
Plan of Cooperation Colville River Delta 3D

SAExploration, Inc.
Anchorage, Alaska June 2015





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1.0 INTRODUCTION

SAExploration, Inc. (SAE) along with its joint venture partner, the Kuukpik Corporation, will communicate with village groups and work in cooperation concerning areas where subsistence stakeholders are present.

This Plan of Cooperation (POC) will be used by SAE to avoid and or minimize conflicts with subsistence activities by open communications and interaction with the members of affected communities. SAE believes that the understanding of issues important to the communities in which we operate are vital to solid community relations. SAExploration will do its best to accommodate the different cultures, lifestyles, heritage and preferences in these communities.

This plan contains three stages:

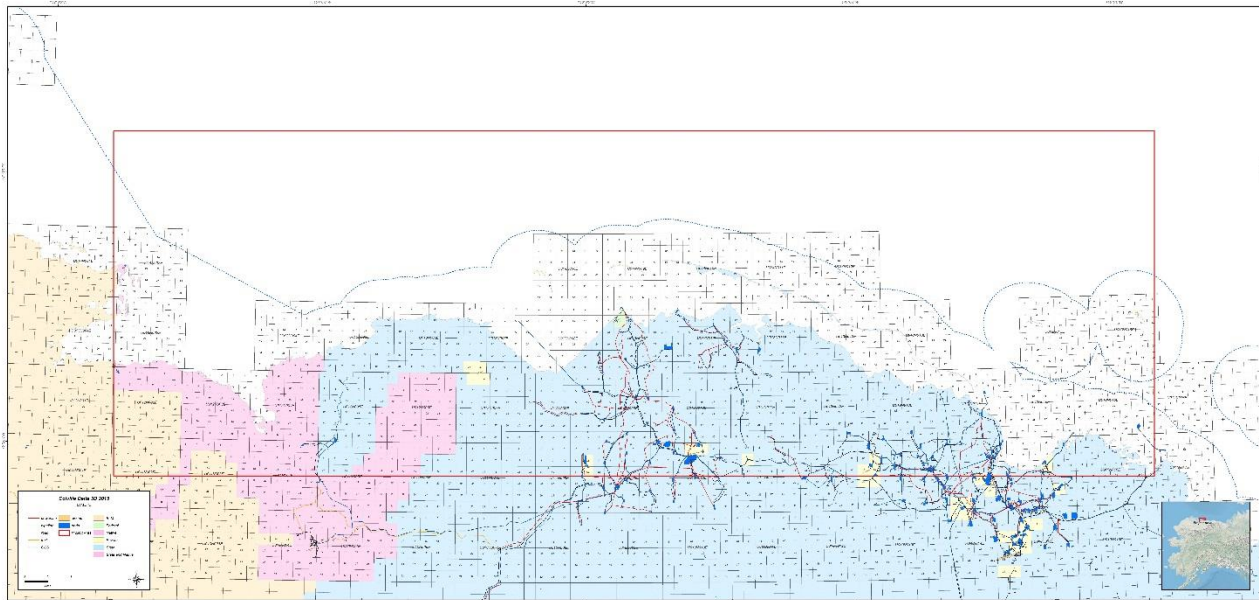
- Stage one describes initial steps to establish communication and understand subsistence timing prior to the program.
- Stage two describes how communication will happen during the program. This communication will keep SAE up to date regarding the timing and status of subsistence hunts and our liaison with the communities.
- Stage three describes what to do in the event that activities may affect subsistence activities and how to communicate with subsistence user groups.

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the proposed survey is to replace and augment existing datasets by providing better quality, higher resolution seismic data by using autonomous nodal seismic recording equipment. The project is to conduct a three dimensional (3D) ocean bottom seismic survey in the Colville River Delta area of the Alaskan Beaufort Sea during the 2015 Beaufort Sea open water season. The program will be conducted over a period of approximately 60 days within the time period of July 15 to November 15, 2015. This time period includes all activities; mobilization, land and marine layout activities, marine data acquisition and demobilization of equipment and crews. Project operations will include state and federal shallow waters.

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2.1 Area of Activity



3.0 REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

SAE and its contractors shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local government requirements, including U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) requirements for safety, navigation and notice. Including, “where the proposed activity would take place in or near a traditional Arctic subsistence hunting area and/or may affect the availability of a species or stock of marine mammal for Arctic subsistence uses, the applicant must submit either a plan of cooperation or information that identifies what measures have been taken and/or will be taken to minimize any adverse effects on the availability of marine mammals for subsistence uses.” [50 CFR 216.104 (12)]

SAE will also comply and sign the Conflict Avoidance Agreement (CAA) established in cooperation between industry and the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission (AEWC).

