

"Americanism is a matter of the mind and heart; Americanism is not, and never was a matter of race or ancestry . . ."
President Theodore Roosevelt, 1901-1909

[illegible]

Alternatives

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) requires that alternative management schemes be developed in a draft general management plan to fully explore a range of ideas, methods, and concepts for managing a park unit. All alternatives should be feasible for implementation. Also, regulations require that the draft plan identify a “preferred alternative” before the Environmental Impact Statement is released for public review. The preferred alternative is that alternative the National Park Service believes would best accomplish its goals, based on the analyses completed to date.

Development of these alternatives was based on information about Minidoka Internment National Monument’s resources, visitor use, and visitor preferences gathered from the public, government agencies, and stakeholder groups since the national monument was designated in 2001. The concepts for each alternative were intended to support the national monument’s purpose and significance, comply with NPS planning requirements, and directly respond to the public’s concerns and desires about the future direction of the national monument. The alternatives were developed by a comprehensive interdisciplinary planning team in April 2003 and have since been refined by comments received during the draft alternatives public comment period in July and August of 2003 and a planning team workshop in November 2003.

Four alternatives are described in this plan. The alternatives are characterized as follows: **Alternative A** is the “no-action alternative,” which means that current management practices would continue, however, incremental and minimal changes could be made. **Alternative B** emphasizes outreach, resource protection, and minimal new construction. **Alternative C** is the “preferred alterna-

tive.” Alternative C emphasizes on-site education and interpretation and cultural resource protection through rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. **Alternative D** emphasizes on-site education and interpretation through the development of new facilities. (For a comparison of the four alternatives, see the “Summary of Actions for Each Alternative” chart at the end of this chapter.)

Common to All Alternatives

The “Common to All Alternatives” section describes management guidance that would be applicable to all four alternatives. The actions described here would be implemented regardless of which alternative is ultimately selected. Laws, regulations, and policies described in chapter 2 underlay much of this management guidance.

Cultural Resources

- Protect and preserve cultural resources through a variety of cultural resource strategies, including rehabilitation,

The honor roll in the entrance area at Minidoka. The honor roll lists approximately 1,000 names of those serving in the military from Minidoka or whose families were incarcerated at Minidoka. Circa 1945. National Archives.

restoration, and adaptive rehabilitation. (Since 2001, the NPS has conducted a preliminary cultural landscape inventory, an archeological survey of the site, and an archeological excavation and survey of the entrance area. In 2004, the NPS will map the camp's historic landfill.)

- Develop a Scope of Collections Statement for the national monument in coordination with partner institutions and NPS units. Promote the care, collection, and curation of a wide range of artifacts and memorabilia. Collections entrusted in NPS care would meet NPS professional standards. (An Interim Scope of Collections Plan was approved in 2004).



Mitsuye Yamada (Yasutake), a former Minidoka internee, describing her experiences during World War II during the Pilgrimage. June 2004. NPS Photo.

- Identify and support collaborative endeavors to collect and preserve oral histories of the internees, their families, and people associated with the Minidoka Relocation Center. (The NPS and the Densho Project entered into a cooperative agreement for the collection of oral histories in 2003. Through this agreement, the Densho Project has conducted eight comprehensive oral interviews as of July 2004).
- Develop a historic resource study. (In 2003, the NPS began a historic resource study for the national monument).

Education and Interpretation

- Increase awareness of the national monument's existence and significance through outreach.
- Promote and develop on-site and off-site educational, interpretive, and outreach programs, especially through partnerships. (The NPS and the Wing Luke Asian Museum entered into a cooperative agreement for outreach and education in 2002. The Wing Luke Asian Museum has assisted with outreach during this planning process. NPS staff has begun conducting educational programs about Minidoka at the Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument visitor center.)
- Connect the national monument site and its

history to related sites and programs.

- Understand the impacts of and place emphasis on the people who were interned and incarcerated as well as affected communities.
- Tell the stories of Minidoka through the voices of former internees, their families, and others who shared the experience. Work in coalition with former internees and their families.
- Promote public understanding of the legacy and relevance of Minidoka to dynamic contemporary and future civil and constitutional rights issues.
- Acknowledge there is a body of controversial thought and information that is often in direct conflict with much of what recognized scholars accept as historically accurate in the depiction of the internment and incarceration story. While those materials remain contentious and can be divisive, they would not be ignored. NPS would encourage visitors to conduct their own research for the facts.
- Develop a long-range interpretive plan.

Visitor Facilities

- Provide new directional signage for pedestrian orientation and way-finding on-site.
- Provide a range of on-site and off-site

services and facilities in cooperation with partners.

Natural Resources

- Protect significant natural resources and design natural resource management programs and activities to minimize conflicts with protection of existing on-site cultural resources and landscapes.
- Suppress fires as necessary to protect cultural features of the national monument.
- Utilize best management practices to prevent excessive run-off and soil erosion.

Partnerships and Outreach

- Build partnerships and cooperative agreements in areas of outreach, education, and interpretation.

Access, Circulation, and Parking

- Conduct a comprehensive transportation study, in cooperation with local, regional, and state entities to identify safety and circulation issues. Based on the findings of this study, propose solutions to resolve pedestrian and vehicular access and circulation issues for public and private purposes.

Land Protection and Boundaries

- Recommend that legislation authorize the Secretary of the Interior to transfer the 3-



Marge Nishikawa, a former Minidoka internee, visiting the site during the Pilgrimage. June 2003. NPS Photo.



Hero Shiosaki, a Nisei veteran, volunteering at the I-FARM. 2004. Courtesy of Cliff and Jean Dickey ©

acre and 9-acre sites from the BOR to the NPS. (See Appendix B: Analysis of Boundary Adjustment and Land Protection Criteria.)

- Recommend that legislation authorize the NPS to exchange one-half of the extant root cellar for an existing irrigation lateral. (See Appendix B: Analysis of Boundary Adjustment and Land Protection Criteria.)
- Prohibit hunting, trapping, grazing, and mineral extraction within the national monument.
- Cooperate with neighbors about boundary and land protection issues.
- Clearly define all national monument boundaries to prohibit trespassing on private property. (In 2003, the NPS contracted with the BLM, Cadastral Survey, to conduct a formal lands survey to establish the legal boundaries of the national monument. Land survey monuments were placed to denote the boundary-line.)
- Work in cooperation with the North Side Canal Company to address safety issues along the canal.
- Work in cooperation with the BLM to preserve the historic 26-acre Minidoka landfill site.

Operations and Management

- Relocate the American Falls Reservoir District No. 2 operational facilities to a new off-site location to be determined. Use this site to establish NPS presence and provide visitor services. (The NPS and BOR have entered into an agreement to move the American Falls Reservoir Irrigation District operations to a new site outside the national monument's boundary. The NPS has obligated \$250,000 in relocation costs to the BOR to effect the relocation.)
- Utilize opportunities to provide an on-site presence.
- Explore opportunities for extensive use of volunteers to complement NPS staff, both on-site and off-site.
- Visitors would not be charged an entrance fee; however, some fees could be charged for special services.
- Coordinate with the Jerome County Law Enforcement and Fire Department in the event of an emergency and/or fire.
- Establish partnerships as part of the national monument's standard operational procedures.
- Seek funding sources for capital development costs.

Management Zones

Management zones assist in determining levels of appropriate resource preservation, visitor use, and visitor facilities in each part of the national monument. Management zones vary according to the kind of resource conditions that exist within the park and the type of visitor experiences that are desired in each area. Management objectives can differ from zone to zone, depending on the types and condition of resources that exist there.

The management zoning scheme is common to all alternatives. While the planning team considered a range of management zoning schemes for the national monument, it concluded that no differentiation among management zoning schemes was appropriate. The reasoning for this decision was

based on the limited quantity and integrity of historic resources, size of the national monument, and desired visitor experiences at the site. Management zones would be applied to the “no-action alternative” if it was selected as the preferred alternative. Additionally, alternative C would address management zoning in areas where a boundary adjustment is being considered. The boundary change would only be considered if there was a willing seller and approved legislation.

Each of the four alternatives analyzed in this document include the following four management zones: (1) historic features zone, (2) historic open space zone, (3) park development zone, and (4) canal zone. Collectively, these management zones provide the basic framework for the alternatives and proposed actions.



Fences, constructed since World War II, in the historic open space zone. June 2004. NPS Photo.

Management Zones

Minidoka Internment National Monument Draft GMP/ EIS



Map Prepared by: Pacific West Region - GIS Group

Table 5: Management Zones Proposed within Minidoka Internment National Monument

Management Zone	(1) Historic Features Zone	(2) Historic Open Space Zone	(3) Park Development Zone	(4) Canal Zone
Zone Description	This management zone contains the largest concentration of extant physical features on the historically developed areas of the site within the national monument. Features in this zone include building remnants and cultural landscape features in the entry area, the warehouse area, and the administrative and staff housing area. Six acres in the entry area, including the remnants of the military police building, reception building, entry parking lot, and entrance garden, are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A recommendation to authorize a boundary expansion to include half of the root cellar in exchange for an irrigation lateral is common to all alternatives. The NPS would apply the historic features zone to this feature.	Historically, the open space zone was mostly undeveloped land without buildings. Landscape features in this zone included the historic swimming hole, refuse piles, fencelines, and footpaths. Today, these landscape features remain as remnants of the historic period. Additionally, there are historic artifacts littered throughout the site. This zone is characterized by sagebrush and native grasses. Ground disturbances have occurred in this zone as a result of cattle grazing and the North Side Canal Company operations that maintain the canal. Many new fencelines traverse the area and limit circulation within the zone.	This management zone includes the 13-acre and 9-acre sites, both of which are outside the national monument boundaries. Historic buildings within the 3-acre site include half of a historic warehouse and two adaptively reused staff housing buildings. The NPS would recommend congressional legislation to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to transfer the parcels from the BOR to NPS management. Facilities to support visitor needs would be developed in this zone. Additionally, this zone would include Hunt Road and all road corridors within the national monument.	This management zone encompasses the portion of the national monument that is bounded by the historic line of the perimeter fence and the North Side Canal. The canal was an important feature during the historic period for recreational activities. Former internees describe the area with mixed emotions, telling stories of fishing, swimming, and walking along the canal, as well as drownings and suicides. The canal is a significant visual and physical feature and serves as the southern boundary of the national monument.
Future Resource Conditions	The management focus in this zone would be on protecting historic structures, objects, and the cultural landscape. Treatments that could be considered in this zone are delineation, restoration, rehabilitation, and/or reconstruction as appropriate. The NPS would allow continued public use and/or adaptive reuse of historic roads, parking, and trails.	The management focus in this zone would be to protect the historic landscape, including the open character and feeling that existed during the historic period. Delineation, preservation maintenance, and limited rehabilitation would be compatible cultural landscape treatments in this zone.	The NPS would protect the historic structures and explore adaptive reuse alternatives for the three historic structures within the three-acre parcel. The NPS would explore the potential for developing the 9-acre parcel. Management and development options within this zone could differ.	The NPS would preserve and maintain the character of the cultural landscape along the North Side Canal to the extent possible. Vegetation would be managed within the canal's zone of influence. The NPS could explore the reconstruction of the historic perimeter fence along the canal.
Education and Interpretation	The emphasis would be on self-guided and low-key interpretation with some interpretive activities and programs. Historic areas and features would be clearly identified and interpreted for their historical significance. In the entrance area, interpretation would discuss the historic features as symbols of the internment and incarceration. The loss of freedom and civil liberties would be illustrated by the military police building, reception building, sense of remoteness, and historic locations of the fence and guard tower. The contradiction of loyal citizens being imprisoned would be embodied in the Honor Roll. The spirit and cultural traditions of the internees would be evident in the Japanese style garden area.	The focus in this area would be a self-guided approach to interpretation.	In this zone, the NPS could provide a place where the broader story is interpreted. Education and interpretation could be concentrated, interactive, and aimed at a diverse audience. The NPS could provide a forum for a diversity of expressions related to the camp, the broader story, and the relevance of these stories to today.	This zone would focus on interpretive themes related to the canal, such as the historic perimeter fence, sense of confinement, as well as a connection to the rich agricultural history of the area.
Visitor Experience	The NPS would provide opportunities to see and experience the historic elements of this portion of the camp. In the historic entrance area, visitors would experience a strong sense of arrival and transition experience. Opportunities for ranger-led programs and self-guided activities would be provided, as well as places for individual contemplation and reflection. Interpretive media would be carefully designed to be compatible with the historic setting.	Opportunities and places for individual contemplation and personal reflection would be offered in this area.	This zone could provide a place for intensive visitor contact and on-site interpretation. Additionally, the NPS could provide a place to observe and interpret the full viewshed of the camp, including the extents of the historic residential housing blocks and the outlying open and expansive high desert environment.	Visitors would experience a visual and/or physical connection to the North Side Canal. The North Side Canal's flowing water could provide a connection to the natural environment and a sense of solitude.
Appropriate Types of Facilities	Interpretive waysides, historic trails, and portions of the historic circulation system for contemporary use would be appropriate in this zone. Commemorative features could be included but would have to be carefully designed to minimize intrusion on the historic scene.	Only minimal development would be acceptable in this zone. Facilities that would be appropriate include interpretive waysides, seating, and new and rehabilitated historic trails.	A range of visitor and administrative facilities could be appropriate in this zone; either by adaptively reusing historic buildings or new construction. Visitor facilities could include an orientation station, interpretive and educational exhibits, research facilities, library, book sales, classrooms, commemorative features, theater and/or studios. Administrative facilities could include offices, housing, maintenance, and curatorial storage. Additionally, roads, parking, and trails could be developed in this zone.	Facilities in this zone could include new trails along the historic perimeter fence, wayside exhibits, and viewing areas.

Carrying Capacity

As the number of visitors to parks within the national park system has increased over the years, so to, has concern that too many visitors may have a negative impact on both the visitor experience and the resources of a specific site. The NPS recognized that there was a conflict between their efforts to encourage people to use the parks and efforts to protect park resources while providing a quality experience for visitors. This concern led the NPS to focus on the concept of carrying capacity, which is the type and level of visitor use that can be accommodated while sustaining the desired resource protection and visitor experience conditions in the park. To make sure that visitation does not impair resources and compromise visitor experience, NPS is required by law to determine carrying capacity. This determination is based on the purpose, significance, and desired future conditions unique to the national monument.

There are three major components of carrying capacity: physical capacity (e.g. parking spaces, facility space, road capacity); visitor experience (such as congestion at visitor facilities, opportunities for solitude); and resources (including cultural and natural resources). The carrying capacity in a given area could be exceeded for any of these components, which would trigger management action.

It is important to recognize that the national

monument is a newly established unit of the national park system, and therefore does not have historical visitor use data. The completion of a Visitor Experience and Resource Protection (VERP) study for the national monument, once some implementation has proceeded (approximately 3-5 years) should provide the guidance needed to make informed management decisions about the future allocation of resources. It is intended that the identification of desired resource conditions and indicators for each management zone included in this plan will assist the VERP process. If the time frame for making decisions is insufficient to allow the application of a carrying capacity planning process, then the superintendent must make decisions based on the best available scientific and other information. In either case, such planning must be accompanied by appropriate environmental impact analysis, in accordance with Director's Order #12.

