

Riverbank Restoration provides for essential restoration within 100 feet of the river, moderately increases current camping opportunities, and accommodates approximately the current level of visitor use. Given the conditions in this Alternative, East Yosemite Valley visitation would be approximately 20,100 people per day. Changes incorporated in this alternative based on public review of the Draft EIS are summarized below.

Alternative 6: Diversified Visitor Experiences and Selective Riverbank Restoration provides for limited restoration within 100 feet of the river, expanded facilities and services with the largest increase over current camping opportunities, and accommodation of some growth in visitor use levels. Given conditions in this Alternative, East Yosemite Valley visitation would be approximately 21,800 people per day.

### Changes Incorporated in Final EIS

In response to comments received on the Draft EIS, some modifications have been incorporated into Alternative 5 (key changes are listed below); all other alternatives are substantially unchanged.

- Revised the user capacity and visitor use management program to better articulate how river values, transportation system performance, and management objectives work together to develop and monitor user capacities.

- Increased the number of sites at the Upper and Lower River Campgrounds, and eliminated proposed camping at Eagle Creek. Added campsites to the Abbeville/Trailer Village area and increased the number of spaces at the seasonally-available El Portal Remote Parking Area.

- Retained the Ahwahnee and Yosemite Lodge pools, relocated bike rentals and ice skating facilities outside the river corridor, provided raft rental opportunities, and retained the Housekeeping Camp store.

- Allowed commercial raft rentals in Yosemite Valley and included a boating capacity and additional boating information for each open segment of river.

- Removed the proposed Huff House employee housing and redistributed these units with additional permanent housing at Lost Arrow, retained historic housing in the Curry Village area, and included new units in Rancheria Flat as well as the El Portal Town Center.

- Included additional tour bus parking at the West of Lodge parking area and additional parking spaces in areas such as east of the Yosemite Lodge registration area and the current Curry

Village ice-rink location. Relocated parking from West Valley Overflow Parking Area to the El Portal Remote Parking area where shuttle service to Yosemite Valley would be provided. Established a commercial tour bus and transit capacity for Yosemite Valley.

- Further study will assess various long-term management strategies for Sugar Pine Bridge. If mitigation measures fail to meet defined criteria for success, consideration of bridge removal would involve a public review process and additional compliance.

- Clarified changes to Curry Village overnight accommodations to reflect recent changes due to the rockfall hazard zone update.

- A tiered compliance effort will evaluate alternatives to address a grade-separated pedestrian crossing to address traffic congestion at the Yosemite Lodge intersection.

- Expanded the Yosemite Valley Historic Resources ORV to include the entire Yosemite Valley Historic District and clarified specific sites where monitoring will occur to protect and enhance the Recreation ORV.

- Established a grazing capacity at Merced Lake East Meadow and pack stock limit for the Merced Lake High Sierra Camp.

### Decision Process

As noted above, not sooner than 30 days after the Environmental Protection Agency notice is published in the **Federal Register**, the National Park Service will prepare a Record of Decision. Because this is a delegated EIS, the official responsible for approval of the Merced River Plan is the Regional Director, Pacific West Region, National Park Service. Subsequently, the official responsible for implementation of the approved Merced River Plan is the Superintendent, Yosemite National Park.

Dated: November 4, 2013.

**Christine S. Lehnertz,**

*Regional Director, Pacific West Region.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

**[NPS-NER-BOHA-14837; PPMSPD1Z.YM0000; PPNBOHAS1]**

### Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area Advisory Council Annual Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the annual meeting of the Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area Advisory Council.

**DATES:** The annual meeting of the Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area Advisory Council will be held March 5, 2014, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (EASTERN).

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at WilmerHale, 60 State Street, 26th floor, Boston, MA 02109.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Giles Parker, Superintendent and Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area, 15 State Street, Suite 1100, Boston, MA 02109, by telephone (617) 223-8669, or email [giles\\_parker@nps.gov](mailto:giles_parker@nps.gov).

The agenda will include:

- Presentation on Youth Engagement in the Park
- 2016 Anniversaries Update
- Update on Work at the Chapel on Peddocks Island
- Election of Officers
- Park Updates

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Council was appointed by the Director of the National Park Service pursuant to Public Law 104-333. The purpose of the Council is to advise and make recommendations to the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership with respect to the implementation of a management plan and park operations. Efforts have been made locally to ensure that the interested public is aware of the meeting dates.

This meeting is open to the public. Those wishing to submit written comments may contact the DFO by mail at National Park Service, Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area, 15 State Street, Suite 1100, Boston, MA 02109, or via email: [giles\\_parker@nps.gov](mailto:giles_parker@nps.gov). Before including your address, phone number, email 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 may 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.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the special emphasis of the meeting.

Dated: February 21, 2014.

**Alma Rippis,**

*Chief, Office of Policy.*

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