

# Elkmont Historic District

# Public Involvement Update

# Invitation to Public Workshop # 2

Great Smoky Mountains National Park has scheduled a second public workshop for Saturday, February 1, 2003, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m to present refined alternatives for the Elkmont Historic District. The workshop will be held in LeConte Auditorium at the Sevierville Civic Center, 130 Gary R. Wade Boulevard, Sevierville, TN, 37862, located just off US-411.

The Elkmont Planning Team has refined initial alternatives presented at the first public workshop held September 28, 2002, to incorporate comments from the public. The second workshop will provide an opportunity for members of the public to review and comment on the refined alternatives. A short introduction will be followed by breakout into small, working groups to review and comment on the refined alternatives. Comments from each group will be presented at closeout to all attendees. Comments from this workshop will be considered in the final set of alternatives carried forward into Impact Analysis—the next phase of the planning process.

Any group or individuals interested in learning more about the revised alternatives prior to the workshop may contact David Eskew at TN&A (865-220-9000 x 270) to schedule a time and meeting place during the week of January 20-25.

I look forward to seeing you at this workshop and appreciate your support as we take the next step forward in planning the future of the Elkmont Historic District. Sincerely,
Philip A. Francis Jr., Acting
Superintendent
Great Smoky Mountains National Park

# **Summary of Alternatives**

**Overview:** Six alternatives are being developed based on the goals and objectives of the project and taking into account information gained from the public. All have a strong interpretation and education component that grows out of the natural and cultural resources of the Elkmont Historic District (EHD). The alternatives, from No Action through Alternative E, have been developed to serve Park needs and address the concerns of varied constituencies.

**No Action:** Reflects the Park's General Management Plan and removes all buildings with the option of leaving stonework and foundations to assist in interpretation of the EHD.

**Alternative A:** Restores the Wonderland Hotel (WH), Appalachian Clubhouse, and eight Daisy Town (DT) cabins with an interpretive and natural ecosystem restoration focus.

**Alternative B:** Increases number of DT cabins restored to fifteen, and adds one cabin each from Millionare's Row (MR), and Jake's Creek (JC) with addition of day use and limited Park staff space.

Alternative C: Adds restoration of the WH Annex, six Wonderland Club Area (WCA) cabins, and increases MR cabins to two and JC cabins to three, with addition of

housing for visiting scientists and seasonal park staff.

**Alternative D:** Adds restoration of all WCA cabins and increases MR cabins to seven, with addition of overnight lodging and dining for overnight guests.

Alternative E: Adds restoration of all JC cabins, with addition of dining for the general public as well as overnight

### **Project Planning**

Review regulations and project history; identify purpose and need of the undertaking

# Initial Data Gathering and Issue Identification

Develop baseline resource data; hold public scoping meeting

#### **Alternatives Development**

- Public meeting to present range of possible uses for Elkmont structures, discuss appropriateness of use, and solicit public feedback
- Public workshop to present preliminary alternatives, facilitate discussion, and create a vision for Elkmont
- Refine alternatives and develop site plans for each of the proposed alternative concepts
- 4. Public workshop #2 to present revised alternatives and facilitate

#### **Impact Analysis**

Analyze the human/environmental consequences; recommend preferred alternative

### Prepare GMPA/EA

Prepare, review, release for public comment



If you would like to provide input on the management of the Elkmont Historic District or receive email updates, contact us at:

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#### E-mail

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#### Website

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#### Phone

(865) 436-1227

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so that all may experience our heritage.

## **Alternatives Development Process**

How Did We Get Here...The alternatives development stage of the planning process began in the summer of 2002. A list of potential uses for the Elkmont Historic District (EHD) was developed based on needs identified in the data gathering stage. In July, the list was refined in meetings with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GRSM) staff. During two public meetings in August, the potential uses were revised. Based on public input, five alternatives (No action and four action alternatives) were presented at the workshop in September. Public input revealed that there was not enough difference among the proposed alternatives. Following the first workshop, alternatives were revised and a fifth action alternative was added.

Where Are We Going...Alternatives to be considered during impact analysis must meet several criteria. They must meet the

goals and objectives of the project and they must have the support of the GRSM staff. In January, agencies with legal jurisdiction and private groups with a history of involvement at EHD will review the revised alternatives. From January 20-25, meetings will be scheduled with any small group requesting information about the alternatives. A second public workshop will be held on February 1 in Sevierville. A description of the final alternatives will be available to the public during the last week of February via the Elkmont website or by written request to the Park.

# **Background**

The Elkmont enclave began in the early 1900s when several individuals bought land from the Little River Lumber Company and built vacation cottages. Most Elkmont cabins were occupied until 1992 under lifetime

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National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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