

superintendent has determined that such activity is consistent with public safety and enjoyment, and sound resource management principles. The NPS has reviewed the previous GMP/EA and the environmental impacts associated with implementing this regulation and has analyzed whether environmental changes since the original issuance of the environmental assessment would trigger additional compliance activities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. Based on that review, the NPS has determined that the regulation is not in conflict with the Final GMP and that there have been no changes to conditions that would require additional NEPA compliance. In addition, when viewed in the context of current Department of the Interior and NPS standards of review, the regulation is covered by a categorical exclusion (516 DM 6, Appendix 7.4 A.10; RM 12.3.4.A(8)), and no exceptions to categorical exclusions (516 DM 2, Appendix 2; RM-12.3.5) apply to the regulation. As a result, the NPS is not legally required to prepare, and has not prepared, either an additional environmental assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement.

Government-to-Government Relationship With Tribes

In accordance with Executive Order 13175 "Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments" (65 FR 67249), the President's memorandum of April 29, 1994, "Government-to-Government Relations with Native American Tribal Governments" (59 FR 22951), and 512 DM 2 we have evaluated potential effects on Federally recognized Indian tribes and have determined that there are no potential effects; the rule will simply continue an activity that has been ongoing since before the NPS.

Public Comment Solicitation

If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments by any one of several methods. You may:

(1) Mail or hand deliver comments to the park Superintendent at National Park Service, Park Headquarters, New River Gorge NR, P.O. Box 246, Glen Jean, West Virginia 25846.

(2) Send comments by e-mail to neri_hunting@nps.gov; or by fax to (304) 465-6559.

(3) Comment via the Internet to neri_hunting@nps.gov.

Please include "NERI Hunting Rule" in the subject line and your name and return address in the body of your message. Our practice is to make comments, including names and

addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the rulemaking record which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials or organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Clarity of This Regulation

Executive Order 12866 requires each agency to write regulations that are easy to understand. We invite your comments on how to make this rule easier to understand, including answers to questions such as the following: (1) Are the requirements in the rule clearly stated? (2) Does the rule contain technical language or jargon that interferes with its clarity? (3) Does the format of the rule (grouping and order of sections, use of headings, paragraphing, etc.) aid or reduce its clarity? (4) Would the rule be easier to read if it were divided into more (but shorter) sections? (A "section" appears in bold type and is preceded by the symbol "\$" and a numbered heading; for example § 7.89 New River Gorge National River.) (5) Is the description of the rule in the "Supplementary Information" section of the preamble helpful in understanding the proposed rule? What else could we do to make the rule easier to understand? Send a copy of any comments that concern how we could make this rule easier to understand to: Office of Regulatory Affairs, Department of the Interior, Room 7229, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240. You may also e-mail the comments to this address: Exsec@ios.doi.gov.

Drafting Information: The primary authors of this regulation were Patricia Sheehan, NPS Northeast Regional Office; Chick Fagan, NPS Office of Policy and Regulations; Calvin Hite, Superintendent, New River Gorge National River; and Jason Waanders, Office of the Solicitor, Department of the Interior.

List of Subjects in 36 CFR Part 7

District of Columbia, National parks, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

The Interim Final Rule

■ For the reasons stated in the preamble, the NPS amends the Special Regulations, Areas of the National Park System (36 CFR part 7) to read as follows:

PART 7—SPECIAL REGULATIONS, AREAS OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

■ 1. The authority citation for part 7 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1, 3, 9a, 460(q), 462(k); Sec. 7.96 also issued under D.C. Code 8-137 (1981) and D.C. Code 40-721 (1981).

■ 2. Add § 7.89 to read as follows:

§ 7.89 New River Gorge National River.

(a) *Hunting.* (1) *May I hunt within New River Gorge National River?* Yes, you may hunt if you:

(i) Possess a valid West Virginia State hunting license or permit, or are exempt under provisions of West Virginia law.

(ii) Comply with the hunting seasons, harvest limits, and any other conditions established by the State of West Virginia.

(iii) Do not violate any closures or limitations established by the Superintendent for reasons of public safety, resource protection, or other management considerations.

(2) *Do West Virginia state hunting laws apply within New River Gorge National River?* Yes, non-conflicting State hunting laws are adopted as part of the regulations in this section and apply within New River Gorge National River.

(b) [Reserved]

Dated: September 9, 2003.

Craig Manson,

Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

[FR Doc. 03-24174 Filed 9-24-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

38 CFR Part 1

RIN 2900-AL40

Eligibility for an Appropriate Government Marker for a Grave Already Marked at Private Expense

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Interim final rule.

SUMMARY: This document amends Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) regulations to reflect changes made by the Veterans Education and Benefits