



Bureau of Land Management

Anchorage Field Office
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**Administrative Determination (AD)/Documentation of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)
Use of the Iditarod National Historic Trail
Termination of Ceremonial Start at BLM's Campbell Tract Facility**

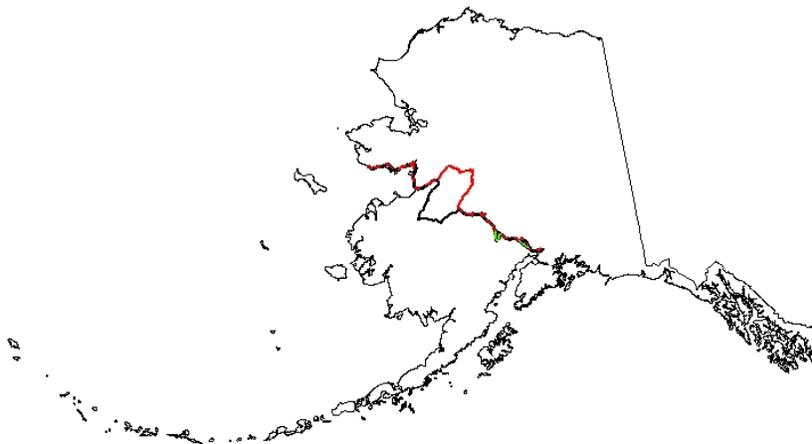
Applicant: Iditarod Sled Dog Race
Case File No.: AA-060380

Applicant: Norman Vaughan's Serum Run
Case File No.: AA-083493

Applicant: Alaska Ultra Sport
Case File No.: AA-083492

Applicant: Iron Dog Gold Rush Classic
Case File No.: AA-057131

AK-040-07-AD/DNA-012



Location:
Iditarod National Historic Trail

Prepared By:
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Outdoor Recreation Planner
01/12/07

Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy (DNA)
U.S. Department of the Interior - Bureau of Land Management
Anchorage Field Office

A. BLM Office: Anchorage Field Office **Lease/Serial Case File No's.:** AA-060380, AA-083493, AA-083492, and AA-057131

Proposed Action Title/Type: reauthorization of four (4) Special Recreation Permits on the Iditarod National Historic Trail for one (1) year.

Location of Proposed Action: Bureau of Land Management administered public lands along the route of the Iditarod National Historic Trail (INHT) from Anchorage to Nome, Alaska and potentially the Campbell Tract Facility.

Description of the Proposed Action: The proposed action to authorize the use of the Iditarod National Historic Trail to conduct four commercial and competitive recreational events during February and March 2007:

1. Iron Dog Gold Rush Classic, snowmobile race from Wasilla to Nome to Fairbanks, Alaska; February 11, 2007 to February 17, 2007.
2. Norman Vaughan's Serum Run, sled dog race from Nenana to Nome, Alaska; February 24, 2007 to March 13, 2007.
3. Alaska Ultra Sport, foot, bike, ski race from Knik to Nome, Alaska; February 24, 2007 to March 25, 2007.
4. Iditarod, sled dog race from Anchorage to Nome, Alaska; March 3, 2007 to March 31, 2007.

Potentially, the Ceremonial Start of the Iditarod Sled Dog Race may utilize Campbell Tract as the terminus for their March 3, 2007 ceremonial event.

Applicant (if any): Iditarod Sled Dog Race, Norman Vaughan's Serum Run, Alaska Ultra Sport, and Iron Dog Gold Rush Classic.

B. Conformance with the Land Use Plan (LUP) and Consistency with Related Subordinate Implementation Plans

The proposed actions are in conformance with the South-central Alaska Management Framework Plan (March 1980), the Northwest Management Framework Plan (June 1982), the Iditarod National Historic Trail Comprehensive Management Plan (March 1986), and the Campbell Tract Management Plan (April 1988).

C. Identify applicable NEPA documents and other related documents that cover the Proposed Action.

(Iditarod Trail: EA No. AK-040-02-EA-004, dated February 15, 2002) and (Campbell Tract Facility: AK-040-03-CX-009, dated February 27, 2003).

