

A. Background

BLM Office: Arctic Field Office LLAKF010

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: FF096795

Applicant: Lynn DeGeorge
ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.
P.O. Box 100360
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-0360

Dates of Proposed Activity: March 15 – April 15, 2014

Proposed Action Title/Type: Geotechnical Exploration (298401)

Description of Proposed Action: Ms. Lynn DeGeorge with ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc. (CPAI) is requesting an authorization to cover work that has already taken place. Ms. DeGeorge stated that while she applied for and received authorization from various other state and borough entities she was remiss in applying for an authorization from the land manager.

CPAI conducted geotechnical exploration in support of the Great Mooses Tooth (GMT) 1 project. The primary objective of the geotechnical work was to explore subsurface conditions at multiple locations. The routes and locations were selected based on the design of the proposed GMT1 development. The project area was accessed following this year's CPAI exploration ice road. There were 16 crewmembers that worked on the project, 7 worked during the day and 9 worked at night. While conducting the work in the NPR-A the crew stayed at this year's Rendezvous Exploration camp.

CPAI drilled and sampled twelve boreholes (three at each abutment and two at Piers 2, 3 and 4) at the Tinmiaqsiugvik Bridge and seven at the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation Mine Site. These boreholes were not on BLM managed land. The State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game issued CPAI a Fish Habitat Permits for activity at this site. Activity on BLM managed land consisted of the access routes (Figure 1) and activity at the GMT1 proposed location (Figure 3). Two boreholes were drilled at the proposed GMT1 Pad, with ground temperatures taken at each location. The boreholes were advanced to depths of 40 to 120 feet using a CME-75 drill that is specially configured for geotechnical drilling and is specifically equipped for use in arctic conditions. To reduce ground surface impacts the drill was mounted in a tracked enclosure. The tracked enclosed drill was moved within the project area and was supported throughout the program by two RD-85 Rolligons. The soils were sampled at approximately 5-foot intervals using a split barrel sampler driven ahead of the drill bit by a drop hammer. Samples of the drill cuttings were collected using grab sample techniques for laboratory testing.

Fuel was stored in double walled tanks with 110% containment. CPAI followed their typical fuel transfer standard operating procedure for refueling.

