



IN REPLY REFER TO:

# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Ozark National Scenic Riverways  
404 Watercress Drive  
P.O. Box 490  
Van Buren, Missouri 63965

April 8, 2009

Greetings:

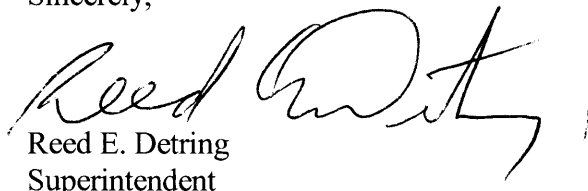
The National Park Service (NPS) seeks your review and comments on the "Environmental Assessment for Chilton Creek Area Boat Ramp and Parking." Attached you will find a summary of the proposed actions associated with this environmental assessment (EA). A full copy of the EA, which analyzes the impacts associated with two action alternatives and one no-action alternative at the Chilton Creek Area Boat Ramp and Parking, can be viewed at the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) site at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>, or may be requested from Ozark National Scenic Riverways, Attn: Chilton Creek EA, P.O. Box 490, Van Buren, MO 63965, or by calling (573) 323-4236.

We are seeking public and agency comments on this environmental assessment from April 10, 2009 through May 9, 2009. **Comments must be received no later than May 9, 2009 and may be submitted by any of three methods:**

1. Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website (select Ozark National Scenic Riverways from the dropdown menu): <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>
2. Mail to Ozark National Scenic Riverways headquarters: Superintendent, Ozark National Scenic Riverways, Attn: Chilton Creek EA, P.O. Box 490, Van Buren, MO 63965
3. Electronic mail to Ozark National Scenic Riverways headquarters:  
[OZAR\\_superintendent@nps.gov](mailto:OZAR_superintendent@nps.gov)

Thank you for your time and consideration, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Reed E. Detring  
Superintendent

Enclosure

## SUMMARY

The National Park Service (NPS), Ozark National Scenic Riverways (ONSR), is proposing actions in the Chilton Creek area of the Current River located in Carter County. The purpose of the proposed actions is to:

- Provide a safe and maintainable boat ramp that preserves an existing and traditional use for this area of the river (relocating the ramp site at Waymeyer Landing or constructing an alternative ramp at another location within the vicinity of Chilton Creek area) for motorboat access.
- Provide clearly delineated and designated/hardened parking spaces for a number of day-use visitors who arrive in their private vehicles. Spaces shall accommodate standard vehicles with a boat trailer.
- Provide adequate signing to clarify and define 'use patterns'. Possible examples of signing might include: identifying temporary loading/drop-off zone; delineating canoe storage areas for concessions; posting non-commercial 'day-use' parking spaces for both single vehicles and boat trailers.
- Reduce or eliminate resource impacts that currently exist at the site.
- Reduce visitor use conflicts and congestions, and enhance visitor experiences.
- Improve visitor safety at the site.

This document discusses alternatives designed to achieve the following needs:

- Reestablish a safe and maintainable motorboat access to the project area damaged by the flood.
- Address site conditions concerning visitor safety, reduce the potential for visitor use conflicts and congestion at the site, and to enhance the potential for a variety of visitor experiences.

As a result of the public and internal scoping process, the no-action alternative and two action alternatives for addressing the purpose and need were selected for analysis in this EA. Each of the alternatives has been analyzed independently. The alternatives that have been evaluated are:

**Alternative A** – No action

**Alternative B** – Restore previously existing boat launch access ramp at Waymeyer Landing –separate from the floater launch area, construct separate access road, establish/define use patterns providing additional signing and designated parking for 10 private vehicles with boat trailers and 8 cars.

**Alternative C (Preferred)**– Restore the previously existing boat launch access in the Chilton Creek area by relocating the boat ramp to a separate site along a segment of Current River upstream from Waymeyer Landing (approximately 1.1 mile), and provide access and parking for 10 boat trailers. Maintain existing facilities at Waymeyer Landing to serve visitor floater access (canoes, tubes, kayaks, rafts), providing additional signing and designated parking for 10-14 vehicles.