

Olympic National Park General Management Plan NewsLetter #4, Fall 2004

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Dear Friends,

As we wind down from another busy summer, work continues on the Draft General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (GMP/EIS). When complete, the GMP will provide a vision for the future of Olympic National Park and guide decision-making for the next 15 to 20 years. This is an important document, deserving of careful preparation and review.

Using input from the public scoping period in late 2001, and the alternatives workshops held in 2002, along with ideas and recommendations from park staff, we developed a range of feasible alternatives. Since then, we have been working to refine the alternatives, and develop a preferred alternative. We are also working on other sections of the document, including the purpose and need for the action, a description of the park environment, and the environmental consequences of the alternatives.

We anticipate releasing the Draft GMP/EIS for public review in late 2005. While we regret the delay in our original timeline, we are committed to developing a good plan that reflects not only the park's mission and goals but also the extensive range of public input we received. This has simply taken more time than anticipated.

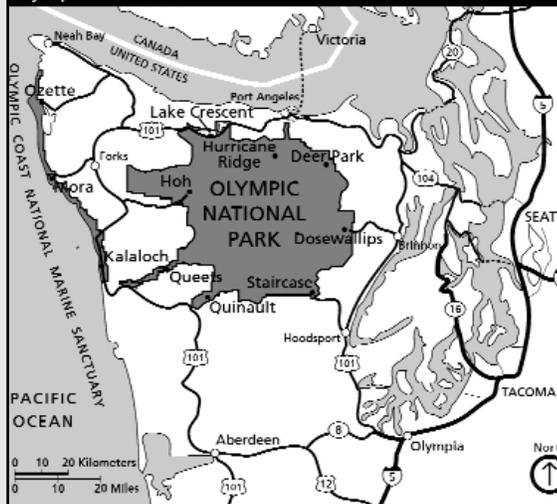
Be assured that we are working diligently to produce a thoughtful and useful plan. When the Draft GMP/EIS is released, it will be posted at the park's website at <http://www.nps.gov/olym>. Groups and individuals on our mailing list will be notified of its availability.

Thank you for your continued interest and involvement with Olympic National Park.

Sincerely,

William G. Laitner
Superintendent
Olympic National Park

Olympic Peninsula



If you would like to be added to the park's GMP mailing list, please send your name and address to:

Superintendent – GMP
Olympic National Park
600 East Park Avenue
Port Angeles, WA 98362

If you would prefer to receive email notification of the GMP release, please email us at olym_gmp@nps.gov.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Nancy Hendricks, planning coordinator, by mail at Olympic National Park, 600 East Park Avenue, Port Angeles, WA 98362 or by telephone at 360-565-3004.



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GMP Project Timeline

Step 1.	Project Startup	Summer 2001
Step 2.	Identify the Planning Context	Fall/Winter 2001
Step 3.	Develop Alternatives	2002
Step 4.	Publish Alternatives Newsletter	May 2003
Step 5.	Refine Alternatives	2003 – Early 2004
Step 6.	Prepare the Draft GMP/EIS	Ongoing
Step 7.	Publish the Draft GMP/EIS	Late 2005
Step 8.	Public Comment Period on Draft GMP/EIS	Early 2006
Step 9.	Revise and Publish Final GMP/EIS	Late 2006
Step 10.	Publish Record of Decision	2007
Step 11.	Implement the Plan	2007 and Beyond

Check Out Our New National Park Service Planning Website

More information about the Olympic National Park GMP/EIS is available by selecting "Olympic National Park" at the new park planning website:

<http://parkplanning.nps.gov>.

Once the Draft GMP/EIS is released, public comments may be made directly at that web-site.