The General Management Plan for Minidoka Internment National Monument determines the desired resource and visitor experience conditions that are the foundation for carrying capacity analysis and decision-making. Additionally, it sets initial physical capacities, expressed in ranges. At this level of planning, carrying capacity is defined by the alternative prescriptions for levels of development and desired visitor experiences for that particular alternative or management zone. A VERP study would develop capacities for visitor experience, resources, and more refined physical capacities in alternatives B, C, and D.

*Visitors in the
entrance garden
during the
Minidoka
Pilgrimage. June
2004. NPS Photo.
(Opposite Page)*



Cultural Resource Treatments:

Preservation – the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses on the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction. New additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project.

Adaptive rehabilitation – a use for a structure or landscape other than its historic use, normally entailing some modification of the structure or landscape.

Reconstruction – the act or process of depicting, by means of new construction, the form, features, and detailing of a nonsurviving site, landscape, building, structure, or object for the purpose of replicating its appearance at a specific period of time and in its historic location

Rehabilitation – the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features that convey its historical or cultural values.

Restoration – the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by removing features from other periods in its history and reconstructing missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project.

Alternative A: No Action

General Description

Alternative A is the no-action alternative and would continue current management practices. The no action alternative would provide general management guidance for incremental and minimal changes in park operations, staffing, visitor services, and facilities to accommodate visitors. While the historic resources of the site would continue to be protected, only minor additional site work would be anticipated under this alternative. The no-action alternative is the baseline for evaluating the changes and impacts of the other action alternatives.

Management Zones

Currently, management zoning is not applied to the national monument. If alternative A was selected as the preferred alternative, then the management zoning scheme, which is common to all alternatives, would be applied to this alternative.

Cultural Resource Management

The NPS would continue to protect cultural resources. Limited interpretive approaches would be used to convey the historic character of the camp and to capture the sense of the Nikkei's residential experiences at Minidoka.

Cultural Landscape

Building footprints and foundation piers and concrete pads in the staff housing area, administration area, and warehouse area would be protected. The swimming hole would be protected as it is now.

Vegetation would be managed and selectively rehabilitated to the historic character of the open spaces throughout the site as funding permitted.

Historic roads, interpretive pathways, and the historic parking area at the entry would be maintained.

The honor roll to those serving in the armed forces would be reconstructed in the entry area, as archeological and historic information became available to determine exact location, nature, and extent. If reconstruction were not feasible, the honor roll would be delineated and interpreted. Historic pathways in the garden area would be maintained in their excavated and rehabilitated condition. The rock garden would be rehabilitated, in the event that historical information became available to determine exact location, nature, and extent. The remains of the historic military police building and reception building would be preserved.

Historic Buildings and Structures

The NPS would protect historic buildings and structures, including half of a warehouse and two former staff housing buildings. The root cellar would be stabilized.

Off- site Historic Features

Where feasible, the NPS would develop cooperative strategies with others to protect historic structures and features related to the historic camp that are off-site but within view of the national monument.

Archeology

Archeological projects, such as surveys and excavations, would continue to be conducted as funding permitted to identify and protect archeological features.



Commemorative area with plaques at Minidoka. June 2004. NPS Photo.



Oral Histories

Oral histories of former internees and individuals associated with Minidoka would be conducted and collected in an expeditious manner through partnerships with legacy and historical organizations, such as the Densho Project in Seattle, Washington, and the Idaho State Historical Society. Oral histories would be used to assist with education and interpretation, as funding became available.

Collections

The NPS would develop a collaborative museum management plan for collections management with southern Idaho NPS units. The plan would provide direction for long-term development and operation of a joint management program.

Maya Hata Lemmon, a former Gila River internee, and Mary Gruenewald (Matsuda), a former Minidoka internee, visiting the IFARM during the Pilgrimage. Mabel Boggs, a former Minidoka internee, is in the background. June 2004. NPS Photo.



Education and Interpretation

Visitors would be encouraged to visit local exhibits about Minidoka, such as the NPS Hagerman Fossil Beds NM visitor center, the Jerome County Historical Society, and Idaho Farm and Ranch Museum. Visitors would be encouraged to read relevant publications, view videos, research related topics, and visit the site.

A long-range interpretive plan would be developed to coordinate interpretation both on-site and off-site.

On-site Programs

The NPS would use existing materials and information in interpretive programs, such as pamphlets and the exhibits at Hagerman Fossil Beds NM, to depict the physical extent of the historic camp, living conditions, and the interpretive themes.

Minimal orientation and informational materials at the entry area would be provided, as funding permitted.

Alternative A would maintain existing commemorative waysides at the entry, including the National Register of Historic Places and Idaho Centennial commemorative features.

Off- site Programs

Staff would continue to provide limited educational and outreach programs and basic interpretive materials, primarily on an “as requested” and “as available” basis. The NPS would maximize the use of partnerships to direct visitors and students to educational and legacy organizations and museums to learn about the internment and incarceration of Nikkei during World War II. The NPS would continue minimal efforts to promote the integration of the internment and incarceration story and its significance into the curriculum of educational institutions.

The NPS would seek to build coalitions with former internees, their descendents, and others to assist in accurate interpretation about the culture of the internees. Similarly, the NPS would seek to build

coalitions with communities and individuals that were associated with Minidoka but who were not incarcerated.

Visitor Facilities

Visitor opportunities and basic facilities would be expanded as funding permitted.

On-site Facilities

Temporary, seasonal toilets would be provided.

Identification signs and boundary markers along the national monument’s perimeter would be installed to inform visitors about the national monument’s boundaries.

Off- site Facilities

The NPS would maintain the exhibits at Hagerman Fossil Beds NM.

Limited directional signage to the national monument would be installed.

Visitors to the national monument would be encouraged to stop at the Idaho Farm and Ranch Museum (I Farm) to experience the barracks buildings. The NPS would continue to work cooperatively with the Jerome County Historical Society.

Natural Resource Management

The NPS would identify potential contaminants and environmental degradation resulting from historic uses, as necessary.



Visitors at the IFARM. 2004. Courtesy of Cliff and Jean Dickey ©

Noxious weeds would be controlled in cooperation with the Northside Tri-Counties Cooperative Weed Management Area. In the historic open spaces, existing historic and native vegetation patterns would be protected.

Scenic Resource Management

The NPS would encourage the protection of historic views to the North Side Canal and to the former residential areas from within the national monument, as feasible. The NPS would protect views to the broader camp and to the surrounding areas as possible.

Partnerships and Outreach

The NPS would continue to develop partnerships with organizations for interpretation, education, and collection of oral histories and historic objects. Outreach programs would be limited.

Access, Circulation, and Parking

The NPS would retain the current access, circulation, and parking system where visitors explore the national monument by car as well as on foot.

The two dedicated county roads (Hunt Road and 1400E) that traverse the site would be maintained for visitors and local residents.

Pedestrian circulation would be retained as is; new trails would not be developed.

Parking at the entry area would be maintained to

accommodate approximately 10 vehicles. The NPS would continue to provide overflow parking for special events on the 3-acre and 9-acre BOR parcels.

Land Protection and Boundaries

In addition to the actions listed under the “Common to All Alternatives,” section, the NPS would work cooperatively with national monument neighbors and local government to encourage the protection of historic open space and the agricultural character of the area surrounding the national monument.

Carrying Capacity

The overall visitor capacity for this alternative would increase minimally, as there are only minor improvements in facilities and services for visitor use. The number of existing parking spaces at the entry (8-12) would effectively limit visitation. In addition, there is no on-site staff to help protect existing cultural and natural resources, so a dramatic increase in visitation would be undesirable due to potential impacts to these resources. The NPS would continue to accommodate the existing number of visitors to the national monument and at off-site locations.

Park Operations and Management

The national monument’s current operating budget only provides for administrative and planning functions.

Staffing

Staff for Minidoka would be hired as funding permitted. Administrative functions would be managed cooperatively with Hagerman Fossil Beds NM. Staffing functions necessary for the implementation of alternative A would include on-site maintenance, resource and site protection, interpretation, and education. Staffing would be shared with Hagerman Fossil Beds NM.

Administrative and Maintenance Facilities

Administrative facilities would continue to be off-site at Hagerman Fossil Beds NM, although the NPS would explore opportunities for an on-site presence. As funding permitted, park staff facilities could be in adaptively rehabilitated historic buildings, after the American Falls Reservoir District No. 2 operations was relocated off-site.

Most maintenance facilities would be off-site at Hagerman Fossil Beds NM.

Park Hours and Seasons of Operation

The national monument is not operational and does not have official hours. Visitors may contact the NPS staff at Hagerman Fossil Beds NM at (208) 837-4793 for information or visit the website at www.nps.gov/miin. Visitation to the national monument is highest in summer, and the monument would provide temporary visitor services, as funding permitted.

Table 6: Cost Estimates of Implementing Alternative A (2005 Costs)

Capital Development

Road Improvements	\$ 6,000
Utilities	16,000
Parking	23,000
Interpretive Media and Exhibits	11,000
Entry Area Enhancements	62,000
Warehouse Area Enhancements	375,000
Visitor Center Complex	0
Demonstration Block	0
Farm-in-a-Day Property	0
Maintenance Facility in Warehouse Area	0
Other Cultural Landscape Enhancements	30,000
Trails and Fences	27,000
Total	\$500,000-600,000

Average Annual Life-Cycle Costs (25 years)

Total	\$5,000
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Lands

Boundary Additions	0
Total	0

Annual Operations

Staffing	\$112,000
Partnership Programs	20,000
Fixed costs/office space/vehicles/travel	38,000
Equipment/Supplies	10,000
Total	\$160,000-200,000

Action Plans and Studies

To implement alternative A, a number of specific action plans would be developed and implemented and additional studies would be conducted. Some of these items would require additional special project funding or increases to the operating base funding. Plans for actions with potential to affect the environment would require formal analysis of alternatives in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and related laws, including the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Such documents would reference and be tiered to this GMP/EIS. Required plans and studies include the following:

- Historic Resource Study
- Collaborative Museum Management Plan for collections management with southern Idaho NPS units
- Long-Range Interpretive Plan

Actions Requiring Cooperation with Partners

Existing partnerships with the Wing Luke Asian Museum and the Densho Project would be maintained for education, outreach, and the collection of oral histories, as funding and project opportunities permitted. Cooperation with the Idaho Farm and Ranch Museum, Jerome County Historical Society, would continue.

Relations with the local County Road District would need to be established and maintained to coordi-

nate the maintenance of Hunt Road and the Hunt Bridge.

Existing relations for land protection, maintenance, and resource protection with the national monument's neighbors would need to be maintained with the BLM, North Side Canal Company, and the BOR.

The NPS would need to coordinate with Jerome County Law Enforcement and Fire District in the event of an emergency and/or fire.

Alternative B: Emphasis on Outreach, Off- site Education, Resource Protection, and Minimal New Construction

General Description

Alternative B emphasizes the development and extensive use of outreach and partnerships to assist the national monument staff in telling the Minidoka story to the American people. Off-site visitor education and interpretation would be conducted through diverse comprehensive programs developed in cooperation with partners, including school districts, museums, and educational and legacy organizations and institutions. Alternative B would focus on identifying off-site facilities for education and interpretation with minimal new construction at the national monument site.

Historic structures within the national monument would be adaptively rehabilitated for visitor and monument functions and for minimal administrative and operational needs. Key historic features would be delineated, restored, or rehabilitated. On-site education and interpretation would be accomplished through a range of self-exploratory visitor experiences.

Management Zones

The management zoning scheme described under the “Common to All Alternatives” section would be applied.

Cultural Resource Management

The NPS would maintain cultural resources. Selective delineation, rehabilitation, adaptive rehabilitation, and reconstruction of historic features would occur only where deemed essential for public understanding.

Cultural Landscape

Building footprints and foundation piers in the staff housing area and administration area in the historic features zone would be marked and delineated for visitor understanding and cultural resource protection. The concrete pads and footprints in the warehouse area would be preserved. The swimming hole would be maintained as is.

Vegetation would be managed and selectively restored to the historic character of the open spaces throughout the site. Selective restoration would highlight the open, stark, barren landscape first encountered by the internees, as well as the internees’ responses to this landscape.

Historic roads, pathways, and the historic parking area at the entry would be maintained.

Large and small historic structures and features

that were part of the day-to-day experiences within the camp would be documented.

As described under alternative A, the honor roll to those serving in the armed forces would be reconstructed in the entry area, as archeological and historic information became available to determine exact location, nature, and extent. If reconstruction were not feasible, the honor roll would be delineated. Historic pathways would be maintained in their excavated and rehabilitated condition. The rock garden would be rehabilitated, in the event that historical information became available to determine exact location, nature, and extent. The entrance buildings would be preserved.

A cultural landscape report would be prepared to provide more detailed recommendations for the site.

Historic Buildings and Structures

The NPS would stabilize and maintain historic buildings and structures, including half of a warehouse, two former staff housing buildings, and the root cellar. The warehouse on the 3-acre parcel in the park development zone would be rehabilitated and adaptively rehabilitated as a visitor contact and orientation facility with some interpretive and educational media. The use of these buildings would establish a permanent year-round presence at the site.

Off- site Historic Features

Where feasible, the NPS would develop coopera-

tive strategies to protect off-site historic structures and features that are considered significant to Minidoka.

Archeology

Archeological projects, such as surveys and excavations, would be conducted to learn more about the site. Archeological projects would assist in the identification and long-term protection of archeological features.

Oral Histories

Oral histories of former internees and individuals associated with Minidoka would be conducted and collected in an expeditious manner through partnerships with legacy and historical organizations, such as the Densho Project in Seattle, Washington. Oral histories would be a vital component for off-site interpretive and educational programs.



NPS archeologist mapping the entrance garden. June 2002. NPS Photo.

Collections

As described under alternative A, the NPS would complete a collaborative museum management plan for collections management with southern Idaho NPS units to develop and operate a joint museum management program. Partnership efforts would be explored for off-site storage of collections. The NPS may consider options for collections and family items to be on loan to NPS in order for former internee families and communities to maintain connections and accessibility to collection items. All storage would need to fulfill curatorial requirements outlined in NPS standards.

Education and Interpretation

Educational, interpretive, and research opportunities would focus on the primary interpretive themes. However, on-site programs and minimal facilities would be necessary to provide a meaningful and educational experience for visitors to the national monument.

On-site Programs

Education and interpretation at Minidoka would be accomplished through on-site education, research, and interpretive opportunities. Interpretation and symbolism would be used to educate visitors about on-site historic landscape features and buildings, rather than historic preservation treatments such as restoration or reconstruction. A visitor contact facility would orient visitors.

Materials and information would provide the public

with an understanding of the Nikkei's living conditions and larger physical extent of the historic camp, including the developed area of the camp and the historic boundary of the 33,000-acre site.

Under alternative B self-guided interpretation would use the historic features throughout the national monument. Self-guided interpretation would allow visitors to move through the site at their own pace, while also having the benefit of a historical context for their experience. Contact with the monument staff would be limited.

The historic open space zone would provide a contemplative setting with restored historic pathways and the historic perimeter fence, along with interpretive trails and waysides that would allow for self-guided exploration. This area would provide a sense of openness that was apparent during the historic period.

This alternative would maintain existing commemorative waysides at the entry, including the National Register of Historic Places and Idaho Centennial commemorative features.

