



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Ozark National
Scenic Riverways

P.O. Box 490
Van Buren
Missouri 63965-0490

573-323-4236 phone
573-323-4140 fax

Ozark National Scenic Riverways News Release

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Dena Matteson 573-323-8234 ext. 21

Ozark NSR Stakeholder Workshop Report Available Online

Van Buren, MO. – On February 24-25, 2010, Ozark National Scenic Riverways (ONSR) held a stakeholder workshop for the purpose of bringing together representatives of different interest groups for some frank discussion and creative thinking about the park's future management. The information gathered at the workshop will be used, along with all the public comments received, to assist the National Park Service (NPS) as it reviews the preliminary alternatives for possible revision and selects a preferred alternative for the Draft General Management Plan (GMP). The GMP is the guiding document that will steer the management of the park for the next 20 years and more, providing direction to the current and future administrations of the park.

The stakeholder workshop was designed in order to obtain additional input on several topics. As a result of the public comments received in 2009, following the release of the Preliminary Alternatives newsletter, it became clear that additional input was needed about river access and motor boat use. The participating stakeholders were selected in order to get a diverse range of viewpoints on these issues. An independent professional facilitation firm, The Mary Orton Company, L.L.C., was hired to conduct the stakeholder workshop and prepare a summary of the proceedings.

The NPS views the workshop as a success and as a positive step toward helping prepare a draft GMP. According to Ozark Riverways Superintendent Reed Detring, "We were extremely pleased with the level of interaction in the group and the amount of enthusiasm shown by everyone. In addition to the comments collected last summer in the open house meetings, the thoughts, comments, and scenarios presented by the group at this workshop will be very helpful in developing the draft General Management Plan."

The final report for the stakeholder workshop is now available online on the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website. To access the PEPC website in order to review the report visit: www.parkplanning.nps.gov/ozar. On the "Current Projects" menu, select "General Management Plan, Wilderness Study, Environmental Impact Statement." On the next screen, select "Document List" from the menu on the left. In the "Document List" the report is titled: "Ozark National Scenic Riverways Stakeholder Workshop Report."

Ozark National Scenic Riverways preserves the free-flowing Current and Jacks Fork Rivers, the surrounding natural resources, and the unique cultural heritage of the Ozark people. For more information visit, www.nps.gov/ozar

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