Dated: February 23, 1998.

Alan R. Pierson,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 98–5196 Filed 2–27–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–22–M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AZ–010–01–1210–04]

Notice of Intent To Amend the Arizona Strip Resource Management Plan, Arizona

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

The proposed decision is to implement the Proposed Action as described in Environmental Assessment AZ–010–95–01, with additional terms and conditions from USFWS biological opinion 2–21–96–F–132. The Proposed Action is designed to address tortoise recovery goals and objectives while reducing impacts on local communities and human activities that occur in the Mojave Desert.

BLM is proposing to designate three Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) encompassing 169,300 acres (264.5 sq. miles) to be managed primarily for recovery of desert tortoises, and modify the prescriptions for the Virgin River ACEC (8,100 acres).

Beaver Dam Slope ACEC: This would expand the existing ACEC to include tortoise habitat on public lands in Arizona north of I–15 and the Virgin River but outside the Beaver Dam Wilderness Area, as categorized in the RMP. This area would complement management in Nevada and Utah and contain approximately 51,400 acres (80.3 sq. miles) in Arizona.

Virgin Slope ACEC: This area would include most tortoise habitat on public lands in Arizona between the Virgin River (or I–15) and the Virgin Mountains, as categorized in the RMP. A small portion of the Mesquite Community Allotment in Nevada would be managed consistent with the ACEC. This ACEC would contain approximately 41,375 acres (64.6 sq. miles) in Arizona.

Pakoon ACEC: This would include tortoise habitat on public lands in the Pakoon Basin. This area would contain approximately 76,525 acres (119.6 sq. miles). Activities administered by the Arizona Strip on Lake Mead NRA and on public lands in Nevada would be managed in accordance with ACEC prescriptions.

Virgin River ACEC: There would be no change in the boundary of this ACEC (8,100 ac), although prescriptions would be modified to be consistent with the tortoise ACECs. BLM proposes to manage the following resources to reduce impacts on listed species and their habitats: mineral exploration and development, fire suppression, livestock grazing, vegetation harvest, lands and realty, transportation and access, off-highway vehicles, recreation, wild, free-roaming burros, wildlife management, and other surface-disturbing activities (such as military maneuvers and airports). Outside of the four ACECs there would be no change to decisions in the RMP, except that grazing would be managed in accordance with the grazing decisions issued August 11, 1995.

SUMMARY: The above decisions apply only to areas within the Arizona Strip that are either: within desert tortoise habitat as categorized by the Bureau; within critical habitat as designated by USFWS; within one of the four ACECs; pastures of livestock grazing allotments containing tortoise habitat (including portions of Nevada and Lake Mead NRA that are administered by the Arizona Strip BLM).

DATES: BLM proposes to implement the proposed action on April 2, 1998. Closure of the Pakoon ACEC would occur following a two-year notification period.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Protest procedures described in 43 CFR 1610.5–2 give the public an opportunity to initiate administrative review of perceived oversights or inadequacies in a proposed plan. Any proposed decision in a resource management plan amendment may be protested. The protest may only raise issues that were submitted for the record while the plan amendment was being prepared. Any party who has participated in the planning process may file a letter of protest. For proposed decisions in an EA-level plan amendment, a letter of protest to the Director must be filed within 30 days of this Notice of Availability. Letters of protest must be complete and respond to the content requirements established in 43 CFR 1610.5–2(a)(2). The protest may cover only those issues and concerns raised during the planning process.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tim Duck, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, BLM Arizona Strip, 345 East Riverside Drive, St. George, Utah 84790, (435) 688–3200.

Roger G. Taylor,

Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 98–5293 Filed 2–27–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–32–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Boundary Revision: Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of boundary revision.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the National Park Service is revising the boundary of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park to include one additional tract of land.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 28, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph A. Cook, Chief, Land Resources Program Center, National Capital Region, National Park Service, 1100 Ohio Drive, SW, Washington, DC 20242, (202) 619–7025; and Donald W. Campbell, Superintendent, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425, (304) 535–6224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Act of June 30, 1944, c. 328,58 Stat.645 (codified as amended and supplemented, 16 U.S.C. 450bb–450bb–6), which established Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, provides the Secretary of the Interior with authority to make minor revisions in the boundary of the Park. Such boundary revisions may be made, when necessary, after advising the appropriate Congressional committees, and following publication of a revised boundary map, drawing or other boundary description in the **Federal Register**.

In order to properly interpret and preserve the historic character of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, it is necessary to revise the existing boundary to include one additional tract of land comprising approximately 56 acres. The inclusion of this tract within the boundary will bring Park acreage to approximately 2,350 acres. The existing acreage ceiling for the Park is 2,505 acres as set forth by Pub. L. 101–109 approved October 6, 1989. The property is being acquired by donation.

