



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Glennallen Field Office
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<http://www.blm.gov/ak>

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

A. BACKGROUND

Project Name / Type: Gravel Sales up to 3,100 Cubic Yards (Mineral Material) - 3610

NEPA Register Number: DOI-BLM-AK-A020-2013-0021-CX

Case File Number: AA-093597

Location / Legal Description: Section 31, T. 3 S., R. 1 E., CRM

Applicant (if any): See Casefile

A. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has received two individual requests for the purchase of up to 3,100 cubic yards of gravel (mineral materials) from an existing pit at Mile 74.16 Richardson Highway, MS 71-1-006-5. This pit has been authorized by BLM to the State of Alaska, Department of Transportation (ADOT) and is usually called the "Burma Quarry." ADOT has given concurrence for the sale of gravel up to 3,100 yards. Mineral materials permits would be authorized when signed by the Authorized Officer (AO) and would expire on completion of removal of the gravel. The material would be removed over a period of several days in summer 2013.

B. LAND USE PLAN CONFORMANCE

Applicable Land Use Plan: East Alaska Resource Management Plan, September 2007.

The proposed action is in conformance with plan because it is specifically provided for in the following planning decisions:

J. Minerals

J-3 Salable Minerals (Mineral Materials)

AA-093597

J-3-b: Management Actions

1. Maintain current mineral material sites until material is exhausted or other circumstances warrant closure.
2. Encourage extraction of mineral materials from previously disturbed sites rather than opening new sites.
3. Do not authorize mineral material disposal from any valid existing mining claim without the consent of the claimant.

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:

F. Solid Minerals

10. Disposal of mineral materials, such as sand, stone, gravel, pumice, pumicite, cinders, and clay, in amounts not exceeding 50,000 cubic yards or disturbing more than 5 acres, except in riparian areas.

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	No

EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES	YES/NO
Critical Habitat for these species.	
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 populations (Executive Order 12898).	No
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/ Laurie Hull-Engles

June 20, 2013

 Laurie Hull-Engles
 Acting Glennallen Field Manager

 Date