

mechanized transport on the quality of visitor experience. This research proposed for the 2008 summer season, will use on-site and mail questionnaires to gather data for estimating impact rates for different user groups. Additionally, in-depth interviews with visitors will provide additional information about how these impacts arise and visitors' opinions of increasing cruise ship size. Finally, itinerary data will be collected from captains of charter and tour boats and from kayak guides to obtain more reliable itinerary data than visitors aboard these vessels would likely provide.

*2. The role of experience gatekeepers in visitor encounters with cruise ships.*

Discussions with experience providers indicate that these individuals may adjust itineraries in an effort to provide visitors with a particular experience. Often that experience is one where few other vessels are encountered. Understanding these practices and how the increase in 2-cruise-ship days may affect them are the primary objectives of this research component. This information will be integral when estimating population impacts under the 2-cruise-ships every day scenario. Gatekeepers identified include charter and tour boat captains, kayak guides, and VIS staff who issue permits and provide guidance to kayakers and captains of private vessels. Interviews, to be conducted during the summer 2008 use season, will rely on an open-ended, in-depth process.

Comments are invited on: (1) The practical utility of the information being gathered; (2) the accuracy of the burden hour estimate; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden to respondents, including use of automated information collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail 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 can 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.

*Automated data collections:* This information will be collected via in-person interviews and surveys. No automated data collection will take place.

*Description of respondents:*

*Component 1—survey and interviews:*

Cruise ship passengers, tour boat passengers, charter boat passengers, people entering on private vessel permits, and people entering on backcountry permits who visit Glacier Bay proper between June 1, 2008 and August 31, 2008.

*Component 1—itinerary data:* Charter and tour boat captains and kayak guides who serve visitors included in the survey component of the project.

*Component 2:* Charter and tour boat captains, kayak guides, and VIS staff who serve visitors to Glacier Bay proper during the 2008 summer season.

*Estimated average number of respondents:* *Component 1:* 2780 respondents for on-site survey; 1492 respondents for mail survey; 75 respondents for interviews; 24 respondents for itinerary date. *Component 2:* 27.

*Estimated average number of responses:* *Component 1:* 2780 respondents for on-site survey, 1492 respondents for mail survey; 75 respondents for interview; 24 respondents for itinerary data. *Component 2:* 27.

*Estimated average burden hours per response:* *Component 1:* 3 minutes for on-site survey respondents; 25 minutes for mail questionnaire; 60 minutes for interview respondents; 15 minutes for itinerary respondents. *Component 2:* 30 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* 1 time per respondent.

*Estimated total annual reporting burden:* 855 hours.

Dated: September 13, 2007.

**Leonard E. Stowe,**

NPS, Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 07-5464 Filed 11-2-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4312-52-M**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**National Park Service**

**30-Day Notice of Submission to the Office of Management and Budget; Opportunity for Public Comment**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Interior, National Park Service.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** Under provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and 5 CFR Part 1320, Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements, the National Park Service (NPS) invites public comments on a proposed new collection of information (OMB #1024-XXXX).

**DATES:** Public comments on this Information Collection Request (ICR) will be accepted on or before December 5, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments directly to the Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior (OMB #1024-XXXX), Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, by fax at 202/395-6566, or by electronic mail at [oria\\_docket@omb.eop.gov](mailto:oria_docket@omb.eop.gov). Please also send a copy of your comments to Dr. Michael Patterson, Department of Society and Conservation, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59801; Phone: 406/243-6614; e-mail: [michael.patterson@unmontana.edu](mailto:michael.patterson@unmontana.edu).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. James Gramann, NPS Social Science Program, 1201 Eye St., Washington, DC 20005; or via phone 202/513-7189; or via e-mail

[James\\_Gramann@partner.nps.gov](mailto:James_Gramann@partner.nps.gov). You are entitled to a copy of the entire ICR package free-of-charge.

*Comments Received on the 60-Day Federal Register Notice:* The NPS published a 60-Day Notice to solicit public comments on this ICR in the **Federal Register** on April 24, 2007 (Vol. 72, No. 78, Page 20363-20364). The comment period closed on June 25, 2007. After multiple notifications to stakeholders requesting comments, the NPS received one comment as a result of the publication of this 60-Day **Federal Register** Notice.

We received on public comment on the proposed visitor study in Yellowstone National Park (YNP). The comment, from a representative of the Wyoming State Snowmobile Association, raised concerns related to four aspects of the research design: (1) The possible disruption of visitor experiences through asking them to respond to an on-site survey, (2) the adequacy of the sample size, (3) the appropriateness/practical utility of gathering information on visitor perceptions about their experiences and park management, and (4) the appropriateness of gathering information on guides' perspectives about the snowcoach/snowmobile guide-only policy.