Off-site Programs

The NPS would develop strong off-site educational and outreach programs through partnerships with school districts, educational and institutions, legacy organizations, and museums. Off-site education would allow the Minidoka story to be distributed and taught in diverse geographic locations and demographic settings. Also, off-site education could



A doll that accompanied an internee to Minidoka during World War II returns to Minidoka during the Pilgrimage. June 2004. NPS Photo.

encourage higher visitation to the national monument site.

Collaborating with local and regional K-12 education programs and area universities would be an integral component to off-site education. The NPS would develop educational materials, including web-based programs for implementation into the curriculum of various educational institutions. Teacher training would be provided to educate many students on the national monument's themes. The educational curriculum would focus on the identified interpretive themes and would use personal accounts and oral histories as integral components to educational programs.

Off-site locations would be selected to assist with outreach and education in areas directly related to Minidoka, such as Seattle, Portland, and along the route to Minidoka. Permanent and traveling exhibits could be provided in designated museums or partnering locations. The NPS would use a wide range of advanced technology media for interpretation, which could include presenting the story through virtual learning, interactive exhibits, and databases of internees and their descendents. The NPS could develop a real time media program at an off-site location, featuring a webcam on the Minidoka site.

As described under alternative A, NPS would seek to build coalitions with former internees, their descendents, and others to assist in accurate interpretation about the culture and life of the internees. Similarly, the NPS would seek to build



IFARM volunteer welcoming visitors to the IFARM during the Minidoka Pilgrimage. June 2003. NPS Photo.

coalitions with communities and individuals that were associated with Minidoka but who were not incarcerated.

The purpose of these efforts would be to disperse information about Minidoka and the internment and incarceration of Nikkei during World War II to many people in many areas and encourage visitation to the site.

Visitor Facilities

Visitor use at off-site facilities within the region and nationally would be the focus of alternative B.

The NPS would provide some basic visitor facilities and educational opportunities for year-round visitation at the national monument. A range of educational opportunities for on-site self-exploration and programmed interpretive activities would be

provided at Minidoka. Passive recreation would be allowed within the national monument, such as walking, biking, picnicking, and photography.

On-site Facilities

The historic warehouse building in the park development zone on the 3-acre site would be rehabilitated and adaptively rehabilitated for visitor contact and orientation, as well as limited education and interpretation. On-site waysides would be constructed to interpret visible features. Restroom facilities would be provided to accommodate year-round visitation.

In the canal zone, the NPS would provide viewing areas to the canal, develop strategies to provide limited public access to the canal property, and interpret the canal's historical significance.

The NPS would use the 9-acre site for potential administrative, interpretive, and national monument facilities, such as trails, overflow parking, and commemorative areas.

Off-site Facilities

Directional signage along Interstate 84, U.S. 93, SH 25, and boundary markers along the national monument's perimeter would be constructed to inform visitors about the location and extent of the national monument. Interpretive waysides along these routes could be constructed in cooperation with highway districts and partners.

The NPS would focus efforts to explore partnership



Schematic drawing of interpretive exhibits that could be located in the park development zone. Drawing by Amanda Roberson. 2003.

opportunities to develop interpretive, educational, and research facilities at off-site locations, such as in Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and Alaska.

Visitors to the national monument would be encouraged to stop at the Idaho Farm and Ranch Museum to experience the barracks buildings. The NPS would continue to work cooperatively with the Jerome County Historical Society. Media would be developed to interpret the barracks and the internees' residential experiences at Minidoka.

Natural Resource Management

Natural resource management would be designed to minimize conflicts with protection of existing on-site cultural resources and landscapes.

The NPS would develop a program to identify potential contaminants and environmental degradation resulting from historic uses. Contaminants would be removed and affected areas would be remediated to eliminate continued degradation.

Noxious weeds would be controlled in cooperation with the Northside Tri-Counties Cooperative Weed Management Area. In the historic open spaces, vegetation patterns would be maintained.

Scenic Resource Management

Historic views to the North Side Canal from within the national monument would be preserved and restored, as feasible. Scenic viewing areas along the northern boundary of the site and interpretive overlooks within the 3-acre and 9-acre parcels would be developed to provide panoramic views of the physical extent of the historic residential areas.

The NPS would maintain existing views to the broader camp and to the surrounding areas as possible.

Partnerships and Outreach

The vast majority of the public has indicated that partnerships and outreach are an integral component to the national monument. The primary focus of alternative B would be on education through partnerships and outreach at off-site locations.

Funding would be directed to establishing and supporting strong partnerships. Partnership activities would include the collection of oral histories and historic objects and development of interpretive and educational programs and materials focused on the interpretive themes. The NPS would develop strategies to include the incarceration story in educational curriculums at a local, regional, and

national levels. Additional funding opportunities would be pursued to continue and to augment research projects.

Partnerships could include school districts, historical societies, friends groups, tourism bureaus, museums, organizations, civil liberties organizations, international organizations, and institutions of higher education and others. There would be a special emphasis on cultivating partnerships with organizations related to the story of internment and incarceration of Nikkei during WWII.

Access, Circulation, and Parking

Minor changes to access, circulation, and parking would be made to accommodate an increased level of visitor services.

Roads and Parking

As described under alternative A, the two dedicated county roads (Hunt Road and 1400E) that traverse the site would be retained.

Parking at the entry area would be maintained to accommodate approximately 10 vehicles. Adequate parking (10-20 spaces) would be provided to serve the visitor contact function in the adaptively rehabilitated warehouse area. Overflow parking for special events and a small parking area to service an interpretive and scenic overlook would be located on the acquired 9-acre parcel.

Pedestrian Oriented Circulation

Historic pathways would be rehabilitated and used. These pathways would link with new interpretive trails for improved pedestrian circulation on-site.

Land Protection and Boundaries

In addition to the actions listed under the “Common to All Alternatives” section, the NPS would work cooperatively with monument neighbors and local government to encourage the protection of historic open space and the agricultural character of the surrounding area.

Carrying Capacity

Overall visitor capacity would moderately increase under alternative B. There is limited on-site staff to help protect existing cultural and natural resources, so a dramatic increase in visitation would be undesirable due to potential impacts to these resources. The NPS would need to establish a



Schematic drawing of interpretive walkways in the historic open space zone. Drawing by Amanda Roberson. 2003.

monitoring system and conduct a VERP study to understand and develop carrying capacities for visitor experience and resource protection. It is estimated that 40,000 people could visit the national monument per year under the full implementation of alternative B or an average of approximately 100 people per day with higher numbers expected during peak season.

Carrying Capacity by Management Zone under Alternative B

Historic Features Zone

The number of parking spaces (8-12) and the limited amount of historic resource treatments in the entrance area would effectively limit the number of visitors. Therefore, carrying capacity concerns would be mediated. Indicators for approaching carrying capacity limits for resources and visitor experience in this zone include the observation of crowding at key historic features, including the entrance area resources, and early evidence of resource degradation at one or more sites.

Historic Open Space Zone

Trail systems would navigate visitors through this historic open space zone, thereby limiting movement and maintaining the open space character. It is not anticipated that the number of visitors in this zone would have a detrimental impact on resources in this area. Indicators for approaching carrying capacity limits for resources and visitor experience in this zone include observations of

trampling or damage to native and historic vegetation and establishment of social trails outside formally established trails.

Park Development Zone

Under alternative B, visitor and administrative facilities would be constructed in adaptively rehabilitated historic buildings in the park development zone. It is anticipated that the level and types of visitor facilities in this zone would not encourage high volumes of visitors. The size (2000-2500 square feet) of the visitor contact/orientation facility and adjacent parking facility (10-20 spaces) would determine the number of visitors that could be accommodated at any one time. Overflow parking would be accommodated on the 9-acre site. This zone is specifically sited where there are limited significant historic resources, thereby minimizing negative impacts to existing resources. Indicators for approaching carrying capacity limits for resources and visitor experience in this zone include the observation of crowding at the visitor interpretive facility and adjacent parking area and evidence of wear to interpretive exhibits and other media.

Canal Zone

Physical access to the canal may be limited due to safety concerns thereby mediating carrying capacity issues. Indicators for approaching carrying capacity limits for resources and visitor experience in this zone include observation of trampling or damage to native and historic vegetation and establishment of social trails outside formally established trails.

Park Operations and Management

The national monument would have a year-round presence on-site; however, the NPS would rely primarily on off-site services.

Staffing

Staff would be primarily off-site. Administrative functions would be managed collaboratively with Hagerman Fossil Beds NM. Some educational and interpretive staff would work on-site.

The national monument would have eight employees (permanent, seasonal/term positions). The following positions would be included in this alternative: a site manager, partnerships coordinator,

Table 7: Staffing Implications for Alternative B

Administration	Maintenance	Interpretation	ResourceMgmt	Total
3 Permanent	1 Permanent	3 Permanent	1 Permanent	8
0 Seasonal	0 Seasonal	0 Seasonal	0 Seasonal	0
3 Total	1 Total	3 Total	1 Total	8

Table 8: Cost Estimates of Implementing Alternative B (2005 Costs)

Capital Development

Road Improvements	\$ 400,000
Utilities	500,000
Parking	100,000
Interpretive Media and Exhibits	1,300,000
Entry Area Enhancements	200,000
Warehouse Area Enhancements	1,500,000
Visitor Center Complex	0
Demonstration Block	0
Farm-in-a-Day Property	0
Maintenance Facility in Warehouse Area	0
Other Cultural Landscape Enhancements	50,000
Trails and Fences	90,000
Total	\$4,000,000-4,500,000

Average Annual Life-Cycle Costs (25 years)

Total	\$40,000
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Lands

Boundary Additions	0
Total	0

Annual Operations

Staffing	\$725,000
Partnership Programs	250,000
Fixed costs/office space/vehicles/travel	100,000
Equipment/Supplies	40,000
Total	\$1,000,000-1,250,000

agreements contracting specialist, park ranger (general), education specialist, interpretive specialist, park ranger (interpretation), and a cultural resource/ curatorial specialist.

Other positions could be added to meet management needs at Minidoka and other sites within the NPS to assist the NPS's Upper Columbia Basin Network, as the national monument developed. The national monument would explore opportunities for additional staffing off-site to further facilitate partnerships in education, outreach, and research.

Administrative and Maintenance Facilities

Administrative and maintenance functions would be the same as described under alternative A. Functions would be shared with Hagerman Fossil Beds, most facilities would be off-site, and monument staff facilities would be in adaptively rehabilitated historic buildings.

Park Hours and Seasons of Operation

Year-round visitor services would be provided.

Action Plans and Studies

To implement alternative B, a number of specific action plans would be developed and implemented, and additional studies would be conducted. Some of these items would require additional special project funding or increases to the operating base funding. Plans for actions with potential to affect the environment would require formal analysis of alternatives in compliance with

the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and related laws, including the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Such documents would reference and be tiered to this GMP/EIS. Required plans and studies would include the following:

- Implementation Plan
- Long-Range Interpretive Plan
- Historic Resource Study
- Resource Stewardship Plan
- Collaborative Museum Management Plan for collections management with southern Idaho NPS units and in partnership with other organizations
- Contamination and environmental degradation study
- Space allocation plan for staff (space and equipment)
- Off-site facility suitability/feasibility study
- Strategic Plan
- Baseline inventory of plants and animals

Actions Requiring Cooperation with Partners

Cooperation with partners would be required to develop visitor services at the national monument and at potential off-site locations.

Existing partnerships with the Wing Luke Asian Museum and the Densho Project would be maintained for education, outreach, and the collection

of oral histories. Additional partnerships would be cultivated with school districts, universities, institutions, legacy organizations, and museums to produce and operate educational and outreach programs. Off-site educational facilities would also be pursued through partnerships.

Relations with the Hillsdale Highway District would need to be established and maintained to coordinate the maintenance of Hunt Road and the Hunt Bridge. The Jerome County Sheriff would need to be contacted to coordinate traffic concerns during special events. Additionally, a road, access, and safety study would assist the NPS and County Road District to explore the feasibility and suitability of reroute alternatives for Hunt Road, as well as data on transportation in the vicinity of the national monument.

Existing relations for land protection, maintenance, and resource protection with the national monument's neighbors would need to be maintained with the BLM, North Side Canal Company, and the BOR.

The NPS would need to coordinate with Jerome County Sheriff, EMS, and the Fire District in the event of an emergency and/or fire.

Alternative C: (Preferred Alternative) Emphasis on On-site Education and Interpretation, and Cultural Resource Protection through Rehabilitation, Restoration, and Reconstruction

General Description

Alternative C constitutes the National Park Service's preferred alternative.

The preferred alternative emphasizes on-site education and interpretation and the extensive treatment and use of cultural resources in telling the Minidoka story. On-site education and interpretation would be accomplished through a wide range of visitor experiences, including immersion into the historic scene, interaction with a variety of educational and interpretive media and personal services, and participation in creative and self-directed activities. Off-site visitor education and interpretation would be conducted through diverse programs developed in cooperation with partners, including school districts, museums, and educational and legacy organizations and institutions.

The preferred alternative would use various preservation techniques to protect and enhance historic resources, such as delineation, stabilization, restoration, rehabilitation, and reconstruction.

These historic resources would be used for interpretive purposes to accurately and authentically convey the history and significance of the national monument. The establishment of one complete residential block in its original location and configuration would be the cornerstone of interpretive services and facilities at the national monument, essential for understanding and appreciation of the incarceration experience and the significance of the national monument. A visitor contact facility and maintenance area would be developed at the national monument by adaptively rehabilitating existing historic buildings. There would be minimal new construction.

The preferred alternative would require congressional legislation to authorize a boundary expansion to include areas where barracks historically stood in order to relocate a complete residential block. Additionally, the NPS would require congressional legislation to transfer the camp's historic landfill, located 1 mile north of the national monument, from the BLM to the NPS.

Alternative C would require congressional legislation to change the name to *Minidoka National Historic Site*, to be more reflective of its historic value.

Management Zones

The management zoning scheme described under the "Common to All Alternatives" section would be applied.

In addition, the NPS would apply management zones to any lands that would be added to the national monument, contingent upon a willing seller and authorizing legislation. Properties adjacent to the national monument, which were part of the historic camp, would be zoned historic features zone and historic open space zone. The camp's historic landfill, recommended for transfer from the BLM to the NPS, would be zoned historic features zone for its archeological value.

Cultural Resource Management

NPS would manage the national monument as a cultural landscape related to the WWII internment and incarceration of Nikkei between 1942 and 1945. Comprehensive cultural resource management practices would include the stewardship, protection, and preservation of historic elements



Restoring a rock feature in the entrance area. June 2002. NPS Photo.

such as landscape features, structures, buildings, and remnants of the historic circulation system. Research would continue to identify, evaluate, and document information related to Minidoka. Appropriate treatments for the cultural landscape are based on broad public support for the accurate depiction of living conditions in the camp, and more importantly, historic features that demonstrated confinement and loss of freedom, as well as features that reveal the Nikkei's responses to confinement. Under the preferred alternative, the NPS would acquire and return original historic residential buildings to the site to relocate a representative historic residential block for resource protection and visitor understanding and appreciation.

Cultural Landscape

Under the preferred alternative, cultural landscape treatments would vary depending on the condition and significance of historic features; treatments could include stabilization, delineation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. Additional research of historic features would be necessary.

