



**Bureau of Land Management** Fairbanks District Office  
Central Yukon Field Office  
1150 University Avenue  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

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**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
DOI-BLM-AK-03000-2011-055-EA**

F-087248 (286001)

Communication Site  
Right of Way Renewal

Proposed actions located within:

Fairbanks Meridian  
Sec. 25, T. 1 N., R. 3 W.,  
Within a portion of  
Lot 1, U.S. Survey 4012

Carmel Communications LLC  
P.O. Box 81473  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Prepared by:

U.S. Department of Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Central Yukon Field Office  
1150 University Avenue  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709  
June 2011

## **A. INTRODUCTION**

### **1. Background**

Public Land Order 1657, signed and published in June of 1958, designated an area at the summit of Ester Dome as a BLM Administrative Site. In November 1959, Golden Valley Electric Association (GVEA) applied for a right of way to place a radio relay and receiving facility on this same site, followed by the University of Alaska (UAF) Geophysical Institute in April of 1961, seeking space for communications transmittal equipment. Since that time, the 6.4 acre area has been consistently valued for this type of use because of its location within the Fairbanks North Star Borough. It has historically been the home to radio repeater and transmittal equipment for such entities as the State Division of Highways and the Bureau of Land Management's Branch of Protection, a predecessor to the Alaska Fire Service. Approximately one quarter of the original PLO 1657 parcel was conveyed to UAF in 1985, which is now home to KUAC. Similar uses are found on adjacent privately owned land immediately south, and on state land approximately a mile to the west. The remaining 5.28 acres of the site is currently home to GVEA, AT&T, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and Carmel Communications LLC, as well as Carmel's tenant GCI. Since there has been consistent local demand for this type of use in this location for half a century, on September 25, 2007 the BLM Central Yukon Field Office signed into effect a Communications Site Plan for Ester Dome.

### **2. Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action**

The purpose of this action is to allow Carmel Communications LLC to renew a FLPMA right of way authorization for an existing communication site (FF-087248) on the summit of Ester Dome within Sec. 25, T.1 N., R. 3 W., Fairbanks Meridian, within a portion of Lot 1 of U.S. Survey 4012, for an additional 20 years. Carmel Communications LLC's current 20 year right of way expired October 23, 2011.

### **3. Conformance with Land Use Plan**

Ester Dome is not within any federal resource management plan area, therefore regulations at 43 CFR 1610.8(b)(1) regarding conformance with land use planning require the completion of an Environmental Assessment. The proposed action is consistent with the Ester Dome Communications Site Management Plan which was approved September 25, 2007.

### **4. Relationship to Statutes, Regulations or Other Plans**

The regulations found in 43 CFR 2800 and 2880 govern the issuance, amendments, and renewals for rights-of-way grants for necessary transportation, other systems, or facilities which require authorization including: roads, trails, pipelines, communications sites, power distribution and transmission lines, and such other necessary transportation, other systems or facilities which are in the public interest.

## **B. PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES**

### **1. Proposed Action**

Carmel Communications LLC proposes renewal of the existing communication site right of way to continue operation of the currently existing facility for its historical usage. The existing facility consists of an 80' guyed tower and a frame structure approximately 16' x 29', in support of equipment facilitating cellular telephone service for tenant GCI. The building and tower are within a fenced area which also contains the smaller 10' x 12' structure and 30' tower belonging to NOAA under separate agreement FF-087834.

### **2. No Action Alternative**

BLM would reject the application and the right of way would not be renewed. By the terms of the existing agreement, non-renewal would require the tenant to remove all appurtenant structures, fences, towers and equipment.

## **C. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT**

### **1. General Setting**

The subject area is located within: Sec. 25, T. 1 N., R. 3 W., Fairbanks Meridian, within a portion of Lot 1, U.S. Survey 4012. The site is atop Ester Dome, within the Fairbanks Northstar Borough, slightly Northwest of the city of Fairbanks.

### **2. Affected Resources**

Table 1. Elements of the human environment that have been considered for this environmental assessment (EA) are listed below. Elements that may be affected are further described in this EA. Those elements marked as not being affected will not be considered further in this Environmental Assessment.

