

America Outdoors Association Bulletin

Service Standards, Periodic Evaluations, and Annual Overall Ratings for Concessioners

Bill Proposes to Amend Antiquities Act to Require Congressional Approval of Large Monuments

AOA to Submit Input to Interior Regulatory Reform Task Force

October 16, 2017

AOA Conference Agenda

December 4 - 7, 2017

Service Standards, Periodic Evaluations, and Annual Overall Ratings for Concessioners

The National Park Service Commercial Services Program will be presenting a program chat on standards. evaluations and ratings at 3:00 p.m. (ET) on Wednesday, October 18, 2017.

The chat will be presented by Kurt Rausch and Kat Berry, Commercial Services WASO - Contract Management.

The chat will present guidance for concessioners on the updated service standards, periodic evaluations, and annual overall ratings. The objectives of the chat are:

Provide guidance on the updated service standards and classifications Review the new periodic evaluation workbooks, including scoring Provide guidance on updated program standards and administrative compliance Review the updated AOR workbook Please plan one to two hours for this chat. The presentation will be available here at a later date.

To join the conference session:

Call in phone number: 888-455-4263 Participant Passcode: 1891929

Question and Answer session will follow the presentation.

Bill Proposes to Amend Antiquities Act to Require Congressional Approval of Large Monuments

Chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources Rob Bishop (R-UT) introduced and marked-up in the Committee, H.R. 3990, the National Monument Creation and Protection Act, within one week overriding objections from committee Democrats. The bill is designed to limit unilateral Presidential power to establish National Monuments and to provide states and local governments with more input when larger monuments are created.

The bill proposes to limit the President's power by

 Limiting National Monuments to 640 acres if by Presidential proclamation without restrictions provided any such units are at at least 50 miles from the nearest existing Monument;

- Allowing larger Monument of 641 to 5,000 acres if they are subject to National Environment Policy Act (NEPA) review and if the area is more than 50 miles from the nearest Monument;
- Allowing larger Monuments of 5,001 to 10,000 acres after an Environmental Impact Statement or and Environmental Assessment if the area is more than 50 miles from the nearest Monument;
- Allowing Monuments of 10,001 acres to 85,000 acres only after approval by each county, state legislature and the Governor of the State in which lands were included in the proclamation.
- Allowing emergency declarations for up to one-year.

The bill also provides for reductions in the size of existing Monuments by 85,000 acres or less by the President without review. For reductions of more than 85,000 acres NEPA compliance and approval by elected officials in the state as described above is required.

As written, the legislation is unlikely to pass this Congress due to opposition from Democrats who can filibuster the bill in the Senate. 60 votes would be necessary to close debate and the Republicans have been unable to muster 50 votes from their own party for controversial measures.

AOA to Submit Input to Interior Regulatory Reform Task Force

Interior Secretary Zinke has established a Regulatory Reform Task Force, which other agencies are expected to initiate as well, to comply with President Trump's Executive Order to reduce regulations. AOA will be submitting input on regulations for the BLM and National Park Service, which we think are unnecessary.

Some Parks use services delivered and consumed outside Parks to calculate **gross receipts**, for example. NPS has a good decription of how gross receipts should be calculated in a recent Denali National Park prospectus, which is posted on the AOA website. Download How NPS Caluculates Gross Receipts.

To provide us with your input send your ideas on regulation reductions to dbrown@americaoutdoors.org

America Outdoors Association PO Box 10847 Knoxville, TN 37939

Phone: 865-558-3595 americaoutdoors.org

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America Outdoors Association Staff

David L. Brown Hilary Wickes Sheryl Pless Nancy Lewelling

Julie Kahlfeldt

Contact

Title

Executive Director

Vice President of Government Affairs Marketing and Communications Specialist Financial Administrator Technical Administrator

info@americaoutdoors.org

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P.O. Box 10847, Knoxville, TN 37939