

United States Department of the Interior

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

In reply refer to:
FF095871
2984.01 (AK012)

PLAN CONFORMANCE / NEPA COMPLIANCE RECORD

DOI-BLM-LLAKF012-2011-0022-CX

Arctic Field Office, Bureau of Land Management

Applicant: David Wright
Producer/Director of Photography
Luna-Sea Films Inc
839 Appleton Ridge Rd
Appleton, Maine 04862

Proposed Action Title/Type: National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Permit (2984.01)

Description of Proposed Action: The applicant David Wright, with Luna-Sea Films Inc has requested authorization to conduct a video and photographic documentation of Dr. George Divoky's ornithology work, on lands within the National Petroleum Reserve Alaska (NPR-A).

Dr. Divoky has conducted research on Cooper Island since 2002 when he worked with the Institute of Arctic Biology, University of Alaska Fairbanks. In 2010 Dr. Divoky obtained a NPR-A Permit as a representative of the Friends of Cooper Island. The Arctic Field Office has reviewed and approved DOI-BLM-LLAKF012-2011-0021-CX, Dr. Divoky's 2011 permit renewal application.

The purpose of Mr. Wright's proposal is to produce an educational film that may be used by Dr. Divoky to illustrate his work as an ornithologist. Mr. Wright would be conducting his filming the last three weeks of August and the first two weeks of September. He would be the only person operating under this permit. Access to the site would be by a boat chartered from Barrow. Travel on the island would be by foot. There is no planned use of aircraft. Mr. Wright would stay in Dr. Divoky's camp and would follow the researchers on the Island (Figure 1 and see DOI-BLM-LLAKF012-2011-0021-CX for additional information).

There is no request for fuel use or storage. Mr. Wright is consulting with the Barrow Mayor's Office, and the Barrow Arctic Science Consortium BASC.



Legal Description: Section 19, Township 22 North, Range 14 West, Umiat Meridian

Part I: Plan Conformance Review

The proposed action is subject to the following planning document: Northeast National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Supplemental Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (IAP/EIS) dated July 2008. The proposed action is not inconsistent with the purposes of the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976. The applicant will be provided with stipulations entitled “FF095871 David Wright Summer Permit 2011 Stipulations.”

Date **July 1, 2011**

/s/Donna L. Wixon
Natural Resource Specialist, Arctic Field Office

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.

This proposed action qualifies as a Categorical Exclusion J4 under 43 CFR 46.210 and 46.215

“Use of small sites for temporary field work camps where the sites will be restored to their natural or original condition within the same work season.”

The proposed action will 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 by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).		X
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

Date **July 1, 2011**

/s/Donna L. Wixon
Natural Resource Specialist, Arctic Field Office