



## *Dear Friends of Devils Postpile National Monument,*

Newsletter #4, July 2014

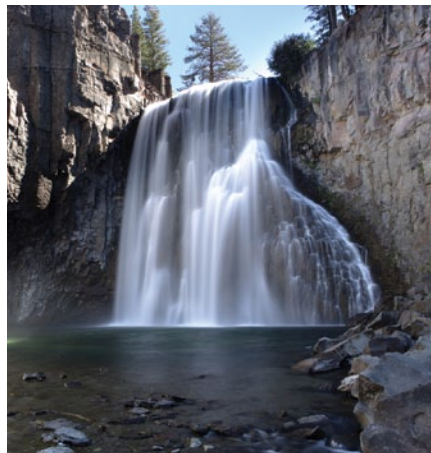
It is with great pleasure that we submit to you the Draft General Management Plan and Environmental Assessment for Devils Postpile National Monument. When completed, this plan will guide our management of the monument as it enters its second century and provide the framework for managing natural, cultural, and recreational resources for the next 20 years.

Throughout this planning process, we've received ideas from our visitors, area residents, and diverse stakeholders through public meetings, our website, emails, and in letters. Your input, coupled with NPS resource and planning expertise and the collaborative participation of Inyo National Forest staff, has helped shape the recommendations in this plan, including the identification of the preferred alternative.

This Draft General Management Plan (GMP) offers three alternative approaches, including a preferred alternative, to public use and enjoyment of the monument, protection of its natural and cultural resources, management of facilities, and overall operations for this special unit of the national park system.

It is also important to note that while the GMP will result in a commitment to a specific vision for Devils Postpile National Monument, the NPS and USFS recognize the public and resource benefits of the monument are inter-

twined with the surrounding Reds Meadow Valley and Upper Middle Fork of the San Joaquin. Both agencies are working together on this plan and using this opportunity to develop some additional recommendations for the valley and watershed, so our shared efforts can provide high quality visitor experiences and resource protection as we look forward to the next 100 years.



We have timed the review of this draft plan during the peak summer season with the goal of engaging all of our visitors and people who care for Devils Postpile in creating an enduring vision for the preservation and enjoyment of the monument's scenic, resource, and recreational values, benefitting both present and future generations. Please take the time to review this draft document and provide us with your thoughts and comments.

We look forward to seeing you in the monument this season.

Deanna Dulen  
Superintendent

# Introduction

Devils Postpile National Monument (“Devils Postpile NM” or “the monument”) was established on July 6, 1911 by Presidential Proclamation 1166. The last comprehensive planning effort for Devils Postpile NM was a master plan developed in 1962 and revised in 1964. This planning effort was based on an assumption that the trans-Sierra highway would be built and sought to accommodate a dramatic increase in visitation coupled with easier vehicle access. Since then, the highway proposal was defeated, a shuttle system was instituted in coordination with the Inyo National Forest, and a large portion of the monument was designated as wilderness, rendering the previous plan obsolete. Devils Postpile NM has never undertaken a comprehensive planning process meeting the requirements of the Parks and Recreation Act of 1978. A general management plan, reflecting the contemporary and future issues and challenges facing Devils Postpile NM, is essential for providing a framework for management of the monument into the future.

This Draft General Management Plan/Environmental Assessment (GMP/EA) was developed in consultation with NPS staff and program managers, USFS staff from the Inyo National Forest and Pacific Southwest Research Station, local communities, government agencies, Cali-

fornia Indian tribes, stakeholder groups and individuals. The Inyo National Forest is a cooperating agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) on the GMP and a Memorandum of Understanding is in place outlining collaboration between the two agencies on this planning effort.

The GMP articulates a vision and overall management framework for Devils Postpile NM that will guide decision-making for the foreseeable future. The GMP includes management strategies for resource protection and preservation; visitor use; interpretation and education; use of facilities and the need for new facilities; and long-term operations and management of the monument.

