



General Management Plan - March 2012

What is this plan about?

The general management plan (GMP) creates a vision to guide management of the park for the next 20 years. The last time a GMP was completed was more than 30 years ago when the park was first created. Since then, the GGNRA has more than doubled in size and visitation, and the ecological and historical importance of its resources has become better understood. Now it's time to look forward again - to see how we can best preserve the natural vitality and unique cultural history of our park lands and continue to make them great places for all of us to visit and enjoy.

What has happened so far?

We began the planning process in 2006 with open houses and scoping meetings. The planning team met with a number of individuals, organizations, and agencies interested in the park. We mailed the first newsletter to a growing community of interest and created a special web site to invite continued public input. We reviewed and summarized the comments we received, which helped to define the issues that the plan is addressing.

In early 2007 we mailed the second newsletter with much of this information and a refined description of the park's purpose and significance. In fall 2007, the third newsletter presented the planning issues and three broad management concepts. In spring 2008 we distributed the fourth newsletter with narratives and zoning maps describing the preliminary alternatives: **CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH THE PARKS, PRESERVING & ENJOYING COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS,** and **FOCUSING ON NATIONAL TREASURES.** The planning team held several public workshops in June 2008 and received many specific comments on different aspects of the preliminary alternatives. Newsletter 5 summarized those comments.

Since then, the team has prepared the Draft GMP/EIS which describes the *preferred alternative* and three other alternatives, and evaluates potential environmental impacts. We distributed the document and held public meetings in September and October 2011. The team is reviewing the comments and preparing responses which will be included in the Final GMP/EIS, scheduled for distribution in early 2013.



PLANNING PROCESS

How You Can Be Involved!

Estimated Time Frame	Planning Activity	Public Involvement Opportunities
Spring 2006	Scoping — Identify concerns, expectations, and values related to the park with the public, park partners, government agencies, and other stakeholders.	Review Newsletter #1 and send us your ideas and concerns using the response form. Attend public meetings and voice your ideas and concerns.
Fall 2006 to Spring 2007	Data and Resource Analysis — Identify planning opportunities and constraints.	Review Newsletter #2. Stay informed at open houses.
Spring 2007 to Summer 2008	Develop Preliminary Alternatives — Outline different possible futures for the park and provide opportunities for review and comment by the public, park partners, government agencies, and other stakeholders.	Review Newsletters #3 (concepts & issues) and #4 (preliminary alternatives) and send us your ideas and concerns using the response form. No comment necessary on Newsletter #5 which outlined the public comments and parts of the draft preferred alternative. Attend open houses and public meetings. Send your comments on the preliminary alternatives.
Fall 2008 to Summer 2011	Prepare the <i>Draft GMP/EIS</i> — Complete the draft document including NPS internal reviews. Design, print, and distribute the document to the public, park partners, and other government agencies and stakeholders for review and comment.	Stay informed at open houses. Once the <i>Draft GMP/EIS</i> is published, review the plan, attend public meetings and voice your ideas and concerns. Provide written comments to be included in the <i>Final GMP/EIS</i> .
CURRENT STAGE 2012	Prepare the <i>Final GMP/EIS</i> — Revise the <i>Draft GMP/EIS</i> to respond to comments. Print and distribute the <i>Final GMP/EIS</i> , including substantive comments.	Review the <i>Final GMP/EIS</i> . No comments are necessary.
2013	Implement the Approved Plan — Prepare and issue a " <i>Record of Decision</i> " (ROD) to document formal approval of the plan, and authorize implementation as funding allows.	Continue to enjoy the park and help the NPS to realize the new opportunities identified in the plan.

On the Internet

To receive periodic email updates about the GMP and other park projects please sign up at:
<http://www.nps.gov/goga/parkmgmt/planning.htm>

Park plans and documents are posted at:
<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/goga>

Contact the planning team at:
goga_gmp@nps.gov)