

5.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

To ensure that the Park and its programs are coordinated with the programs and objectives of State, Federal, and local governments and private organizations, it is the Park’s objective to work with these agencies and organizations during the planning process. Consultation and coordination have occurred with numerous agencies during the preparation of this EA. Consultation undertaken for compliance with specific laws is discussed below and in Section 6.0 of this EA. **Table 5-1** lists the agencies, organizations, and persons contacted for information, which assisted in identifying issues, developing alternatives, and analyzing impacts of the alternatives.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Jackson Ecological Services Field Office

The USFWS, Jackson, Mississippi Ecological Services Field Office was contacted on January 24, 2002 regarding the presence of federally listed threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species in Alcorn County, as well as potential impacts of the project on such species. This coordination revealed that there are no federally listed species in Alcorn County.

USFWS, Cookeville Ecological Services Field Office

The USFWS, Cookeville, Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office was contacted on January 24, 2002 regarding the presence of federally listed threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species in Hardeman and McNairy Counties, as well as potential impacts of the project on such species. This coordination revealed that there are no federally listed species that currently occur in McNairy County. In addition, only one species, the gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), federally listed as endangered, is currently known from Hardeman County, although the bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*, federally threatened) could occur in the County.

Table 5-1. Persons and Agencies Contacted

Person Contacted	Agency/Organization
Daniel Gregg, Environmental Coordinator	United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Jackson, Mississippi Ecological Services Field Office
Wally Brians, Environmental Coordinator	United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Cookeville, Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office
Woody Harrell, Park Superintendent	United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Shiloh National Military Park
Stacy Allen, Park Historian and Chief Ranger	United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Shiloh National Military Park
William Koning	United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Denver Service Center
Jane Winston	United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Natchez Trace Parkway, Ranger Division
Pardip Bhowal, Environmental Administrator	Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Non-hazardous Waste Branch, Permitting Section
Mark Williams, Principal Engineer, Administrator	Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Solid Waste Management Branch
Mitchell Caver	Mississippi Department of Transportation, Tupelo Office

Bill Lancaster, Assistant State Engineer	Mississippi Department of Transportation, Office of State Aid Road Construction
Jim Woodrick, Civil War Sites Historian	Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Frederick Prouty, Military Sites Coordinator	Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office
Linda McCloud	Tennessee Department of Environmental Conservation
Lee Curtis, Director	Tennessee Department of Tourist Development, Heritage and Community Tourism Development Division, Middle Tennessee Tourism
Mark Herron	Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Employment Security Division, Research and Statistics
Scott Games, Administrative Specialist	Kentucky Department of Parks
Rhonda Blakely, Administrative Assistant	Alabama State Historical Commission
Joseph Taylor	Mississippi State Tax Commission, Tupelo Office
Lesley Shumpert	Mississippi State Tax Commission, Tupelo Office
Paul Ellis, Zoning Compliance Officer	Hardeman County Zoning Office
Unknown	Hardeman County Executive's Office
Rudy Moore	McNairy County Executive's Office
Francis Hendriks, Assistant Road Commissioner	McNairy County
Lamar Fields, Supervisor	Alcorn County, 1 st Highway District
Junior Morgan, City Building Official	City of Corinth
James Bynum, Street Commissioner	City of Corinth
Jim Davis	City of Corinth, Street Department
Chris Latch, Project Engineer	Corinth Gas and Water Department
William Whitehead, Officer	Corinth Police Department
Nancy Roland	Alcorn County Electric Power Association, Engineering Department
John Wood	City of Corinth Fire Department
Emy Wilkinson, Director	Corinth Area Tourism Promotion Council
Lucy Cogbill, Mayor	Town of LaGrange
Ann Thompson	Civil War Interim Interpretive Center
Michael Eidt, Manager	Prairie Bluff Landfill
Paul Rhodes	Corinth Transfer Station/Farmington Road Rubbish Site
Sarah Richards	Civil War Preservation Trust
Harold Lominick	Iuka Battlefield Commission
Kent Geno, Engineer	Cook Coggins Engineers, Incorporated
Claire May, Business Manager	Grand Gulf Military Park
Michael Bailey, Site Curator	Fort Morgan Historic Site
Joann Flirt, Interim Director	Historic Blakely State Park
James Parker, Site Manager	Fort Toulouse/Fort Jackson State Park
Donald Taylor, Site Manager	Bentonville Battleground
Tammy Bangert	Fort Fisher State Park
Brian Dalton	Alamance Battleground
Michael Fraering, Curator	Port Hudson State Historic Site

