



**Bureau of Land Management**

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

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**Categorical Exclusion**

**Applicant: Litzen Guide Service (SRP)**

**Case File Number: AA-076645**

**AK-011-08-CX-036**



**Camp Locations:**

T. 31 N., R. 20 W., Sec. 26, Seward Meridian,  
T. 33 N., R. 17 W., Sec. 20, Seward Meridian, and  
T. 33 N., R. 17 W., Sec. 36, Seward Meridian.  
Anchorage, Alaska

**Prepared By:**

Jeff Kowalczyk  
Outdoor Recreation Planner  
March 17, 2008

Case File No.: AA-076645  
AK-011-08-CX-036

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

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CX No.: AK-010-08-CX-

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: AA76645

Proposed Action Title/Types: Commercial big game guiding-outfitting.

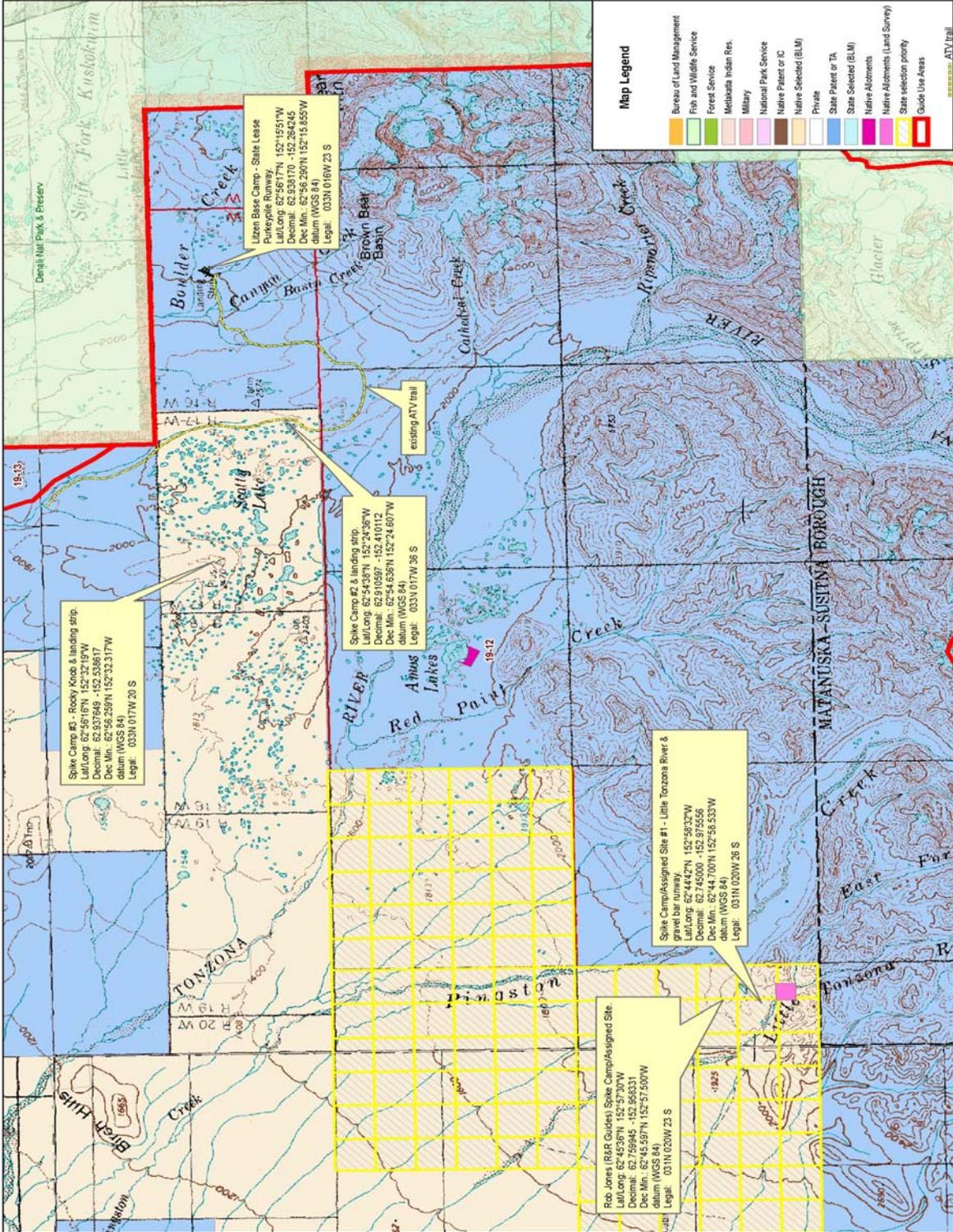
Location of Proposed Action: Little Tonzona River area, Alaska

