

**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management**

Anchorage Field Office  
4700 BLM Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507  
(907) 267-1246

<http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/fo/ado.html>

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**Energy Policy Act of 2005, Statutory Categorical Exclusion  
Drilling of Natural Gas Well – BRU 242-04**

**Applicant: Marathon Oil Company**  
**Lease/Serial/Case File Number: A-029656**  
**Environmental Document No: DOI-BLM-AK-9320-2009-0003-SCX**



**Location:**  
Seward Meridian  
T. 12 N., R. 10 W., Section 4  
Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska

**Prepared By:**  
Sindra Wolfsen  
Physical Scientist  
February 26, 2009

**Contents**

1.0. Description of Proposed Action: ..... 3

2.0. Section 390 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 provides:..... 3

3.0. Statutory Categorical Exclusions: ..... 3

4.0. Extraordinary Circumstances ..... 5

5.0. Decision..... 5

Appendix A Surface Use Plan of Operations ..... 6

**1.0. Description of Proposed Action:**

See surface use plan of operations for well, BRU 242-04, dated: Feb. 18, 2009, incorporated herein as if fully set forth, Appendix A, attached.

**2.0. Section 390 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 provides:**

NEPA REVIEW.—Action by the Secretary of the Interior in managing the public lands, or the Secretary of Agriculture in managing National Forest System Lands, with respect to any of the activities described in subsection (b) shall be subject to a *rebuttable presumption* that the use of a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) would apply if the activity is conducted pursuant to the Mineral Leasing Act for the purpose of exploration or development of oil or gas.

[Emphasis added. 42 U.S.C. §15942(a)]

**3.0. Statutory Categorical Exclusions:**

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 provides at Sections 390 (b):

(b) ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED—The activities referred to in subsection (a) are the following:

- (1) Individual surface disturbances of *less than 5 acres* so long as the total surface disturbance on the lease is *not greater than 150 acres* and *site-specific analysis* in a document prepared pursuant to *NEPA* has been previously completed.
  - a. Proposed surface disturbance:
    - Less than five (5) acres.
    - Greater than five (5) acres.
  - b. Total disturbance on the lease:
    - Less than one hundred fifty (150) acres after proposed surface disturbance
    - Greater than one hundred fifty (150) acres after proposed surface disturbance
  - c. Date of site specific NEPA analysis for surface disturbance: \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Environmental Document ID: \_\_\_\_\_
- (2) Drilling an oil or gas well at a location or well pad site at which *drilling has occurred previously within 5 years prior to the date of spudding the well*.
  - a. Well Pad ID: \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Anticipated date of spudding the proposed well: \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Date last well completion or workover at proposed drill site: \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Time between b and c above: \_\_\_\_\_

- i.  Less than five (5) years.
  - ii.  Greater than five (5) years.
- (3) Drilling an oil or gas well within a developed field for which an *approved land use plan or any environmental document prepared pursuant to NEPA analyzed such drilling as a reasonably foreseeable activity*, so long as such *plan or document was approved within 5 years prior to the date of spudding the well*.

a. Field Name/Unit name or ID: **Beluga River Unit / Beluga Field** \_\_\_\_\_  
b. Plan Name: **Ring Of Fire Resource Management Plan** \_\_\_\_\_ or  
Environmental Document ID: \_\_\_\_\_

- i.  Plan or environmental document analyzed drilling as reasonably foreseeable.
- ii.  Plan or environmental document did not analyze drilling as reasonably foreseeable.
- iii. Date of ROD or FONSI: **March, 2008** \_\_\_\_\_
- iv. Anticipated date of spudding the proposed well: **2009 (July 1)** \_\_\_\_\_
- v. Time between spudding of proposed well and date of ROD or FONSI:
  - a.  Less than five (5) years.
  - b.  Greater than five (5) years.

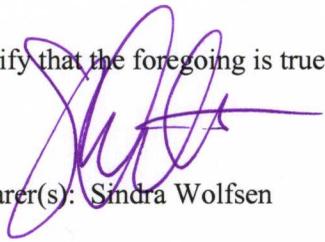
- (4) Placement of a *pipeline* in an *approved right-of-way corridor*, so long as the *corridor was approved within 5 years prior to the date of placement of the pipeline*.

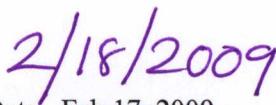
a. Right-of-way Case/Serial No: \_\_\_\_\_  
b. Date of right-of-way grant: \_\_\_\_\_  
c. Date of placement of pipeline: \_\_\_\_\_  
d. Time between date of grant of right-of-way and placement of pipeline (first date of ground disturbance associated with pipeline installation):

- 1.  Less than five (5) years.
- 2.  Greater than five (5) years.

- (5) *Maintenance of a minor activity*, other than any construction or major renovation or a building or facility

I certify that the foregoing is true and correct:

Preparer(s):  Sandra Wolfson

  
Date: Feb 17, 2009

#### 4.0. Extraordinary Circumstances

The use of the new statutory CXs is not dependent on the Council for Environmental Quality (CEQ) process for approving new CXs. Additionally, the CXs established by Section 390 are not subject to the requirement in 40 CFR 1507.3 that would preclude their use when there are extraordinary circumstances. This is because the CXs addressed in this guidance are established by statute and not under the CEQ procedures pursuant to 40 CFR 1507.3 and 1508.4.