Historically, the entry area acted as a threshold between freedom and confinement. The guard tower, flagpole, barbed wire fence, small signs, stone military police building, stone reception building, entry gate, honor roll, pathways, and garden would be depicted through specific treatments, such as delineation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. This would be done to establish their former physical presence and to

contribute to the public's understanding, knowledge, and experience of the site. Together, these features are of extraordinary importance to the public as symbols of confinement, patriotism, and cultural responses to the incarceration of Japanese Americans at Minidoka. These features are directly tied to the significance statements and interpretive themes for the national monument. The public has been outspoken about the need for cultural resource treatments of these features, as interpretation alone cannot convey the physical fabric, feeling, and meaning of these features to the visiting public.

Only three features would be considered for reconstruction. These features are the honor roll, guard tower, and perimeter barbed wire fence, as they are the most evocative, symbolic, and identifiable features associated with the Minidoka story. Historical information about their locations, materials, and design has been initially obtained through archeological investigations and historic photographs. Historical information is most complete for the honor roll; and the honor roll has been identified by the unanimous public as a feature that merits reconstruction.

More research would be necessary to provide sufficient data for reconstruction or rehabilitation of any historic feature. The recommended additional studies would assist the national monument in identifying the most appropriate treatment for each individual feature, while also considering that each feature is important to the cultural landscape

as a whole. These studies include a Cultural Landscape Report, Historic Structures Report, Historic Resource Study, and Resource Stewardship Plan.

Following the completion of these studies, the NPS would develop a proposal for reconstruction of these features (honor roll, guard tower and fence) that addresses the requirements of NPS Management Policies 5.3.5.2.4 "Reconstruction of Obliterated Landscapes" and 5.3.5.4.4 "Reconstruction of Missing Structures." The NPS would submit the proposal to the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for comment per Section 106 of NHPA, and to the Associate Director, Cultural Resources, for review and approval by the Director of the NPS. The sentiments expressed by former Minidoka internees echo those heard in the planning for Manzanar National Historic Site that led to the Director of the NPS's approval of reconstruction of the perimeter fence and guard tower.

Building footprints, foundation piers, and concrete pads in the historic features zone would be marked and delineated for visitor understanding and cultural resource protection. The swimming hole would be delineated to illustrate recreational activities as well as some of the tragedies within the camp. All or portions of the historic perimeter barbed wire fence would be reconstructed along the North Side Canal in its original location.

Vegetation would be managed and restored to the historic character of the open spaces throughout the site. Interpretation and selective restoration



Barrack door. June 2002. NPS Photo.



Mrs. Eizo Nishi in her improved barrack room. December 9, 1942. Photographer: Francis Stewart. Permission of University of Washington.

would highlight the open, stark, barren landscape first encountered by the internees, as well as the internees' responses to this landscape.

Historic roads would be maintained and selectively rehabilitated for national monument use. The historic parking area at the entry would be maintained. Historic pathways would be excavated and rehabilitated for adaptive rehabilitation and/or integration into a pedestrian circulation system, as feasible.

As described under alternative B, large and small historic structures and features that were part of the day-to-day experiences within the camp would be reestablished and rehabilitated.

A cultural landscape report would be prepared to provide more detailed recommendations for the site.



Historic cots inside the restored Minidoka barrack at the IFARM. June 2004. NPS Photo.

Historic Buildings and Structures

The NPS would rehabilitate and adaptively rehabilitate historic buildings in the park development zone, including half of a remaining warehouse and two former staff housing buildings on the 3-acre parcel. The warehouse would be adaptively rehabilitated as a visitor orientation facility with interpretive and educational media. The national monument's use of these buildings would establish a permanent year-round presence at the site.

The root cellar would be maintained in its stabilized condition. It would be interpreted as a significant historic structure related to agricultural and land development work performed by internees, food consumption in the camp's mess halls, and as part of the agricultural legacy of the camp era.

Barracks Block

A complete barracks block would be relocated to an original barracks block location. Relocation of a residential block responds to broad public opinions about the need to accurately depict the experiences of some 13,000 internees who were incarcerated at Minidoka. Public comments over the three-year planning process have repeatedly identified barracks as the most important buildings to accurately convey the Minidoka story. Historically, the camp experiences of some 13,000 internees were situated in the residential areas where families lived in cramped quarters and shared communal facilities. Barracks were not only homes for the internees but were also physical reminders of war-

time, the injustice of their incarceration, and the emotionally and physically difficult living conditions in which the internees resided. As such, the NPS has determined that barrack buildings are “essential to public understanding of the park’s cultural associations.” The NPS has responded to these strong public sentiments by proposing the relocation of an historic barracks block to an original historic site.

The barracks block would provide a wide variety of visitor experiences. These visitor experiences would include immersion into the historic scene, seeing and experiencing the internees’ living conditions and historic landscape firsthand, and learning about the interpretive themes through a variety of interactive media. The relocated barracks block would recapture the sense of residential life, evoke the day-to-day experiences of the internees, and would educate the public about the internees’ mass removal and incarceration at Minidoka. Additionally, it would provide a unique and authentic setting for interactive and comprehensive educational programs related to the national monument’s primary interpretive themes. Within one of the barracks, some rooms could be sparingly furnished with army cots, just as the internees first encountered their new homes. Other rooms could accurately depict how internees modified their rooms into livable spaces. One barrack could be adaptively rehabilitated to house interpretive programs, interactive exhibits and a theater. Another barrack could include classroom space for ranger-led educational programs based on the primary interpretive themes. Another bar-

rack could be adaptively rehabilitated for other park functions, such as curatorial and research space. It is projected that approximately 4 of the 12 barrack buildings would be utilized by the national monument in one form or another. The remaining 8 structures are intended to have exterior preservation only and would serve as outdoor exhibits or facades to complete the historic spatial configuration of the barracks block. In the event that all 12 barracks and associated buildings could not be acquired and brought to the site, their locations would be delineated or partial restoration would be considered.

Today, historic barrack buildings are used by local farmers and are found throughout the local landscape. It must be noted that all of the barracks buildings were moved off their original locations after the closure of the camp to farmsteads and various institutions. Barracks, in their current locations on private farmsteads, retain various states of historical integrity. These buildings have been used as sheds, horse stalls, storage units, and houses by area farmers. In their current locations, deterioration from the elements and use will only continue in the future.

It is anticipated that these barracks would be either donated to the national monument or purchased by the NPS for nominal fees. Only those barracks that are in fair to excellent condition would be considered for relocation back to their authentic historical locations. Several local landowners have already contacted the national monument about donating their historic barrack



Artifacts saved by former Minidoka internees. June 2004. NPS Photo.

buildings; however the national monument cannot proceed with the donation process without an approved GMP, additional cultural resources studies, and the land acquisition proposed under the preferred alternative. Once the GMP is approved, the national monument would initiate the process of identifying, inventorying, and assessing barracks buildings for donation or purchase.

The relocation of a historic barracks block meets all of the criteria outlined in the NPS management policies (5.3.5.4.5 Movement of Historic Structures). The 600 barracks buildings at Minidoka were constructed from the same set of blueprints and built at the same time; and it is not practical or necessary to investigate each building's exact location within the 950 acre historic camp. The placement of barracks in an original block location and configuration would be directed by an analysis

of historic maps, photographs, and archeological evidence. Relocating a historic barracks block to its original location will ensure the long-term preservation of these buildings for visitor education and interpretation. Management Policy 5.3.5.4.5 states that "a nationally significant historic structure may be moved only if: it cannot practically be preserved on its present site, or the move constitutes a return to a previous historic location, and the previous move and present location are not important to the structure's significance...." This proposal meets these conditions.

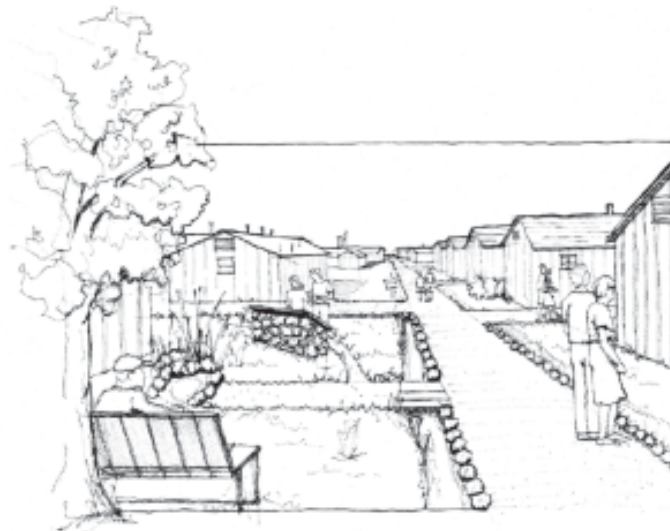
Implementation of this action would require land acquisition from a willing seller and congressional authorization for a boundary change. This additional land would be managed according to the historic resource zone prescriptions.

Off- site Historic Features

Where feasible, the NPS would develop cooperative strategies to protect off-site historic structures and features.

Archeology

Archeological projects, such as surveys and excavations, would be conducted to learn more about the site. Archeological projects would assist in the identification and long-term protection of archeological features. Artifacts and archeological features would be protected and used for educational and interpretive purposes.



Schematic drawing of the demonstration block. Drawing by Amanda Roberson. 2003.

Oral Histories

Oral histories of former internees and individuals associated with Minidoka would be conducted and collected in an expeditious manner through partnerships with legacy and historical organizations, such as the Densho Project in Seattle, Washington. Oral histories would be a vital component to both on-site and off-site interpretive and educational programs.

Collections

As described under alternative B, the NPS would complete a collaborative museum management plan for collections management with other southern Idaho NPS units to develop and operate a joint museum management program. The development of the national monument collections strategy would also take into consideration the collections and curatorial needs of the other NPS units in southern Idaho, ensuring the proper care and management of several valued park collections.

Partnership efforts would be explored for off-site storage of collections, while limited on-site storage and exhibit space would house artifacts for rotating exhibits. The NPS may consider options for collections and family items to be on loan to NPS in order for former internee families and communities to maintain connections and accessibility to collection items. All storage would need to fulfill curatorial requirements outlined in NPS standards.

Education and Interpretation

The NPS would provide diverse on-site educational, interpretive, and research opportunities that focus on the primary interpretive themes of the national monument. Off-site opportunities would be developed in partnership with others. The breadth and depth of education and outreach programs would be responsive to the overwhelming public expectations that the primary purpose of the national monument is education.

On-site Programs

Visitors would be provided with opportunities to participate in ranger-led and self-guided exploratory experiences associated with exhibits, collections, research, interpretive and educational programs, and activities. Education and interpretation would be accomplished through immersion into the historic scene. The focal points at the site would be the entry area, open space adjacent to the North Side Canal, historic buildings, and the reestablished residential block.

The entry area would provide a strong sense of arrival, where visitors could begin to recognize and understand the loss of freedom experience by the Nikkei when they entered Minidoka. The area would serve as a threshold between freedom and justice on the outside to internment and incarceration on the inside, just as it did during the historic period. The delineated and or reconstructed features at the entry, such as the guard tower, fence, entry gate, and military police building, would be

interpreted as symbols of confinement. The garden area and honor roll would acknowledge and convey how internees used Nikkei culture to express their loyalty and commitment as American citizens. Visitors could begin to understand the diversity of impacts experienced by the internees as well as the diversity of internees' responses to the internment and incarceration. Visitors would also begin to understand the significance of the historic features in the entry area and relate these features to the violation of Constitutional rights.

The use of historically accurate buildings, features, and their site context would provide visitors with an opportunity to experience a high level of interest in living conditions associated with the historic period. The reestablished residential block would be the core educational and interpretive area, complete with interactive exhibits and educational programs. Visitors would be encouraged to participate in creative activities such as writing, creating exhibits, theater, and other forms of self-expression related to the site. The residential block would also provide an interpretive link to understanding the physical extent of the camp.

The historic open space would provide a contemplative setting with restored historic pathways and the historic perimeter fence, along with interpretive trails and waysides that would allow for self-guided exploration. The historic open space would provide a sense of openness that was apparent during the historic period.

This alternative would maintain existing com-

memorative waysides at the entry, including the National Register of Historic Places and Idaho Centennial commemorative area. The NPS, through partnerships, would explore the suitability and feasibility of establishing a new memorial in the park development zone.

Off- site Programs

The NPS would develop strong off-site educational, interpretive, and outreach programs through partnerships. Off-site education would allow the interpretive themes to be taught and learned in diverse geographic locations and demographic settings. Also, off-site education could encourage higher visitation to the national monument.

Collaboration with local and regional, organizations, institutions, universities, and other NPS sites would be integral to the success of off-site educational and interpretive programs. The NPS would develop educational materials, including web-based programs, on the internment and incarceration story for implementation in to the curriculum of various educational institutions. The educational curriculum would use personal accounts and oral histories as integral components to educational programs. Teacher training would promote these programs to a wide audience of students.

Off-site locations would be selected to assist with outreach and education in areas directly related to Minidoka, such as at Manzanar National Historic Site and in Seattle, Portland, and along the routes

to Minidoka. Exhibits could be in designated museums or partnering locations. The NPS would use a wide range of advanced technology media for interpretation, which could include presenting the story through virtual learning, interactive exhibits, and databases of internees and their descendents. The NPS could develop a real time media program at an off-site location, featuring a webcam on the Minidoka site.

Building coalitions with former internees and their descendents would assist in accurate interpretation about the culture of the internees. Similarly, the NPS would seek to build coalitions with communities and individuals that were associated with Minidoka but not incarcerated.

Visitor Facilities

The NPS would provide visitor facilities and educa-



Overgrown path in the entrance garden. June 2003. NPS Photo.

tional opportunities for year-round visitation to the national monument. A comprehensive range of educational opportunities for on-site self-exploration and programmed interpretive activities would be provided at Minidoka. Passive recreation would be allowed within the national monument, such as walking, biking, picnicking, and photography. Off-site visitor educational facilities within the region and nationally would complement efforts at the national monument.

On-site Facilities

The interiors of historic buildings would be adaptively rehabilitated in the park development zone for visitor contact and orientation as well as education and interpretation. Restroom facilities would be provided to accommodate year-round visitation. The warehouse building would be restored as feasible.

On NPS property adjacent to the North Side Canal, the NPS would provide views to the canal, develop strategies to provide limited public access to the canal property, and interpret the canal's historical significance.

On the 9-acre site to be acquired, an interpretive overlook of the North Side Canal would be established, and overflow parking for buses and special events would be accommodated. The NPS would hold the 9-acre site for a variety of potential future administrative, interpretive and park uses, including assessing the feasibility and suitability of

establishing a new memorial.

Off- site Facilities

Directional signage along Interstate 94 and U.S. 93, boundary markers along the national monument's perimeter, and interpretive waysides would be constructed to inform visitors about the location, extent, history, and significance of the national monument. Waysides on non-NPS land would need cooperation and coordination by public and private landowners.

The NPS would acquire and repatriate historic structures and buildings to their original location where feasible. Pending a boundary expansion, a residential block would be reestablished and used as an integral component to the national monument's interpretive and educational programs. Buildings within the reestablished residential block could also be used for other park uses. Implementation of this action would require land acquisition from a willing seller and congressional authorization of a boundary change for the national monument. If a boundary change was not authorized, then the NPS would acquire and relocate historic structures and buildings to the 9-acre site.

