

exchange, the Aleutians East Borough “will develop an alternative transportation link between King Cove and Cold Bay. Any alternative we develop will include the utilization of the road to Northeast Corner and associated facilities, now being constructed under the King Cove Health and Safety Act . . . A transportation link the Borough is exploring (and we believe holds promise) is an aluminum landing craft/passenger ferry.” The Borough hopes that this type of a transportation link could be more technically and financially viable than a hovercraft.

Thus a landing craft or other ferry or the hovercraft is a potential means of providing emergency access; the economic choices relative to use of these vessels for providing access are the purview of the Aleutians East Borough.

#### Public Involvement

We are releasing the final EIS for a 30-day public review period. We are not soliciting public comments at this time. The Service has afforded government agencies, tribes, and the public extensive opportunity to participate in the preparation of this EIS.

We started the EIS for the Izembek Refuge land exchange/road corridor in August 2009. At that time and throughout the planning process, we requested public comments and considered and incorporated them in numerous ways.

To gather additional input from the public, we held seven public open house meetings—five in communities adjacent to or within the boundaries of the Izembek Refuge; one in Washington, DC; and one in Anchorage, Alaska.

We considered and evaluated these issues and public concerns, and used them to develop various aspects of the draft EIS. We published the draft EIS on March 19, 2012, for public review. The comment period closed on May 18, 2012. During that time, we held four face-to-face public meetings in Anchorage, Sand Point, Cold Bay, and King Cove, Alaska and via a conference call with the communities of False Pass and Nelson Lagoon, Alaska. All meetings were recorded and transcripts are available on the Izembek Web site and in the final EIS.

Individuals and organizations provided a total of 71,960 comments during the public comment period. The responses came in the form of emails, faxes, letters, and public hearing transcripts. Approximately 76 people spoke at the six public meetings. The comments were reviewed, coded, analyzed, and developed into

statements of concern. Comments were sorted into broad issue groups, including:

1. Regulatory compliance;
2. Purpose and need;
3. Proposed action, alternatives, and mitigation measures;
4. Affected environment and environmental consequences; and
5. General.

We considered and evaluated these issues and public concerns, and used them to develop various aspects of the final EIS.

#### Changes to the Final EIS

We made the following changes in the final EIS from the draft EIS:

*No action:* As indicated in the draft EIS, we have revised the no action alternative in the final EIS. The Aleutians East Borough ceased to operate the hovercraft and has indicated that if the Secretary does not approve the proposed road, they will pursue a landing craft as a marine link between the Northeast corner to Cold Bay. Therefore, we updated the no action to reflect the latest information provided by the Aleutians East Borough.

*Impact summaries:* Some impacts were re-classified and are reflected in the final EIS.

*Socioeconomic data:* The final EIS reflects the re-analysis of the socioeconomic data with the 2010 census data. However, this re-analysis did not yield any changes in the impact analysis.

#### Comments

We are not soliciting comments at this time. This release is intended to allow the public a period of review. Appendix C of the final EIS includes a summary report of public comments received during the scoping period. Appendix G of the final EIS contains a summary of public comments received on the draft EIS and the Service’s responses to substantive comments, and includes samples of public comments received on the draft EIS.

#### Next Steps

Following conclusion of the 30-day public review period, a Record of Decision (ROD) will be signed, in which we disclose the Service’s final decision and any conditions of approval. Availability of the ROD will be announced through the **Federal Register**, a press release, the refuge’s web site, and communications with those on the EIS mailing list.

Dated: January 25, 2013.

**Geoffrey L. Haskett,**

*Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Anchorage, Alaska.*

[FR Doc. 2013-02618 Filed 2-5-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[F-14936-A; LLAk944000-L14100000-HY0000-P]

#### Alaska Native Claims Selection

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of decision approving lands for conveyance.

**SUMMARY:** As required by 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that an appealable decision will be issued by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to The Kuskokwim Corporation. The decision approves the surface estate in the lands described below for conveyance pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601, *et seq.*). The subsurface estate in these lands will be conveyed to Calista Corporation when the surface estate is conveyed to The Kuskokwim Corporation. The lands are in the vicinity of Sleetmute, Alaska, and are located in:

#### Seward Meridian, Alaska

T. 19 N., R. 44 W.,  
Sec. 5, lots 3 and 5;  
Sec. 6, lot 1;  
Sec. 8, lots 2 and 4.

Containing 466.02 acres.

Notice of the decision will also be published once a week for four consecutive weeks in the *Delta Discovery*.

**DATES:** Any party claiming a property interest in the lands affected by the decision may appeal the decision in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR part 4 within the following time limits:

1. Unknown parties, parties unable to be located after reasonable efforts have been expended to locate, parties who fail or refuse to sign their return receipt, and parties who receive a copy of the decision by regular mail which is not certified, return receipt requested, shall have until March 8, 2013 to file an appeal.