[Bureau of Land Management Instruction  
Memorandum 2005-247, Attachment 2]

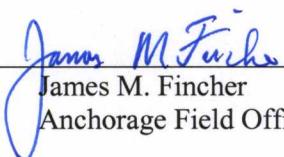
#### 5.0. Decision

The proposed action is in conformance with a resource management plan or a record of decision, 43 C.F.R. § 1610.8(a)(3) (2006). I have reviewed the proposal to ensure the appropriate categorical exclusion, as described in Section 390 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, has been correctly applied. There is a rebuttable presumption that the use of a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) would apply as the activity will be conducted pursuant to the Mineral Leasing Act for the purpose of exploration or development of oil or gas, 42 U.S.C. §15942(a).

It is therefore my decision to implement the action, as described, with the following mitigation measure(s):

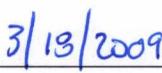
The operator shall:

1. Prevent and control nonnative invasive plant/ noxious weed infestations.
2. Leave the area of operations clean and free of all debris.
3. Take all reasonable and feasible precautions to avoid attracting wildlife to food and garbage that may be stored on site.
4. If the well has not been spudded by \_\_\_\_\_, this APD will expire and the operator is to cease all operations related to preparing to dill the well.

Authorized Officer: 

James M. Fincher  
Anchorage Field Office Manager

Date



2009  
DOI-BLMAAK-9320-0003-SCX

Case File No.: A-029656  
(BRU 242-04)



Dual South Pad (white arrow)

—|—| ≈ 1 mile



Dual South Pad and approx. pad expansion dimensions



Dual South Pad and approx. Pad expansion  
outline - > 1/2 acre



Image © 2008 DigitalGlobe

© 2007 Google™

© 2008 Tele Atlas  
Streaming 100%

Eye alt 906 ft

Pointer lat 61.165396° lon -151.047785° elev 91 ft

Lease/Serial/Case File No: A-028142

Environmental Document No: DOI-BLM-AK-9320-2009-0003-SCX (BRU 242-04)

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**Appendix A Surface Use Plan of Operations**

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

FORM APPROVED  
OMB No. 1004-0137  
Expires: July 31, 2010

**SUNDRY NOTICES AND REPORTS ON WELLS**  
*Do not use this form for proposals to drill or to re-enter an abandoned well. Use Form 3160-3 (APD) for such proposals.*

5. Lease Serial No.  
BHL A029656 / Surface Loc A029656

6. If Indian, Allottee or Tribe Name  
N/A

**SUBMIT IN TRIPLICATE** – Other instructions on page 2.

1. Type of Well  
 Oil Well  Gas Well  Other

7. If Unit of CA/Agreement, Name and/or No.  
Beluga River Unit

8. Well Name and No.  
BRU 242-04

2. Name of Operator  
ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.

9. API Well No.  
To be assigned

3a. Address  
P.O. Box 100360, Anchorage, Alaska  
99510-0360

3b. Phone No. (include area code)  
907-265-6120

10. Field and Pool or Exploratory Area  
Sterling / Beluga Gas Pool

4. Location of Well (Footage, Sec., T., R., M., or Survey Description)  
At Surface 201' FNL, 368' FEL, Sec. 04, T12N, R10W SM  
At Bottomhole Location 1602' FNL, 968' FEL, Sec. 04, T12N, R10W SM

11. Country or Parish, State  
Kenai, Alaska

**12. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX(ES) TO INDICATE NATURE OF NOTICE, REPORT OR OTHER DATA**

TYPE OF SUBMISSION	TYPE OF ACTION			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Intent	<input type="checkbox"/> Acidize	<input type="checkbox"/> Deepen	<input type="checkbox"/> Production (Start/Resume)	<input type="checkbox"/> Water Shut-Off
<input type="checkbox"/> Subsequent Report	<input type="checkbox"/> Alter Casing	<input type="checkbox"/> Fracture Treat	<input type="checkbox"/> Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/> Well Integrity
<input type="checkbox"/> Final Abandonment Notice	<input type="checkbox"/> Casing Repair	<input type="checkbox"/> New Construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Recomplete	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change Plans	<input type="checkbox"/> Plug and Abandon	<input type="checkbox"/> Temporarily Abandon	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Convert to Injection	<input type="checkbox"/> Plug Back	<input type="checkbox"/> Water Disposal	

13. Describe Proposed or Completed Operation: Clearly state all pertinent details, including estimated starting date of any proposed work and approximate duration thereof. If the proposal is to deepen directionally or recomplete horizontally, give subsurface locations and measured and true vertical depths of all pertinent markers and zones. Attach the Bond under which the work will be performed or provide the Bond No. on file with BLM/BIA. Required subsequent reports must be filed within 30 days following completion of the involved operations. If the operation results in a multiple completion or recompletion in a new interval, a Form 3160-4 must be filed once testing has been completed. Final Abandonment Notices must be filed only after all requirements, including reclamation, have been completed and the operator has determined that the site is ready for final inspection.)

BRU242-04 will be a new well with an anticipated spud date of approximately July 1, 2009 and continue for approximately 70 days thereafter.

