

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION /PLAN CONFORMANCE DOCUMENTATION

DOI-BLM-AK-F020-2015-0005-CX

A. Background

Proposed Action: Free Use Firewood Permit

Date of Proposed Action: Feb. 1, 2015 through Jan. 31, 2016

Location: Fort Egbert NHS Eagle, Alaska

Applicant: Steve Hamilton

Serial Number: FF096923

Description of the Proposed Action

Mr. Hamilton would like to harvest 3 cords of dead spruce from the back corner of the BLM managed parcel of Fort Egbert near Eagle, Alaska. The harvest would occur during winter months by snowmobile and be done in accordance with the standard firewood harvest procedures. See attached, Firewood SOP and Map of site.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Fortymile Management Framework Plan

Date Approved/Amended: September 8, 1980

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s): Forest Products: Decision F 1.2 Continue to make firewood available on the Black Rapids and Taylor Highway free use areas.

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 11.9 (C-5) which states: "Disposal of small amounts of miscellaneous vegetation products outside established harvest areas, such as Christmas trees, wildings, floral products (ferns, boughs, etc.), cones, seeds, and personal use firewood."

The proposed action must be screened against the extraordinary circumstances found in 43 CFR 46.215 and 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) May have significant impacts on public health or safety.	No
2) May 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) May have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.	No
4) May have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	No
5) Might establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	No
6) May have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	No
7) May 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) May 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.	No
9) Might violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	No
10) May have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).	No
11) Might 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) Could 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).	No

Recommendation

I have found that the Proposed Action is compatible with the Fortymile Management Framework Plan, and is an action that can be categorically excluded. The Proposed Action does not trigger any of the Extraordinary Circumstances found in 516 DM Chapter 2, Appendix 2. I recommend that the Proposed Action be allowed and that an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement is not needed.

/s/ Colin Cogely
Collin Cogley
Eastern Interior Field Office

2/6/2015
Date

Concurrence

I concur that the above action is in conformance with the Fortymile Management Framework Plan, does not meet any of the extraordinary circumstances, and qualifies as a Categorical Exclusion.

/s/ Robin Mills Acting For
Lenore Heppler
Field Manager
Eastern Interior Field Office

2/25/2015
Date

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Collin Cogley, Eastern Interior Field Office, at 907-474-2382.