



ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. Park: Kenai Fjords National Park

2. Project Description:

Project Name: 2020 Proposed Changes Regarding E-bikes to Kenai Fjords NP Superintendent's Compendium

Prepared by: Benjamin Pister **Date Prepared:** **Telephone:** 907-422-0501

PEPC Project Number: 94844

Locations:

County, State: Kenai Peninsula Borough, AK

Describe project:

This categorical exclusion addresses the 2020 proposed changes to the Kenai Fjords National Park (KEFJ) Superintendent's Compendium regarding e-bikes only. Other proposed changes have been addressed separately.

This categorical exclusion (CE) addresses regulations regarding e-bikes in the 2020 Kenai Fjords National Park Superintendent's Compendium. On August 30, 2019, NPS policy memorandum 19-01 announced a new electric bicycle (e-bike) policy for national park units, which expanded recreational opportunities and accessibility. This policy memorandum was issued based on the issuance of a Department of the Interior (DOI) Secretarial Order 3376.

The compendium changes related to e-bikes involve 36 CFR 13.50: Closures and restrictions, National Park System Units in Alaska. These changes will allow the use of e-bikes (defined as a two- or three-wheeled cycle with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts) on park roads and parking areas that are open to traditional bicycles. Thus, e-bikes will be allowed on durable surfaces where traditional bicycles and/or motorized vehicle traffic is already present. The Herman Leirer Road, and the Exit Glacier parking lot are among those areas in Kenai Fjords National Park where e-bikes will be allowed. E-bikes are prohibited where traditional bicycles are prohibited.

E-bikes are not presently widely used in Kenai Fjords National Park. E-bike use is not anticipated to have additional social or environmental impacts or impacts of a substantially different nature than those resulting from existing bicycle and motor vehicle use in these areas. If technology, trends, or potential for social and environmental impacts change, the authorization will be re-evaluated.

A public comment period regarding proposed changes to the compendium was open from January 15, 2020 - February 15, 2020. In addition to the final 2020 compendium, a summary of substantive comments and responses to those comments is attached.

Area of potential effects (as defined in 36 CFR 800.16[d])

3. Has the area of potential effects been surveyed to identify historic properties?

No
 Yes

4. Potentially Affected Resource(s):

Archeological Resources Present: No

Historical Structures/Resources Present: No

Cultural Landscapes Present: No

Ethnographic Resources Present: No

5. The proposed action will: (check as many as apply)

- No Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure
- No Replace historic features/elements in kind
- No Add non-historic features/elements to a historic structure
- No Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (inc. terrain)
- No Add non-historic features/elements (inc. visual, audible, or atmospheric) to a historic setting or cultural landscape
- No Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible
- No Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible
- No Potentially affect presently unidentified cultural resources
- No Begin or contribute to deterioration of historic features, terrain, setting, landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources
- No Involve a real property transaction (exchange, sale, or lease of land or structures)
- Other (please specify): _____

6. Supporting Study Data:
(Attach if feasible; if action is in a plan, EA or EIS, give name and project or page number.)

B. REVIEWS BY CULTURAL RESOURCE SPECIALISTS

The park 106 coordinator requested review by the park's cultural resource specialist/advisors as indicated by check-off boxes or as follows:

No Reviews From: Curator, Archeologist, Historical Architect, Historian, 106 Advisor, Other Advisor, Anthropologist, Historical Landscape Architect

C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Assessment of Effect:

- No Potential to Cause Effects
- No Historic Properties Affected
- No Adverse Effect
- Adverse Effect

2. Documentation Method:

A. Standard 36 CFR Part 800 Consultation

Further consultation under 36 CFR Part 800 is needed.

B. Streamlined Review Under the 2008 Servicewide Programmatic Agreement (PA)

The above action meets all conditions for a streamlined review under section III of the 2008 Servicewide PA for Section 106 compliance.

Applicable Streamlined Review Criteria

(Specify 1-16 of the list of streamlined review criteria.)

C. Undertaking Related to Park Specific or Another Agreement

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under another document such as a park, region or statewide agreement established in accord with 36 CFR 800.7 or 36 CFR 800.14.

D. Combined NEPA/NHPA Process

Process and documentation required for the preparation of an EA/FONSI or an EIS/ROD to comply with Section 106 is in accord with 36 CFR 800.8.c.

E. Memo to Project File

3. Consultation Information

SHPO Required: No

SHPO Sent:

SHPO Received:

THPO Required:

THPO Sent:

THPO Received:

SHPO/THPO Notes:

Advisory Council Participating: No

Advisory Council Notes:

N/A

4. Stipulations and Conditions:

N/A

5. Mitigations/Treatment Measures: Measures to prevent or minimize loss or impairment of historic/prehistoric properties: (Remember that setting, location, and use may be relevant.)

No Assessment of Effect mitigations identified.

6. Assessment of Effect Notes:

D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:

Compliance Specialist:

NHPA Specialist

Patrick Lewis

Date: _____

E. SUPERINTENDENT'S APPROVAL

The proposed work conforms to the NPS *Management Policies* and *Cultural Resource Management Guideline*, and I have reviewed and approve the recommendations, stipulations, or conditions noted in Section C of this form.

Signature

Superintendent: Eric A. Veach **Date:** 4/16/2020

Eric Veach