

National Park Service announces the availability of the Record of Decision for the Fire Management Plan, Chiricahua National Monument, Arizona. On August 2, 2005 the Director, Intermountain Region approved the Record of Decision for the project. As soon as practicable, the National Park Service will begin to implement the Preferred Alternative contained in the FEIS issued on July 1, 2005. The following course of action will occur under the preferred alternative, the Watershed Alternative. This course of action and 2 alternatives were analyzed in the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements. The full range of foreseeable environmental consequences was assessed, and appropriate mitigating measures were identified.

The Record of Decision includes a statement of the decision made, synopses of other alternatives considered, the basis for the decision, a description of the environmentally preferable alternative, a finding on impairment of park resources and values, a listing of measures to minimize environmental harm, and an overview of public involvement in the decision-making process.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Carrie Dennett, 13063 E. Bonita Canyon Road, Willcox, AZ 85643, (520) 824-3560 Carrie_Dennett@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of the Record of Decision may be obtained from the contact listed above or online at <http://www.nps.gov/CHIR>.

Dated: August 2, 2005.

Kate Cannon,

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

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BILLING CODE 4312-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Environmental Impact Statement; Notice of Availability

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the Stream Management Plan, draft environmental impact statement, Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, Iowa.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of the stream management plan draft environmental impact statement (EIS)

for Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, Iowa.

DATES: There will be a 60-day public review period for comments on this document. Comments on the EIS must be received no later than 60 days after the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its notice of availability in the **Federal Register**. A public open house for information about, or to make comment on, the draft EIS will be announced in the local media and the Herbert Hoover National Historic Site's (Park) Web site when it is scheduled. Information about meeting time and place will be available by contacting the Park at 319-643-2541, visiting the Park's Web site at: <http://www.nps.gov/heho/creek.htm>, and at the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) Web site <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/>. The document will also be available for review at each of these Web sites; the latter Web site allows the public to review and comment directly on this document.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the draft EIS are available by request by writing to the Superintendent, Stream Management Plan Draft EIS, Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, P.O. Box 607, West Branch, Iowa 52358, by phone 319-643-2541, at the Web site addresses mentioned above, and by e-mail message at HEHO_Resource_Management@nps.gov. The document can be picked-up in person at park headquarters at 110 Parkside Drive, West Branch, Iowa.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Superintendent, Stream Management Plan Draft EIS, Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, P.O. Box 607, West Branch, Iowa 52358, or by calling 319-643-2541.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: During Herbert Hoover's early childhood, a small meandering stream ran near his birthplace cottage. This tributary of the west branch of the Wapsinonoc River has no official name and for ease of reference, it will be called Hoover Creek throughout the plan. Hoover Creek runs through the center of the historic site and has overflowed its banks and flooded park facilities 18 times in 11 years. These facilities include all of the prime historic structures associated with President Hoover as well as the visitor center and maintenance facility. Hoover Creek bank erosion and stream migration threaten to destabilize historic structures identified in the enabling legislation and the foundation of the Hoover Presidential Library and Museum. Slippery mud banks rise vertically 8 to 10 feet above the water level and present a safety hazard to

visitors and employees. The Cultural Landscape Report (1995) states: “* * * the stream is a degraded, yet character defining feature of the site * * *” and recommends the restoration of the natural characteristics of the stream. Stream rehabilitation would restore stream and riparian function and protect critical resources.

Therefore, the Park is proposing to restore the riparian area and proper functioning condition of the stream to allow for reduction of the power of the stream and create greater holding capacity with a meandering stream and floodplain. The draft EIS describes and analyzes the environmental impacts of alternatives and their associated impacts. In the Park's Preferred Alternative (Alternative 5—Provide 50-year protection), this alternative would include changes to the stream channel dimensions, re-meandering and channel relocation, and installation of a grade control structure to control down cutting. This alternative would also include construction of a detention basin in the upstream reaches of Hoover Creek. Three additional action alternatives and a no action alternative are evaluated in this EIS.

Persons wishing to comment may do so by any one of several methods. They may attend the public hearing or open house noted above. They may mail comments to the Superintendent, Stream Management Plan Draft EIS, Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, P.O. Box 607, West Branch, Iowa 52358. They also may comment via e-mail to HEHO_Resource_Management@nps.gov (please include name and return address in the e-mail message). They may review and comment on the document directly at the PEPC Web site <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/>. Finally, they may hand-deliver comments to the Superintendent, Stream Management Plan Draft EIS, Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, 110 Parkside Drive, West Branch, Iowa.

It is the practice of the NPS 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 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.

The responsible official is Ernest Quintana, Regional Director, Midwest Region, National Park Service.

