



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Arctic Field Office
1150 University Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-3844
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In reply refer to:
FF096434
2984.01 (AK012)

PLAN CONFORMANCE / NEPA COMPLIANCE RECORD

DOI-BLM-LLAKF012-2012-0030-CX

Arctic Field Office, Bureau of Land Management

Applicant: John Thornton
Intermap Technologies, Inc.
8310 South Valley Hwy, Suite 400
Englewood, Colorado 80112

Proposed Action Title/Type: Imaging Radar Mapping Project

Description of Proposed Action: The applicant, John Thornton on behalf of Intermap Technologies, Inc. (Intermap) has requested authorization for field activity and access to conduct an imaging radar mapping project within the western boundary of the NPR-A, to the west of the NPR-A and to the south of western NPR-A (Figure 1 and 2). Intermap has been contracted by the US Geological Survey to conduct a mapping survey of the lands. The imaging radar system they would use is interferometric synthetic aperture radar for terrain elevation (IFSARE), which is an adverse weather synthetic aperture radar (SAR) system for acquiring and processing geographic and terrain elevation data.

A ground crew and airborne crew would be deployed to the project area along with the IFSARE system. The ground crew would arrive in advance of the flight crew in order to select and survey GPS station locations, identify benchmarks, and perform a preliminary survey of ground verification points.

The ground crew would consist of one surveyor and one helicopter pilot. There are five points within BLM managed land (Table 1) that the ground crew is proposing to install corner reflectors (Figure 3). They are contracting with Bristow Helicopters for the project. There is no camp and no fuel use proposed on BLM managed lands. They anticipate spending about three hours at each site. The reflectors would be installed in late June and picked up in September. The total number of helicopter take off and landings anticipated is 20. The reflectors would be used as ground control points for the Lear jet. Upon conclusion of the ground crew work, the IFSARE system would be deployed and data acquisition would commence in the project area.

For the actual survey work Intermap would not be landing on BLM managed lands. They would fly back and forth from Fairbanks and anticipate 40 to 90 total flights, flying at night with two flights per night. Their aircraft would coordinate with the Anchorage Air Route Traffic Control Center. Their proposed mapping schedule is:

- 29Jun – 05Aug: Flight originate out of Fairbanks to fly first part of Alaska Acquisition
- 06Aug – 19Aug – Aircraft Maintenance, no flying
- 20Aug – 14Sep – Flight originating out of Fairbanks to fly second part of Alaska acquisition.

The data acquisition components of IFSARE are installed in a Lear Jet aircraft platform. The Lear Jet would be stationed in Fairbanks for the duration of the project. Flight lines (Figure 2) take into consideration overlap needs and shadow fill requirements, based upon terrain ruggedness, flight altitudes, and local restrictions.

A four and a half hour mission day is planned allowing for about three and a half hours of mapping time, and one hour transit time (to/from the objective area). Normal flying altitudes range from 28,000 feet to 38,000 feet at an average airspeed of 380 knots true. This allows for an effective data acquisition rate of 750 km² per hour. Per sortie, the system averages about 3200 km².

