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hereafter referred to as *the Act*, shall be fixed by the authorized officer but shall not exceed 20 years for nonprofit associations and nonprofit corporations, and 25 years for Federal, State, and local governmental entities. A lease may contain, at the discretion of the authorized officer, a provision giving the lessee the privilege of renewing the lease for a like period.

(b) Leases shall be issued on a form approved by the Director, Bureau of Land Management and shall contain terms and conditions required by law, and public policy, and which the authorized officer considers necessary for the proper development of the land, for the protection of Federal property, and for the protection of the public interest.

(c) Leases shall be terminable by the authorized officer upon failure of the lessee to comply with the terms of the lease, upon a finding, after notice and opportunity for hearing, that all or part of the land is being devoted to a use other than the use authorized by the lease, or upon a finding that the land has not been used by the lessee for the purpose specified in the lease for any consecutive period specified by the authorized officer. The specified period of non-use or unauthorized use shall not be less than 2 years nor more than 5 years.

(d) Reasonable annual rentals shall be established by the Secretary of the Interior and shall be payable in advance. Upon notification of the amount of the yearly rental, a lease applicant shall be required to pay at least the first year's rental before the lease shall be issued. Upon the voluntary relinquishment of a lease before the expiration of its term, any rental paid for the unexpired portion of the term shall be returned to the lessee upon a proper application for repayment to the extent that the amount paid covers a full lease year or years of the remainder of the term of the original lease. Leases for recreational or historic-monument purposes to a State, county or other State or Federal instrumentality or political subdivision shall be issued without monetary consideration.

(e) Leases are not transferable except with the consent of the authorized officer. Transferees shall have all the

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qualifications of applicants under the Act and shall be subject to all the terms and conditions of the regulations in this part.

(f) A lessee shall not be permitted to cut timber from the leased lands without prior permission from the authorized officer.

(g) All leases shall reserve to the United States all minerals together with the right to mine and remove the same under applicable laws and regulations to be established by the Secretary of the Interior.

§ 2912.2 Renewal of leases.

A lessee with a privilege of renewal must notify the authorized officer at least 180 days before the end of the lease period that it will exercise the privilege.

§ 2912.3 Substitution of a new lease.

A lessee may apply for a new lease at any time. Applications for new leases shall be accompanied by consent of the lessee to cancellation of the existing lease upon the issuance of the new lease and by three copies of a statement showing (a) the need for a new lease and (b) any changes in the use or management of the lands or the terms and conditions of the lease which the applicant desires.

Subpart 2916—Alaska Fur Farm

SOURCE: 35 FR 9665, June 13, 1970, unless otherwise noted.

§ 2916.0-3 Authority.

The Act of July 3, 1926 (44 Stat. 821, 48 U.S.C. secs. 360, 361), authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to lease public lands on the mainland of or islands in Alaska, with the exception of the Pribilof Islands, for fur farming, for periods not exceeding ten years.

§ 2916.0-6 Policy.

(a) The authority to lease the public lands in Alaska for fur-farming purposes was granted in order to promote the development of the production of furs in Alaska.

(b) No lease for the purpose of raising beavers will be granted on any area already occupied by a beaver colony nor

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will any such lease be granted on streams or lakes where the activities of beavers may interfere with the run or spawning of salmon.

(c) In order to offer more people an opportunity to lease lands, and to avoid tying up large areas of land unnecessarily, fur-farming leases on public lands will not be granted for areas greater than are justified by the needs and experience of the applicant.

§ 2916.0-8 Area subject to lease.

(a) *Acreage limitation and exceptions.*

(1) On the mainland such leases may be for an area not exceeding 640 acres. A lease may cover an entire island, provided the area thereof does not exceed 30 square miles, and provided the need for such entire island is clearly established. Islands so close together that animals can cross from one to the other and whose combined area does not exceed 30 square miles, will be treated as one island. Islands having an area of more than 30 square miles will be treated as mainland.

(2) Where a lease is granted for an area in excess of 640 acres on an island, the manager may, after notice to the lessee, reduce the area to an amount not less than 640 acres, if he determines that the lessee cannot reasonably use all of the area for which the lease was granted.

(b) *Lands subject to lease.* (1) Vacant, unreserved, and unappropriated public lands are subject to lease.

(2) Except for lands under the jurisdiction of the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service, public lands withdrawn or reserved for any purpose are subject to lease, if the department or agency having jurisdiction thereof consents to the issuance of the lease.

§ 2916.1 Terms and conditions.

§ 2916.1-1 Commencement of operations; stocking lands.

The lessee shall, within one year from the date of issuance of the lease, commence operations by taking possession of the leased area, and by placing thereon within that period such improvements as may be needed for such operations and as will show good faith, and shall thereafter develop the fur-

farming enterprise on the leased area with reasonable diligence. The lessee shall stock the leased area with the minimum of fur-bearing animals required by the lease within the periods specified in the lease.

§ 2916.1-2 Rights reserved; protection of improvements and roads.

Nothing in this part or any lease issued under this part shall interfere with or prevent:

(a) The prospecting, locating, development, entering, leasing, or patenting of mineral resources in the leased area under laws applicable thereto.

(b) The use and disposal of timber or other resources on or in the leased area under applicable laws.

(c) The use and occupation of parts of leased areas for the taking, preparing, manufacturing, or storing of fish or fish products, or the utilization of the lands for purposes of trade or business, to the extent and in the manner provided by law, and as authorized by the State Director.

(d) The acquisition or granting of rights-of-way or easements under applicable laws and regulations.

(e) Hunting and fishing under applicable Federal and State hunting and fishing laws and regulations, but the authorized officer may prohibit or restrict, or he may authorize the lessee to prohibit or restrict hunting or fishing on such parts of the leased area and for such periods as he may determine to be necessary in order to prevent any substantial interference with the purposes for which the lease is issued.

§ 2916.2 Procedures.

§ 2916.2-1 Applications.

(a) *Qualifications of applicants.* Any person who is a citizen of the United States, or any group or association composed of such persons, or any corporation organized under the laws of the United States, or of any State thereof, authorized to conduct business in Alaska may file an application.

(b) *Contents of application.* An application for lease should be filed in duplicate in the proper office. No specific form of application is required, but the application should contain or be accompanied by the following: