a rare combination of subtropical terrestrial, marine, and amphibious life. Preservation and restoration of the natural sound environments within Biscayne National Park has become one of the foremost challenges in the protection of park resources. Today, natural ambient sound are threatened and the experience of park visitors is altered, as noises of civilization and technological conveniences increasingly reach even the most remote corners of the park.

Biscayne National Park has sought National Park Service guidance with regard to protecting, restoring and

managing the park soundscape as a resource. As a result, the park has determined a need to evaluate and manage our collective soundscape including natural sounds as well as sounds generated by park operations, visitor activities, aircraft overflights and other human sources. To address this challenge, Biscayne National Park will begin park planning to create a Soundscape Management Plan. The park will be requesting public input and participation during the various stages of the planning process.

DATES: The draft plan is expected to be available for public comment this fall. Refer to local and regional newspapers for further information on public meeting dates, times and locations.

ADDRESSES: Anyone wishing to provide comments or suggestions on the Soundscape Management Plan may send such information to: Superintendent, Biscayne National Park, 9700 SW 328th Street, Homestead, FL 33033-5634, or BSIC__Soundstage@nps.gov.

Dated: May 12, 1999.

Daniel W. Brown,

Regional Director, Southeast Region.

[FR Doc. 99-13059 Filed 5-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Fort Stanwix National Monument, Oneida County, New York; Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Public Meetings

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Pub. L. 91-109 section 102 (c)), the National Park Service (NPS) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Fort Stanwix National Monument, located in Rome, Oneida County, New York. The purpose of the EIS is to assess the impacts of alternative management strategies which will be described in the General Management Plan (GMP) for Fort Stanwix National Monument. A range of alternatives will be formulated for cultural resource protection, visitor use and interpretation, facilities development, and operations.

The NPS will hold a public meeting on June 9, 1999, 6:30 p.m., at the Rome Historical Society, 200 Church Street, Rome, New York 13440, to provide an opportunity for public input into the scoping for the GMP/EIS. A newsletter will be distributed through the local media, announcing the date, time and

location of this meeting, as well as to describe the status of the general management plan process to date. The purpose of this meeting is to obtain both written and verbal comments concerning the management alternatives that will effect Fort Stanwix National Monument. Those persons who wish to comment verbally or in writing should contact Joanne Arany, Planning Project Manager, Upstate New York Project Office, National Park Service, C/O SUNY-ESF, Room 331 Marshall Hall, One Forestry Drive, Syracuse, New York 13210, (315) 470-6995.

The draft GMP/EIS is expected to be completed and available for public review in late 1999. After public and interagency review of the draft document comments will be considered and a final EIS followed by a Record of Decision will be prepared. The responsible official is Gary Warshefski, Superintendent, Fort Stanwix National Monument, 112 E. Park Street, Rome, New York 13440.

Dated: May 3, 1999.

Gary Warshefski,

Superintendent, Fort Stanwix.

[FR Doc. 99-13060 Filed 5-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

General Management Plan Point Reyes National Seashore Marin County, CA; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

SUMMARY: The National Park Service will prepare a General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (GMP/EIS) for Point Reyes National Seashore (PORE) and initiate the scoping process for this document. This notice is in accordance with 40 CFR 1501.7 and 40 CFR 1508.22, of the regulations of the President's Council on Environmental Quality for the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, Public Law 91-190.

This notice supersedes a previous Notice of Intent which was published on October 14, 1997. Subsequent to issuance of that notice it became necessary to delay preparation of the GMP/EIS. Scoping comments received in response to that notice will be considered in preparation of the GMP and need not be resubmitted.

Background

The purpose of the GMP/EIS will be to state the management philosophy for the Seashore and provide strategies for addressing major issues. Two types of

strategies will be presented in the GMP: (1) Those required to manage and preserve cultural and natural resources; and (2) those required to provide for safe, accessible and appropriate use of those resources by visitors. Based on these strategies, the GMP will identify the programs, actions and support facilities needed for their implementation. The GMP will guide management of PORE over the subsequent 10-15 years.

Persons wishing to comment or express concerns on the management issues and future management direction of Point Reyes National Seashore should address these to the Superintendent, Point Reyes National Seashore, Point Reyes, California 94956. Comments on the scoping of the proposed GMP/EIS should be postmarked no later than November 30, 1999. Public scoping sessions to receive comments and suggestions will be conducted during the scoping period at the park and in the vicinity. The times and locations of these sessions will be announced in the local media. Questions regarding the plan or scoping sessions should be addressed to the Superintendent either by mail to the above address, or by telephone at (415) 663-8522.

The responsible official is John J. Reynolds, Regional Director, Pacific West Region, National Park Service. The draft GMP/EIS is expected to be available for public review in the summer of 2001, and the final GMP/EIS and Record of Decision completed in the spring of 2002.

Dated: May 7, 1999.

John J. Reynolds,

Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

[FR Doc. 99-13062 Filed 5-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Availability of Director's Order Concerning the Establishment of a National Tourism Policy

AGENCY: National Park Service, DOI.

ACTION: Public notice.

SUMMARY: National parks have been interwoven with tourism from the earliest days of the National Park Service. Railroads developed resorts at natural wonders and scenic attractions before parks were established. The lure of the parks as magnets for tourism and related economic activity has been understood and capitalized on by many interests. In the early part of this century, National Park Service leaders

Stephen Mather and Horace Albright believed the public needed to be enticed into the parks to experience them first-hand in order to understand and support their values and importance. Today, the Service is challenged to protect park resources in the face of increased visitation demands, particularly in the high use portions of the most heavily visited parks.

Travel and tourism rank as the number one or two industry in most States and will soon be the leading industry worldwide. Tourism in the United States is a half-trillion dollars-a-year industry that employs more than 15.5 million people directly and indirectly. Many National parks are icons that are on "must see" lists for domestic and international travelers. International travel is this country's largest services export earner.

The purpose of this tourism policy is to promote and support sustainable, responsible, informed, and managed visitor use.

The National Park Service is "dedicated to conserving unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park system for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations." This mission can be partially achieved through a national tourism policy that addresses the needs of both the National Park Service and the tourism industry, i.e., businesses that stage, transport, house, feed, and otherwise provide services to our actual and potential visitors.

At the core of the National Park Service tourism policy is the reality that it is in the best interest of the Service that we understand and pro-actively communicate with tourism businesses. It is to each park's advantage to find appropriate common ground with tourism interests and gain a common understanding of park missions and limitations.

National Park Service participation can help steer tourism in positive directions that emphasize: better visitor information, awareness and responsibility, sustainable practices, greater respect for ecosystems and cultural landscapes and avoidance of conflicts. Furthermore, while the tourism industry places demands on parks, it also can be an effective voice in speaking on behalf of parks and using its considerable influence.

The interests of park managers and the tourism industry are often similar but stem from different missions. Most park units contribute to local and regional economies and are featured destinations for tour operators and for tourism service providers. These