Natural Resource Management

Natural resource management would be designed to minimize conflicts with protection of on-site cultural resources and landscapes.

The NPS would develop a program to identify potential contaminants and environmental degradation resulting from historic uses. Contaminants would be removed and affected areas would be remediated to eliminate continued degradation.

Noxious weeds would be controlled in cooperation with the Northside Tri-Counties Cooperative Weed Management Area. Vegetation would be managed to minimize or eliminate undesirable exotic plant species. In the historic open spaces, vegetation would be rehabilitated and managed to be consistent with patterns of vegetation present during the historic period.

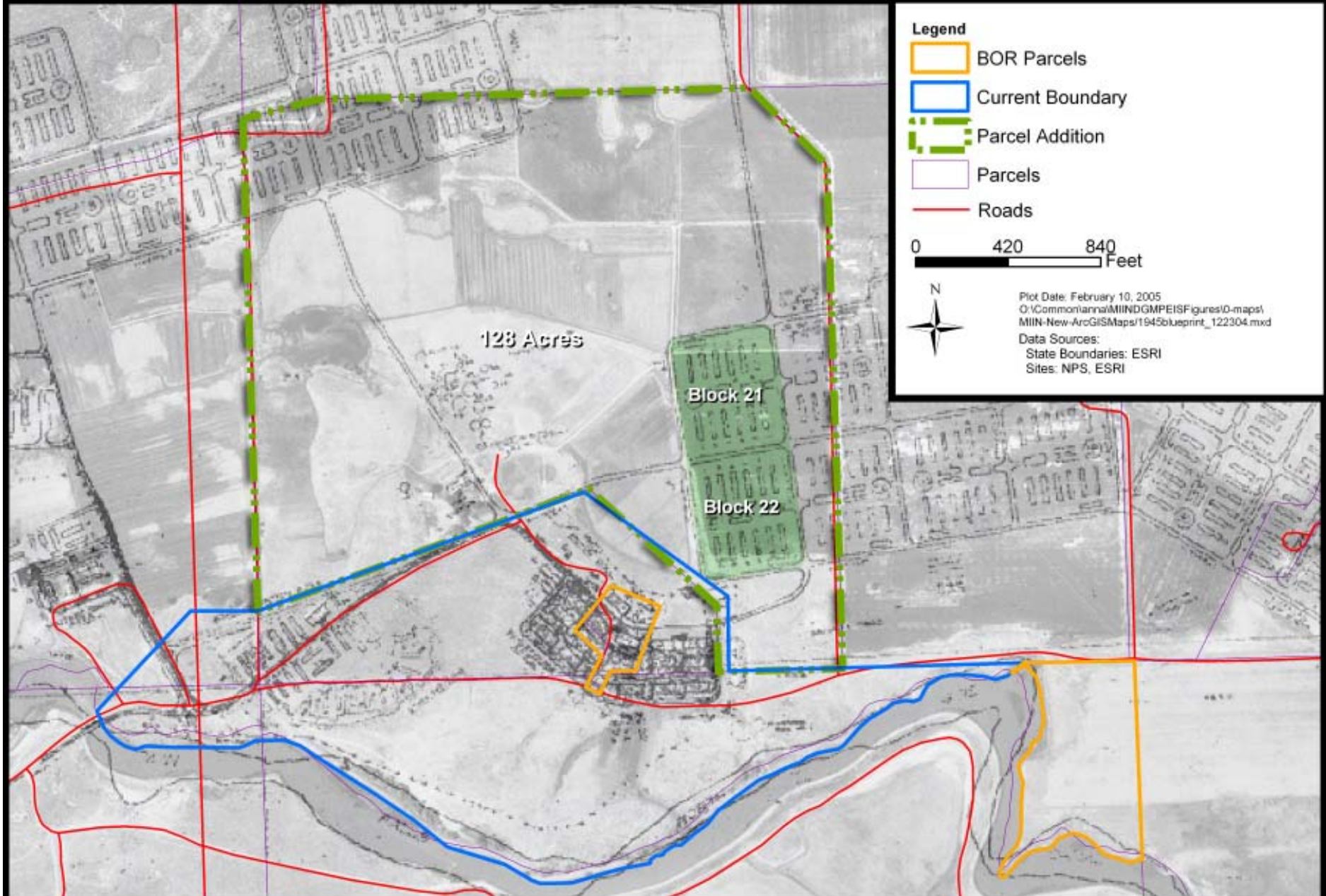
Scenic Resource Management

Historic views to the North Side Canal from within the national monument would be preserved and restored, as feasible. Scenic viewing areas along the northern boundary of the site and interpretive overlooks within the 3-acre and 9-acre parcels would be developed to provide panoramic views of the physical extent of the historic residential areas. An authorized boundary change would include portions of the historic residential area, providing visitors with enhanced scenic resources and the ability to understand the extent and scale of the developed camp.

The NPS would collaborate with neighboring landowners to voluntarily assist in the protection of historically significant distant views to the surrounding areas.

Potential Boundary Changes

Minidoka Internment National Monument Draft GMP/ EIS



Map Prepared by: Pacific West Region - Park Planning



Farm-in-a-day property, located on the site of the camp's water tower #1, firehouse, and sewage treatment facility. 2001. NPS Photo.

Partnerships and Outreach

Funding would be directed to establishing and supporting strong partnerships. Partnership activities would include the collection of oral histories and historic objects and development of interpretive and educational programs and materials focused on the interpretive themes. The NPS would develop strategies to include the incarceration story and its significance in educational curriculums at a local, regional, and national level. Additional funding opportunities would be pursued to continue and augment research projects.

Partnerships could include school districts, historical societies, friends groups, tourism bureaus, museums, organizations, civil liberties organizations, international organizations, and institutions of higher education and others. There would be a special emphasis on cultivating partnership with organizations related to the story of internment and incarceration of Nikkei during WWII.

Access, Circulation, and Parking

Parking, vehicular access, and circulation would be modified to accommodate increased visitor services; however, pedestrian use would be emphasized under the preferred alternative. A shuttle service during peak season would be considered.

Roads and Parking

On-site vehicular access would be directed to specific interpretive locations within the national monument.

The NPS would work with neighboring landowners and the Hillsdale Highway District to develop recommendations that would address concerns about the national monument's impacts on local traffic and concern for visitor safety. This study would include consideration related to possible rerouting of the section of Hunt Road that traverses the national monument. The study would also analyze existing roads, access, and safety issues related to the national monument.

If and when Hunt Road could be relocated, the NPS would restore the historic circulation patterns on the site and rehabilitate the historic road from the entrance to the warehouse area.

Parking areas would be provided near key locations throughout the national monument. The site



Schematic drawing of a non-historic fence used to define the boundaries of the national monument site. Drawing by Amanda Roberson. 2003.

planning process would determine location, size, and layout of parking areas. Parking at the entry area would be limited. Alternative locations would be considered near the entry area for parking; they would be designed to minimize impacts and intrusion to the historic setting. Adequate parking would be developed to service the visitor contact/orientation facility in the adaptively rehabilitated warehouse area. This parking would service the reestablished residential block and visitor interpretive facilities. Overflow parking for special events and a small parking area to service an interpretive and scenic overlook would be provided on the 9-acre parcel.

Pedestrian Oriented Circulation

The NPS would rehabilitate and use historic pathways and develop new interpretive trails to link key resource areas and viewpoints. A pedestrian interpretive trail would be developed along the reconstructed historic fence adjacent to the North Side Canal. Interpretive waysides would be included in the trail system. The NPS would restore circulation patterns in and around the residential block, which would be included as part of a proposed boundary expansion.

Land Protection and Boundaries

In addition to the actions listed under the “Common to All Alternatives” section, this alternative would require congressional legislation to expand the national monument boundaries to acquire land

where one or more historic barracks blocks stood during the period of significance, contingent upon a willing seller. The 128-acre area proposed for addition to the national monument is denoted on page 181. Resources in this addition include the physical locations of residential Blocks 21 and 22 and portions of five other blocks. The area includes the camps intact fire station, portions of two historic barracks buildings that were moved to the site, and foundation piers of water tower #1. The area also includes the “Farm-in-a-Day” project, which may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and represents an important connection between the camp, how the land parcels were treated following the decommission of the camp, and the development of agriculture in southern Idaho. Additionally, the “Farm-in-a-Day” project was a significant historical event that marked a cooperative effort between the local community, state and federal government, and the private agricultural industry to establish and demonstrate modern agricultural techniques and equipment. Furthermore, this property is immediately adjacent to the national monument, with historic buildings a few yards from the northern boundary. Because it is near the national monument, this site is an inherent attraction to visitors and this would only increase as development and visitor use increased. These physical factors constitute an innate conflict that must be addressed. Visitor trespass is a serious concern as well as the long-term preservation of these historic structures, which could be best resolved through boundary



A NPS ranger providing information to visitors during the Minidoka Pilgrimage. June 2004. NPS Photo.

expansion. The property owners have expressed their desire to have the NPS acquire the parcel to remediate these issues and to preserve the historic values.

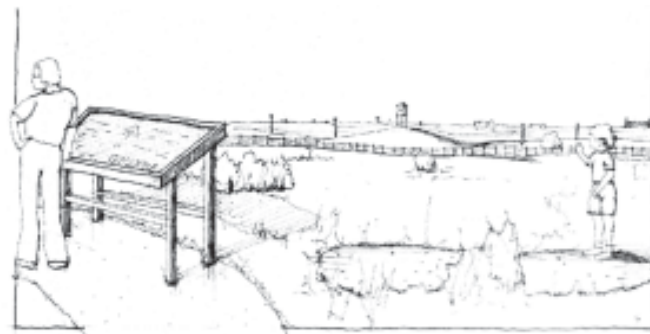
The addition of the 128-acre site could address through-traffic issues and concerns. As the focal point for visitor education and interpretation, most visitor traffic would be diverted to the parking lot in the 3-acre parcel, where visitors would then explore the national monument on foot. By concentrating visitor facilities away from Hunt Road, and clearly defining visitor parking areas, vehicle congestion would be minimized and allow for continued through-traffic.

This alternative would require that legislation authorize the Secretary of the Interior to administratively transfer the Minidoka WRA Center landfill, from the BLM to NPS, and subsequent inclusion into the national monument. The NPS would work with the BLM to determine the appropriate acreage for transfer to NPS management. The exact

acreage involved is contingent upon making sure the entire landfill site is included in the transfer, and that the configuration of the land area involved meets the operational and management objectives of both the BLM and the NPS. With the actual landfill site determined to be approximately 26 acres in size, it is anticipated that the total amount of land to be transferred to the NPS would not exceed 40 acres. (See Appendix B: Analysis of Boundary Adjustment and Land Protection Criteria.)

The NPS would work cooperatively with national monument neighbors and local government to encourage the protection of historic open space and agricultural character of the area surrounding the national monument.

The vast majority of the public has indicated that partnerships and outreach are an integral component to the national monument. Therefore, the preferred alternative would balance outreach efforts and related funding with on-site interpretative and educational programming needs.



Schematic drawing of an interpretive overlook in the historic open space zone. Drawing by Amanda Roberson. 2003.

Carrying Capacity

Under the preferred alternative, the national monument would be able to accommodate a substantially greater number of visitors to the site because of an increase in facilities, services, and on-site staffing. Visitors are projected to be involved in a wide range of activities and would likely stay longer on-site than they would under alternative B. The NPS would establish a monitoring system and

conduct a Visitor Experience Resource Protection (VERP) study to understand and develop carrying capacities for visitor experience and resource protection. It is estimated that 80,000 people could visit the national monument per year under the full implementation of alternative C or an average of approximately 225 people per day with higher numbers expected during peak season.

Carrying Capacity by Management Zone under Alternative C

Historic Features Zone

The number of parking spaces (8-12) in the entrance area would effectively limit the number of visitors. However, the concentration of enhanced cultural features in this area, such as the honor roll and garden, would encourage visitation.

Under the preferred alternative, 128 acres of the historic landscape would be added to the national monument and would be zoned in the historic features zone. A reestablished block would be the cornerstone of interpretation at the national monument and would encompass approximately 4,000-5,000 square feet for visitor facilities. The physical size of the visitor facilities would assist in determining carrying capacity along with monitoring and analyzing visitor experience and resource protection capacities in a VERP framework.

Indicators for approaching carrying capacity limits for resources and visitor experience in this zone include the observation of crowding at key historic

features and early evidence of resource degradation at one or more sites. Key historic features include the entrance area resources, the relocated historic barracks block, and the farm-in-a-day historic buildings. One specific indicator would be the observation of crowding and evidence of wear to interpretive exhibits and other media at the barracks block, which serves as the primary interpretive area under this alternative.

Historic Open Space Zone

Trail systems would navigate visitors through this historic open space zone, thereby limiting movement and maintaining the open space character. It is not anticipated that the number of visitors in this zone would have a detrimental impact on resources in this area. Indicators for approaching carrying capacity limits for resources and visitor



Barracks located on the 128-acre parcel north of the monument. June 2002. NPS Photo.

experience in this zone include observations of trampling or damage to native and historic vegetation and establishment of social trails outside formally established trails.

Park Development Zone

Under alternative C, visitor and administrative facilities would be constructed in adaptively rehabilitated historic buildings on the 3-acre site in the park development zone. The visitor contact function would be in the adaptively rehabilitated historic warehouse, encompassing approximately 2,000-2,500 square feet. Parking on the 3-acre site would serve the adaptively rehabilitated warehouse and demonstration block with approximately 20-40 parking spaces. Overflow parking would be accommodated on the 9-acre site. These physical capacities would assist in determining the number of visitors that could be accommodated at any one time. This zone is specifically sited where there are limited significant historic resources, thereby minimizing negative impacts to existing resources. Indicators for approaching carrying capacity limits for resources and visitor experience in this zone include the observation of

crowding at visitor interpretive areas and adjacent parking area.

Canal Zone

Physical access to the canal may be limited due to safety concerns thereby mediating carrying capacity issues. Indicators for approaching carrying capacity limits for resources and visitor experience in this zone include observation of trampling or damage to native and historic vegetation and establishment of social trails outside formally established trails.

Park Operations and Management

More visitor services would be provided, primarily on-site. This alternative would require congressional legislation to authorize a name change and designation from *Minidoka Internment National Monument* to *Minidoka National Historic Site*.

Staffing

Most staff would work on-site at the national monument, with shared administrative functions with Hagerman Fossil Beds NM.

Table 11: Staffing Implications of Alternative C

Administration	Maintenance	Interpretation	Resource Management	Total
4 Permanent	1 Permanent	3 Permanent	2 Permanent	10
0 Seasonal	1 Seasonal	1 Seasonal	0 Seasonal	2
4 Total	2 Total	4 Total	2 Total	12

Under the preferred alternative, the national monument would have 12 employees (permanent, season/term positions). The following positions would be included in this alternative: site manager, partnerships coordinator, agreements contracting specialist, administrator, park ranger (general), education specialist, interpretive specialist, park ranger (interpretation), curatorial specialist, cultural resource specialists, seasonal maintenance ranger, and seasonal interpretive ranger.

Other positions could be added to assist the Upper Columbia Basin Network Area, as the national monument developed. The national monument would explore opportunities for additional staffing off-site to further facilitate partnerships in education, interpretation, and research.

