

# **Categorical Exclusion**

**Prepared by**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**  
**Bureau of Land Management**

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# **Chapter 1. PLAN CONFORMANCE / NEPA COMPLIANCE RECORD**

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DOI-BLM-AKF010-2013-0005-CX

**BLM Office: Arctic Field Office, Bureau of Land Management**

**Applicant:**

Aaron J. Bloomquist  
DBA Full Curl Outdoors  
P.O. Box 560  
Tok, Alaska 99780

**Lease/Serial/Case File No.:** FF096556

**Proposed Action Title/Type:** Special Recreation Permit

**Description of Proposed Action:**

The applicant, Full Curl Outdoors ([www.fullcurlalaska.com](http://www.fullcurlalaska.com)), established in 2006 by Mr. Bloomquist, is proposing to conduct three caribou/bear guided hunting trips within the NPR-A in state guide management unit (GMU) 26-12. The authorization would be a one year renewable authorization. The dates of the trips would fall between July 28th and September 15th. Each trip would consist of 2 groups; each group would have 3 hunters and 1 guide. The area of use is shown in figure 1; however they may wander from the trail on lands within 26-12.

Mr. Bloomquist and his wife Cary do the majority of the guiding but occasionally hire experienced assistant guides. They have completed safety training and have experience in remote Alaska conditions.

Mode of transportation to and from the field would be via fixed wing aircraft such as a Beaver, Otter or Cessna 185. There would be 1-2 take offs and landings per trip to get to a camp spot and 1-3 take off and lands per trip for takeout, for a maximum number of total take offs and landings of 15. If the plane they are able to charter is smaller than those listed it would add to the number of take offs and landings required. Once on the ground the groups would travel via whitewater type rafts which are 12-14 feet long. All human waste will be disposed of in accordance with Arctic Field Office requirements. The only fuel use would consist of propane or butane canisters for the cook stoves.

The emergency plan for Full Curl Outdoors consists of carrying a first aid kit, aircraft radios and Iridium satellite phones with a GPS distress function that acts like an ELT when activated.



**Figure 1.1. Applicant Supplied Map**

**Location of Proposed Action:**

**Legal Description: Nigu Route**

Meridian	Township	Range	Sections	Ownership	Notes
Kateel	31 North	16 East	1-36	BLM Managed Land	Put In
Kateel	31 North	15 East	1-36	BLM Managed Land	
Kateel	31 North	14 East	2-11,14-18,21-23,26-28,33-35	BLM Managed Land	
			1,2,11-14,19,20,23-26,29-32,35,36	Noatak Preserve	
Kateel	31 North	13 East	1-3,6,7,12,17-22,26-29,34-36	BLM Managed Land	
			4-6,8-11,13-17,19,20,23-25,27-34	Noatak Preserve	
Kateel	32 North	13 East	1-36	BLM Managed Land	
			31	Noatak Preserve	
Kateel	32 North	12 East	1-28,33-36	BLM Managed Land	
			16,17,19-21,28-33	Noatak Preserve	
Kateel	33 North	12 East	1-36	BLM Managed Land	
Kateel	33 North	11 East	1-36	BLM Managed Land	
Kateel	34 North	11 East	7-36	BLM Managed Land	
Umiat	12 South	19 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land	
Umiat	11 South	19 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land	
Umiat	10 South	20 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land	
Umiat	10 South	19 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land	

Umiat	9 South	19 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land	
Umiat	9 South	18 West	1-36	BLM Managed Lands	Pac Paddle Lake
			1,12,13,24,25,36	Eastern Edge State Land	
Umiat	8 South	18 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land	
Umiat	7 South	18 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land	
Umiat	6 South	18 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land	
Umiat	6 South	17 West	1-8,17-20,29-32	BLM Managed Lands	Take out
			2-5,8-17,20-27,34-36	State Selected	
			1,28,29,32,33	State Lands	

### Legal Description: Colville Route

Meridian	Township	Range	Sections	Ownership
Umiat	5 South	27 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land
Umiat	5 South	26 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land
Umiat	5 South	25 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land
Umiat	5 South	24 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land
Umiat	6 South	24 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land
Umiat	6 South	23 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land
Umiat	6 South	22 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land
Umiat	7 South	22 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land
Umiat	6 South	21 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land
Umiat	7 South	21 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land
Umiat	6 South	21 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land
Umiat	6 South	20 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land
Umiat	6 South	19 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land
Umiat	6 South	18 West	1-36	BLM Managed Land
Umiat	6 South	17 West	1-8,17-20,29-32	Excluding State Lands
			2-5,8-17,20-27,34-36	State Selected
			1,28,29,32,33	State Lands
Umiat	6 South	16 West	4-6	BLM Managed Land Excluding State Lands
			18-21,28-33	State Selected
			4-9,16,17	State Land
			1-3,10-15,22-27,34-36	Arctic Slope Regional Corporation
Umiat	5 South	16 West	1-33,35	BLM Managed Land
			13,24,25,27,28,33-36	BLM Managed Land Excluding Reg/Sel
			29-32	State Lands.
Umiat	5 South	15 West	3-7,9,10,17,19-21,28-30	Take out - BLM Managed Land
			3,7-10,16-18,21,28-30	BLM Managed Land Excluding Reg/Sel.
			1,2,8,11-15,22-27,31-36	Arctic Slope Regional Corporation

## Part I: Plan Conformance Review

The proposed action is subject to the following planning documents:

*Chapter 1 PLAN CONFORMANCE / NEPA  
COMPLIANCE RECORD  
Part I: Plan Conformance Review*

National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (IAP/EIS) 2012  
Colville River Special Area Management Plan (2008)  
The National Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976

The proposed action is not inconsistent with the purposes of the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976. The applicant will be provided with stipulations entitled “FF096556 Full Curl Outdoors SRP Stipulations 2013” and “United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Commercial Land Based Special Recreation Permit Stipulations.”

\_\_\_\_\_ Date March 19, 2013

Donna L. Wixon  
Natural Resource Specialist, Arctic Field Office

## Part II: NEPA Review and Decision

Categorical Exclusion Review.

This proposed action meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 11.9, BLM H-1790-1 national Environmental Policy Act Handbook Appendix 4- H. BLM Categorical Exclusions.

**“Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day use or overnight use up to 14 consecutive nights; that impacts no more than 3 staging area acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized in a land use plan.”**

The proposed action has been reviewed to determine if any extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR 46.210 and 46.215, apply.

The proposed action will not meet any of the extraordinary circumstances listed below

Extraordinary Circumstances	Yes	No
2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety.		X
2.2 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.		X
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2) (E)].		X
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
2.7 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.		X
2.8 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.		X

2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		X
2.11 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).		X
2.12 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).		X

Date March 19, 2013

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 Donna L. Wixon  
 Natural Resource Specialist, Arctic Field Office