

**FINAL  
GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**KEWEENAW NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK**  
Houghton County, Michigan

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Prepared in cooperation with the  
Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission

Four alternatives for future management and use of Keweenaw National Historical Park are presented and analyzed in this document. **Alternative 1**, a "no-action" alternative, presents a continuation of existing trends and management and projects these conditions into the foreseeable future, providing a basis for evaluation of the other alternatives. The National Park Service would remain primarily in a caretaker mode of operation. Most resource protection, interpretive services, and information about the historic resources and the history of copper mining on the Keweenaw Peninsula would be provided by other organizations and groups. The most significant environmental impact of implementing alternative 1 would be the potential deterioration and loss of significant structures and landscapes. **Alternative 2**, the "community assistance alternative," would place the community at the forefront of implementing preservation actions and interpretive programs at sites in the park. The National Park Service would remain in the background and play a major support role, providing a comprehensive program of technical and financial assistance to the community to help ensure success. NPS support actions would be undertaken in partnership with local governments, businesses, nonprofit groups, and other property owners. They would range from assistance with preservation ordinances, resource preservation, and preservation grants in the park to assistance with establishing and enhancing educational and interpretive programs in the park's two units and at cooperating sites. This alternative would have a positive impact on community relations, would ensure the protection and interpretation of some historic resources, and would improve the visitor experience. The resulting visitor experience might be less integrated than in a more traditional national park system unit. Also, depending on NPS funding and what the community could accomplish, some historic resources could be lost through neglect over time. Under **alternative 3**, the "traditional park in the core industrial areas" alternative, the National Park Service would establish a very visible and traditional presence in the core industrial areas in each unit. The National Park Service would lease or acquire visitor use and administrative facilities in one or more buildings in each unit. Other significant properties in the core industrial areas of the Calumet and Quincy units could be purchased and interpreted if funding and staffing levels became adequate. Higher visitation levels and longer visitor stays would be likely and would lead to increased visitor expenditures in the area, increased wear on resources, increased traffic, and spin-off commercial development. Depending on NPS funding and what the community was capable of accomplishing outside the core areas, some historic resources could be lost through neglect. **Alternative 4**, the National Park Service's preferred alternative, is actually a combination of alternative 2 and a refinement of the traditional park idea in alternative 3. Through selected acquisition and other preservation tools, the National Park Service would have a strong public presence in both park units. Through community assistance, the National Park Service would be a contributing member of a very organized and active partnership of local government and community groups. In the long term, this alternative would best realize the vision of the park's establishing legislation and provide the broadest level of resource protection, interpretation, and visitor services; it would also provide the optimum opportunity for high-quality visitor experiences.

For more information about this document, contact the superintendent, Keweenaw National Historical Park, P.O. Box 471, Calumet, Michigan 49913, (906) 337-3168. After a 30-day review period, comments will be analyzed, an alternative will be selected, and a record of decision will be issued.

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