ice Denali National Park and Preserve



Date: 09/27/2017

Memorandum

To: Files

From: Superintendent

Through: Park Interdisciplinary Compliance Team

Subject: Administrative use of snow machines

Description of the Action

This memorandum designates where administrative use may be allowed. Per 36 CFR 2.18, snowmobiles are prohibited in national parks except where designated, and only when their use is consistent with the park's natural, cultural, scenic and aesthetic values, safety considerations, park management objectives. If use is designated, it must not disturb wildlife or damage park resources. In the "Old Park" portions of Denali National Park and Preserve, this regulation allows use for safety considerations and to meet park management objectives. The decision has been made that to meet park management objectives, grooming of ski trails using snow machines is permitted at designated entrance area locations, Please see attached maps in PEPC for 2017-2018 grooming areas.

Background

The Final Rule (2000) for the *Permanent Closure of the Former Mt. McKinley National Park Area of Denali National Park and Preserve to the Use of Snowmachines* implemented the finding that that snow machine use in the Old Park would be detrimental to the resource values of the area and that snow machine usage for travel to and from villages and homesites and for traditional activities did not occur prior to the enactment of ANILCA, thus traditional, as well as recreational, snow machine use is prohibited (36 CFR section 13.952). As of this 2000 Final Rule, snow machine use is only allowed for administrative use as designated in the Old Park.

Snow machine use in the park and preserve additions includes administrative use pursuant to patrolling and monitoring park resources. Once adequate snow cover is determined, snow machine use by the public is permitted in the 1980 ANILCA park and preserve additions for subsistence activities and traditional activities that are permitted by ANILCA and for travel to and from villages and homesites and other valid occupancies (43 CFR 36.11).

