



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

APR 14 2014

Memorandum

To: Regional Directors

From: Deputy Director, Operations *Franny O'Shea*

Subject: Concessioner Camping Set-up Services Pilot

An important goal of the National Park Service is to expand visitation and enhance opportunities for visitors to have positive park experiences. To that end, the Director has endorsed a pilot program that seeks to make camping easier. Under this program, a visitor need not invest in all of the gear required to equip a campsite in order to participate in camping. Instead, for a fee, the visitor will reserve a campsite that has been set up and is ready to use. The National Park Hospitality Association (NPHA) is collaborating with Coleman Company Inc., on such a program, titled RENTMYTENT, which NPHA has described to several regional offices.

As part of this pilot program, superintendents may authorize concessioners operating under contracts that provide lodging or camping services to participate in the pilot program through December 31, 2014. Superintendents are encouraged to collaborate with concessioners who express interest to implement such a program where applicable.

The Director is granting park management wide latitude in the execution of this pilot project to provide a fair test of this easy camping concept. Park staff is encouraged to partner with concessioners to adapt and find creative solutions to the logistics required to stage this pilot program. The guiding principle should be to provide campers a positive experience.

The attached pages provide additional details on the scope and logistics of this pilot program including authorization and services to be provided, reservation processes, rates and fees, oversight and reporting for the pilot program.

For additional information on the program, Regional Directors should contact their Regional Concessions Chief. They may also contact Ben Erichsen, Chief, Commercial Services Program, at Ben_Erichsen@nps.gov or 202-513-7156.

Attachment