

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****National Park Service****Notice of Availability of Draft Director's Order Concerning National Park Service (NPS) Policies and Procedures for Recovering Costs Associated With Providing Utility Services to Non-NPS Users**

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Modification to notice of availability (re-opening of public comment period).

**SUMMARY:** The National Park Service is proposing to adopt a Director's Order setting forth the policies and procedures under which the NPS will recover expenses for providing utilities to non-NPS entities. These expenses include, but are not limited to, annual operating costs, cyclical repair and rehabilitation costs, and capital investment cost. 16 U.S.C. 1b(4) provides authority for the NPS to furnish "on a reimbursement of appropriation basis, all types of utility services to concessioners, contractors, permittees, or other users of such services, within the National Park System". The Director's Order provides policies and procedures for consistent application of this guidance throughout the National Park Service.

**DATES:** In recognition of obstacles imposed by the presence of two major holidays within the original public comment period, and to ensure full participation by all concerned entities, the period for acceptance of written comments has been re-opened. Comments will be accepted until March 6, 2010. All comments submitted between the close of the initial comment period and the re-opening of the comment period will be considered.

**ADDRESSES:** Draft Director's Order #35B is available on the Internet at <http://www.nps.gov/policy/DO-35Bdraft.htm>. Requests for copies of, and written comments on, the Director's Order should be sent to Tim Harvey, Chief, Park Facility Management Division, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240, or to his Internet address: [tim.harvey@aps.gov](mailto:tim.harvey@aps.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tim Harvey at (202) 513-7044.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** When the NPS adopts documents containing new policy or procedural requirements that may affect parties outside the NPS, the documents are first made available for public review and comment before being adopted. A number of contacts have been made, prior to the issuance of

this notice, to solicit input from potentially impacted groups and organizations.

**Public Availability of Comments:** Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Dated: December 9, 2009.

**Stephen E. Whitesell,**

*Associate Director, Park Planning, Facilities, and Lands.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Reclamation****New Melones Lake Area Resource Management Plan, Tuolumne and Calaveras Counties, CA**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the Final Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS).

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (as amended), the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has made available for public review a Final RMP/EIS for the New Melones Lake Area. The Final RMP/EIS describes and presents the environmental effects of four alternatives, including no action, for future use of the project area for recreation and resource protection and management.

A Notice of Availability of the joint Draft RMP/EIS was published in the **Federal Register** on November 2, 2009 (74 FR 56656). The written comment period on the Draft RMP/EIS ended on January 4, 2010. The Final RMP/EIS contains responses to all comments received and reflects comments and any additional information received during the review period.

**DATES:** Reclamation will not make a decision on the proposed action until at least 30 days after release of the Final RMP/EIS. After the 30-day waiting period, Reclamation will complete a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD will state the action that will be

implemented and will discuss all factors leading to the decision.

**ADDRESSES:** Send requests for a compact disc or a bound copy of the Final RMP/EIS to Melissa Vignau, Natural Resources Specialist, Bureau of Reclamation, 7794 Folsom Dam Road, Folsom, CA 95630, or *telephone:* 916-989-7182. Copies of the Final RMP/EIS will be available for review at: [http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa\\_projdetails.cfm?Project\\_ID=2536](http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa_projdetails.cfm?Project_ID=2536).

See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** Section for locations where copies of the Final RMP/EIS are available for public review.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Melissa Vignau, Natural Resources Specialist, Bureau of Reclamation, at 916-989-7182 or Dan Holsapple, Acting New Melones Resource Manager, Bureau of Reclamation, at 209-536-9094.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This planning activity encompasses approximately 30,000 acres of publicly accessible water and land owned and managed by Reclamation. The RMP, which will replace the New Melones Lake Area Master Plan of 1976, will be the primary management document for Reclamation's New Melones Lake Area, providing a defined purpose, vision, long-term goals, and management guidelines. It will be used by Reclamation as a framework for guiding decision-making related to future development potential, on-going management, public health and safety, and public use of the New Melones Lake Area.

The RMP attempts to enhance and expand the recreation opportunities while also providing more active protection and management of natural and cultural resources. The RMP is intended to be implemented over an extended period as determined by both user demand and need. To do so, the RMP provides goals and guidelines relating to natural, cultural and visual resources, water quality, circulation, visitor services, interpretation and operations.

The EIS is a program-level analysis of the potential environmental impacts associated with adoption of the RMP. The RMP is intended to be predominantly self-mitigating through implementation of RMP policies and management strategies, and the EIS will also include measures intended to reduce the adverse effects of the RMP.

Copies of the Final EIS are available for public review at the following locations:

- Bureau of Reclamation, Central California Area Office, New Melones