

Your Participation

Public participation is an important part of the planning process. Public scoping is the first opportunity for public input in the development of an environmental impact statement. Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site is requesting your comments, concerns, and ideas regarding preparation of the Archeological Resources Management Plan. The following provides the schedule and locations of the public meetings:

August 13, 2014:

Three Affiliated Tribes Museum
2-4 p.m. CST Elder's Meeting
6-8 p.m. CST Public Meeting

August 14, 2014:

Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site
Visitor Center
6-8 p.m. CST Public Meeting

There are many ways to provide your contact information, comment, or receive information. Check <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/knri> for updates on the planning process, public meetings, and for other opportunities to participate in the process.

- Write your comments and drop them off at the Visitor Center Desk
- Enter your comments on the website <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/knri>
- Mail your comments to:
Superintendent
Knife River Indian Villages NHS
PO Box 9
Stanton, ND 58571
- Call the park and add your information to our contact list: 701.745.3300
- Email comments to knri_superintendent@nps.gov
- Attend and share your thoughts at the public meetings on August 13th and 14th, 2014.

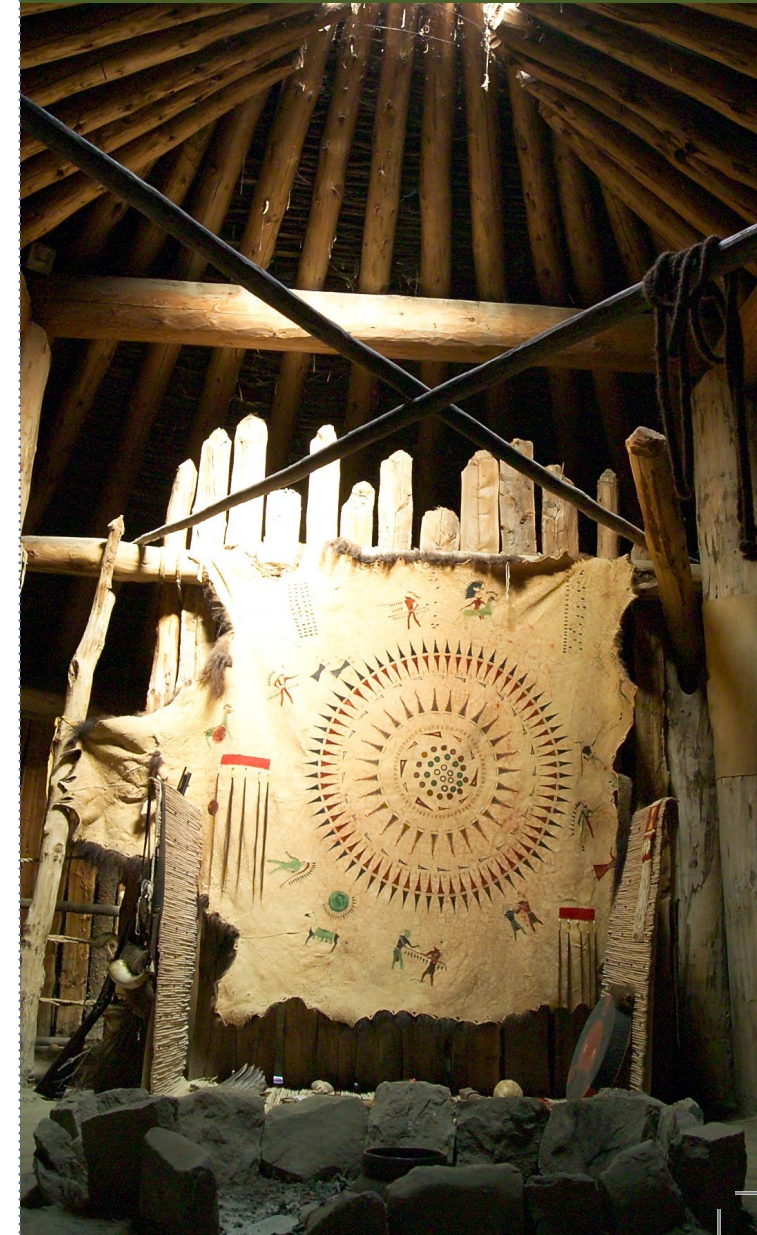
Knife River Indian Villages NHS
PO Box 9
Stanton, ND 58571



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site Archeological Resources Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement





Background

Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site is developing an Archeological Resources Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement. This plan will address continuous threats to the park's primary resources.

Plan Purpose

Provide a framework for proactive, sustainable archeological resource management while allowing natural processes to continue.

Plan Need

Archeological resources are threatened by river bank erosion, vegetation, burrowing mammals, facility placement and other impacts. Managers need a suite of management actions to address threats to the park's primary resources. These actions should:

- Maximize archeological resource preservation, while allowing natural processes to the extent possible.
- Allow for management that adjusts to the resource condition with an appropriate response mechanism.
- Provide for visitor use, education, and research opportunities.

Plan Objectives

- Preserve archeological sites in an undisturbed condition unless it is determined through an informed decision-making process that disturbance or natural deterioration is unavoidable.
- Improve preservation and storage of archeological resources in the museum collection.
- Promote tribal involvement in archeological resource management and decision making.
- Foster tribal collaboration in preservation, research, and interpretation of archeological resources.
- Develop archeological resource interpretation and research opportunities to expand knowledge of Northern Plains tribal history, culture, and ways of life.

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Management of the park's archeological resources would continue as currently implemented and be primarily reactionary to the threats acting on park resources.

Alternative 2

No new management actions would be taken to prevent current threats. Park staff would focus on monitoring and identifying archeological sites that are being impacted and archeological recovery and mitigation would be implemented based on site importance.

Alternative 3

Management intervention to address impacts from threats would be targeted at archeological sites with the greatest importance. Techniques causing the fewest impacts to natural resources and incorporating low-impact bioengineering techniques would be used.

Alternative 4

Management actions would be focused on maximizing in-place protection of sites using a broader range of techniques that may impact natural resources. Financial resources would first be applied to high priority archeological sites; management intervention could be taken at moderate and low priority sites to address threats to resources.

Alternative 5

Management actions would be focused on maximizing in-place protection using a broader range of techniques that may impact natural resources. Management intervention to address impacts from riverbank erosion, burrowing mammals, or woody vegetation encroachment would be targeted to the sites with the greatest importance.

The NEPA Process

August - September 2014

Public Scoping Period

- Identify purpose of and need for action and the scope of the plan
- Identify specific problems, issues, opportunities the plan would resolve
- Identify preliminary alternative concepts
- Hold public meetings and comment period to gather information and feedback
- Public scoping period concludes September 30, 2014
- NPS reviews public scoping comments

WE
ARE
HERE

Fall 2015

Draft Plan/EIS Preparation and Public Review

- Refine and describe alternatives carried forward for analysis
- Document alternatives considered but dismissed from further study
- Describe existing conditions of resources that may be affected by the alternatives
- Analyze the environmental impacts of each alternative
- Release Draft Archeological Resources Management Plan/EIS for a minimum 45-day public review
- Hold public meetings on Draft Plan/EIS

Fall 2016

Final Plan/EIS and Decision Document

- Respond to substantive public comments received on the Draft Plan/EIS
- Document decision including mitigation commitments in a Record of Decision (ROD)
- Notify public of the availability of the Final Plan/EIS and ROD