

# Riverways Record

## Internal Review of Draft General Management Plan Further Delayed

In response to public comments, the National Park Service is refining the preliminary alternatives of the draft General Management Plan. “Unfortunately, the perfecting of the alternatives will cause the internal review of the draft to be pushed out even further into the future,” states incoming Superintendent, Bill Black. The park’s draft General Management Plan (GMP) continues to be clarified and reviewed by the National Park Service’s Denver

Service Center and the Midwest Regional Office in Omaha, Nebraska. “Once the document is satisfactory to those at the Denver Service Center and the Regional Office, it then goes to the National Park Service leadership in Washington D. C. for their review,” states Black.

The draft General Management Plan, Wilderness Study, and Environmental

Impact Statement will be tentatively developed, printed, and released for public review by Spring 2013. At that time, the public will be invited to a series of meetings, forums, and discussion groups to gather comments on the draft plan. These public remarks will be taken into consideration for the final plan and decision. The release of the final General Management Plan is expected the following Winter of 2013-2014.

## Clara Wooden Serves as Interim Superintendent at Ozark National Scenic Riverways

Until the permanent arrival of Superintendent William N. Black, Clara Wooden, Associate Regional Director of Equal Employment Opportunity and Recruitment in the Midwest Regional Office in Omaha began 30 days of service on June 18<sup>th</sup> as the interim superintendent of Ozark National Scenic Riverways. “I’m eager to experience Ozark National Scenic Riverways and meet the park staff and partners who have a love and passion for its special resources”, states Wooden.

Clara has over twenty years of service with the National Park Service. She began her career in the Regional Human Resource Office in Anchorage, Alaska. During her tenure, she has worked in the areas of budget formulation, Human Resources policies and procedures, as a Park Ranger in Aviation, Fire, Safety, Occupational Health, Law Enforcement, and Telecommunications. She developed the Recreational Fee Program in Alaska and managed youth programs merging it with the region’s workforce diversity strategy to recruit and grow National

Park Service employees.



Clara Wooden

## Poplar Bluff Boys and Girls Club participate in summer program



Youth from the Boys and Girls Club of Poplar Bluff, Missouri have visited their closest National Park, Ozark National Scenic Riverways during the “*It’s My Park: Summer Junior Ranger Adventure*”. For the past three weeks, buses transported the children Wednesdays through Fridays to various locations throughout the park. They have explored Round Spring Cave, *Worked the Big Timber*, and hiked park trails. More adventures abound for the youth in the upcoming weeks.

## Ongoing Park Projects

The Devils Well staircase remains closed. An assessment team made up of an engineer and architect from the Midwest Regional Office in Omaha has viewed the staircase for structural soundness. The team and the park are working up a proposal for cost estimates for the stairway's repair. Future updates are forthcoming.



Devils Well Stairwell



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Ozark National Scenic Riverways preserves the free-flowing Current and Jacks Fork Rivers the surrounding natural resources, and the unique cultural heritage of the Ozark people. For more information, visit [www.nps.gov/ozar](http://www.nps.gov/ozar) or Facebook.

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To help protect and enhance the cultural pastoral scene and further develop diversified habitat for a variety of wildlife, the park has replaced a gate at the entrance of the agricultural field located near Bee Bluff (Current River). The Von Haaren agricultural field tract is maintained through a paid Agricultural Special Use Permit.

The park received funding to perform ground and trail maintenance. Some of the areas that may get attention this year include: Klepzig Mill Area, Blue Spring Trail, Buttin Rock School Trail, Rocky Falls Trail, Rocky Falls Overlook Trail, Prairie Hollow Gorge Trail, Buck Hollow Bridge Trail, Alley Spring Branch Trail, and Two Rivers Horse Trail.

To coincide with gigging and trapping seasons (Labor Day – March 1), a locking gate will be installed at Sinking Creek to allow vehicular gravel bar access to launch watercraft. During this seasonal use, parking will not be permitted on the gravel bar, but will be accommodated in the day use parking area on site. Gate installation will occur this summer.

The 2011 spring flooding damaged the Hickory parking and river access on the Current River. Rehabilitation of this area has begun. The river access and parking areas are aligned to avoid confusion, lessen congestion, and maintain an unobstructed shoreline. The day use areas are signed to provide clear access to launching watercraft. Work is ongoing toward completion of site improvement.

## Upcoming Calendar

### Date

Sunday, July 1 – Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Saturday, July 7, 2012

Saturday, July 28, 2012

### Description

Devils Well staircase remains closed. Cost estimates forthcoming for repairs.

Amphitheater programs offered at Big Spring, Alley Spring, Round Spring, and Pulltite Campgrounds, Fridays and Saturdays, 8:30 pm

Round Spring Cave tours, 10:00 am and 2:00 pm daily

Visitor surveys being conducted in various locations.

Alley Spring Independence Day Celebration, 6:00 - 9:00 pm, Alley Mill

Ozark Dinner Theater, 6:00 – 9:00 pm, Big Spring

## Upcoming Projects

Alley Spring Visitor Benches

Replace Shawnee Shop Roof

Boundary Survey

Installation of Fiber Optics at Four Sites

Repair and Replace Big Spring Trail and Bridge

Rehab of Building 416 for Use as Ranger Office