



United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site
P.O. Box 150
Ganado, Arizona 86505



July 28, 2009

Dear Friend of Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site:

The National Park Service (NPS) proposes to construct a pedestrian trail at Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site (park) that connects to an existing trail situated on either side of the park boundary on adjacent lands. Currently, there is no trail connection through the park, so trail users must stop at the park boundary or cut through the park on informal routes. By creating this trail connection, NPS hopes to improve recreational and educational opportunities both in the park and for the community.

The proposed pedestrian trail would be approximately one-half mile in length, and would be situated alongside the southern bank of the Pueblo Colorado Wash. The trail would be designed to minimize impacts to natural and cultural resources, and would offer the visitor varied terrain, opportunities for views, and a longer route that continues onto adjacent lands. Safety and handicapped accessibility considerations would be an important element in designing the proposed trail. The trail surface treatment would consist of natural materials (no pavement or concrete). Waysides, an observation deck, signage, and additional separate trails to the hogan and along the boundary fence in the park are also being considered as part of this project.

An Environmental Assessment for constructing a well-designed and sustainable trail connection will be prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to provide the decision-making framework that 1) explores a reasonable range of alternatives to meet project objectives, 2) evaluates potential issues and impacts to park resources and values, and 3) identifies mitigation measures to lessen the degree or extent of these impacts.

The National Park Service encourages public participation throughout the NEPA process during which the public has two opportunities to formally comment on the project; once during initial project scoping and again following release of the Environmental Assessment. We are currently in the scoping phase of this project, and invite you to submit your written comments online at the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/hutr>.

If you are not able to submit comments electronically through this website, then you may also submit written comments to me at the address on the letterhead. Please provide all comments by August 26, 2002. These comments will be considered during preparation of the Environmental Assessment. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Anne Worthington

Anne Worthington
Superintendent