Administrative and Maintenance Facilities

Most staff would be on-site, with shared administrative functions with Hagerman Fossil Beds. Required maintenance facilities and functions would be provided in cooperation with southern Idaho parks. Park staff facilities would be in adaptively rehabilitated historic buildings on the acquired 3-acre parcel, after the American Falls Reservoir District No. 2 operations were relocated off-site.

Park Hours and Seasons of Operation

Park hours of operation would be determined in



Visitors at the IFARM during the Minidoka Pilgrimage. June 2003. NPS Photo.

Table 10: Cost Estimates of Implementing Alternative C (2005 Dollars)

Capital Development

Road Improvements	\$ 500,000
Utilities	700,000
Parking	400,000
Interpretive Media and Exhibits	1,700,000
Entry Area Enhancements	381,000
Warehouse Area Enhancements	700,000
Visitor Center Complex	0
Demonstration Block	1,920,000
Farm-in-a-Day Property	200,000
Maintenance Facility in Warehouse Area	350,000
Other Cultural Landscape Enhancements	400,000
Trails and Fences	155,000
Total	\$7,250,000-7,750,000

Average Annual Life-Cycle Costs (25 years)

Total	\$75,000
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Lands

Boundary Additions	200,000-250,000
Total	\$200,000-250,000

Annual Operations

Staffing	950,000
Partnership Programs	100,000
Fixed costs/office space/vehicles/travel	75,000
Equipment/Supplies	50,000
Total	\$1,100,000-1,250,000

concert with staffing and the development of visitor facilities. Approximate hours of operation could be 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Action Plans and Studies

As described under alternatives A and B, a number of specific action plans would be developed and implemented and additional studies would be conducted to implement alternative C. Some of these items would require additional special project funding or increases to the operating base funding. Plans for actions with potential to affect the environment would require formal analysis of alternatives in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and related laws, including the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Such documents would reference and be tiered to this GMP/EIS. The following plans and studies would be required to implement the preferred alternative.

- Implementation Plan
- Long-Range Interpretive Plan
- Cultural Landscape Report
- Historic Structures Report
- Historic Resource Study
- Resource Stewardship Plan
- Collaborative Museum Management Plan for collections management with southern Idaho NPS units and in partnerships with other organizations.

- Contamination and environmental degradation study
- Transportation Study (road, access, and safety)
- Visitor Experience Resource Protection Study (VERP) after the national monument becomes operational (3-5 years)
- Historic furnishings plan for reestablished historic block

Cooperative relations for land protection, maintenance, and resource protection with the national monument's neighbors would need to be maintained with the BLM, North Side Canal Company, and the BOR.

The NPS would coordinate with Jerome County Law Enforcement and Fire Department to develop a response plan to be followed in the event of an emergency or fire.

Actions Requiring Cooperation with Partners

Cooperation with partners would be required to develop visitor services at the national monument and at off-site locations.

Existing partnerships and cooperation with the Jerome County Historical Society and Museum and the Idaho Farm and Ranch Museum, Wing Luke Asian Museum, and the Densho Project would be maintained for education, outreach, and the collection of oral histories. Additional partnerships would be cultivated with school districts, education and legacy organizations, and museums. Off-site educational facilities would also be pursued through partnerships.

Relations with the local Hillsdale Highway District would need to be established and maintained to coordinate the maintenance of Hunt Road and the Hunt Bridge as well as potential traffic congestion during special events.

The entrance garden after excavation. 2002. NPS Photo.



Alternative D: Emphasis on On-site Education and Interpretation through New Facilities

General Description

Alternative D proposes several actions that would focus on education and interpretation on-site, specifically through the development of new visitor facilities. The 9-acre property would be used to develop new facilities and to provide space for a new national monument visitor center, education and research functions, along with a new memorial and garden. On-site education and interpretation would be accomplished through a wide range of visitor experiences, including interaction with a variety of educational and interpretive media, participation in creative and self-guided activities, and limited access of the historic scene.

Visitor education programs, adaptive rehabilitation of historic structures for park use, and the establishment of formal partnerships for education and outreach purposes would complement the new construction. Alternative D would focus on sound cultural resource management through preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, and reconstruction of certain historic features. Several actions would provide for the protection and enhancement of natural and scenic resources. Other actions would establish administrative and operational capabilities in terms of facilities and staffing.

Most national monument staff activities would be on-site to manage resources and provide for visitor understanding and appreciation of the national monument.

Some off-site educational programs would complement on-site programs through partnerships.

This alternative would require congressional legislation to authorize an administrative transfer of the camp's original landfill from the BLM to the NPS and a name change to *Minidoka National Historic Site*.

It is the most costly of all the proposed alternatives, in both capital investment and ongoing maintenance and operational funding requirements.

Management Zones

The management zoning scheme described under the "Common to All Alternatives" section would be applied.

The Minidoka WRA Center landfill, recommended for transfer from the BLM to the NPS, would be zoned historic features zone for its archeological value.

Cultural Resource Management

NPS would manage the site as a cultural landscape related to the WWII internment and incarceration of Nikkei between 1942 and 1945. Sound cultural resource management practices would include the stewardship, protection, and preserva-

tion of existing historic features, including landscape features, structures, buildings, and remnants of the historic circulation system. Research would continue to identify, evaluate, and document information related to Minidoka.

Cultural Landscape

In this alternative, cultural landscape treatments would vary from protection to stabilization, rehabilitation, delineation, and reconstruction. Reconstruction would only be considered where accurate documentation can be found and where reconstruction is essential for public understanding and appreciation of a given historic resource.

Historic preservation treatments would be the same as alternative C (preferred alternative) for the following areas and resources: entry area, administrative area, staff housing area, warehouse area, perimeter fence, swimming hole, historic vegetation, historic pathways, and the large and small historic features that were a part of the day-



Schematic drawing of interpretive facilities in the park development zone on the 9-acre parcel. An historic residential barrack building could be used as an outdoor exhibit. Drawing by Amanda Roberson. 2003.

to-day experiences of the internees.

Historic roads would be maintained, and the historic parking area at the entry would be reestablished to its original size and layout, as feasible.

A cultural landscape report would be prepared to provide more detailed recommendations for the site.

Historic Buildings and Structures

The NPS would adaptively rehabilitate historic buildings for park use, including half of a remaining warehouse and two former staff housing buildings on the 3-acre parcel in the park development zone.

The root cellar would be maintained in its stabilized condition. It would be interpreted as a significant historic structure related to agricultural and land development work performed by internees, food consumption in the camp's mess halls, and as part of the agricultural legacy of the camp era.

A sense of residential life would be recaptured by acquiring and moving one historic barrack building onto the 9-acre property for interpretative purposes alongside a new interpretive center. This proposal is based upon the public's comments about the necessity of returning barracks to the site. In Alternative D, the barrack building would be original fabric, just as the barrack buildings in Alternative C. Acquiring and moving a barrack building to the site would also ensure its historic preservation, providing visitors with a sense of the

internees living conditions. In Alternative D, a boundary change is not proposed that includes a historic residential block site, and therefore it is not possible to relocate a barrack building to its original location. However, the 9-acre site is part of the historic camp, and it is immediately adjacent to historic block locations. If a residential building was returned to the site, it would be placed on the 9-acre parcel in the park development zone as an interpretive exhibit.

Off- site Historic Features

Where feasible, the NPS would develop cooperative strategies to protect off-site historic structures and features.

Archeology

Archeology would be treated the same as alternative C (preferred alternative).

Oral Histories

Oral histories would be treated the same as alternative C (preferred alternative).

Collections

Collections would be the same as alternative C (preferred alternative); however, the NPS would consider national monument facilities for joint collection storage with other southern Idaho NPS units.

Education and Interpretation

The NPS would provide diverse on-site educational, interpretive, and research opportunities that focus on the primary interpretive themes of the national monument. The breadth and depth of education and outreach programs would fulfill overwhelming public expectations that the primary purpose of the national monument is education. Off-site opportunities would be developed in collaboration with partners.

On-site Programs

All actions for on-site education and interpretation would be the same as alternative C (preferred alternative).

Off- site Programs

All actions for off-site education and interpretation would be the same as alternative C (preferred alternative).

Visitor Facilities

The NPS would provide visitor facilities and educational opportunities for year-round visitation to the national monument. A comprehensive range of educational opportunities for on-site programmed interpretive activities and self-exploration would be provided. Passive recreation would be allowed within the national monument, such as walking, biking, picnicking, and photography. Off-site visitor educational facilities within the region and nationally would complement efforts at the site.

On-site Facilities

On-site visitor facilities would be focused at the multipurpose interpretive campus on the 9-acre parcel in the park development zone. The interpretive campus could include a visitor center, parking, garden, new memorial, picnic shelters, collections storage, and multipurpose spaces. New visitor center developments could include exhibit space, theater space, classrooms, library, and bookstore, and space for potential partnership organizations. A historic residential barrack would be moved to the site to serve as an outdoor exhibit; however, the building would not be in its original location and would need appropriate interpretation. The interpretive campus could be the location of historic structures and buildings. Restroom facilities would be provided to accommodate year-round visitation.

The interiors of the buildings in the historic Warehouse Area would be adaptively rehabilitated.

On NPS property adjacent to the North Side Canal, the NPS would provide views to the canal, develop strategies to provide limited public access to the canal property, and interpret the canal's historic significance

On-site signage and waysides would be developed as described under alternatives B and C.

The NPS would acquire and relocate historic structures and buildings to the 9-acre site, where feasible.

Off-site Facilities

Off-site signage and waysides would be developed as described under alternatives B and C.

Natural Resource Management

Natural resources would be treated the same as described under alternative C.

Scenic Resource Management

Scenic Resources would be treated the same as described under alternative C (preferred alternative).

Partnerships and Outreach

Partnerships and outreach would be treated the same as described under alternative C (preferred alternative).

Access, Circulation, and Parking

As described under alternative C, parking, access, and circulation would be modified to accommodate an increased level of visitor services; however, pedestrian use would be emphasized under alternative D. A shuttle service during peak season would be considered.

Roads and Parking

On-site vehicular access would be directed to specific interpretive locations within the national monument, such as the education and visitor interpretive complex on the east end of the national

monument.

The two dedicated county roads (Hunt Road and 1400E) that traverse the site would be retained.

Parking areas would be provided near key locations throughout the national monument. A detailed site planning process would determine location, size, and layout of parking areas. Alternative D would restore the overgrown section of the historic parking lot between the Hunt Bridge and the existing parking lot at the camp entry to augment parking lot capacity. Adequate parking would be developed to service the visitor interpretive complex and a scenic overlook on the 9-acre parcel. Parking on the 3-acre parcel would accommodate overflow parking as well as parking for a variety of park uses.

Pedestrian Oriented Circulation

The NPS would rehabilitate and utilize historic pathways and develop new interpretive trails to link key resource areas and viewpoints. A pedestrian interpretive trail would be developed along the reconstructed historic fence adjacent to the North Side Canal. Interpretive waysides would be included in the trail system.

Land Protection and Boundaries

In addition to the actions listed under the “Common to All Alternatives” section, this alternative would require that congressional legislation authorize an administrative transfer of the camp’s his-

toric landfill, from BLM to NPS and subsequent inclusion into the national monument. (see Appendix B: Analysis of Boundary Adjustment and Land Protection Criteria.)

The NPS would work cooperatively with monument neighbors and local government to encourage the protection of historic open space and agricultural character of the area surrounding the national monument.

Carrying Capacity

Under alternative D, the national monument would be able to accommodate a substantially greater number of visitors to the site because of an increase in facilities, services, and on-site staffing. Visitors would be expected to be involved in a wide range of activities and would be projected to stay longer than they are under alternative B. The NPS would establish a monitoring system and conduct a VERP study to understand and develop carrying capacities for visitor experience and resource protection. It is estimated that 80,000 people could visit the national monument per year under the full implementation of alternative D or an average of approximately 225 people per day with higher numbers expected during peak season.

Carrying Capacity by Management Zone under Alternative D

Historic Features Zone

Under alternative D, parking in the entrance area

would be expanded to accommodate 15-25 spaces. A VERP study would assist in determining how this increased physical capacity would affect visitor experience and resource protection in the entrance area. Indicators for approaching carrying capacity limits for resources and visitor experience in this zone include the observation of crowding at key historic features, including the entrance area resources, and early evidence of resource degradation at one or more sites.

Historic Open Space Zone

Carrying capacity issues would be the same as alternative C in the historic open space zone. Indicators for approaching carrying capacity limits for resources and visitor experience in this zone include observations of trampling or damage to native and historic vegetation and establishment of social trails outside formally established trails.

Special Use / Park Development Zone

Under alternative D, a new multipurpose interpretive campus would be developed on the 9-acre site. This facility would be designed to accommodate large numbers of visitors and could encompass approximately 5000-6000 square feet. A parking facility of approximately 20-40 spaces would be needed to serve the interpretive campus on the 9-acre site.

The 3-acre site would be used for a variety of administrative and park uses, and is not a primary location for visitor services. Overflow parking

would be accommodated on the 3-acre site.

Indicators for approaching carrying capacity limits for resources and visitor experience in this zone include the observation of crowding at the newly constructed visitor center complex and adjacent parking area and evidence of wear to interpretive exhibits and other media.

Canal Zone

Physical access to the canal may be limited due to safety concerns thereby mediating carrying capacity issues. Indicators for approaching carrying capacity limits for resources and visitor experience in this zone include observation of trampling or damage to native and historic vegetation and establishment of social trails outside formally established trails.

Park Operations and Management

Alternative D would provide a wide range of visitor services to accommodate an increased level of visitors and operation of a new visitor center. This alternative would require congressional legislation to authorize a name change and designation from *Minidoka Internment National Monument* to *Minidoka National Historic Site*.

Staffing

Most staff activities would be located on-site at the national monument, with shared administrative functions with Hagerman Fossil Beds NM.

Under alternative D, the national monument would have 15 employees (permanent, season/term positions). The following positions would be included in this alternative: site manager, partnerships coordinator, agreements contracting specialist, administrator, park ranger (general), park ranger (maintenance), education specialist, interpretive specialist, two park rangers (interpretation), curatorial specialist, cultural resource specialists, seasonal maintenance ranger, and two seasonal interpretive rangers.

Other positions could be added to assist the Upper Columbia Basin Network Area, as the national monument developed. The national monument would explore opportunities for additional staffing off-site to further facilitate partnerships in education, interpretation, and research.

Administrative and Maintenance Facilities

Administrative and maintenance facilities would be treated the same as alternative C (preferred alternative).



Painting of the water tower and hospital in the background by Kenjiro Nomura. 1942-1945. Courtesy of George and Betty Nomura.

Park Hours and Seasons of Operation

Park hours of operation would be determined in concert with staffing and the development of visitor facilities.

Table 11: Staffing Implications of Alternative D

Administration	Maintenance	Interpretation	Resource Management	Total
4 Permanent	2 Permanent	4 Permanent	2 Permanent	12
0 Seasonal	1 Seasonal	2 Seasonal	0 Seasonal	3
4 Total	4 Total	5 Total	2 Total	15

Table 12: Cost Estimates of Implementing Alternative D (2005 Dollars)

Capital Development

Road Improvements	\$ 500,000
Utilities	1,000,000
Parking	425,000
Interpretive Media and Exhibits	2,000,000
Entry Area Enhancements	381,000
Warehouse Area Enhancements	75,000
Visitor Center Complex	3,100,000
Demonstration Block	0
Farm-in-a-Day Property	0
Maintenance Facility in Warehouse Area	350,000
Other Cultural Landscape Enhancements	175,000
Trails and Fences	115,000
Total	\$8,000,000-8,250,000

Average Annual Life-Cycle Costs (25 years)

Total	\$81,000
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Lands

Boundary Additions	0
Total	0

Annual Operations

Staffing	1,250,000
Partnership Programs	100,000
Fixed costs/Office space/vehicles/travel	175,000
Equipment/Supplies	50,000
Total	\$ 1,500,000-1,650,000

Action Plans and Studies

Action plans and studies would be the same as alternative C (preferred alternative).

