

other large trees that immediately surround it such that no trees larger than 4 inches in diameter can be cut or otherwise removed. Incidental take is expected in the form of harm and harassment from noise and movement associated with construction and timber management activities during the nesting season. These impacts may disturb eagles in the immediate area and/or prevent them from nesting, resulting in incidental take through modification of habitat in the vicinity of the existing nest or future nests and/or disturbance of nesting bald eagles. The strategy that the Applicant will employ to offset the impacts of the project to the bald eagle include efforts to avoid or minimize take, combined with management to improve bald eagle nesting and foraging habitat in selected areas as described in the Applicant's HCP.

Under section 9 of the Act and its implementing regulations, "taking" of endangered and threatened wildlife is prohibited. However, the Service, under limited circumstances, may issue permits to take such wildlife if the taking is incidental to and not the purpose of otherwise lawful activities. The Applicant has prepared an HCP as required for the ITP application.

As stated above, the Service has made a preliminary determination that the issuance of the ITP is not a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the meaning of section 102(2)(C) of NEPA. This preliminary information may be revised due to public comments received in response to this notice and is based on information contained in the draft EA and HCP. The Service will also evaluate whether the issuance of a section 10(a)(1)(B) ITP complies with section 7 of the Act by conducting an intra-Service section 7 consultation. The results of the biological opinion, in combination with the above findings, will be used in the final analysis to

determine whether or not to issue the ITP and sign the Implementing Agreement.

Dated: March 9, 2001.

H. Dale Hall,

Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 01-6811 Filed 3-19-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

U.S. Geological Survey

Request for Public Comments on Information Collection To Be Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

A request extending the collection of information listed below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35). Copies of the proposed collection of information and related forms may be obtained by contacting the USGS Clearance Officer at the phone number listed below. Comments and suggestions on the requirement should be made within 60 days directly to the USGS Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 807 National Center, Reston, VA 20192. As required by OMB regulations at 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), the U.S. Geological Survey solicits specific public comments regarding the proposed information collection as to:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the USGS, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. The accuracy of the USGS estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. The utility, quality, and clarity of the information to be collected; and,

4. How to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Title: Consolidated Consumers' Report.

Current OMB approval number: 1028-0070.

Abstract: Respondents supply the U.S. Geological Survey with domestic consumption data of 12 metals and ferroalloys, some of which are considered strategic and critical. This information will be published as Annual Reports, Mineral Industry Surveys, and in Mineral Commodity Summaries for use by Government agencies, industry, and the general public.

Bureau form number: 9-4117-MA.

Frequency: Monthly and Annual.

Description of respondents: Consumers of ferrous and related metals.

Annual Responses: 3,670.

Annual burden hours: 2,791.

Bureau clearance officer: John E. Cordyack, Jr., 703-648-7313.

John H. DeYoung, Jr.,

Chief Scientist, Minerals Information Team.

[FR Doc. 01-6877 Filed 3-19-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-Y7-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Intention To Extend Concession Contracts to: December 31, 2001

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 36 CFR part 51, section 51.23, public notice is hereby given that the National Park Service proposes to extend the following expiring concession contracts.

Concessioner identification No.	Concessioner name	Park
JOTR001	Joshua Tree National Park Association	Joshua Tree National Park.
OLYM047	Allen Rancourt	Olympic National Park.
OLYM064	Sure Fire Wood	Olympic National Park.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 2001.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: All of the listed concession authorizations will expire on or before April 30, 2001. The National Park Service has determined that the proposed short-term extensions are necessary in order to avoid an interruption of visitor services and has taken all reasonable and appropriate steps to consider alternatives to avoid

such interruption. These extensions will allow the National Park Service to complete and issue prospectuses leading to the competitive selection of concessioners for new longer-term concession contracts covering these operations. This short-term extension will be until December 31, 2001. Information about this notice can be sought from: National Park Service,

Chief, Concession Program Management Office, Pacific West Region, Attn: Mr. Tony Sisto, 600 Harrison Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, California 94107-1372, or call (415) 427-1366.

Dated: February 27, 2001.

