

GMP Dynamic Sourcebook - Appendix K: Project Completion

K.6 Example of a Briefing Statement for Approval to Print a GMP

Notice Briefing Statement

Unit: Chickasaw National Recreation Area

Title: Printing the Chickasaw National Recreation Area General Management Plan /
Environmental Assessment (GMP/EA)

Background

- A notice of intent to prepare an EIS for the Chickasaw National Recreation Area GMP was published in Vol. 67, No. 184, of the September 23, 2002, *Federal Register*. The congressional delegation's staff was notified that the National Park Service was updating the GMP that guides the management of Chickasaw National Recreation Area during the initial scoping for this project in the summer of 2002.
- After the preliminary alternatives public meetings it was determined that an environmental assessment (EA) would be prepared for the compliance on the GMP since the level of controversy was low.
- Work has now been completed on the draft GMP/EA. The document is now ready for printing. Clearance is needed by the Directorate for printing the document, as per the July 6, 2006 memorandum from the Associate Director, PPFL. (NOTE: Because this is an EA, a notice of availability does not need to be published in the *Federal Register*.)
- The draft GMP/EA will be distributed for a 30-day public comment period in the summer/fall of 2006. The draft document will be mailed to the recreation area's mailing list, placed on the NPS PEPC website, and be available at the recreation area and other locations. Public open houses on the draft document will be held in Sulphur and surrounding communities. Input from local/state officials is anticipated upon release of the draft document. A finding of no significant impact (FONSI) is expected to be signed by the regional director, in the fall of 2006, completing the planning process.

Issues

- The planning team and park staff are not aware of any significant controversy or organized support for or opposition to the alternatives in the GMP/EA. Few public comments were received in the scoping process. Although several concerns were expressed during the public scoping process, particularly on the future of the recreation area's water resources, no issues were identified for the GMP that have the potential for controversial impacts. The planning process has generated little public interest and controversy and no substantive issues have been raised by the public.
- None of the three alternatives developed for the national recreation area would result in substantial changes in the operation and management of the area. No major or significant impacts to resources from any of the actions in the action alternatives were identified in the analysis of impacts.

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