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PART 18—LEASING OF PROPERTIES IN PARK AREAS

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AUTHORITY: 16 U.S.C. 1 *et seq.*, particularly 16 U.S.C. 1a–2(k), and, 16 U.S.C. 470h–3.

SOURCE: 66 FR 66759, Dec. 27, 2001, unless otherwise noted.

§ 18.1 What is the authority and purpose for this part?

16 U.S.C. 1 *et seq.*, particularly 16 U.S.C. 1a–2(k), and, 16 U.S.C. 470h–3 are the authorities for this part. These authorities allow the Director (or delegated officials) to lease certain federally owned or administered property located within the boundaries of park areas. All leases to be entered into by the Director under these authorities are subject to the requirements of this part, except that, proposed leases that were solicited pursuant to this part prior to January 28, 2002, may be executed in accordance with the terms of the solicitation.

§ 18.2 What definitions do you need to know to understand this part?

In addition to the definitions contained in 36 CFR Part 1, the following definitions apply to this part:

(a) *Associated property* means land and/or structures (e.g., parking lots, retaining walls, walkways, infrastructure facilities, farm fields) related to a building or buildings and their functional use and occupancy.

(b) *Building* means an enclosed structure located within the boundaries of a park area and constructed with walls and a roof to serve a residential, industrial, commercial, agricultural or other human use.

(c) *Commercial use authorization* means a written authorization to provide services to park area visitors issued by the Director pursuant to Section 418 of Public Law 105–391 and implementing regulations.

(d) *Concession contract* has the meaning stated in 36 CFR part 51.

(e) *Fair market value rent* means the most probable rent, as of a specific date, in cash or in terms equivalent to cash, for which the property to be leased, under the terms and conditions of the lease, should rent for its highest and best permitted use after reasonable exposure in a competitive market under all conditions requisite to a fair leasing opportunity, with the lessor and the lessee each acting prudently, knowledgeably, and for self-interest, and assuming that neither is under undue duress. Determinations of fair market value rent under this part are to be made taking into account the considerations stated in § 18.5.

(f) *Historic building* means a building or buildings located within the boundaries of a park area if the building is part of a pre-historic or historic district or site included on, or eligible for inclusion on, the National Register of Historic Places.

(g) *Historic land* means land located within the boundaries of an historic property.

(h) *Historic property* means building(s) and land located within the boundaries of a park area if the building(s) and land are part of a pre-historic or historic district or site included on, or eligible for inclusion on, the National Register of Historic Places.

(i) *Land* means unimproved real property.

(j) *Lease* means a written contract entered into under the authority of this part through which use and possession of property is granted to a person for a specified period of time.

(k) *Non-historic building* is a building (or buildings) and its associated property located within the boundaries of a park area but not part of a pre-historic or historic district or site included on, or eligible for inclusion on, the National Register of Historic Places.

(l) *Non-historic land* means land located within the boundaries of a park area that is not associated property and is not part of a pre-historic or historic district or site included on, or eligible for inclusion on, the National Register of Historic Places.

(m) *Non-historic property* means building(s) and/or land that are located within the boundaries of a park area but are not part of a pre-historic or historic district or site included on, or eligible for inclusion on, the National Register of Historic Places.

(n) *Park area* means a unit of the national park system.

(o) *Property* means both historic and non-historic property that is located within the boundaries of a park area and is federally owned or administered.

(p) *Request* for bids refers to the lease bid process described in § 18.7.

(q) *Request for proposals* refers to the lease proposal process described in § 18.8.

(r) *Responsive bid or proposal* means a timely submitted bid or proposal that meets the material requirements of a request for bids or a request for proposals.

§ 18.3 What property may be leased?

(a) *In general.* The Director may lease any property (except non-historic land) under this part if the Director makes the determinations required by § 18.4.

(b) *Non-historic land.* Non-historic land may not be leased under this part. Certain non-historic land is eligible for leasing under 36 CFR part 17.

§ 18.4 What determinations must the Director make before leasing property?

Before leasing property in a park area under this part, the Director must determine that:

(a) The lease will not result in degradation of the purposes and values of the park area;

(b) The lease will not deprive the park area of property necessary for appropriate park protection, interpretation, visitor enjoyment, or administration of the park area;

(c) The lease contains such terms and conditions as will assure the leased property will be used for activity and in a manner that are consistent with the purposes established by law for the park area in which the property is located;

(d) The lease is compatible with the programs of the National Park Service;

(e) The lease is for rent at least equal to the fair market value rent of the leased property as described in § 18.5;

(f) The proposed activities under the lease are not subject to authorization through a concession contract, commercial use authorization or similar instrument; and

(g) If the lease is to include historic property, the lease will adequately insure the preservation of the historic property.

§ 18.5 May property be leased without receiving fair market value rent?

Property may be leased under this part only if the lease requires payment of rent to the government equal to or higher than the property's fair market value rent. The determination of fair market value rent shall take into account:

(a) Any restrictions on the use of the property or terms of the lease that limit the value and/or the highest and best use of the property; and

(b) Any requirements under the lease for the lessee to restore, rehabilitate or otherwise improve the leased property.

§ 18.6 Are there limitations on the use of property leased under this part?

(a) A lease issued under this part may authorize the use of the leased property for any lawful purpose, subject to the determinations required by § 18.4 and the limitations on activities set forth in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) Unless otherwise authorized by law, a lease issued under this part may not authorize the lessee to engage in activities that are subject to authorization through a concession contract, commercial use authorization or similar instrument. Proposed lease activities are subject to authorization under