BLM/BIA Bond No - 5752570 / BLM Bond No AA084243

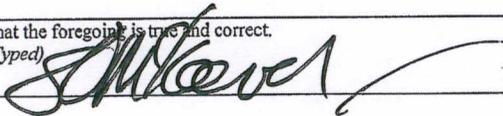
**RECEIVED**

**MAR 11 2009**

**Anchorage Field Office**

14. I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct.

Name (Printed/Typed)  
Steve Mckeever



Title Drilling Superintendent

Signature

Date 03/09/2009

**THIS SPACE FOR FEDERAL OR STATE OFFICE USE**

Approved by

Title

Date

Conditions of approval, if any, are attached. Approval of this notice does not warrant or certify that the applicant holds legal or equitable title to those rights in the subject lease which would entitle the applicant to conduct operations thereon.

Office

Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001 and Title 43 U.S.C. Section 1212, make it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

(Instructions on page 2)

REV	DATE	BY	CK	APP	DESCRIPTION	REV	DATE	BY	CK	APP	DESCRIPTION
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**NOTES**

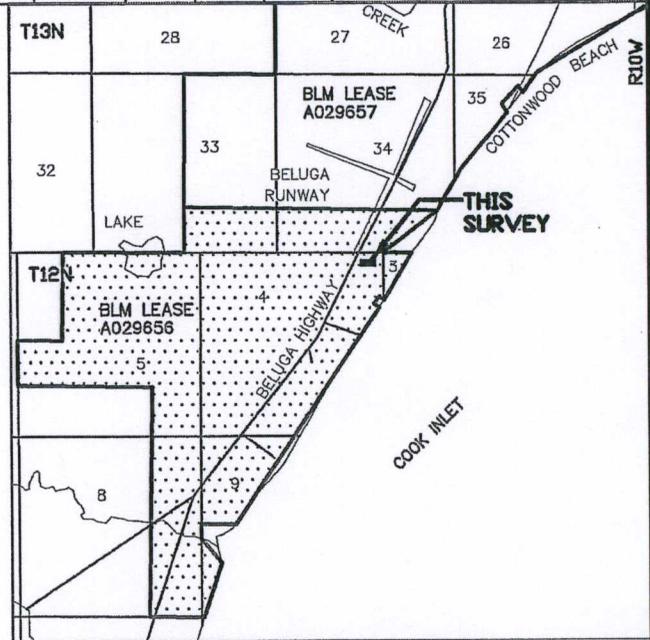
- COORDINATES SHOWN ARE NAD 83 ALASKA STATE PLANE, ZONE 4 IN U.S. SURVEY FEET.
- VERTICAL BENCHMARK IS WELL 221-23 REFERENCE ASBUILT DATE, 1976.
- SURVEY CONTROL POINTS 50 AND 51 ARE 5/8" REBAR SET FLUSH WITH GRADE. SURVEY CONTROL POINT 35 AND 36 ARE SET 6" SPIKE FLUSH WITH GRAVEL PAD.
- ELEVATION AT TOP OF WELL CONDUCTOR = 92.14'

**BRU 242-04**

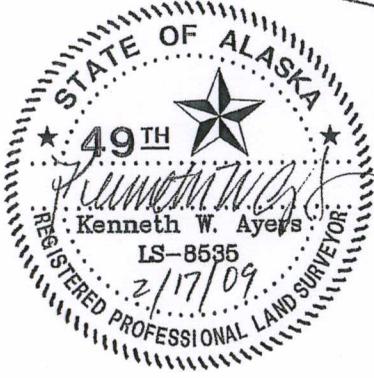
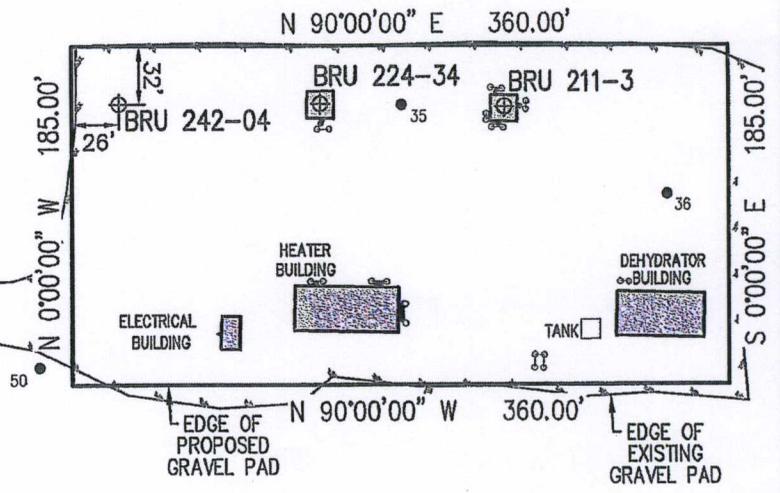
LOCATED WITHIN PROTRACTED SEC. 4, T. 12 N., R. 10 W., SEWARD MERIDIAN.  
 N 0°55'40" E 201' F.N.L.,  
 S 89°09'51" E 368' F.E.L.  
 LAT.= 61°09'56.652" N  
 LONG.= 151°02'53.909" W  
 Y = 2,619,476'  
 X = 1,455,318'



SCALE: 1"=100'



VICINITY MAP - 1" = 1 MILE



**SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I AM PROPERLY REGISTERED AND LICENSED TO PRACTICE LAND SURVEYING IN THE STATE OF ALASKA AND THAT THIS REPRESENTS A SURVEY DONE BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT ALL DIMENSIONS AND OTHER DETAILS ARE CORRECT AS OF JANUARY 26, 2009.

