

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service****Notice of Availability of Draft Director's Order Concerning National Park Service Policy and Procedures for Floodplain Management.**

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) has prepared a draft Director's Order that provides policy and procedures in compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management) for implementing floodplain protection and management actions in units of the National Park System. Executive Order 11988 requires that each agency develop agency-specific guidance for floodplain management. This draft Director's Order will replace all previously issued NPS floodplain management guidance and related instructions. The draft Director's Order maintains the existing NPS policy of preserving floodplain values and minimizing potentially hazardous conditions associated with flooding. When adopted, the policy and procedures will apply to all units and programs of the national park system. **DATES:** Written comments will be accepted until February 21, 2003. **ADDRESSES:** Submit comments to Gary Smillie via e-mail at gary_smillie@nps.gov; or via ground mail at 1201 Oakridge Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80525; or via telefax at 970-225-9965.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: This Director's Order (D.O.) and a companion procedural manual will replace floodplain management guidance issued in 1993 for implementing Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management. Procedures and policies provided in this draft D.O. have been modified and updated but remain similar to the 1993 guidance document. The draft D.O. is consistent with existing requirements, Department of the Interior policy, and the 2001 edition of the NPS Management Policies.

This D.O. will help Park Service field managers meet their responsibilities for implementing the requirements of Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management. The D.O. will also clarify the responsibilities of key NPS personnel in implementing the floodplain policies and procedures.

Executive Order 11988 requires each agency to have regulations or procedures in place to explain how the agency will pursue the non-hazardous use of floodplains. Because

inappropriate floodplain use and development can jeopardize health and safety and result in costly property damage and the loss of important habitat, the Executive Order requires agencies to provide leadership and take action to reduce the risk of flood loss; minimize the impacts of floods; and restore and preserve natural floodplains.

The draft Director's Order and the companion procedural manual (Procedural Manual 77-2) may be viewed on the Internet at www.nps.gov/policy/DOrders/75A.htm and www.nature.nps.gov/manual77-22, respectively. Printed copies may also be requested by contracting Gary Smillie at the address given above.

There may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record an individual commenter'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.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Gary Smillie at 970-225-3522.

Dated: November 26, 2002.

Michael Soukup,

Associate Director for Natural Resource Stewardship and Science.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places; Notification of Pending Nominations**

Nominations for the following properties being considered for listing in the National Register were received by the National Park Service before November 23, 2002. Pursuant to section 60.13 of 36 CFR Part 60 written comments concerning the significance of these properties under the National Register criteria for evaluation may be forwarded by United States Postal Service, to the National Register Historic Places, National Park Service, 1849 C St. NW., 2280, Washington, DC 20240; by all other carriers, National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1201 Eye St. NW., 8th floor, Washington DC 20005; or by fax, (202) 343-1836.

Written or faxed comments should be submitted by January 7, 2003.

Carol D. Shull,

Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places.

ARKANSAS**Cross County,**

Wittsburg Fortification, (Little Rock Campaign of 1863 MPS), Address Restricted, Wittsburg, 02001626.

Ouachita County,

Tate's Bluff Fortification, (Little Rock Campaign of 1863 MPS), Address Restricted, Tate's Bluff, 02001628.

Pulaski County,

Bayou Meto (Reed's Bridge) Battlefield, (Little Rock Campaign of 1863 MPS), AR 161 at Bayou Meto, Jacksonville, 02001627.

Van Buren County,

Damascus CCC Camp, Co. No. 3781 Historic District, Camp Hill Rd., Damascus, 02001631.

CONNECTICUT**New Haven County**

Northford Center, Roughly along Middletown Ave. and parts of Old Post Rd., North Branford, 02001629
Platt, Col. Asa, House, 2 Tyler City Rd., Orange, 02001630.

GEORGIA**Carroll County,**

North Villa Rica Commercial Historic District, Roughly bounded by Southern Railroad, North Ave., and East Gordon and West, Church Sts., Villa Rica, 02001635.

Clarke County,

Athens Manufacturing Company, 585 White Circle, Athens, 02001634.

Decatur County,

Allen Mercantile Company, 102 Main St., Climax, 02001632.

Lowndes County

Valdosta Commercial Historic District (Boundary Increase), Roughly bounded by Valley, Lee, and Toombs Sts. and Crane Ave., Valdosta, 02001633.

LOUISIANA**Vernon Parish,**

Smart, Edmond Ellison, House, 301 S. 1st St., Leesville, 02001636.

NEW YORK**Broome County,**

Building at 171-177 Clinton Street, 171-177 Clinton St., Binghamton, 02001641.

Cayuga County,

First Baptist Church of Weedsport, (Historic Designed Landscapes of Syracuse MPS), Liberty St., Weedsport, 02001640,

Cortland County,

Union Valley Congregational Church, Union Valey Cross Rd., Taylor, 02001639.