



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 Draft Long Term Management Plans

The National Park Service has released a Draft General Management Plan/Wilderness Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. The public is being asked to provide comments on the draft document by October 23, 2009. After that date, the planning team will carefully consider the information received as it begins finalizing these critical plans for Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

“This document will set the direction for the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore for the next 15 to 20 years,” said park superintendent Bob Krumenaker, “so it is difficult to overstate its importance. Everyone who cares about this place should look it over carefully and share their thoughts with us.”

Information on the planning process and links to electronic copies of the document can be found www.nps.gov/apis/gmp.htm. A limited number of copies are also available at the park’s visitor centers in Bayfield and Little Sand Bay.

NPS staff will be hosting a series of open houses in local and regional communities to provide the public with opportunities to learn more about the proposed direction for the park, ask questions, and provide informal input. Formal comments will be accepted electronically and by regular mail. The schedule for open houses is currently as follows:

(more)

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Open House Schedule For Apostle Islands NL General Management Plan Meetings

Date	Location	Time
Mon, Aug 31 Red Cliff	Red Cliff Bingo Hall 88705 Highway 13 Red Cliff, WI	2:00pm- 4:00pm
Mon, Aug 31 Bayfield	Apostle Islands NL Visitor Center 415 Washington Avenue Bayfield, WI	6:00pm- 8:00pm
Tues, Sept 1 Duluth/Superior	Barkers Island Marina – Club Room 2509 Marina Drive Superior, WI	6:00pm- 8:00pm
Wed, Sept 2 Twin Cities Area	REI - Bloomington 750 West American Blvd Bloomington, MN	6:00pm- 8:00pm
Thur, Sept 3 Madison Area	The Lowell Center – Room 118 610 Langdon Street Madison, WI	6:00pm- 8:00pm
Fri, Sept 4 Out in the park!	Presque Isle Visitor Contact Station Stockton Island Apostle Islands National Lakeshore	6:00pm- 8:00pm
Tues, Sept 8 Bad River	Chief Blackbird Center Conference Room C Odanah, WI	2:00pm- 4:00pm
Tues, Sept 8 Ashland Area	Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center Near junction of Highways 2 and 13 Ashland, WI	6:00pm- 8:00pm

The document presents three alternatives for the future of the park, and compares each of these alternatives to the way the park is currently managed. The NPS preferred alternative proposes no major changes in direction for the park, since park visitors frequently comment that they are very happy with the park as it is currently managed. But it does propose tweaking or improving things here and there in order to address issues that have been identified through the planning process.¹

“We hope to see a lot of informed people from each of our diverse user groups at these meetings,” Krumenaker said. “We want the people who love this place to share their thoughts and weigh in on the park’s future.”

Questions about the planning process and the draft General Management Plan/Wilderness Management Plan may be directed to Chief of Planning and Resource Management Jim Nepstad at 715- 779- 3398, extension 102, or at jim_nepstad@nps.gov.

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¹ See the attached summary document for a description of the NPS preferred alternative