<b>Critical Elements and Other Elements to be Considered</b>					
Critical Elements	Affected		Critical Elements	Affected	
	Yes	No		Yes	No
Air Quality		X	Native American Religious Concerns		X
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern		X	Threatened or Endangered Species		X
Cultural Resources			Hazardous and Solid Wastes		X
Environmental Justice		X	Water Quality- Surface and Ground		X
Essential Fish Habitat		X	Wetlands/Riparian Zones		X

Prime and Unique Farm Lands		X		Wild and Scenic Rivers		X
Floodplains		X		Wilderness		X
Invasive, Non-native Species		X				
Other Elements	Affected			Other Elements	Affected	
	Yes	No			Yes	No
Access		X		Visual Resources		X
Fire Management		X		Wildlife/Aquatic		X
Mineral Resources		X		Wildlife/Terrestrial		X
Soils		X				
Subsistence		X				
Vegetative Resources		X				

#### **D. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

##### **1. Impacts of the Proposed Action**

The proposed action is to renew an existing right of way that has been in effect for twenty years, and included in the Ester Dome Communication Site Plan, that was signed into effect September, 2007. There are no impacts anticipated or mitigation measures deemed appropriate that are not covered or discussed in the site plan, which is incorporated herein by reference. There were no additional impacts or mitigating measures identified over and above those identified in the site plan.

##### **2. Impacts of No Action Alternative**

The No Action alternative would require BLM to reject the current tenant's application and the right of way would not be renewed. By the terms of the existing agreement, non-renewal would require the tenant to remove all appurtenant structures, fences, towers and equipment. This would have an adverse impact on the human environment by removing or disrupting services currently being utilized by the local community. The requirement to remove structures and equipment would also be disruptive to adjacent permit holders.

#### **E. CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION**

The Environmental Analysis will be publicly available on file at the Fairbanks District Office.

## **List of Preparers**

Air Quality	Carl Kretsinger
ACECs	Carl Kretsinger
Cultural Resources (Paleontology)	Bill Hedman
Environmental Justice	Peggy Thigpen
Essential Fish Habitat/Fisheries	Carl Kretsinger
Invasive, Nonnative Species	Ruth Gronquist
Native American Religious Concerns	Bill Hedman
Threatened and Endangered Species	Merben Cebrian
Wastes, Hazardous and Solid	Joseph Sanchez
Water Quality/Drinking and Ground	Carl Kretsinger
Wetlands/Riparian/Floodplains	Carl Kretsinger
Wild and Scenic Rivers	Kelly Egger
Wilderness	Lisa Shon Jodwalis
Minerals	Darrel VandeWeg
NEPA	Gary Foreman
Soils	Carl Kretsinger
Subsistence	Merben Cebrian
Wildlife	Merben Cebrian
Visual Resource Management	Cal Wescott
Realty/Lands	Peggy Thigpen
Recreation	Kelly Egger
Vegetation	Merben Cebrian

Table 2. Preparers (BLM Specialists)

## **F. ATTACHMENTS**

1. Site-Specific Stipulations
2. Wilderness Assessment
3. ANILCA Section 810 Evaluation and Findings
4. Essential Fish Habitat Assessment
5. Assessment of Archaeological and Historical Resources
6. Executive Order 11988 (Floodplains) and 11990 (Wetlands) Conformance

**G. EXHIBITS**

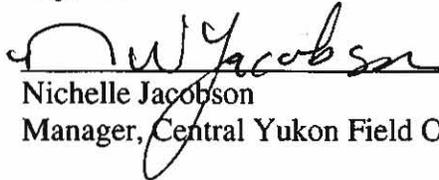






**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

I have reviewed **DOI-BLM-AK-03000-2011-0055-EA**, and have concluded that impacts described do not approach the threshold of significance, therefore I have determined that a Finding of No Significant Impact is appropriate and an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

  
Nichelle Jacobson  
Manager, Central Yukon Field Office

2/24/12  
Date

**DECISION RECORD**

BLM Fairbanks District - Central Yukon Field Office  
Communication Site Right of Way Lease - Case File #FF087248 – Carmel Communications  
DOI-BLM-AK-03000-2011-0055-EA

Decision:

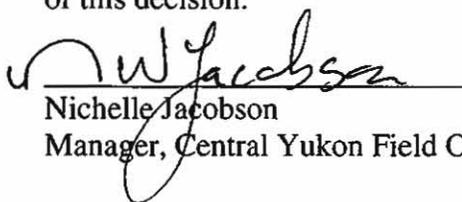
It is my decision to approve the renewal of the communication site right of way lease at this location for Carmel Communications for an additional twenty year term.

