

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Anchorage Field Office

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) FORM**

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CX No.: AK-040-02-CX-028 Lease/Serial/Case File No.: AA-081878 (2920)

Proposed Action Title/Types: R&PP Lease for operation and maintenance of an existing Sonar Fish Counting Station on the Anvik River.

Location of Proposed Action: T. 31 N., R. 61 W., Section 34, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
Section 35, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Seward Meridian.

Description of Proposed Action:

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Commercial Fisheries Division requested a Lease to operate and maintain an existing Sonar Fish Counting Station and a storage and maintenance area off the Anvik River. ADF&G considers this project a long-term operation with a high priority and will operate it annually, from mid-June to the end of July. The purpose for this project is to collect biological data on numbers, age, size, sex and composition of migratory chum salmon population in the Anvik River. The equipment being used is an HTI split-beam sonar system. During the off-season, boats and motors used to operate the station will be stored in the Village of Anvik. The information compiled from this research is shared with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

The proposed action includes two distinct areas: The sonar fish counting station will encompass a 20' x 20' clearing of brush for a seasonal tent without platform and the storage and maintenance area which includes a cache and two wall tent platforms. The site is located approximately 15 nautical miles northwest of Anvik along the Anvik River. Access to the site will be by boat.

Applicant (if any): State of Alaska, Department of Fish and Game, Commercial Fisheries Division

**PART I - PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW**

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This Proposed Action is subject to the following land use plan: Southwest MFP.  
Date Plan Approved: November 1981

The Proposed Action has been reviewed for conformance with this plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM MS 1617.3).

Remarks:

**PART II - NEPA REVIEW**

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A. Categorical Exclusion Review.

This Proposed Action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 2, Appendix 1. or 516 DM 6, Appendix 5.4. E.16.

B. Departmental Exceptions Review.

The following Departmental List of Exceptions apply to individual actions. Departmental instructions mandate that environmental documents **MUST BE PREPARED** for actions which may: (Mark applicable answer for each item. If "yes", prepare an EA/EIS and append this form to it.)

	YES	NO
1. Have significant adverse impacts on public health or safety.	<u>   </u>	<u>  X  </u>
2. Have adverse effects on unique geographic characteristics, historic or cultural resources, park, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, floodplains, or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department's National Register of Natural Landmarks.	<u>   </u>	<u>  X  </u>
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects.	<u>   </u>	<u>  X  </u>
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	<u>   </u>	<u>  X  </u>
5. Establish a precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	<u>   </u>	<u>  X  </u>
6. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	<u>   </u>	<u>  X  </u>
7. Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.	<u>   </u>	<u>  X  </u>
8. Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated critical habitat for these species.	<u>   </u>	<u>  X  </u>
9. Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Flood plain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act.	<u>   </u>	<u>  X  </u>

YES NO

10. Threaten to violate a Federal, State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.        X

I certify that none of the Departmental exceptions listed in the above Part B (516 DM 2, Appendix 2) apply to this action.

Remarks:

Adverse Energy Impact Compliance

This action has been analyzed, as required by Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 2002-053, to determine if it will cause an adverse impact on energy development. The action will not have an adverse direct or indirect impact on energy development, production or distribution. The preparation of a Statement of Adverse Energy Impact is not required.

Preparer(s): /s/ Dorothy Bonds Date: 12-11-02

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**PART III - DECISION**

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I have reviewed this plan conformance and NEPA compliance record and have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the approved land use plan and that no further environmental analysis is required. It is my decision to implement the project, as described, with the mitigation measures either identified below or stipulation(s) attached in this case file.

Remarks:

Authorized Official: /s/ Clinton E. Hanson, Acting Field Manager Date: 12-12-02