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National Park Service News Release

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Topaz Museum and National Park Service to Host Open House Meetings to Share Proposed Topaz Museum Exhibit Text

NOVEMBER 25, 2015 – Exhibit text on the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II at the Topaz site in Utah will be available for public view and comment at open house meetings in San Francisco and Salt Lake City during the week of December 13. These meetings will provide the public an opportunity to comment before the final exhibit text is completed and installed at the Topaz Museum in Delta, Utah.

The exhibit text incorporates comments already received through a review process that involved the Topaz Museum Board, the National Park Service, Japanese American community stakeholders in California, and a distinguished four-person Advisory Team headed by Dr. Franklin Odo, John Jay McCloy Visiting Professor of American Institutions and International Diplomacy, Amherst College; Dr. Cherstin Lyon, Associate Professor of History at California State University, San Bernardino; Dr. Greg Robinson, Professor of History at Université du Québec À Montréal; and Nancy K. Araki, founding volunteer and first staff member of the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles.

The following open house meetings will be held:

San Francisco, CA

Date: Sunday, Dec. 13, 2015

Time: 1-5 p.m.

Place: Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC)

1840 Sutter Street

San Francisco, CA 94115

Salt Lake City, UT

Date: Saturday, Dec. 19, 2015

Time: 1-5 p.m.

Place: Salt Lake Buddhist Temple

211 West 100 South Salt Lake City, UT 84101

The exhibit text can be found on the NPS-PEPC website at:

http://parkplanning.nps.gov/topazexhibits. The comment period will open on Sunday, December 13, and close on Monday, December 28, 2015. Comments can be submitted electronically on the NPS-PEPC website or, by mail to: National Park Service, Attn: Kara Miyagishima, 12795 W.

Alameda Parkway, Lakewood, CO 80228.

The Topaz Museum Board received a Japanese American Confinement Sites grant from the National Park Service in June 2014 to design, manufacture and install the exhibits for the Topaz Museum, located in Delta, Utah. Sarah Bartlett is the exhibit text writer and works for Split Rock Studios.

The Topaz Museum is located in Delta, Utah, 16 miles from the Topaz site where more than 11,000 Japanese Americans were incarcerated during World War II. The Topaz Museum Board owns 634 acres of the site, which was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2007. Japanese American Confinement Sites grants are awarded to private, non-profit organizations; educational institutions; state, local, and tribal governments; and other public entities to preserve and interpret U.S. confinement sites where Japanese Americans were incarcerated during World War II.

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