The GMP will be a National Park Service decision document. Its management guidance will only govern future actions taken by the NPS. However, through this planning process additional recommendations were developed by the GMP team, with participation by USFS staff, for the surrounding watershed within the Inyo National Forest. The USFS could undertake any or all of the recommendations individually or by integration into planning on the Inyo National Forest. These recommendations were provided in an effort to identify opportunities for interagency efficiency, improve visitor services, and establish a vision for collaborative management of



Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River, © Rod Planck

the watershed, consistent with the monument's management under the GMP. The USFS has not committed to and is not required to adopt any of the recommendations contained in these alternatives.

## Issues

The general public, NPS staff, and representatives from county, state, and federal agencies, and various organizations identified issues and concerns about monument management during the scoping phase (early information gathering) for this general management plan. An issue is defined as an opportunity, conflict, or problem regarding the use or management of public lands. Issues and concerns raised during public scoping generally involved suggestions for the types and levels of services and activities offered at the monument (particularly interpretive and educational programs) and protecting the character of both the developed area and the wilderness. The general management plan alternatives provide strategies for addressing these issues within the context of the monument's purpose, significance, and special mandates.

The following issues and concerns are addressed in this general management plan:

- management direction for **natural resources** protection, research and monitoring, largely based on existing law and policy, and address the balance between visitor use and enjoyment and the protection of natural resources;
- management direction for **cultural resources** protection, research, collections management, and monitoring, largely based on law and policy, as well as address the balance between visitor use and enjoyment and resource protection;
- review and update the **wild and scenic river** eligibility study and conduct a suitability study of the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River within Devils Postpile NM;
- overall direction for **wilderness management**, including an analysis of the types and amounts of commercial services that support the realization of the purposes of wilderness while still preserving the qualities of wilderness character;
- general guidance to help the monument understand, anticipate and address the potential impacts of **global climate change**;
- types of **visitor experiences, facilities and activities, including interpretation and education**, that should be available in different areas of the monument, in keeping with the values and special designations of those areas and the surrounding lands;
- identify **indicators and standards** for visitor capacity to define the types and levels of visitor and other public use that can be accommodated while sustaining the desired resource and social conditions;
- alternatives for **parking, access, and management of the monument's trail system** that provide an appropriate balance between visitor access and the protection of natural resources;
- appropriate **levels of development** in different parts of the monument, including long-term sustainability and cost-effective approaches for **park operations**;
- the adequacy of existing **boundaries** as required by the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978; and
- opportunities for additional **collaboration and coordination** of services and facilities between the National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service.



Ranger program, NPS Photo

# Development of the GMP

The GMP is based on an analysis of existing and predicted natural and cultural resource conditions, visitor experiences, environmental impacts, and costs. It primarily provides a framework for administration and management and a vision to be realized through future actions. This document also includes an environmental assessment (EA), which considers at a general qualitative level the impacts that each of the alternatives could have on the monument environment. The EA sets the framework for future compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) for the monument. It also assists decision makers and the public in assessing the relative merits and effects of the alternatives.

## Alternatives

Three alternatives for future management of Devils Postpile NM are presented in this draft GMP. Each of these alternatives is consistent with the monument's purpose, significance, and special mandates and presents a different way to manage resources and visitor use and improve facilities and infrastructure. These three alternatives represent the range of ideas the public, NPS staff, and other agencies and stakeholders identified regarding natural and cultural resource conditions, visitor use and experiences, and overall management of Devils Postpile NM.

The three alternatives are characterized as follows:

- Alternative A (Continue Current Management)
- Alternative B (Watershed Emphasis)
- Alternative C (Connecting People to Nature and Heritage), the Preferred Alternative

Several other actions and alternatives were also considered but were eventually dismissed from further analysis. These actions and alternatives, along with the rationale for their dismissal, are described near the end of **Chapter Three: Alternatives.**

## MANAGEMENT ZONES

Management zones are a component of the alternatives. They describe a range of desired conditions and management approaches to be achieved and maintained in specific areas of the monument. These zones form the basis of the plan's alternatives and are applied to different geographic areas in each action alternative

(alternatives B and C) based on the overall concept for each alternative. The four management zones are front-country, sensitive resource management, natural, and portal. Each zone includes a zone concept and desired conditions for natural and cultural resources, visitor opportunities and use, facilities, access and transportation, and other management concerns. A map depicting the application of management zones for each alternative can be found in **Chapter Three: Alternatives.**

The GMP team, with participation by some USFS staff, zoned the entire watershed, including both National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service lands. This zoning approach was taken to help planners and land managers think about the watershed

holistically, with a goal of providing integrated and complementary visitor experiences in the valley, as well as increasing operational efficiencies between the two agencies. Zoning extending beyond the monument boundaries should only be viewed as a recommendation for the USFS. This zoning would become effective only if it is adopted or otherwise incorporated, in full or in part, in future USFS plans. This GMP does not, by itself, establish zones on USFS lands.

