

Union Calendar No. 157

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 586

[Report No. 113–217]

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 6, 2013

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

SEPTEMBER 20, 2013

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

A BILL

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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Denali National Park
5 Improvement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. KANTISHNA HILLS MICROHYDRO PROJECT; LAND**
7 **EXCHANGE.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 (1) APPURTENANCE.—The term “appur-

10 tenance” includes—

11 (A) transmission lines;

12 (B) distribution lines;

13 (C) signs;

14 (D) buried communication lines;

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

18 (F) electric cables.

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

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

1 (4) MICROHYDRO PROJECT.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “microhydro
3 project” means a hydroelectric power gener-
4 ating facility with a maximum power generation
5 capability of 100 kilowatts.

6 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “microhydro
7 project” includes—

8 (i) intake pipelines, including the in-
9 take pipeline located on Eureka Creek, ap-
10 proximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile upstream from the
11 Park Road, as depicted on the map;

12 (ii) each system appurtenance of the
13 microhydro projects; and

14 (iii) any distribution or transmission
15 lines required to serve the Kantishna Hills
16 area.

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

19 (6) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
20 the Secretary of the Interior.

21 (b) PERMITS FOR MICROHYDRO PROJECTS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may issue
23 permits for microhydro projects in the Kantishna
24 Hills area.

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

3 (A) issued in accordance with such terms
4 and conditions as are generally applicable to
5 rights-of-way within units of the National Park
6 System; and

7 (B) subject to such other terms and condi-
8 tions as the Secretary determines to be nec-
9 essary.

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

19 (c) LAND EXCHANGE.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of consoli-
21 dating ownership of Park and Doyon Tourism, Inc.
22 lands, including those lands affected solely by the
23 Doyon Tourism microhydro project, and subject to
24 paragraph (4), the Secretary may exchange Park
25 land near or adjacent to land owned by Doyon Tour-

1 ism, Inc., located at the mouth of Eureka Creek in
2 sec. 13, T.16 S., R. 18 W., Fairbanks Meridian, for
3 approximately 18 acres of land owned by Doyon
4 Tourism, Inc., within the Galena patented mining
5 claim.

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

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

12 (4) APPLICABLE LAWS; TERMS AND CONDI-
13 TIONS.—The exchange under this subsection shall be
14 subject to—

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

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

23 (5) EQUALIZATION OF VALUES.—If the tracts
24 proposed for exchange under this subsection are de-
25 termined not to be equal in value, an equalization of

1 values may be achieved by adjusting the quantity of
2 acres described in paragraph (1).

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

6 **SEC. 3. DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE NATURAL**
7 **GAS PIPELINE.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 (1) APPURTENANCE.—

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

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

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

19 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
20 the Secretary of the Interior.

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

23 (1) a high-pressure natural gas transmission
24 pipeline (including appurtenances) in nonwilderness
25 areas within the boundary of Denali National Park

1 within, along, or near the approximately 7-mile seg-
2 ment of the George Parks Highway that runs
3 through the Park; and

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

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

10 (1) may be issued only—

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

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

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

24 (2) shall be subject to such terms and condi-
25 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”.

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