

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND DECISION RECORD
for
Gilbert Hjellen, Susan Brown, Peter Hjellen, and Ida McMahon

I. Decision:

It is my decision to authorize the proposed mining claim occupancy for Gilbert Hjellen, Susan Brown, Peter Hjellen, and Ida McMahon. The occupancy is associated with the High Grade Mine, Section 28, T. 20 N., R. 1 E., Seward Meridian. This decision incorporates, by reference, the attached stipulations.

II. Rationale:

The Proposed Action will not result in any undue or unnecessary environmental degradation. The Proposed Action would authorize the applicants to continue the mining claim use and occupancy of existing structures in order for them to conduct lode exploration activities on their Federal mining claims. The lands are within the boundary of the Alaska Southcentral Planning Area Management Framework Plan (MFP), dated March 1980.

III. FONSI:

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the attached environmental assessment, I have determined that impacts are not expected to be significant and an environmental impact statement is not required.

IV. Compliance and Monitoring Plan:

Annual site visits will be accomplished to assure compliance.

/s/ Nick Douglas
Anchorage Field Manager

September 28, 2000
Date

Attachments

Environmental Assessment No. AK-040-EA00-021
Stipulations

STIPULATIONS FOR MINING CLAIM OCCUPANCY

1. The proposed occupancy will be subject to BLM inspections without prior notice to assure compliance with Federal laws and regulations.
2. The Federal government will not be held responsible for protection of the applicants' structures or personal property from wild-land fires. Fire protection for the area will be consistent with the approved fire management plan.
3. The cabins and surrounding area will be kept reasonably clean and litter free. All garbage or solid waste will be removed from the site on a regular basis and properly disposed of at an appropriate facility. Hazardous waste, fuels, and lubricants will be disposed of according to State laws and regulations at an approved disposal facility.
4. Pit privies will be located a minimum of 100 feet from water bodies and shall not be constructed within areas subject to flooding.
5. To avoid kitchen waste becoming an attractant to bears, such waste shall either be stored in a bear-proof container, or burned on a daily basis.
6. There will be no interference with public use of the State managed Hatcher Pass Recreation Area. The mining operator is allowed to restrict public access from active mine areas as to prevent interference with his mining operations and prevent public contact with potential safety hazards.