4.0 COMMUNICATION SYSTEM (COM CENTER)

As part of the 2015 CAA between Industry Participants, the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission and Village Whaling Captains’ Associations, the Com Centers will facilitate communication between

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open-water subsistence hunters and industry vessels to minimize and avoid conflicts between subsistence hunters and industry activities.

As part of the 2015 CAA, SAE will participate as a participant to fund and to support the Beaufort Sea Com Center located in Deadhorse and the Call Center located in Kaktovik.

The Com Center (Deadhorse) will be capable of recording all communications for both Deadhorse and the Kaktovik Call Center and, as such, will remain open throughout both the Nuiqsut and Kaktovik whale hunts. Additionally, and in accordance with the 2015 CAA, telecommunications support will be provided to the Nuiqsut Cross Island whaling crews for the fall 2015 subsistence bowhead whale hunt. The Com and Call Center operators will track the locations and progress of industry activities, whalers, and other subsistence hunters as reported to them and relay information to avoid conflicts among these groups.

5.0 PLAN

5.1 Stage One

To open communications SAE attended and presented the program description to the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission (AEWC) during their mini-convention in December, 2014, in Anchorage. SAE also planned to be presenting the project at the AEWC meeting in March 2015 in Anchorage. Collaboration meetings will be held in March and April 2015 with Kuukpik Corporation leaders. Kuukpik Corporation is our joint venture partners in the project and on the North Slope of Alaska. SAE attended and presented the Peer Review Meetings in 2015. Permits to all federal, state and local government agencies have been in the spring of 2015. Ongoing discussions and meeting with these agencies have been occurring in order to meet our operational window in the project area. Our IHA was submitted in October of 2014, and is pending as of June, with an excepted issue date of June 15th.

Prior to offshore activities, SAE will meet and consult with nearby communities, namely the NSB planning department and the Fish and Wildlife division. SAE will also present our project during a community meeting in the village of Nuiqsut, to discuss the planned activities. The discussions will include our project description, the Plan of Cooperation, resolution of potential conflicts, and proposed operational window. These meetings will help to identify any subsistence conflicts. These meetings

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will allow SAE to understand community concerns, and requests for communication or mitigation. Additional communications will continue throughout the project.

Proposed Schedule for Meetings:

Complete	Nuiqsut	November, 2014 (Job Fair)
Complete	Nuiqsut	January, 2015 (Project Presentation)
Complete	AEWC	December, 2014 (2015 planned projects)
Complete	Barrow (NSB)	March, 2015- Pre Application Meeting
Complete	Barrow	March, 2015 – Planning Commission Meeting
Complete	AEWC	February, 2015 (Project Presentation)
Complete	SAP	February, 2015 Subsistence Advisory Panel
Complete	Peer Review	March, 2015
Pending	Nuqsut	July, 2015 (update Meeting)
Pending	Kaktovik	July/August 2015. If within 75 miles of Kaktovik
Pending	KSOP	July 2015 (Presentation)

5.1.1 Meeting Obligations:

5.1.2. PAM Study

NMFW requested that SAE fund a scientific study in addition to the seismic project to obtain Passive Acoustic Monitoring and delivery the collected data to NMFS.

5.1.3 Sound Source Testing

If larger array is used

5.1.4 Signing of CAA – (completed in May 2015)

5.2 Stage Two

SAE will incorporate meaningful requests to mitigate concerns into operations. There shall be a review of permit stipulations and a permit matrix developed for the crews. The means of communications and contacts list will be developed and implemented into operations. Communications will be handled within the CAA and directly with Nuiqsut Whalers. The use of scientific and Inupiat PSOs/Communicators on board the vessels will ensure that appropriate precautions are taken to avoid harassment of marine mammals, including whales, seals, walruses or polar bears. SAE will coordinate

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the timing and location of operations with the Com-Centers in Deadhorse and Kaktovik to minimize impact to the subsistence activities or the Nuiqsut/Kaktovik Bowhead Whale Hunt.

- 5.2.1 Established Communications:
 - 5.2.1.1 Sign CAA agreement Complete
 - 5.2.1.2 Daily project reporting location to KSOP Via reports
 - 5.2.1.3 Daily Project Reporting location to AEWC Via daily call
 - 5.2.1.4 Participation in the Com-Center Signed
 - 5.2.1.5 Meeting notes listed in APPENDIX A

5.3 Stage Three

If a conflict does occur with project activities and subsistence hunting, the ICs will immediately contact the project manager and the Com Center. If avoidance is not possible, the project manager will initiate communication with a representative from the impacted subsistence hunter group(s) to resolve the issue and to plan an alternative course of action.

6.0 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SAE and its contractors work with local villages and Kuukpik Corporation to identify qualified individuals that are interested in working on our program. Inupiat Resource will be utilized to employed observers. KSOP will also be contacted for help with filling available positions.

