



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Eastern Interior Field Office
1150 University Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-3844
<http://www.blm.gov/ak>

In Reply Refer To:
FF-095780

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION /PLAN CONFORMANCE DOCUMENTATION AND DECISION

FF095780 (293001)

DOI-BLM-AK-02000-2011-0008-CX

Proposed Action: Special Recreation Use Permit (Commercial)

Date of Proposed Action: Present through December 31, 2015

Location: Fortymile WSR
T26N, R19E, SEC. 6 SW, Copper River Meridian.

Applicant: Canoe Alaska
Mary Timm
PO Box 735
Tok, AK 99780

Serial Number: FF095780

Description of Proposed Action:

The applicant, Mary Timm, doing business as Canoe Alaska, Inc, has applied to continue operating multi-day guided river trips on the Fortymile WSR. There are no changes from her previous application. Mrs. Timm is planning to do up to four annual trips on various segments of the Fortymile River between the West Fork Bridge and the main Fortymile Bridge. No single group size will exceed 16 persons and trips will average 4 days in length. Simple overnight camps will be used on both gravel bars and upland sites during the trips. Mrs. Timm will continue to teach and practice "Leave No Trace" guidelines. Cooking will be done on propane stoves, any campfires will be made from driftwood, and a portable toilet system will be used for human waste.

Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Names: Fortymile Management Framework Plan (Approved: 9/8/1980) and the Fortymile River Management Plan (Approved: 10/11/1983).

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUPs because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

Fortymile MFP:

R3.3: Manage the Fortymile ... River(s) to preserve wild and scenic values.

Fortymile River Management Plan:

Action 6.3: Permits are required for all commercial guides or outfitters operating within the river corridor pursuant to 43 CFR 8372.

Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9 (E-9) which states: “Renewals and assignments of leases, permits, or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorization.”

The proposed action must be screened against the extraordinary circumstances found in 43 CFR 46.215 and listed below. Any “yes” finding requires that an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement be prepared for the Proposed Action.

EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES

	YES	NO
1) May have significant impacts on public health or safety.		X
2) May 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.		X
3) May have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.		X
4) May have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
5) Might establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
6) May have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
7) May 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) May 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) Might violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X

10) May have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		X
11) Might 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) Could contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the 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).		X

Signature:

 MICHELLE EITUN, ACTING FOR: 6/17/11
Date

Lenore Heppler
Field Manager
Eastern Interior Field Office

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Collin Cogley, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Eastern Interior Field Office, at 907-474-2382.

**Decision for Categorical Exclusion DOI-BLM-AK-02000-2011-0008-CX
for Canoe Alaska /Special Recreation Permit**

Decision

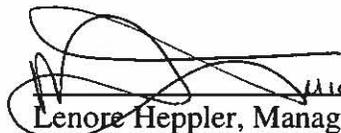
It is my decision to allow up to four annual guided float trips on the Fortymile WSR as specified in the proposed action for the next five years, through December 2015. As also specified in the proposed action, group sizes shall not exceed 16 persons, a portable toilet system will be utilized to collect and back-haul all solid human waste, and only dead and down wood will be used for campfires.

Rationale

1. This action is in accordance with Action 6.3 of the Fortymile River Plan which states: Permits are required for all commercial guides or outfitters operating within the river corridor pursuant to 43 CFR 8372.
2. There are no anticipated impacts to cultural resources. See attachment #1.
3. The Proposed Action will not significantly restrict subsistence uses. See attachment #2.
4. There are no expected effects the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). See attachment #3.

Appeal Procedures

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, in accordance with 43 CFR Part 4 and DOI Form 1842-1. The notice of appeal must be filed in the Bureau of Land Management Eastern Interior Field Office (at the above address) within 30 days from receipt of this decision. Appeals from administrative decisions issued by BLM-Alaska must be filed in writing in the office of the deciding official, either by mail or hand delivery. Notices of appeal transmitted by electronic means, such as facsimile or email will not be accepted as timely filed.


MICHELLE STANN, Acting for: _____
Lenore Heppler, Manager Date 6/17/11
Eastern Interior Field Office

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review and decision, contact Collin Cogley, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Eastern Interior Field Office, at 907-474-2382.