

# United States Department of the Interior

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

In reply refer to:  
FF095588  
2984.01 (AK012)

## PLAN CONFORMANCE / NEPA COMPLIANCE RECORD

DOI-BLM-LLAKF010-2011-0019-CX

### Arctic Field Office, Bureau of Land Management

**Applicant:** Brian Person  
North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management

**Proposed Action Title/Type:** Summer Biological Field Studies (2984.01).

**Description of Proposed Action:** The proposed action encompasses a variety of long-term biological sampling and monitoring activities during the 2011 summer season. The proposed action has been reviewed and approved each summer since at least 2004.

A temporary summer camp will be established on the Ikpikpuk River at 70° 43.217' N, 154° 29.84' W. The camp will be entirely removed at the end of the summer season. Site access will be via fixed-wing aircraft from Barrow and landing on the river sandbar. Ground activities will occur within 5 miles of camp (see attached map). The proposed activities will occur with two people, except for the period of July 31 – August 8, when eight people will be involved. A small helicopter (R44) will be used during July 31 – August 8 on the Ikpikpuk River and during August 15-17 northwest of Teshekpuk Lake.

June 14-16

Vegetation sampling will take place in association with established 0.5x1.0 meter enclosures within 5 statute miles of camp on the Ikpikpuk River. Vegetation will be clipped down to the soil surface in a 10x10 cm quadrat inside and outside the enclosure. The plant communities are *Puccinellia* spp. / *Carex subspathacea* and polygon tundra dominated by *Eriophorum* spp. Access to each enclosure from camp will be via foot.

July 12-16

Nest survey search and fate for Lesser Snow Geese (LSG) in the Ikpikpuk River Delta.

July 20

Delivery of 165 gallons of av-gas to the summer camp via fixed-wing from Barrow; the fuel will be stored in secondary containment near or on the river sandbar. The fuel will be used during July 31 – August 8. In the event that water levels in the Ikpikpuk River rise to the point where the fuel cache may be inundated, the NSB Search and Rescue helicopter will assist the applicant. The fuel cache will be moved to higher ground, or if that is not possible, full removal of the fuel cache will occur and returned to Barrow.

July 31 – August 8

A small team of up to eight people will band Lesser Snow Geese at nests identified during the July 12-16 nest survey. Adult LSG will be flushed out of the nest to gain access to the goslings and place a band on them. This activity is conducted in cooperation with the BLM.

August 15-17

Vegetation sampling will take place in association with established 50x50 foot enclosures approximately 7 miles north of the NSB Wildlife Department cabin located on the north shore of Teshekpuk Lake. The enclosures are located in wet sedge meadow. All vegetation will be clipped down to the surface of the moss or soil within a 30x30 cm quadrat in 3 random locations within the enclosure and outside the enclosure. There are a total of five enclosures in this area. Access will be by small helicopter (R44), though could also be via foot.

