Denali rail cars to be dropped

The National Park Service and ARA Outdoor World announced recently that the use of railroad sleeping cars for overnight accommodations at the Denali National Park Hotel will be discontinued this summer because of safety problems.

ARA owns and manages the Denali National Park Hotel under contract with the National Park Service.

The railroad cars were brought to the park in 1973 as a temporary measure to accommodate guests after the original McKinley Park Hotel burned. The unique, rail car lodging proved extremely popular over the years.

ARA spokesmen said they are exploring the possibility of moving in comparable, but safer, units to replace the cars, but that new units may not be in place for the visitor season this summer.