

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****National Park Service****General Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement, Walnut Canyon National Monument, Arizona**

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement/General Management Plan for Walnut Canyon National Monument.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service announces the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement/General Management Plan (FEIS/GMP) for Walnut Canyon National Monument, Arizona.

**DATES:** The FEIS/GMP was on public review from November 6, 2001 through January 7, 2002. Responses to public comment are addressed in the documents. A 30-day no-action period will follow the Environmental Protection Agency's Notice of Availability of the FEIS/GMP.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the FEIS/GMP are available from the Superintendent, Flagstaff Area National Monuments (Wupatki, Sunset Crater Volcano, and Walnut Canyon), 6400 N. Highway 89, Flagstaff, Arizona 86004. Public reading copies of the FEIS/GMP will be available for review at the following locations:

Office of the Superintendent, 6400 N. Highway 89, Flagstaff, Arizona 86004, Telephone: 928-526-1157.

Planning and Environmental Quality, Intermountain Support Office—Denver (Room 20), National Park Service, 12795 W. Alameda Parkway, Lakewood, CO 80228, Telephone: (303) 969-2377.

Office of Public Affairs, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, 18th and C Streets, NW., Washington, DC 20240, Telephone: (202) 208-6843.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Walnut Canyon FEIS/GMP evaluates the environmental consequences of the proposed action and the other alternatives on archeological resources, historic character of the built environment, long-term integrity of ethnographic resources, natural systems and processes, and threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Impacts are also detailed on visitors' ability to experience park resources; park neighbors, local, state, and tribal land management plans and land/

resource managing agencies; and operational efficiency. The preferred alternative would preserve untraveled expanses, unfragmented natural conditions throughout the park. It would protect Walnut Canyon as a critical wildlife corridor. Visitation would be managed with the goal of providing quality learning opportunities in an intimate atmosphere while maintaining the health of the canyon ecosystem. The natural soundscape and tranquil setting of the canyon would be enhanced through strategic placement of facilities. The park would remain day use only. Efforts would be made to provide a broader range of educational offerings, and a greater number of archeological sites would be available for visitation.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Contact Superintendent, Flagstaff Area National Monuments at the address listed above.

Dated: November 15, 2006.

**Michael D. Snyder,**

*Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Services.*

**Editorial Note:** This document was received at the Office of the Federal Register March 14, 2007.

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****National Park Service****DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Highway Administration****Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Foothills Parkway Section 8B, Great Smoky Mountains National Park**

**AGENCIES:** National Park Service; and Federal Highway Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Foothills Parkway Section 8B, Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C), the National Park Service (NPS) and the Federal Highway Administration, Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division will serve as joint lead agencies in the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Foothills Parkway Section 8B, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee. Section 8B is located in Sevier and Cocke Counties, Tennessee.

This effort will analyze the impacts of alternatives for this section of the Foothills Parkway.

The public scoping process for this EIS has been initiated with issuance of this notice. The purpose of the scoping process is to elicit public comment regarding the full spectrum of public issues and concern that should be addressed in the EIS process, including a suitable range of alternatives, the nature and extent of potential environmental impacts, and appropriate mitigation strategies.

A suitable range of alternatives will be considered along with the no-action alternative, including, but not limited to construction of a road through this section of the Parkway corridor, construction of a trail instead of a road, and construction of a combination road and trail.

A scoping newsletter will be prepared in spring 2007 that will detail the issues identified to date. Copies of the newsletter when available may be obtained from the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) Web site: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>.

**DATES:** Beginning in spring 2007, public information meetings will be held in the vicinity of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The location, date, and time of the meetings and deadlines for written comments will be announced via local and regional media. Announcements will also be placed on the following Web sites: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov> and <http://www.epl.fhwa.dot.gov>. All interested individuals, organizations, and agencies are invited to attend these meetings to comment verbally or provide written comments and suggestions during the scoping period.

**ADDRESSES:** Information will be available for public review and comment online at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov> and in the office of the Superintendent, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 107 Park Headquarters Road, Gatlinburg, Tennessee 37738, Telephone: 865-436-1207.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** National Park Service, Foothills Parkway Section 8B EIS, *Attention:* Superintendent, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 107 Park Headquarters Road, Gatlinburg, Tennessee 37738. *Telephone:* 865-436-1207.

Federal Highways, Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division, Jack Van Dop, Environmental Specialist, Federal Highway Administration, 21400