

## Bureau of Mines/Coldwater Comment Card - 2/23/2009

Geographically, the Coldwater site sits about a mile up the Mississippi River from its confluence with the Minnesota River. Ecologically, the site lies at the transition from a riverine to an upland prairie environment. The site is valued for its relationship to historical events, including those associated with American Indian history. The site still contains remnants of features representing the time when Coldwater Spring served as the waterworks for Fort Snelling. Historic breakthroughs in mining and mine safety were discovered in the Bureau of Mines buildings currently on the site.

Protecting the site's history is a key aspect of the Section 106 process, under the National Historic Preservation Act. Consequently, we will be preparing a Programmatic Agreement that defines how different aspects of the site's history will be preserved or mitigated. We encourage your comments on how you think we could do this.

The Open Space/Park scenario of selected, preferred Alternative D, calls for the restoration of the majority of the site to an oak savanna, prairie landscape (also referred to as a natural condition). The spring would be restored to an appropriate condition based on existing regulatory policy, management agency guidance and public opinion.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please comment on the **elements**, **conditions**, and/or **character** you would like considered during the restoration. *The green sheet provides information on what it means to restore the site and what it means to restore the spring.*

**Elements** could include trails, parking areas, outdoor group gathering areas, interpretive signage, auto and bus access, restrooms, screening, landscaping, seating, etc.

**Conditions** could include hours of access, type of uses permitted with or without permits, use of motorized vehicles, how Coldwater Spring should be restored or treated, should parts of the buildings be left, etc.

**Character** relates to the look and feel of the site after redevelopment has occurred such as how natural the site appears, whether the site has a managed, park-like setting, how well the site blends or fits within its surrounding areas, whether the site appears contemplative and restful or active and busy, etc.

Please provide written comment below and on the back:

**COMMENT DEADLINE: March 25, 2009**

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**Instead of this comment card, you may also provide written comment**

**By sending your comments to:**

Bureau of Mines/Coldwater Project  
Mississippi National River and Recreation Area  
111 Kellogg Blvd. East, Suite 105  
St. Paul, MN 55101

**By emailing comments to:** [miss\\_info@nps.gov](mailto:miss_info@nps.gov)

**By faxing comments to:** 651-290-3214