The comments were addressed in a reply letter. The following is a synopsis of the response to each of the proposed concerns: (1) The methods used in this study are well-established in the research community and every effort has been made to ensure that visitors are not disrupted in any significant way. (2) The sample sizes are large enough to address the research needs and will allow for a small standard error of  $\pm 5\%$ . (3) The goal of the proposed study is to

assess visitor perceptions about the appropriateness and acceptability of YNP's stewardship of bison, management of human-wildlife interactions witnessed during their experiences, and YNP soundscapes. Thus this information will have important practical utility for park managers: it can help managers understand visitor experiences, visitors' values, how experiences and values are related to support/opposition for management policies, what visitors think about NPS stewardship, and how to design interpretation/education efforts. (4) The guides represent a constituency with whom YNP interacts, who are impacted by management policies, and who have a wealth of experience and information about winter use given the time they spend in YNP. Information about guides' perceptions are therefore another important source of input for understanding winter use.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Winter Visitor Experiences in Yellowstone National Park.

*Bureau Form Number(s):* None.

*OMB Number:* To be requested.

*Expiration Date:* To be requested.

*Type of Request:* New Collection.

*Description of Need:* This study will provide the NPS and park managers with critical information on winter visitor experiences of Yellowstone National Park. The purpose of this research is to assist Park managers in identifying efficient, salient and effective dimensions of the visitor experience for applications in monitoring efforts. Those monitoring efforts can then be tailored to the evaluation of NPS policy and management actions. Recent changes to Yellowstone National Park's winter use policy have driven a need for social scientific research on winter visitor experiences in the park. This research has three components: (1) The role of the natural soundscape in visitor experiences, (2) visitor perceptions of human-wildlife interactions, and (3) snowcoach and snowmobile guides' perceptions of the effectiveness of the guide-only policy.

#### **1. The Role of the Natural Soundscape in Visitor Experiences**

Yellowstone National Park (YNP) has requested research into visitor experiences of natural sounds. The recent changes in winter use motorized access in YNP require snowmobiles in the park to use clean and quiet technology. These changes have led to the need to better understand the role of natural sounds in the winter visitor experience. The purpose of this study is

to provide park managers with specific information on visitor perceptions of the experience of the natural soundscape and on visitor willingness to support management actions that affect the natural soundscape in Yellowstone National Park. The purpose of the interview approach for soundscape research is to obtain an in depth understanding of visitor experiences of the natural soundscape and to better understand the context within which soundscape policies affect the visitor experience.

Previous research in Yellowstone National Park has documented the existence of differing values held among visitors for the park itself. Strong relationships between perceived park values and visitor willingness to support park management activities have been previously documented. The research proposed for the next winter use season will build on this knowledge, expanding it to include the natural soundscape resource, providing the park with information on the status of visitor perceptions of park values, visitor perceptions of the importance of natural sounds to their experience, and visitors' willingness to support management actions affecting the natural soundscape. In addition to the in-depth interviews, an on-site questionnaire will be utilized for this portion of the soundscape research.

#### **2. Visitor Perceptions of Human-Wildlife Interactions**

This study seeks to provide park managers with specific information on visitor perceptions of wildlife interactions that occur in Yellowstone National Park. The recent changes in winter use policy require the snowmobile experience to be guided, which leads to different types of visitor wildlife interactions. YNP has requested research exploring how winter visitors appraise the human-bison interactions they observe during their visit. The primary goals are to explore snowcoach and snowmobile passengers' appraisals of the human-bison interactions they witness during their visits, to analyze situational and visitor characteristics that might influence those appraisals, and to explore visitors' judgments about when consequences of winter use for bison are serious enough to warrant management intervention regulating these interactions.

#### **3. The Effectiveness of the Guide-Only Policy in Yellowstone National Park: The Perspective of Snowcoach and Snowmobile Guides**

Recent winter use plans at Yellowstone National Park have

required that each snowmobile comply with best available technology, that all groups be guided, and that the total number of daily winter visitors be capped. These restrictions were implemented to reduce impacts to wildlife, improve compliance with winter use rules, reduce visitor conflict, and address visitor carrying capacity. This study will look at the effectiveness of these managerial interventions through the eyes of the professional guides. Many guides have been working in the park on a daily basis for year; thus, they offer a unique perspective on how the conditions in the park have changed and what seems to be working best within the new winter use system. Interviews, to be conducted during the winter use season, will rely on an open ended, in-depth process.

*Comments are invited on:* (1) The practical utility of the information being gathered; (2) the accuracy of the burden hour estimate; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden to respondents, including use of automated information collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail 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 can 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.

*Automated data collection:* This information will be collected via in-person interviews and surveys. No automated data collection will take place.

*Frequency of collection:* Once.

*Description of respondents:*

*Components 1 and 2:* Visitors stopping at the Old Faithful Snow Lodge and Old Faithful Geyser on 20 days during the 2007–2008 winter use season.

*Component 3:* Snowmobile and snowcoach guides in Yellowstone National Park.

*Estimated average number of respondents:* *Component 1:* 445 (400 respondents for on-site survey and 45 respondents for interviews). *Component 2:* 400. *Component 3:* 30. *Non-respondents:* 92 (*component 1:* 45, *component 2:* 40, and *component 3:* 7).

