



## Categorical Exclusion Form

**Project:** Mitigate Rockfall Hazards at Toklat Bluffs, MP 52.88-52.95 of the Denali Park Road

**PEPC Project Number:** 82279

**Description of Action (Project Description):**

This project will mitigate the rockfall hazard along 0.7 miles of the park road located from mile 52.88 to mile 52.95. In order to reduce the risk of the rockfall hazard along this portion of the Toklat Bluffs, rock slope scaling, reinforcement of the large structural wedges with rock bolts and dowels with new weathering treatments to blend into the natural environment, and possibly utilizing wire mesh slope protection with a similar steel weathering treatment could be used to address the predominantly smaller rockfall hazard by containing the rockfall to the limited ditch section upon the curve in the roadway. A ground-based LiDAR survey and geotechnical site assessment would be required as part of the rock slope analysis and design work to assist in the preparation of this contract. This project will be designed and managed by Federal Highways using a contractor.

**Project Locations:**

**Location**

**County:** Denali Borough **State:** AK

**Mitigation(s):**

- Work to begin after lambing season, approximately July 10. Additional mitigation measures may be identified as project is defined in more detail (e.g. project boundaries with respect to wilderness, volume of rock removed and the proper siting of that excess material (so as not to impact Toklat River), and impacts to habitat.)

**CE Citation:** B.1 Changes or amendments to an approved plan, when such changes would cause no or only minimal environmental impact.

**CE Justification:**

This project is a trial approach to mitigating the area identified by the USMP as having the highest risk to human life and safety. This precautionary safety measure is a specific project permitted via broad language in Appendix C of the 1997 DCP-EIS "Road Management" as well as the Park Road Plan.

**Decision:** I find that the action fits within the categorical exclusion above. Therefore, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No extraordinary circumstances apply.

**Signature**

**Superintendent:** Denise Swante **Date:** 28 Aug 2018  
for Don Striker

**Extraordinary Circumstances:**

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Notes
<b>A.</b> Have significant impacts on public health or safety?	No	
<b>B.</b> 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	
<b>C.</b> Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?	No	
<b>D.</b> Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	No	
<b>E.</b> Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	No	
<b>F.</b> Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	No	
<b>G.</b> 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	
<b>H.</b> 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	
<b>I.</b> Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No	
<b>J.</b> Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	No	
<b>K.</b> Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007)?	No	
<b>L.</b> Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious 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)?	No	