

2003–2007 in the draft proposed *Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program: 2002–2007*. The MMS will be soliciting information from States, local governments, the oil and gas industry, Federal Agencies, environmental and other interested organizations, and the public regarding issues and alternatives that should be evaluated in the EIS. The scoping meetings will provide information for the development of appropriate alternatives and mitigating measures, as well as to identify significant issues, to be considered in the draft EIS. Respondents are requested to focus their comments on the significant environmental issues attendant to OCS oil and gas leasing and development in the CPA and WPA and on alternative options for the size, timing, and location of sales.

DATES: The scoping meetings will be held on the following dates and at the times and locations indicated. Monday, October 15, 2001, The Victorian Condo-Hotel and Conference Center, 6300 Seawall Boulevard, Galveston, Texas, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 16, 2001, Houston Airport Marriott, 18700 Kennedy Boulevard, Houston, Texas, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, October 18, 2001, Ramada Plaza Hotel, 600 S. Beltline Highway, Mobile, Alabama, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday, October 22, 2001, Minerals Management Service, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the scoping meetings or the multisale EIS, please contact Mr. Joseph Christopher, Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123–2394, telephone (504) 736–2774.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Federal regulations allow for several proposals to be analyzed in one EIS (40 CFR 1502.4). Since each sale proposal and projected activities are very similar each year for each planning area, the MMS is preparing a multisale EIS for the nine CPA and WPA lease sales. The multisale approach is intended to focus the NEPA/EIS process on new issues and information for the annual lease sales. At the completion of this EIS process, decisions will be made only for proposed Sales 185 and 187, scheduled to be held in 2003. Subsequent to these first sales in the planning areas, a NEPA review will be conducted for each of the other proposed lease sales in the 2002–2007 Leasing Program. Formal consultation with other Federal Agencies, the affected States, and the public will be carried out to assist in the

determination of whether or not the information and analyses in the original multisale EIS are still valid. These consultations and NEPA reviews will be completed before decisions are made on the subsequent sales. Comments are sought from all interested parties about particular geological, environmental, biological, archaeological and socioeconomic conditions or conflicts, or other information that might bear upon the potential leasing and development in the CPA and WPA. Comments are also sought on possible conflicts between future OCS oil and gas activities that may result from the proposed sales and State Coastal Management Programs (CMP). If possible, these comments should identify specific CMP policies of concern, the nature of the conflict foreseen, and steps that the MMS could take to avoid or mitigate the potential conflict.

Dated: September 10, 2001.

Chris C. Oynes,

Regional Director, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

George Washington Boyhood Home Special Resource Study

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of termination of the Environmental Impact Statement process for the George Washington Boyhood Home Special Resource Study.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Park Service will terminate the Environmental Impact Statement process for this study and prepare an Environmental Assessment.

The U.S. Congress authorized the special resource study in Section 509(c)(3) of Pub. L. 105–355 to examine how the cultural and natural resources of the property can be protected and public use of the site furthered. The George Washington boyhood Home property, also known as Ferry Farm, is located in Stafford County, Virginia. The property, part of the 18 century plantation where George Washington spent his youth, is now owned by the George Washington's Fredericksburg Foundation. Congress also authorized the Department of the Interior, through the National Park Service, to acquire easements on the property. The overall purpose of the study is to identify an

appropriate management framework to achieve resource protection and public use goals. Leadership for the study project is being provided by the Superintendent of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park.

A Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement was published in the **Federal Register** on August 14, 2000. The scoping process has been completed and draft alternatives developed in outline form. The recommended alternative will not involve new legislation. There is no potential for significant environmental effects.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Contact the Superintendent, Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, 540–373–4510 or at ferryfarm@nps.gov.

Dated: April 6, 2001.

Leonard C. Emerson,

Acting, Regional Director, Northeast Region.

[FR Doc. 01–24637 Filed 10–1–01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Draft General Management Plan/ Environmental Assessment, Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site, Essex County, MA

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of Draft General Management Plan/ Environmental Assessment.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Council on Environmental Quality regulations and National Park Service Policy, this notice announces the availability for public review of a Draft General Management Plan/Environmental Assessment for Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site, Essex County, Massachusetts. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act 102(2)(C) of 1969, the environmental assessment was prepared to assess the impacts of implementing the general management plan.