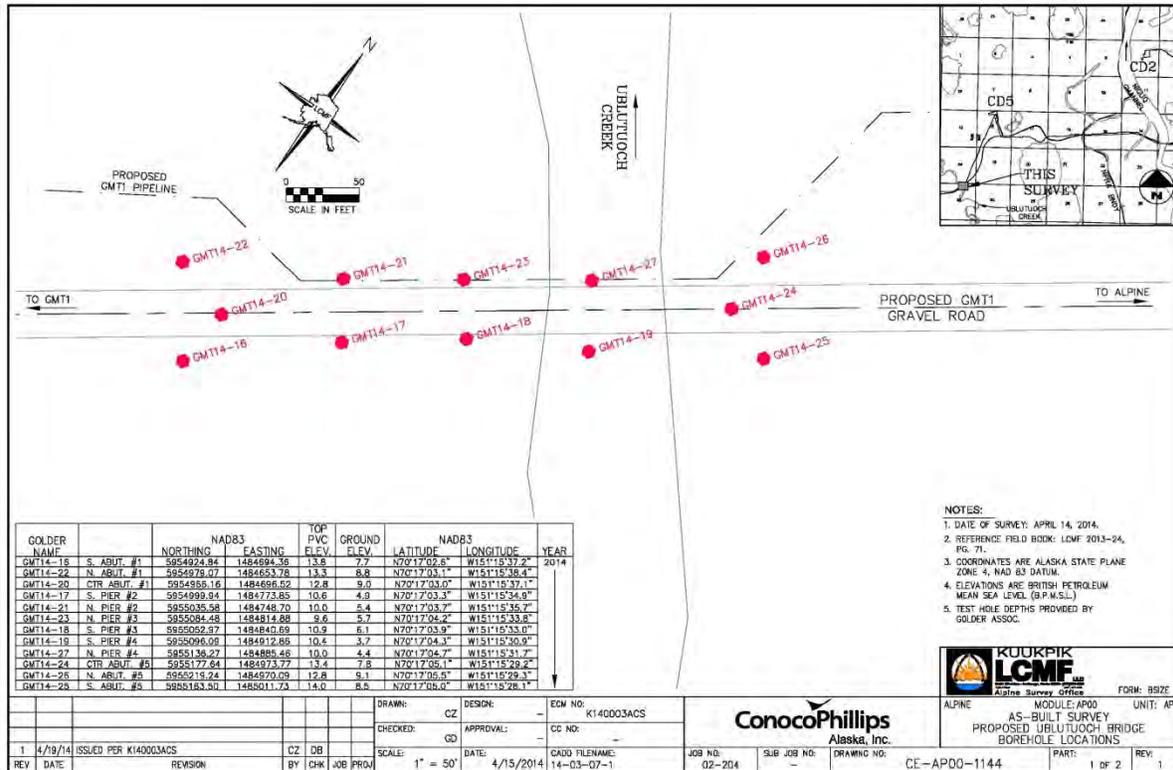


Figure 2: Proposed Tinmaiqsugvik Bridge Borehole Locations(Not on BLM Managed Land)

Legal Description Proposed Tinmaiqsugvik Bridge Borehole Locations (All Umiat Meridian:

Site Name	Latitude	Longitude	Township	Range	Section	Ownership
Centerline Abutment #1	70° 17'03.0"	W 151° 15' 37.1"	11North	3 East	25 NWNE	No BLM Managed Land
Centerline Abutment #5	70° 17'05.1"	W 151° 15' 29.2"	11North	3 East	25 NWNE	No BLM Managed Land
North Abutment #1	70° 17'03.1"	W 151° 15' 38.4"	11North	3 East	25 NWNE	No BLM Managed Land
North Abutment #5	70° 17'05.5"	W 151° 15' 29.3"	11North	3 East	25 NWNE	No BLM Managed Land
North Pier #2	70° 17'03.7"	W 151° 15' 35.7"	11North	3 East	25 NWNE	No BLM Managed Land
North Pier #3	70° 17'04.2"	W 151° 15' 33.8"	11North	3 East	25 NWNE	No BLM Managed Land
North Pier #4	70° 17'04.7"	W 151° 15' 31.7"	11North	3 East	25 NWNE	No BLM Managed Land
South Abutment #1	70° 17'02.6"	W 151° 15' 37.2"	11North	3 East	25 NWNE	No BLM Managed Land
South Abutment #5	70° 17'05.0"	W 151° 15' 28.1"	11North	3 East	25 NWNE	No BLM Managed Land
South Pier #2	70° 17'03.3"	W 151° 15' 34.9"	11North	3 East	25 NWNE	No BLM Managed Land
South Pier #3	70° 17'03.9"	W 151° 15' 33.0"	11North	3 East	25 NWNE	No BLM Managed Land