**LEGEND**

- SURVEY CONTROL
- ⊕ EXISTING WELL
- BOLLARD



	AREA:	MODULE:	UNIT:
	DUAL SOUTH BRU 242-04 WELL CONDUCTOR AS BUILT		

CADD FILE NO. DUAL South AS BUILT.dwg	DRAWING NO: DUAL SOUTH AS BUILT.dwg	PART: 1 OF 1	REV: 0
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Proposed 2009

**ConocoPhillips Beluga River Unit - Surface Use Plan of Operations 2009**

**Proposed Surface Location: Well BRU 242-04**

Surface Location: 201' FNL, 368' FEL, Sec 4, T12N-R10W SM  
X=1,455,318 Y=2,619,476' ASP4 NAD83

Bottom Hole Location: 1602' FNL, 968' FEL, Sec 4, T12N-R10W SM  
X=1,454,968' Y=2,618,085' ASP4 NAD83

**Pad Name, Number: Dual South**

**1) Existing Roads**

Existing roads which will be used for access to BRU 242-04 are shown on the attached map. Tyonek Alaska is the nearest town to the site and is +/- 8 miles southwest of the wellsite.

**2) Access Roads to be Constructed or Reconstructed**

No new roads will be required to access BRU 242-04.

**3) Location of Existing Wells**

Well BRU 242-04 will be drilled from the Beluga River Unit Dual South Pad. A pad image is enclosed that shows existing wells and the proposed location of BRU 242-04.

**4) Location of existing and/or proposed facilities**

- A new well house shelter would be added to support new well
- New gas heater and dehydration equipment would be necessary to support production of new well (as noted above; building will depend on whether equipment can be housed in existing structures)
- New flow lines will be constructed from the BRU242-04 well to the heater building and from the heater builder to the dehydrator building. A drawing is provided which shows the proposed pipelines highlighted in yellow. New flowlines will remain entirely on the pad from which the BRU242-04 will be drilled. All flowlines, similar to existing flowlines, will be buried below pad level.
- Existing flowlines and pipelines on the Dual South Pad are shown on the original Chevron AsBuilt drawing AP-D-T85 attached. Loundsbury is in the process of constructing a new Asbuilt of the Dual South pad which reflects all existing pipelines. The new AsBuilt will be made available to the BLM as soon as possible.

**5) Location of Water Supply**

There are five water wells available within BRU permitted for water use under Department of Natural Resource TWUP A2008-106. Freshwater will be trucked on the existing road system from the source wells to the rigsite.

## 6) Construction Materials

Gravel will be used to level existing pad following brush clearing activities. These activities are intended to reclaim the pad to its original dimensions. Also, some tree clearing will occur during the construction of the solid waste cell expansion.

Gravel will also be used to expand the dimensions of the existing pad to accommodate drilling, completion equipment and the shop construction.

Gravel source will be from third party Tyonek Contractors. Proposed gravel location is shown on attached map location Gravel 1; pending permit approvals for Tyonek Contractors.

## 7) Methods of handling waste disposal:

The following table summarizes waste disposal plans. Waste handling guidelines are available at the Beluga River Field Supervisor's office.

Waste	Disposal Method
Sanitary waste	The living quarters will be at the Beluga CH2Mhill camp which has existing sanitary facilities. An additional septic system has been installed in the Beluga field to accommodate sanitary waste from portable facilities at the rigsite. A contingency is to haul septic waste from the portable facilities via truck (licensed septic pumping company in or around Kenai) and barge to Kenai for disposal. Another option is to truck sanitary waste from the rigsite to an existing septic system available through Peak Oilfield Services. The Peak camp and septic system are < 1/2 mi east of the Beluga Airstrip.
Domestic and approved industrial trash	Kenai Peninsula Borough, Beluga Landfill Located 3/4 mi SW of Beluga Runway, sec.4 T12N R10W SM
Drilling fluids & completion fluids	Injection into Class II disposal well at BRWD-1 pad (AOGCC Disposal Injection Order DIO 003, AOGCC permit to drill #186-009, ref EPA permit AK-2D0001-I)
Chemicals	Unused chemicals will be returned to the vendors that provided them. Efforts will be made to minimize the use of all chemicals
Drilling solids	Central Waste Facility (ADEC Permit #SWKPB0021992:2010ADA)

## 8) Ancillary Facilities

The living quarters for the majority of the crew will be at the Beluga CH2MHill camp. A minimal camp will be established on the pad to house various supervisory and service company

personnel. Approximately four trailer house type structures will be required for this purpose. Potable water will be obtained from the existing permitted water wells in the field in addition to bottled water.

Another project on BLM subsurface lease, related to drilling BRU242-04, is expansion of our solid waste pit. This will include the security fencing, an additional waste pit will be constructed, and installation of several piezometers for monitoring around the waste pits.

Mud and brine mix tanks, as well as filtration equipment will be located on the pad to add to the rig fluid handling capacity. Pumps, tanks, containment, and a centrifuge will be located near the disposal well; BRWD-1.

Additional camp options are being evaluated.

### **9) Well Site Layout**

Attached is a diagram with the existing pad, the existing road and the proposed rig layout. There will be no mud or reserve pit. It is planned to clear brush and vegetation overgrowth to recover the usable pad area to its original estimated dimensions.

The completion phase of the well requires extensive fluid storage, pumping equipment and gravel pack equipment. To accommodate the additional equipment it is planned to clear vegetation and add gravel to the area west of the pad to the power line as shown in the included schematic. Additional pad space will allow a more organized equipment layout and promote a safer more efficient operation during drilling and completion operations.