The Draft General Management Plan/ Environmental Assessment presents a Proposal and two Management Alternatives, then assesses the potential environmental, cultural and socioeconomic effects of the actions presented on site resources, visitor experience, and the surrounding area. The Proposal and the Alternatives differ in their approaches to achieving the site's management goals and resolving planning issues associated with those goals. Alternative 1 (The Preferred

Alternative) involves (a) rehabilitating the interior of the museum building to allow for compliance with NPS museum exhibit standards and consolidating the museum collections and archival materials in existing residences that would be adaptively reused to house these resources under appropriate climate controlled and protective systems, (b) removing existing maintenance facilities, restoring their current locations and consolidating them into a single facility, (c) adaptively reusing the Iron Works House Annex and Lean-to into a visitor contact facility, and (d) improving access through the iron works structures and between those structures and the Iron Works House and Museum for persons with disabilities and special needs.

Alternative 2 (Enhanced Facility Development) involves (a) constructing a new collections storage facility adjacent to the existing museum building, (b) acquiring or leasing existing commercial or industrial space off-site for use as maintenance facilities, along with restoring the locations where such facilities are currently sited, (c) constructing a new visitor center at the site of the existing maintenance facility on the west bluff, and (d) implementing one of two alternative scenarios for providing improved access for visitors from the bluff to the industrial area: either a switchback trail or a long straight trail. Alternative 3 (The No Action Alternative) involves no changes to existing conditions.

DATES: The Draft General Management Plan/Environmental Assessment will be made available on July 9, 2001. Following a 60-day comment period, the environmental analysis, along with public and agency comments, will form the basis for the selection, by the Regional Director of a single plan for implementation. The Final General Management Plan/Environmental Assessment will then be issued and made available to the public for an additional 60 days. If at the end of that second review period, no significant issues or public controversy have arisen, the Regional Director will issue a Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of the document will be available for review at the following locations:

Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site-Visitor Kiosk, 244 Central Street, Saugus, MA 01906. The visitor kiosk is open everyday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Saugus Public Library, 295 Central Street Saugus, MA. The library is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Friday hours are

8:30 a.m. until noon. The library is closed on weekends.

To request a copy of the document, please call (781) 233-0050, fax (781-231-7345), or write Superintendent, Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site 244 Central Street, Saugus, MA 01906.

Marie Rust,

Regional Director, Northeast Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Isle Royale National Park, MI

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a wilderness management plan and environmental impact statement for Isle Royale National Park, Michigan.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) will prepare a wilderness management plan and an environmental impact statement (EIS) for Isle Royale National Park, Michigan in accordance with section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). This notice is being furnished as required by NEPA Regulations 40 CFR 1501.7.

To facilitate sound planning and environmental analysis, NPS intends to gather information necessary for the preparation of the EIS, and to obtain suggestions and information from other agencies and the public on the scope of issues to be addressed in the EIS. Comments and suggestions in this scoping process are invited.

This project was initiated in the autumn of 1999. The planning process originally included preparation of an environmental assessment. However, as planning has progressed NPS now believes it is appropriate to prepare an EIS. Public involvement during the first phases of planning has been facilitated through a series of newsletters with mail-back input forms.

DATES: Written comments and information concerning the scope of the EIS should be directed to the Superintendent, Isle Royale National Park, at the address below before November 2, 2001.

Persons who already have provided information through responses to project newsletters need not re-send that information. NPS will consider these comments in preparation of the EIS. However, persons who wish to reemphasize or expand on their

previous comments are welcome to do so. Additional input also is invited.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and information concerning the scope of the EIS and other matters, or requests to be added to the project mailing list should be directed to: Superintendent, Isle Royale National Park, 800 East Lakeshore Drive, Houghton, Michigan 49931-1895. Telephone: 906-487-7140. E-mail: isro_superintendent@nps.gov

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Superintendent, Isle Royale National Park, at the address or telephone above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Congress designated more than 99 percent of the 133,000 acres landmass of Isle Royale National Park as wilderness in 1976. However, NPS never prepared a wilderness management plan to help guide decision making on wilderness-related matters. Comprehensive, long-term planning for the park's wilderness is needed to address:

(1) The management of visitor use, which during the peak season overwhelms facility capacities in campgrounds.

(2) The adoption, implementation, and refinement of resource and visitor experience indicators and related monitoring to ensure wilderness resources, values, and experiences are not being compromised.

(3) The adoption of a "minimum tool" decision framework for park operations within wilderness.

(4) Development of a new computerized permit/reservation system for camping permits.

(5) Specific directions for such diverse issues as campfires, trail maintenance, backcountry sanitation, interpretation and education in the wilderness, campground design, wildlife protection, acceptable signing, etc.

(6) Development of an implementation schedule to proactively plan for future projects in the wilderness.

The environmental review of the wilderness management plan for Isle Royale National Park will be conducted in accordance with requirements of NEPA (42 U.S.C. section 4371 *et seq.*), NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), other appropriate Federal regulations, and NPS procedures and policies for compliance with those regulations.

James A. Loach,

Acting Regional Director.

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