

Leftfield Pictures Filming

Introduction

The Dalton Highway in the past couple years has been the focal point for filming companies in the State of Alaska. The Bureau of Land Management as well as other federal and government entities have authorized companies authorizations to film all over Alaska.

Summary

Leftfield Pictures proposes to film a new documentary series for a major cable network that follows three (3) Alaskan towing/recovery companies as they respond to calls from drivers who are stranded and need assistance along the Dalton, Steese and Parks Highways from December 1, 2014 through January 2015.

Alternatives Considered

The No Alternative Option is the only alternative considered and was not selected as it would not allow Leftfield Pictures to film towing/recovery companies along the Dalton, Steese and Parks Highways.

Decision

I have decided to authorize a permit on public lands for the purpose of filming three (3) towing/recovery companies responding to customers that require assistance along the Dalton, Steese and Parks Highways from December 2014 through January 2015.

Management Considerations

The Categorical Exclusion and supporting documentation have been prepared consistent with the requirements of various statutes and regulations, including but not limited to:

- Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (ANILCA)
- Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA)
- National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)
- National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA)

One BLM land use plan applies to the overall project area, the Utility Corridor Resource Management Plan.

Public Involvement

It was determined that due to the remoteness of the action, there would be no impact to the general public. Additionally, this document was published to the electronic Central Yukon Field Office NEPA Register on November 24, 2014. No comments have been received as of _____.

Appeal or Protest Opportunities:

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, in accordance with 43 CFR Part 4 and DOI Form 1842-1. The notice of appeal must be filed in the Bureau of Land Management Central Yukon Field Office, 1150 University Avenue,

Fairbanks, Alaska 99709 within 30 days from receipt of this decision. If you decide to file an appeal, you must carefully follow the procedure described on the enclosed form 1842-1. If you don't file your appeal at the locations specified on the form within 30 days, the Board may dismiss your appeal as untimely without considering its merits. Be sure to send a copy of your notice of appeal to each party named in this decision and to all of the addresses on the enclosed form 1842-1. You may also ask the Board to stay or suspend the effect of this decision while your appeal is pending. If you desire a stay, you must enclose your request for a stay with your notice of appeal. You have the burden of showing a stay is justified. The Board will grant a stay only if you provide sufficient justification based on the following standards:

1. The relative harm to the parties if the Board grants or denies the stay,
2. The likelihood of the success of your appeal on its merits,
3. The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the Board does not grant the stay, and;
4. Whether the public interest favors granting a stay.

Approval from Authorized Official:

Field Office Manager Decision

Having considered a full range of alternatives, associated impacts, and public and agency input, I have decided to adopt and implement the attached Approved Plan in conformance with the Utility Corridor Resource Management Plan.

Signature
Nichelle W. Jacobson
Field Manager
Central Yukon Field Office

Date

— Essential Fish Habitat

NEPA Document No.: DOI-BLM-AK-F030-2015-0005-CX

Prepared by:

Date:

Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Finding:

References:

— Wilderness Characteristics Assessment

NEPA Document No.: DOI-BLM-AK-F030-2015-0005-CX

Serial No.: F-96867

Applicant: Leftfield Pictures

Location: Sec. 1, T. 1 N., R. 1 W, Fairbanks Meridian, Alaska including multiple sections, townships and ranges within Fairbanks and Umiat Meridians along the Dalton, Steese and Parks Highways, Alaska.

Prepared by: Karen Deatherage

Date:

Proposed Action

Leftfield Pictures proposes to film a new documentary series for a major cable network that follows three (3) Alaskan towing/recovery companies as they respond to calls from drivers who are stranded and need assistance along the Dalton, Steese and Parks Highways from December 1, 2014 through January 2015. The exact locations are not known until the towing company receives the call. They will be required to complete a daily log of their location and how many days at the site which was developed by our office and submit at the end of filming. They have identified 5 time periods when they propose to film, they are: December 1-5, 8-12, 15-19, 2014 and January 5-9 and 12-15, 2015. Their crew will be composed of one to five persons and most filming will be completed along the roadside but there may be an occasion where they would have to venture off the main road. All access will be by cars and/or vans along the highways identified above.

Evaluation

FINDING

Type of Assessment/Sources

— Section 810 Assessment

NEPA Document No.: DOI-BLM-AK-F030-2015-0005-CX

Applicant: Leftfield Pictures

Serial No.: F-96867

Proposed Action: Leftfield Pictures proposes to film a new documentary series for a major cable network that follows three (3) Alaskan towing/recovery companies as they respond to calls from drivers who are stranded and need assistance along the Dalton, Steese and Parks Highways from December 1, 2014 through January 2015. The exact locations are not known until the towing company receives the call. They will be required to complete a daily log of their location and how many days at the site which was developed by our office and submit at the end of filming. They have identified 5 time periods when they propose to film, they are: December 1-5, 8-12, 15-19, 2014 and January 5-9 and 12-15, 2015. Their crew will be composed of one to five persons and most filming will be completed along the roadside but there may be an occasion where they would have to venture off the main road. All access will be by cars and/or vans along the highways identified above.

Location: Along the Dalton, Steese and Parks Highways, Alaska.

Township/Range: Sec. 1, T. 1 N., R. 1 W, Fairbanks Meridian, Alaska including multiple sections, townships and ranges within Fairbanks and Umiat Meridians along the Dalton, Steese and Parks Highways, Alaska.

Evaluation by: Erin Julianus

Date:

Type of Assessment/Sources:

Effect of the proposal on subsistence uses and needs

Fisheries:

Wildlife:

Other resources:

Expected reduction, if any, in the availability of resources due to alteration in resource distribution, migration, or location:

Expected limitation, if any, in the access of subsistence users resulting from the proposal:

Availability of other lands, if any, for the purpose sought to be achieved:

Other alternatives, if any, which would reduce or eliminate the use, occupancy, or disposition of public lands needed for subsistence purposes:

Findings:

References