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[EXTERNAL] Further clarifying information

1 message

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Donna,

SAE would like to clarify with additional information some of our responses from the past few days between BLM and SAE on these topics/questions:

BLM: Would you please confirm that the proposed seismic includes all of the sea ice contained within the boundary of coastal plain?

To clarify, as in the plan of operations within the 1002 area, "Vibrators will only operate on snow covered tundra or grounded sea ice" (page # 9). It is also our intent to lay out recording devices beyond grounded ice but not further than the 3 meter bathymetry mark.

Regarding Bathymetry:

Our intent is to use existing data that has been collected by the traditional users of the area. All other bathymetry will be collected during our winter ice check operations. At no time will any vehicles exceed travelling on waters beyond the 3 meter bathymetry mark. It is our intent to stay on grounded ice in the lagoonal areas during our acquisition program.

Regarding Archaeology:

ASRC has commissioned two Cultural Resources Desktop Studies in the 1002 Area of ANWR. The first study encompassed the western-half of the 1002 Area and was completed in late 2017. Subsequently, ASRC commissioned a second study in April 2018 which encompassed the eastern-half of the 1002 Area of ANWR. Both studies include all known and identified sites from both SHPO and the NSB TLUI. ASRC also reviewed a third study conducted by the USACE in 2011 of the coastal area of the 1002 Area to ensure that all know sites were documented and captured. Through agreements with SHPO and the NSB ASRC has procured all the coordinates for navigation avoidance for a seismic program. During our meetings with the BLM these Cultural Resources Desktop Studies have been referenced. We have not yet provided them to the BLM and can do so without the geographic coordinates. ASRC is also aware the BLM archeologist has also requested all the sites from SHPO and the NSB and we are happy to additionally consult.

Regarding summer clean up activities:

Summer cleanup and inspections take place to visit all camp locations and areas of high use from the operations to revisit and inspect and pick up any debris that may have been covered by

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weather and inadvertently left behind. The helicopter tracks the flight path and landings during the operations and that information is provided to BLM in a final inspection report.

Regarding the inquiry of whether BLM can post the Plan of Operations on the web eplanning page:

If this is normal policy or protocol for other like permits, then SAE has no objection to posting on the eplanning site.

Thanks,

Rick Trupp General Manager

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