

Hugh Rose Photography Tours

A. Background

DOI-BLM-AK-F030-2015-0007-CX

BLM Office: AK - Central Yukon FO

LLAKF03000

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: FF096830

Proposed Action Title/Type:

Location of Proposed Action: Dalton Highway Utility Corridor. All waysides and BLM lands adjacent to the Dalton Highway on each side of the road within 1 mile of the corridor.

Description of Proposed Action: Mr. Rose has requested to conduct natural history/photo tours in the Dalton Highway Corridor for groups of up to eight (8) participants for up to 10 days with a focus on nature photography. The total number of groups requested is four per year. The travel dates are primarily in the months of March, September and October each year. Travel is in a passenger van equipped with a cb, satellite phone and first aid kit. A second support vehicle is typically included in each trip. Photography activity is described as being primarily done in areas with safe parking along the side of the highway. There are times when short hikes into the natural areas along the roadside are conducted. Lodging is in the community of Wiseman and Prudhoe Bay.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: AK - Utility Corridor

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): Chapter Two for the Plan (pages 2–26 and 2–27) and also implementing in action #1 under Recreation Program Objective #2 found in Appendix N (page N-19) which states, “Process Special Recreational Permit applications for all commercial and competitive events on a case-by-case basis;” and the Recreation Area Management Plan for the Dalton Highway which was approved October 11, 1991.

These lands and recreation sites are within the Dalton Highway Recreation Management Area (DHRMA) and described in the Dalton Highway Recreation Management Plan (1991).

The action, as proposed, is consistent with objectives outlined in these Central Yukon Field Office (CYFO) documents and not in conflict with other resources in the area. The proposed use is in conformance with current policy of the Fairbanks District Office, BLM. The Proposed Action conforms and is tiered to the existing land use plans (LUPs) and environmental documentation below.

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, (H) 1 which states, “Issuance of Recreation Permits for day use and or overnights use up to 14

consecutive nights; that impacts no more than 3 staging area acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized in a land use plan.”

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.

I considered a full range of alternatives, associated impacts, and public and agency input, I approve the adoption and implementation of the attached Approved Permit.

D. Approval and Contact Information

Nichelle Jacobson
Manager, Central Yukon Field Office

Date

Contact Person

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