

Decision Record

DOI-BLM-AK-F020-0018-DNA

Additional Disturbance for Mineral Exploration on NOAA Withdrawal Lands

Decision: It is my decision to amend the existing land use permit (FF096399) issued to Fairbanks Gold Mining Inc., to allow for an additional 20 acres of ground disturbance associated with mineral exploration work on the NOAA Withdrawal Lands near Fox, Alaska. These lands are located: Fairbanks Meridian, T. 2N, R. 2E, Section 7 SE1/4 of the SE1/4, Section 8 SW1/4 of the SW1/4, Section 17 W1/2 – excepting the land subject to PLO 7763 ((76 FR 23334)(2011)), Section 18, Section 19 Lot 1, and Section 20 W1/2 and W1/2 of the E1/2 – excepting the land subject to PLO 7682 ((72 FR 71940)(2007)), Excepting any ground subject to conflicting valid existing rights pursuant to PLO 3708.

Rationale: The proposed action is consistent with the use of public lands under the authority of Section 302 of the Federal Land Policy Management Act and the regulations found in 43 CFR 2920. In accordance with Public Land Order 3708, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration was consulted and determined this amended use would not adversely impact their operations.

The environmental effects of this action were considered in DOI-BLM-AK-F020-2014-0005-EA and were found to have no significant impacts. A Determination of NEPA Adequacy was completed for the proposed amendment and found that the current environmental concerns, interests, resource values and circumstances did not differ substantially from those considered in the original EA.

There are no anticipated impacts to cultural resources, the proposed action will not significantly restrict subsistence uses, and there are no expected effects to Essential Fish Habitat.

Appeal Provisions: This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, in accordance with 43 CFR Part 4 and DOI Form 1842-1. The notice of appeal must be filed with the Bureau of Land Management, Eastern Interior Field Office, 222 University Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-3844 within 30 days from receipt of this decision. Appeals from administrative decisions issued by BLM-Alaska must be filed in writing in the office of the deciding official, either by mail or hand delivery. Notices of appeal transmitted by electronic means, such as facsimile or e-mail will not be accepted as timely filed.

/s/ Lenore Heppler
Manager, Eastern Interior Field Office

5/13/2016
Date

Contact Person: For additional concerning this decision, contact Michael Sybert at the Eastern Interior Field Office, 222 University Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska, 99709, or by telephone at (907) 474-2361.