2. Parties receiving service of the decision by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal.

Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43

CFR part 4, subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights. Notices of appeal transmitted by electronic means, such as facsimile or email, will not be accepted as timely filed.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of the decision may be obtained from: Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7504.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The BLM by phone at 907-271-5960 or by email at [ak.blm.conveyance@blm.gov](mailto:ak.blm.conveyance@blm.gov). Persons who use a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the BLM during normal business hours. In addition, the FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the BLM. The BLM will reply during normal business hours.

**Ralph L. Eluska, Sr.,**

*Land Transfer Resolution Specialist, Branch of Alaska Land Transfer.*

[FR Doc. 2013-02671 Filed 2-5-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-JA-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[AA-10978; LLAk-944000-L14100000-HY0000-P]

#### Alaska Native Claims Selection

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of decision approving lands for conveyance.

**SUMMARY:** As required by 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will issue an appealable decision to Bristol Bay Native Corporation. The decision will approve conveyance of the surface and subsurface estates in certain lands pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601, *et seq.*). The lands are located northeast of New Stuyahok, Alaska, and contain 3.43 acres. Notice of the decision will also be published once a week for four consecutive weeks in the *Anchorage Daily News*.

**DATES:** Any party claiming a property interest in the lands affected by the decision may appeal the decision within the following time limits:

1. Unknown parties, parties unable to be located after reasonable efforts have been expended to locate, parties who fail or refuse to sign their return receipt, and parties who receive a copy of the decision by regular mail which is not

certified, return receipt requested, shall have until March 8, 2013 to file an appeal.

2. Parties receiving service of the decision by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal.

Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR part 4, subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights. Notices of appeal transmitted by electronic means, such as facsimile or email, will not be accepted as timely filed.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of the decision may be obtained from: Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7504.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The BLM by phone at 907-271-5960 or by email at [ak.blm.conveyance@blm.gov](mailto:ak.blm.conveyance@blm.gov). Persons who use a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the BLM during normal business hours. In addition, the FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the BLM. The BLM will reply during normal business hours.

**Dina L. Torres,**

*Land Transfer Resolution Specialist, Branch of Alaska Land Transfer.*

[FR Doc. 2013-02684 Filed 2-5-13; 8:45 a.m.]

**BILLING CODE 4310-JA-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

[NPS-AKR-KATM-11807; PX.XAKAKRO303.00.1]

#### Final Environmental Impact Statement for Brooks River Visitor Access for Katmai National Park and Preserve

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Brooks River Visitor Access for Katmai National Park and Preserve.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C), the National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for Brooks River Visitor Access (Plan/FEIS), for Katmai National Park and Preserve, Alaska. The Plan/FEIS evaluates the environmental impacts of four action alternatives that include bridge and boardwalk systems to replace the existing Brooks River floating bridge and sites to relocate the

existing Naknek Lake barge landing area at the mouth of the Brooks River. A no-action alternative is also evaluated. If implemented this EIS would amend the access provisions of the 1996 Brooks River Area Final Development Concept Plan and Environmental Impact Statement.

**ADDRESSES:** The Plan/FEIS is available in electronic format online at the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) Web site [<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/BrooksVisitorAccess>]. Hard copies and compact discs of the Plan/FEIS are available on request by contacting: Brooke Merrell, National Park Service, 240 West 5th Avenue Anchorage, AK 99501. Telephone: 907-644-3397. Email: [brooke\\_merrell@nps.gov](mailto:brooke_merrell@nps.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Brooke Merrell, National Park Service, 240 West 5th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. Telephone: 907-644-3397. Email: [brooke\\_merrell@nps.gov](mailto:brooke_merrell@nps.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Brooks River Visitor Access Draft Environmental Impact Statement was released to the public on June 22, 2012. The Notice of Availability for the draft environmental impact statement was published in the **Federal Register** on that date (77 FR 37707). The public comment period ran from June 22 through August 20, 2012. Three public meetings were held in Homer, Anchorage, and King Salmon, Alaska. Sixteen individuals attended the public meetings.

During the 60-day comment period, comments were received via hard copy mail, email, and through the NPS PEPC site. In total, 22 comment letters were received via these means. The 22 comment letters included two environmental organizations (National Parks Conservation Association and Sierra Club), state and Federal Agencies (State of Alaska, Environmental Protection Agency, and National Marine Fisheries Service), the Bristol Bay Native Corporation, Katmailand Inc., and 14 individuals. The FEIS presents responses to substantive comments in Chapter 5.

Five alternatives for access at the Brooks River area of Katmai National Park are presented in the EIS. Alternative 1 (the no-action alternative) presents a continuation of current management direction and is included as a baseline for comparing the consequences of implementing each alternative. Alternatives 2-5 present different ways of providing access to and within the Brooks River area.

*Alternative 1 (No Action):* This alternative represents a continuation of