*Estimated average number of responses:* *Component 1:* 445 (400 responses for on-site survey and 45 responses for interviews). *Component 2:*

400. *Component 3: 30. Non-responses: 92 (component 1: 45, component 2: 40, and component 3: 7).*

*Estimated average time burden per respondent: Component 1: 15 minutes for on-site survey and 30 minutes for interview. Component 2: 20 minutes. Component 3: 20 minutes. Non-respondents: 1 minute.*

*Frequency of Response: 1 time per respondent.*

*Estimated total annual reporting burden: 268 hours.*

Dated: October 30, 2007.

**Leonard E. Stowe,**

*NPS, Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 07-5465 Filed 11-2-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4312-52-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### National Capital Region; Notice/Request for Comments—The Lighting of the National Christmas Tree Event

**SUMMARY:** The National Park Service is seeking public comments and suggestions on the planning of the 2007 Lighting of the National Christmas Tree and the subsequent 26-day event.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Park Service is seeking public comments and suggestions on the planning of the 2007 Lighting of the National Christmas Tree and the subsequent 26-day event, which opens on December 6, 2007, on the Ellipse (President's Park), south of the White House. The meeting will be held at 9 a.m. on November 27, 2007 in Room 234 of the National Capital Region Headquarters Building, at 1100 Ohio Drive, SW., Washington, DC (East Potomac Park).

Persons who would like to comment at the meeting should notify the National Park Service by November 23, 2007 by calling the White House Visitor Center weekdays between 9 a.m., and 4 p.m., at (202) 208-1631. Written comments may be sent to the Park Manager, White House Visitor Center, 1100 Ohio Drive, SW., Washington, DC 20242, and will be accepted until November 27, 2007.

The meeting will be held on November 27, 2007. Written comments will be accepted until November 27, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at 9 a.m. on November 27, 2007, in Room 234 of the National Capital Region Headquarters Building, at 1100 Ohio Drive, SW., Washington, DC (East Potomac Park). Written comments may

be sent to the Park Manager, White House Visitor Center, 1100 Ohio Drive, SW., Washington, DC 20242. Due to delays in mail delivery, it is recommended that comments be provided by telefax at 202-208-1643 or by e-mail to [John.Stanwich@nps.gov](mailto:John.Stanwich@nps.gov). Comments may also be delivered by messenger to the White House Visitor Center at 1450 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., in Washington, DC.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Stanwich at the White House Visitor Center weekdays between 9 a.m., and 4 p.m., at (202) 208-1631.

Dated: October 22, 2007.

**Maria Santo,**

*Deputy National Park Service Liaison to the White House*

[FR Doc. E7-21639 Filed 11-2-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4312-JK-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### First Meeting of the Big Cypress National Preserve Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Department of the Interior, National Park Service, ORV Advisory Committee.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770, 5 U.S.C. App 1, 10), notice is hereby given of the first meeting of the Big Cypress National Preserve ORV Advisory Committee.

**DATES:** The Committee will meet on Thursday, November 29, 2007, beginning at 3:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in the cafetorium of Everglades City School, 415 School Drive, Everglades City, FL. Written comments may be sent to: Superintendent, Big Cypress National Preserve, 33100 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, FL 34141-1000, Attn: ORV Advisory Committee.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Karen Gustin, Superintendent, Big Cypress National Preserve, 33100 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, Florida 34141-1000; 239-695-1103, or go to the Web site <http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov/bicy> and select ORV Advisory Committee.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Committee was established (**Federal Register**, August 1, 2007, pp. 42108-42109) pursuant to the Preserve's 2000 *Recreational Off-road Vehicle Management Plan* and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (5

U.S.C. Appendix) to examine issues and make recommendations regarding the management of ORVs in the Preserve. This meeting will be administrative in nature. The topics to be discussed will be introductions, meeting logistics, parameters and ground rules for operation of the Committee. The meeting will be open to the public, and time will be reserved for public comment.

**Karen Gustin,**

*Superintendent, Big Cypress National Preserve.*

[FR Doc. E7-21637 Filed 11-2-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-U6-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area Advisory Council; Notice of Public Meeting

**AGENCY:** Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area Advisory Council will be held on Wednesday, December 5, 2007, at 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership Office, 408 Atlantic Avenue, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Boston, MA.

The purpose of the meeting will be to review the summer season, discuss the report card project, and plan for the annual meeting of the council.

The meeting will be open to the public. Any person may file with the Superintendent a written statement concerning the matters to be discussed. Persons who wish to file a written statement at the meeting or who want further information concerning the meeting may contact Superintendent Bruce Jacobson at (617) 223-8667.

**DATES:** December 5, 2007 at 4 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Boston Harbor Islands NRA, 408 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 228, Boston, MA 02110.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Superintendent Bruce Jacobson, (617) 223-8667.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Advisory Council was appointed by the Director of National Park Service pursuant to Public Law 104-333. The 28 members represent business, educational/cultural, community and environmental entities; municipalities surrounding Boston Harbor; Boston Harbor advocates; and Native American