



Categorical Exclusion Form

Project: Approved Commercial Use Authorizations (Programmatic approval 2019-2023)

PEPC Project Number: 83455

Description of Action (Project Description):

Concessions Management Specialists will conduct an initial review of permit applications to determine whether the proposed action is allowable under NPS policy, and consistent with the park planning documents and the Commercial Service Strategy. Authorized CUAs will:

- Be consistent with the purpose and significance of Denali National Park and Preserve
- Adhere to federal, state, and local laws and regulations and all National Park Service policies
- Maintain public health, safety, and well-being through:
 - o Carrying appropriate insurance
 - o Meeting all federal, state, and local health and safety codes and regulations
 - o Providing relevant safety instructions to visitors
 - o Where applicable, be provided by certified individuals and businesses
- Avoid unacceptable impact to park resources and values and is consistent with management plans, given existing use in the area
- Provide enjoyment appropriate to the park while not unduly conflicting with park programs or activities, traditional or subsistence activities, or existing NPS commercial services
- Not exclude the general public from participating in limited recreational opportunities

Denali's NEPA and NHPA compliance leads will determine if the undertaking is covered under this programmatic and identify any potential resource impacts that may require further review or consultation by the full Denali Compliance IDT.

The actions covered must be determined to not have the potential to cause impact on resources in accordance with the following:

- NEPA Categorical Exclusions in sections 3.2 and 3.3 of the NEPA Handbook
- Section 106 of NHPA with No Potential to Cause Effect.

The programmatic CE covers:

- Changes or amendments to approved actions or plans involving CUAs
- Renewal of CUAs not involving new environmental impact
- Issuance, extension, renewal, reissuance or minor modifications of CUAs not entailing new construction
- Other activities approved on a case-by-case basis and documented in CUA stipulations (fuel, storage, temporary shelters, transportation, navigation aids, etc)

Undertakings not meeting these criteria will be reviewed and approved on a case-by-case basis.

Any CUA that is allowed to operate in designated Wilderness or in eligible wilderness is subject to guidelines in the relevant Extent Necessary Determination and a completed Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA). The park recognizes many of these are in draft form and will attach them as they are complete.

CUAs are provided as one and two-year opportunities. An updated annual list of offered CUAs and associated stipulations will be attached below prior to the beginning of each calendar year. Any new CUAs or major changes to existing CUA stipulations from previous years will be brought to the compliance team prior to being included in the annual list.

Mitigation proposed by the compliance team will be documented with any annual review and incorporated into future stipulations.

Project Locations:

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Location

County: Denali Borough **State:** AK

Mitigation(s):

- Are numerous, according to activity. These are spelled out in the stipulations specific to each CUA activity.

CE Citation: A.5 Issuances, extensions, renewals, reissuances or minor modifications of concession contracts or permits not entailing new construction.

CE Justification:

Allows park to take holistic look at all CUAs with compliance approval and track them annually and complements process for informing stipulations found in CUAs.

Decision: I find that the action fits within the categorical exclusion above. Therefore, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No extraordinary circumstances apply.

Signature

Superintendent: Justice Swanke **Date:** 18 Oct 2018
for Don Striker

Extraordinary Circumstances:

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Notes
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?	No	
B. 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?	No	
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?	No	
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	No	
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	No	
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	No	
G. 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?	No	
H. 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?	No	
I. Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No	
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	No	
K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 130007)?	No	
L. 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)?	No	