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE USFS

The alternative descriptions are focused on management of the monument. Alternatives B and C are followed by recommendations for management of the surrounding USFS lands. These recommendations were developed under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Inyo NF which provided a framework for participation by Inyo NF staff in their development.

The recommendations were formulated to complement proposed actions in the monument, provide an integrated valley-wide visitor experience, and increase efficiencies between the two agencies. Under the MOU, the recommendations are not part of the GMP alternatives



Trailhead at the Ranger Station, NPS Photo

and would not be implemented unless the Inyo National Forest decides to adopt some or all of them in its own planning and decision-making processes.

### ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES

Actions common to all alternatives present management guidance, desired conditions, and actions that would apply to all alternatives, including alternative A (No Action). This section is included before the detailed descriptions of the three alternatives and contains direction the monument would follow, regardless of which alternative is selected.

Many aspects of natural and cultural resources management, preservation of wilderness character, support for scientific research, and commitments to develop adaptation strategies in response to climate change are common to all alternatives, along with elements of the visitor experience such as preserving the traditional range of recreational activities and collaborating with the Inyo NF on the shuttle operation.

Consistent with an extent necessary determination for commercial services in wilderness, commercial

stock day use at Rainbow Falls may continue at levels currently permitted by the U.S. Forest Service from their trailhead (1440 day rides per season) in realization of the purpose of wilderness (See *Appendix D: Determination of Extent Necessary*). Also common to all alternatives is an NPS recommendation for Congressional legislation for wild and scenic river designation for the portion of the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River within Devils Postpile NM (See *Appendix E: Wild and Scenic River*).

The common to all alternatives section also describes possible USFS measures suggested by the interagency GMP planning team which, if adopted by the USFS, could better integrate visitor services, operational efficiency, and resource management in Reds Meadow Valley.

### ALTERNATIVE A (CONTINUE CURRENT MANAGEMENT)

Alternative A is the “no action” alternative and assumes that existing management, programming, facilities, staffing, and funding would generally continue at their current levels. A no action alternative is required by the National Environmental Policy Act and serves as a baseline for comparison in evaluating the changes and



Ranger talk at the Postpile, NPS Photo

impacts of the other two alternatives. The emphasis of alternative A would be to protect the values of Devils Postpile National Monument without substantially increasing staff, programs, funding support, or facilities. Resource preservation and protection would continue to be a high priority for the management of the monument. Staff would continue to work with the Inyo National Forest on projects of mutual interest, on a case-by-case basis. Management of visitor use and facilities would generally continue under existing levels and types of services and regulations. Existing visitor facilities, such as buildings, structures, roads, parking areas, camping areas, and trails, would be maintained. Most administrative facilities would also be maintained with the exception of the monument's inadequate maintenance building which would be replaced.

### ***Mammoth Lakes***

The monument would continue to co-locate administrative offices with the USFS in their current location at the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center and the Mammoth Ranger Station campus.

### ***Devils Postpile NM Developed Area***

The monument would maintain the existing ranger station in its current location. The building interior would continue to provide a small space for visitor contact, as well as a small office for some operational use. The ranger station would continue to receive upgrades as needed, particularly for accessibility and safety. The monument would maintain its overnight campground in its current configuration, with minimal improvements over time. The shuttle bus stop would also remain unchanged and in its current location.

The existing buildings, including operational space, employee housing, tent cabins, and storage facilities, would remain in the administrative area. An overnight staff presence would be maintained in the monument.

The maintenance building would be replaced in the monument with a new structure consistent with earlier building plans, but final design plans and a location within the monument would still need to be determined. The monument would strive to find a location

that could adequately accommodate the new building and minimize impacts to the visitor experience. The monument would continue to try and address concerns around changing the character of the area by having a larger building in the small developed area and siting the maintenance building so it is not the first NPS facility visitors see upon entering the monument.

