



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Tule Lake Unit,
World War II
Valor in the Pacific
National Monument

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Tule Lake Unit WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 11, 2013

NPS Begins Planning for Tule Lake with Public Meetings

TULELAKE, California— Japanese Americans living on the West Coast were forcibly removed and incarcerated in remote camps during World War II without being charged of any crime. Bringing that part of our nation’s history to light in a meaningful and comprehensive way is the challenge facing the National Park Service at the Tule Lake Unit of WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument in northern California.

The National Park Service will hold public workshops from June through September to open a national dialogue about Tule Lake’s future. This dialogue will result in a General Management Plan which identifies how to effectively protect the site and educate the public about this chapter in American history.

The Tule Lake Unit preserves the site of the Tule Lake Segregation Center, which was one of 10 camps where 120,000 Japanese Americans were incarcerated during World War II. Designated in 2008 by President George W. Bush, the purpose of the Tule Lake Unit is to preserve, study, and interpret the history and setting of the incarceration of Japanese Americans at Tule Lake during WWII. Between 1942 and 1946, over 29,000 people of Japanese ancestry were incarcerated there, and it was the largest population center in California north of Sacramento. Two thirds of those incarcerated at Tule Lake were US citizens.

“The NPS is honored to be charged with telling and preserving such a challenging story for the American people. Public involvement in the planning for the Tule Lake Unit will make the new unit a group effort. Working together will help the story become relevant to more people, so it will never be forgotten,” says Mike Reynolds, Superintendent of the Tule Lake Unit and Lava Beds National Monuments.

The National Park Service will hold 15 public workshops at locations in California, Oregon, and Washington. Two virtual meetings will be held in September. This is an opportunity to learn

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about the Tule Lake Unit, raise issues, provide ideas, and help define the future of the Tule Lake Unit. These meetings represent the “scoping” stage for the General Management Plan for the Tule Lake Unit. Anyone interested in attending is welcome.

Current information relevant to the GMP for the Tule Lake Unit is available at www.nps.gov/tule/parkmgmt. The public comment period will close on **October 11, 2013**. Comments can be sent to tule_superintendent@nps.gov

Meetings Are Scheduled as Follows:

Tuesday, June 18, 6-8pm

Tulelake, CA

Tulelake High School
850 Main Street

Wednesday, June 19, 6-8pm

Klamath Falls, OR

Ross Ragland Cultural Center
218 North 7th Street

Monday, July 1, 6-8pm

Portland, OR

Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center
121 Northwest 2nd Avenue

Tuesday, July 2, 10:30am-12:30pm

Hood River, OR

Hood River Public Library
502 West State Street

Tuesday, July 2, 6-8pm

Auburn, WA

White River Valley Museum
918 H Street Southeast

Wednesday, July 3, 4-6pm

Seattle, WA

Japanese Community Cultural Center
1414 South Weller Street

Friday, July 5, 10am-12pm

Seattle, WA

Speaking Up! Democracy, Justice, Dignity
Conference
Sheraton Seattle Hotel
1400 Sixth Avenue

Wednesday, July 24, 6-8pm

Los Angeles, CA

Japanese American Cultural & Community Center
244 South San Pedro Street, Suite 505

Thursday, July 25, 10am-12pm

Carson, CA

California State University, Dominguez Hills
University Library, South Wing
1000 East Victoria Street

Friday, July 26, 10am-12pm

San Diego, CA

Thornton Theatre San Diego History Center
1649 El Prado

Saturday, July 27, 10am-12pm

Los Angeles, CA

Japanese American Cultural & Community Center
244 South San Pedro Street, Suite 505

Thursday, September 5, 10am-12pm

Virtual Meeting*

Tuesday, September 17, 6-8pm

Sacramento, CA

Sierra II Center
2791 24th Street

Wednesday, September 18, 6-8pm

Berkeley, CA

David Brower Center
2150 Allston Way

Thursday, September 19, 10am-12pm

San Francisco, CA

Japanese American Community Cultural Center of
Northern California
1840 Sutter Street

Thursday, September 19, 6-8pm
San Jose, CA
Japanese American Museum of San Jose
535 North 5th Street

Tuesday, September 24, 3-5pm
Virtual Meeting*

*Virtual meeting web access information will be posted on the Tule Lake websites, Facebook page, and widely announced throughout the local areas.

For more information about visiting the Tule Lake Unit of World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, call 530-260-0537, email tule_interpretation@nps.gov, or go to www.nps.gov/tule.

NOTE TO EDITORS: PHOTOS AND MAPS ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. Please call at Amanda Schramm at (206)220-4107 or e-mail tule_superintendent@nps.gov with your request.

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