

National Park Service, Interior

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hand-augering methods for geochemical analyses; and geophysical techniques such as magnetic, electrical, electromagnetic, chemical, radioactive, and gravitational methods. Mineral resource assessment activities may be permitted as long as:

- (1) No explosives are used,
- (2) They are consistent with § 9.86 of this subpart, and
- (3) They are consistent with the provisions of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 U.S.C. 1131 *et seq.*) and National Park Service policies concerning wilderness management and the use of motorized equipment in wilderness areas.

Core and test drilling, including exploratory drilling of oil and gas test wells, are explicitly prohibited as AMRAP activities in units of the National Park System.

(c) *AMRAP agencies* means those agencies of the U.S. Department of the Interior that are authorized by the Secretary to perform mineral resource assessment activities pursuant to section 1010 of ANILCA.

(d) *Superintendent* means the Superintendent, or his/her designee, of the unit of the National Park System in Alaska where AMRAP activities are conducted or proposed to be conducted.

[56 FR 22652, May 16, 1991, as amended at 60 FR 55791, Nov. 3, 1995; 62 FR 30234, June 3, 1997]

§ 9.83 Coordination of AMRAP activities in National Park System units.

(a) To facilitate compliance with this Subpart, each AMRAP agency will designate a coordinator for AMRAP activities in Alaska who will be the central point of communications with the NPS. The AMRAP agency is responsible for notifying the Regional Director of such designation.

(b) By January 1 of each year, the designated coordinators for the AMRAP agencies will, in consultation with the Regional Director, schedule an interagency meeting to be held by January 31 of each year. Representatives of the AMRAP agencies and the NPS will meet to develop a mutually agreeable schedule of AMRAP projects and activities in Alaska units of the National Park System. Where practicable, AMRAP agencies will consolidate their field activities, including ac-

cess and field camps, to minimize disturbance to park resources and values.

§ 9.84 Application requirements.

(a) By February 15 of each year, the designated coordinator of each AMRAP agency will forward to the Regional Director an application pursuant to § 9.84(b) for proposed AMRAP projects and activities discussed and reviewed at the annual coordination meeting held under § 9.83(b). Applications requiring additional information will be promptly returned to, or discussed with, the coordinator of the involved AMRAP agency to resolve any deficiencies.

(b) Applications will be submitted in a form and manner prescribed by the Regional Director and will contain at a minimum:

(1) The name of the AMRAP agency and responsible office and, where applicable, its designated contractual representative that will conduct the proposed activities;

(2) The name, office address and telephone numbers of the AMRAP agency persons or contractor persons who will supervise the proposed activities, and a list of all individual's names, addresses and telephone numbers who will be present at field activities;

(3) A list of any previous AMRAP activities or prior geologic and mineral resource assessments that have occurred in the proposed study area;

(4) A discussion of overall project objectives, schedules and products, and how the proposed activities for the current application relate to those objectives;

(5) A description of the activities proposed for approval, including a detailed description of the collection techniques, sampling methods and equipment to be used in each area;

(6) Topographic maps identifying the specific areas in units of the National Park System where the agency proposes to conduct each AMRAP activity;

(7) The approximate dates on which the AMRAP activities for each area are proposed to be commenced and completed;

(8) A description of access means and routes for each area in which work is proposed including an estimate of the

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number of flights or number of vehicle trips;

(9) A description of the field support requirements proposed for locations on lands within units of the National Park System, including camp sites, fuel storage areas, and any other requirements;

(10) A discussion which documents that proposed activities will be carried out in an environmentally sound manner utilizing the least impacting technology suitable for the purposes of the project; and

(11) A description of how any disturbed areas, such as camp sites, will be reclaimed.

§9.85 Environmental compliance.

Each AMRAP agency is responsible for obtaining all required Federal, State, and local permits and must provide sufficient information to the NPS to ensure appropriate compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*), and other applicable statutes.

§9.86 Application review process and approval standards.

(a) The Regional Director will review applications submitted pursuant to §9.84 and will ensure that final action is taken on such applications by April 15 of each year. If additional review time is necessary to ensure compliance with this Subpart or with other applicable laws, Executive Orders and regulations, the Regional Director will promptly notify the AMRAP agency coordinator of the anticipated date of a final decision.

(b) The Regional Director is responsible for approving AMRAP activities in units of the National Park System in Alaska.

(c) To be approved, proposed AMRAP activities must be designed to be carried out in an environmentally sound manner, as determined in appropriate environmental documentation, that:

(1) Does not result in lasting environmental impacts that appreciably alter the natural character of the units or the integrity of the biological or ecological systems in the units; and

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(2) Is compatible with the purposes and values for which the units are established; and

(3) Does not adversely affect the natural and cultural resources, visitor use, or administration of the area.

§9.87 Permitting requirements and standards.

(a) AMRAP activities approved by the Regional Director may be conducted in units of the National Park System pursuant to a permit issued by the Superintendent in accordance with this subpart, 36 CFR 1.6, and other applicable regulations, guidelines and policies.

(b) The NPS may restrict the conduct of AMRAP activities in certain areas and during sensitive periods, such as nesting, calving and spawning seasons, to minimize impacts to fish and wildlife or to comply with existing policies or directives.

(c) All project areas affected by AMRAP activities shall be left in an unimpaired state by the AMRAP agency and its contractors. All costs borne by the NPS in cleaning or restoring an area affected by AMRAP activities will be recoverable from the AMRAP agency.

(d) Copies of all published information or written reports resulting from AMRAP activities conducted in units of the National Park System shall be provided to the Regional Director.

(e) The NPS reserves the right, without prior notice to the AMRAP agency or its contractors, to observe or inspect AMRAP activities to determine whether such activities are being conducted pursuant to this subpart and the terms and conditions of the approved permit.

§9.88 Permit modification, suspension, and cancellation.

(a) A proposal to modify, supplement, or otherwise amend an approved permit shall be made by an AMRAP agency by written request to the Regional Director. The Regional Director shall review and promptly act on the proposed modification pursuant to the standards set forth in §9.86. An AMRAP agency may not undertake any of the activities proposed in the modification until the Regional Director approves the