### **10) Plans for reclamation of the surface**

BRU 242-04 will be drilled from an existing pad. Reclamation of the existing pad and expansions will be done pursuant to terms of oil and gas lease and Beluga River Unit Agreement.

### **11) Surface Ownership**

The surface within the Beluga River Unit is owned primarily by Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI) and the Kenai Peninsula Borough. The surface of the BRU 242-04 is owned by the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

### **12) Other information**

Nabors Alaska Drilling Rig 129 will likely be the rig for the drilling program at Beluga. It has worked extensively on the Kenai Peninsula and on the western side of Cook Inlet. It is currently working on the west side of Cook Inlet on a ConocoPhillips lease. The rig will most likely be working on a non-ConocoPhillips location immediately prior to moving to BRU 242-04. It is planned to use the existing road system to move from its winter drilling lease to the rigsite. See included map.

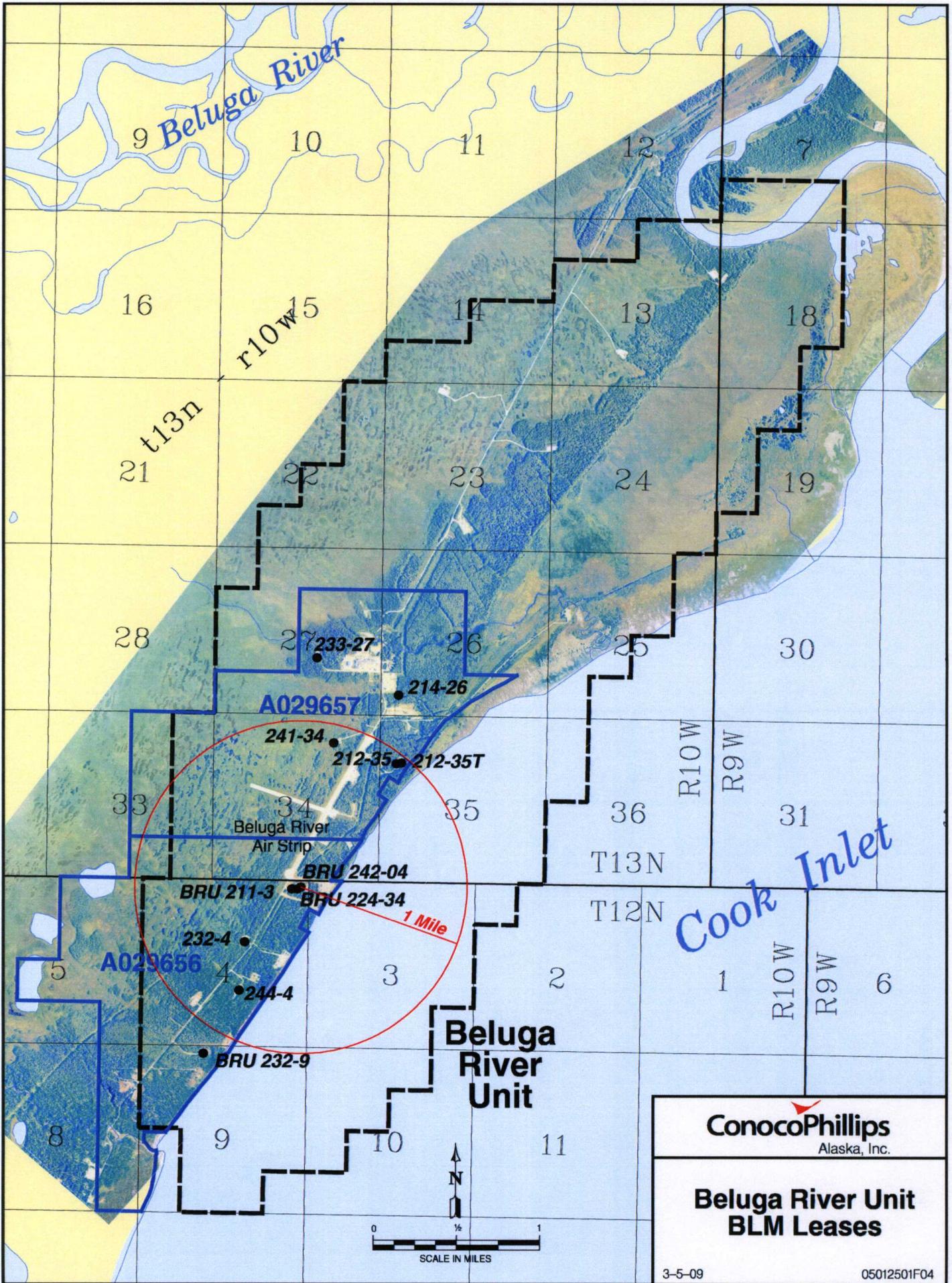
The spread of invasive vegetation will be mitigated by the fact that the rig has been in the Cook Inlet / Kenai area for several years. It was last used at Beluga by ConocoPhillips in 2008. Also, the drilling rig and associated equipment are only used on established gravel pads, which are typically maintained clear of vegetative growth. This further reduces the potential for cross-contamination of noxious weed disbursement. If there is evidence of noxious weeds or invasive vegetation as a result of the rig on location, a strategy will be devised and implemented to mitigate the spread of noxious weeds and or vegetation.

