

Shackleford Banks. Of the 56-mile long Seashore, about 47 miles spanning North and South Core Banks were identified by the Seashore General Management Plan (December 1982) as appropriate for controlled ORV use; the remaining 9 miles on Shackleford Banks is a proposed wilderness and is closed to vehicle use. However, other potential aspects of the ORV Management Plan, such as species and predator management, will also be addressed for Shackleford Banks, where ORVs are not allowed.

During initial internal scoping the NPS interdisciplinary team identified a number of draft objectives for the ORV Management Plan/DEIS, including:

Management Methodology

- Identify criteria to designate ORV use areas and routes.
- Establish ORV management practices and procedures that have the ability to adapt in response to changes in the Seashore's dynamic physical and biological environment.
- Continue an ongoing and meaningful dialogue with the multiple public groups interested in/affected by ORV management.
- Establish procedures for prompt and efficient public notification of beach access status including any temporary ORV use restrictions for such things as resource and public safety closures, storm events, etc.
- Build stewardship through public awareness and understanding of NPS resource management and visitor use policies and responsibilities as they pertain to the Seashore and ORV management.

Natural Physical Resources

- Minimize adverse impacts from ORV use to soils and topographic features, e.g., dunes, ocean beach, wetlands, tidal flats, etc.

Threatened, Endangered, and Other Protected Species

- Provide protection for threatened, endangered, and other protected species (e.g., State-listed species) and their habitats, minimize adverse impacts related to ORV and other uses as required by laws and policies, such as the Endangered Species Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and NPS laws and management policies.

Other Vegetation and Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat

- Minimize adverse impacts to native plant and animal species and their habitats related to ORV and other uses.

Cultural Resources

- Protect cultural resources such as shipwrecks, archeological sites, and cultural landscapes from adverse impacts related to ORV use.

Visitor Use and Experience

- Manage ORV use to allow for a variety of appropriate visitor use experiences.
- Minimize conflicts between ORV use and other uses.
- Ensure that ORV operators are informed about the rules and regulations regarding ORV use at the park.

Visitor Safety

- Ensure that ORV management promotes the safety of all visitors.

Park Operations

- Identify operational needs and costs to fully implement an ORV management plan.

The draft and final ORV Management Plan/DEIS will be made available to all known interested parties and appropriate agencies. Full public participation by Federal, State, and local agencies as well as other concerned organizations and private citizens is invited throughout the preparation process of this document.

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

The responsible official for this ORV Management Plan/DEIS is Patricia A. Hooks, Regional Director, Southeast Region, National Park Service, 100 Alabama Street, SW., 1924 Building, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Dated: July 13, 2007.

Patricia A. Hooks,

Regional Director, Southeast Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

General Management Plan, Environmental Impact Statement, Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, Colorado

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare a general management plan and environmental impact statement for the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of

1969, 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C), the National Park Service (NPS) is preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) for a general management plan (GMP) for the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site. This effort will analyze the impacts of a broad range of design alternatives for the national historic site. This effort will result in a comprehensive general management plan that provides a framework for making management decisions regarding the preservation of natural and cultural resources, visitor use and interpretation and development of appropriate park facilities. This plan will be developed in cooperation with the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribe of Oklahoma, the Northern Arapaho Tribe of Wyoming, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe of Montana, and the State of Colorado. Alternatives to be considered include no-action, the proposed action and other reasonable alternatives.

The park superintendent will initiate consultation with congressional delegations, tribal representatives, and state and local agencies on the development of the plan. Consultation with these agencies will continue throughout the planning process.

Public involvement in the planning process will include newsletters and open houses that inform the public of the project and provide opportunities for input; press releases in the local media; newsletters and open houses to present and solicit input on the alternatives; a public review draft of the general management plan and environmental impact statement and public meetings to provide additional opportunities to comment on the draft plan. Public involvement is essential for the development of creative and sustainable management alternatives for the national historic site.

A briefing statement has been prepared that summarizes the specific elements of the general management planning process and the EIS. Copies of that information may be obtained from: Superintendent, Alexa Roberts, Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, P.O. Box 249, Eads, CO 81036.

DATES: The Park Service will accept comments from the public through 30 days from date of publication in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Information will be available for public review and comment in the office of the Superintendent, Alexa Roberts, Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, P.O. Box 249, Eads, CO 81036 and on the NPS Planning Environment and Public Comment site (PEPC) at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Contact Superintendent Alexa Roberts at 719-438-5916 or e-mail: sand_superintendent@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: You may mail comments to: Superintendent's Office, Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, P.O. Box 249, Eads, CO 81036. You may also hand-deliver comments to the Superintendent's Office, Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, Eads, CO. (Attn: Sand Creek Massacre General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement.)