Dated: July 28, 2005.

Ernest Quintana,

Regional Director, Midwest Region.

[FR Doc. 05-17854 Filed 9-8-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312-94-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Fire Management Plan, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Saguaro National Park, AZ

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Fire Management Plan, Saguaro National Park.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4332(C), the National Park Service announces the availability of a Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Fire Management Plan, Saguaro National Park, Arizona.

DATES: The National Park Service will execute a Record of Decision (ROD) no sooner than 30 days following publication by the Environmental Protection Agency of the Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

ADDRESSES: Information will be available for public inspection in the office of the Superintendent, Sarah Craighead, Saguaro National Park, Headquarters and Rincon Mountain District, 3693 South Old Spanish Trail, Tucson, AZ 85730-5601, phone 520-733-5101; and at the following locations:

Internet: <http://www.nps.gov/saguopphtml/documents.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kevin Parrish, Fuels Management Specialist, Saguaro National Park, Headquarters and Rincon Mountain District, 3693 South Old Spanish Trail, Tucson, AZ 85730-5601, phone 520-733-5132, or Kevin_Parrish@nps.gov.

Dated: August 3, 2005.

Roger Maxwell,

Acting Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Service.

[FR Doc. 05-17851 Filed 9-8-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Utah Museum of Natural History, Environmental Impact Statement, University of Utah and National Park Service and as Joint Lead Agencies, Salt Lake County, UT

AGENCY: The University of Utah and National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the construction and operation of a proposed new Utah Museum of Natural History at the University of Utah.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4332 (C) and (D) (NEPA), the University of Utah and the National Park Service as Joint Lead Agencies, are preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the construction and operation of a proposed new Utah Museum of Natural History museum facility at the University of Utah, Salt Lake County, Utah.

The NEPA process is being followed because federal funds, as grants through the National Park Service, are contributing to the design and construction costs of the new museum facility. The EIS will identify potential environmental effects of construction and operation of the proposed 169,000 square foot museum building, parking, and related appurtenances and mitigation measures to minimize adverse environmental impacts on the 17-acre site provided to the Museum by the University of Utah. This site is near the University of Utah's Research Park, south of Red Butte Gardens and Arboretum in Salt Lake County, Utah.

The Utah Public Lands Artifact Preservation Act, Pub. L. 107-329, enacted in 2002, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to make a grant to the University of Utah to pay the Federal share of the costs of construction of a new facility including design, planning, furnishing, and equipping of the Museum. Seventy-five percent of the Museum's collection is material recovered from federally managed public lands including lands administered by the National Park Service. In January 2005, the Museum initiated an Environmental Assessment on the proposed project. After completion of public scoping and the identification of issues, the agencies decided to prepare an EIS.

The EIS will analyze the proposed action, a no action alternative, alternative approaches to site and facilities design and placement, and

other reasonable alternatives, if any, identified during the NEPA process. The EIS will also consider mitigation measures to minimize potential adverse environmental effects. Based on current information it is not expected that the EIS alternatives will include alternative sites for the museum facility, for several reasons. (1) The University of Utah and the Museum concluded a site selection process in 1995, and in 1997 the University of Utah Board of Trustees reserved the Research Park site for use by the Museum. Since that time considerable resources have been devoted to site planning, and substantial private, state and federal financial commitments have been received for design, construction and operation of a museum on the designated site. It would not be practical or economically feasible for the Museum to abandon this site for an alternative location. (2) Congress, in enacting the 2002 Utah Public Lands Artifact Preservation Act and in making subsequent appropriations, contemplated that the new museum would be located at the 17-acre Research Park site and it authorized and has since appropriated funding for a facility at that site. (3) If the new museum were built at an alternative location, the Research Park site would nonetheless still be developed, meaning that there would not likely be a decrease in overall impacts.

Issues that were identified by the public during scoping for the EA and that will be addressed in the EIS include: vegetation and wildlife; recreation and trail use; open space, visual quality and aesthetics; traffic, transportation and parking; socioeconomic/cultural; air quality; soils, geological and seismic concerns; surface and groundwater quality and management; consideration of alternative sites; hazardous materials; and archaeological, cultural, historic and paleontological resources. Scoping for the EA was conducted February 15 through March 16, 2005 with a scoping meeting on March 8. The meeting was widely publicized and was attended by over 90 members of the public. Approximately 350 comments were received by letter or email. A scoping brochure has been prepared that details the issues identified to date. Copies of the brochure may be obtained from the project's NEPA contractor, Bear West, 145 South 400 East, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, phone (801) 355-8816. The scoping brochure along with a request for any additional scoping comments is being mailed to the project mailing list including those who attended the initial scoping meeting or submitted written