



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Sleeping Bear Dunes
National Lakeshore

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Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore News Release

September 8, 2006

For Immediate Release

Larry Johnson 231-326-5134

SOLICITATION FOR CONCESSION CONTRACT TO PROVIDE TOURBOAT AND FERRY SERVICE AT SLEEPING BEAR DUNES NATIONAL LAKESHORE

EMPIRE, MI – The National Park Service has issued a Concession Prospectus for the Tour Boat and Ferry Service at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. This business opportunity is a summer operation of tour boat and ferry service from Leland, Michigan to North Manitou Island and South Manitou Island. The Concessioner may provide motorized vehicle tours on South Manitou Island, sales of limited snacks and beverages, and transportation of kayaks and canoes. The operating season is mid-May through mid-November. Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore is located on the northwestern shore of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan's west border along Lake Michigan, approximately 23 miles west of Traverse City, Michigan.

The Manitou Islands are located northwest of the mainland portion of the Lakeshore, approximately 12 to 17 miles west of Leland, Michigan. The average annual visitation to the park is approximately 1,163,620 recreational visitors annually; however, the ferry boats transport about 10,000 people a year to the islands. Additional information about the park can be viewed at the following web site: <http://www.nps.gov/slbe>

The new Concession Contract will be awarded for a period of 10 years. Further details are available in the Prospectus. The National Park Service has determined, in accordance with 36 CFR Part 51, Subpart F, that the new Concession Contract is a qualified Concession Contract as the anticipated annual gross receipts are not expected to exceed \$500,000. Any offer must be received in the Concession Management Office of the National Park Service in Omaha, Nebraska, Midwest Regional Office, 601 Riverfront Drive, Omaha, NE 68102 no later than 4:30 p.m. on November 8, 2006 in order to be evaluated and considered for award of a Concession Contract to provide visitor services in Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. The cost for purchasing a Prospectus is \$25 by mail or \$20 if picked up in person at the address below. Parties interested in obtaining a Prospectus should mail or bring a check or money order in person (NO CASH SALES) made payable to the "National Park Service." A Tax Identification Number (TIN) or Social Security Number (SSN) must be provided on all checks.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



Prospectus copies may be obtained in person at the following address: National Park Service, Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, 9922 Front Street, Empire, Michigan 49630-9797.

If the Prospectus is purchased by mail, the front of the envelope should be marked “ATTENTION: CHIEF RANGER– MAILROOM DO NOT OPEN.” You must include in your request for the Prospectus a delivery address that will accept a Federal Express package. Inquiries on purchasing a Prospectus may be directed to Larry Johnson, Chief Ranger at ((231)326-5134, ext. 400. An electronic copy of the Prospectus is not available. The Prospectus, when issued, will contain information on the business opportunity, the new Concession Contract, the proposal package and terms and conditions under which the National Park Service will award the new Concession Contract.

For more information on Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, visit the park’s web site at <http://www.nps.gov/slbe> or call 231-326-5134.

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