

BLM Announces Final Corridor Classification

Burton W. Silcock, Alaska State Director for the Bureau of Land Management, today announced the final classification of 2,436,000 acres of land in a corridor leading from Livengood, north of Fairbanks through Anaktuvuk Pass to the vicinity of Umiat on the Colville River and the Sagwon Airfield on the Sagavanirktok River on the North Slope.

The classification has been made under the Classification and Multiple Use Act of 1964 to protect public values in the land which might otherwise be lost. The classified corridor is considered the most likely route for surface transportation to the North Slope.

The State Department of Highways now maintains a winter haul road from Livengood to Sagwon which is located for the

most part within the corridor.

The classification segregates the land from all forms of settlement or location under existing land and mineral laws which could lead to title transfer. Any valid claims of record will not be affected by this classification.

The lands are subject to the provisions of the land freeze to preserve the status quo pending settlement of Alaska Native claims.

The classification was proposed in 1967 and public meetings, including a formal hearing have been held. This final action is consistent with comments and testimony received.

Public Law 88-607, the Classification and Multiple Use Act, under which the land was classified provides for classification and multiple use management of lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.