South Pier #4	70° 17'04.3"	W 151° 15' 30.9"	11North	3 East	25 NWNE	No BLM Managed Land
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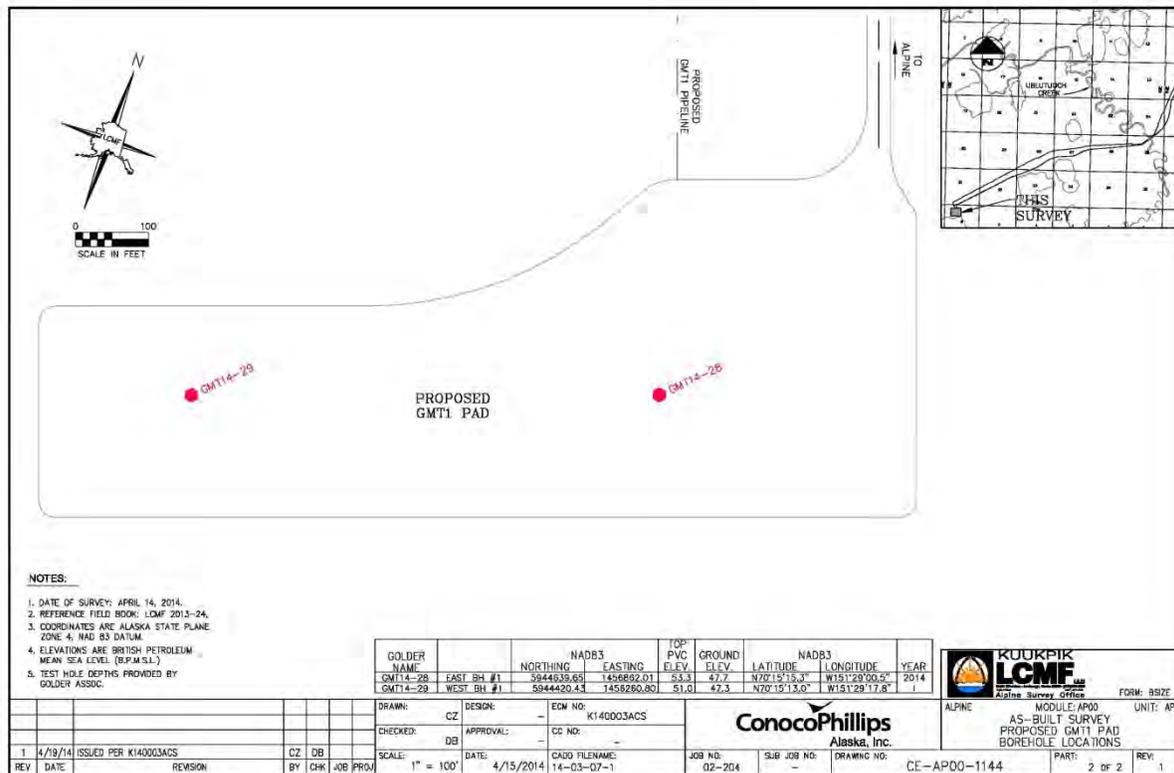


Figure 3: Proposed GMT1 Pad Borehole Locations

Legal Description GMT1 Pad (All Umiat Meridian):

Site Name	Latitude	Longitude	Township	Range	Section	Ownership
East (GMT 14-28)	70° 15'15.3"	W 151° 29' 00.5"	10North	3 East	6 NWNW	BLM Land Manager
West (GMT14-29)	70° 15'13.0"	W 151° 29' 17.8"	10North	3 East	6 NWNW	BLM Land Manager

B. Land Use Plan Conformance Review

The proposed action is in conformance with the following planning document: National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (IAP/EIS) dated November 2012 and associated Record of Decision dated February 2013.

The proposed action is in conformance with the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act, which allows for the authorization of uses consistent with the purposes of the Act.

C. Compliance with NEPA

The IAP/EIS Record of Decisions for the NPR-A developed stipulations and best management practices applicable to all activities in NPR-A. The stipulations and best management practices
 DOI-BLM-AKF010-2014-0023-CX 4 May 27, 2014

applicable to the proposed action will be provided, along with project-specific mitigation, to the applicant and are entitled: “FF096795 Conoco Geotechnical Exploration Permit Stipulations 2014”.

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 2, Appendix 1, or 516 DM 11.9. Specifically, the proposed action meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 11.9, BLM H-1790-1 National Environmental Policy Act Handbook Appendix 3 Departmental Categorical Exclusions.

“Nondestructive data collection, inventory (including field, aerial, and satellite surveying and mapping), study, research, and monitoring activities.”

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply.

The proposed action has been reviewed to determine if any of the exceptions 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

D. Approval and Contact Information

I considered the proposed action and have determined that there is no potential for significant impacts.

