

draft wilderness study on August 27, from 2–4:30 p.m. and from 6–8 p.m. at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center. The center is located on County Road G, one-half mile west of the junction of U.S. 2 and State Highway 13, west of Ashland, Wisconsin. In addition, public open houses for information about, or to make comment on, the draft wilderness study/EIS will be held in the region during the comment period. These open houses will be announced in the local media and on the park Web site when they are scheduled. Information about meeting times and places will be available by contacting the park's headquarters at 715–779–3398, extension 102, or visiting the park's Web site at <http://www.nps.gov/apis/wstudy.htm>.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the draft wilderness study/EIS are available by request by writing to Mr. Jim Nepstad, Wilderness Study Coordinator, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, Route 1, Box 4, Bayfield, Wisconsin 54814, by phone 715–779–3398, extension 102, or by e-mail message at apis_comments@nps.gov. The document can be picked-up in person at the park's headquarters at 415 Washington Avenue, Bayfield, Wisconsin.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jim Nepstad, Wilderness Study Coordinator, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, Route 1, Box 4, Bayfield, Wisconsin 54814, or by calling 715–779–3198, extension 102.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Wilderness Act and the NPS management policies require all lands administered by the NPS be evaluated for their suitability for inclusion within the national wilderness preservation system. The purpose of this wilderness study is to determine if and where lands and waters within the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore should be proposed for wilderness designation. The study identifies four possible wilderness configurations within the park, including a no wilderness alternative, and evaluates their effects. Based on the findings of this study, a formal wilderness proposal may be submitted to the Director of the NPS for approval and subsequent consideration by the Department of the Interior, the President, and Congress under the provisions of the Wilderness Act.

Persons wishing to comment may do so by any one of several methods. They may attend the public hearing or open houses noted above. They may mail comments to Mr. Jim Nepstad, Wilderness Study Coordinator, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, Route 1, Box 4, Bayfield, Wisconsin 54814. They

also may comment via e-mail to apis_comments@nps.gov (please include name and return address in the e-mail message). Finally, they may hand-deliver comments to the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore headquarters at 415 Washington Avenue, Bayfield, Wisconsin.

It is the practice of the NPS to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request 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 identify, 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. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. 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.

The responsible official is Mr. Ernest Quintana, Acting Midwest Regional Director, NPS.

Dated: June 6, 2003.

David N. Given,

Acting Regional Director, Midwest Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Long Walk National Historic Trail Study, Environmental Impact Statement, Arizona, New Mexico

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Long Walk National Historic Trail Study.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4332(C), the National Park Service (NPS) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement for the Long Walk National Historic Trail Study, Arizona and New Mexico. This effort will result in a study that recommends to Congress whether the Long Walk of the Mescalero Apache and Navajo People should be designated a national historic trail. It will also propose alternative means of commemoration should it not be

recommended for national historic trail designation. The plan will be developed in consultation with the Mescalero Apache Tribe, the Navajo Nation, the associated American Indian Tribes in the southwest, local communities along the routes of the Long Walk, other federal and state agencies and all other interested and affected organizations and individuals. The area involved includes but is not limited to: the Navajo Reservation in northeastern Arizona from the Grand Canyon area east to the New Mexico state line including Chinle and Window Rock, Arizona. The area in New Mexico includes but is not limited to: the vicinity of Gallup, Grants, Bosque Farms, Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Galisteo, Las Vegas, Fort Union National Monument, Anton Chico, Fort Sumner, and Mescalero, New Mexico. Alternatives to be considered include no-action, designation as a national historic trail, alternative means of commemoration other than national historic trail designation, and other ideas that come out of the public process.

Major issues include: routes of the Long Walk, resources to be preserved along the route, whether the Mescalero Apache Tribe and the Navajo Nation are in favor of national historic trail designation, and how best to preserve and interpret the related events of that period.

A scoping newsletter has been prepared that gives times, places, and dates of public meetings that will be held on the study. It also details the issues identified to date. Copies of that newsletter may be obtained from Harry Myers, NPS, P.O. Box 728, 1100 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504–0728, (505) 988–6717, harry_myers@nps.gov.

DATES: The Park Service will accept comments from the public through August 11, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Information will be available for public review and comment in the office of the Superintendent, and at the following locations: Jere Krakow, Superintendent, IMR National Trails System Office, P.O. Box 728, 1100 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504–0728, (505) 988–6888.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Harry Myers, P.O. Box 728, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504–0728, (505) 988–6717, harry_myers@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: If you wish to comment on the scoping brochure or on any other issues associated with the plan, you may submit your comments by any one of