



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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DETERMINATION OF NEPA ADEQUACY (DNA) WORKSHEET

Proposed Action Title/Type: Yamaha Motor Corporation Land Use Permit

NEPA Register Number: DOI-BLM-AK-A020-2013-0017-DNA

Case File Number: AA-093580

Location / Legal Description: T. 21 S., R. 11 E., FM; T. 22 S. R. 12 E., FM; T. 13 N., R. 1 W., CRM; T. 14 N., R. 1 W., CRM. (Paxson Lake vicinity)

Applicant (if any): Yamaha Motor Corporation

A. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

The BLM is considering authorization of a three-year land use permit to Yamaha Motor Corporation for snowmachine testing and development on public lands in the vicinity of Paxson Lake, Alaska. Yamaha Motor Corporation would conduct two rounds of testing annually, likely in the winter and spring when snow cover is sufficient for test riding. The test crew would consist of 12 people, including 4-5 test riders. Maintenance and fueling would occur on private lands at Paxson Lodge.

B. LAND USE PLAN CONFORMANCE

Applicable Land Use Plan: East Alaska Resource Management Plan, approved September 7, 2007.

The proposed action is in conformance with plan because it is specifically provided for in the following planning decisions:

I. Lands and Realty

I-1: Goals

Provide a balance between land use (rights-of-way, land use permits, leases and sales) and resource protection that best serves the public at large.

And

I-2. Land Use Authorizations:

Land use authorizations include various authorizations and agreements to use BLM lands such as right-of-way grants, road, temporary use permits, under several different authorities; leases, permits and easements under section 302 of the Federal Land Policy Act of 1976 (FLPMA); airport leases under the Act of May 24, 1928; and Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) leases.

C. IDENTIFY APPLICABLE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) DOCUMENTS AND OTHER RELATED DOCUMENTS THAT COVER THE PROPOSED ACTION.

Yamaha Motor Co., Commercial Snowmobile Testing Activities Near Paxson, Alaska. AK-050-EA-00-029 dated August 18, 2000.

AK-050-AD-06-029 dated October 3, 2006.

GDO Document No. GDO-00-24 – Assessment of Undertakings Not Subject to Further 106, , September 22, 2000.

Compliance with ANILCA Section 810 Summary, August 23, 2000.

D. NEPA ADEQUACY CRITERIA

1. *Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?*

Yes, the new proposed action is identical to the proposed action in AK-050-EA-00-029 (see 2000 EA, 1). The applicant has performed this action in the past and has indicated they have no intention of changing their operations.

2. *Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?*

Yes, the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document is appropriate for the new proposed action. No new circumstances, situations, nor other considerations have been identified. The new proposed action would consist of the same activities in the same locations as described in the 2000 EA (p. 1).

3. *Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?*

Yes, in consideration to the previous environmental review, there is no new information nor circumstances that have been discovered during the processing of the current application.

4. *Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?*

Yes, the direct, indirect and cumulative effects are not expected to change from the previous analysis. The new proposed action would occur on snow-covered ground; no ground disturbance would occur as a result of this activity.

5. *Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?*

Yes, the previous document had adequate public involvement in review of the document and proposed action. No controversial issues have been discovered related to the previous or current proposed action.

E. PERSONS, AGENCIES, AND BLM STAFF CONSULTED

Note: Refer to the EA/EIS for a complete list of the team members participating in the preparation of the original environmental analysis or planning documents.

Joseph Hart, Realty Specialist and Project Lead for the GFO BLM.

John Jangala, Archeologist for GFO, BLM.

Sandra Bullock, Wildlife Biologist for GFO, BLM.

Tim Sundlov, Fisheries Biologist for GFO, BLM.

Elijah Waters, Assistant Field Manager for GFO, BLM.

Molly Cobbs, Environmental Coordinator for ADO, BLM.

F. CONCLUSION

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation identified in Part C of this DNA Worksheet fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM’s compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.

/s/ Laurie Hull-Engles

August 21, 2013

Signature of the Responsible Official

Date

Note: The signed Conclusion on this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM’s internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR § 4 and the program-specific regulations.

Attachments

Yamaha Motor Co., Commercial Snowmobile Testing Activities Near Paxson, Alaska. AK-050-EA-00-029 dated August 18, 2000.