



Categorical Exclusion Form

Project: Fuels Reduction Treatments, 5 Year Programmatic CE (2017-2021)

PEPC Project Number: 70130

Description of Action (Project Description):

5 year programmatic approval, 2017-2021

This projects permits annual planned fuels reduction to be carried out per the the Hazards Fuels EA approved activities. Fuels reduction is done at Denali National Park to provide for firefighter/ public safety, by reducing flammable fuel loading around park infrastructure.

Any changes to the process or geographic scope that exceeds the parameters of the EA are to be brought for separate consideration by park management.

A defensible space will be created and maintained around these structures by implementing fuels treatment prescriptions to reduce or remove vegetation. This space allows radiant heat from a wildfire to dissipate, and reduces crown fire potential, thus reducing the potential of infrastructure ignition. It also provides a safer area for suppression crews to work, by making the sites more defensible and limiting the amount of time crews are exposed.

Please see 63531 for the following attachments.

Hazard Fuels EA

The Fuels Management Plan for Denali National Park and Preserve (Appendix F, Denali Fire Management Plan) describes the on-site evaluation, implementation and maintenance schedules for structures within Denali National Park boundaries.

The 2005 NPS Structure Protection Procedures for the Alaska Region provide additional guidance.

Map Packet, tentative work sites, park may change priorities based on funding and other considerations (see PEPC 63531 for attachments).

Project Locations:

Location	
County:	Denali Borough
State:	AK

Categorical Exclusion Form - Fuels Reduction Treatments, 5 Year Programmatic CE (2017-2021) - PEPC ID: 70130

Mitigation(s):

- Complete MRA for any work in Wilderness.
- Fire Crew staff to update PEPC entry annually with maps and geographic descriptions of work planned for the current year.

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

CE Justification:

Ongoing work pursuant to Hazard Fuels EA; annual implementation covered by this CE 2017-2021.

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 Swank **Date:** 27 Feb 2017
Don Striker

Extraordinary Circumstances:

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Notes
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?	No	
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	
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?	No	
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	No	
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	No	
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	No	
G. 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	
H. 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	
I. Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No	
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	No	
K. 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 130007)?	No	
L. 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	

