

new science and learning center would form the core of the new research. The park would expand and encourage partnerships with universities, scientists, and educational groups. The information gathered would be disseminated throughout the park to rangers, interpretive staff, and visitors.

Alternative 3 emphasizes enjoyment of the natural environment. This alternative would allow visitors to experience a greater range of natural and cultural resources significant and unique to the park through recreational opportunities and education. A wider range of visitor experiences would reach out to greater diversity of visitor groups. Recreational programs, which would focus on minimizing impact, would provide the focus for interpretation and education. Resources would be managed to permit recreation while protecting the resources. Opportunities for recreation would be viewed in a regional context, where the park could serve as a source of information for regional recreational opportunities. Use of most current facilities would continue. News trails, new interpretive signs and other media, and expanded tour programs would be possible in *Alternative 3*.

In *Alternative 4*, park management would be focused on resource preservation and restoration. The park would be an active partner in a regional conservation strategy that would include other agencies and environmental groups. Most park operations and visitor contact facilities would be outside the park and shared with other agencies and communities. Areas that have been altered would be restored to their natural conditions. Cultural resources would be preserved at the highest level possible. The visitor experience would stress activities that have low environmental impacts on and are harmonious with the resources. More emphasis would be placed on self-guided and discovery education, and interpretive programs would focus on stewardship. Vehicular transportation would be altered to reinforce the visitor experience. The Rim Road would be closed between Cleetwood Cove and Kerr Notch. Winter use of the park would change to allow natural processes to proceed with less disturbance than current management practices allow. Winter plowing of the road to the rim would stop, except for spring opening. Snowmobiling along North Junction Road would no longer be allowed. Facilities that are not historic and not essential to park functions would be removed and the area rehabilitated. Functions that are, by necessity park-based, would be retained in the park.

Public Review and Comment: The draft EIS/GMP is now available for public review. Interested persons and organizations wishing to express any concerns or provide relevant information are encouraged to obtain the document from the Superintendent, Crater Lake National Park, P.O. Box 7, Highway 62, Crater Lake, Oregon, or via telephone at (541) 594-3001. The document may also be reviewed at area libraries, or obtained electronically via the park's Web site at www.planning.nps.gov.

Comments on the draft GMP/EIS must be postmarked (or transmitted by email) no later than 60 days after publication of EPA's notice of filing in the **Federal Register** (immediately upon confirming this date it will be announced on the park's Web site). Written comments may be submitted to: Terri Urbanowski, National Park Service, P.O. Box 25287, Denver, CO 80225-0287 or e-mailed to CRLA_GMP@nps.gov. All comments will become part of the public record. If individuals submitting comments request that their name or/and address be withheld from public disclosure, the request will be honored to the extent allowable by law. Such requests must be stated prominently in the beginning of the comments. There also may be circumstances wherein the NPS will withhold a respondent's identity as allowable by law. As always: the NPS will make available to public inspection all submissions from organizations or businesses and from persons identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations; and, anonymous comments may not be considered.

Decision: Notice of the availability of the final EIS/GMP document will be published in the **Federal Register** and announced via local and regional press media. Subsequently, a Record of Decision (ROD) will be prepared and approved not sooner than 30 days after the final document is distributed (and notice of the approved ROD similarly published in the **Federal Register**). As a delegated EIS, the official responsible for the decision is the Regional Director, Pacific West Region, National Park Service; subsequently the official responsible for implementing the approved GMP is the Superintendent, Crater Lake National Park.

Dated: March 5, 2004.

Jonathan B. Jarvis,

Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

Editorial Note: This document was received in the Office of the Federal Register on July 29, 2004.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail Comprehensive Management Plan

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (16 U.S.C. 410ccc-4; 42 U.S.C. 4371; 40 CFR 1506.6) the National Park Service announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail Comprehensive Management Plan. The document provides a framework for the management, use, and development of the trail by the National Park Service and its partners over the next 15 to 20 years. The document describes four management alternatives for consideration, including a no-action alternative, and analyzes the environmental impacts of those alternatives. Beginning at Brown Chapel AME Church in Selma, Alabama, the trail follows the route of the March 1965 Selma to Montgomery voting rights march, traveling through Lowndes County along U.S. Highway 80, and ending at the Alabama State Capitol in Montgomery.

