



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton  
National Park

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## Grand Teton National Park News Release

### Scoping Period Initiated For White Grass Ranch Rehabilitation and Adaptive Use

Grand Teton National Park Acting Superintendent Ralph Tingey announced today that the public scoping process has begun on a proposal to rehabilitate and adaptively use the White Grass Ranch as a western historic preservation training and technology center. Development and operation of the center would be accomplished through a partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The center would offer opportunities for Grand Teton and other National Park Service (NPS) employees, volunteers, visiting students, contractors and other federal agency personnel to learn how to preserve and rehabilitate historic structures in the Intermountain Region.

White Grass Ranch is located in Grand Teton National Park, three miles west of Moose, Wyoming; it consists of 11 cabins, a main lodge, and bath house. The White Grass Ranch Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in April 1990. Constructed as early as 1913, White Grass is the third oldest dude ranch in Jackson Hole. After a dude ranching heyday that ran from the 1930s to the 1950s, it permanently closed in 1985. Since that time, the buildings have deteriorated and are structurally unsafe. The NPS believes that adaptive use of White Grass Ranch as a western preservation training center will provide not only the most effective way to preserve the historic district, but also increase the ability to preserve other historic structures in the park and the region.

The NPS has developed a scoping notice that presents a timeline for the National Environmental Policy Act process, describes the project background, and identifies preliminary alternatives and resource considerations. A White Grass Ranch Rehabilitation and Adaptive Use environmental assessment (EA) will address all proposed management actions, along with their impacts on the cultural, natural, and social resources. Interested individuals, organizations or agencies are invited to provide relevant information and/or suggestions for consideration by park managers before a draft EA is written and made available for public review this summer.

Public comment on issues, alternatives, concerns and other considerations regarding this proposal will be accepted from February 18 – March 21, 2004. Copies of the scoping notice are available at the Moose Visitor Center or on the park's website at [www.nps.gov/grte/plans/planning.htm](http://www.nps.gov/grte/plans/planning.htm) . Copies are also available for review at the reference desk of the Teton County Library.

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[www.nps.gov/grte](http://www.nps.gov/grte)