membership contact the Superintendent at 4175 Geist Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709, or visit the park Web site at: *http://www.nps.gov/gaar/contacts.htm.*

Proposed SRC Meeting Agenda

The proposed meeting agenda for each meeting includes the following:

1. Call to Order—Confirm Quorum
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Administrative Announcements
4. Old Business
   a. SRC Hunting Plan Recommendations (HP 10–01)
   b. NPS Subsistence Collections Environmental Assessment Update
5. New Business
6. Public and other Agency Comments
7. Select Time and Location for Next Meeting
8. Adjourn Meeting

Debora R. Cooper,

Associate Regional Director, Resources and Subsistence, Alaska Region.

[FR Doc. 2012–12400 Filed 5–21–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312–HK–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS–WASO–CONC–0427–10012: 2410–OYC]

Proposed Concession Contract for Yellowstone National Park—Alternative Formula for Calculating Leasehold Surrender Interest

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) invites public comments on a proposed alternative formula for the value of leasehold surrender interest (LSI) to be included in its proposed 20-year concession contract for Yellowstone National Park (YELL077–13). The contract will cover operation of the lodging, food and beverage, retail sales, transportation and other services at the park.

DATES: Public comments will be accepted on or before June 21, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Ms. Jo A. Pendry, Chief, Commercial Services Program, National Park Service, 1201 Eye Street NW., 11th Floor, Washington, DC 20005 or via email at *jo_pendry@nps.gov* or via fax at 202/371–2090.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jo A. Pendry, 202/513–7156.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NPS intends to solicit proposals for the operation of the lodging, food and beverage, retail sales, transportation and other services at Yellowstone National Park in 2012. The new contract is intended to be for a term of 20 years and will include an alternative formula for calculating LSI. In this notice, we are soliciting comments on our use of this alternative formula. While we are not required by law to solicit comments on this alternative formula, we are providing an opportunity for public comment because this is only the third time that we have proposed using an alternative LSI formula.

LSI is the interest in real property improvements that a concessioner provides under an NPS concession contract. Public Law 105–391 of 1998 (the 1998 Act) established the standard LSI valuation formula. The formula is generally as follows:

- The initial construction cost of the related capital improvement;
- Adjusted by the percentage increase or decrease in the Consumer Price Index (CPI);
- Less physical depreciation of the related capital improvement.

The 1998 Act also allows alternative LSI-value formulas for contracts with an LSI value over $10 million. Because the LSI value of the new contract for Yellowstone National Park will exceed $10 million, we are proposing to use an alternative LSI formula. Under our proposed alternative formula, the LSI value of all eligible capital improvements will be depreciated annually, in equal portions, on a 40-year, straight-line basis during the contract's 20-year term.

We Have Made Two Determinations

We have determined, subject to consideration of public comments, that:

- The proposed alternative LSI formula, in comparison to the standard LSI formula, is necessary to provide a fair return to the Government and to foster competition for the new contract by providing a reasonable opportunity for profit to the new concessioner.
- The proposed alternative LSI formula is consistent with the objectives of the 1998 Act, particularly, as discussed below, with respect to the fair return it will provide to the Government and the new concessioner and the enhanced competition it will foster.

The 1998 Act does not require these determinations or this **Federal Register** notice for alternative LSI formulas (such as the one we propose) that are based on annual straight line depreciation of the initial value as provided under 1998 Federal income tax laws and regulations. However, because this is only the third time that we have proposed using an alternative LSI formula, we have made these determinations and are publishing this notice to solicit public comment.

If we adopt the alternative LSI formula, it will apply only to the new contract, YELL077–13. We have made no decision to apply the proposed LSI formula or any other LSI alternative to other future concession contracts. If we consider using an alternative LSI formula for any other contracts, we will ask for public comments if required or appropriate.

First Determination: Fair Return to the Government

We have determined, subject to consideration of public comments, that the proposed alternative LSI formula is necessary to provide a fair return to the Government, as well as helping to provide a fair return to the new concessioner.

We consider that ''fair return'' to the Government includes the requirement of the 1998 Act that we include in concession contracts a franchise fee payable to the Government that is based upon consideration of the probable value to the concessioner of the privileges granted by the contract. However, under the standard LSI formula, the amount of money that we would pay (directly or indirectly) for LSI as of the expiration of the new contract is inevitably speculative as of the time of contract solicitation, contract award, and during the contract term. This is because we and prospective concessioners must estimate in advance the future CPI rate, the amount of depreciation that will occur over the term of the contract, and the cost to cure the depreciation.

Thus, if we use the standard LSI formula to establish the required minimum franchise fee for the new contract, that fee will reflect speculative estimates of CPI and depreciation rates over the term of the contract. Likewise, when a prospective concessioner offers to meet or exceed the minimum franchise fee that we would establish under the standard LSI formula, this business decision relies on speculative estimates of future CPI and depreciation rates. A more dependable LSI value will allow us to better project the long-term cost of the concessioner's investment and to calculate a franchise fee that provides a fair return.