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Dated: June 21, 2007.

Hal J. Grovert,

*Acting Director, Intermountain Region,
National Park Service.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Final Environmental Impact Statement; Reconstruction of the Furnace Creek Water Collection System; Death Valley National Park, Inyo County, CA; Notice of Approval of Record of Decision

Summary: Pursuant to § 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Pub. L. 91-190, as amended) and the implementing regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR part 1505.2), the Department of the Interior, National Park Service has prepared, and the Regional Director, Pacific West Region has approved the Record of Decision (and Statement of Findings for Wetlands and Floodplains) for the reconstruction of the Furnace Creek water collection system at Death Valley National Park. Reconstructing the water collection system affords the park with the opportunity to provide a reliable quality and quantity of potable water to the users in the Furnace Creek area, to promote conservation of biological and cultural resources in the Texas-Travertine Springs area, and to enhance water resource protection and management in the Furnace Creek area. The no-action "30-day wait period" was

officially initiated July 14, 2006, with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's **Federal Register** notification of the filing of the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

Decision: As soon as practicable the park will begin to implement the *Preferred Alternative* (with minor modifications from Alternative C as described in the Draft and Final EIS); as documented in the EIS, this alternative was deemed to be the "*environmentally preferred*" course of action and it was further determined that implementation of the selected actions will not constitute an impairment of park resources and values. In doing so, the park can rebuild the outdated water collection system in the Furnace Creek area to supply safe and reliable potable and nonpotable water to the park's main visitor use area, separate the potable and nonpotable water systems in the project area, and provide nonpotable water from the Inn Tunnel and a relocated Furnace Creek Wash collection gallery. The selected actions will provide potable water from two to three new groundwater wells in the Texas Springs Syncline, and will treat water collected for potable purposes using a reverse osmosis water treatment plant. The concentrate water generated from the water treatment process will be conveyed to the park's sewage treatment plant for evaporation. Non-potable water will be collected from Furnace Creek Wash and the Inn Tunnel. Water for riparian restoration purposes will be released from Texas Springs and Travertine Springs Lines 1, 2, 3, and 4. To meet maximum daily flow requirements, Alternative 3 will collect 600 gallons per minute (GPM) of potable water and 900 gpm of nonpotable water, and release approximately 770 gpm of riparian water.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Based upon agency comments and refinements desired by the planning team collaborative, the selected plan includes several adjustments from the Preferred Alternative as detailed in the EIS, including but not limited to the determination that reverse osmosis discharge water will be piped to wastewater treatment lagoons, thus eliminating any potential for unacceptable environmental effects through other discharge options. The selected project and three alternatives were identified and analyzed in the Final EIS, and previously in the Draft EIS (the latter was distributed in October, 2005). A broad spectrum of foreseeable environmental consequences were assessed, and appropriate mitigation measures

identified, for each alternative. Beginning with early scoping, through the preparation of Draft and Final EIS, a series of public meetings and open-houses were conducted locally. Overall approximately 10 written comments were received (as noted above, some agency comments served as the source of minor adjustments to the final selected plan). Key consultations or other contacts which aided in preparing the EIS involved (but were not limited to) the California State Historic Preservation Office, the Lahotan Region Water Quality Control Board, the California Department of Transportation, the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe and its Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Xanterra Parks and Resorts, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Copies: Interested parties desiring to review the Record of Decision may obtain a complete copy by contacting Superintendent James T. Reynolds, Death Valley National Park, P.O. Box 579, Death Valley, California 92328; telephone (760) 786-3227 or via e-mail at deva_superintendent@nps.gov.

Dated: May 21, 2007.

Jonathan B. Jarvis,

Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Final Environmental Impact Statement, Systems Conveyance and Operations Program, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Clark County, NV; Notice of Approval of Record of Decision

Summary: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Pub. L. 91-190, as amended) and the implementing regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1505.2), the Department of the Interior, National Park Service has prepared, and the Regional Director, Pacific West Region has approved, the Record of Decision for the Clean Water Coalition's proposed System Conveyance and Operations Program. The formal no-action period was officially initiated February 23, 2007, with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's **Federal Register** notification of the filing of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Decision: The Final EIS analyzed a no-action alternative, a process improvement alternative, and three