

MBCA News
Thursday, July 30, 2015

TIME SENSITIVE ANNOUNCEMENT: PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ADDING EAGLE MOUNTAIN AREA LANDS TO JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL PARK

What: National Park Service Boundary Study Public Scoping Meeting

When: August 5th, 2015; 6:00PM – 8:00PM

Where: Joshua Tree Community Center

Joshua Tree National Park has initiated a boundary study of 32,000 acres of land in the Eagle Mountains and the Chuckwalla Valley in Riverside County. The study is exploring whether it would be appropriate and feasible to add the lands to Joshua Tree National Park.

At the meeting, the National Park Service (NPS) study team will explain the study process, share some preliminary findings and options, answer your questions, and gather your ideas for the study. Public participation is a key component of this process. It is called a "scoping" meeting because with our input, the Park Service will determine the "scope" or overall approach to the study.

These lands are currently predominantly owned and managed by the Bureau of Land Management, but were once part of Joshua Tree National Park before they were removed for mineral extraction activities in the 1950's. The land is important historically and culturally and is also essential habitat for golden eagles, desert tortoise, bighorn sheep and other wildlife.

[Link](#) to .pdf presentation on the Eagle Mountain Boundary Study from NPS online Public Meeting held July 29, 2015.

NPS website overview of Scoping process at "[Eagle Mt. Boundary Study](#)"

Pre-Meeting hosted by NPCA, MBCA, CDC, JTNPA, JT Community Assoc.

Prior to the NPS Scoping Meeting, a pre-meeting on the Eagle Mountain lands will be held from 4-5:30 PM on August 5th, at a location in Joshua Tree. You are invited to join to discuss the issue, opportunities, coordinate strategy, and formulate talking points. Snacks, drinks, and adult beverages will be provided. Please contact David Lamfrom (dlamfrom@npca.org) to RSVP and be provided with the address for the pre-meeting location.

We hope you will consider participating in the National Park Services Boundary Study Public Scoping process that will determine the status of the Eagle Mountain lands and their long planned return into Joshua Tree National Park.

If you cannot attend the meeting on August 5th, you may submit e-mail comments at the NPS

(E-mail: JOTR_Study@nps.gov) through August 21, 2015.

Sincerely,
Sarah Kennington, President

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