Notice is hereby given that the exterior boundary of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park is revised to include the following tract of land described in two (2) parcels:

Parcel 1

Known and described as the ''Exemption Parcel'', containing 16.07 acres, more or less, as the same is more particularly bounded and described on a plat entitled ''Exemption Parcel and Residue'', made by Appalachian Surveys, Inc., dated February 10, 1987, and recorded in the office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Jefferson County, West Virginia, in Plat Book 7, page 39.

BEING the same parcel of real estate which was conveyed to the Civil War Trust from D. Frank Hill, III, Substitute Trustee, by a deed dated the 18th. day of September, 1992 and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's office in the Deed Book 724, page 153.

Parcel 2

Fronting 1,723.69 feet on the east side of Secondary Route 27 and containing 40.0 acres as the same is more particularly bounded and described on a plat entitled ''Exemption Parcel and Residue'' made by Appalachian Surveys, Inc., dated February 10, 1987, and recorded in the office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Jefferson County, West Virginia, in Plat Book 7, page 39.

BEING the same parcel of real estate which was conveyed to the Civil War Trust from D. Frank Hill, III, Substitute Trustee, by a deed dated the 30th. day of October, 1992 and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's office in Deed Book 727, page 750.

Subject to all restrictive covenants, conditions, easements, rights-of-way and limitations of record.

These contiguous parcels of land contain in the aggregate 56 acres of land and are depicted as Tract No. 102–22 on Land Status Map numbered 385–80085, Segment 102, dated December, 1996.

All maps referenced are on file and available for inspection in the Offices of the Land Resources Program Center, National Capital Region, National Park Service, Department of Interior, 1100 Ohio Drive, SW, Washington, DC, 20242.

Dated: February 19, 1998.

Joseph Lawton,

Acting Regional Director, National Park Service, National Capital Region.

[FR Doc. 98–5288 Filed 2–27–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–70–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas; Concession Contract Negotiations

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Concession Contract Negotiations.

SUMMARY: Public notice is hereby given that the National Park Service proposes to award a concession contract authorizing the continued operation of a Physical Medicine Center, within Hot Springs National Park. This center offers hydrotherapy, physical therapy, physical fitness, and a health spa.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 1, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties should contact Assistant Superintendent Dale Moss at Hot Springs National Park, P.O. Box 1860, Hot Springs, Arkansas 71902, or call 501–624–3383, ext. 622 to obtain a copy of the prospectus. This describes the requirements of the proposed contract to be awarded for a period of ten years (from approximately June 1, 1998 through May 31, 2008).

All proposals to be evaluated and considered must be received by the Superintendent, Hot Springs National Park, P.O. Box 1860, Hot Springs, Arkansas 71902, not later than close of business, Central Standard Time, on or before May 1, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George R. Frederick, Chief, Concessions Management, 1709 Jackson Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68102, or call 402–221–3612.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This contract has been determined to be categorically excluded from the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act and no environmental document will be prepared.

The existing concessioner has performed its obligations to the satisfaction of the Secretary under an existing contract which expired by limitation of time on December 31, 1997, and therefore pursuant to the provisions of section 5 of the Act of October 9, 1965 (79 Stat. 969; 16 U.S.C., *et seq*), is entitled to be given preference in the renewal of the contract and in the negotiation of a new proposed contract providing that the existing concessioner submits a responsive offer which meets the terms and conditions of the Prospectus. This means that the contract will be awarded to the party submitting the best offer, provided that if the best offer was not submitted by the existing concessioner, then the existing concessioner will be afforded the opportunity to match the best offer. If the existing concessioner agrees to match the best offer, then the contract will be awarded to the existing concessioner.

If the existing concessioner does not submit a responsive offer, the right of preference in renewal shall be considered to have been waived, and the contract will then be awarded to the party that has submitted the best responsive offer.

The Secretary of the Interior will consider and evaluate all proposals received as a result of this notice. Any proposal, including that of the existing concessioner, must be received by the Superintendent not later than the sixtieth (60th) day following publication of this notice to be considered and evaluated.

Dated: February 17, 1998.

William W. Schenk,

Regional Director, Midwest Region.

[FR Doc. 98–5286 Filed 2–27–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–70–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Final Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan; Cape Cod National Seashore, Massachusetts

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior (DOI).

ACTION: Notice of availability of the final environmental impact statement for the General Management Plan.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Council on Environmental Quality regulations and National Park Service policy, this notice announces the availability of the final environmental impact statement (FEIS) for the General Management Plan (GMP) for Cape Cod National Seashore, Barnstable County, Massachusetts. (DOI #FES 98–5). In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the environmental impact statement was prepared to assess the impacts of implementing the general management plan.

This Final Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan describes alternatives for management actions at Cape Cod National Seashore, the environment that would be affected by those actions, and the environmental consequences of implementing alternative actions. Three alternatives are presented, including the proposed general management plan.

Alternative 1 is a continuation of current management, often referred to as