



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Glennallen Field Office
P.O. Box 147
Glennallen, Alaska 99588
<http://www.blm.gov/ak>

NPS Maintenance Yard Herbicide Treatment Categorical Exclusion, **DOI-BLM-AK-A020-2012-0029-CX**

DECISION RECORD

Decision

It is my decision to implement the proposed action, herbicide spot-treatment of invasive species, at the co-managed NPS/BLM Glennallen maintenance yard as described in the attached Categorical Exclusion documentation, DOI-BLM-AK-A020-2012-0029-CX.

The proposed action has been reviewed by Glennallen Field Office staff and appropriate stipulations and mitigation measures, as specified, will be incorporated during project implementation. Based on the attached Categorical Exclusion review, I have determined that the proposed action involves no significant impact to the human environment and no further analysis is required.

Appeal Opportunities

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR § 4. To appeal you must file a notice of appeal at the BLM Glennallen Field Office, P.O. Box 147, Milepost 186.5 Glenn Highway, Glennallen, Alaska 99588, within 30 days from receipt of this decision. The appeal must be in writing and delivered in person, via the United States Postal Service mail system, or other common carrier, to the Anchorage Field Office as noted above. *The BLM does not accept appeals by facsimile or email.* The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed from is in error.

If you wish to file a petition pursuant to regulation 43 CFR § 4.21 (58 FR 4939, January 19, 1993) for a stay of the effectiveness of this decision during the time that your appeal is being reviewed by the Board, the petition for a stay must accompany your notice of appeal. Except as otherwise provided by law or other pertinent regulation, a petition for a stay of decision pending appeal shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards: (a) The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied, (b) The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits, (c) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and (d) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.



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CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

A. BACKGROUND

Project Name: NPS Maintenance Yard Herbicide Treatment

NEPA Register Number: DOI-BLM-AK-A020-2012-0029-CX

Case File Number: n/a

Location / Legal Description: Sec. 23, T. 4 N., R. 2 W., Copper River Meridian

Applicant: National Park Service (NPS) – Wrangell-St. Elias

Description of Proposed Action:

Wrangell St. Elias National Park and Preserve (WRST) proposes to remove common tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*), a non-native invasive plant from their maintenance yard in Glennallen by means of spot herbicide applications. The Glennallen maintenance yard is co-owned by the BLM and NPS and this infestation has the potential to be spread onto the surrounding Glennallen Field Office Administration site.

Where: The treatment area is 0.39 acres in size. The location is around the Glennallen maintenance yard. Treatment areas should be avoided until the spray is dry. There is no public access to the treatment area.

Why: These treatment sites have been hand-pulled for the past three years without significant reduction in the populations and the populations continue to spread.

When: The treatment will occur between August 27-29, 2012, weather permitting.

How: Less than four ounces of the active ingredient will be applied by State of Alaska trained and certified personnel using a calibrated backpack sprayer to spot-spray individual plants.

Mitigation measures include:

- The project manager must provide BLM Invasive Weed Specialist, Ben Seifert with a spill prevention plan and Material Safety Data Sheets for the herbicide before any spraying begins.

- The Project manager must coordinate spraying activities with BLM Invasive Weed Specialist, for notification purposes and to minimize impacts to GFO staff.

B. LAND USE PLAN CONFORMANCE

Applicable Land Use Plan: East Alaska Approved Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision, July 2007

The proposed action is in conformance with plan because it is specifically provided for in the following planning decisions:

K. Noxious Weeds, Invasive and Non-Native Species

K-3 Management Actions

4. Control noxious and invasive species by various methods that include chemical, cultural, physical, mechanical, and biological treatments. Chemical and biological treatments will only be conducted after site-specific analysis in a Glennallen Field Office or State-wide programmatic EA.

C. CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

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 the Interior Manual, Part 516, Chapter 11, which provides for:

J. 11: Actions where the BLM has concurrence or co-approval with another DOI agency and the action is categorically excluded for that DOI agency.

D. EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES

The proposed action must be screened against the Extraordinary Circumstances found in 43 CFR § 46.215 (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. Have significant adverse impacts on public health or safety. | No |
| 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. | No |
| 3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)]. | No |
| 4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks. | No |

| EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES | YES/NO |
|---|---------------|
| 5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. | No |
| 6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. | No |
| 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. | No |
| 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. | No |
| 9. Violate Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. | No |
| 10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898). | No |
| 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). | No |
| 12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or 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 |

E. SIGNATURE

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable land use plan and is an action that can be categorically excluded. The Proposed Action does not trigger any of the Extraordinary Circumstances found in 516 FM Chapter 2, Appendix 2. I recommend that the Proposed Action be allowed and that no further environmental analysis is required.

/s/ Beth Maclean 8/8/2012
 Beth Maclean Date
 Glennallen Field Manager

Attachments

NPS – WRST Categorical Exclusion Record for the Proposed Action

Assessment of Undertakings Not Subject to Further Section 106 Review Glennallen Field Office

GDO Document No. GFO-12-27

BLM Serial No.

Environmental Assessment No. DOI-BLM-AK-A020-2012-029-CX

Class of Inventory: No Further Review

Dates of Inspection: 07/24/2012

Inspector: John Jangala

Maps: Gulkana (A-4)

Applicant: National Park Service (NPS)

Location: The project will occur next to the BLM's Glennallen Field Office in the town of Glennallen. More specifically, the project will take place at the NPS maintenance yard at Mile 186.5 Glenn Highway, in Sec. 23, T.4N., R.2W., CRM.

Project Description: The Bureau of Land Management proposes to permit the NPS personnel to conduct limited herbicide spraying to control noxious or invasive weeds on BLM lands that are utilized by the NPS. Spraying will be conducted by hand and no disturbance is anticipated as part of this undertaking.

Acreage: 0.39 acres

Recommendations: According to the Protocol for Managing Cultural Resources on Lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management in Alaska, between the Bureau of Land Management and the State Historic Preservation Officer, signed April 17, 1998, this undertaking is not subject to further Section 106 review (Appendix 2: Category One). The project will involve less than one square meter of ground disturbance. As long as the applicant adheres to the attached stipulations, the applicant may proceed as proposed in the application. However, if heritage or paleontological resources are encountered during implementation of the project, the project will cease and the Glennallen Field Office, cultural resource staff, shall be notified.

The following stipulation should be attached to the permit: "There shall be no disturbance of any archaeological or historical sites, including graves and remains of cabins, and no collection of any artifacts whatsoever. Also, collection of vertebrate fossils, including mammoths and mastodon bones, tusks etc., is strictly prohibited. If historic resources are encountered then all artifacts will be respectfully left in place and the Glennallen Field Office's cultural resources staff will be notified immediately."

Signed:

John W. Jangala
Glennallen Field Office Archaeologist (AKA-020)