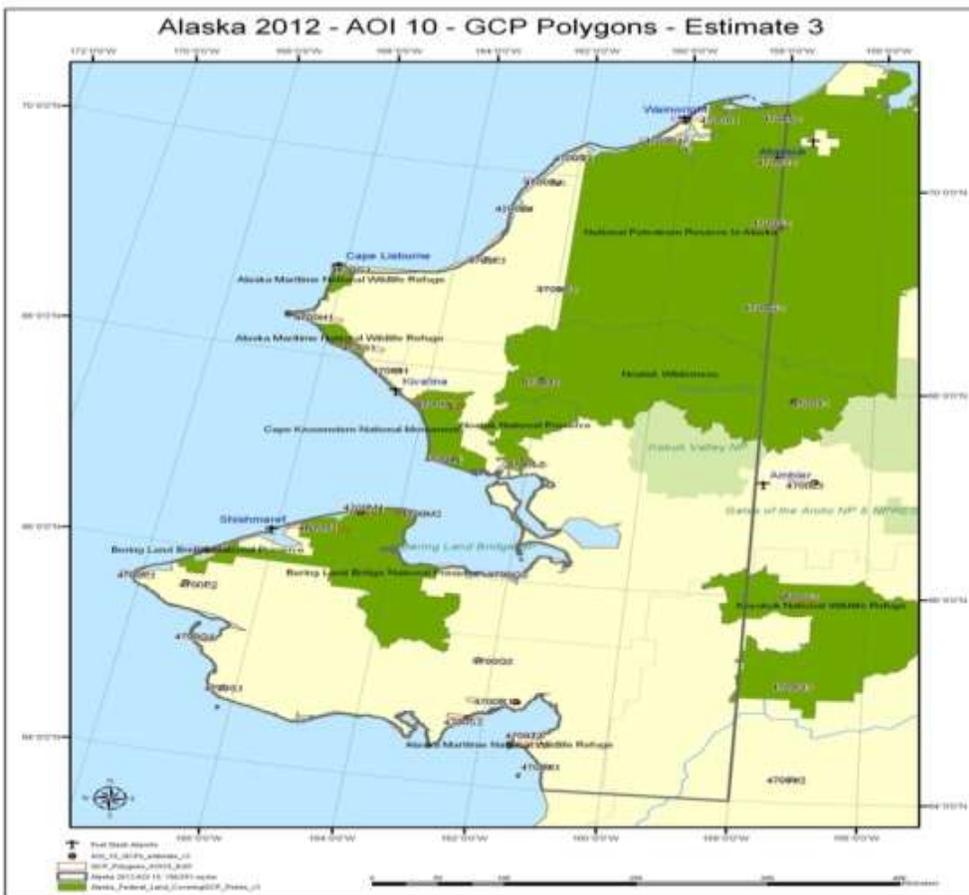


Figure 1 Applicant Submitted Map Ground Control Points

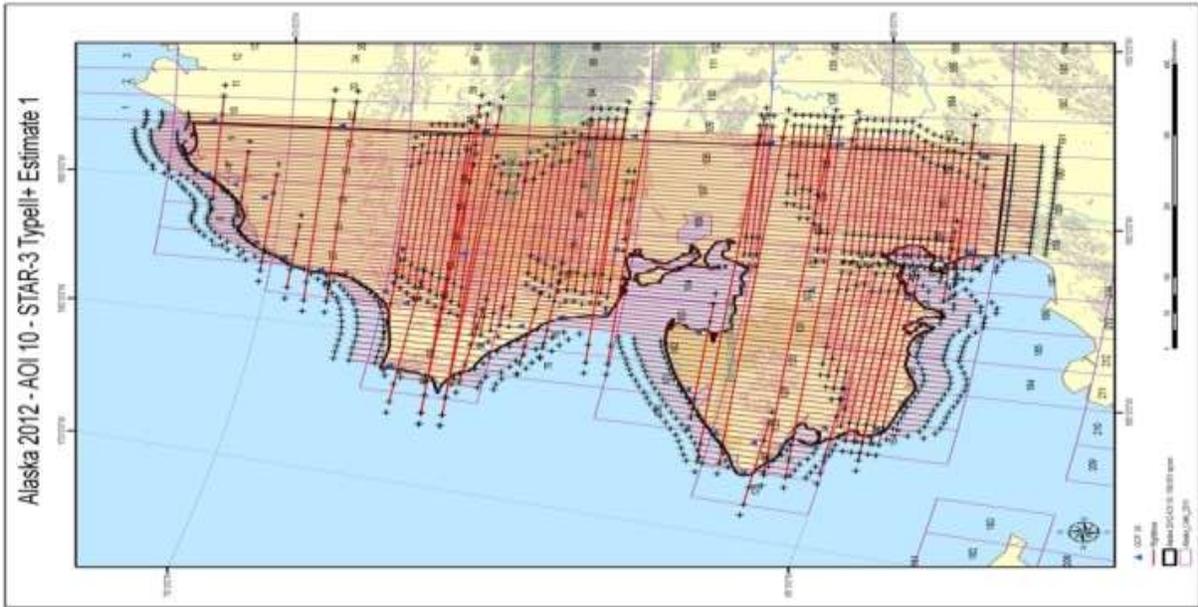


Figure 2 Applicant Supplied Map of flight lines



Figure 3 Reflector (2 ft × 2 ft × 2 ft)

Table 1: Legal Description

Name	Latitude	Longitude	Township	Range	Section	Meridian	Comments
4700A1	70° 38.359'N	159° 59.946'W	15 North	31 West	19	Umiat	Wainwright