Actions Requiring Cooperation with Partners

Action requiring cooperation with partners would be the same as alternative C (preferred alternative).

Mitigation Measures

The identification of mitigating measures is required by NPS in general management planning documents, as well as by the Council on Environmental Quality in its requirements for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act. These measures would be used to avoid or minimize potential impacts on natural and cultural resources on NPS lands from construction activities, use by visitors, and national monument operations.

Cultural Resources

In accordance with NPS policies and procedures, the national monument would protect cultural resources to the greatest extent possible, given funding and staff levels. Disturbing significant resources would be avoided whenever possible. In any case where avoidance or preservation could not be achieved, mitigation would be carried out under the guidance of the procedures of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 800).

Before any land-modifying activity, a professional archeologist would inspect the ground surface of the proposed development site and the immediate vicinity for the presence of cultural remains, both historic and prehistoric. Should newly discovered or previously unrecorded cultural remains be found, additional investigations would be accomplished prior to earth-disturbing activities. Through consultation with the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), areas for Section 110 cultural resource inventories would be prioritized. All sites eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) would be monitored for vandalism. Site-specific cultural resource plans would be completed for the national monument. Should any Native American-affiliated Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) materials be inadvertently discovered

within the national monument, the agencies would follow the tribal consultation procedures outlined in the NAGPRA of 1990. All preservation, rehabilitation, and restoration efforts for historic structures would be carried out in accordance with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitation, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings*.

Contractors would coordinate with national monument staff to reduce disruption to normal national monument activities. Construction workers and supervisors would be informed about the special sensitivity of park values, regulations, and appropriate housekeeping.

Natural Resources

Soils

Whenever possible, new development would be carried out on previously disturbed sites or in carefully selected sites with as small a footprint as possible. During design and construction, national monument staff would identify areas to be avoided. To minimize impacts to soil and associated resources, various best management practices (BMPs), such as those described here, would be employed. Soil erosion and associated water quality impacts would be minimized by limiting the time that soil would be left exposed and by using various erosion control measures, such as the placement of silt fencing, retention and replacement of topsoil, revegetation of sites with native species, and selective scheduling of construction activities. Conserving topsoil would minimize potential compaction and erosion of bare soil. The use of conserved topsoil would help preserve the microorganisms and seeds of native plants. Topsoil should be respread as close to the original location as possible and supplemented with scarification, mulching, seeding, and/or planting with species native

to the immediate area. This would reduce construction scars and erosion. To control the spread of exotic plant species, only certified weed-free hay, straw, or mulch would be used.

Vegetation

Prior to implementation of site-specific projects, surveys would be conducted to ensure that no threatened, endangered, or special concern species would be affected. Similarly, new trails and roads would be located to avoid impact on such sensitive species.

To the extent that it is possible, salvaged vegetation, rather than new planting or seeding, would be used to revegetate disturbed areas. Where feasible and appropriate, revegetation would be accomplished with native species and would emulate the natural form, spacing, abundance, and diversity of native plant communities.

To help minimize the spread of nonnative plants, monument managers would allow only the use of weed-free materials and equipment for operations. A variety of measures to prevent weed introduction and spread within the monument would be implemented. These measures would include cleaning vehicles and equipment that may have been used in weed-infested areas prior to entry into the Monument and educational efforts aimed at staff, visitors, and contractors.

The NPS would control noxious and other weeds on the national monument in cooperation with the Northside Tri-Counties Cooperative Weed Management Area. Monument staff and the NPS Exotic Plant Management Team would follow an integrated approach to weed control on the monument, employing appropriate physical, biological, and chemical control measures on a site-by-site basis.

Inventory and monitoring of all natural resources would be undertaken to provide a comprehensive understanding of the monument's wildlife, vegetation, and habitat.

Wildlife

Prior to implementation of site-specific projects, surveys would be conducted to ensure that no threatened, endangered, or special concern species would be affected.

To help reduce impacts of national monument visitors on wildlife, various techniques, such as visitor education programs and some restrictions on visitor activities, would be employed.

Inventory and monitoring of all natural resources would be undertaken to provide a comprehensive understanding of the Monument's wildlife, vegetation, and habitat.

Air Quality

Dust control during construction activities would be required, and all construction machinery would be required to meet air emission standards.

Soundscape

No inventory of soundscape conditions, sound sources, or noise levels exists for the national monument. Such inventories must be conducted to understand the relationship between the natural soundscape, cultural soundscape, and other appropriate sources of sound, and the human component of the existing ambient soundscape. This information would (1) make it possible to better understand the resource that needs to be protected and the appropriate and inappropriate sound sources; (2) enable the NPS to establish acoustic objectives and associated standards for different management zones within the Monument; (3) provide a structure for evaluating existing and proposed activities and their impacts; and (4) suggest where management actions could most effectively contribute to protecting park resources and improving the visitor experience consistent with park purposes. Such inventories, objectives,

and actions must be conducted in accordance with NPS Director's Order #47: Soundscape Preservation and Noise Management.

Night Sky

Although no data currently exist, night sky conditions at the national monument should be documented by capturing images that could be used for analyzing brightness, identifying sources of light pollution, and establishing scientific monitoring strategies. Sky brightness measurements establish a baseline from which future resource degradation or improvement can be accurately determined. Not only do the data stand as a benchmark, but the photographs and visual estimation methods are also powerful tools for interpreting and communicating the issue. Expertise from the NPS Night Sky Team should also be used to consult with park staff and review any facility lighting planned for the national monument. In accordance with NPS policy, recommended mitigation techniques may include keeping illumination to the minimum necessary, using lights that provide accurate color rendition, directing light downward, and screening fixtures to reduce glare. Emergency lighting could be kept to a minimum and placed on switches or motion detectors.

Energy Conservation

All new construction would be completed using sustainable practices, such as the use of environmentally friendly materials and efficient utility systems.

Scenic Resources

Components of construction projects would be assessed for visual quality. Utilities and support functions such as water, sewer, electricity, and roads would be evaluated and designed to mitigate visual impact.

Selection of the Preferred Alternative

To select the preferred alternative, all of the alternatives were evaluated with variety of criteria and considerations. Selection was based on which alternative could provide the greatest advantages to the public and to the NPS. Alternatives were evaluated to see how well they:

- support the national monument's purpose, significance, and desired future conditions
- maximize education and interpretation of national monument's interpretive themes
- maximize protection of cultural and natural resources
- provide a high quality visitor experience
- maximize partnership opportunities
- develop efficient operations
- limit effects on the national monument's neighbors and local community
- attain the public's vision for the national monument

NPS planning team workshops, core team workshops, and extensive and thorough public involvement in 2003 assisted in the identification and selection of the preferred alternative.

NPS workshops analyzed the alternatives with the criteria listed above, as well as analyzing costs.

Additionally, the concept and actions that contribute to alternative C were supported by the overwhelming majority of public comments. This public input was actively solicited through a variety of means, including eleven public draft alternatives workshops in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, and a 45-day public comment in November

2003. This extensive level of public participation was specifically designed to solicit active involvement of stakeholder individuals and communities. It is estimated that over 12,000 individuals have reviewed the information presented in the GMP/EIS newsletter, and NPS staff has had personal contact with over 1000 individuals.

Alternative C was selected as the preferred alternative because it represents broad NPS and public sentiments about the future of Minidoka, with an emphasis on education and interpretation, cultural resource management, visitor use, and partnerships and outreach. Restoration of a residential block would fulfill broad public opinions about the need to accurately depict the experiences of some 13,000 internees who were incarcerated at Minidoka. This alternative responds to concerns about how the national monument would impact the local community and agricultural/commercial vehicular traffic on Hunt Road. Additionally, alternative C provides a full range of actions that are cost-effective for the public and the NPS.

Environmentally Preferred Alternative

The environmentally preferred alternative is defined as “the alternative that will promote the national environmental policy as expressed in Section 101 of the National Environmental Policy Act. In the NPS, the environmentally preferred alternative is identified by 1) determining how each alternative would meet the criteria set forth in the section 101 (b) and 2) considering any inconsistencies between the alternatives analyzed and other environmental laws and policies (DO 12, 2.7E). Section 101 states “...it is the continuing responsibility of the Federal Government to:

- fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the

environment for succeeding generations

- assure for all Americans safe, healthful, productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings
- attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk of health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences
- preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage, and, wherever possible, maintain an environment that supports diversity and variety of individual choice
- achieve a balance between population and resource use that will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities
- enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.”

Simply put, this means the alternative that causes the least damage to the biological and physical environment; it also means the alternative which best protects, preserves, and enhances historic, cultural, and natural resources.

Since the national monument is a new unit, the NPS strongly considered how each alternative would guide long-term resource management, on-site development, and visitor use. As a result, alternative C (preferred alternative) was selected as the environmentally preferred alternative.

Alternative C (preferred alternative) would best enhance the national monument's ability to carry out its mission. Alternative C would provide management strategies that are environmentally responsible, ensuring that future generations would be able to enjoy its resources. Alternative C would create opportunities for

a wide range of visitor experiences and avenues for learning about the interpretive themes, both on-site and off-site. Appropriate cultural landscape treatments would enhance, rather than degrade, the cultural resources for both long-term historic preservation and visitor understanding and appreciation. The addition of lands directly associated with the national monument's cultural landscape would ensure the preservation of essential cultural resources related to the national monument's history. This action would also provide research, educational, and visitor use opportunities. Alternative C's visitor facilities would adaptively rehabilitate historic buildings and landscape features, minimizing new construction throughout the site. This alternative would ensure restoration and revegetation of disturbed areas, removal of invading nonnative plants, and reestablishment of native vegetation and wildlife habitat, weed management, and on-site protection of natural resources. Thus, the preferred alternative would satisfy national goals 1,2,3,4, 5, and 6 to a high degree.

Alternative A, the no-action alternative, would continue existing courses of action. As a result, the NPS would effectively limit resource preservation efforts, provide only bare minimum visitor services, and could create potential risks on the site. Protecting and preserving the national monument's resources could not be sustained over the long term if management and funding continued at current levels. Additionally, the NPS could not provide adequate education and interpretation of the history and significance of the national monument to the American people. Therefore, alternative A would not fulfill any of the goals listed above.

Alternative B, which focuses on outreach, resource protection, and minimal new construction, would fulfill the national environmental goals 1 and 2 to a high degree. Alternative B would ensure preservation of cultural and natural resources on the site

and limit new construction, as well as educate the American people about the national monument's interpretive themes. However, the focus on outreach and education at off-site locations would not provide a wide range of beneficial uses on the national monument site. While resources would be preserved, only minimal preservation treatments would be employed, thereby limiting the public's use, understanding, and appreciation of the site's resources. Visitor facilities would adaptively rehabilitate historic buildings and landscape features; however, the quantity and quality of visitor services would not promote a wide range of visitor experiences. Thus, alternative B would fulfill goals 3, 4, 5, and 6 to only a satisfactory level.

Alternative D, which emphasizes on-site education and interpretation through new facilities, would fulfill many of the national environmental goals to a high degree, including goals 1, 2, 4, and 6. Successive generations would benefit from the preservation and enhancement of the cultural resources on-site. Appropriate cultural landscape treatments would enhance, rather than degrade, the cultural resources for both long-term historic preservation and visitor understanding. Alternative D would create opportunities for learning about the interpretive themes, both on-site and off-site. This alternative would also ensure restoration and revegetation of disturbed areas, removal of invading nonnative plants, reestablishment of native vegetation and wildlife habitat, weed management, and on-site protection of natural resources. However, compared with alternative C, alternative D does not propose to add historic lands nor does it relocate a historic block, thereby limiting the extent of cultural resource preservation and educational and interpretive opportunities in an authentic setting. Alternative D's focus on new facilities would likely be incongruous with the historic scene and would make it the most costly alternative to implement. Therefore, alternative D would fulfill goals 3 and 5 to only a satisfactory level.

Summary of Actions

Table 13: Summary of Actions

	Common to All	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C - Preferred	Alternative D
	<i>The “Common to All Alternatives” are actions that occur in all alternatives for the National Monument, however the way each alternative addresses the “Common to All Alternatives” action may vary. One sees the “Common to All Alternatives” only once, yet they run through all alternatives.</i>	<i>No Action Alternative</i>	<i>Emphasis on outreach and off-site visitor education and interpretation, cultural resource protection, and a minimum of new development on-site.</i>	<i>Emphasis on on-site visitor education and interpretation through cultural resource protection, rehabilitation, restoration and/or reconstruction.</i>	<i>Emphasis on on-site visitor education and interpretation through new facilities.</i>
Cultural Resource Management					
<i>Treatment</i>	Protect and preserve cultural resources. Provide some rehabilitation of significant historic features. Explore adaptive reuse of historic buildings.				
<i>Historic Barracks</i>		No barracks on-site.	No barracks on-site.	Acquire and relocate original historic barracks to an original block site to reestablish a representative historic residential block. Implementation of this action would require land acquisition from a willing seller and congressional authorization for a boundary change.	Acquire and relocate original historic barracks to the nine-acre site, although the siting would not be in an historically accurate location.
<i>Historic Features</i>		Retain and protect existing historic features on-site.	Document and describe existing historic features on-site.	Acquire, relocate, and/or restore many of the large and small historic features that were part of the day-to-day experiences within the camp.	Same as Alternative C.
<i>Historic Vegetation</i>		Protect existing historic vegetation.	Restore and maintain historic vegetation according to the historic period of significance (1942-1945). Highlight the open, stark, barren landscape first encountered by the internees, and their responses to this landscape.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
<i>Historic Pathways</i>		Protect existing historic path-	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A PLUS ex-	Same as Alternative A PLUS ex-

	Common to All	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C - Preferred	Alternative D
Historic Pathways (cont.)		ways and roads.		cavate and rehabilitate historic pathways for adaptive use where feasible. Maintain and selectively rehabilitate historic roads for park use.	cavate and rehabilitate historic pathways for adaptive use where feasible.
Entry Area		Reconstruct Honor Roll. If reconstruction is not feasible, then delineation would occur. Restore rock garden at the entry to camp as historic information becomes available.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as A <i>PLUS</i> Enhance and restore additional features in the entry area. Key entrance area historic features include the guard tower, flagpole, barbed wire fence, small signs, stone guard station, waiting room, entry gate, Honor Roll, pathways, and garden. Individual features would be interpreted, delineated, rehabilitated, or reconstructed.	Same as Alternative C.
Administrative, Staff Housing, and Warehouse Areas		Protect existing historic features.	Delineate the foundation piers on all historic buildings within the administration and staff housing area.	Same as Alternative B <i>PLUS</i> delineate existing historic footprints for the filling station and warehouse buildings.	Same as Alternative C.
Root Cellar		Stabilize the root cellar.	Same as Alternative A.	Stabilize and partially restore the root cellar.	Same as Alternative C.
Perimeter Fence		No rehabilitation of historic fence.	Same as Alternative A	Reconstruct all or part of the historic perimeter fence.	Same as Alternative C.
Swimming Hole		Protect the existing swimming hole as is.	Same as Alternative A.	Delineate the existing swimming hole.	Same as Alternative C.
Archeology		Conduct archaeological projects as funding permits.	Conduct archeological projects to identify and protect archaeological features.	Same as Alternative B <i>PLUS</i> display and use known archaeological features for educational and interpretive purposes.	Same as Alternative C.
Oral History	Identify and support collaborative endeavors to collect and preserve oral histories of the internees, their families, and people associated with the Minidoka Relocation Center.	Conduct and collect oral histories in an expeditious manner through partnerships with others.	Same as Alternative A <i>PLUS</i> utilize oral histories to assist interpretative and educational programs.	Same as Alternative A <i>PLUS</i> utilize oral histories for a wide range of on-site and off-site interpretive and educational programs.	Same as Alternative C.
Collections	Develop a Scope of Collections Statement in coordination with partner institutions and NPS units. Promote the care, collection and curation of a wide range of artifacts. Collections would meet NPS professional standards.	Develop a collaborative Museum Management Plan for collections management with southern Idaho NPS units.	Same as Alternative A <i>PLUS</i> Explore partnership efforts with others for off-site storage of collections and public access to these collections.	Same as Alternative B <i>PLUS</i> provide on-site storage and exhibit space to house artifacts for rotating exhibits.	Same as Alternative C <i>PLUS</i> consider National Monument facilities for joint collection storage.
Collections (cont.)					