DATES: There will be a 60-day comment period beginning with the Environmental Protection Agency's publication of its notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the DEIS are available by contacting John Barrett, National Park Service, 100 Alabama St., SW., Atlanta, GA 30303. An electronic copy of the DEIS is available on the Internet at <http://www.nps.gov/sero/planning>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Park Service held community and stakeholder meetings to gather advice and feedback on desired outcomes of the management plan. The meetings assisted the National Park Service in developing alternatives for managing associated cultural and natural resources and creating interpretive and educational programs. Responses from the meetings were incorporated into the alternatives described in the plan. Alternative A focuses on the story of the voting rights march as defined by events that occurred between held between March 7 and March 25, 1965, in Dallas, Lowndes, and Montgomery counties,

Alabama. Alternative B builds on the story of Alternative A, providing information on the broader efforts to gain voting rights for African Americans, as events unfolded in Dallas, Lowndes, and Montgomery counties. Under this alternative, exhibits and other interpretive materials would explain earlier organizing and protest activities, the voting rights march, and the aftermath of the march. Alternative C adds to the stories of Alternatives A and B by interpreting the progression of citizenship rights in the United States. This alternative tells the story of African American efforts to gain voting rights in the larger context of the Modern Civil Rights Movement. This alternative would emphasize that the Selma to Montgomery Voting Rights March was an integral part of America's evolving commitment to greater equality and a stronger democracy. The National Park Service has identified Alternative C as the preferred alternative.

It is the practice of the National Park Service to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Anonymous comments will not be considered. 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. However, individual respondents may request that we withhold their names and addresses from the public record, and we will honor such requests to the extent allowed by law. If you wish to withhold your name and/or address, you must state that request prominently at the beginning of your comment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Catherine Light, (334) 727-6390 or John Barrett, (404) 562-3124, extension 637.

The responsible official for this draft Environmental Impact Statement is Patricia A. Hooks, Regional Director, Southeast Region, National Park Service, 100 Alabama Street SW., 1924 Building, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Dated: June 27, 2004.

Patricia A. Hooks,

Regional Director, Southeast Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Environmental Impact Statement, Notice of Intent

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) and stream management plan for Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, West Branch, Iowa.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), and regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1506.6), the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service (NPS) will prepare a draft stream management plan/environmental impact statement (EIS). The plan will be used to guide the management and rehabilitation of the stream located in Herbert Hoover National Historic Site (HEHO), West Branch, Iowa. The environmental impact statement will assess potential environmental impacts associated with various types of stream rehabilitation measures and restoration techniques on park resources such as water quality and hydrology, native plant communities, wildlife, cultural and historic resources, and public health and safety.

DATES: To determine the scope of issues to be addressed in the plan and EIS and to identify significant issues related to the management and rehabilitation of the stream in the NHS, the NPS will conduct a public scoping meeting in West Branch, Iowa. Representatives of the NPS and Parsons, the consulting firm assisting in the preparation of the EIS, will be available to discuss issues, resource concerns, and the planning process at the public meeting. When the public scoping meeting has been scheduled, its location, date, and time will be published in local newspapers.

ADDRESSES: Any comments or requests for information should be addressed to Superintendent, Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, Attn: Stream EIS, P.O. Box 607, West Branch, IA 52358. Comments may also be submitted at the following e-mail address: HEHO_Resource_Management@nps.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Superintendent, Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, Stream EIS, P.O. Box 607, West Branch, IA 52358, E-mail: HEHO_Resource_Management@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Hoover Creek is a small tributary with a base flow of about 3 cubic feet per second (cfs). The creek is subject to flash

flooding. Historic resources of the park lie within the 50-year floodplain and a few, including the Hoover Presidential Library and Museum, lie within the 25-year floodplain. Visitor service and park maintenance facilities and the primary access road into West Branch lie within the 10-year and 5-year floodplain.

Anecdotal flood history indicates that Hoover Creek has exceeded its banks 18 times in 11 years. Precipitation events have resulted in storm surges of 1500 cubic feet per second (1967 flood) and 1650 cubic feet per second (1993 flood). Bank full flow is estimated at 650 cubic feet per second and flow above that level causes flooding of visitor service areas and the historic core. Analysis of 1967 and 1993 data suggests that the 1967 flood was a 20-year flood event and the 1993 flood was a 30-year flood event. The 1993 flood was within inches of floor level in a few historic structures. Staff observations show that the stream is migrating toward the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum building. The bank of the creek is inherently unstable, with channel scouring causing the banks to slump as the toe of the bank erodes. Lateral cutting brings the stream closer to historic resources. The stream continues to entrench and poses a safety hazard to visitors with steep stream banks of 6 to 8 feet. The current instability of the stream threatens critical resources, contributes to sediment loads in the creek, and limits the creek's value as habitat for native plants and animals.

The principle goal of the stream management plan is to re-establish natural processes that are in equilibrium within the creek. This will lead to:

- Improvement of water retention that will reduce flooding.
- Dissipation of stream energy that will reduce erosion.
- Development of root masses that will stabilize banks.
- Development of diverse channel characteristics to provide habitat and support biodiversity.

We welcome all input into our planning process. Our practice is to make the public comments we receive in response to planning documents, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. 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. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their names and addresses from the public record, and we will honor such requests to the extent