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

- 1. Is the current Proposed Action substantially the same action (or is a part of that action) as previously analyzed? Is the current Proposed Action located at a site specifically analyzed in an existing document?**

The proposed actions are identical to those analyzed in the NEPA documents and will take place on the same lands.

- 2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the current Proposed Action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?**

The range of alternatives analyzed in NEPA documents is appropriate with respect to the current proposed actions.

- 3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances?**

There have been no changes in the standards or goals for managing resources along the INHT since February 15, 2002. There have been no changes in resource conditions within the affected area. There have been no changes of resource-related plans, policies, or programs by State or local government, Indian Tribes, or other Federal agencies that address the affected area. There have been no designations established in the affected area since February 15, 2002.

- 4. Do the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA document(s) continue to be appropriate for the current Proposed Action?**

The methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA documents is appropriate for the current proposed action.

5. **Are the direct and indirect impacts of the current Proposed Action substantially unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA document(s)? Does the existing NEPA document analyze site-specific impacts related to the current Proposed Action?**

The direct and indirect impacts of the proposed action are substantially unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA documents. A new environmental analysis of the impacts of the proposed action under would result in the same conclusions drawn by the existing NEPA documents. The existing NEPA documents address the critical elements and sufficiently analyze site-specific impacts of the proposed action.

6. **Are the cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the current Proposed Action substantially unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?**

The cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the current proposed actions are the same as those analyzed in the existing NEPA documents.

7. **Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current Proposed Action?**

Interagency review and coordination has occurred with the Refuge Managers of both the Alaska Maritime and the Innoko National Wildlife Refuges. Review and coordination has also occurred with the Alaska Department of Natural Resources. The public involvement and interagency review associated with prior NEPA analysis is adequate for the current proposed action. A new programmatic environmental assessment addressing the environmental consequences of the proposed action is planned for the summer of 2007, including a public participation component.

E. Interdisciplinary Analysis:

The following individuals of the Anchorage Field Office and their disciplines were consulted in the analysis of the proposed action:

Donna Redding (Archeologist) - Cultural, Historic, Paleontological

Jeff Denton (Subsistence Specialist) - Subsistence, T&E Species, Wildlife

Bruce Seppi (Wildlife Biologist) - Wildlife, T&E, Riparian

Kevin Keeler (Iditarod Trail Coordinator) - INHT

Jeff Kowalczyk (Outdoor Recreation Planner) - Recreation

F. Mitigation Measures:

The following are expected to prevent and/or minimize short and long-term impacts noted in the Environmental Consequences Sections of the existing EA.

- a. Proper precautions must be taken to prevent and contain spillage of hazardous material or fuel. Fuel stored on site must be a minimum of 150 feet from cabins and 300 feet from water bodies or wetlands.
- b. For all events, there must be adequate snow depth and or freezing on the trail to accommodate the event and casual traffic.
- c. Event and support vehicles may not exceed a maximum GVW (gross vehicle weight) of 1,000 pounds and a width of 60 inches.
- d. All event and permitted users must mark fuel and food containers with an event identifier tag and remove all materials after the event.
- e. Alaska grown straw or (if imported) certified weed free straw must be used in support of appropriate events to prevent the introduction of undesirable weeds.
- f. Within one week of completing each event, all trash should be hauled out by the permittee and disposed of in a proper landfill, dumpster, or trashcan. Cans, glass, plastics, batteries and other non-combustible/non-degradable materials should not be burned. Do not bury refuse. Burning of combustible materials such as paper and wood within 100 feet of any cabin or historic site is prohibited. Gray water and human waste must be disposed of at least 100 feet beyond the ordinary high water mark of any water body.
- g. Cabin sites will be signed to indicate the expectations of users and to help prevent vandalism and damage.
- h. Participants must not disturb any archeological and historic artifacts, buildings, ruins, or any other culturally significant items.

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In addition to the above mitigation measures, see attached permit conditions and stipulations for all four events.

G. Conclusion

Based on the above review, I conclude that these proposals conform to the applicable land use plans and that NEPA documents, AK-040-02-EA-004, dated February 15, 2002 and AK-040-03-CX-009, dated February 27, 2003 fully cover the current proposed actions and constitutes BLM's NEPA compliance.

Gary Reimer
Anchorage Field Manager

February 7, 2007
Date