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Personal watercraft to he banned in national park

These are places

that Americans go to

get away from the

noise of their

everyday lives ...

without hearing the

incessant buzzing of

Conservation Association

Steve Bosak

National Parks

the Jet Ski sound.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration will not try to delay a ban on personal watercraft scheduled to take effect April 22 in 13 national parks and recreation areas.

The ban is a result of a Clinton-era rule that set a deadline for parks to establish regulations governing the watercraft or impose a blanket ban.

Personal watercraft, familiarly known by the trade name Jet Ski, are high-speed, gas-powered

vessels designed to be ridden

by one person. So far, eight of the 13 parks have decided to ban the watercraft. Superintendents at five other parks have decided some watercraft use might be appropriate, but environmental assessments are still under way and rules are being drafted at those parks, meaning they will be forced to ban watercraft on April 22

The National Park Service had considered trying to push back the deadline at the five parks where rules were being crafted, but didn't have the legal authority to do so, said Kym Hall, regulations program manager for the Park Service.

"We are going to have to close temporarily," she said. "We didn't want to have to do that, but we're going to have to."

The Park Service plans to make an announcement Thursday to explain the reasons for the closures to the public. Eight other parks have until Sept. 15 to adopt rules for watercraft or ban them.

The National Park Service has already prohibited watercraft use on 66 of the 87 bodies of water under its jurisdiction.

Two factors could delay the April 22 ban.

a watercraft industry group to prevent from taking effect. The judge has schol hearing for April 17

The House also could vote as early as ner on a bill that would postpone the bed December 2004, although it is unlikely the make it through the Democratic-controlle

Steve Bosak of the National Parks Con Association said personal watercraft are priate in national parks and

en the entire park experience These are places nth to center Americans go to get away the noise of their everyday and hear the waves ne report are against the shore without the incessant buzzing of Ski sound," Bosak said.

But Monita Fontaine tive director of the Pe Watercraft Industry Ass which sued the Park Service the rule, said it is prema close bodies of water to the sels before environmental ments have been performed

"You have a disregard ence, a disregard of legal dure and a disregard of opinion," Fontaine said have the decision based

whim of the superintendent who happened stationed in that particular park.'

Kristen Brengel of the Wildemess Sox said there is evidence that personal wat damage the park environment and wildlift are a public safety risk.

'These machines are designed for specific They're designed for pleasure that has nothin do with viewing the scenic value of these man al parks," Brengel said. "The science and p safety impacts are there, and we believe A federal judge in Texas has been asked by don't belong on our national parks.

binion Editor

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nd include the author

at 014 Reed McDo McDonald, MS 11 845-2647 Email:

NEWS IN BRIEF

Man, son flee after shooting

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - A South Texas man says his son's shooting by a Mexican soldier on an international bridge prompted a wild ride to the United States side of the border

to obtain medical treatment. Ricardo Haro was in stable condition Thursday at a hospital where he was recovering from the April 4 attack.

Cesar Haro of McAllen said his 18-year-old son was shot three times by a soldier on the Mexican side of the McAllen-Hidalgo-Reynosa International Bridge

The elder Haro said he had paid his toll and was crossing bridge when he heard mach gun fire and glass shattering

In his race across the border h careened into several other cash son, who had been shot in the underarm and leg, received at McAllen Medical Center.

THE BATTALION

SUMMER & FALL'02 STAFF APPLICATION

If you can write, edit, design pages, draw, use a camera... Texas A&M's award-winning newspaper is looking for you.

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- Why do you want to work at The Battalion, and what do you hope to accomplish?
- What experience do you have that relates to the position
- for which you are applying? (include classes, seminars, etc.) What changes do you feel would improve the quality of The Battalion? Give special attention to the section for
- which you're applying.

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d unnece Section Editors

- Sports Writer
- Radio Reporter Opinion Columnist
- Page Designer Copy Editor
- Web Designer Photographer Graphic Artist
- Cartoonist

DEADLINES: 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 17, for editor positions, and 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 24, for staff positions. Turn in applications at 014 (basement) Reed McDonald Bldg. Interviews will begin immediately after application deadlines.

Extra applications available in the newsroom or online at http://www.thebatt.com

OPENINGS INCLUDE Please check the position which you are interested. If you are interested in more than one position, number then order of preference with being your top choice.

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response News* nan's April 11 ___AggieLife* PAID POSITIONS INCLUDE: Opinion* o not consider Sci | Tech (fall only) "pockets of (Check all desired positions) Sports* ca's war on Design Director and. There ☐ Marketing Editor □ Photo Editor □ Designer ALL APPLICANTS: Please type your <u>responses</u> on a separate piece of paper, and attach a <u>résumé</u> and <u>samples</u> of your o call attenti Copy Chief ☐ Asst. Photo Editor ☐ Section Editor □ Writer Students for Graphics* by blasting th work (stories you have written for publications or classes. □ Web Editor □ Photographer Photo* Young said pages you have designed, photos taken, drawings made or Radio Producer ☐ Asst. Copy Editor s of dissent to other creative samples—just show us what you can do). Webmaster* ne is compl may be voice **Section Editor Applicants EDITOR POSITIONS:** but there ar 1) What are your goals for managing your staff? screaming 1) Why do you want an editor What do you believe is the role of the section for which Staff y want justi position? you are applying? News Reporter cannot solv Sci | Tech Writer (fall only) with a po What changes would you make to improve The Battalion? 2) What changes would you like to Please type your responses to the Feature / Entertainment e terrorists Pay particular attention to the position for which you're make to the yearbook? following questions on a separate They far sheet of paper that is to be turned in What experience do you have in ing to them with this form. Also, attach any

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If you have any questions, please call 845-2681 or drop by our office in 004 RDMC.