

Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement is being prepared to the requirements of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-625, and in accord with Director's Order Number 2, the planning directive for National Park Service units.

The National Park Service will conduct public scoping meetings in the local area to receive input from interested parties on issues, concerns, and suggestions pertinent to the management of Gulf Islands National Seashore. Representatives of the National Park Service will be available to discuss issues, resource concerns, and the planning process at each of the public meetings. Suggestions and ideas for managing the cultural and natural resources and visitor experiences at the park are encouraged.

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. Please note that due to public disclosure requirements, the National Park Service, if requested, may have to make the names and addresses of those who submit written comments public.

DATES: Locations, dates, and times of public scoping meetings will be published in local newspapers and may also be obtained by contacting the park Superintendent. This information will also be published on the General Management Plan Web site (<http://www.nps.gov/guis>) for Gulf Islands National Seashore.

ADDRESSES: Scoping suggestions should be submitted to the following address to ensure adequate consideration by the Service: Superintendent, Gulf Islands National Seashore, 1801 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze, Florida, 32563.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Superintendent, Gulf Islands National Seashore, 1801 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze, Florida, 32563, Telephone: (850) 934-2604, E-mail: Guis_Superintendent@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Gulf Islands National Seashore is located on barrier islands, keys, and mainland peninsulas in the Pensacola, Florida area and on a series of Gulf Coast barrier

islands between Pascagoula and Gulfport, Mississippi, Gulf Islands National Seashore was authorized by Congress in 1971, to provide preservation of 150 miles of coastline, barrier islands, and historic fortifications. The last General Management Plan was completed in 1978 and in the ensuing years must have changed. A revised General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement would provide the National Seashore with better guidance and direction in regard to management of natural and cultural resources and providing a quality visitor experience.

The plan will provide direction to correct existing management deficiencies through the establishment of management prescriptions, carrying capacities and appropriate types and levels of development and recreational use for all areas of the park. Resource protection, visitor experiences and community relationships will be improved through completion and implementation of the General Management Plan.

Public documents associated with the planning effort, including all newsletters, will be posted on the internet through the Park's Web site at <http://www.nps.gov/guis>.

The Draft and Final General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement 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.

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

Dated: November 7, 2003.

Patricia A. Hooks,

Acting Regional Director, Southeast Region.

[FR Doc. 03-30561 Filed 12-9-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-66-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Availability of Morristown National Park General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

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 General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (GMP/EIS) for Morristown National Historical Park, New Jersey, that proposes a long-term approach to managing the park. Three management alternatives are presented that are consistent with the park's mission, NPS policy, and other laws and regulations. The alternatives incorporate various management prescriptions and zones to ensure that the park's resources are preserved, and that the public can enjoy the park. The environmental consequences that can be anticipated from implementing the various alternatives are documented. Impact topics include cultural and natural resources, visitor experience, park operations, the socioeconomic environment, impairment of resources, and sustainability. Alternative C was identified as the preferred alternative.

The Draft GMP/EIS was available for public review from March 7, 2003 to May 9, 2003. Copies of the comment letters and the National Park Service's responses to those comments are included in the final document. Draft text and graphics were refined and clarified where necessary, and respond to the public comments. Alternative C has been identified as the proposed action in the Final document. The Final GMP/EIS will be available to the public for 30 days, after which, a Record of Decision (ROD) will be signed indicating which alternative has been selected as the proposed plan, and authorizing the National Park Service to implement the plan.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: To request a copy of the Final GMP/EIS please contact the National Park Service, Park Planning and Special Studies at the address above. Copies of the Final GMP/EIS will also be available for review at the following locations:

- Morristown National Historical Park headquarters, 30 Washington Place, Morristown, New Jersey
- Morris County Library, 30 E. Hanover Avenue, Whippany, New Jersey
- The Joint Free Public Library of Morristown and Morris Township, 1 Miller Road, Morristown, New Jersey
- Mendham Borough Library, 10 Hilltop Road, Mendham, New Jersey
- Bernards Township Library, 32 S. Maple Avenue, Basking Ridge, New Jersey
- Bernardsville Public Library, 1 Anderson Hill Road, Bernardsville, New Jersey

• Somerset County Library, 1 Vogt Drive, Bridgewater, New Jersey

Dated: October 8, 2003.

Robert W. McIntosh,
Associate Regional Director, Northeast Region.

