DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Submission of Study Package to Office of Management and Budget; Review Opportunity for Public Comment

AGENCY: Department of the Interior, National Park Service; Golden Gate National Recreation Area (Alcatraz Island); Yosemite National Park; Statue of Liberty National Monument (Ellis Island).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

ABSTRACT: The University of Vermont and three parks (Golden Gate National Recreation Area (Alcatraz Island) in California, Yosemite National Park in California; Statue of Liberty National Monument (Ellis Island) in New York and New Jersey) propose to conduct visitor surveys to learn about visitor demographics and visitor opinions about services and facilities in these three parks. The results of these studies will be used by park managers to improve the services they provide to visitors while better protecting park natural and cultural resources. Study packages that include the proposed survey questionnaires for these three proposed park studies have been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for review.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and 5 CFR part 1320, Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements, the NPS invites public comment on these three proposed information collection requests (ICR). Comments are invited on: (1) The need for the information including whether the information has practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the reporting burden estimate; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The NPS goal in conducting these surveys is to identify characteristics, use patterns, perceptions, preferences, and opinions of visitors about management and services in these parks. In addition, each project will identify indicators and standards of quality for the visitor experience. Results of all of the surveys will be used by NPS managers in their ongoing planning and management activities to improve visitor services, protect park resources, and better serve the park's current and potential future visitors.

There were no public comments received as a result of publishing in the Federal Register a 60 day notice of intention to request clearance of information collection for these three surveys.

DATES: Public comments will be accepted on or before June 29, 1998.

SEND COMMENTS TO: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention Desk Officer for the Interior Department, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20530; and also to: Dr. Robert E. Manning, Professor, School of Natural Resources, 356 Aiken Center, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405. Phone (802) 656–2684.

The OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days. Therefore, to ensure maximum consideration, OMB should receive public comments on or before June 29, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE STUDY PACKAGES SUBMITTED FOR OMB REVIEW, CONTACT: Dr. Robert E. Manning. Voice (802) 656–2684; Fax (802) 656–2623; Email rmanning@nature.snr.uvm.edu.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: University of Vermont Visitor Surveys at three parks.

Bureau Form Number: Not applicable.

OMB Number: To be assigned.

Expiration Date(s): September 1999.

Type of Request: Request for new clearance.

Description of Need: The National Park Service needs information to identify characteristics, use patterns, perceptions, preferences, and opinions of visitors about management and services in these parks. The proposed information to be collected regarding visitors in these three parks is not available from existing records, sources, or observations.

Automated Data Collection: At the present time, there is no automated way to gather this information, since it includes asking visitors to evaluate services and facilities that they used during their park visit.

Description of Respondents: A sample of visitors to each of these three parks.

Estimated Average Number of Respondents: 400 at Golden Gate National Recreation Area (Alcatraz Island), 1200 at Yosemite National Park, and 640 at Statue of Liberty National Monument (Ellis Island).

Estimated Average Number of Responses: Each respondent will respond only one time, so the number of responses will be the same as the number of respondents.

Estimated Average Burden Hours Per Response: 30 minutes at Golden Gate National Recreation Area (Alcatraz Island), 15 minutes at Yosemite National Park and 30 minutes at the Statue of Liberty National Monument (Ellis Island).

Frequency of Response: One time per respondent.

Estimated Annual Reporting Burden: 200 at Golden Gate National Recreation Area (Alcatraz Island), 300 at Yosemite National Park, and 320 at Statue of Liberty National Monument (Ellis Island).

Diande M. Cooke,

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Availability of Abbreviated Final Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: National Park Service (NPS), U.S. Department of the Interior, designated lead agency; Bureau of Land Management (BLM), designated cooperating agency.

ACTION: Notice of availability of an abbreviated final environmental impact statement for the proposed AT&T Corporation P140 Coaxial Cable Removal Project, Socorro County New Mexico, Clark County Nevada, and Kern and San Bernardino Counties California.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the National Park Service announces the availability of an abbreviated final environmental impact statement (FEIS) for the P140 Cable Removal Project, Socorro, New Mexico, to Mojave, California. The draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for the proposal was on public review for more than 60 days from December 29, 1997 to March 27, 1998. The abbreviated final document includes responses to public comments on the DEIS and factual corrections to the DEIS.

In 1996 AT&T approached the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) concerning a proposal to remove 220 miles of their P140 cable system that no longer supports their current fiber optic network.

The proposed project involved the removal of portions of a telecommunications system traversing 7.7 miles in New Mexico, 7.4 miles in Nevada, and 205.2 miles in California.