### ***Rainbow Falls***

The monument would maintain facilities currently at Rainbow Falls, including trails, hitching posts, viewing platforms, walls, and stairs to the base of the river in their current configurations. Visitor access to the river at the base of Rainbow Falls would be maintained.

### ***Boundary Modification***

No boundary modification would occur.

### **ALTERNATIVE B (WATERSHED EMPHASIS)**

Alternative B proposes a greater emphasis on managing and promoting visitor understanding of the monument in the context of the Upper Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River watershed. Toward this end, the current level of visitor services in the monument would be continued, but locating visitor services and facilities outside of the watershed would be emphasized, when possible.

Resource management and visitor programming would emphasize watershed values, natural processes, and adaptation of infrastructure/systems to a changing environment. Science and learning opportunities would be directed toward watershed issues and increasing visitor understanding of the broad importance of the watershed. Enhanced orientation to the watershed would be provided through improvements outside of the watershed. Minaret Vista is identified as an ideal location for these improvements. Alternative B generally envisions less development in the monument than currently exists.

### ***Mammoth Lakes***

The monument would continue to co-locate administrative offices in their current location at the USFS



Restoration work NPS Photo

Mammoth District Ranger Offices adjacent to the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center.

### ***Devils Postpile NM Developed Area***

The monument would maintain the existing ranger station in the developed area, with small improvements to accommodate the public and NPS staff, and would convert the campground to accommodate day use only. A comprehensive site design or development concept plan would be completed for the developed area, including the ranger station, parking areas, campground, shuttle stop, and administrative area.

The monument would retain the visitor contact/ranger station in the valley, in its existing location. The deck would be expanded, and a service window potentially added, to provide improved accessibility and additional outdoor space for interpretation and ranger contact. Administrative functions would be removed and the building would be rehabilitated for visitor services only.

The campground would be converted to day use, reducing overnight staffing needs, restoring previously impacted areas, and providing visitors with greater river access and additional day use opportunities near the monument's developed area.

The shuttle bus stop and parking area would be redesigned to improve parking and circulation for shuttle buses, cars and pedestrians and a modest shelter or an overhang on the bus stop would be added, providing space for additional visitor information and outdoor exhibits.

The monument operations area would provide staff housing, administrative space, and other essential operational functions with an overall goal of minimizing visual and audible impacts associated with park operations. Buildings near the edge of the meadow would be removed to protect the meadow within the riparian area and reduce visual impacts from the Devils Postpile trail. Other cabins would be converted from housing to operational functions, replacing the operational functions once located in the ranger station.



Glacial polish on Postpile columns NPS Photo

The monument would seek to work collaboratively with the USFS to adaptively reuse the Pumice Flat cabin as an interagency maintenance shop. Small equipment storage buildings and maintenance work areas would be developed around the Pumice Flat cabin to support basic maintenance needs for both agencies in the valley. The monument would locate the remainder of the NPS maintenance and storage needs that require larger facility space and work areas to the town of Mammoth Lakes, preferably co-located with partners such as the USFS. Once the monument's maintenance operations and functions are relocated to Pumice Flat and other locations, the existing maintenance shop would be removed.

### ***Rainbow Falls***

The monument would strive to enhance the wilderness qualities of Rainbow Falls and promote a greater sense of discovery and introductory wilderness experience for visitors to the area. Several modifications to infrastructure and facilities in the area would improve the undeveloped quality of wilderness near Rainbow Falls. The monument would realign the current trail from the wilderness boundary to Rainbow Falls away from steep edges and reduce both the footprint and visual extents of the trail, ultimately creating a more undeveloped wilderness experience and enhancing feelings of solitude. A trail with smaller widths and more curves, winding down from the

wilderness boundary, could reduce the amount of time that visitors are in view of others and promote a sense of arrival. The interpretive panels would be removed and relocated outside of designated wilderness.

The monument would maintain the two viewing platforms, preserving both their size and character for visitors to enjoy the views of Rainbow Falls. The monument would also maintain safe visitor access to the river at the base of Rainbow Falls, but would seek to remove the rock and concrete stairs, if feasible.