**Legal Description:**

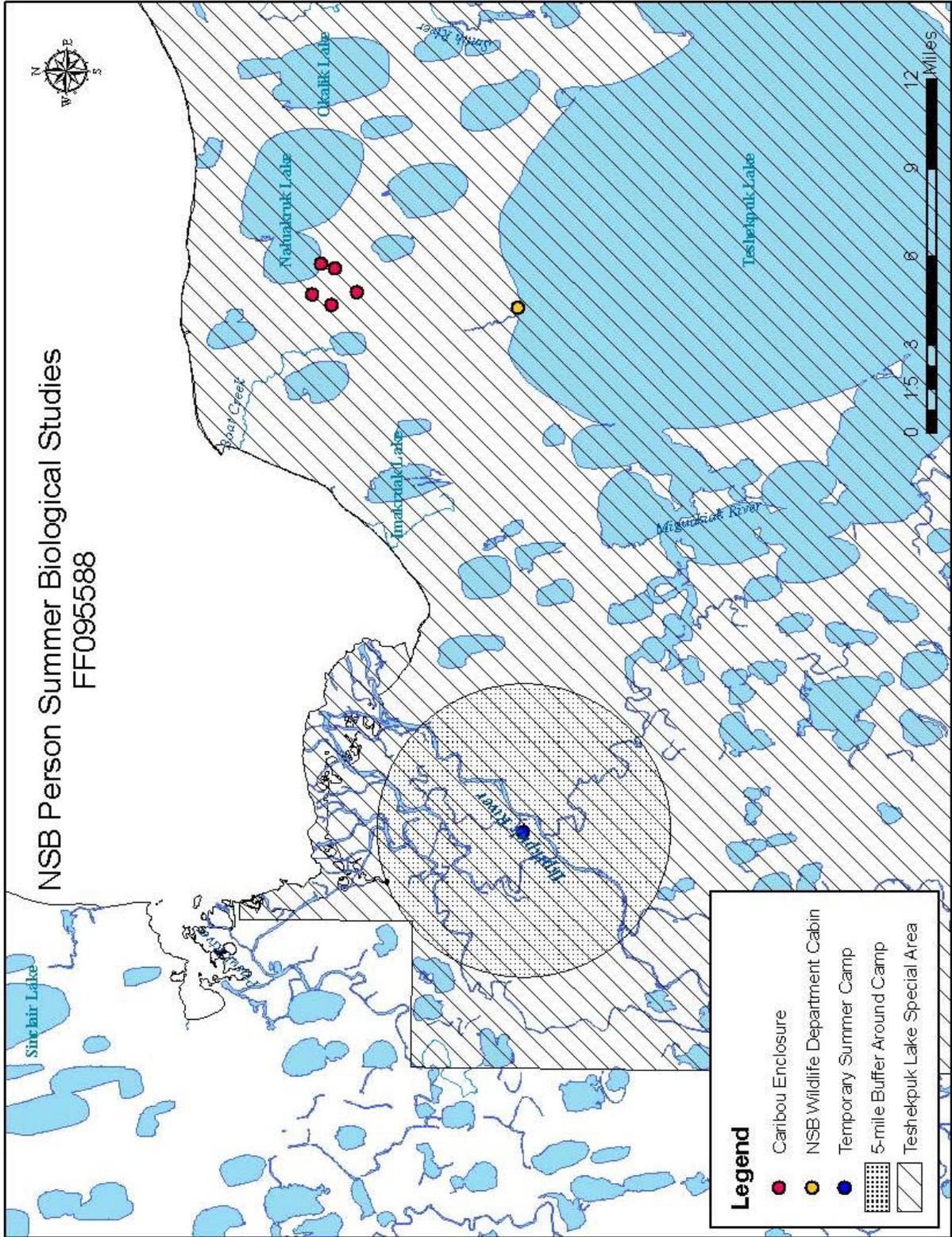
The proposed action is located in the Teshekpuk Lake Special Area on the Ikpikpuk Delta and on the northwest side of Teshekpuk Lake as described below.

Northwest of Teshekpuk Lake

<b>Sections</b>	<b>Township</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Meridian</b>
4, 5, 8, 9, 16, 17, 20, 21	16 North	7 West	Umiat Meridian
15, 16, 21, 22, 27, 28, 33, 34	17 North	7 West	Umiat Meridian

Ikpikpuk River Delta

<b>Sections</b>	<b>Township</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Meridian</b>
6	15 North	9 West	Umiat Meridian
6, 7, 17-20, 29-31	16 North	9 West	Umiat Meridian
31	17 North	9 West	Umiat Meridian
1-12, 14-18	15 North	10 West	Umiat Meridian
1-36	16 North	10 West	Umiat Meridian
26-36	17 North	10 West	Umiat Meridian
1-3, 11-13	15 North	11 West	Umiat Meridian
1-3, 10-15, 22-27, 34-36	16 North	11 West	Umiat Meridian
36	17 North	11 West	Umiat Meridian





cumulatively significant environmental effects.		
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.		<b>X</b>
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		<b>X</b>
2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		<b>X</b>
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		<b>X</b>
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).		<b>X</b>
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).		<b>X</b>

                  /s/                  

Date           **10 June 2011**          

Shane Walker  
Natural Resource Specialist, Arctic Field Office