**CONOCOPHILLIPS 2009  
DRILLING PROGRAM SITE  
BELUGA RIVER UNIT**



0 35mi





**ConocoPhillips**  
Alaska, Inc.

**Beluga River Unit  
BLM Leases**





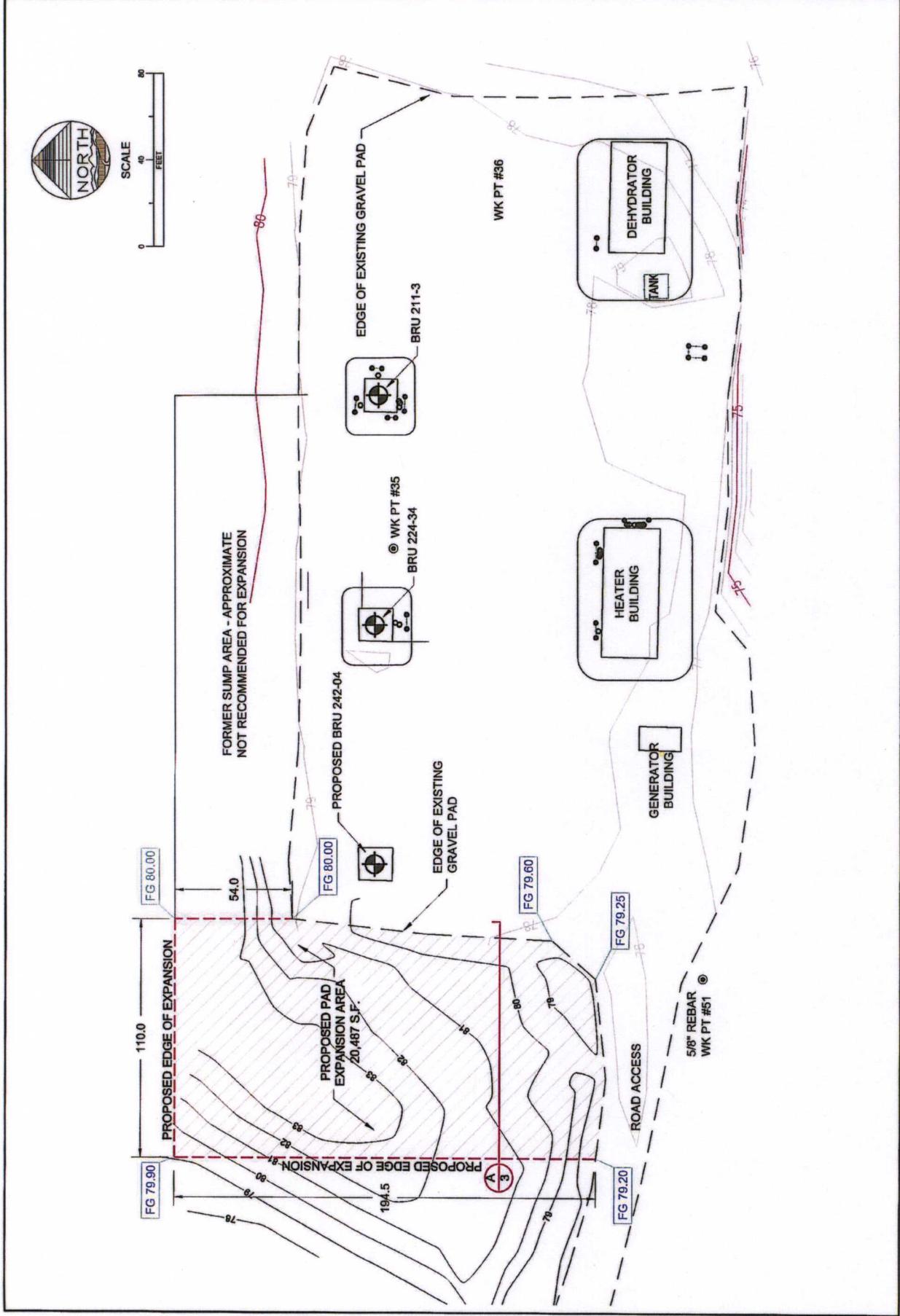
REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	12/01/24	CLIENT REVIEW
2	12/02/24	REVIEW WELL NO.
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

