

THE
FUTURE
OF
AMERICA'S
NATIONAL
PARKS

First Annual
Centennial Strategy for

Minidoka Internment National Monument

August 2007

CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE



Site: MIIN

Year: 2007

Vision Statement

Minidoka Internment National Monument was authorized by Presidential Proclamation 7395, on January 17, 2001. This new 73-acre national monument underscores the strong national interest in the importance of preserving and interpreting historical World War II events. The site will commemorate the Japanese American internment story, the living conditions of its residents, and the hardships they endured. Stories will be interpreted and hands-on experiences will be provided through a variety of formats and media that recreate the living conditions of the internees and the hardships they endured. Minidoka will serve as a forum on issues related to Civil Liberties and Constitutional Rights.

The resources at Minidoka are historical features, such as the barracks buildings; and, the first person accounts of those that lived the experiences. Sixty-five years later, with the passing of time, the historical fabric, the first person accounts, and the historical context are rapidly disappearing.

The vision for Minidoka is to preserve the cultural resources for future generations by capturing the stories, and acquiring historical building and returning them to the site. The broad goal is to provide visitors with powerful experiences that depict this dark chapter of American history as accurately and completely as possible.

Over the next decade, bringing Minidoka Internment National Monument on-line to provide basic visitor services, and protect and preserve the historic resources will be the primary focus. Partnerships with various institutions, communities, organizations, Manzanar National Historic Site, and other confinement sites will share in the restoration and remembrance.

There is a memorial site on Bainbridge Island, Washington, where the first Nikkei (Japanese lineage) were forcibly removed in 1942. The name of that memorial is "Nidoto Nai Yoni", which translates as "Let it not happen again".

Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager

Neil King, MIIN Superintendent

Site: MIIN

STEWARDSHIP

- Provide inspiring, safe, and accessible places for people to enjoy - the standard to which all other park systems aspire.
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Under an approved Agreement, the Friends of Minidoka are undertaking fund raising, design and construction of the Issei Memorial. NPS share will be to provide the infrastructure for parking, restrooms, and trail head.

A complete barracks block will be reestablished in an original barracks block location utilizing historic buildings returned to the site. The barracks block will provide a wide variety of visitor experiences as well as adaptive administrative use. These visitor experiences will include immersion into the historic scene, seeing and experiencing the internee's daily living conditions and historic landscape firsthand, and learning about the interpretive themes through a variety of interactive media. All 600 of the buildings were moved when the camp was closed, and many still exist and are available.

Develop a Comprehensive Interpretive Plan which incorporates the National Park Service messaging precepts, good visitor information and instructions, and incorporates universal interpretive and accessibility.

- The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: MIIN

STEWARDSHIP

Improve the condition of park resources and assets.

Restore native habitats by controlling invasive species and reintroducing key plant and animal species.

Create opportunities for friends groups, partners and local organizations to 'adopt' a garden area and return it to its World War II condition.

Develop a Trail Plan for Minidoka Internment National Monument, which incorporates multi-use and accessibility parameters on 100% of the trail system.

Develop a Weed Management Plan through partnership with the Upper Columbia Basin Network Inventory and Monitor charter, the Exotic Plant Management Team and the County Weed Management Association - Idaho.

Eradicate Russian Olive within a 3-5 year span. Determine and implement restoration procedures per the Cultural Landscape Report.

Develop and implement timetable and fund request for additional grounds restoration of native species as identified in the Cultural Landscape Report based on a 3-5 year period.

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Site: MIIN

STEWARDSHIP

Assure that no compelling chapter in the American heritage experience remains untold and that strategically important landscapes are acquired, as authorized by Congress.

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Pursue legislative authority to acquire the Farm-In-A-Day, Bureau of Reclamation, and Bureau of Land Management properties as approved in the GMP.

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Site: MIIN

STEWARDSHIP

Encourage children to be future conservationists.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Develop educational programs that address conservation issues for the area of Minidoka Internment National Monument, spanning between the time of internment to the present day agricultural area.

