

May 1, 2009

Dear Friend of Fort Donelson National Battlefield:

I am pleased to announce that the National Park Service has initiated a general management planning effort for Fort Donelson National Battlefield and National Cemetery. The purpose of the general management plan is to ensure that current and future park managers have a clearly defined direction for protecting resources and providing appropriate public access and visitor services. The plan will replace a guiding document produced in 1985 and will include the recently acquired Fort Heiman property in Calloway County, Kentucky. A planning team has been formed and will work closely with federal, state, and local agencies, interested parties, and the public. Together, the National Park Service, the public, and planning partners will explore ways to answer the following question:

What is an appropriate range of resource conditions, visitor experiences, and facilities for the park?

We invite you to become a partner and participate in this planning process. The planning team has scheduled two public open house forums for the following dates:

May 12, 2009 4-8:00 p.m.
George Weeks Community Center
607 Poplar Street
Murray, KY 42071

May 14, 2009 4-8:00 p.m.
Stewart County Public Library
102 Natcor Drive
Dover, TN 37058

Please consider joining us to launch the general management planning effort, learn more about the park's resources, meet the planning team, and discuss your ideas, concerns, and thoughts. If you are unable to attend either meeting, please feel free to post your comments under the link located to the left which is labeled "Open for Public Comment".

Thank you for the investment of your time and talents in helping us plan for the future.

Sincerely,

Steven A. McCoy
Superintendent