

**Calendar No. 50**113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION**S. 157****[Report No. 113–19]**

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

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 28, 2013

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. BEGICH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

APRIL 22, 2013

Reported by Mr. WYDEN, without amendment

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**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”.

1 **SEC. 2. KANTISHNA HILLS MICROHYDRO PROJECT; LAND**  
2 **EXCHANGE.**

3 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) APPURTENANCE.—The term “appur-  
5 tenance” includes—

6 (A) transmission lines;

7 (B) distribution lines;

8 (C) signs;

9 (D) buried communication lines;

10 (E) necessary access routes for microhydro  
11 project construction, operation, and mainte-  
12 nance; and

13 (F) electric cables.

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

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

21 (4) MICROHYDRO PROJECT.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “microhydro  
23 project” means a hydroelectric power gener-  
24 ating facility with a maximum power generation  
25 capability of 100 kilowatts.

1 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “microhydro  
2 project” includes—

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

7 (ii) each system appurtenance of the  
8 microhydro projects; and

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

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

14 (6) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
15 the Secretary of the Interior.

16 (b) PERMITS FOR MICROHYDRO PROJECTS.—

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

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

22 (A) issued in accordance with such terms  
23 and conditions as are generally applicable to  
24 rights-of-way within units of the National Park  
25 System; and

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

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

13 (c) LAND EXCHANGE.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 **SEC. 3. DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE NATURAL**  
2 **GAS PIPELINE.**

3 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) APPURTENANCE.—

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

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

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

14 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
15 the Secretary of the Interior.

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

18 (1) a high-pressure natural gas transmission  
19 pipeline (including appurtenances) in nonwilderness  
20 areas within the boundary of Denali National Park  
21 within, along, or near the approximately 7-mile seg-  
22 ment of the George Parks Highway that runs  
23 through the Park; and

24 (2) any distribution and transmission pipelines  
25 and appurtenances that the Secretary determines to

1 be necessary to provide natural gas supply to the  
2 Park.

3 (c) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—A permit authorized  
4 under subsection (b)—

5 (1) may be issued only—

6 (A) if the permit is consistent with the  
7 laws (including regulations) generally applicable  
8 to utility rights-of-way within units of the Na-  
9 tional Park System;

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

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

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

21 **SEC. 4. DESIGNATION OF THE WALTER HARPER**  
22 **TALKEETNA RANGER STATION.**

23 (a) DESIGNATION.—The Talkeetna Ranger Station  
24 located on B Street in Talkeetna, Alaska, approximately  
25 100 miles south of the entrance to Denali National Park,

1 shall be known and designated as the “Walter Harper  
2 Talkeetna Ranger Station”.

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





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