

location of this meeting, as well as to describe the status of the general management plan process to date. The purpose of this meeting is to obtain both written and verbal comments concerning the management alternatives that will effect Fort Stanwix National Monument. Those persons who wish to comment verbally or in writing should contact Joanne Arany, Planning Project Manager, Upstate New York Project Office, National Park Service, C/O SUNY-ESF, Room 331 Marshall Hall, One Forestry Drive, Syracuse, New York 13210, (315) 470-6995.

The draft GMP/EIS is expected to be completed and available for public review in late 1999. After public and interagency review of the draft document comments will be considered and a final EIS followed by a Record of Decision will be prepared. The responsible official is Gary Warshefski, Superintendent, Fort Stanwix National Monument, 112 E. Park Street, Rome, New York 13440.

Dated: May 3, 1999.

**Gary Warshefski,**

*Superintendent, Fort Stanwix.*

[FR Doc. 99-13060 Filed 5-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### **General Management Plan Point Reyes National Seashore Marin County, CA; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement**

**SUMMARY:** The National Park Service will prepare a General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (GMP/EIS) for Point Reyes National Seashore (PORE) and initiate the scoping process for this document. This notice is in accordance with 40 CFR 1501.7 and 40 CFR 1508.22, of the regulations of the President's Council on Environmental Quality for the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, Public Law 91-190.

This notice supersedes a previous Notice of Intent which was published on October 14, 1997. Subsequent to issuance of that notice it became necessary to delay preparation of the GMP/EIS. Scoping comments received in response to that notice will be considered in preparation of the GMP and need not be resubmitted.

#### **Background**

The purpose of the GMP/EIS will be to state the management philosophy for the Seashore and provide strategies for addressing major issues. Two types of

strategies will be presented in the GMP: (1) Those required to manage and preserve cultural and natural resources; and (2) those required to provide for safe, accessible and appropriate use of those resources by visitors. Based on these strategies, the GMP will identify the programs, actions and support facilities needed for their implementation. The GMP will guide management of PORE over the subsequent 10-15 years.

Persons wishing to comment or express concerns on the management issues and future management direction of Point Reyes National Seashore should address these to the Superintendent, Point Reyes National Seashore, Point Reyes, California 94956. Comments on the scoping of the proposed GMP/EIS should be postmarked no later than November 30, 1999. Public scoping sessions to receive comments and suggestions will be conducted during the scoping period at the park and in the vicinity. The times and locations of these sessions will be announced in the local media. Questions regarding the plan or scoping sessions should be addressed to the Superintendent either by mail to the above address, or by telephone at (415) 663-8522.

The responsible official is John J. Reynolds, Regional Director, Pacific West Region, National Park Service. The draft GMP/EIS is expected to be available for public review in the summer of 2001, and the final GMP/EIS and Record of Decision completed in the spring of 2002.

Dated: May 7, 1999.

**John. J. Reynolds,**

*Regional Director, Pacific West Region.*

[FR Doc. 99-13062 Filed 5-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### **Notice of Availability of Director's Order Concerning the Establishment of a National Tourism Policy**

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

**ACTION:** Public notice.

**SUMMARY:** National parks have been interwoven with tourism from the earliest days of the National Park Service. Railroads developed resorts at natural wonders and scenic attractions before parks were established. The lure of the parks as magnets for tourism and related economic activity has been understood and capitalized on by many interests. In the early part of this century, National Park Service leaders

Stephen Mather and Horace Albright believed the public needed to be enticed into the parks to experience them first-hand in order to understand and support their values and importance. Today, the Service is challenged to protect park resources in the face of increased visitation demands, particularly in the high use portions of the most heavily visited parks.

Travel and tourism rank as the number one or two industry in most States and will soon be the leading industry worldwide. Tourism in the United States is a half-trillion dollars-a-year industry that employs more than 15.5 million people directly and indirectly. Many National parks are icons that are on "must see" lists for domestic and international travelers. International travel is this country's largest services export earner.

The purpose of this tourism policy is to promote and support sustainable, responsible, informed, and managed visitor use.

The National Park Service is "dedicated to conserving unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park system for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations." This mission can be partially achieved through a national tourism policy that addresses the needs of both the National Park Service and the tourism industry, i.e., businesses that stage, transport, house, feed, and otherwise provide services to our actual and potential visitors.

At the core of the National Park Service tourism policy is the reality that it is in the best interest of the Service that we understand and pro-actively communicate with tourism businesses. It is to each park's advantage to find appropriate common ground with tourism interests and gain a common understanding of park missions and limitations.

National Park Service participation can help steer tourism in positive directions that emphasize: better visitor information, awareness and responsibility, sustainable practices, greater respect for ecosystems and cultural landscapes and avoidance of conflicts. Furthermore, while the tourism industry places demands on parks, it also can be an effective voice in speaking on behalf of parks and using its considerable influence.

The interests of park managers and the tourism industry are often similar but stem from different missions. Most park units contribute to local and regional economies and are featured destinations for tour operators and for tourism service providers. These