Beau Boehringer, Public Information Director for Louisiana State Parks	Mansfield State Historic Site
Daniel Brown, Park Manager	Fort McAllister Historic Park
Charles Winchester, Site Manager	Picketts Mill Battlefield State Historic Site
Stacy Standbridge	Jefferson Davis Memorial State Historic Site
Jason Baker	Fort Morris State Historic Site
Mitch Bowman, Executive Director	Virginia Civil War Trails

5.1 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Public involvement during the NEPA process includes, at a minimum, public scoping, public review of the EA, and responses to comments submitted by the public. In accordance with CEQ's regulations for implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1506.6), the NPS has involved the interested and affected public during the preparation of this EA.

The purpose of the scoping process is to determine the scope of issues to be addressed in the EA and to identify significant issues relating to the Proposed Action. Scoping is required for all EAs prepared by the NPS. To satisfy scoping requirements for this project, scoping letters were mailed out describing the project and requesting public and agency input on issues to be addressed in the EA. In addition, a public scoping meeting was held in Corinth, Mississippi, on December 3, 2001. An informal presentation was given by representatives of the NPS, which described the purpose of the BAS, the planning process for determining which properties are suitable for inclusion into the national park system, and management alternatives to be addressed in the EA. NPS representatives were also present to answer any questions and address concerns relating to the project. Comment forms were distributed at the meeting to invite written comments and concerns about the project from all interested parties. Eighteen people submitted written comments at the public scoping meeting. Appendix D of this EA contains a more detailed discussion of the scoping process, including a list of all persons and agencies/organizations to whom the scoping letters were sent and a summary of scoping comments received.

A copy of this Draft EA was sent to all persons who requested a copy during the scoping process, as well as to other pertinent agencies and individuals potentially affected by the Proposed Action. This Draft EA will be available for public review for a minimum of 30 days. During this public review period, written comments on the EA are invited from the public and interested agencies. All comments received on the Draft EA will be reviewed by multiple parties, and appropriate responses will be prepared. Appendix E of this EA contains a more detailed discussion of this process.

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6.0 COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATIONS

The following laws and associated regulations provided guidance for the development of this EA, the design of the alternatives, the analysis of impacts, and the creation of mitigation measures to be implemented as part of the Proposed Action. Summaries of the following laws, as well as a complete list and description of environmental laws and regulations relevant to the project, are provided in Appendix C of this EA.

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 USC 4321-4370):

This Act requires Federal agencies to evaluate the environmental impacts of their actions and to integrate such evaluations into their decision-making processes. Implementing regulations for NEPA are contained in 40 CFR 1500 through 1508. This EA was prepared in accordance with NEPA and its implementing regulations.

Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (16 USC 1531-1544):

Section 7 of the ESA requires that a Federal agency consult with the USFWS or the National Marine Fisheries Service on any action that may affect endangered, threatened, or candidate species, or that may result in adverse modifications of critical habitat. Implementing regulations that describe procedures for interagency cooperation and consultation with regards to effects on threatened, endangered, or proposed species are contained in 50 CFR 402. The Jackson, Mississippi and Cookeville, Tennessee Ecological Services Field Offices were contacted on January 24, 2002 regarding the presence of federally listed threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species in Alcorn County, Mississippi and McNairy and Hardeman Counties, Tennessee. This coordination revealed that there are currently no federally listed species occurring in Alcorn or McNairy County. In addition, only one species, the gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), federally listed as endangered, is currently known from Hardeman County, although the bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*, federally threatened) could also occur in the County. Potential impacts on special concern species as a result of the expansion of the Corinth Unit, and NPS management of associated properties, have been evaluated in this EA. In addition, potential impacts on these species that should be considered in subsequent NEPA documentation on future NPS developments on Corinth Unit properties have also been discussed in this EA. Once a management alternative is selected and plans for development are more fully refined, informal consultation with the USFWS will be conducted regarding the developments and impacts on special concern species.

