



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Arctic Field Office
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In reply refer to:
AA86604
2984.01 (AK012)

PLAN CONFORMANCE / NEPA COMPLIANCE RECORD

DOI-BLM-LLAKF012-2010-0041-CX

Arctic Field Office, Bureau of Land Management

Applicant: Anadarko Petroleum Company (APC)

Proposed Action Title/Type: Tundra Rehabilitation

Description of Proposed Action:

During winter 2008–2009, an approximately 10 × 30 ft area (0.0069 acre) of tussock tundra was disturbed on lease by heavy equipment during winter exploration activities by Anadarko Petroleum Corporation (APC).

The objective of the rehabilitation is to enhance the growth of tussocks within the disturbed area that are still alive, and promote the flowering (additional seed production) of in the adjacent, undisturbed tundra APC will fly from Deadhorse to the site prior to vegetation green-up in summer 2010. If the disturbed area does not show any notable signs of thaw settlement, a light fertilizer (200 lbs/acre) of 8-32-16 N-P-K (nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium) will be applied to the affected area and to a 25-m buffer around the damaged site. A higher dose of phosphorus will be used because this nutrient is probably the most limiting.

Monitoring the recovery of the disturbed area will consist of a site visit after peak vegetation growth in late summer to assess the preliminary vegetation response of the treatment(s) applied earlier. Cover will be visually (qualitatively) assessed and a species list compiled. If little to no recovery has occurred, new rehabilitation options may be considered at a future date.

Location:

The area is located at Section 9, Township 1 South, Range 6 West, Umiat Meridian, on NPR-A Lease AKAA86604 at the Wolf Creek 4LL well, near Wolf Creek in the foothills of the Brooks Range (Arctic Foothills), approximately 30 miles west of Umiat, Alaska.

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Part I: Plan Conformance Review

The proposed action is subject to the following planning document: Northwest National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Supplemental Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (IAP/EIS) dated January 2004. The proposed action is consistent with the purposes of the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976.

Date August 1, 2010

//Shane Walker
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, D.10,

“Vegetation management activities, such as seeding, planting, invasive plant removal, installation of erosion control devices (e.g. mats/straw/chips) and mechanical treatments, such as crushing, piling, thinning, pruning, cutting, chipping, mulching, mowing, and prescribed fire when the activity is necessary for the management of vegetation on public lands.”

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

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		X

future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		
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 August 1, 2010

/s/Shane Walker
Natural Resource Specialist, Arctic Field Office