/s/Lon Kelly
Authorized Officer, Arctic Field Office

May 27, 2014

Date

Contact Person:

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact:

Donna Wixon
Natural Resource Specialist
Bureau of Land Management
Arctic Field Office
1150 University Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

Phone: 907-474-2301
Email: dwixon@blm.gov

FF096795 Conoco Geotechnical Exploration Permit Stipulations 2014

Project Specific Stipulations:

1. Provide the BLM with a copy of the data collected at each site at which data was collected on BLM Managed Lands

NPR-A 2013 ROD Stipulations and Best Management Practices

Waste Prevention, Handling, Disposal, Spills, Air Quality, and Public Health and Safety

A-1 Best Management Practice

Objective: Protect the health and safety of oil and gas field workers and the general public by disposing of solid waste and garbage in accordance with applicable federal, State, and local law and regulations.

Requirement/Standard: Areas of operation shall be left clean of all debris.

A-2 Best Management Practice

Objective: Minimize impacts on the environment from non-hazardous and hazardous waste generation. Encourage continuous environmental improvement. Protect the health and safety of oil field workers and the general public. Avoid human-caused changes in predator populations.

Requirement/Standard: Lessees/permittees shall prepare and implement a comprehensive waste management plan for all phases of exploration and development, including seismic activities. The plan shall be submitted to the authorized officer for approval, in consultation with federal, State, and North Slope Borough regulatory and resource agencies, as appropriate (based on agency legal authority and jurisdictional responsibility), as part of a plan of operations or other similar permit application. Management decisions affecting waste generation shall be addressed in the following order of priority: 1) prevention and reduction, 2) recycling, 3) treatment, and 4) disposal. The plan shall consider and take into account the following requirements:

- a. Methods to avoid attracting wildlife to food and garbage. The plan shall identify precautions that are to be taken to avoid attracting wildlife to food and garbage
- b. Disposal of putrescible waste. Requirements prohibit the burial of garbage. Lessees and permitted users shall have a written procedure to ensure that the handling and disposal of putrescible waste will be accomplished in a manner that prevents the attraction of wildlife. All putrescible waste shall be incinerated, backhauled, or composted in a manner approved by the authorized officer. All solid waste, including incinerator ash, shall be disposed of in an approved waste-disposal facility in accordance with EPA and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation regulations and procedures. The burial of human waste is prohibited except as authorized by the authorized officer.
- c. Disposal of pumpable waste products. Except as specifically provided, the BLM requires that all pumpable solid, liquid, and sludge waste be disposed of by

injection in accordance with EPA, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission regulations and procedures. On-pad temporary muds and cuttings storage, as approved by Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, will be allowed as necessary to facilitate annular injection and/or backhaul operations.

- d. Disposal of wastewater and domestic wastewater. The BLM prohibits wastewater discharges or disposal of domestic wastewater into bodies of fresh, estuarine, and marine water, including wetlands, unless authorized by a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System or State permit.

A-3 Best Management Practice

Objective: Minimize pollution through effective hazardous-materials contingency planning.

Requirement/Standard: For oil- and gas-related activities, a hazardous materials emergency contingency plan shall be prepared and implemented before transportation, storage, or use of fuel or hazardous substances. The plan shall include a set of procedures to ensure prompt response, notification, and cleanup in the event of a hazardous substance spill or threat of a release. Procedures in the plan applicable to fuel and hazardous substances handling (associated with transportation vehicles) shall consist of best management practices if approved by the authorized officer. The plan shall include a list of resources available for response (e.g., heavy-equipment operators, spill-cleanup materials or companies), and names and phone numbers of federal, State, and North Slope Borough contacts. Other federal and State regulations may apply and require additional planning requirements. All appropriate staff shall be instructed regarding these procedures. In addition contingency plans related to facilities developed for oil production shall include requirements to:

- a. provide refresher spill-response training to North Slope Borough and local community spill-response teams on a yearly basis,
- b. plan and conduct a major spill-response field-deployment drill annually,

A-4 Best Management Practice

Objective: Minimize the impact of contaminants on fish, wildlife, and the environment, including wetlands, marshes and marine waters, as a result of fuel, crude oil, and other liquid chemical spills. Protect subsistence resources and subsistence activities. Protect public health and safety.