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Site: MIIN

ENVIRONMENT

Reduce environmental impacts of park operations.

Reduce the environmental impacts of park operations on air and water quality.

Minidoka Internment National Monument will initiate recycling by adopting and participating in Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument recycling program, thereby reducing waste disposal that could result in degraded air and water quality. In addition to recycling common solid wastes such as paper and plastics, the park will recycle batteries, expended electronic devices, Universal Waste fluorescent lamps, and other potentially harmful wastes, as markets for such recycled materials become available. To reduce its energy usage by installing energy efficient lighting appropriate to the specific lighting tasks of each building, work area, and visitor facility. Minidoka Internment National Monument will build a fleet of hybrid-technology and other types of fuel-efficient vehicles, thus reducing its generation of greenhouse gases and air pollutants.

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Site: MIIN

ENVIRONMENT

Inspire an environmental conscience in Americans.

Establish programs to showcase exemplary environmental practices and increase visitor awareness of how the practices apply to their daily lives, as measured by surveys.

Minidoka Internment National Monument will develop programs to demonstrate to our visitors and local communities the environmentally friendly practices that are incorporated into our park operations, such as the use of fuel efficient vehicles, a robust recycling program, and our multi-park Environmental Management System to integrate environmental goals when planning, purchasing and making operational decisions.

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Site: MIIN

ENVIRONMENT

Engage partners, communities, and visitors in shared environmental stewardship.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Develop and present a series of programs regarding the significance and importance of air quality, and incorporate the night sky programs.

Minidoka Internment National Monument will develop a program to enable members of the local community to participate in the park's recycling program.

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Site: MIIN

RECREATION

Establish "volun-tourism" excursions to national parks for volunteers to help achieve natural and cultural resource protection goals.

Increase annual volunteer hours by 100 percent, from 5.2 million hours to 10.4 million hours.

Connect with and promote elderhostel programs dealing with the Japanese style garden - creating opportunities for them to assist the monument and use their expertise.

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Site: MIIN

RECREATION

Expand partnerships with schools and boys and girls associations to show how national park experiences can improve children's lives.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Incorporate into educational programs for school groups, boys and girls clubs and youth camps the excitement, diversity and significance of the National Park System and how the National Park Service serves the American public.

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Site: MIIN

EDUCATION

Cooperate with educators to provide curriculum materials, high-quality programs, and park-based and online learning.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Develop a series of art classes to capture the beauty of Minidoka.

Develop a curriculum for grades 5-12 for Minidoka and make the curricula available on-line.

Provide teacher workshops to provide teachers with the knowledge, resources and skills to successfully interpret the Minidoka Internment National Monument stories for students.

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Site: MIIN

EDUCATION

Promote life-long learning to connect generations through park experiences.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Plan, design, fabricate and install MIIN Wayside Exhibits and self guiding trail.

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Site: MIIN

EDUCATION

Impart to every American a sense of their citizen ownership of their national parks.

Increase visitors' satisfaction, understanding, and appreciation of the parks they visit.

Develop and conduct 'oral interview' training programs for NPS employees cooperatively with MANZ and Densho to assist in capturing the important oral history stories of MIIN and other camp internees, their families, and people in the surrounding communities.

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Site: MIIN

PROFESSIONALISM

Promote a safety and health culture for all employees and visitors.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Minidoka Internment National Monument has an excellent safety record. The park will continue to refine and improve the safety program through development of a revised Safety and Emergency Operations Plan to insure safety training regimes for all employees using current and professional standard.

Develop Job Hazard Analysis sheets for consistent use by employees and volunteers. Develop procedures for notice of closures and safety related issues for our visitors.

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Site: MIIN

PROFESSIONALISM

Model what it means to work in partnership.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Maximize efficiencies in administration and management for Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument and Minidoka Internment National Monument with same staff; provide fiscal and administrative oversight to City of Rocks National Reserve; share professional staff (Curator) with City of Rocks National Reserve, Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve, Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument and Minidoka Internment National Monument.

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