

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION /PLAN CONFORMANCE DOCUMENTATION

DOI-BLM-AK-F020-2013-0014-CX

A. Background

Proposed Action: 2930 Special Recreation Permit - Competitive Use

Date of Proposed Action: January 2013 to December 2017

Location: Tanacross Airstrip, SW corner.

Applicant: Alaska Sports Car Lions Club

Serial Number: FF095149

Description of the Proposed Action

The applicant has applied to renew their permit first issued in 1993 and maintained in good standing. The proposed action is for use of the Tanacross Airstrip for automobile time-trials and races. They would also use the adjacent area for camping. Races are generally conducted in the afternoon with practice runs occurring during the morning hours. Portable toilets are provided and all garbage and trash is removed from the site after each use. Safety barriers are provided in addition to fire extinguishers and corner workers to monitor track safety. Activities occur two to three times during the summer for three day durations. There are typically 20 racers per event and up to 40 spectators. Close communication is maintained with organizers, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the Tok Division of Natural Resources, Forestry.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Fortymile Management Framework Plan

Date Approved/Amended: 09/08/1980

The Proposed action is in conformance with the Land Use Plan (LUP), even though not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP objective:

Lands Objective 1: Make lands available for intensive use and public purposes.

C. Compliance with NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9 E (9) (DOI 2004), which states, "Renewals and assignments of leases, permits or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorization."

The proposed action must be screened against the extraordinary circumstances found in 43 CFR 46.215 and listed below. Any “yes” finding requires that an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement be prepared for the Proposed Action.

EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES	YES/NO
1) May have significant impacts on public health or safety.	No
2) May have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.	No
3) May have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.	No
4) May have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	No
5) Might establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	No
6) May have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	No
7) May have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.	No
8) May have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.	No
9) Might violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	No
10) May have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).	No
11) Might limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).	No
12) Could contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).	No

Recommendation

I have found that the Proposed Action is compatible with the Fortymile Management Framework Plan, and is an action that can be categorically excluded. The Proposed Action does not trigger any of the Extraordinary Circumstances found in 516 DM Chapter 2, Appendix 2. I recommend that the Proposed Action be allowed and that an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement is not needed.

/s/ Collin Cogley

Collin Cogley Outdoor Recreation Planner
Eastern Interior Field Office

3/29/2013

Date

Concurrence

I concur that the above action is in conformance with the Fortymile Management Framework Plan, does not meet any of the extraordinary circumstances, and qualifies as a Categorical Exclusion (CX).

/s/ Lenore Heppler

Lenore Heppler
Field Manager
Eastern Interior Field Office

3/29/2013

Date

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Collin Cogley (Outdoor Recreation Planner), Eastern Interior Field Office, at 907-474-2382.