



U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management

Anchorage Field Office
6881 Elmore Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

<http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/fo/ado.html>

**Categorical Exclusion
Federal Aviation Administration – Minchumina
Air Navigation Site Partial Revocation
AK-010-08-CX-031**



Location:

Fairbanks Meridian, T. 12 S., R. 24 W., USS 2655
Excluding USS 4002 and Sites A, B, and C.

Prepared By:

Jayne Lopez
Realty Specialist

March 26, 2008

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Anchorage Field Office
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) FORM

CX No.: AK-010-08-CX-031

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: F - 023812

Proposed Action Title/Types: Partial revocation of Federal Aviation Administration's Air Navigation Site Withdrawal, 190.

Location of Proposed Action: The withdrawn lands are located at Fairbanks Meridian, Township 12 South, Range 24 West, United States Survey (USS) Number 2655, excepting USS 4002 and Sites A, B, and C (see attached survey and description of sites A, B, and C)

Description of Proposed Action: The Proposed Action is to return approximately 606 acres to the BLM from the FAA's Air Site Navigation (ASN) 190 located at Lake Minchumina, Alaska. This site is located within U.S. Survey 2655, Secs. 7, 8, and 17, T. 12 S., R. 24 W., Fairbanks Meridian, N 63° 18' 38" latitude, and W 152° 18' 7" longitude.

The original withdrawal in 1942 was for 750 acres. After previously returning a portion of ANS 190 the FAA has 688 acres remaining in the withdrawal. They are keeping 82 acres and plan to return most of that in the future. There are no buildings or structures on the portion of the ANS that the FAA is proposing to return to the public domain.

The land being returned has been restored to a natural condition and is now growing native vegetation. An "Environmental Due Diligence Audit" was conducted by the FAA and the BLM, both found the land suitable for restoration to the public domain. The land being returned is triple selected by the State of Alaska, Mental Health Trust, top filed by the State of Alaska under ANILCA §906(e), and Minchumina Natives Incorporated. The intent of the BLM is to revoke the withdrawal and return the land to the public domain.

Applicant: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

PART I - PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW

This Proposed Action is subject to the following land use plan: Management Framework Plan, Southwest Planning Area

Date Plan Approved: November 1981

The Proposed Action has been reviewed for conformance with this plan (43 CFR 1610.5-3(a)).

Remarks: The Proposed action is consistent with the Management Framework Plan objective L-4b: “[P]rovide for the continuing adjustment of land ownership boundaries and jurisdiction with the goal of making each agency’s lands as manageable as possible.” Revocation of a portion of the withdrawal will achieve this objective because the withdrawal is no longer meeting the needs of the Federal Aviation Administration’s original purpose and the lands will be more suitably managed by the State of Alaska.

PART II - NEPA REVIEW

A. Categorical Exclusion Review.

This Proposed Action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 11.9 E(2):

11.9 “Withdrawal revocations, terminations, extensions, or modifications; and classification terminations or modifications which do not result in lands being opened or closed to the general land laws or to the mining or mineral leasing laws.”

B. Departmental List of Extraordinary Circumstances Review.

The following Departmental List of Extraordinary Circumstances apply to individual actions. Departmental instructions mandate that environmental documents **MUST BE PREPARED** for actions which may: (Mark applicable answer for each item. If "yes", prepare an EA/EIS and append this form to it.)

	YES	NO
1. Have significant adverse impacts on public health or safety.	_____	<u> X </u>
2. 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.	_____	<u> X </u>

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-------|----------------|
| 3. | Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)]. | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 4. | Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks. | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 5. | Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 6. | Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 7. | 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. | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 8. | 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. | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 9. | Violate Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 10. | Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898). | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 11. | 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). | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |
| 12. | Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112). | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |

I certify that none of the Departmental Extraordinary Circumstances listed in the above Part B (516 DM 2, Appendix 2) apply to this action.

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Remarks: The lands within this portion of ASN 190 are validly topfiled by the State of Alaska pursuant to section 906(e) of ANILCA in conjunction with section 6(a) of the Alaska Statehood Act, and under section 11(a) of ANCSA for conveyance to the Minchumina Native Inc. Once ANS 190 is revoked, either the above-mentioned ANCSA application for selection or the State of Alaska's application for selection will automatically attach and these lands become segregated from all appropriations, including locations under the mining laws (43 CFR § 2627.4). Therefore, the revocation of ANS 190 will not result in these lands being opened to the general land laws, mining or mineral leasing laws.

Preparer(s): Jayme Lopez

Date: 3/26/2008

PART III – DECISION

The proposed action is in conformance with a management framework plan or a resource management plan, 43 C.F.R. § 1610.8(a)(3) (2006). The Department of the Interior has determined and found that the proposed action is within a category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and that neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required, 40 C.F.R. §1508.4 (2006).

It is therefore my decision to implement the action, as described, with no mitigation measures necessary because this action is solely administrative in nature.

Mitigation Measures/Other Remarks: N/A

Authorized Official: /s/ Beth Maclean Date: 6/27/2008

BLM Notice to Relinquish Checklist - Subpart 2372

FAA Minchumina Property – ANSW 190

1. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
Attn: AAL-59RE, Real Estate & Utilities Branch
222 W 7th Ave. #14
Anchorage, AK 99513-7587
2. Air Navigation Station (ANS) Withdrawal No. 190
3. The 606 acre parcel of land to be relinquished is contained within U.S. Survey No. 2655 with the exception of the following four parcels:
 - a. The land contained within U.S. Survey No. 4002 (61 acres)
 - b. An area of land contained within said U.S. Survey No. 2655. The perimeter of said land is described as: Commencing at a 3 ¼ inch brass cap monument identified as U.S.L.M. 2655; thence N 78° 59' E, 461 feet to the True Point of Beginning; thence N 45° 01' W, 2411 feet; thence S 00° 00' E, 2162 feet; thence S 00° 00' E, 90 feet to the ordinary high water line of Lake Minchumina; thence along said ordinary high water line S 58° 12' E, 683 feet; thence along said ordinary high water line S 45° 00' E, 154 feet; thence N 44° 59' E, 1437 feet to the True Point of Beginning. Said area of land contains approximately 57.3 acres and is shown on the map (Exhibit A) as Site A.
 - c. An area of land contained within said U.S. Survey No. 2655. The perimeter of said land is described as: Commencing at a 3 ¼ inch brass cap monument identified as U.S.L.M. 2655; thence N 02° 22' W, 2493 feet to the True Point of Beginning; thence S 76° 12' E, 850 feet; thence N 13° 48' E, 899 feet, thence N 76° 12' W, 850 feet; thence S 13° 48' W, 899 feet to the True Point of Beginning. Said area of land contains approximately 17.6 acres and is shown on the map (Exhibit A) as Site B.
 - d. An area of land contained within said U.S. Survey No. 2655. The perimeter of said land is described as: Commencing at a 3 ¼ inch brass cap monument identified as U.S.L.M. No. 2655; thence N 34° 35' E, 930 feet to the True Point of Beginning; thence N 45° 23' E, 699 feet; thence N 44° 37' W, 400 feet; thence S 45° 23' W, 699 feet; thence S 44° 37' E, 400 feet to the True Point of Beginning. Said area of land contains approximately 6.4 acres and is shown on the map (Exhibit A) as Site C.