James R. Shevock,

(Acting) Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

[FR Doc. 01-6852 Filed 3-19-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

General Management Plan, Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Washita Battlefield National Historic Site, OK

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Availability of draft environmental impact statement and general management plan for Washita battlefield national historic site.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and General Management Plan (DEIS/GMP) Washita Battlefield National Historic Site, Oklahoma.

DATES: The DEIS/GMP will remain available for public review through May 18, 2001. If any public meetings are held concerning the DEIS/GMP, they will be announced at a later date.

COMMENTS: If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments by any one of several methods. You may mail comments to the office of the Superintendent, Washita Battlefield National Historic Site, 426 E. Broadway, Cheyenne, OK, 73628. You may also comment via the Internet to waba_superintendent@nps.gov. Please submit Internet comments as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Please also include "Attn: draft GMP comments" and your name and return address in your Internet message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that we have received your Internet message, contact us directly Washita Battlefield National Historic Site, 580-497-2742.

Finally, you may hand-deliver comments to Washita Battlefield National Historic Site, 426 E. Broadway, Cheyenne, OK. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in

which we would withhold from the record a respondent'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. 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.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the DEIS/GMP are available from the Superintendent, Washita Battlefield National Historic Site, 426 E. Broadway, Cheyenne, OK, 73628. Public reading copies of the DEIS/GMP will be available for review at the following locations:

Office of the Superintendent, Washita Battlefield National Historic Site, 426 E. Broadway, Cheyenne, OK, Telephone: 580-497-2742

Planning and Environmental Quality, Intermountain Support Office—Denver, National Park Service, P.O. Box 25287, Denver, CO 80225-0287, Telephone: (303) 969-2851 [or (303) 969-2377]

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DEIS/GMP analyzes three alternatives to manage the park and balance visitor use and resource protection. Under the preferred alternative visitors would have opportunities to participate in a variety of activities. The major action of the alternative would be to locate the visitor/administrative facility offsite at the U.S. Forest service site. Alternative A would provide visitors with offsite learning opportunities, while preserving the reflective mood at the site. Under alternative B visitors would be provided with onsite learning opportunities through integration of the visitor facilities with the historic scene onsite.

The DEIS/GMP in particular evaluates the environmental consequences of the proposed action and the other alternatives on cultural resources, natural resources, visitor use, and the socioeconomic environment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Contact Superintendent, Washita Battlefield National Historic Site, at the above address and telephone number.

Dated: February 23, 2001.

Michael D. Synder,

Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Service.

[FR Doc. 01-6854 Filed 3-19-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Environmental Impact Statement for Fire Management Plan, Yosemite National Park, Counties of Madera, Mariposa and Tuolumne, California; Notice of Intent

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, in accord with provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), that public scoping has been initiated for a conservation planning and environmental impact analysis effort intended to update the Fire Management Plan (FMP) for Yosemite National Park. The purpose of the scoping process is to elicit early public comment regarding current issues and concerns, the suitable range of alternatives and appropriate mitigating measures, and the nature and extent of potential environmental impacts to be addressed in the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Background

Yosemite National Park is a unit of the National Park System. Research has shown that fire is a significant natural process across a large portion of the 760,918 acres within the authorized boundaries of the park. Following several decades of total fire suppression, a fire management program was begun in 1970 and has continued to the present time. Four forms of wildland fire management have been used to achieve natural and cultural resource management and hazard fuel reduction goals: aggressive suppression of unwanted wildfires; wildland fire use for resource benefits (formerly called Prescribed Natural Fire); prescribed burning; and mechanical fuel reduction.

The last revision of the FMP was based upon the completion of an Environmental Assessment and culminated in a Finding Of No Significant Impact, dated May 2, 1990. However, since that time a broad range of new issues, improved information and technology, and unforeseeable limitations have emerged which have the potential to affect the future direction of the fire management program within the park. Some of these issues include but are not limited to: a continued decline in ecosystem health due to fire suppression; increased hazards, risks and costs associated with fire suppression; increased interest in mechanical manipulation, especially in the wildland urban interface areas; and more stringent air quality regulations.