Rationale:

- There is a local need for communication sites of this nature, which perform a vital function in the local community.
- Ester Dome is one of the most appropriate geographic locations available to fill the local need.
- Continuation of the historical usage will create no adverse impacts on the local environment, while non-continuation and removal of the facility would hold the potential for adverse impacts for both the local population and adjacent facilities.

If you choose to protest this decision you must do so within 15 days of the receipt of permit determination. The protest must be filed with and received by the CYFO Field Manager within the allotted time. The protest must present any evidence that would show the decision is in error and should be vacated or modified. Within 15 days of receipt of a timely protest the Field Manager will review any evidence provided by you and forward a recommended final decision to the Fairbanks District Manager. The decision of the District Manager will be the final BLM decision, and may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals.

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, in accordance with 43 CFR Part 4 and DOI Form 1842-1. The notice of appeal must be filed in the Bureau of Land Management Central Yukon Field Office within 30 days from receipt of this decision.

  
Nichelle Jacobson  
Manager, Central Yukon Field Office

2/24/12  
Date

## **ATTACHMENT # 1**

### **Site-Specific Stipulations for Communication Site Right of Way #F-087248**

1. Activities shall be conducted in such a manner as to not cause damage or disturbance to any historical or archaeological sites and artifacts. The Antiquities Act (1906), Archaeological Resources Protection Act (1979), Federal Land Policy and Management Act (1976), and general United States property laws and regulations, all prohibit the appropriation, excavation, damage, or destruction of any historic or prehistoric ruin or monument, or any other object of antiquity situated on lands owned or controlled by the United States (16 USC 470; 16 USC 432; 43 U.S. 1733(a); 18 U.S.C. 1361; 18 U.S.C. 641; 43 CFR 8365.1). Such items include both prehistoric stone tools and sites, as well as historic log cabins, remnants of such structures, refuse dumps, and other such features. Should any such site be discovered during the permitted activity, the permittee should avoid impacting such materials, and immediately notify the Authorized Officer.

**WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS ASSESSMENT**  
DOI-BLM-AK-03000-2011-0055-CX

FF087248

**Applicant:** Carmel Communications LLC  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

**Proposed Action:**

Carmel Communications wishes to renew a FLPMA right of way authorization for an existing communication site (FF-087248) on the summit of Ester Dome within Sec. 25, T.1 N., R. 3 W., Fairbanks Meridian, within a portion of Lot 1 of U.S. Survey 4012, for an additional 20 years. The communication site is 100' by 100' for a total of 0.23 acres on the outskirts of Fairbanks.

**Date:** 10 January 2012

**Evaluation by:** Lisa Shon Jodwalis, Park Ranger-Interpretation

**Type of Assessment/Sources:** Maps, detailed site photographs by BLM realty staff, personal knowledge of the area.

**Availability of other lands, if any, for the purpose sought to be achieved:** Since the proposal is to reauthorize the use of an existing communication facility, other lands were not considered for the proposed action.

**Finding:**

Because the area is less than 5,000 acres it has been determined not to have wilderness characteristics. In addition, the site and its immediate surroundings hold numerous structures such as communications towers, antennas, buildings, fences, roads and signs. This action will have no impact on lands with wilderness characteristics.

# Compliance with ANILCA §810

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**NEPA Document No.:** DOI-BLM-AK-03000-2011-055-EA

**Applicant(s):** Carmel Communications LLC, P.O. Box 81473, Fairbanks Alaska 99701

**Proposed Action:** Carmel Communications LLC proposes renewal of the existing communication site right of way to continue operation of the currently existing facility. The term of the authorization would be for an additional 20 years. Carmel Communications LLC's current 20 year right of way expired October 23, 2011.

The existing facility is located on Ester Dome and consists of an 80' guyed tower and a frame structure approximately 16' x 29' in size. The building and tower are within a fenced area which also contains a smaller 10' x 12' structure and a 30' tower belonging to NOAA under separate agreement FF-087834.

