



University of Wyoming—National Park Service Research Center Campus Improvements

The University of Wyoming (UW) and the National Park Service (NPS) will be preparing an environmental assessment (EA) that will analyze the environmental effects of a range of alternatives to replace the water and wastewater systems, construct a new dormitory, and implement a number of other improvements at the UW—NPS Grand Teton Research Center. The center, which is located within Grand Teton National Park about one mile north of Leeks Marina, is within the AMK Ranch Historic District and consists of several structures built primarily between 1927 and 1937. The primary function of the center is to promote scientific research within the Greater Yellowstone Area. The center furnishes housing, laboratory space, transportation, equipment and financial support to enable investigators in the biological, physical, and social sciences to access the rich and diverse natural and cultural resources of Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway, and surrounding areas.

Water and Wastewater Systems

UW has determined the need to replace the existing center's water and wastewater systems. The current potable water system operates from three wells and an associated 500-gallon pressure tank within the campus. The current water system does not provide structural fire protection. Six buildings are currently served by seven individual septic tanks/leach field systems. The existing wastewater system is well beyond its intended lifespan.

Dormitory

The number of researchers requesting access to the center is increasing and overnight housing is frequently filled to a capacity of 60 individuals. To accommodate a maximum overnight population of 75 individuals, UW is proposing future construction of a 24-person accessible dormitory within the campus. The new dormitory, which would be accessible for persons with disabilities and compliant with structural fire codes, would relieve some pressure on the campus' historic buildings.

Other Improvements

Several other improvements are also being considered. The EA will evaluate the impact of addressing issues such as surface water drainage issues around the Berol Lodge, lakeshore erosion, and the condition and appearance of the existing breakwater wall located adjacent to the historic boat house.

Public Comment Opportunity

We would like to hear from you to ensure that your concerns and ideas regarding the proposed campus improvements are adequately considered and evaluated in the environmental assessment. Comments can be made online at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/uw-nps> or sent to the following address. Please submit comments no later than February 20, 2013.

ATTN: UW-NPS Campus Improvements EA
Planning and Environmental Compliance
Grand Teton National Park
P.O. Drawer 170
Moose, WY 83012