

FF097016
2890.01

Finding of No Significant Impact

Type of Action: Research Project, FLPMA Right of Way

Serial Number: FF097016

Environmental Assessment Number: DOI-BLM-AK-F010-2015-035-EA

Applicant: University of Alaska Fairbanks

Address: UA Facilities & Land Management
910 Yukon Drive, Suite 106
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-5280

District: Arctic Field Office

Planning Unit: National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (NPR-A) Integrated Activity
Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (IAP/EIS) dated 2012

Lands Involved:

Township 8 North, Range 5 West, Umiat Meridian
Township 7 North, Range 5 West, Umiat Meridian
Township 7 North, Range 4 West, Umiat Meridian
Township 8 North, Range 4 West, Umiat Meridian

Context and Intensity of Environmental Impacts

Based upon a review of the EA prepared by the Arctic Field Office and the supporting documents, I have determined that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment, individually or cumulatively with other actions in the general area. No environmental effects meet the definition of significance as defined at 40 CFR 1508.27. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required. We reviewed the context of the proposed action and found that it would not result in any significant effects to resources and values in NPR-A. The mitigation measures and environmental protections

would ensure that the Proposed Action would not add significantly to adverse direct, indirect, or cumulative environmental impacts.

The need for this project is to allow Dr. Arp with the University of Alaska Fairbanks to conduct a lake manipulation research project within the NPR-A.

The following factors were considered in the EA to evaluate the significance this proposal (40 CFR 1508.27): Beneficial and adverse impacts; effects on public health and safety; unique cultural or ecological areas within or near the project area; potentially controversial or uncertain effects; whether the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effect; cumulative effects; adverse impacts to important scientific, cultural or historical resources; effects to endangered or threatened species or habitat; or whether the action threatens a violation of federal, state, local or tribal law, regulation or policy imposed for the protection of the environment, where non-federal requirements are consistent with federal requirements:

Monitoring and Mitigation

BLM will monitor on the ground activities periodically. Mitigation measures will be implemented as described in the attached authorization stipulations.

APPROVED:

/s/
Stacie McIntosh
Arctic Field Office Manager

July 8, 2015
Date