**Location:** The location of the proposed activity is on Bureau of Land Management lands located on the summit of Ester Dome within Lot 1 of U.S. Survey 4012, Sec. 25, T.1 N., R. 3 W, Fairbanks Meridian.

**Evaluation by:** Carl F. Kretsinger and Merben R. Cebrian

**Date:** 12 December 2011

**Type of Assessment / Sources:** Review of application materials, subsistence database, local knowledge, and interviews with staff knowledgeable of the area and the proposed action.

**Effect of the proposal on subsistence uses and needs:**

Fisheries: No effect.

Wildlife: The proposed action is not within a federal subsistence hunting area. Large mammals such as moose (Young 2008) and black bears (Seaton 2008) occur in the area. The renewal of the communications right of way is for approximately 0.5 acres of disturbed land that has been in continuous use for communications purposes for the last 50 years. Activity on this relatively small parcel of land may temporarily displace large mammals from the vicinity of the activity. However, the relatively small footprint of the existing communications site does not interfere with subsistence uses and needs.

Other resources: The approximately 0.5 acres on which the existing communications site is located has not contributed to the production of subsistence resources for more than 20 years. Reauthorization of the right of way for this site for an additional 20 year period is not anticipated to have any detectable influence on future subsistence opportunity as it pertains to the use of other harvestable resources such as berries, willows, and spruce roots

**Expected reduction, if any, in the availability of resources due to alteration in resource distribution, migration, or location:** None. The proposed action will not significantly alter the distribution, migration, or location of subsistence resources. Moose and caribou are highly mobile and may use other lands in the vicinity. Big game density will not be affected by the proposed action.

**Expected limitation, if any, in the access of subsistence users resulting from the proposal:** None. Access to subsistence resources will not be hampered by the proposed action.

**Availability of other lands, if any, for the purpose sought to be achieved:** Since the proposal is to reauthorize the use of an existing communication facility, other lands were not considered for the proposed action.

**Other alternatives, if any, which would reduce or eliminate the use, occupancy, or disposition of public lands needed for subsistence purposes:** The No Action alternative would eliminate the proposed use on approximately 0.5 acres of public land. These lands, however, are not considered important for the production or access to subsistence resources. Justification for the selection of the No Action alternative would not be based on a reduction to subsistence resources or harvest opportunity.

**Finding:** The proposed action will not significantly restrict subsistence uses and needs in or near the area of the proposed action. Access to subsistence resources will not be hampered by the proposed action. There is no reasonably foreseeable significant decrease in abundance in harvestable resource nor in the distribution of harvestable resources due to the proposed action.

**References Cited or Reviewed:**

- Young, D.D. 2008. Unit 20B moose management report. Pages 348-372 in P. Harper, editor. Moose management report of survey and inventory activities 1 July 2005-30 June 2007. Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Project 1.0. Juneau, Alaska, USA.
- Seaton, C.T. 2008. Units 20A, 20B, 20C, and 20F black bears. Pages 217-233 in P. Harper, editor. Black bear management report of survey and inventory activities 1 July 2004-30 June 2007. Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Project 17.0. Juneau, Alaska, USA.

**COMPLIANCE WITH THE MAGNUSON-STEVENSON FISHERY  
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT – ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT  
EVALUATION AND FINDING**

**Applicant:** Carmel Communications LLC

**Serial No.:** F-087248 (286001)

**NEPA document:** DOI-BLM-AK-03000-2011-055-EA

**Location:**

The location of the proposed activity is on Bureau of Land Management lands located on the summit of Ester Dome within Lot 1 of U.S. Survey 4012, Sec. 25, T.1 N., R. 3 W, Fairbanks Meridian.

**Description of Proposed Action:**

The purpose of this action is to allow Carmel Communications LLC to renew a FLPMA right of way authorization for an existing communication site (FF-087248) on the summit of Ester Dome, for an additional 20 years. Carmel Communications LLC's current 20 year right of way expired October 23, 2011.

The existing facility consists of an 80' guyed tower and a frame structure approximately 16' x 29' in size. The building and tower are within a fenced area which also contains a smaller 10' x 12' structure and a 30' tower belonging to NOAA under separate agreement FF-087834.

