



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

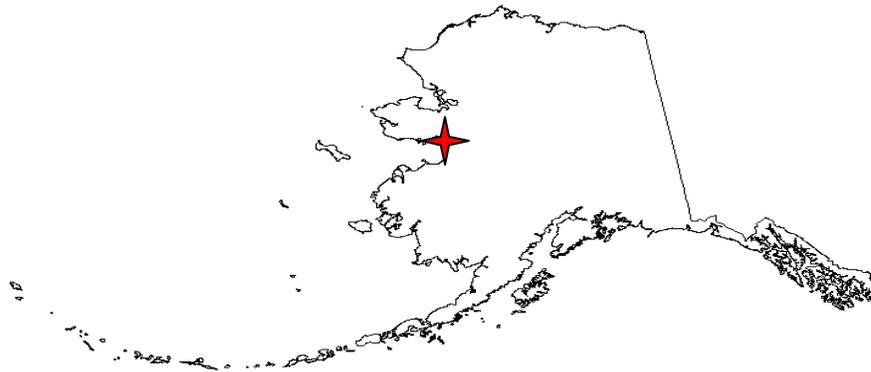
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<http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/fo/ado.html>

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### **Categorical Exclusion Overland Move of Heavy Equipment**

**Applicant: BC Contractors, Inc.**  
**Case File Number: AA-092007**  
**DOI-BLM-AK-A010-2010-0009-CX**



#### **Location:**

T. 3 S., R. 13 W., Sec. 1  
T. 3 S., R. 12 W., Section 6, NW1/4 NW1/4  
T. 3 S., R. 12 W., Section 7  
T. 3 S., R. 12 W., Section 18, NE1/4NE1/4  
T. 3 S., R. 12 W., Section 30, E1/2E1/2  
T. 5 S., R. 12 W., Section 4, SW1/4  
T. 5 S., R. 12 W., Section 5, NE1/4NE1/4  
T. 5 S., R. 12 W., Section 9, W1/2W1/2  
T. 5 S., R. 12 W., Section 16, W1/2W1/2  
T. 5 S., R. 12 W., Section 29, SE1/4  
T. 5 S., R. 12 W., Section 32, E1/2

**Prepared By:**  
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December 2009

## CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

### A. Background

BLM Office: Anchorage Field Office      Lease/Serial/Case File No: AA-092007

Environmental Document No: **DOI-BLM-AK-A010-2010-0009-CX**

#### Proposed Action:

BC Contractors, Inc. proposes to move three pieces of heavy equipment (a Cat 966C Loader, a Komatsu PC200 excavator and a Cat D7 Dozer) under their own power from Granite Mountain to Koyuk, Alaska on an existing winter trail that is 40.7 miles long of which approximately 9.4 miles is on BLM managed lands. The move will be done in early winter with adequate snow and frost coverage to minimize environmental damage. The equipment was used in the United States Air Force cleanup activities of the Granite Mountain Radio Relay Site.

#### Location:

T. 3 S., R. 13 W., Sec. 1, T. 3 S., R. 12 W., Section 6, NW1/4 NW1/4, T. 3 S., R. 12 W., Section 7, T. 3 S., R. 12 W., Section 18, NE1/4NE1/4, T. 3 S., R. 12 W., Section 30, E1/2E1/2, T. 5 S., R. 12 W., Section 4, SW1/4, T. 5 S., R. 12 W., Section 5, NE1/4NE1/4, T. 5 S., R. 12 W., Section 9, W1/2W1/2, T. 5 S., R. 12 W., Section 16, W1/2W1/2, T. 5 S., R. 12 W., Section 29, SE1/4, T. 5 S., R. 12 W., Section 32, E1/2.

#### Description:

The proposed action is to permit an overland move of three pieces of heavy equipment (a Cat 966C Loader, a Komatsu PC200 excavator and a Cat D7 Dozer) from Granite Mountain to Koyuk via a \$2800 permit. The permit will be issued to BC Contractors Inc. from Anchorage, Alaska. BC Contractors Inc. performed work at Granite Mountain for the USAF in the demolition of the White Alice Site. The heavy equipment remains at Granite Mountain and the company wishes to move the equipment to Koyuk overland on an existing winter trail (portions of which are claimed by the State of Alaska as an RS 2477) in order to save damage to the equipment during the long winter and save the expense of flying the equipment out in the summer. The move is anticipated to take a week and BC Contractors Inc. wishes to move the equipment in early winter. The majority of the route is on State TA land and Koyuk Native Corporation property. The equipment will be stored on the north bank of the Koyuk River on Koyuk Native Corporation property until the Koyuk River has sufficient ice depth to cross and then will be moved across the river where the equipment will be stored in Koyuk for barge removal in the summer of 2010.

Applicant: BC Contractors, Inc.  
Form Date: 6/2009

**B. Land Use Plan Conformance 43 CFR 1610.5-3(a)**

Land Use Plan Name: Kobuk-Seward Peninsula Management Plan, Approved: Sept. 2008

- The proposed action is in conformance with plan because it is specifically provided for in the following planning decisions: Under Lands and Realty, H-2a-4: Goals, #1 states “Meet public needs for use authorization such as ROW, leases, and permits while minimizing adverse impacts to other resource values.”
- The proposed action is in conformance with the plan even though it is not specifically provided for because it is clearly consistent with the following planning decisions (objectives, terms, and conditions

**C. NEPA Compliance**

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with United States Department of the Interior 43 CFR §46.210 or United States Department of Interior Manual, Part 516, Chapter 11, and the BLM NEPA Handbook H-1790-1, Appendix 4 p. 148 which provides:

**Realty**

Issuance of short-term (3 years or less) rights-of-way or land use authorizations for such uses as storage sites, apiary sites, and construction sites where the proposal includes rehabilitation to restore the land to its natural or original condition.

**D. Extraordinary Circumstances**

The following Departmental List of Extraordinary Circumstances apply to individual actions. Departmental instructions mandate that environmental documents must be prepared for actions which may:

		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>

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|-----|---|-------|----------------|
| 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 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). | _____ | _____ <u>X</u> |

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances in 43 CFR §46.215 are pertinent.

**E. Signature**

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).

Authorized Official: /s/ Douglas Ballou Date: 12-21-2009