Clean Air Act (CAA) (42 USC 7401 et seq.):

This Act establishes pollutant standards to protect and enhance the nation's air quality to promote public health and welfare. These standards, known as the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), define the concentrations of these pollutants that are allowable in air to

which the general public is exposed. This EA presents an analysis of the potential impacts on air quality resulting from each of the alternatives. No additional compliance activities are anticipated for this project with respect to the CAA. In addition, potential impacts on air quality that should be considered in subsequent NEPA documentation on future NPS developments on Corinth Unit properties have also been discussed in this EA. Once a management alternative is selected and plans for development are more fully refined, CAA compliance activities will be reexamined, and levels of criteria pollutant emissions associated with these developments will be estimated and analyzed against the *de minimis* threshold for each pollutant.

Clean Water Act of 1972 (CWA) (33 USC 1251 et seq.):

The purpose of this Act is to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters. Section 404 of the CWA regulates the discharge of pollutants, including dredged or fill material, into navigable waters of the U.S., including wetlands, through a permit system jointly administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Actions discussed in this EA comply with the requirements of Section 404 of the CWA and all other applicable Federal, State, and local agencies. In addition, potential impacts on water resources, including wetlands, that should be considered in subsequent NEPA documentation on future NPS developments on Corinth Unit properties have also been discussed in this EA. It is NPS policy to take all necessary actions to maintain and/or restore surface and ground water quality within its parks consistent with the CWA and all other applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA) (16 USC 470 et seq.):

Section 106 of the NHPA requires Federal agencies to consider the effects of their proposals on properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Section 106 also directs Federal agencies to provide the state historic preservation officer (SHPO), tribal historic preservation officers, and, as appropriate, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), a reasonable opportunity to review and comment on these proposals.

The NPS has consulted with the Mississippi and Tennessee SHPOs informally throughout the project's history. Scoping letters were sent to both SHPOs regarding the project, and at that time, neither SHPO had any comments on the project. Additionally, copies of this EA will be sent to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Tennessee Historical Commission, to be reviewed by the respective SHPOs.

NPS management of all sites considered eligible for inclusion into the Corinth Unit of the Shiloh NMP would have beneficial impacts on cultural resources, and enhance the current level of cultural resource protection and preservation on these properties.

Potential impacts on cultural resources that should be considered in subsequent NEPA documentation on future NPS developments on Corinth Unit properties have also been discussed in this EA. Once a management alternative is selected and plans for development are more fully refined, the NPS will consult with the SHPOs, as necessary, regarding these developments and

impacts on cultural resources. All ground disturbing activities would be reviewed for archaeological needs. Completion of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA would be carried out in accordance with the NPS Cultural Resources Management Handbook, issued pursuant to Director's Order #28, and appropriate documentation and consultations undertaken. In addition, to avoid impacts on cultural resources, an archaeological survey would proceed construction and a qualified archaeological monitor, as required, would be present during initial grading activities in the event of unanticipated discoveries of cultural materials.

Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations:

This executive order requires Federal agencies to assess whether their actions have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations. No low income or minority populations would experience disproportionate adverse impacts as a result of the expansion of the Corinth Unit and management of the properties by the NPS. Expansion of the Corinth Unit would allow for greater resource protection and preservation, increased recreational opportunities, and enhanced visitor experience. These beneficial impacts would be experienced by the community as a whole, including low income and minority populations. Increased recreational opportunities and enhanced visitor experiences would be available to all residents, regardless of income or race. Any adverse impacts resulting from the project would affect all populations, and would not disproportionately affect low-income persons or minority groups.

Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands:

This executive order directs the NPS to avoid, to the extent possible, the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with modifying or occupying wetlands, and requires Federal agencies to follow avoidance, mitigation, and preservation procedures regarding wetlands with public input before proposing new construction projects. Only one of the sites currently being considered for inclusion in the Corinth Unit has the potential to contain wetlands. NPS management of this property would provide for enhanced protection and preservation of any wetlands present on the property, as well as compensation for any impacts or losses of these wetlands.

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