



United States Department of the Interior

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INFORMATION

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
1011 E. Tudor Rd.
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199

IN REPLY REFER TO:

AFES/MMM

OCT 24 2006

Mr. Roger G. Smith
Facilities Project Manager
Kerr-McGee Oil and Gas Corporation
3900 C Street, Suite 402
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dear Mr. Smith:

This responds to your August 28, 2006, request for a Letter of Authorization (LOA) for the intentional take, and Bob Britch's October 19, 2006, amendment to include incidental take of polar bears and Pacific walrus in the Beaufort Sea and North Slope of Alaska. Enclosed is a LOA (06-07) that allows Kerr-McGee Oil and Gas Corporation (KMG) to take small numbers of polar bears incidental to oil and gas exploration in association with Kerr-McGee's 2007-07 Nikaitchuq Development Program. The Nikaitchuq Development program has 2 components:

1. the fall 2006 gravel project at Oliktok Point; and
2. and the drilling at the Oliktok point pad to include the mobilization, drilling, and demobilization of the drilling rig.

The Nikaitchuq Development Program is scheduled to be conducted during the 2006-07 winter season. If any changes develop in your project during this season, such as activities or location, please notify the Marine Mammals Management Office prior to the planned operation. This would allow us to evaluate the activity and, if appropriate, amend your LOA. The incidental take authorization is issued in accordance with our regulations listed at 71 FR 43926, dated August 2, 2006.

This letter, through separate authorization, also grants Kerr-McGee Oil and Gas Corporation and its representatives authority to take polar bears by harassment (deterrent activities) for the protection of both human life and polar bears while conducting activities in polar bear habitat. This authorization is issued specifically to KMG employees who are responsible for ensuring that trained and qualified personnel are assigned the task to harass (deter) polar bears. All polar bear harassment events are to be reported to our Marine Mammals Management Office within 24 hours. This authorization is effective for the period date of issuance to June 30, 2007. Intentional take is authorized under sections 109(h) and 112(c) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

Mr. Roger G. Smith

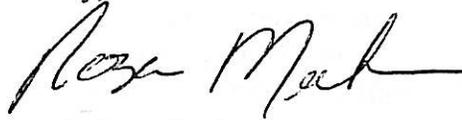
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The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) believes that protection measures for marine mammals described in KMG's Polar Bear/Personnel Encounter Plan are also appropriate safeguards to limit human/bear interactions. KMG personnel can limit encounters of polar bears by being observant of approaching animals (i.e., the use of marine mammal observers) and breaking off interactions, if practicable, by allowing the animals to continue their travel. Service biologists are available for consultation if questions or concerns arise regarding polar bears during the project period at the phone numbers listed below and noted in your interaction plan.

If a polar bear interaction escalates into a life threatening situation, Section 101(c) of the MMPA allows, without specific authorization, the take (including lethal take) of a polar bear if such taking is imminently necessary in self-defense or to save the life of a person in immediate danger, and such taking is reported to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office within 24 hours.

Should you have any further questions regarding polar bear issues, please contact Mr. Craig Perham, of our Marine Mammals Management Office at (907) 786-3800 or 786-3810.

Sincerely,



Rosa Meehan, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management

Enclosures

cc: Bob Britch, Northern Consulting Group
Mr. Richard Shideler, ADF&G
FWFO
LE

Mr. Roger G. Smith

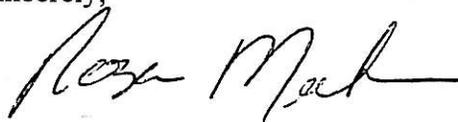
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Rosa Meehan, Ph.D.
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MMM

ISSUED: October 20, 2006
EXPIRES: June 30, 2007

INCIDENTAL TAKE
LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION
(06-07)

Kerr-McGee Oil and Gas Corporation (KMG) is hereby authorized to take small numbers of polar bears and walrus incidental to the preparation of oil and gas exploration in association with Kerr-McGee's Nikaitchuq Development Program. The Nikaitchuq Development program has 2 components:

1. the fall 2006 gravel project at Oliktok Point; and
2. and the drilling at the Oliktok point pad to include the mobilization, drilling, and demobilization of the drilling rig.

Authorization is subject to the following conditions:

1. The polar bear interaction plan is approved and all provisions, unless noted specifically, are incorporated into this Letter of Authorization by reference. A copy of the polar bear interaction plan must be available on site for all personnel.
2. KMG Operations Managers, or their designates, will be fully aware, understand, and capable of implementing the conditions of this authorization.
3. Intentional take is prohibited under this authorization.
4. This authorization is valid only for those activities identified in the request for a Letter of Authorization dated August 28 and October 19, 2006.
5. Polar bear monitoring, reporting, and survey activities will be conducted in accordance with 50 CFR 18, section 18.128. The basic monitoring and reporting requirements follow:

- cooperate with the Fish and Wildlife Service, and other designated Federal, State, or local agencies to monitor the impacts of oil and gas exploration activities on polar bears and Pacific walrus;
- designate a qualified individual or individuals to observe, record, and report the effects of the activity on polar bears and Pacific walrus;
- activities will not operate nor pass within 1 mile of known polar bear dens, and all observed dens will be reported to the Marine Mammals Management Office, Fish and Wildlife Service within 24 hours. The Fish and Wildlife Service will evaluate these instances on a case-by-case basis to determine the appropriate action. Potential responses may range from cessation or modification of work to conducting additional monitoring.
- at the discretion of the Fish and Wildlife Service, allow the Fish and Wildlife Service to place an observer on the site to monitor the impacts of the activity on polar bears;
- submit an annual monitoring report to the Marine Mammals Management Office, which will be received by January 15, 2007 and within 60 days after the expiration of this LOA.

6. This authorization expires June 30, 2007.



Rosa Meehan
Chief, Marine Mammals Management

10/24/06
Date

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Rosa Meehan
Chief, Marine Mammals Management

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The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry should be supported by a valid receipt or invoice. This not only helps in tracking expenses but also ensures compliance with tax regulations.

In the second section, the author outlines the various methods used to collect and analyze data. These include direct observation, interviews, and the use of specialized software tools. Each method has its own strengths and limitations, and the choice of which to use depends on the specific requirements of the study.

The third section provides a detailed overview of the results obtained from the data analysis. It highlights several key findings that have significant implications for the field. These findings are supported by statistical evidence and are presented in a clear and concise manner.

Finally, the document concludes with a series of recommendations for future research. It suggests that further studies should focus on exploring the underlying causes of the observed phenomena and developing more effective strategies to address them.

AFES/MMM

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

AUTHORIZATION TO TAKE, BY HARASSMENT, POLAR BEARS

By Sections 109(h) and 112(c) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended, Kerr-McGee Oil and Gas Corporation (KMG) is authorized to take, by harassment, polar bears during exploration activities in association with Kerr-McGee's 2006-2007 Nikaitchuq Development Program. This authorization is restricted to harassment activities. Authorized individuals are responsible for documenting and reporting to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office, (907) 786-3800, instances involving harassment activities as soon as possible and not later than 24 hours from the occurrence. A final report of all encounters and hazing events is due 60 days from the expiration of this authorization. This Authorization is valid from the date of issuance to June 30, 2007, unless extended or terminated in writing.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Rosa Meeb

10/24/06

