

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

**Anchorage Field Office  
4700 BLM Road  
Anchorage, AK 99507  
Phone: (907)267-1246  
Fax: (907)267-1267**

**DECISION RECORD**

**Land Use Permit  
Commercial Filming**

**Applicant: Lance Kronberger, dba Freelance Outdoor Adventures  
Case File Number: AA-092924  
DOI-BLM-AK-A010-2011-0027-CX**

I. Decision:

It is my decision to authorize a short term commercial filming permit to Lance Kronberger, dba Freelance Outdoor Adventures, Case File Number: AA-092924, for a ten day period from May 20 through May 30, 2011. Stipulations and conditions have been identified in a previous special recreation permit authorization issued to Mr. Lance Kronberger to conduct commercial big game guiding, case file FF-94313 and are attached. The stipulations and conditions that protect the environment will be applicable to the commercial filming permit.

II. Proposed Action:

The proposed action is to grant a temporary permit to Lance Kronberger to conduct commercial filming for a ten day period in the Ungalik River drainage. The film company, Orion Multimedia, will have one camera man on site and Mr. Kronberger will guide one hunter in a grizzly bear hunt which will be filmed for a cable television show. Access is by fixed wing aircraft landing on a remote unimproved strip. A temporary camp will be established and will be removed upon completion of the activity.

III. Rationale for the Decision:

The rationale for the decision is based on the need of the applicant to improve his exposure for potential clients and to educate people of the recreational opportunities in a remote settling in rural Alaska.

The proposed action is in conformance with the Kobuk-Seward Peninsula Resource Management Plan, Approved: September, 2008. The area of the proposed activity is not within a critical subsistence use area and no serious wildlife problems are anticipated.

IV. ANILCA Section 810 Compliance:

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 nor reasonably foreseeable limitations on harvester access will result from the proposed action.

V. Adverse Energy Impact Compliance:

This action has been analyzed as required by Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 2002-053 to determine if it will cause an adverse impact on energy development. The action will not have an adverse direct or indirect impact on energy development, production or distribution. The preparation of a Statement of Adverse Energy Impact is not required.

VI. Lands with Wilderness Characteristics:

The proposed action has been reviewed for the following Wilderness Characteristics and found to contain one or more of the characteristics:

- 1) Size-roadless areas of over 5000 acres of contiguous BLM lands.
- 2) Naturalness-affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the works of humans substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor
- 3) Outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.
- 4) Supplemental values-if size, naturalness, and solitude/outstanding opportunities are met, then consider if the area contains ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. Supplemental values are not required to be present in order to classify an area as Lands with Wilderness Characteristics.

The proposed action is located along the Ungalik River and a large block of BLM encompassing more than 5,000 contiguous acres surrounds the area of the proposed activity. The area is largely untouched by man and offers outstanding opportunities for primitive outdoor recreation. The Visual Resource Management classification within the land use plan (Kobuk-Seward Peninsula September 2008) is Class II. The proposed activity will not alter the scenic or recreational nature of the area.

VII. Consultation and Coordination:

Public participation was accomplished through the development of the Kobuk-Seward Peninsula Management Plan which anticipated routine land authorizations in accordance with Title III of FLPMA. Adequate measures to protect public lands through stipulations and required operating procedures are in place. Internal scoping was conducted by AFO staff and included threatened and endangered species, cultural clearances and ANILCA 810 analysis.

VIII. Compliance and Monitoring Plan:

Compliance and monitoring of this authorization will be conducted by the BLM Anchorage Field Office. Inspection will be made (depending upon staffing and budget) after the applicant's filming to ensure minimal trace of use is left on the land.

//Matthew S. Varner//

Matthew S. Varner  
Field Manager, Acting

May 18, 2011

Date

Attachments: Terms and Stipulations



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

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

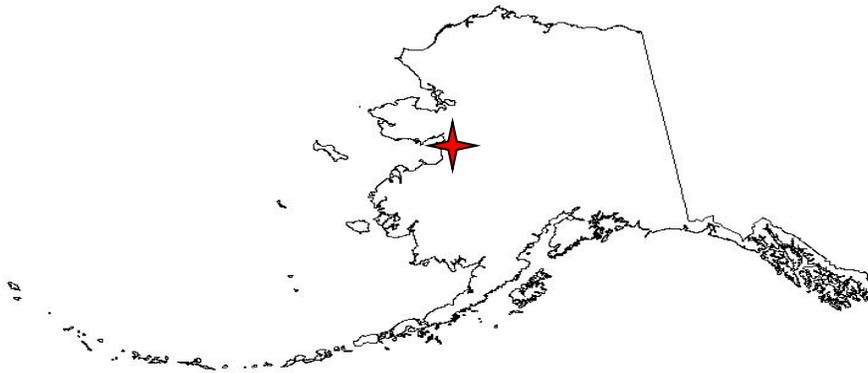
<http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/fo/ado.html>

