

# **Extraordinary Circumstances Documentation**

**Property Transfer from The National Park  
Service (Gates of the Arctic National Park) to the  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Kanuti National  
Wildlife Refuge)**

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

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# **Chapter 1. Categorical Exclusion Rationale**

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CX Number:	DOI-BLM-AK-F030-2015-0001
Date:	February 19, 2015
Lease/Case File/ Serial Number:	F-81271
Regulatory Authority (CFR or Law):	Title V of FLPMA and 43 CFR 2800

The following block would be inside instruction tags and not be printed or visible in the final document

NEPA Guidance: Answers to the Extraordinary Circumstances questions below will affect the level of NEPA required for this project. If any of the extraordinary circumstances are applicable to the action being considered, either an EA or EIS must be prepared for the action.

## Section 1.1 Impacts on Public Health and Safety

1. Does the proposed action have significant impacts on public health and safety?			
YES	NO	REVIEWER/TITLE	
	X	Rebecca Hile, Hazmat Specialist	RH 5-Nov-2014
	X	Tyler Cole, Realty Specialist	TC 2 OCT 2014

Rationale:

## Section 1.2 Impacts on Natural Resources or Unique Geographic Characteristics

2. Does the proposed action have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness or wilderness study 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 (Executive Order 13186); and other ecologically significant or critical areas?			
YES	NO	REVIEWER/TITLE	
	X	Erin Julianus, Wildlife Biologist	EJ 11/4/2014
	X	Kelly Egger, Outdoor Recreation Planner	KE 11/19/14
	X	David Esse, Fisheries Biologist	DE 11/19/2014
	X	Karen Deatherage, Park Ranger	KD 11/3/2014
	X	William Hedman, Archaeologist	WH 11/21/2014
	X	Darrel VandeWeg, Geologist	DV 27-Nov-14

Rationale:

## Section 1.3 Level of Controversy

3. Does the proposed action have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)]?			
YES	NO	REVIEWER/TITLE	
	X	Kelly Egger, Outdoor Rec Planner	KE 11/19/14
	X	David Esse, Fisheries Biologist	DE 11/19/2014
	X	Karen Deatherage, Park Ranger	KD 11/3/2014
	X	Jennifer McMillan, Ecologist	JM 11/19/2014
	X	Cal Westcott, Outdoor Rec Planner	CW 12/1/14

Rationale:

## Section 1.4 Highly Uncertain or Unique or Unknown Environmental Risks

4. Does the proposed action have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?			
YES	NO	REVIEWER/TITLE	
	X	Robin Walthour, Realty Specialist (for all team members)	RW 2/19/15

Rationale:

## Section 1.5 Precedent Setting

5. Does the proposed action establish a precedent for future action, or represent a decision in principle about future actions, with potentially significant environmental effects?			
YES	NO	REVIEWER/TITLE	
	X	Erin Julianus, Wildlife Biologist	EJ 11/4/2014
	X	Kelly Egger, Outdoor Rec Planner	KE 11/19/14
	X	David Esse, Fisheries Biologist	DE 11/19/2014
	X	Karen Deatherage, Park Ranger	KD 11/3/2014
	X	Jennifer McMillan, Ecologist	JM 11/19/2014
	X	Tyler Cole Realty Specialist	T. C. 24 OCT 2014

Rationale:

## Section 1.6 Cumulatively Significant Effects

6. Does the proposed action have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?			
YES	NO	REVIEWER/TITLE	
	X	Robin Walthour, Realty Specialist (for all team members)	RW 2/19/15

Rationale:

## Section 1.7 Impacts on Cultural Properties

7. Does the proposed action 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?			
YES	NO	REVIEWER/TITLE	
	X	William Hedman, Archaeologist	WH 11/21/2014

Rationale:

## Section 1.8 Impacts on Federally Listed Species or Critical Habitat

8. Does the proposed action 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?			
YES	NO	REVIEWER/TITLE	
	X	Jennifer McMillan	JM 11/19/2014

Rationale:

*Chapter 1 Categorical Exclusion Rationale  
Section 1.4 Highly Uncertain or Unique or Unknown  
Environmental Risks*

## Section 1.9 Compliance With Laws

9. Does the proposed action violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?			
YES	NO	REVIEWER/TITLE	
	X	Robin Walthour, Realty Specialist (for all team members)	RW 2/19/15

Rationale:

## Section 1.10 Environmental Justice

10. Does the proposed action have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?			
YES	NO	REVIEWER/TITLE	
	X	Robin Walthour, Realty Specialist (for all team members)	RW 2/19/15

Rationale:

## Section 1.11 Indian Sacred Sites

11. Does the proposed action 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)?			
YES	NO	REVIEWER/TITLE	
	X	William Headman, Archaeologist	WH 11/21/2014

Rationale:

## Section 1.12 Noxious and Non-Native Invasive Species

12. Does the proposed action contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the 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)?			
YES	NO	REVIEWER/TITLE	
	X	Jennifer McMillan	JM 11/19/2014

## Section 1.2 Preparer Information

Robin Walthour, Realty Specialist  
PREPARER/TITLE

February 19, 2015  
DATE