



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

July 11, 2013

## NPS to Hold Public Meetings in Southern California to Plan for New National Monument at Tule Lake

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 a total of 15 public workshops at locations in California, Oregon, and Washington. Seven of these meetings have already been held in Oregon, Washington, and in the town of Tulelake. A series of southern California meetings will take

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place July 24-27 in the Los Angeles and San Diego areas, followed by a series of northern California and Bay Area meetings in September. Two virtual meetings will also be held in September. This is an opportunity to learn 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](http://www.nps.gov/tule/parkmgmt). The public comment period will close on **October 11, 2013**. Comments can be sent to [tule\\_superintendent@nps.gov](mailto:tule_superintendent@nps.gov)

#### Meetings Are Scheduled as Follows:

Wednesday, July 24, 6-8pm

**Los Angeles, CA**

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

Tuesday, September 17, 6-8pm

**Sacramento, CA**

Sierra II Center  
2791 24th Street

Thursday, July 25, 10am-12pm

**Carson, CA**

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

Wednesday, September 18, 6-8pm

**Berkeley, CA**

David Brower Center  
2150 Allston Way

Friday, July 26, 10am-12pm

**San Diego, CA**

Thornton Theatre San Diego History Center  
1649 El Prado

Thursday, September 19, 10am-12pm

**San Francisco, CA**

Nihonmachi Terrace  
1615 Sutter Street

Saturday, July 27, 10am-12pm

**Los Angeles, CA**

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

Thursday, September 19, 6-8pm

**San Jose, CA**

Japanese American Museum of San Jose  
535 North 5th Street

Thursday, September 5, 10am-12pm

Virtual Meeting\*

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](mailto:tule_interpretation@nps.gov), or go to [www.nps.gov/tule](http://www.nps.gov/tule).

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

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