

Categorical Exclusion

Prepared by
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

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A. Background

DOI-BLM-AK-0300–2013–0041CX

BLM Office: Central Yukon Field Office

Case File No.: F-90573

Proposed Action Title/Type: Renew Communication Site Right-of-Way Grant

Location of Proposed Action: Clem Mountain approximately seven (7) miles west of Buckland, Alaska, within Secs. 27 and 28, T. 7 N., R. 13 W., Kateel River Meridian, containing approximately 1.44 acres.

Description of Proposed Action: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) proposes to renew their remote communication outlet (RCO) located on Clem Mountain approximately seven (7) miles west of Buckland, Alaska. This site was constructed in 1993 and improvements onsite include a fiberglass shelter, measuring seven (7) feet in diameter by 15 feet high, which houses the electronic equipment and 20 nickel cadmium batteries that provide the power. Eight (8) solar panels are mounted on light weight steel tube support structures measuring eight (8) feet wide by nine (9) feet high recharge the batteries. Diagonal tubes brace the structures. This site is optimum based on the topography of the area and provides for maximum range air-ground communication with all area coverage.

The RCO allows a pilot to call on a certain frequency to a radio housed in the RCO building, which in turn relays the call to the equipment located at the flight service station (FSS). The RCO improves communication between the pilot and the FSS, it acts as a receiver and transmitter. The people of Buckland are dependent on aircraft for transportation and cargo. They seek a 20 year grant.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Kobuk-Seward Peninsula Resource Management Plan

Date Approved/Amended: September 4, 2007

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s): Kobuk-Seward Peninsula

Resource Management Plan, Chapter 2— Lands and Realty Actions (page 2–106) (1) Meet public needs for use authorizations such as ROW, leases, and permits while minimizing adverse impacts to other resource values.

C. Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 2, Appendix 1, or 516 DM 11.9,

E. (Realty)

(9) Renewals and assignments of leases, permits, or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorization.

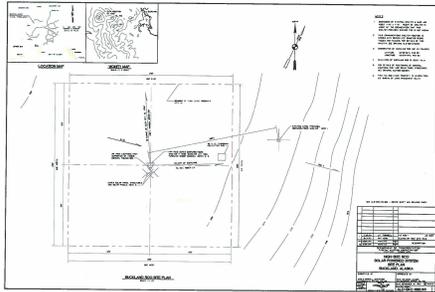


Figure 1.1. Clem Mountain Communication Site

D. Approval and Contact Information

The proposed action is in conformance with a management framework plan or a resource management plan, 43 CFR management plan, 43 CFR § 1610.8(a)(3). The Department of the Interior has determined and found that the proposed action is within a category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and that neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required, 40 CFR §1508.4. It is therefore my decision to implement the action, as described, with appropriate mitigation measures or stipulations. Mitigation Measures/Stipulations: (See Attached Appendices)

/s/ Tim O. Hammond for
 Nichelle W. Jacobson
 Field Manager, Central Yukon Field Office

July 11, 2013
 Date

Contact Person

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