The National Park Service (NPS) is making the Bonnie Clare Road Reconstruction Environmental Assessment (Bonnie Clare EA) and the Scotty’s Castle Flood Rehabilitation Environmental Assessment (Scotty’s Castle EA) available for public review.

**Bonnie Clare EA**

The NPS and Federal Highway Administration are proposing to reconstruct 7.6 miles of Bonnie Clare Road (also known as Scotty’s Castle Road) from the Ubehebe Crater Road intersection to the Death Valley National Park (park) boundary at the California/Nevada state line. This section of road is currently closed to the public. This project would restore access to the park from Tonopah and Beatty via US95 and NV267.

The Bonnie Clare EA evaluated two alternatives: a no action alternative (Alternative A) and an alternative to reconstruct Bonnie Clare Road (Alternative B, the park’s preferred alternative). If Alternative B is implemented, the reconstructed road would have two 10-foot-wide paved travel lanes, each with a 1-foot shoulder. From the existing water intake facility to Scotty’s Castle (approximately 1.5 miles), a water line and utility lines would be placed beneath one travel lane of the road. A dirt berm that protects the water intake facility also would be repaired and fortified to divert future flood flows away from the Spring House and other features at the existing water intake facility. The reconstructed road would generally follow the alignment of the pre-flood road, with some modifications as needed to elevate the road above the new flow line of Grapevine Canyon. Buried concrete Jersey barriers, riprap embankment protection, and some minor stream realignment and restoration also would occur to make the reconstructed road more resilient against future floods. Additional project details and an analysis of impacts on the environment can be found in the Bonnie Clare EA.

**Scotty’s Castle EA**

The park is also proposing to rehabilitate various historic and nonhistoric features in the Death Valley Scotty Historic District (Scotty’s Castle).
Death Valley National Park
California

Park Entrance

- Scotty's Castle
- Cottonwood Corner
- Water Intake Facility
- Grapevine Canyon
- Ubehebe Crater Road
- Grapevine
- To North Highway (CA 190)

Reconstruct Bonnie Clare Road

- Mile Marker
- Limits of Disturbance
- Bonnie Clare Road
- Death Valley National Park Boundary
Scotty’s Castle Facilities

1. Main House  
2. Annex  
3. Ticket Office  
4. Pedestrian Plaza  
5. Cook House  
6. Gas House  
7. Garage Visitor Center  
8. Long Shed and Bunk House  
9. Hacienda  
10. Bathroom  
11. Fire Cache Building  
12. Stables  
13. Chicken Yard  
14. Parking Area  
15. Entrance Gate and Bridge  
16. Chimes Tower  
17. Proposed Septic Tank Location  
18. Existing and Proposed Leach Field Area  
19. Bonnie Clare Road  
20. Overflow and Employee Parking  
21. Gravel Separator  
22. Power House  
23. Solar Water Heater
The proposed project is needed because buildings and facilities at Scotty’s Castle were damaged by extensive flooding on October 18, 2015 following a major rainstorm and subsequent flash flood. The flood caused catastrophic loss of roads and utilities and extensive damage to many of the buildings and landscapes that comprise the historic district. Scotty’s Castle is closed except for a limited number of public tours focusing on the flood and recovery efforts.

The Scotty’s Castle EA evaluated two alternatives: a no action alternative (Alternative A) and an alternative to rehabilitate, repair, and replace facilities at Scotty’s Castle (Alternative B, the park's preferred alternative). Alternative B would include the following components, which are described in detail in the Scotty’s Castle EA:

- Interior and exterior features of the Main House and Annex would be rehabilitated and repaired, including the Annex second-story outdoor deck (lanai) and the pedestrian bridge connecting the Main House and Annex.
- The Garage Visitor Center, Long Shed, and Bunkhouse exterior would be rehabilitated and seismically stabilized, damaged interior and exterior walls would be repaired, and an open breezeway would be constructed.
- The Gas House would be rehabilitated by removing a wooden addition to improve circulation and restore the historic appearance of the building.
- The interior and exterior of the Hacienda would be repaired to address flood damage.
- Scotty’s Cabin (Fire Cache) would be repaired, stabilized, and mothballed.
- The interior of the Cook House would be remodeled for use as an employee break room, staff library, and changing rooms for living history interpreters.
- The flood-damaged exterior fabric of the Chimes Tower would be repaired to prevent further water intrusion.
- The water delivery system for Scotty’s Castle would be repaired by installing a new shelter covering the 900-square-foot Spring House, repairing the historic water tank, and constructing a new roof over the historic water tank.
- The septic system and leach field at Scotty’s Castle would be reconstructed with new materials.
- The electrical system at Scotty’s Castle would be repaired and upgraded.
- If propane is retained as a power source, the NPS would replace or reuse existing propane tanks and replace supply lines to upgrade the propane distribution system.
- A new telecommunication system and line would be constructed that would begin at the Grapevine Developed Area and connect to Scotty’s Castle.
- The parking lot would be expanded and reconstructed to accommodate more parking, improve circulation and access, and improve drainage.
- A concrete pad that can accommodate two RV trailers would be constructed to allow for staff or volunteer use.
- Three flood control berms would be constructed within the main drainage at Scotty’s Castle and additional smaller berms would be constructed at the base of six ephemeral drainages located north of Scotty’s Castle.
How to Comment on the EAs
Comments must be received in writing by close of business on January 1, 2018. The EAs are available to review and comments can be submitted online by visiting: http://parkplanning.nps.gov/deva.

Comments may also be sent to the following mailing address:

Superintendent
Death Valley National Park
P.O. Box 579
Death Valley, CA 92328

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. Although you can ask in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, the NPS cannot guarantee we will be able to do so.

Keep Informed
For updates and information about the process, press releases, newsletters, planning documents, and the EAs, please visit our website at: http://parkplanning.nps.gov/deva.