CONOCO-PHILLIPS  
 BELUGA RIVER UNIT  
 DUAL SOUTH PAD EXPANSION



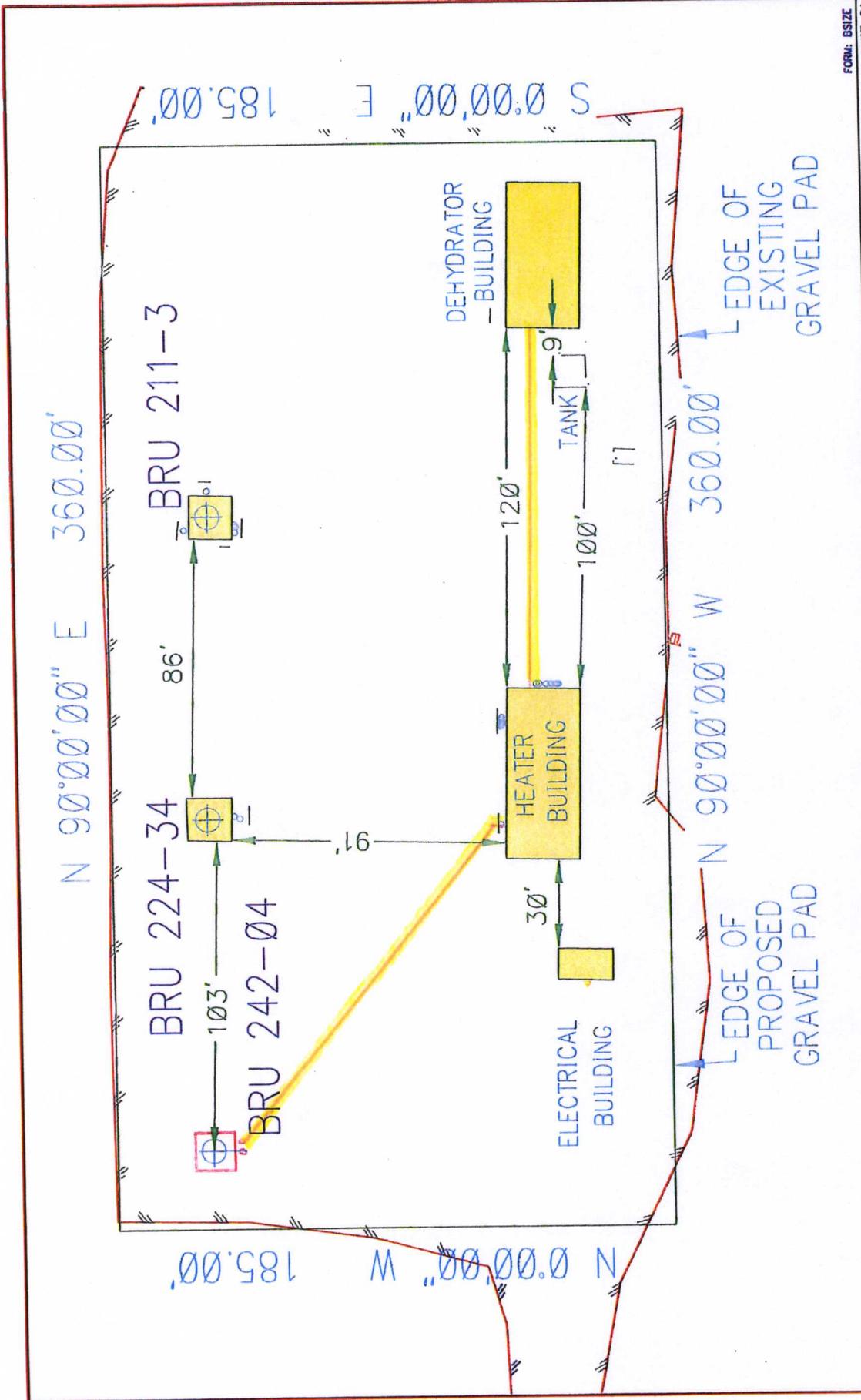
McLane Consulting Inc.  
 ENGINEERING - TESTING  
 SURVEYING - MAPPING  
 8610 LANTANA, AK 99508  
 4800 UNIVERSITY BLVD  
 FAIRBANKS, AK 99709  
 WWW.MCLANECO.COM

DRAWN BY: G.A.D.  
 CHECKED BY: S.A.L.  
 HORIZ. SCALE: 1"=40'  
 VERT. SCALE: 1"=4'  
 SHEET: 2





242-04  
 Pipe layout  
 DIMS



FORM: BSIZ		UNIT: BA	
BELLUGA		BA 224-34, 242-04 & 211-3	
WELL SITE LAYOUT		PLOT PLAN	
JOB NO.:		DRAWING NO.:	
SUB JOB NO.:		GAD-BA	
PART: 001		REV: 1	
REV	DATE	ISSUED PER	REVISION
1	2-19-09	DC0003JAMP	
BY	CHK	JOB	PROJ
MGO SBA			
SCALE:	DATE:	CADD FILENAME:	
AS NOTED	2-19-09		
CHECKED:	APPROVAL:	CC NO.:	
DRAWN:	DESIGN:	ECM NO.:	
MGO	SBA	DC0003JAMP	
ConocoPhillips			
Alaska, Inc.			
FORM: BSIZ			

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

REPORT OF EXAMINATION FOR CULTURAL RESOURCES

**1. Abstract:** No further consultation necessary under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

- 2a. Location:** T. 12 N., R. 10 W., sec. 4, Seward Meridian  
**USGS Quad:** Tyonek A-3
- 2b. Case File #** A-029656 (DOI-BLM-AK-010-2009-0003-S CX)  
**Action Type:** drill permit (oil/gas)

**3. Project Description:** **Size:** approximately 1/2 acre  
ConcocoPhillips proposes to drill a natural gas well (BRU 242-04) from a new extension of pad 212-24. The extension will occur on the west end of the existing pad. Access to the well location will be via the existing gravel road.

**Topography:** gently rolling terrain along coast

**Vegetation:** black spruce forest alternating with open areas of willow and alder

**4. Consultation Procedures:** The Alaska Heritage Resource Survey (AHRS) files were checked as well as the BLM files.

**5. Findings:** The extension of the well pad lies in an area between the west end of the existing pad 212-24, the Beluga Road and the access road to an adjoining well pad. The affected area has been cleared of vegetation and is disturbed. No cultural resources are known or considered likely for the affected area due to both disturbance and because there is no natural source of water within approximately 1/4 mile.