### Categorical Exclusion Commercial Film Permit

**Applicant: Lance Kronberger, dba Freelance Outdoor Adventures**

**Case File Number: AA-92924**

**DOI-BLM-AK-A010-2011-0027-CX**



### Location:

Kateel River Meridian, Alaska

T. 8 S., R. 8 W.,  
sec. 5;  
sec. 8;  
sec. 17 (within).

### Prepared By:

Anchorage Field Office  
May, 2011

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION**

**A. Background**

BLM Office: Anchorage Field Office      Lease/Serial/Case File No: AA-092924

Environmental Document No: DOI-BLM-AK-A010-2011-0027-CX

Proposed Action:

The proposed action is to approve a land use permit for commercial filming. The filming is to take place within a ten day period during a commercial big game guiding operation conducted near the Ungalik River within the Nulato Hills. The application was filed under the authority of Title III of the Federal Land Policy Management Act of October 21, 1976, as amended (90 Stat. 2762; 43 U.S.C. 1732).

Location:

The site is located approximately 17 miles southeast of Koyuk and 48 miles north east of Shaktoolik within the Norton Bay D-3 Quadrangle within the following described public lands:

Kateel River Meridian, Alaska

T. 8 S., R. 8 W.,  
sec. 5;  
sec. 8;  
sec. 17 (within).

Description:

Lance Kronberger, dab Freelance Outdoor Adventures, has been conducting big game guiding operations on BLM lands in the Nulato Hills within the Shaktoolik and Ungalik River drainages under a special recreation permit, case file FF-94313, since 2004. Mr. Kronberger has concentrated on spring and fall grizzly bear guided hunts and to a lesser extent fall moose. Mr. Kronberger was approached by Orion Multimedia to film a grizzly bear hunt in a ten day period from May 20 to May 30, 2011. Three people would be transported to the site by a fixed wing aircraft based out of Unalakleet (Era Aviation) to a ridge top near the Ungalik River. The three individuals would set up a small tent camp for the 10 day hunt. The three people would consist of the professional guide, hunter, and camera man. At the end of the hunt, all personal belongings and equipment would be removed from public lands. Human waste would be buried in a pit privy. Trash would be burned or removed from site. Water for cooking would be taken from the Ungalik River.

Applicant: Lance Kronberger, dab Freelance Outdoor Adventures

**B. Land Use Plan Conformance 43 CFR 1610.5-3(a)**

1. Kobuk-Seward Peninsula Approved: September. 2008
2. The proposed action is in conformance with plan because it is specifically provided for in the following planning decisions: Under Lands and Realty H-2-a 4. Permits

**C. NEPA Compliance**

The proposed action for the short term right-of-way is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with United States Department of the Interior 43 CFR §46.210 or United States Department of Interior Manual, Part 516, Chapter 11, and the BLM NEPA Handbook H-1790-1, Appendix 4 p. 152 which provides:

E. Realty

19. Issuance of short-term (3 years or less) rights-of-way or land use authorizations for such uses as storage sites, apiary sites, and construction sites where the proposal includes rehabilitation to Restore the land to its natural or original condition.

**D. Extraordinary Circumstances**

The following Departmental List of Extraordinary Circumstances apply to individual actions. Departmental instructions mandate that environmental documents must be prepared for actions which may:

1. Have significant adverse impacts on public health or safety.
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 or critical areas.
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.

5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.
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.
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.
9. Violate Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.
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).
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).

This categorical exclusion is appropriate because there are no extraordinary circumstances that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances in 43 CFR §46.215 are pertinent.

#### **E. Lands with Wilderness Characteristics**

The proposed action has been reviewed for the following Wilderness Characteristics and found to contain one or more of the characteristics:

- 1) Size-roadless areas of over 5000 acres of contiguous BLM lands.
- 2) Naturalness-affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the works of humans substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor
- 3) Outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

- 4) Supplemental values-if size, naturalness, and solitude/outstanding opportunities are met, then consider if the area contains ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. Supplemental values are not required to be present in order to classify an area as Lands with Wilderness Characteristics.

The proposed action is located along the Ungalik River within a large block of BLM managed lands encompassing more than 5,000 contiguous acres which surrounds the area of the proposed activity. The area is largely untouched by man and offers outstanding opportunities for primitive outdoor recreation. The Visual Resource Management classification within the land use plan (Kobuk-Seward Peninsula September 2008) is Class II. The proposed activity would not alter the scenic or recreational nature of the area or affect the wilderness characteristics of the area.

**F Adverse Energy Impact Compliance:**

This action has been analyzed as required by Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 2002-053 to determine if it will cause an adverse impact on energy development. The action will not have an adverse direct or indirect impact on energy development, production or distribution. The preparation of a Statement of Adverse Energy Impact is not required.

**G. Signature**

The proposed action is in conformance with a management framework plan or a resource management plan, 43 C.F.R. § 1610.8(a) (3) (2006). The Department of the Interior has determined and found that the proposed action is within a category 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 (2006).

Mitigation Measures/Stipulations: NONE

Authorized Official: //Matthew S. Varner// Date: May 18, 2011