

The National Park Service (NPS) is preparing a comprehensive plan and environmental assessment (EA) for the Tower-Roosevelt developed area, including the Yancey's Hole cookout site, and the Lamar River bridge. The purpose for comprehensive planning for the area is to determine the limits of acceptable change to address a variety of needs and conditions warranting action and to provide park managers with a framework for future decision and action.

Several changes have been proposed in the Tower-Roosevelt area to better serve visitors and accommodate necessary operations. Emergency response, maintenance facilities, and the ranger station/ backcountry office are too small to provide future adequate space for employees and efficient services for visitors. The park proposes improvement of corral operations as well as housing needs for both NPS and concessioner employees. This comprehensive plan and environmental assessment will address the limits of acceptable change for these facilities.

Circulation for vehicles, pedestrians, and horses can be confusing and congested throughout the Tower-Roosevelt area. Parking in front of Roosevelt Lodge lacks adequate design. Therefore, the plan will address circulation and parking. In addition, the Lamar River Bridge is deteriorating and requires replacement or rehabilitation in order to maintain travel from Tower Junction to the Lamar Valley and the Northeast Entrance.

An early step in the National Park Service planning process is to involve the public. We are soliciting your comments on the issues and alternatives to be addressed in the plan and environmental assessment being prepared for this project.

It is the practice of the NPS to make all comments, including names and addresses of respondents who provide that information, available for public review following the conclusion of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Individuals may request that the NPS withhold their name and/or address from public disclosure. If you wish to do this, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. Commentors using the website can make such a request by checking the box "keep my contact information private." NPS will honor such requests to the extent allowable by law, but you should be aware that NPS may still be required to disclose your name and address pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act.