**6. Recommendations:** No adverse impacts to cultural resources are foreseen as a result of this undertaking.

**I certify that this examination complies with pertinent historic preservation laws and regulations.**

16MAR09

Date(s) of Examination

*Wanna Redding*

Archaeologist/Historian



ConocoPhillips Pad 212-24

Image © 2008 DigitalGlobe  
© 2008 Tele Atlas

© 2007 Google™

Pointer: lat: 61.174384° lon: -151.036380° elev: 71 ft

Streaming [|||||] 100%

Eye alt: 5069 ft

United States Department of Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Anchorage District Office

**Threatened and/or Endangered Species Evaluation**

Casefile Number: A-029656

Date: 03/13/2009

NEPA Document Number: DOI-BLM-AK-010-2009-0003-SCX

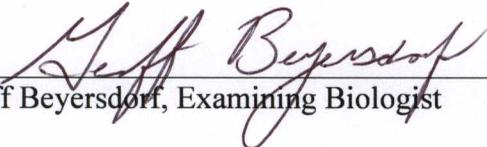
**PROPOSED ACTION:**

ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc. wishes to drill a natural gas well, BRU 242-04 on Beluga River Unit Dual South Pad, in the Beluga River Field. BRU 242-04 will be drilled on an existing pad in the Beluga River Field, lease number, A-029656. Existing roads will be used to access the Dual South Pad. New construction consists of a pad expansion of less than one-half acre on the west end of the Dual South pad, a well house structure, and new gas heater and dehydration equipment will be installed. BRU 242-4 will be drilled on an existing pad; reclamation of the pad will occur after abandonment of BRU242-04 and other existing wells on the pad. Approval of the plan of reclamation will be obtained from Cook Inlet Regional, Inc.(CIRI) Native Corporation prior to initiating any reclamation work. The surface owner of the land in the Kenai Beluga Unit is CIRI.

**LOCATION:** Section 4, T. 12 N., R. 10 W., Seward Meridian, Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska

**EVALUATION AND FINDING:**

The surface owner of the land is CIRI. The BLM has subsurface rights to oil and gas. The impact of the proposed action and alternatives on threatened and endangered plants and animals and their habitats has been evaluated in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. Based on currently available information, the proposed action would not affect any threatened or endangered species or their habitats. Therefore, no consultation with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is considered necessary pursuant to Section 7 of the Act and none will be undertaken.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Geoff Beyersdorf, Examining Biologist

March 13, 2009

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

United States Department of Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Anchorage Field Office

**COMPLIANCE WITH  
ANILCA SECTION 810**

**EVALUATION AND FINDINGS**

Case file No.:A-029656

Categorical Exclusion: DOI-BLM-AK-010-2009-0003-SCX

**Applicant: ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.**

**PROPOSED ACTION:**

ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc. wishes to drill a natural gas well, BRU 242-04 on Beluga River Unit Dual South Pad, in the Beluga River Field. BRU 242-04 will be drilled on an existing pad in the Beluga River Field, lease number, A-029656. Existing roads will be used to access the Dual South Pad. New construction consists of a pad expansion of less than one-half acre on the west end of the Dual South pad, a well house structure, and new gas heater and dehydration equipment will be installed. BRU 242-4 will be drilled on an existing pad; reclamation of the pad will occur after abandonment of BRU242-04 and other existing wells on the pad. Approval of the plan of reclamation will be obtained from Cook Inlet Regional, Inc.(CIRI) Native Corporation prior to initiating any reclamation work. The surface owner of the land in the Kenai Beluga Unit is CIRI.

**LOCATION:** Section 4, T. 12 N., R. 10 W., Seward Meridian, Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska

**EVALUATION:**

The surface owner of the land is CIRI. The BLM has subsurface rights to oil and gas. The ANILCA definition of land is "lands, waters, and interests therein." 102 (1). Therefore the section 810 analysis also applies to lands in which the BLM manages the subsurface but does not own the surface. The subject lands meet the definition of Federal Public Lands under ANILCA sec. 102 (3) and fall under the authority of the Federal Subsistence Board and Subsistence Management Regulations for the harvest of Fish and Wildlife on Federal Public Lands in Alaska. There will be less than ½ acre change in surface disturbance, habitat availability, or existing conditions relative to subsistence resources or uses thereof.

**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. The proposed action would not alter the distribution, migration or location of harvestable fisheries resources. 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 would not significantly reduce harvestable wildlife resources that are available for subsistence use. The proposed action will not alter the distribution and location of harvestable wildlife resources. The proposed action would not create any legal or physical barriers that would limit subsistence harvest and access.

-Other Resources: The proposed action would not appreciably impact any other harvestable renewable resources such as wood, berries, vegetation or water.

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

The proposed action occurs on land conveyed to CIRI. There are no other lands available for the purpose sought to be achieved.

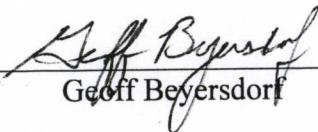
**Other alternatives which would reduce or eliminate the use, occupancy, or disposition of public lands needed for subsistence purposes:**

There is no substantial evidence that would indicate a significant impact as a result of the proposed action. No other alternatives were evaluated.

**FINDING:**

Therefore, at this time, the proposed action will not significantly restrict subsistence uses, decrease the abundance of subsistence resources, alter the distribution of subsistence resources, or limit subsistence user access from currently existing conditions. No further analysis is necessary at this time.

PREPARED BY:

  
Geoff Beyersdorf

DATE: March 13, 2009