



Bureau of Land Management

Anchorage Field Office
6881 Abbott Loop Road
Anchorage, AK 99507
<http://www.anchorage.ak.blm.gov>

**Categorical Exclusion
Film Permit**

Applicant: Barrett Productions
Case File Number: AA-86498
AK-040-06-CX-035

Location:

Kateel River Meridian,
Township 18 South , Ranges 7 & 8 West;
Township 17 South , Ranges 5-7 West;
Township 16 South , Ranges 5-6 West.

Prepared By:

Rodney Huffman
Realty Group Manager
May 3, 2006

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Anchorage Field Office
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) FORM

CX No.: AK-040-06-CX-035

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: AA-86498

Proposed Action Title/Types:

Issuance of a Film Permit, under 43 CFR §2920

Location of Proposed Action:

Kateel River Meridian, Township 18 South, Ranges 7 & 8 West; Township 17 South, Ranges 5-7 West; and Township 16 South, Ranges 5-6 West.

Description of Proposed Action:

Barrett Productions, of Missoula Montana, proposes to send one cameraman to videotape a grizzly bear hunt being carried out by Bob Foulkrod in the Unalakeet River Watershed of Western Alaska. Because the video footage obtained will be used for commercial purposes, Barrett Productions is required to obtain a commercial filming permit.

Vance Grishkowski, who is permitted by BLM to conduct guiding and outfitting in this area, will be coordinating all aspects of the hunt. Permitting for him to conduct hunting activities on public lands is covered by his special recreation permit, which authorizes use of various spike camps and areas within the Unalakeet River Drainage. All impacts associated with using spike camps and hunting have been analyzed previously in Environmental Assessment AK-040-00-EA-026 and the Determination of NEPA Adequacy AK-040-05-AD-023.

There are no discernable impacts from issuance of this filming permit that differ from use of the special recreation permit, because often guides have more than one client on the same trip. The videographer would have the same impact as a second hunter. The videographer carries all equipment used (batteries, tape, tripod) into and out of the field on a daily basis. The camera is either mounted on a tripod or handheld. The cameraman will shoot either over the hunter's shoulder, or position himself a few yards away.

Applicant (if any): Barrett Productions, of Missoula Montana

PART I - PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW

This Proposed Action is subject to the following land use plan: Management Framework Plan, Southwest Planning Area

Date Plan Approved: November 1981

The Proposed Action has been reviewed for conformance with this plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM MS 1617.3). Yes

Remarks: Under Objective WL-4, the objective is to maintain high grizzly/brown bear productivity, and the rationale states that Grizzly/brown bears are very abundance in the Anvik River and Unalakleet River Drainages. The State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game would like to insure continued high bear productivity, while increasing the opportunity for sport hunters to take trophy bears.

PART II - NEPA REVIEW

- A. Categorical Exclusion Review.
This Proposed Action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 2, Appendix 1. or 516 DM 6 Appendix 5, H Other (4) "Use of small sites for temporary field work camps where the sites will be restored to their natural or original condition within the same work season."

- B. Departmental List of Extraordinary Circumstances Review.
The following Departmental List of Extraordinary Circumstances apply to individual actions. Departmental instructions mandate that environmental documents **MUST BE PREPARED** for actions which may: (Mark applicable answer for each item. If "yes", prepare an EA/EIS and append this form to it.)

	YES	NO
1. Have significant adverse impacts on public health or safety.	_____	<u> X </u>
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	_____	<u> X </u>

	or critical areas.	_____	_____
3.	Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].	_____	_____X
4.	Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	_____	_____X
5.	Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	_____	_____X
6.	Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	_____	_____X
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
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
9.	Violate Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	_____	_____X
10.	Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).	_____	_____
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
12.	Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the 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

I certify that none of the Departmental Extraordinary Circumstances listed in the above Part B (516 DM 2, Appendix 2) apply to this action.

Remarks:

The Special Recreation Permit would cover this type of activity if it were not being filmed for later use in a commercial project.

Preparer(s): Rodney Huffman Date: May 3, 2006

PART III – DECISION

I have reviewed this plan conformance and NEPA compliance record and have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the approved land use plan and that no further environmental analysis is required. It is my decision to implement the project, as described, with the mitigation measures either identified below or stipulation(s) attached in this case file.

Mitigation Measures/Other Remarks:

Mitigation Measures are required as a condition of the Recreation Special Use Permit, and no additional measures will be added for this filming permit.

Authorized Official: Mike Zaidlicz
Field Manager

May 12, 2006