**EVALUATION:**

**Effect of proposed action on Essential Fish Habitat:**

On BLM managed lands, Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) means the aquatic areas and their associated physical, chemical, and biological properties that are used by salmon. The proposed action would authorize the continued use of approximately 0.5 acre of BLM land at the top of Ester Dome. No known essential fish habitat is located within the area that would be influenced by the proposed action nor is runoff or drainage stemming from the proposed action anticipated to have any effect on essential fish habitat.

**Mitigation which would reduce or eliminate the potential for impacting Essential Fish Habitat:** None; the proposed action is not anticipated to have any effect on essential fish habitat.



## Fairbanks District Office, Bureau of Land Management

## ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

<b>Serial Number</b>	FF087248
<b>NEPA Number</b>	DOI-BLM-AK-03000-2011-00055-EA
<b>Applicant</b>	Carmel Communications LLC P.O. Box 81473 Fairbanks, AK 99701
<b>Quadrangle</b>	Fairbanks
<b>Date</b>	12/19/11

**Location:**

Sec. 25, T. 1 N., R. 3 W, FM

**Description of Proposed Action:**

Public Land Order 1657, signed and published in June of 1958, designated an area at the summit of Ester Dome as a BLM Administrative Site. In November 1959, Golden Valley Electric Association (GVEA) applied for a right of way to place a radio relay and receiving facility on this same site, followed by the University of Alaska (UAF) Geophysical Institute in April of 1961, seeking space for communications transmittal equipment. Since that time, the 6.4 acre area has been consistently valued for this type of use because of its location within the Fairbanks North Star Borough. It has historically been the home to radio repeater and transmittal equipment for such entities as the State Division of Highways and the Bureau of Land Management's Branch of Protection, a predecessor to the Alaska Fire Service. Approximately one quarter of the original PLO 1657 parcel was conveyed to UAF in 1985, which is now home to KUAC. Similar uses are found on adjacent privately owned land immediately south, and on state land approximately a mile to the west. The remaining 5.28 acres of the site is currently home to GVEA, AT&T, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and Carmel Communications LLC, as well as Carmel's tenant GCI. Since there has been consistent local demand for this type of use in this location for half a century, on September 25, 2007 the BLM Central Yukon Field Office signed into effect a Communications Site Plan for Ester Dome.

Carmel Communications LLC proposes renewal of the existing communication site right of way to continue operation of the currently existing facility for its historical usage. The existing facility consists of an 80' guyed tower and a frame structure approximately 16' x 29', in support of equipment facilitating cellular telephone service for tenant GCI. The building and tower are within a fenced area which also contains the smaller 10' x 12' structure and 30' tower belonging to NOAA under separate agreement FF-087834.

**OFFICE REVIEW**

**Results of Office Review and Recommendation**

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A review of the AHRs database reveals no known cultural resources in the vicinity of the Ester Dome communications site. Further, this location has been investigated by Central Yukon Field Office archaeologists for previous communications facilities NEPA reviews. The renewal of this permit involves to additional ground disturbance and entails no potential for significant impacts to cultural resources. It is recommended that the proposed action proceed with no further Section 106 Review.

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**FIELD EXAMINATION**

**Description of the area surveyed**

NA

**Survey methodology**

NA

**Results of survey**

NA

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**RESULTS**

**Anticipated impacts to cultural resources**

None

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**National Register eligibility**

NA

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**Conclusions & Recommendations**

Upon insertion of the stipulations listed below, no significant impacts to cultural resources are anticipated as a result of the proposed action, and it is recommended that the undertaking proceed.

- 1.) Activities shall be conducted in such a manner as to not cause damage or disturbance to any historical or archaeological sites and artifacts. The Antiquities Act (1906), Archaeological Resources Protection Act (1979), Federal Land Policy and Management Act (1976), and general United States property laws and regulations, all prohibit the appropriation, excavation, damage, or destruction of any historic or prehistoric ruin or monument, or any other object of antiquity situated on lands owned or controlled by the United States (16 USC 470; 16 USC 432; 43 U.S. 1733(a); 18 U.S.C. 1361; 18 U.S.C. 641; 43 CFR 8365.1). Such items include both prehistoric stone tools and sites, as well as historic log cabins, remnants of such structures, refuse dumps, and other such features. Should any such site be discovered during the permitted activity, the permittee should avoid impacting such materials, and immediately notify the Authorized Officer.

