

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 157

AN ACT

To provide for certain improvements to the Denali National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Denali National Park
3 Improvement Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. KANTISHNA HILLS MICROHYDRO PROJECT; LAND
5 EXCHANGE.**

6 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 (1) APPURTENANCE.—The term “appur-
8 tenance” includes—

9 (A) transmission lines;

10 (B) distribution lines;

11 (C) signs;

12 (D) buried communication lines;

13 (E) necessary access routes for microhydro
14 project construction, operation, and mainte-
15 nance; and

16 (F) electric cables.

17 (2) KANTISHNA HILLS AREA.—The term
18 “Kantishna Hills area” means the area of the Park
19 located within 2 miles of Moose Creek, as depicted
20 on the map.

21 (3) MAP.—The term “map” means the map en-
22 titled “Kantishna Hills Micro-Hydro Area”, num-
23 bered 184/80,276, and dated August 27, 2010.

24 (4) MICROHYDRO PROJECT.—

25 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “microhydro
26 project” means a hydroelectric power gener-

1 ating facility with a maximum power generation
2 capability of 100 kilowatts.

3 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “microhydro
4 project” includes—

5 (i) intake pipelines, including the in-
6 take pipeline located on Eureka Creek, ap-
7 proximately ½ mile upstream from the
8 Park Road, as depicted on the map;

9 (ii) each system appurtenance of the
10 microhydro projects; and

11 (iii) any distribution or transmission
12 lines required to serve the Kantishna Hills
13 area.

14 (5) PARK.—The term “Park” means the Denali
15 National Park and Preserve.

16 (6) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
17 the Secretary of the Interior.

18 (b) PERMITS FOR MICROHYDRO PROJECTS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may issue
20 permits for microhydro projects in the Kantishna
21 Hills area.

22 (2) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—Each permit
23 under paragraph (1) shall be—

24 (A) issued in accordance with such terms
25 and conditions as are generally applicable to

1 rights-of-way within units of the National Park
2 System; and

3 (B) subject to such other terms and condi-
4 tions as the Secretary determines to be nec-
5 essary.

6 (3) COMPLETION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANAL-
7 YSIS.—Not later than 180 days after the date on
8 which an applicant submits an application for the
9 issuance of a permit under this subsection, the Sec-
10 retary shall complete any analysis required by the
11 National Environment Policy Act of 1969 (42
12 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) of any proposed or existing
13 microhydro projects located in the Kantishna Hills
14 area.

15 (c) LAND EXCHANGE.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of consoli-
17 dating ownership of Park and Doyon Tourism, Inc.
18 lands, including those lands affected solely by the
19 Doyon Tourism microhydro project, and subject to
20 paragraph (4), the Secretary may exchange Park
21 land near or adjacent to land owned by Doyon Tour-
22 ism, Inc., located at the mouth of Eureka Creek in
23 sec. 13, T.16 S., R. 18 W., Fairbanks Meridian, for
24 approximately 18 acres of land owned by Doyon

1 Tourism, Inc., within the Galena patented mining
2 claim.

3 (2) MAP AVAILABILITY.—The map shall be on
4 file and available for public inspection in the appro-
5 priate offices of the National Park Service.

6 (3) TIMING.—The Secretary shall seek to com-
7 plete the exchange under this subsection by not later
8 than February 1, 2015.

9 (4) APPLICABLE LAWS; TERMS AND CONDI-
10 TIONS.—The exchange under this subsection shall be
11 subject to—

12 (A) the laws (including regulations) and
13 policies applicable to exchanges of land adminis-
14 tered by the National Park Service, including
15 the laws and policies concerning land apprais-
16 als, equalization of values, and environmental
17 compliance; and

18 (B) such terms and conditions as the Sec-
19 retary determines to be necessary.

20 (5) EQUALIZATION OF VALUES.—If the tracts
21 proposed for exchange under this subsection are de-
22 termined not to be equal in value, an equalization of
23 values may be achieved by adjusting the quantity of
24 acres described in paragraph (1).

1 (6) ADMINISTRATION.—The land acquired by
2 the Secretary pursuant to the exchange under this
3 subsection shall be administered as part of the Park.

4 **SEC. 3. DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE NATURAL**
5 **GAS PIPELINE.**

6 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 (1) APPURTENANCE.—

8 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “appur-
9 tenance” includes cathodic protection or test
10 stations, valves, signage, and buried commu-
11 nication and electric cables relating to the oper-
12 ation of high-pressure natural gas transmission.

13 (B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term “appur-
14 tenance” does not include compressor stations.

15 (2) PARK.—The term “Park” means the Denali
16 National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska.

17 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
18 the Secretary of the Interior.

19 (b) PERMIT.—The Secretary may issue right-of-way
20 permits for—

21 (1) a high-pressure natural gas transmission
22 pipeline (including appurtenances) in nonwilderness
23 areas within the boundary of Denali National Park
24 within, along, or near the approximately 7-mile seg-

1 ment of the George Parks Highway that runs
2 through the Park; and

3 (2) any distribution and transmission pipelines
4 and appurtenances that the Secretary determines to
5 be necessary to provide natural gas supply to the
6 Park.

7 (c) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—A permit authorized
8 under subsection (b)—

9 (1) may be issued only—

10 (A) if the permit is consistent with the
11 laws (including regulations) generally applicable
12 to utility rights-of-way within units of the Na-
13 tional Park System;

14 (B) in accordance with section 1106(a) of
15 the Alaska National Interest Lands Conserva-
16 tion Act (16 U.S.C. 3166(a)); and

17 (C) if, following an appropriate analysis
18 prepared in compliance with the National Envi-
19 ronmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321
20 et seq.), the route of the right-of-way is the
21 route through the Park with the least adverse
22 environmental effects for the Park; and

23 (2) shall be subject to such terms and condi-
24 tions as the Secretary determines to be necessary.

1 **SEC. 4. DESIGNATION OF THE WALTER HARPER**
2 **TALKEETNA RANGER STATION.**

3 (a) DESIGNATION.—The Talkeetna Ranger Station
4 located on B Street in Talkeetna, Alaska, approximately
5 100 miles south of the entrance to Denali National Park,
6 shall be known and designated as the “Walter Harper
7 Talkeetna Ranger Station”.

8 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, reg-
9 ulation, document, paper, or other record of the United
10 States to the Talkeetna Ranger Station referred to in sub-
11 section (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Wal-
12 ter Harper Talkeetna Ranger Station”.

Passed the Senate June 19, 2013.

Attest:

Secretary.

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