



National Park Service
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Death Valley National
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Death Valley News Release

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Record of Decision (ROD) Signed and Construction to Begin Soon on Furnace Creek Water Collection System at Death Valley National Park

Death Valley National Park superintendent James T. Reynolds announced that the record of decision (ROD) for the Reconstruction of the Furnace Creek Water Collection System has been signed by Pacific West Regional Director John Jarvis. "This signals the beginning of construction on this long awaited project, and begins a new era in water collection and resource protection in the Furnace Creek Wash," exclaims Superintendent Reynolds.

Death Valley National Park solicited input on the reconstruction of the Furnace Creek Water System project in 2005. The information gathered during this time led to a revision of the preferred alternative and included revisions based on cultural surveys conducted during the same time. The Final Environmental Impact Statement was released for a 30-day no action period in May 2006. The ROD is the final step leading to the actual project construction which is expected to begin this fall/winter (2007/2008).

"This project has taken a great deal of time to get to this point," said Superintendent Reynolds, "but when you are dealing with the most precious natural resource in Death Valley you want to do it right." The park appreciates the time and effort the planners, designers and the public put into this project. The end result will be a water collection system that will provide quality water to the residents and visitors of Death Valley National Park while providing the best protection possible to one of the few riparian zones in the park and cultural values of this particular area. For more information Final Reconstruction of the Furnace Creek Water Collection System EIS is currently available on the Planning, Environmental and Public Comment website at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/parkHome.cfm?parkID=297>. Contact can also be made with the park's Resource Management Chief, Linda Greene at 760-786-3253.

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