



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Joshua Tree National Park

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Joshua Tree National Park News Release

Park Seeks Comments on Fire Management Plan

Joshua Tree National Park is seeking comments from the general public and affected agencies in the preparation of its Fire Management Plan. A draft Fire Management Plan Environmental Assessment (EA) is available for public review and comment. The EA examines the possible impacts of implementing the proposed Fire Management Plan in Joshua Tree National Park. The purpose of the plan is to guide park managers in decisions related to fire suppression activities, wildland fire use, and use of prescribed fire to meet resource management objectives. The EA considers two alternative ways of meeting the park's fire management goals, in addition to the proposed action and was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act.

Joshua Tree National Park manages 794,000 acres, primarily of Mojave and Colorado desert ecosystems. The park seeks to protect desert ecosystems, historic landscapes, cultural sites, and public safety through the park's fire management plan. The public's input regarding the alternatives for fire management in the park is extremely important.

Public comments on this Environmental Assessment are open for 30 days and will be accepted through May 17, 2005. A copy of the EA is available at the park headquarters or on our web page at: www.nps.gov/jotr. Responses to the EA can be provided by e-mail to jotr_publiccomments@nps.gov, by fax (760) 367-6392, or by mail to Curt Sauer, Superintendent, Joshua Tree National Park, 74485 National Park Dr., Twentynine Palms, Ca 92277.

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