7.0 CONTACTS

The following contact information is provided to facilitate communication.

SAExploration

Ted Smith Operations Supervisor 907-301-5453
Sue Simonds, Permits and Regulatory Coordinator 907-331-8140
Rick Trupp, General Manager 907-522-4499 (o), 907-280-9442 (m)

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Protective Species

ObserversSmultea Environmental Sciences

Inupiat PSO/Communicators

Inupiat Resources

Communication Centers

See CAA

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8.0 MEETING NOTES



JOB FAIR BOOTH EVENT IN NUIQSUT

November 5, 2015

Job Fair Meeting and community booth

SAE participated in a community job fair in November of 2015. Below is a summary of the event.

SAE had a booth to promote community participation in employment opportunities for the upcoming work in the winter of 2015 and the summer of 2015.

The event was hosted by Conoco Phillips. Food and prizes were available for all and the event was held at the school gym in Nuiqsut

Maps and descriptions of the winter and summer projects were laid out along with applications for employment. Prizes were given to the children, one prize for each questions asked about our operations based on all the pictures that were shown. Adult and Children participated.

The event was hosted by Conoco Phillips. Food and prizes were available for all and the event was held at the school gym in Nuiqsut. The event lasted 4 hours, due to the large turn out from the community.

Many questions about project locations and how interactions would go with the whaling season during the summer project. All questions seemed to be positive and welcomed the opportunity to talk on an individual bases with the project managers and HR managers that came to the meeting. 22 employment applications were handed out with 7 returned at the event.

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KUUKPIK SAE

Project Presentation December 2015 in the community of Nuiqsut

SAExploration scheduled a community meeting on December 4, 2015. Kuukpik thought it would be a better time than in January for this type of meeting.

Notices were placed at various locations around town a week prior to the meeting. Edward Nukapigak was hired as an interpreter for the meeting. Kuukpik made announcements for the meeting. The hotel catered dinner for the event.

The meeting started with a short discussion on location and project. SAE then broke into round table discussion at three separate tables. Project Manager and Recording Crew Managers were in attendance to answer field questions.

The first table was an employment applications table. This table was staffed by crew HSE.

The second was a hands on equipment table. We explained one on one to the community member's how operations were performed. Staffed by Project Manager

Table number 3 was a logistic and elders information table. This table allowed one on one interaction with the elders and community members to share in the knowledge of site specific information in relation to the project. Staffed by Recording Crew Manager.

There was a lot of discussion on seal hunting and whaling. Communications from last project and results from the seal hunters meeting.

Door prizes were handed out during the 2 hours round table meeting. Approximately 26 people attended the meeting.



KUUKPIK SAE

Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission Meeting, December, 2014

SAExploration presented the project to the commission members and engaged in a question and answer session. They were very pleased of how things went on our last summer's project and appreciated us communicate directly with them and the com center.



KUUKPIK SAE

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North Slope Borough pre-application meeting (two meetings)

SAE scheduled a pre application meeting in March 2015 in Barrow for the CRD project, a full presentation was given at that time. In June of 2015 SAE again had a permit meeting with the NSB in Anchorage with an update on the project and location. Maps, locations and operations were discussed.



KUUKPIK SAE

Planning Commission Meeting Presentation
March 2015

SAExploration requested to present the CRD project to the planning commission at the March meeting. A full presentation of the operations in 2014 and the planned 2015 operations was presented. There were several question from the commission and from the community in the meeting. Over all response was positive due to 2014 project communication going so well. The meeting included oil and gas industry companies, Barrow community members and NSB personal. Representatives from all North Slope communities were present or on the phone and all had copies of the presentation.



KUUKPIK SAE

Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission Meeting, February, 2015

SAExploration was invited to speak at the main AEWC conference in Anchorage. A presentation of the 2015 project area and operations was presented and a review of the 2014 area. Representation from all North Slope communities along with industry was in attendance.

Presentation time was approximately 15 minutes, with no questions asked.



KUUKPIK SAE

Subsistence Advisory Panel (SAP) February meeting

The SAP meeting is BLM sponsored and has representation from all North Slope communities. A full presentation was given for the summer project 2015, an update on the 2014 summer project and an update in the winter operations. There two questions, one concerning sub reps

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and their duties and if SAE was going to sign the CAA. Both questions were answered to the satisfaction of the panel.



KUUKPIK SAE

Peer Review Meetings, March 2015

SAE was required to present at the peer review meeting to present the CRD 2015 project. SAE focused on helping NMFS understand operations of seismic crews. Discussions on PAM and SSV's also occurred. NMFS asked for copies of the presentation which were given. SAE had in attendance, Permits(Sue Simonds), operations supervisor(Rick Stolz), Biologist (Greg Green) PSO Biologists (SES) and PAM personnel. (Biowaves)

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