[FR Doc. 03-30560 Filed 12-9-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Environmental Assessment for the Yellow Barn/Chautauqua Tower Rehabilitation

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Yellow Barn/Chautauqua Tower Rehabilitation, Montgomery County, Maryland.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Council on Environmental Quality regulations and National Park Service (NPS) policy, the NPS announces the availability of an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the rehabilitation/reconstruction of the Yellow Barn and Chautauqua Tower at Glen Echo Park, a unit of the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Glen Echo Park is the site of a former amusement park that operated from the late 1890's to 1968. The park is currently operated under a Cooperative Agreement between Montgomery County and the NPS. The buildings provide the Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture with administrative space, classrooms, and artists studios. The Chautauqua Tower was constructed in 1891 and the Yellow Barn in 1914 and both buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places as contributing elements of the Glen Echo Park Historic District. The Electrical/Mechanical/Plumbing systems of both buildings have reached the end of their design life. Both buildings suffer from numerous structural defects which adversely affect the availability of education and program space. Significant portions of both buildings cannot currently be used due to structural instability or lack of appropriate egress. The EA examines several alternatives for the rehabilitation/reconstruction of the buildings. The subject project is designed to provide safe, accessible classroom and studio space to park users, while maintaining the character of the Glen Echo Park Historic District. The NPS is soliciting comments on this EA. These comments will be considered in evaluating it and making decisions

pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act.

DATES: The EA will remain available for public comment until January 9, 2003. Written comments should be received no later than this date.

ADDRESSES: Comments on this EA should be submitted in writing to: Ms. Audrey F. Calhoun, Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Turkey Run Park, McLean, Virginia 22101. The EA will be available for public inspection Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. through 4 p.m. at the GWMP Headquarters, Turkey Run Park, McLean, Virginia; and at the following libraries: Little Falls Library, 5501 Massachusetts Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland, Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac, Maryland, and Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda, Maryland.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) analyzed and selected a Management Plan for Glen Echo Park in February 2001. This Management Plan aims to balance natural/cultural resource protection and visitor use. Pursuant to the EIS, the *stabilization and rehabilitation* of Glen Echo Park structures will proceed in accordance with the recommendations in the *Cost Estimating Criteria for Stabilization & Rehabilitation of Historic Glen Echo Park* (Vitetta Group, 1998) and the subsequent *Glen Echo Park Stabilization and Rehabilitation Plan* (NPS, Montgomery County, State of Maryland, 1999). Rehabilitation projects have already been completed on the Spanish Ballroom and the North Arcade, two additional contributing elements to the Glen Echo Historic District as part of the Glen Echo Park Rehabilitation Project, pursuant to cooperative agreement between the State of Maryland, Montgomery County, and the NPS. Work on this project began in 1999 and is scheduled to finish in 2005.

All interested individuals, agencies, and organizations are urged to provide comments on the EA. The NPS, in making a final decision regarding this matter, will consider all comments received by the closing date.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Park Ranger Jeffrey Pinkard (703) 289-2516.

Audrey F. Calhoun,

Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway.

[FR Doc. 03-30558 Filed 12-9-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DC-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Intent To Prepare a General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement.

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service announces its intent to prepare a General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (GMP/EIS) for the Flight 93 National Memorial, Pennsylvania. Prepared by planners at the Flight 93 National Memorial, with assistance from the NPS Northeast Region, the Flight 93 Advisory Commission, the Flight 93 Memorial Task Force, the Families of Flight 93, Inc., advisors, and consultants, the GMP/EIS will propose a long-term approach to managing the Flight 93 National Memorial. Consistent with the memorial's mission, NPS policy, and other laws and regulations, alternatives will be developed to guide the management of the memorial over the next 15 to 20 years. The alternatives will incorporate various zoning, design, and management prescriptions to ensure resource preservation and public enjoyment of the memorial. The environmental consequences that could result from implementing the various alternatives will be evaluated in the plan. Impact topics will include cultural and natural resources, visitor experience, park operations, the socioeconomic environment, impairment, and sustainability. The public will be invited to express concerns about the management and design of the memorial early in the process through public meetings and other media; and will have an opportunity to review and comment on a draft GMP/EIS. Following public review processes outlined under NEPA, the final plan will become official, authorizing implementation of a preferred alternative. The target date for the Record of Decision is September 2005.

Scoping: The National Park Service issued a project scoping newsletter on September 11, 2003 to solicit comments from interested parties; to identify known resources and issues of special concern; and to offer recommendations for the design, construction, and long-term management of the Flight 93 National Memorial. The newsletter and comment form may be obtained at <http://www.flight93memorialproject.org> or by