### ***Boundary Modification***

No boundary modification would occur.

## **ALTERNATIVE C (CONNECTING PEOPLE TO NATURE AND HERITAGE), THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE,**

Alternative C, the Preferred Alternative, emphasizes key features with national significance for resource protection and connecting visitors with nature and heritage, including traditional park experiences in a wild setting. The monument would be managed as a gateway to a greater wilderness and additional emphasis would be placed on connections and partnerships with the Inyo National Forest and the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

### ***Mammoth Lakes***

The monument would enhance its presence in the Town of Mammoth Lakes, preferably by expanding its current co-location arrangement with and leasing additional space from the Inyo National Forest on their Mammoth Lakes campus. Expanded NPS presence in the Town of Mammoth Lakes would support additional visitor services, enabling the monument to reach a wider range of visitors and members of the community, improving accessibility, and providing additional outdoor exhibits that could reach new audiences, including winter visitors to Mammoth Lakes. This area would also be a more appropriate location to include interpretive and educational exhibits that use new technology, such as television and computers, as opposed to the valley where the desire is to maintain a more traditional park experience in a rustic setting and the remote location makes it difficult to maintain reliable technological infrastructure, such as phone and internet access. Expanded co-location could also enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the interagency collaboration that has characterized the relationship between Devils Postpile NM and the Inyo National Forest.

### ***Devils Postpile NM Developed Area***

The NPS would complete a comprehensive site design or development concept plan for the campground and day use area, including the visitor contact/ranger station, parking areas, and administrative area.

The monument would retain the visitor contact/ranger station in the valley and improve the surrounding areas to enhance visitor services and circulation. The ranger station deck would be expanded, and a service window potentially added, to provide improved accessibility and additional outdoor space for interpretation and ranger contacts. The shuttle bus stop and parking area would be redesigned to improve parking and circulation for shuttle buses, cars and pedestrians.

The monument would maintain an overnight campground in the valley while redesigning a portion of the campground and day use area to improve riverfront access for all visitors. The campsites in Loop B, immediately adjacent to the river, would be removed. Loop B would be redesigned to accommodate walk-in users only.

The monument operations area would provide staff housing, administrative space, and other essential operational functions with an overall goal of minimizing visual and audible impacts associated with park operations. To the extent possible, staff housing would be provided in the Town of Mammoth Lakes; however, a minimum overnight staff presence would still be maintained in the operations area. Maintenance functions would be moved to a different location to reduce the impacts on visitor experience and resident staff. With a goal of increasing operational efficiency and collaboration between the agencies, the NPS would partner with the USFS to explore replacement of the monument's current deficient maintenance shop with a small interagency, multi-purpose facility outside of the monument, potentially in the vicinity of the Pumice Flat or other locations provided those areas are relatively level, outside of the



Ranger Station in winter, NPS Photo

floodplain, and preferably centrally located within the valley.

Once the new facility was constructed, the current maintenance shop in the monument would be removed. Structures visible from Devils Postpile trail that are not needed for essential NPS operations would also be removed to improve the visual quality of the area.

### ***Rainbow Falls***

The monument would strive to enhance the wilderness qualities at Rainbow Falls, promoting a greater sense of discovery and an introductory wilderness experience for visitors to the area. Several modifications to visitor infrastructure and facilities in the area would help improve the undeveloped character of wilderness. The monument would generally maintain the alignment of the main trail to Rainbow Falls to continue to allow for the current volume of visitors. However, the monument would explore redesigning the main trail from the wilderness boundary to the viewing platforms in a manner that is more consistent with wilderness character and promotes a sense of discovery and arrival to Rainbow Falls. The monument would maintain the two viewing platforms, preserving both their size and character, and also maintain safe visitor access to the river at the base of Rainbow Falls.

The interpretive panels at Rainbow Falls would be removed and relocated outside of designated wilderness. If possible, they would be relocated to the Boundary Creek trail junction. The stock trail would be realigned where necessary to separate pedestrian and stock use and reduce impacts to the visitor experience.

