

**Appendix 9**  
**Example of an 810 Evaluation for an EA**  
Compliance with ANILCA Section 810

COMPLIANCE WITH ANILCA SECTION 810  
EVALUATION AND FINDING

Applicant: Name of Applicant, d.b.a. Name of Company  
Serial No.: FF#####

EVALUATION

**Effect of proposed action on subsistence uses and needs**

Fisheries:

The proposed action would not significantly reduce harvestable fisheries resources that are available for subsistence use. Guided activity will focus on big game hunting. Any fishing activity will be secondary and minor. The proposed action would not alter the distribution, migration or location of harvestable fisheries resources. Approved mitigation measures would prevent degradation of adjacent water sources and fisheries habitat. The proposed action will not create any legal or physical barriers that would limit access by subsistence users of the fisheries resource.

Wildlife:

The proposed action of guiding for big game hunting in the North Fork drainage would not appreciably reduce harvestable wildlife resources that are available for subsistence taking on BLM administered lands. Guided hunts would primarily occur within the North Fork drainage with caribou and an occasional moose or bear being the species of interest. Guided hunting activity would result in the take of a portion of these wildlife populations as allowed under State regulations for the taking of wildlife. Harvest of caribou, moose and bear would be limited to a small number of animals as the applicant guides less than 12 hunters per year. The Western Arctic caribou herd is currently estimated at about 490,000 animals and harvest regulations are extremely liberal. In 1998 the density of moose in the Squirrel River was estimated at 1 moose per square mile with high bull: cow ratio indicating that the population is currently at a level that can sustain both sport and subsistence harvest. Bear populations in the unit are considered stable and harvest regulations are stable.

The proposed action would occur in an area that is fairly remote from local villages and important subsistence use areas. The proposed base camp is about 30 miles from Kiana, 32 miles from Noorvik and 50 miles from Kotzebue. Local subsistence hunters from Kiana, Noorvik and other villages in the region may hunt moose and caribou in the Squirrel River drainage. However, the Western Arctic caribou herd migrates through the region and generally provides local residents with hunting opportunities close to their villages. According to Schroeder et. al. (1988) residents of the NANA region have traditionally used the lower Squirrel River for moose hunting. The most intensive subsistence activity is believed to be concentrated on lands conveyed or selected by the Native Village corporations. Subsistence activities are a key factor in the selection of lands by Native individuals and corporations, and Native

Allotments are typically claimed based on a family's use of a site for subsistence activities. Selected lands are concentrated on the lower reaches of the Squirrel River.

The proposed action would not alter the distribution, migration or location of harvestable wildlife resources. Temporary camps and hunting activity may displace animals in the immediate vicinity, but such impacts would occur only during the short time that camps are in use. The proposed action would not create any legal or physical barriers that would limit subsistence harvest and access. The proposed action area is open for both sport and subsistence harvest, as regulated by the State of Alaska. If any restrictions are placed on harvest of wildlife resources for the management of game populations, subsistence is given preference over sport harvest.

Other Resources:

The proposed action would not appreciably impact any other harvestable resources such as wood, water, berries or vegetation. Hunting and guiding activities would occur at locations far from local villages and traditional gathering areas tend to be on Native owned and selected lands near villages.

**Availability of other lands for the purpose sought to be achieved:**

The proposed action includes BLM-administered lands that are within the applicant's guiding area of Unit 23, Guide Unit 23-06. About half of the land within this unit is BLM land. There are large tracts of Park Service and native corporation land, and some state land. Lands available for the purposes proposed by the applicant are limited to BLM lands that are accessible from the base camp. Therefore, no other lands were considered.

**Other alternatives which would reduce or eliminate the use, occupancy, or disposition of public lands needed for subsistence purposes:**

The no action alternative would require BLM to reject the permit application; however, there is no substantial evidence that would indicate a significant impact as a result of the proposed action. No other alternatives were evaluated.

**FINDING:**

The proposed action will not significantly restrict subsistence uses. No reasonably foreseeable and significant decrease in the abundance of harvestable resources or in the distribution of harvestable resources, and no reasonably foreseeable limitations on harvester access have been forecasted to emerge as a function of the action that is analyzed in this document.

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name, Title

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_  
Field Office Manager

**References:**

Robert Schroeder, David Anderson, and Grant Hildreth. 1987. *Subsistence Use Area Map Atlas for Ten Kotzebue Sound Communities*. Maniilaq Association and Division of Subsistence, Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, Juneau