Requirement/Standard: Before initiating any oil and gas or related activity or operation, including field research/surveys and/or seismic operations, lessees/permittees shall develop a comprehensive spill prevention and response contingency plan per 40 CFR § 112 (Oil Pollution Act). The plan shall consider and take into account the following requirements:

- a. On-site Clean-up Materials. Sufficient oil-spill-cleanup materials (absorbents, containment devices, etc.) shall be stored at all fueling points and vehicle-maintenance areas and shall be carried by field crews on all overland moves, seismic work trains, and similar overland moves by heavy equipment.
- b. Storage Containers. Fuel and other petroleum products and other liquid chemicals shall be stored in proper containers at approved locations. Except

during overland moves and seismic operations, fuel, other petroleum products, and other liquid chemicals designated by the authorized officer that in total exceed 1,320 gallons shall be stored within an impermeable lined and diked area or within approved alternate storage containers, such as over packs, capable of containing 110% of the stored volume. In areas within 500 feet of water bodies, fuel containers are to be stored within appropriate containment.

- c. Liner Materials. Liner material shall be compatible with the stored product and capable of remaining impermeable during typical weather extremes expected throughout the storage period.
- d. Permanent Fueling Stations. Permanent fueling stations shall be lined or have impermeable protection to prevent fuel migration to the environment from overfills and spills.
- e. Proper Identification of Containers. All fuel containers, including barrels and propane tanks, shall be marked with the responsible party's name, product type, and year filled or purchased.
- f. Notice of Reportable Spills. Notice of any reportable spill (as required by 40 CFR § 300.125 and 18 AAC § 75.300) shall be given to the authorized officer as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours after occurrence.
- g. Identification of Oil Pans (“duck ponds”). All oil pans shall be marked with the responsible party’s name.

A-5 Best Management Practice

Objective: Minimize the impact of contaminants from refueling operations on fish, wildlife and the environment.

Requirement/Standard: Refueling of equipment within 500 feet of the active floodplain of any water body is prohibited. Fuel storage stations shall be located at least 500 feet from any water body with the exception that small caches (up to 210 gallons) for motor boats, float planes, ski planes, and small equipment, e.g. portable generators and water pumps, are permitted. The authorized officer may allow storage and operations at areas closer than the stated distances if properly designed to account for local hydrologic conditions.

A-7 Best Management Practice

Objective: Minimize the impacts to the environment of disposal of produced fluids recovered during the development phase on fish, wildlife, and the environment.

Requirement/Standard: Discharge of produced water in upland areas and marine waters is prohibited.

A-8 Best Management Practice

Objective: Minimize conflicts resulting from interaction between humans and bears during oil and gas activities.

Requirement/Standard: Oil and gas lessees and their contractors and subcontractors will, as a part of preparation of lease operation planning, prepare and implement bear-interaction plans to minimize conflicts between bears and humans. These plans shall include measures to:

- a. Minimize attraction of bears to the drill sites.
- b. Organize layout of buildings and work sites to minimize human/bear interactions.
- c. Warn personnel of bears near or on work sites and identify proper procedures to be followed.
- d. Establish procedures, if authorized, to discourage bears from approaching the work site.
- e. Provide contingencies in the event bears do not leave the site or cannot be discouraged by authorized personnel.
- f. Discuss proper storage and disposal of materials that may be toxic to bears.
- g. Provide a systematic record of bears on the work site and in the immediate area.

A-9 Best Management Practice

Objective: Reduce air quality impacts.

Requirement/Standard: All oil and gas operations (vehicles and equipment) that burn diesel fuels must use “ultra-low sulfur” diesel as defined by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation-Division of Air Quality.

A-12 Best Management Practice

Objective: To minimize negative health impacts associated with oil spills.

Requirement/Standard: If an oil spill with potential impacts to public health occurs, the BLM, in undertaking its oil spill responsibilities, will consider:

- a. Immediate health impacts and responses for affected communities and individuals.
- b. Long-term monitoring for contamination of subsistence food sources.
- c. Long-term monitoring of potential human health impacts.
- d. Perceptions of contamination and subsequent changes in consumption patterns.
- e. Health promotion activities and communication strategies to maintain the consumption of traditional food.

Water Use for Permitted Activities

B-1 Best Management Practice

Objective: Maintain populations of, and adequate habitat for, fish and invertebrates.

