



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Apostle Islands
National Lakeshore

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Apostle Islands News Release

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NPS Seeks Input on Treatment Options for Historic Light Stations

The National Park Service has released a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for lighthouse preservation efforts at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. The EA relates to projects at historic light stations at Michigan, Sand, Devils, Outer, and Long islands.

The public is invited to provide comments on the draft document by April 29, 2011. These comments will be analyzed and used to inform a historic structures and cultural landscape report (HSR/CLR) currently under development for each of the five light stations. The combined HSR/CLR will guide preservation treatments at the light stations for the next 5-15 years.

The EA analyzes three proposed alternatives for rehabilitation of historic structures and landscapes at the light stations. Typical treatments for all of the alternatives include repairing structural features such as windows, roofs, and ventilation; removing hazardous materials; and removing trees and tall shrubs that have encroached into once-cleared areas. The NPS preferred alternative would allow for repairs, alterations and additions to preserve the historical character of the light stations as well as rehabilitating individual historic structures to improve visitor access and use.

The preferred alternative identifies the "desired future condition" of the five light stations considering their historical significance, location, feasibility of visitor access, and existing

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condition. Funding provided by Congress in the 2009 and 2010 federal budgets for lighthouse restoration at the Apostle Islands has been used to do this planning and is expected to facilitate the highest priority work identified in the preferred alternative to be completed in the next few years.

Information on the planning process and links to electronic copies of the document can be found at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/apis>. A limited number of copies are also available at the park's visitor center in Bayfield and the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center in Ashland as well as at public libraries in Bayfield, Washburn and Ashland.

The National Park Service also invites the public to attend an open house to learn more about the proposed treatment options, ask questions, and provide informal input. The open house is scheduled from 4 pm to 7 pm on Tuesday April 12, 2011 at the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore Headquarters located at 415 Washington Avenue in Bayfield. The public will have an opportunity to review proposal drawings and engage in informal discussion about the project with park staff.

Formal comments will be accepted electronically and via US mail at:

<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/apis>

or

Apostle Islands National Lakeshore
Attn: CLR/HSR
415 Washington Avenue
Bayfield, WI 54814.

For additional information about the planning process please check the park's website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/apis>.

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