

5. Use of Information From the Request for Information

Information submitted in response to this request for information will be used for several purposes. Responses will be used to:

- Help to further identify areas of potential oil and gas development;
- Identify environmental effects and potential use conflicts not previously addressed in the final EIS and CD for Sales 186, 195, and 202 (OCS EIS/EA, MMS 2003-0010);
- Develop any additional lease terms and conditions/mitigating measures that may be necessary; and
- Identify any potential conflicts between oil and gas activities and the Alaska coastal management plan not addressed in the CD for Sale 186.

6. Existing Information

The MMS has acquired a substantial amount of information, including that gained through the use of traditional knowledge, on the issues and concerns related to oil and gas leasing in the Beaufort Sea.

An extensive environmental, social, and economic studies program has been underway in this area since 1975. The emphasis has been on geologic mapping, environmental characterization of biologically sensitive habitats, endangered whales and marine mammals, physical oceanography, ocean-circulation modeling, and ecological and socio-cultural effects of oil and gas activities.

Information on the Studies program, completed studies, and a program status report for continuing studies in this area may be obtained from the Chief, Environmental Studies Section, Alaska OCS Region, by telephone request at (907) 271-6577, or by written request at the address stated under Description of Area. A request may also be made via the Alaska OCS Region Web site at <http://www.mms.gov/alaska/ref/pubindex/pubsindex.htm>.

7. Tentative Schedule

The following is a list of tentative milestone dates applicable to Beaufort Sea Sale 195 covered by this call:

Request for Information published.	December 2003
Area Identification	February 2004
NEPA/Environmental Assessment Review (or Supplemental EIS) published.	August 2004
Proposed Notice and CD.	October 2004
Final Notice of Sale	February 2005
Tentative Sale Date	March 2005

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Analysis

1. Authority

The NOI is published pursuant to the regulations (40 CFR 1501.7) implementing the provisions of the NEPA of 1969 as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.* (1988)).

2. Purpose of Notice of Intent

Pursuant to the regulations (40 CFR 1501.7) implementing the procedural provisions of the NEPA of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), MMS is announcing its intent to prepare an environmental assessment for Beaufort Sea Oil and Gas Lease Sale 195, scheduled for March 2005. The environmental assessment will be prepared to determine if there are significant new issues or impacts not previously addressed in the EIS for Sales 189, 195, and 202. If no significant new issues or impacts are identified, a finding of no new significant impacts will be issued. If information is submitted in response to this request for information that identifies significant new issues and/or impacts not previously addressed, a supplemental EIS may be prepared.

3. Instructions on Notice of Intent

Federal, State, tribal, and local governments and other interested parties are requested to send their written comments on new information and issues that should be addressed in the environmental assessment to the Regional Supervisor, Leasing and Environment, Alaska OCS Region, at the address stated under Request for Information, Item 4. Comments should be enclosed in an envelope labeled "Comments on the Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for Beaufort Sea Sale 195." Comments are due no later than 45 days from publication of this notice.

Dated: December 2, 2003.

R.M. "Johnnie" Burton,

Director, Minerals Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03-31013 Filed 12-15-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

60-Day Notice of Intention To Request Clearance of Collection of Information; Opportunity for Public Comment

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intended submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and request for comments.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507 *et seq.*) and 5 CFR part 1320, the National Park Service (NPS) invites comments on its intention to request OMB to approve an existing collection in use with an OMB control number (1024-0245) associated with the United States Park Police Personal History Statements Questionnaire. The purpose of the United States Park Police Personal History Statement Questionnaire is to collect detailed information that will be used principally as a basis for an investigation to determine suitable applicants for the position of United States Park Police Officer.

DATES: To assure that the NPS considers your comments on this notice; NPS must receive the comments on or before February 17, 2004.

SEND COMMENTS TO: Lieutenant Charles A. Orton, Assistant Commander Human Resources Office, United States Park Police, 1100 Ohio Drive, SW., Washington, DC 20024, via fax at 202-619-7479, or via e-mail at Charles_A_Orton@nps.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant Charles A. Orton, Assistant Commander Human Resources Office, United States Park Police, 1100 Ohio Drive, SW., Washington, DC 20024, via fax at 202-619-7479, or via e-mail at Charles_A_Orton@nps.gov or via telephone at 202-619-7001.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: United States Park Police Personal History Statements Questionnaire.

OMB Number: 1024-0245.

Expiration Date of Approval: 2/29/04.

Type of Request: Existing collection in use with an OMB Control number.

Abstract: This information collection has an impact on individuals that apply to the position of United States Park Police Officer. The NPS uses the information collections to hire adequately screened applicants for the position of United States Park Police Officer.

Respondents: Individual applicants to the position of United States Park Police Officer.

Estimate of Burden: NPS estimates that the public burden for the United States Personal History Statements Questionnaire collection of information will average 8 hours per applicant. This estimate of burden includes time for reviewing instructions, searching information sources, and gathering and reporting the information.