	Common to All	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C - Preferred	Alternative D
Education and Interpretation					
On-site and Off-site Programs	Promote and develop both on-site and off-site educational and outreach programs, especially through partnerships. Develop a Long Range Interpretive Plan.				
On-site		Existing level of on-site education and interpretation is inadequate and will increase only as additional staff/funding is available.	Provide limited on-site educational and research opportunities that focus on the identified primary interpretive themes.	Provide a diversity of on-site education, research, and interpretative opportunities that focus on the interpretive themes of the national monument.	Same as Alternative C.
Visitor Opportunities		Only minimal educational and interpretive materials would be provided.	Provide facilities to orient visitors.	Same as Alternative B <i>PLUS</i> provide visitors with opportunities to participate in self-guided exploratory experiences associated with exhibits, collections, research, interpretive and educational programs and activities, as well as historic structures and buildings. Also encourage visitors to participate in creative activities such as writing, creating exhibits, theater, and other forms of self-expression related to the site.	Same as Alternative C.
Entry Area		Only minimal educational and interpretive materials to help orient visitors, such as a brochure box.	Provide self-guided interpretation utilizing the extant historic features at the entry area.	Same as Alternative A <i>PLUS</i> delineated, rehabilitated, and/or reconstructed entrance features would provide a more meaningful understanding and appreciation of the national monument and its history.	Same as Alternative C.
Commemoration		Maintain existing commemorative waysides at the entry.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A <i>PLUS</i> explore the suitability and feasibility of establishing a new memorial in the Park Development Zone.	Same as Alternative C.
Off-site	Increase awareness of the National Monument's existence and significance through outreach, education, and interpretive programs. Promote public understanding	Continue minimal efforts to develop educational programs and interpretive materials through partnerships. Continue minimal efforts to promote the integration of the	Develop extensive educational and outreach programs and interpretive materials through partnerships. Interpretation would utilize personal accounts and oral histories. Explore the	Same as Alternative B <i>ALTHOUGH</i> funding for off-site programs would be balanced with on-site programs. Same as Alternative B <i>ALTHOUGH</i> funding for off-site	Same as Alternative C.

	Common to All	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C - Preferred	Alternative D
	of the legacy and relevance of Minidoka to dynamic contemporary and future civil rights issues.	internment and incarceration story into the curriculum of various educational institutions.	option of utilizing the I-Farm to introduce visitors to the story. Explore partnership opportunities for education and interpretation at off-site locations. Develop a strong program that would develop materials for implementation into the curriculum of various educational institutions, provide teacher training, and utilize the Internet and distance learning technology. The educational curriculum would focus on the identified interpretive themes. Use a wide range of advanced technology media for interpretation.	programs would be balanced with on-site programs.	
Visitor Facilities					
Restroom Facilities		Provide seasonal portable toilets.	Provide restroom facilities to accommodate year-round visitation.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
Signage	Develop new directional signage for pedestrian wayfinding on-site.	Install identification signs and boundary markers. Install limited directional signage to the National Monument.	Same as Alternative A <i>PLUS</i> install directional signs that lead from Interstate 84 and U.S. 93 to the site.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
Waysides		No new waysides would be constructed.	Construct waysides to interpret visible features on-site.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
Visitor Facilities on three-acre Site		No visitor facilities on three-acre site.	Adaptively rehabilitate the interior of the historic warehouse for a visitor contact station that would provide visitor orientation and interpretation.	Adaptively rehabilitate the interiors of the buildings in the historic warehouse area for visitor orientation, interpretation and education.	Adaptively rehabilitate the interiors of the buildings in the historic warehouse area.
Visitor Facilities on nine-acre Site		Hold the nine-acre site for a variety of potential future administrative, interpretive and park uses.	Same as Alternative A.	Establish an interpretive overlook of the North Side Canal and overflow parking area for buses and special events. Explore the feasibility and suitability of establishing a memorial.	Develop a multi-purpose interpretive campus on the nine-acre site. The interpretive campus could include a visitor center, parking, garden, new memorial, picnic, shelters, collections storage, and multi purpose spaces. New visitor center could include exhibit space, theater space, classrooms, library, and bookstore, and space for potential partnership

	Common to All	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C - Preferred	Alternative D
Visitor Facilities on nine-acre Site (cont.)					organizations. Acquire and relocate historic structures and buildings to the nine-acre BOR site where feasible.
Off-site Facilities		Maintain existing exhibits at Hagerman Fossil Beds. No new exhibits at other locations. Experience barracks at the I-Farm and continue to work cooperatively with the Jerome County Historical Society.	Explore partnership opportunities to develop interpretive, educational, and research facilities at various off-site locations. Same as Alternative A <i>PLUS</i> develop media to interpret the barracks.	Explore partnerships opportunities with various off-site visitor educational and interpretive facilities. Acquire and relocate historic barrack buildings to establish a demonstration block as interpretive facilities. (Implementation of this action would require land acquisition from a willing seller and Congressional authorization of a boundary change for the national monument.) If a boundary change is not authorized, then acquire and relocate historic structures and buildings to the nine-acre BOR site.	Same as Alternative C. Experience barracks in non-historic locations such as the nine-acre site and the I-FARM.
Natural Resources					
Natural Resource Management Programs	Design natural resource management programs and activities to minimize conflicts with the protection of existing on-site cultural resources.				
Fire	Suppress fires as necessary to protect cultural features.				
Soils	Utilize best management practices to prevent excessive runoff and soil erosion.				
Contaminants		Identify potential contaminants and environmental impacts resulting from historic uses, as necessary.	Develop a program to identify potential contaminants and environmental degradation resulting from historic uses. Remove contaminants and remediate affected areas to eliminate continued degradation.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
Contaminants (cont.)					
Vegetation		Control noxious weeds.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A <i>PLUS</i> manage vegetation to minimize or eliminate undesirable exotic plant species.	Same as Alternative C.

	Common to All	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C - Preferred	Alternative D
Scenic Resources					
Views		Protect existing views.	Preserve and restore historic views as feasible. Create scenic viewing areas and interpretive overlooks.	Same as Alternative B <i>PLUS</i> provide more interpretation at overlooks.	Same as Alternative C
Partnership and Outreach					
Partnerships	Build partnerships and cooperative agreements in areas of outreach, education, and interpretation.	Continue to develop partnerships.	Same as Alternative A <i>PLUS</i> focus and funding is directed to establishing and supporting strong partnerships.	Develop partnerships with others for on-site and off-site interpretation, education, and collection of oral histories and historic objects.	Same as Alternative C.
Access, Circulation and Parking					
Access and Circulation	Conduct a comprehensive transportation study.				
Roads		Maintain the existing vehicular circulation system. Accommodate all existing access needs and utilities, as necessary.	Same as Alternative A <i>PLUS</i> make minor changes to on-site vehicular circulation as needed.	Improve existing auto circulation. Direct on-site vehicular access to specific locations. Consider shuttle service during peak season. Accommodate all existing access needs and utilities, as necessary.	Same as Alternative C. <i>HOWEVER</i> no study of removal or re-routing of Hunt Road.
Pedestrian Circulation		Maintain existing pedestrian circulation; do not develop new trails.	Rehabilitate and utilize historic pathways and develop limited new interpretive trails.	Rehabilitate and utilize historic pathways. Develop new walking trails to link significant interpretive areas. Include interpretive waysides. Develop a pedestrian trail along the reconstructed historic fence adjacent to the canal. Develop a pedestrian circulation system in the barracks block area.	Develop pedestrian trails to link key resource areas. Include interpretive waysides as part of the trail system. Develop a pedestrian trail along the reconstructed historic fence adjacent to the canal.
Parking		Maintain the entrance parking lot. Provide overflow parking for special events on the three-acre and nine-acre sites.	Same as Alternative A <i>PLUS</i> provide adequate parking to serve the visitor contact function on the three-acre site. Provide a small parking area to service an interpretive and scenic overlook on the nine-acre site.	Limit parking at the camp entrance. Provide adequate parking on the three-acre site to service the demonstration block and visitor interpretive facility. Provide a small parking area to service an interpretive and scenic overlook on the nine-acre site.	Restore historic parking lot between Hunt Bridge and the existing parking lot at the camp entrance. Provide adequate parking for park functions on the three-acre site. Construct adequate parking area next to the proposed visitor interpretive campus on the nine-acre site.

	Common to All	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C - Preferred	Alternative D
Land Protection and Boundaries					
<i>Bureau of Reclamation Sites</i>	Recommend congressional legislation to transfer the three-acre and nine-acre Bureau of Reclamation sites to the NPS.				
<i>Prohibited Uses</i>	Prohibit hunting, trapping, grazing, and mineral extraction within the National Monument.				
<i>Define Boundaries</i>	Clearly define all national monument boundaries to prohibit trespassing on private property.				
<i>North Side Canal Company</i>	Work in cooperation with the North Side Canal Company to address safety issues along the canal.				
<i>Bureau of Land Management- Minidoka Landfill Site</i>	Work in cooperation with the BLM to preserve the historic 26-acre Minidoka landfill site.			Recommend congressional legislation to transfer a 40-acre parcel, which includes the historic 26-acre Minidoka landfill site, from the BLM to the NPS.	Same as Alternative C.
<i>Boundaries Adjustments</i>	Recommend congressional legislation to authorize the NPS to exchange an existing irrigation lateral for one half of the extant root cellar. Cooperate with neighbors about boundary and land protection issues.	Encourage the protection of historic open space and agricultural character of the area surrounding the national monument.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A <i>PLUS</i> recommend congressional legislation to expand national monument boundaries to acquire land where one or more historic barracks blocks existed during the historic period, contingent upon a willing seller. The area proposed for addition to the national monument encompasses approximately 128 acres.	Same as Alternative A.
Carrying Capacity					
<i>Carrying Capacity on-site and off-site</i>		Continue to accommodate the existing number of visitors to the National Monument and at off-site locations.	Accommodate an anticipated moderate increase in the number of visitors on-site and accommodate for carrying capacity at proposed off-site facilities.	Accommodate an anticipated substantial increase in the number of visitors who will visit the site. Accommodate for carrying capacity at proposed off-site facilities. Establish a monitoring system to understand visitor use and satisfaction.	Same as Alternative C.

	Common to All	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C - Preferred	Alternative D
Operations and Management					
American Falls Reservoir Irrigation District #2 Operations	Relocate the American Falls Reservoir Irrigation District No. 2 operational facilities to a new off-site location to be determined.				
On-Site Presence	Utilize opportunities to provide an on-site presence.				
Volunteers	Explore opportunities for extensive use of volunteers to complement NPS staff, both on-site and off-site.				
Fees	Visitor use of the National Monument would be free of charge.				
Emergencies	Coordinate with Jerome County Law Enforcement and Fire Department in the event of an emergency and/or fire.				
Partnerships	Coordinate and partner with others as part of the National Monument's standard operation procedures.				
Staffing		Current staffing is inadequate. Hire staff as funding permits.	Eight permanent staff.	Ten permanent and two seasonal staff.	Twelve permanent and three seasonal staff.
Administrative and Maintenance Facilities Administrative and Maintenance Facilities (cont.)		Locate all administrative and maintenance facilities off-site, and explore opportunities for on-site presence.	Administrative and maintenance functions would be shared with Hagerman Fossil Beds, and most facilities would be located off-site.	Provide most staff on-site, with shared administrative functions with Hagerman Fossil Beds. Provide required maintenance facilities and functions in cooperation with southern Idaho parks.	Same as Alternative C.
Adaptive Re-Use of Historic Buildings		Adaptively rehabilitate the historic structures for park use, after the American Falls Reservoir District No. 2 operational facilities are relocated off-site, as funding permits.	Adaptively rehabilitate the historic structures for park use, after the American Falls Reservoir District No. 2 operational facilities are relocated off-site.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
Name and Designation		Existing designation as Minidoka Internment National Monument remains the same.	Same as Alternative A.	Propose congressional legislation to authorize a name change to Minidoka National Historic Site.	Same as Alternative C.

	Common to All	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C - Preferred	Alternative D
Cost Estimates	Common To All	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C - Preferred	Alternative D
Funding Sources					
	Seek a variety of funding sources for capital development costs.				
Capital Improvements					
Road Improvements		6,000	400,000	500,000	500,000
Utilities		16,000	500,000	700,000	1,000,000
Parking		23,000	100,000	400,000	425,000
Interpretive Media and Exhibits		11,000	1,300,000	1,700,000	2,000,000
Entry Area Enhancements		62,000	200,000	381,000	381,000
Warehouse Area Enhancements		375,000	1,500,000	700,000	75,000
Visitor Center Complex		0	0	0	3,100,000
Demonstration Block		0	0	1,920,000	0
Farm-in-a-Day Property		0	0	200,000	0
Maintenance Facility in Warehouse Area		0	0	350,000	350,000
Other Cultural Landscape Enhancements		30,000	50,000	400,000	175,000
Trails and Fences		27,000	90,000	155,000	115,000
Total		500,000-600,000	4,000,000-4,500,000	7,250,000-7,750,000	8,000,000-8,500,000
Life-Cycle Costs (25 Yrs)		5,000 per year	40,000 per year	75,000 per year	81,000 per year
Boundary Adjustments		0	0	200,000-500,000	0
Operations					
Staffing		112,000	725,000	950,000	1,250,000
Educational, Interpretive, and Partnership Programs		20,000	250,000	100,000	100,000
Fixed costs/Office space/vehicles/travel		38,000	100,000	75,000	175,000
Equipment/Supplies		10,000	40,000	50,000	50,000
Total		160,000-200,000	1,000,000-1,250,000	1,000,000-1,250,000	1,300,000-1,800,000