

Kanuti River Snow Fence Renewal

A. Background

DOI-BLM-AK-F030-2013-0054CX

BLM Office: Central Yukon Field Office

Case File No.: F—93819

Proposed Action Title/Type: Renew right-of-way for snow fence at Kanuti River Bridge

Location of Proposed Action: Mile post 106 of the Dalton Highway within Sec. 30, T. 19 N., R.14 W., Fairbanks Meridian, Alaska.

Description of Proposed Action: The State of Alaska, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities proposes to renew the operation, maintenance and access to the existing Wyoming snow fence at mile post 106 of the Dalton Highway in perpetuity. The fence measures 250' long and 15' high in an area 50' wide by 300' long approximately 525' from the Dalton Highway. The fence is made of wood; a total of 12 spans and anchored with 10"x20" bridge timbers held in place by two (2) 2,000 pound sandbags per span. The fence remains onsite year round since 2002 and a right-of-way grant was previously given for a 10 year term. Access to the fence would only be authorized in the winter when the ground has frozen to a depth of 12" and snow cover is 6". The purpose of the snow fence is to divert snow on the Kanuti River Bridge for safety and preventing damage to the bridge, guardrail and DOT equipment. The fence was painted with a color authorized by BLM so as to blend in with the surrounding area. BLM would issue a right-of-way for ten (10) years.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Utility Corridor Resource Management Plan

Date Approved/Amended: January 11, 1991

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

Utility Corridor RMP, Appendix N — Lands and Realty Program (Page N-8)

7. Process applications for land use authorizations from the general public, Federal and State agencies and research organizations on a case by case basis

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.

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.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply.

D. Approval and Contact Information

The proposed action is in conformance with a management framework plan or a resource 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/ Nichelle W. Jacobson
Nichelle W. Jacobson
Field Manager, Central Yukon Field Office

August 15, 2013
Date

Contact Person

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