



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cumberland Island National Seashore
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Cumberland Island National Seashore Releases Draft Environmental Assessment for Transportation Management Plan

ST. MARYS, Ga. – Cumberland Island National Seashore Acting Superintendent Charles E. Fenwick today announced release of the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Park's North End Access and Transportation Management Plan. The National Park Service (NPS) developed the plan as required by Public Law 108-447, enacted by Congress in December 2004. The draft document evaluates several alternative courses of action and potential environmental impacts.

Known as the Cumberland Island Wilderness Boundary Adjustment Act, the legislation directed the NPS to “complete a management plan to ensure that not more than 8 and not less than 5 round trips are made available daily on the Main Road north of the Plum Orchard Spur and the North Cut Road... for the purpose of transporting visitors to and from the historic sites located adjacent to Wilderness.” The law excluded the island's Main Road, Plum Orchard Spur, and North Cut Road from Wilderness designation. In addition to the legislated requirements, the plan addresses visitor transportation over the entire island including the primary visitor use areas on the south end.

The document will be available for public review and comment from September 10 through October 15, 2008. The public can access and submit comments on the draft EA online through the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/cuis>. Additionally, hardcopies of the draft EA are available for public review at the following locations:

- Camden County Public Library, 1410 Georgia Highway 40E, Kingsland, Ga.
- St. Marys Public Library, 101 Herb Bauer Dr., St. Marys, Ga.
- Fernandina Public Library, 25 N. 4th Street, Fernandina Beach, Fla.
- Sea Camp Ranger Station, Cumberland Island, Ga.
- CUIS Visitors Center, 113 St. Marys Street, St. Marys, Ga.
- CUIS Headquarters, 101 Wheeler Street, St. Marys, Ga.
- National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 100 Alabama Street, 1924 Building, Atlanta, Ga.
- Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site, 450 Auburn Avenue, NE Atlanta, Ga.
- Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, 1978 Island Ford Parkway, Atlanta, Ga.
- Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, 905 Kennesaw Mountain Drive, Kennesaw, Ga.

The public may send comments electronically through the PEPC website or directly by e-mail to CUIS_Transportation@nps.gov. Written comments may also be sent via U.S. Mail and should be addressed to: Superintendent, Cumberland Island National Seashore, P.O. Box 806, St. Marys, GA 31558. Comments on the EA must be delivered or postmarked no later than October 15, 2008. Comments will not receive individualized, direct responses.

The NPS will also host three public meetings for the draft EA at the following dates, times and locations:

- Tuesday, September 23, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site (MLK) Visitor Center, 450 Auburn Avenue, NE, Atlanta.
- Wednesday, September 24, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site's historic fire station, at the corner of Auburn Avenue and Boulevard, Atlanta.
- Tuesday, September 30, 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the community room of the Camden County Public Library, 1410 Highway 40 East, Kingsland, Ga.

The public meetings will be conducted as open houses. An overview of the plan will be presented repeatedly throughout the meetings and attendees will be encouraged to learn more from information stations and ask questions of NPS staff. The public meetings will also offer the public the opportunity to submit written comments.

Acting Superintendent Fenwick said, "We understand and appreciate that the public has a great interest in the development of this plan. Public involvement is welcomed and is really critical to the success of planning efforts for the future of Cumberland Island National Seashore."

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