Estimated Number of Respondents: NPS estimates that there are 600 respondents. This is the gross number of respondents for all of the elements included in this information collection. The net number of applicants in this information collection annually are 600 applicants. Applicants complete the application each time a vacancy announcement is published.

Estimated average number of Applicant responses: 600 annually.

Estimated average burden hours per Applicant response: 8 hours.

Estimated Annual Burden on Respondents: 4,800 Hours.

NPS is soliciting comments regarding:

(1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of NPS, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of the burden estimate including the validity of the method and assumptions used;

(3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

(4) Ways to minimize the burden of collecting the information, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology; or,

(5) Any other aspect of this collection of information.

NPS will summarize and include in the request for OMB approval all responses to this notice. All comments will also become a matter of public record. You can obtain copies of the information collection from Lieutenant Charles A. Orton, Assistant Commander Human Resources Office, United States Park Police, 1100 Ohio Drive, SW., Washington, DC 20024.

Dated: December 10, 2003.

Leonard E. Stowe,

Acting Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, WAPC.

[FR Doc. 03-30925 Filed 12-15-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312-JK-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Vessel Quotas and Operating Requirements Environmental Impact Statement, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, AK

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Vessel Quotas and Operating Requirements

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, Alaska.

The record of decision documents the NPS decision to modify quotas and operating requirements for four types of motorized watercraft—cruise ships, tour, charter, and private vessels—in Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. The decision addresses the continuing demand for motorized watercraft access into Glacier Bay in a manner that protects park resources and values while also providing a range of opportunities for visitors consistent with park purposes and values. It was based on consideration of the park's purposes and mission, resources and values, NPS policies, comments received throughout the EIS process, and information and analysis in the EIS.

The ROD briefly discusses the background for the planning effort, describes the six alternatives considered during the EIS process, states the decision and discusses the basis for it, specifies and describes the environmentally preferable alternative, identifies measures to minimize potential environmental harm, identifies ongoing and future studies and monitoring, and summarizes the results of public involvement during the planning process.

The NPS has selected alternative 6, as described in the FEIS, with the following modifications:

- The July 1 through August 21 timeframe during which a 0.25-nautical-mile vessel approach distance to a seal hauled out on ice in Johns Hopkins Inlet waters will be retained as in current regulations and will not be extended to year-round.

- A 13-knot speed limit for vessels greater than or equal to 262 feet (80 meters) will be in effect in Glacier Bay as needed, rather than a year-round basis.

- Existing conditions do not support immediate implementation of motor vessel limits in Dundas Bay. Studies and monitoring are insufficient to support the need for limits at this time. The Park Service will impose limits when a clearer need is established. The Park Service will undertake study and monitoring of use and resource conditions in Dundas Bay.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the ROD are available on request from: Nancy Swanton, EIS Project Manager, National Park Service, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, c/o 240 West 5th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. Telephone: (907) 644-3696.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy Swanton, EIS Project Manager,

National Park Service, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, c/o 240 West 5th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. Telephone: (907) 644-3696.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NPS prepared an EIS, as required, under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and Council of Environmental Quality regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500).

A Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS, published in the **Federal Register** (FR) in May 6, 2002 (67 FR 8313), formally initiated the National Park Service planning and EIS effort. The draft EIS (DEIS) was issued in March 2003. A **Federal Register** notice announcing the availability of the final EIS (FEIS) was published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on October 10, 2003, commencing the required 30-day no-action period (68 FR 58668). The final EIS describes and analyzes the environmental impacts of five action alternatives and a no-action alternative. The NPS has selected alternative 6, as described in the FEIS, with the three modifications listed above. The selected alternative is described below.

Vessel Quotas

The current daily vessel quotas in Glacier Bay will not change. They will continue as follows: two cruise ships, three tour vessels, six charter vessels, and 25 private vessels. Daily quotas for cruise ships and tour vessels will continue to apply year-round. Daily quotas for charter and private vessels will continue to apply from June 1 through August 31.

Seasonal entry quotas will be eliminated. Seasonal-use day quotas will continue to apply. For cruise ships, the seasonal-use day quota will be 139 from June 1 through August 31, with potential for increases to a maximum of 184. In May and September, the seasonal-use day quota for cruise ships will be 92, with potential for increases up to 122 (see table 1). Any increases will be incremental and based on scientific and other information and applicable authorities. The seasonal-use day quota for tour, charter, and private vessels is the allowable daily vessel quota multiplied by the number of days in the season. The season during which seasonal-use days will apply for these three types of vessels is June 1 through August 31 (92 days). Thus, the seasonal-use day quotas for tour, charter, and private vessels are:

- 276 for tour vessels (three per day multiplied by 92 days).
- 552 for charter vessels (six per day multiplied by 92 days).