*William H. Hedman* 12/19/12

William H. Hedman, Archeologist  
BLM-FDO CYFO

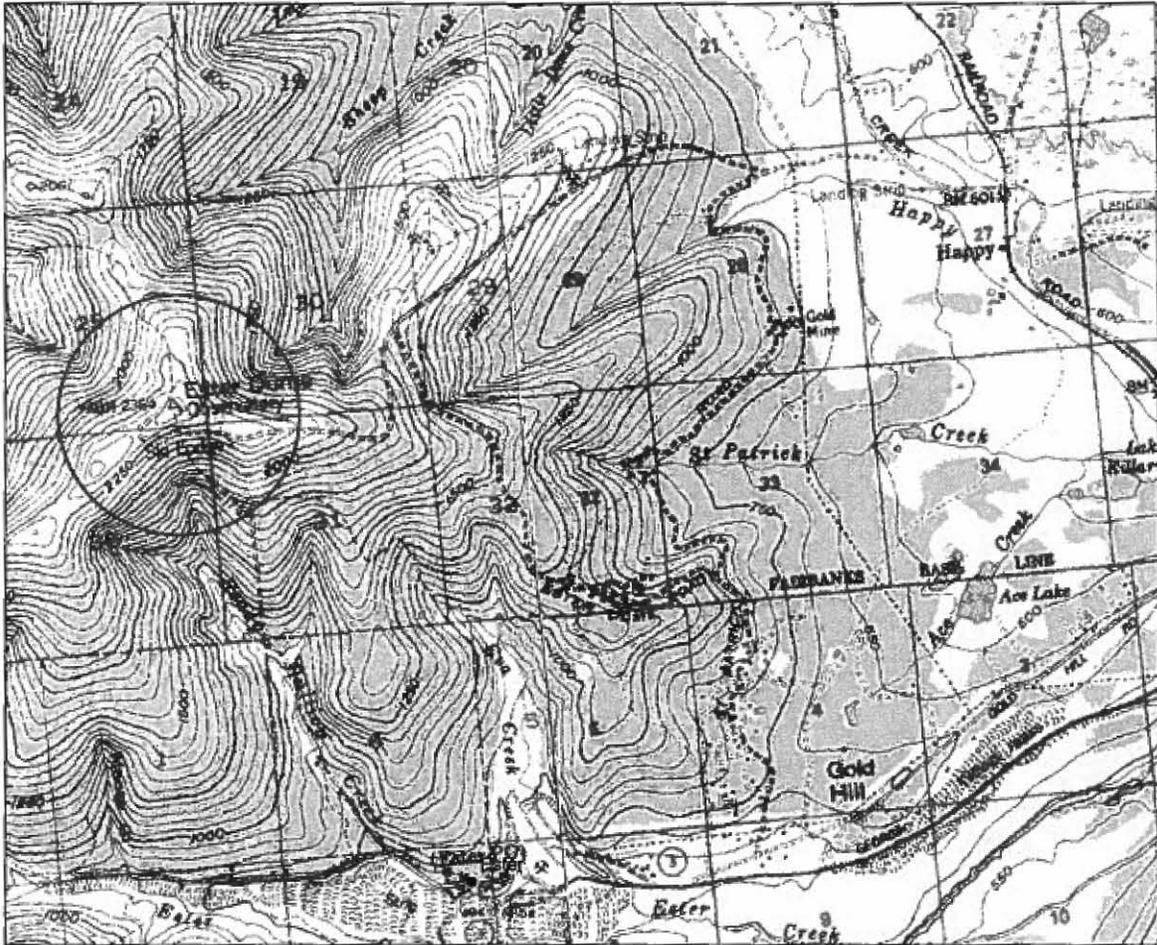


Figure 1. Location of the Ester Dome communication site.



Executive Order 11988 (Floodplains)  
and 11990 (Wetlands) Conformance

Applicant: Carmel Communications LLC; P.O. Box 81473; Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Serial No.: F-087248 (286001)

EA No.: DOI-BLM-AK-03000-2011-055-EA

Permit: Communication Site Right of Way Renewal

Location: The location of the proposed activity is on Bureau of Land Management lands located on the summit of Ester Dome within Lot 1 of U.S. Survey 4012, Sec. 25, T.1 N., R. 3 W, Fairbanks Meridian.