4700A2	70° 42.858'N	157° 59.293'W	16 North	24 West	26	Umiat	NPR-A [NA within a mile]
4700B1	70° 25.416'N	160° 20.615'W	12 North	33 West	6	Umiat	NPR-A
4700C1	70° 11.384'N	161° 56.705'W	10 North	40 West	26	Umiat	State
4700C2	70° 17.371'N	158° 4.459'W	11 North	24 West	19	Umiat	NPR-A
4700D1	69° 54.687'N	162° 23.149'W	7 North	42 West	33	Umiat	State
4700E1	69° 37.712'N	162° 50.788'W	3 North	45 West	12	Umiat	State
4700E2	69° 37.773'N	157° 57.119'W	3 North	25 West	11	Umiat	NPR-A
4700F1	69° 5.999'N	163° 24.885'W	4 South	48 West	14	Umiat	ASRC
4700G1	68° 50.201'N	165° 49.718'W	7 South	59 West	13	Umiat	Maritime NWR
4700G2	68° 52.647'N	161° 54.239'W	6 South	42 West	33	Umiat	State
4700G3	68° 49.565'N	158° 3.193'W	7 South	26 West	22	Umiat	NPR-A
4700H1	68° 20.949'N	166° 48.050'W	34 North	35 West	16	Kateel	BLM [CY]/State
4700I1	68° 6.445'N	165° 34.743'W	31 North	30 West	8	Kateel	Maritime NWR
4700J1	67° 55.672'N	164° 36.480'W	29 North	26 West	10	Kateel	BLM[CY] State SS
4700J2	67° 58.017'N	161° 59.047'W	30 North	15 West	25	Kateel	Noatak
4700J3	67° 54.514'N	157° 25.318'W	29 North	6 East	14	Kateel	Noatak
4700K1	67° 39.037'N	163° 32.381'W	26 North	22 West	13	Kateel	Cape Krusenstern Nat Mon.
4700L1	67° 7.442'N	163° 20.095'W	20 North	21 West	20	Kateel	Cape Krusenstern Nat Mon.
4700L2	67° 8.924'N	162° 6.144'W	20 North	16 West	11	Kateel	Noatak
4700L3	67° 7.663'N	156° 58.374'W	20 North	9 East	18	Kateel	BLM[CY] State SS
4700M1	66° 31.646'N	164° 40.395'W	13 North	28 West	14	Kateel	Bering
4700M2	66° 33.144'N	163° 52.929'W	13 North	24 West	4	Kateel	Bering
4700N1	66° 18.935'N	165° 28.671'W	11 North	32 West	34	Kateel	Bering
4700O1	65° 58.624'N	167° 2.256'W	7 North	40 West	26	Kateel	Bering
4700O2	66° 2.955'N	162° 6.721'W	8 North	16 West	31	Kateel	State
4700O3	65° 57.466'N	157° 13.043'W	7 North	8 East	32	Kateel	Koyukuk

4700P1	65° 38.131'N	168° 7.205'W	3 North	45 West	30	Kateel	Bering Straights Native Corp
4700P2	65° 37.884'N	167° 14.871'W	3 North	41 West	29	Kateel	State
4700Q1	65° 8.082'N	166° 54.914'W	4 South	40 West	20/17	Kateel	Bering Straights Native Corp
4700Q2	65° 12.440'N	162° 13.943'W	3 South	17 West	19	Kateel	State
4700Q3	65° 7.787'N	157° 5.935'W	4 South	9 East	19	Kateel	Koyukuk
4700R1	64° 50.047'N	161° 31.521'W	7 South	14 West	33	Kateel	Elim Native Corporation
4700S1	64° 40.665'N	166° 11.469'W	9 South	38 West	25	Kateel	Bering Straights Native Corp
4700S2	64° 38.280'N	162° 14.333'W	10 South	18 West	10	Kateel	Elim Native Corporation
4700T1	64° 24.948'N	161° 30.182'W	12 South	14 West	29	Kateel	Maritime NWR
4700U1	64° 08.546'N	160° 56.888'W	15 South	12 West	36	Kateel	Shaktoolik Native Corporation
4700U2	64° 08.754'N	156° 55.765'W	15 South	10 East	32	Kateel	BLM [ANCH]
4700V1	63° 08.108'N	160° 44.963'W	27 South	11 West	22	Kateel	BLM [ANCH]
4700V2	63° 07.903'N	157° 14.438'W	27 South	8 East	24	Kateel	State

Part I: Plan Conformance Review

The proposed action is subject to the following planning documents: Northwest National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (IAP/EIS) 2004, and NPR-A Oil and Gas Leasing EIS (1983). The proposed action is not inconsistent with the purposes of the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976. The applicant would be provided with stipulations entitled “FF096434 Intermap Technologies Summer 2012 Stipulations.”

Donna L. Wixon
Natural Resource Specialist, Arctic Field Office

Date _____

Part II: NEPA Review and Decision

Categorical Exclusion Review

This proposed action meets the criteria for a Categorical Exclusion in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, D.10,

This proposed action qualifies as a Categorical Exclusion 1.6 under 43 CFR 46.210 and 46.215

“Nondestructive data collection, inventory (including field, aerial, and satellite surveying and mapping), study, research, and monitoring activities.”

The proposed action has been reviewed to determine if any of the exceptions described in 43 CFR 46.210 and 46.215, apply.

The proposed action would not meet any of the extraordinary circumstances listed below.

Extraordinary Circumstances	Yes	No
2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety.		X
2.2 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.		X
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2) (E)].		X
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
2.7 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
2.8 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
2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		X
2.11 Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands		X

by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).		
2.12 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

 Donna L. Wixon
 Natural Resource Specialist, Arctic Field Office

Date _____