Requirement/Standard: Withdrawal of unfrozen water from rivers and streams during winter is prohibited. The removal of ice aggregate from grounded areas \leq 4-feet deep may be authorized from rivers on a site-specific basis.

B-2 Best Management Practice

Objective: Maintain natural hydrologic regimes in soils surrounding lakes and ponds, and maintain populations of, and adequate habitat for, fish, invertebrates, and waterfowl.

Requirement/Standard: Withdrawal of unfrozen water from lakes and the removal of ice aggregate from grounded areas \leq 4-feet deep may be authorized on a site-specific basis depending on water volume and depth and the waterbody’s fish community. Current water use requirements are:

- a. Lakes with sensitive fish (i.e., any fish except ninespine stickleback or Alaska

- blackfish): unfrozen water available for withdrawal is limited to 15% of calculated volume deeper than 7 feet; only ice aggregate may be removed from lakes that are ≤7-feet deep.
- b. Lakes with only non-sensitive fish (i.e., ninespine stickleback or Alaska blackfish): unfrozen water available for withdrawal is limited to 30% of calculated volume deeper than 5 feet; only ice aggregate may be removed from lakes that are ≤5.
 - c. Lakes with no fish present, regardless of depth: water available for use is limited to 35% of total lake volume.
 - d. In lakes where unfrozen water and ice aggregate are both removed, the total use shall not exceed the respective 15%, 30%, or 35% volume calculations.
 - e. Additional modeling or monitoring may be required to assess water level and water quality conditions before, during, and after water use from any fish-bearing lake or lake of special concern.
 - f. Any water intake structures in fish bearing or non-fish bearing waters shall be designed, operated, and maintained to prevent fish entrapment, entrainment, or injury. Note: All water withdrawal equipment must be equipped and must utilize fish screening devices approved by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Habitat.
 - g. Compaction of snow cover or snow removal from fish-bearing waterbodies shall be prohibited except at approved ice road crossings, water pumping stations on lakes, or areas of grounded ice.

Winter Overland Moves and Seismic Work

The following best management practices apply to overland moves, seismic work, and any similar cross-country vehicle use of heavy equipment on non- roaded surfaces during the winter season. These restrictions do not apply to the use of such equipment on ice roads after they are constructed.

C-1 Best Management Practice

Objective: Protect grizzly bear, polar bear, and marine mammal denning and/or birthing locations.

Requirement/Standard:

- a. Cross-country use of heavy equipment and seismic activities is prohibited within ½ mile of occupied grizzly bear dens identified by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game unless alternative protective measures are approved by the authorized officer in consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.
- b. Cross-country use of heavy equipment and seismic activity is prohibited within 1 mile of known or observed polar bear dens or seal birthing lairs. Operators near coastal areas shall conduct a survey for potential polar bear dens and seal birthing lairs and consult with the USFWS and/or NOAA-Fisheries, as appropriate, before initiating activities in coastal habitat between October 30 and April 15.

C-2 Best Management Practice

Objective: Protect stream banks, minimize compaction of soils, and minimize the breakage,

abrasion, compaction, or displacement of vegetation.

Requirement/Standard:

