



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Anchorage Field Office
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Anchorage, Alaska 99507-2591
<http://www.blm.gov/ak>

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX)

A. BACKGROUND

Project Name / Type: Noxapaga Cabin Site Fuel-Oil Spill Removal

NEPA Register Number: DOI-BLM-AK-A010-2013-0022-CX

Case File Number: AA-86884

Location / Legal Description: Section 29 T01SR27W,
Kateel River Meridian, Alaska

Applicant (if any): n/a

Description of Proposed Action:

The BLM intends to contract cleanup and removal of a small oil spill located approximately 50 feet from an Unauthorized Occupancy cabin adjacent to the confluence of the Kuzatrin and Noxapaga rivers, 70 miles north of Nome, Alaska. The spill is a result of two old leaking drums of fuel-oil that were likely present decades before the cabin was placed on-site. The BLM removed the drums in 2010. Removal of the spilled oil and reclamation of the impacted area is required by State of Alaska and federal law and is necessary so that the BLM can convey the land to State of Alaska. The contractor shall provide all labor, materials, equipment, and all necessary permits and permissions to successfully remove the oil spill and reclaim the impacted area. The site work will take approximately 2-5 days to complete. Field work is anticipated to take place during September 2013 or summer 2014.

B. LAND USE PLAN CONFORMANCE

Applicable Land Use Plan: Kobuk-Seward Resource Management Plan & Record of Decision, Sept. 2008

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable land use plan, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following land use plan decisions (objectives, terms, and conditions):

A. Abandoned Mine Lands and Hazardous Materials Management

A-2:

3. Conduct remediation actions on identified sites in accordance with applicable laws and policy.

C. CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with United States Department of the Interior 43 CFR 46.210 or United States Department of the Interior Manual, Part 516, Chapter 11, which provides:

J. Other

10. Removal of structures and materials of no historic value, such as abandoned automobiles, fences, and buildings, including those built in trespass and reclamation of the site when little or no surface disturbance is involved.

D. EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES

The proposed action must be screened against the Extraordinary Circumstances found in 43 CFR § 46.215 (listed below). Any “yes” finding requires that an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement be prepared for the Proposed Action.

EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES	YES/NO
1. Have significant adverse impacts on public health or safety.	No
2. 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
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].	No
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	No
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	No
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	No
7. 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
8. 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
9. Violate Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	No
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority	No

populations (Executive Order 12898).	
11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).	No
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or 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

E. SIGNATURE

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable land use plan and is an action that can be categorically excluded. The Proposed Action does not trigger any of the Extraordinary Circumstances found in 516 FM Chapter 2, Appendix 2. I recommend that the Proposed Action be allowed and that no further environmental analysis is required.

/s/ Alan Bittner

August 6, 2013

Alan Bittner
Anchorage Field Manager

Date