### ***Boundary Modification***

The NPS would seek a minor boundary adjustment to the monument that would include the main trail corridor connecting Devils Postpile and Rainbow Falls, for the purpose of simplifying and consolidating management of this high-use trail and incorporating the entire stretch of the river between the northern and southern boundaries of the monument. Additional areas of the Postpile geologic formation would also be included.

The monument would continue to provide access on trails within this area as they are part of an extensive trail network that supports popular visitor opportunities and provides important access to a larger landscape and recreation experience beyond the monument. The monument would also strive to maintain the John Muir Trailhead parking lot which provides an efficient access point to this popular area. (See *Appendix B: Proposed Adjustment to the Devils Postpile National Monument Boundary*).

## **Environmental Consequences**

The potential effects of the three alternatives are analyzed for impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. This analysis is the basis for comparing the advantages and disadvantages of the alternatives. **Chapter Five: Environmental Consequences** of the Draft GMP/EA provides detailed analysis of impacts related to natural and cultural resources, wilderness character, visitor opportunities, the socioeconomic environment, and monument operations.



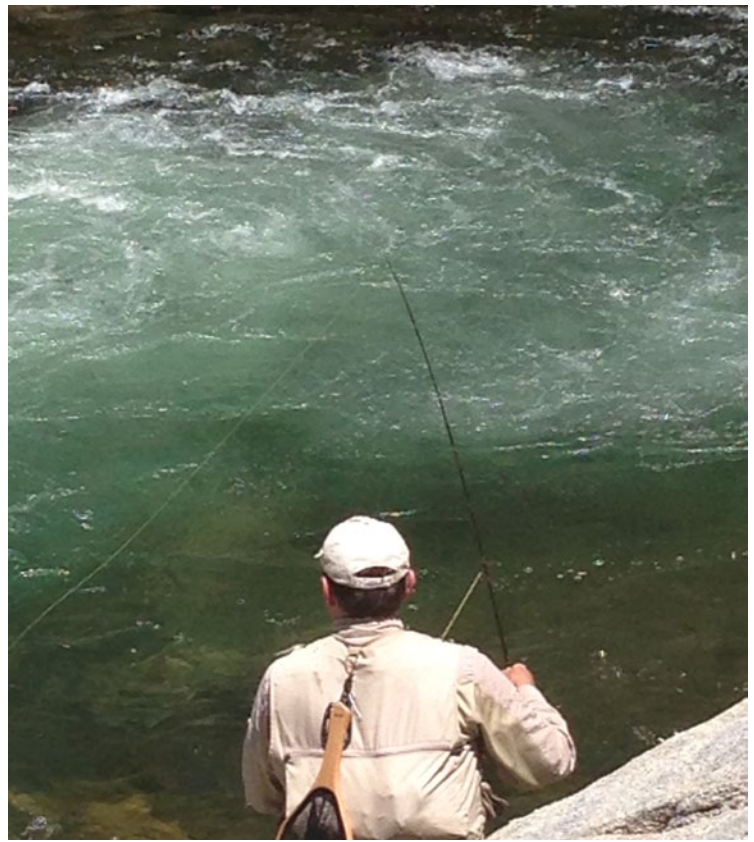
Soda Springs, NPS Photo

### **ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE ALTERNATIVE**

The environmentally preferable alternative is defined as “the alternative that will promote national environmental policy as expressed in Section 101 of the National Environmental Policy Act.” The environmentally preferable alternative for Devils Postpile National Monument is alternative C: Connecting People to Nature and Heritage, the NPS preferred alternative. This alternative best satisfies the national environmental goals by providing the highest level of protection of natural and cultural resources while concurrently providing for a wide range of neutral and beneficial uses of the environment. This alternative maintains an environment that supports a diversity and variety of individual choices, and it integrates resource protection with an appropriate range of visitor uses and understanding. Additional discussion of the environmentally preferable alternative can be found in **Chapter Three: Alternatives of the Draft GMP/EA**.

## Implementation

Once the general management planning process is completed, the selected alternative would become the new management plan for Devils Postpile National Monument and would be implemented in phases over the next couple of decades. Implementation of the actions and developments proposed within this management plan is dependent upon funding available at the time of need. The approval of this general management plan does not guarantee that the funding and staffing needed to implement the plan would be forthcoming. Instead, the plan establishes a vision of the future that will guide future management of the monument. In addition to funding, the implementation of any preferred alternative could be affected by other factors. More detailed planning, environmental documentation, and studies could be required before most conditions proposed in the alternatives are achieved. Additionally, all of the alternatives were developed on the assumption that certain mitigating actions would be incorporated into the proposed actions in order to reduce the degree of adverse impacts.