Description of Proposed Action:

The Proposed Action involves commercial big game guiding-outfitting and air taxi service by Litzen's Guide Service of BLM-managed lands within Guide Use Area 19-12, Little Tonzona River area. Mr. Litzen's prior five-year Special Recreation Permit for the same operation under environmental assessment AK-040-03-EA-003 expired on 12/31/07. Use will consist of overnight camping for 2-5 clients for up to 10 consecutive nights at three different Spike Camp locations (see attached Map 1). Camp size locations measure less than three cumulative staging area acres. The proposed use will not occur along any Wild and Scenic River or within a Special Management Area.

A Honda 300cc ATV may be used to move supplies or retrieve game on an existing ATV trail located near Spike Camp #2. Staff, clients, and supplies will be transported by privately-owned fixed-wing aircraft. Use will occur during State-regulated hunting Seasons, occurring in May and September. All non-combustible trash shall be collected and flown to McGrath and disposed of in the McGrath Landfill. On-site storage is being requested at Spike Camp #1, which shall include: one small wood stove with five pieces of stove pipe and two small GI ammo cans containing camp supplies.

Map 1  
 (Mike Litzen Operating Areas for 2008)



Disclaimer: This map has been prepared for informational use. It is not official. Even though carefully researched and prepared, the BLM does not guarantee nor warrant the accuracy.



DRAFT  
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**PART I - PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW**

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This Proposed Action is subject to the following land use plan:

The proposed action is within the boundaries of the Southwest Management Framework Plan (MFP), dated November 1981. The proposed activity has been reviewed for conformance with the identified plan and the following associated objectives are documented within the plan.

The activity objectives within the Southwest MFP includes Wildlife (WL-4) and Recreation (R-3). These decisions do not directly address special use permitting, but recognize that hunting, fishing, and trapping are legitimate uses of public land.

The Proposed Actions have been reviewed for conformance with this plan (43 CFR 1610.5-3(b)).

**PART II - NEPA REVIEW**

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A. Categorical Exclusion Review.

The Proposed Actions qualify as categorical exclusions pursuant to 516 DM 11.9, Appendix 4, Part H, 1:

“Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day or overnight use up to 14 consecutive nights; that impacts no more than 3 (cumulative) staging area acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized in a land use plan. This CX cannot be used for commercial boating permits along Wild and Scenic Rivers. This CX cannot be used for the establishment or issuance of Special Recreation Permits for “Special Area” management (43 CFR 2932.5).”

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)].                                                                                                                            | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 4.  | Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.                                                                                                                                                               | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 5.  | Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.                                                                                                                                   | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 6.  | Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.                                                                                                                                                         | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 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.                                                                                                                        | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 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.                                                                                    | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 9.  | Violate Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.                                                                                                                                                                     | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 10. | Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).                                                                                                                                                                        | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 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).                                                                     | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 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). | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |

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

Preparer(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: 04-21-08

**PART III – DECISION**

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The proposed actions are in conformance with a management framework plan or a resource management plan, 43 C.F.R. § 1610.8(a)(3) (2007). The Department of the Interior has determined and found that the proposed actions are within categories of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and that neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required, 40 C.F.R. §1508.4 (2007).

It is therefore my decision to implement the action, as described, with appropriate mitigation measures or stipulations.

Mitigation Measures/Other Remarks: In addition to Conditions and Stipulations attached to the permit, annual compliance inspections and performance evaluations shall be conducted and documented within the permittee's case file.

Authorized Official: /s/ Mike Zaidlicz Date: 5/20/2008