Proposed Action: The purpose of this action is to allow Carmel Communications LLC to renew a FLPMA right of way authorization for an existing communication site (FF-087248) on the summit of Ester Dome, for an additional 20 years. Carmel Communications LLC's current 20 year right of way expired October 23, 2011.

The existing facility consists of an 80' guyed tower and a frame structure approximately 16' x 29' in size. The building and tower are within a fenced area which also contains a smaller 10' x 12' structure and a 30' tower belonging to NOAA under separate agreement FF-087834.

Date Prepared: 12 December 2011

Evaluation by: Carl Kretsinger

**Guidelines for Implementing Executive Orders 11988 and 11990**

Procedures to be followed in applying EO 11988 and 11990 are set forth in Part II (p. 17) of the Water Resources Council Guidelines (43 FR 6030, Feb 10, 1978) as adopted in DM 520, sections 1.5 C. and 1.8.

**Step 1: Is the proposed action is in the base (100-year) floodplain/wetland? No.**

- a. **Is the action anticipated to cause adverse impacts within the floodplain? No.**
- b. **Does the action indirectly support floodplain development? No.**

**\*\* If the answer to 1a and 1b are both no then no further evaluation is required.**

**Step 2: Was the public provided notice of the intent to locate the proposed action within a floodplain/wetland?**

- a. Did the public notice proceed major site identification and analysis?
- b. Method of Notice:
- c. Date of Notice:

**Step 3: List the alternatives to be evaluated which would avoid locating the proposed action in the floodplain/wetland.**

- a. No action.
- b. Other alternative to be developed:

**Step 4: Identify impacts of the proposed action:**

- a. Positive and negative impacts:
- b. Concentrated impacts
- c. Short and long term impacts:

**Step 5: If the proposed action will result in harm to or within the floodplain/wetland,**

a. How does the agency propose to reduce harm to the smallest possible degree?  
*(Minimize as defined in the WRC Guidelines)*

b. How does the agency propose to reestablish an environment in which the natural and beneficial floodplain/wetland values can again operate? *(Restore as defined in the WRC Guidelines).*

c. How does the agency propose to design or modify the proposed action to assure that it will be carried out in a manner which preserves as much of the natural and beneficial floodplain/wetland values as is possible? *(Preserve as defined in the WRC Guidelines)*

**Step 6: Reevaluation of alternatives – having identified the impacts the proposed action would have on the floodplain/wetland (step 4), methods to minimize, and opportunities to restore and preserve floodplain/wetland values (step 5), determine if the proposed action is feasible at this site. This determination requires that the importance of locating the proposed action within the floodplain/wetland clearly outweigh the requirements of the order to: 1) *avoid direct and indirect support of floodplain/wetland development wherever there is a practicable alternative; 2) reduce the risk of flood loss; 3) minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health and welfare; and 4) restore and preserve the natural and beneficial floodplain/wetland values.***

**a. Does the proposed action meet the requirements of the EO if located in the floodplain/wetland?**

**b. If the proposed action cannot meet the requirements of the EO then list modifications to the proposed action which would make non-floodplain/wetland sites practicable.**

**c. If the action cannot satisfy the four requirements listed above, list the modifications to the proposed action considered that would lower the threshold of what constitutes a practicable alternative.**

**d. If implementation of steps a - c above does not avoid harm to or within the floodplain/wetland, explain how locating the proposed action in the floodplain/wetland clearly outweigh the four requirements of the EO listed above.**

**e. If locating the proposed action within the floodplain/wetland does not clearly outweigh the requirements of the EO, was the no action alternative selected?**

**Step 7: If the reevaluation of the proposed action resulted in a determination that there was no practicable alternative to locating in or impacting the floodplain/wetland, a statement of findings and public explanation must be provided for the proposed action. List the statement that was attached to the FONSI for the proposed action. \*(see p. 38 WRC Guidelines for elements to be included in the statement of findings and public explanation)**

**Step 8: List procedures to be implemented to insure compliance with the EO.**