- a. Ground operations shall be allowed only when frost and snow cover are at sufficient depths to protect the tundra. Ground operations shall cease when the spring snowmelt begins (approximately May 5 in the foothills area where elevations reach or exceed 500 feet and approximately May 15 in the northern coastal areas). The exact dates will be determined by the authorized officer.
- b. Low-ground-pressure vehicles shall be used for on-the-ground activities off ice roads or pads. Low-ground-pressure vehicles shall be selected and operated in a manner that eliminates direct impacts to the tundra by shearing, scraping, or excessively compacting the tundra mat. Note: This provision does not include the use of heavy equipment such as front-end loaders and similar equipment required during ice road construction.
- c. Bulldozing of tundra mat and vegetation, trails, or seismic lines is prohibited; however, on existing trails, seismic lines or camps, clearing of drifted snow is allowed to the extent that the tundra mat is not disturbed.
- d. To reduce the possibility of ruts, vehicles shall avoid using the same trails for multiple trips unless necessitated by serious safety or superseding environmental concern. This provision does not apply to hardened snow trails for use by low-ground-pressure vehicles such as Rolligons.
- e. The location of ice roads shall be designed and located to minimize compaction of soils and the breakage, abrasion, compaction, or displacement of vegetation. Offsets may be required to avoid using the same route or track in the subsequent year.
- f. Motorized ground-vehicle use within the Colville River Special Area associated with overland moves, seismic work, and any similar use of heavy equipment shall be minimized within an area that extends 1 mile west or northwest of the bluffs of the Colville River, and 2 miles on either side of the Kogosukruk and Kikiakrorak rivers and tributaries of the Kogosukruk River from April 15 through August 5, with the exception that use will be minimized in the vicinity of gyrfalcon nests beginning March 15. Such use will remain 1/2 mile away from known raptor nesting sites, unless authorized by the authorized officer.

C-3 Best Management Practice

Objective: Maintain natural spring runoff patterns and fish passage, avoid flooding, prevent streambed sedimentation and scour, protect water quality, and protect stream banks.

Requirement/Standard: Crossing of waterway courses shall be made using a low-angle approach. Crossings that are reinforced with additional snow or ice (“bridges”) shall be removed, breached, or slotted before spring breakup. Ramps and bridges shall be substantially free of soil and debris.

C-4 Best Management Practice

Objective: Avoid additional freeze-down of deep-water pools harboring overwintering fish and invertebrates used by fish.

Requirement/Standard: Travel up and down streambeds is prohibited unless it can be

demonstrated that there will be no additional impacts from such travel to over-wintering fish or the invertebrates they rely on. Rivers, streams, and lakes shall be crossed at areas of grounded ice whenever possible.

Facility Design and Construction

E-9 Best Management Practice

Objective: Avoidance of human-caused increases in populations of predators of ground nesting birds.

Requirement/Standard:

- a. Lessee shall utilize best available technology to prevent facilities from providing nesting, denning, or shelter sites for ravens, raptors, and foxes. The lessee shall provide the authorized officer with an annual report on the use of oil and gas facilities by ravens, raptors, and foxes as nesting, denning, and shelter sites.
- b. Feeding of wildlife is prohibited and will be subject to non-compliance regulations.

E-13 Best Management Practice

Objective: Protect cultural and paleontological resources.

Requirement/Standard: Lessees shall conduct a cultural and paleontological resources survey prior to any ground-disturbing activity. Upon finding any potential cultural or paleontological resource, the lessee or their designated representative shall notify the authorized officer and suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the authorized officer.

E-15 Best Management Practice

Objective: Prevent or minimize the loss of nesting habitat for cliff nesting raptors.

Requirement/Standard:

- a. Removal of greater than 100 cubic yards of bedrock outcrops, sand, and/or gravel from cliffs shall be prohibited.
- b. Any extraction of sand and/or gravel from an active river or stream channel shall be prohibited unless preceded by a hydrological study that indicates no potential impact by the action to the integrity of the river bluffs.

Subsistence Consultation for Permitted Activities

H-1 Best Management Practice

Objective: Provide opportunities for participation in planning and decision making to prevent unreasonable conflicts between subsistence uses and other activities.

Requirement/Standard: Lessee/permittee shall consult directly with affected communities using the following guidelines:

- a. Before submitting an application to the BLM, the applicant shall consult with directly affected subsistence communities, the North Slope Borough, and the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Subsistence Advisory Panel to discuss the siting, timing, and methods of their proposed operations to help discover local traditional and scientific knowledge, resulting in measures that minimize impacts to subsistence uses.

Through this consultation, the applicant shall make every reasonable effort, including such mechanisms as conflict avoidance agreements and mitigating measures, to ensure that proposed activities will not result in unreasonable interference with subsistence activities. In the event that no agreement is reached between the parties, the authorized officer shall consult with the directly involved parties and determine which activities will occur, including the timeframes.

