

County, Montana; and (3) That applications will be accepted by the Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, for consideration for royalty relief for these areas effective upon publication of this Notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Randy D. Heuscher, Chief, Branch of Solid Minerals, telephone 406-255-2816, Montana State Office, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 36800, Billings, Montana 59107-6800.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The "Fort Union Region Category 5 Royalty Reduction Study" requested by the State Director, Montana State Office, Bureau of Land Management, was completed by the Northwest Regional Evaluation Team of the Bureau of Land Management of the Department of the Interior in 1991. The geographic area qualification and the establishment of the competitive royalty rate under Category 5 of the "Royalty Rate Reduction Guidelines for the Solid Leasable Minerals" have been reviewed, and are the basis for the following determinations:

A. Geographic Area Qualification

The Counties of McLean, Mercer, and Oliver, North Dakota, and Richland County, Montana, continue to meet the established five criteria to qualify under Category 5 for royalty rate differentials as follows: (1) The Federal Government is not market dominant in this area; (2) Federal royalty rates are above the current market royalty rate for non-Federal rates in the area; (3) Based on a mine-by-mine examination, it is apparent that there are instances where Federal coal can be expected to be bypassed in the near future due to the royalty rate differential between Federal and non-Federal coal; (4) All three previous criteria considerations have been found to exist throughout the region; and (5) A plant-by-plant analysis, based on actual shipments, indicates that Powder River Basin coal is competitive in the area. However, it has also been shown that a reduction in the Federal royalty rate would not have a significant impact on this competitiveness.

B. Establishment of Competitive Royalty Rates

The competitive royalty rate of 2.6 percent is established to promote development of Federal coal reserves situated in the Counties of McLean, Mercer, and Oliver, North Dakota, and Richland County, Montana, that may otherwise be bypassed in favor of non-Federal coal having a lower royalty rate.

C. Category 5 Reduction in Royalty Applications

Federal lease-specific applications for Category 5 Reduction in Royalty for coal deposits within the Counties in North Dakota and Montana named above will be accepted by the Montana State Office, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 36800, Billings, Montana 59107-6800 effective upon publication of this Notice. Applications will be processed pursuant to the regulations at 43 CFR part 3485 as established by the "Royalty Rate Reduction Guidelines for the Solid Leasable Minerals."

The geographic area qualification and the establishment of the competitive royalty rate under Category 5 of the "Royalty Rate Reduction Guidelines for the Solid Leasable Minerals" will be reviewed again and updated 2 years from the effective date hereof.

Dated: March 6, 1997.

John E. Moorhouse,

Acting State Director.

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National Park Service

Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Development Concept Plan for the Entrance Area and Road Corridor, Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the record of decision for the Development Concept Plan for the Entrance Area and Road Corridor, Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Development Concept Plan for the Entrance Area and Road Corridor ("frontcountry") of Denali National Park and Preserve.

The emphasis of the plan is to provide visitor facilities and services in the frontcountry to meet a wide range of visitor needs and interests. Frontcountry developments will be limited to actions in which the National Park Service has traditionally specialized, such as interpretive centers, environmental education opportunities, trails, resource protection programs, and campgrounds. Improved resource protection will be integrated with development actions throughout the frontcountry. The National Park Service will encourage the private sector to develop visitor service facilities (accommodations, food service, and other commercial services) outside the park.

A Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS), published in the Federal Register in July 1995 (60 FR 37470), formally initiated the National Park Service planning and EIS effort for the Entrance Area and Road Corridor of the park. A draft and final plan and EIS were prepared. The final plan and abbreviated EIS describe and analyze the environmental impacts of a proposed action and three other action alternatives. A no-action alternative also was evaluated.

The Record of Decision (ROD) documents the decision of the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, regarding the Entrance Area and Road Corridor plan. This ROD briefly discusses the background of the planning effort, states the decision and discusses the basis for it, describes other alternatives considered, specifies the environmentally preferable alternative, identifies measures adopted to minimize potential environmental harm, and summarizes the results of public involvement during the planning process.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the ROD are available on request from: Superintendent, Denali National Park and Preserve, Post Office Box 9, Denali Park, Alaska 99755.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mike Tranel, Denali National Park and Preserve. Telephone: (907) 683-9552 FAX: (907) 683-9612.

Dated: March 7, 1997.

Marcia Blaszan,

Acting Regional Director, Alaska.

[FR Doc. 97-6556 Filed 3-14-97; 8:45 am]

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Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan for the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the record of decision for the General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan for the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park

SUMMARY: The National Park Service announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan for the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park.

The plan will provide a comprehensive plan for meeting the park's legislative mandate. The plan in Alaska includes development concept