Flyfishing in the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River, NPS Photo



Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River in the fall, NPS Photo

## How to Comment on the Draft General Management Plan

This Draft General Management Plan / Environmental Assessment has been distributed to other agencies and interested organizations and individuals for their review and comment. The public comment period for this document will last for approximately 60 days. Please submit comments by **September 30, 2014**.

This document is available online at the NPS Planning and Public Comment System website at:

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

An online public comment form is provided at this website.

Hard copies of the complete document are available upon request. Please see the contact information provided on the right side of this page.

For further information or to send written letters or comment forms on this draft plan, contact or write:

Deanna Dulen, Superintendent  
Devils Postpile National Monument  
Attn: General Management Plan Team  
P.O. Box 3999  
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that the NPS practice is to make comments, including the names and addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that their address be withheld from the planning record, which will be honored to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which a respondent's identity would be withheld from the record, as allowable by law. To have your name and/or address withheld state this prominently at the beginning of the comment.



### Contact Information

#### Mail:

Devils Postpile NM GMP  
P.O. Box 3999  
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

#### Phone:

Deanna Dulen, Superintendent  
Devils Postpile National Monument  
Phone: 760-924-5505

Amanda Kaplan, Project Manager  
Pacific West Regional Office  
Phone: 206-220-4150

#### GMP Project Web Site:

*For current information and to provide comments directly online:*  
<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/depo>

#### Park Web Site:

*For general information about the park:*  
<http://www.nps.gov/depo>

**E-mail:** [depo\\_gmp@nps.gov](mailto:depo_gmp@nps.gov)



Superintendent  
Devils Postpile NM  
P.O. Box 3999  
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

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## DEVILS POSTPILE NATIONAL MONUMENT

Draft General Management Plan / Environmental Assessment  
Newsletter #4, August 2014

### Public Open House

Please join us for a public open house to learn more about the GMP and share your feedback and comments:

**Location:**  
Mammoth Lakes Library  
400 Sierra Park Rd  
Mammoth Lakes, CA

**Date:**  
Wednesday  
August 20, 2014

**Time:**  
3:00 - 6:00 pm

**GMP Website:**  
For the most current information and to provide comments directly online:  
<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/depo>

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## General Management Plan Schedule

Estimated Time Frame	Planning Activity	Public Involvement Opportunities
Summer 2009	<b>Conduct Public Scoping</b> Identify goals and issues that need to be addressed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Review newsletter</li><li>Send us your ideas and concerns using the response form</li><li>Participate in public workshops and voice your ideas and concerns about the future of the monument and meet the planning team</li></ul>
2010	<b>Develop Preliminary Alternatives</b> Based on results of public scoping, develop a draft outline of different possible futures and strategies for the monument.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Review public scoping comment newsletter</li><li>Send us your ideas and concerns using the response form</li><li>Participate in public workshops and voice your ideas and concerns about the future of the monument and meet the planning team</li></ul>
2011	<b>Public Review of Preliminary Alternatives</b> Solicit comments on preliminary alternative visions for the monument's future from the public, monument partners, government agencies, and other stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Review preliminary alternatives newsletter</li><li>Send us your written comments on the range of alternatives</li><li>Participate in public workshops to learn more about proposed draft alternatives</li></ul>
2014	<b>Prepare and Distribute Draft GMP/EA</b> Revise alternatives based on comments. Prepare and distribute a Draft GMP/EA, including identification of a preferred alternative.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Review Draft GMP/EA or summary newsletter</li><li>Send us your written comments on the Draft GMP/EA</li><li>Participate in public workshops and voice your opinions</li></ul>
2015	<b>Prepare and Distribute a Finding of No Significant Impact and Implement the Approved Plan</b> Prepare a Finding of No Significant Impact and implement the plan as funding allows.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Work with the monument to implement the plan</li></ul>

We are currently at this step