- b. The applicant shall submit documentation of consultation efforts as part of its operations plan. Applicants should submit the proposed plan of operations to the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Subsistence Advisory Panel for review and comment. The applicant must allow time for the BLM to conduct formal government-to-government consultation with Native Tribal governments if the proposed action requires it.
- c. A plan shall be developed that shows how the activity, in combination with other activities in the area, will be scheduled and located to prevent unreasonable conflicts with subsistence activities. The plan will also describe the methods used to monitor the effects of the activity on subsistence use. The plan shall be submitted to the BLM as part of the plan of operations. The plan should address the following items:
 1. A detailed description of the activity(ies) to take place (including the use of aircraft).
 2. A description of how the lessee/permittee will minimize and/or deal with any potential impacts identified by the authorized officer during the consultation process.
 3. A detailed description of the monitoring effort to take place, including process, procedures, personnel involved and points of contact both at the work site and in the local community.
 4. Communication elements to provide information on how the applicant will keep potentially affected individuals and communities up-to-date on the progress of the activities and locations of possible, short-term conflicts (if any) with subsistence activities. Communication methods could include holding community meetings, open house meetings, workshops, newsletters, radio and television announcements, etc.
 5. Procedures necessary to facilitate access by subsistence users to the permittees' area of activity or facilities during the course of conducting subsistence activities.
- d. During development, monitoring plans must be established for new permanent facilities, including pipelines, to assess an appropriate range of potential effects on resources and subsistence as determined on a case-by-case basis given the nature and location of the facilities. The scope, intensity, and duration of such plans will be established in consultation with the authorized officer and NPR-A Subsistence Advisory Panel.
- e. Permittees that propose barging facilities, equipment, supplies, or other materials to NPR-A in support of oil and gas activities in the NPR-A shall notify, confer, and coordinate with the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission, the appropriate local community whaling captains' associations, and the North Slope Borough to minimize impacts from the proposed barging on subsistence whaling activities.

- f. Barge operators requiring a BLM permit are required to demonstrate that barging activities will not have unmitigable adverse impacts on the availability of marine mammals to subsistence hunters.
- g. All vessels over 50 ft. in length engaged in operations requiring a BLM permit must have an Automatic Identification System (AIS) transponder system on the vessel.

H-3 Best Management Practice

Objective: Minimize impacts to sport hunting and trapping species and to subsistence harvest of those animals.

Requirement/Standard: Hunting and trapping by lessee's/permittee's employees, agents, and contractors are prohibited when persons are on "work status." Work status is defined as the period during which an individual is under the control and supervision of an employer. Work status is terminated when the individual's shift ends and he/she returns to a public airport or community (e.g., Fairbanks, Barrow, Nuiqsut, or Deadhorse). Use of lessee/permittee facilities, equipment, or transport for personal access or aid in hunting and trapping is prohibited.

Endangered Species Act—Section 7 Consultation Process

J. The lease areas may now or hereafter contain plants, animals, or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or to have some other special status. The BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activities that will contribute to the need to list such a species or their habitat. The BLM may require modifications to or disapprove a proposed activity that is likely to adversely affect a proposed or listed endangered species, threatened species, or critical habitat. The BLM will not approve any activity that may affect any such species or critical habitat until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 USC § 1531 et seq., including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation.

General Wildlife and Habitat Protection

M-1 Best Management Practice

Objective: Minimize disturbance and hindrance of wildlife, or alteration of wildlife movements through the NPR-A.

Requirement/Standard: Chasing wildlife with ground vehicles is prohibited. Particular attention will be given to avoid disturbing caribou.

M-2 Best Management Practice

Objective: Prevent the introduction, or spread, of non-native, invasive plant species in the NPR-A.

Requirement/Standard: Certify that all equipment and vehicles (intended for use either off or on roads) are weed-free prior to transporting them into the NPR-A. Monitor annually along roads for non-native invasive species, and initiate effective weed control measures upon evidence of their introduction. Prior to operations in the NPR-A, submit a plan for the

BLM's approval, detailing the methods for cleaning equipment and vehicles, monitoring for weeds and weed control.