

## **Boxley Valley Comprehensive Area Plan/Environmental Assessment**

Dear Friends,

The National Park Service (NPS) is pleased to inform you that Buffalo National River has completed the Boxley Valley Draft Comprehensive Area Plan and Environmental Assessment (draft plan) and it is available for public review. Many of the management actions and strategies noted in the draft plan are a reflection of public feedback that we received during initial public outreach efforts in 2016 and 2017.

At this stage, we have identified a preferred alternative and analyzed impacts of possible management strategies and actions from a variety of interdisciplinary viewpoints in the draft plan. The preferred alternative provides an overall vision for the future of the Boxley Valley area that responds to changing visitation preferences, improves the overall visitor experience, protects cultural and natural resources, and addresses visitor safety concerns. The plan would guide park management decisions in the area by identifying desired conditions for natural and cultural resources, defining appropriate types and kinds of visitor use at key locations in the valley, and proposing appropriate facility and infrastructure to support those uses. Improvements to the visitor experience would occur through a variety of expanded interpretation and educational programs and additional visitor amenities and facilities.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for your continued interest and involvement in this planning process. I encourage you to review the draft plan, consider attending one of our public meetings, and provide input during the 30-day public review period. We appreciate your support in helping protect and provide for the enjoyment of the Boxley Valley for current and future generations.

Sincerely,

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Mark Foust Superintendent



The National Park Service is asking for public feedback on the preliminary proposed action. Public meetings will be held to present the plan, gather comments, and respond to questions. Please join us by:

- Attending a public meeting
- Reviewing the plan and submitting your comments electronically at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/buff\_boxleycap

For questions or to request accommodations, please contact the park at buff\_superintendent@nps.gov or 870-365-2732. The public review and comment period is open through March 30, 2020.

**Public Meetings** Tuesday, March 3, 2020

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Boxley Valley Community Center 4699 AR-43 Ponca, AR 72670

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Jasper High School 600 School Street Jasper, Arkansas 72641

National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior



## **Project Study Area**