For these reasons, we consider it necessary to include the proposed alternative LSI formula in the new contract in order to provide a fair return to the Government.

Second Determination: Fostering Competition

Elimination of the speculative nature of LSI value by using the proposed LSI formula is also considered necessary to foster competition for the new contract by providing a reasonable opportunity for the concessioner to make a profit under the new contract. This is because prospective concessioners will know with a high degree of certainty (subject only to estimates of the value of any new capital improvements constructed or installed during the term of the contract) how much money they will be paid for initial LSI upon the expiration of the new contract. The proposed LSI formula eliminates speculation regarding CPI and depreciation required under the standard LSI formula. The resulting lower risk and greater certainty in the business opportunity provides the concessioner a reasonable opportunity for profit under the terms of the new contract. It should also encourage businesses to apply for the new contract, thereby fostering competition.

Private firms not familiar with the NPS concession program have indicated that the complexities and uncertainty of the standard LSI formula have deterred them from submitting offers for concessions. We believe that using the proposed alternative LSI formula in the new contract will foster competition by providing interested entities with a reasonable opportunity for profit that, with respect to LSI, is assured, understandable, and more comparable to practices in the private sector.

In addition, the estimated lower LSI payment under the alternative formula (as opposed to a higher estimated value provided by the standard LSI formula) allows us to charge a lower minimum franchise fee. This will ensure the concessioner greater cash flows during the term of the contract, in contrast to the standard LSI formula's higher (and uncertain) LSI payment at the expiration of the contract. Since many prospective concessioners likely will prefer the higher cash flows throughout the contract term under the proposed LSI formula, the alternative formula should foster competition for the new contract.

The proposed LSI formula also will enhance competition for the concession contract that will succeed the new contract. This is because the final value of the contract's LSI should be significantly lower than it would be under the standard LSI formula, thereby lowering the amount of LSI purchase money needed by a prospective new concessioner. This lower entry cost should encourage competitive proposals from prospective concessioners.

The proposed LSI formula should not materially affect the new concessioner's projected rate of return under the new contract. This is because, in developing the new contract's minimum franchise fee, we assessed projected revenues and expenses and used industry standards to estimate a fair return to the new concessioner. This estimate includes the cost of acquiring existing LSI.

The minimum franchise fee in the new contract, thus, reflects the financial consequences of the proposed LSI formula. This means that the estimated fair return to the new concessioner would be approximately the same whether the new contract included the standard LSI formula or the proposed LSI formula (taking into account the time value of money). The proposed LSI formula will not materially change the projected fair return to the new concessioner, but will reduce the speculative nature of LSI value under the standard formula. With respect to the rate of return, the impact of the use of the proposed LSI formula is neutral and not adverse to the requirement of fostering competition.

Elective Franchise Fee Reduction/LSI Buy Down Provision

The NPS also points out that it intends to include an elective franchise fee reduction/LSI buy down provision in the terms of the prospectus for YELL007–13. If the selected offeror elects to accept this provision, it will be included in the new contract. If elected, the provision would (i) reduce the franchise fee otherwise proposed by the successful offeror (which original proposed fee cannot be less than the minimum Franchise Fee set forth in the prospectus) by two and one-half percent (2.5%), and, (ii) apply to the ending LSI value under the terms of the contract an amount equal to the difference between the dollar amounts that would have been produced under the original offered franchise fee and the dollar amounts produced under the reduced franchise fee. For example, if the franchise fee offered by the successful offeror (if it elected this provision) is 7.5% of gross receipts, the franchise fee to be included in the new contract would be 5% of gross receipts ($7.5 - 2.5 = 5$). Upon the expiration (or earlier termination) of the contract, an amount equal to two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the cumulative gross receipts under the contract will be deducted from the ending LSI value of the LSI Improvements.

NPS believes that an offeror may consider that it would be in its best interest to elect to accept the elective franchise fee reduction/LSI buy down provision because of the significantly higher cash flows the provision would provide the offeror during the term of the new contract.

However, the NPS will not consider the offeror's choice as to whether or not to include this provision in the contract in evaluating its proposal.

Public Availability of Further Information

Complete details and further explanation of the proposed LSI formula will be in the proposed prospectus for the new contract that (is/will be) publically available at *http://www.nps.gov/commercial services.* We will provide notice of the availability of the prospectus in *FedBizOpp.gov.* If consideration of public comments in response to this notice causes us to alter the proposed alternative LSI formula, we will amend the prospectus accordingly (and publish a notice of such amendment in *FedBizOpp.gov*) before the deadline for submission of proposals.

We invite your comments and will consider all comments that we receive by the deadline in the **DATES** section of this notice. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other 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. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Peggy O'Dell,

Deputy Director, Operations.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[OMB Number 1122–0012]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Extension of a Currently Approved Collection; Comments Requested: Semi-Annual Progress Report for Education, Training and Enhanced Services To End Violence Against and Abuse of Women With Disabilities Grant Program

ACTION: 30-Day Notice of Information Collection Under Review.

The Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for