



**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban  
Development**  
451 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20410  
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**Tiered Environment Review  
for Activity/Project that is  
Categorically Excluded Subject to Section 58.5  
Pursuant to 24 CFR 58.35(a)**

**Project Information**

**Project Name:** Buckland-Healthy-Homes-Project

**HEROS Number:** 900000010123950

**Responsible Entity (RE):** Native Village of Buckland, PO Box 67 Buckland AK, 99727

**State / Local Identifier:**

**RE Preparer:** Vanessa Stevens

**Certifying Officer:** Percy Ballot

**Grant Recipient (if different than Responsible Entity):**

**Point of Contact:**

**Consultant (if applicable):**

**Point of Contact:**

**Project Location:** Buckland, AK 99727

**Additional Location Information:**

The Native Village of Buckland is located 20 miles from the Chukchi Sea. There are no roads that connect Buckland to the rest of Alaska so transportation in and out of the community is by boat or airplane. There are trails that connect Buckland to neighboring communities that are traveled by snow machine in winter or all-terrain vehicle in summer. Residents of Buckland live a subsistence lifestyle and depending on caribou, beluga whale, and seal for survival.

**Direct Comments to:**

**Description of the Proposed Project [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]:**

The Native Village of Buckland with partner Cold Climate Housing Research Center proposed to implement this Healthy Homes Production Grant to identify health hazards and remediate up to 40 homes in Buckland,

Alaska. Other objectives include to train two community members in home health remediation activities, educate the occupants of homes receiving remediation activities on healthy homes practices and any O&M requirements of retrofit, and to perform community outreach on healthy homes topics. The project will occur in Buckland, Alaska. Buckland is in the Northwest Arctic Borough, located 20 miles from the Chuckchi Sea. The size of the buildings in the project will be residential buildings, mainly single family homes. The project sites will not require acquisition. During the project, the following activities will occur: healthy homes outreach and education; a pre-survey of eligible homes to identify unsafe features; training of local community members in survey techniques and remediation; remediation of up to 40 homes in the community; and a post-survey of remediated homes. If fewer than 40 homes apply to be in the program during the application period in the first year, and if there is sufficient budget remaining, a second application period will be opened in the second year. Remediation activities will occur in the second and, if necessary, third summers of the project. Outreach and education activities will occur throughout the project. There will not likely be any ground disturbance needed for repairs of homes. While the pre-surveys will determine the exact repairs, the Tribal Council estimates that most repairs will address the need for ventilation in homes to improve indoor air quality. The funding will consist of \$625,000 from the HUD Healthy Homes Production for Tribal Housing along with \$69,346 in matching funds from the recipient, Cold Climate Housing Research Center, and homeowner volunteer labor.

**Maps, photographs, and other documentation of project location and description:**

[BucklandMap4.png](#)

[BucklandMap3.png](#)

[BucklandMap2.png](#)

[BucklandMap1.png](#)

**Approximate size of the project area:** 1 square mile

**Length of time covered by this review:** 3 Years

**Maximum number of dwelling units or lots addressed by this tiered review:**

40

**Level of Environmental Review Determination:**

Categorically Excluded per 24 CFR 58.35(a), and subject to laws and authorities at §58.5: 58.35(a)(4)

**Determination:**

	Extraordinary circumstances exist and this project may result in significant environmental impact. This project requires preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA); OR
✓	There are no extraordinary circumstances which would require completion of an EA, and this project may remain CEST.

**Approval Documents:**

**7015.15 certified by Certifying Officer on:**

**7015.16 certified by Authorizing Officer on:**

**Funding Information**

Grant Number	HUD Program	Program Name
AKHHP0023-19	Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control	

**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:** \$625,000.00

**Estimated Total Project Cost [24 CFR 58.2 (a) (5)]:** \$694,346.00

**Compliance with 24 CFR §50.4, §58.5 and §58.6 Laws and Authorities**

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §50.4, §58.5, and §58.6	Was compliance achieved at the broad level of review?	Describe here compliance determinations made at the broad level and source documentation.
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 &amp; § 58.6</b>		
Airport Hazards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	There are houses in Buckland that are within 2,500 feet of the airport: The Buckland Airport runway is located approximately 900 feet west of the nearest home in the community. However, none of the homes in the community are located in the within the runway protection zone. Also, the rule is not applicable to the proposed project because the proposed project does not involve new construction, substantial rehabilitation (as defined as rehabilitating a building to increase the density beyond 4 units, will not change land use from residential to non-residential, and does not exceed 75 percent of the total estimated cost of replacement after rehabilitation), acquisition of undeveloped land, activities that would significantly prolong the physical or economic life of existing facilities or change the use of a facility, activities that would significantly increase the density of number of

		<p>people at the site, or activities that would introduce explosive flammable or toxic materials into the area. The Buckland Healthy Homes Project Policies and Workplan are attached. Examples of potential minor remediation activities are given on page 11, under number 15. Remediation activities will likely include interior black mold remediation, ventilation improvements, foundation adjustments, installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, and electrical system repairs. This project does not involve HUD assistance, subsidy, or insurance for the purchase or sale of an existing property.</p>
<p>Coastal Barrier Resources Act</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>There are no coastal barrier resources in Alaska. Therefore, the act does not apply as the project is located in Alaska. Please see the attached map created using the Fish and Wildlife Service CBRA Mapper.</p>
<p>Flood Insurance</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>FEMA has not mapped floodplains in Buckland. Buckland is not located in a Special Flood Hazard Area and does not participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. The FEMA Flood Map Service Center has a map for Buckland, Alaska which shows that FEMA has not yet mapped the area. The map is available at: <a href="https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search?AddressQuery=buckland%2C%20ak#searchresultsanchor">https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search?AddressQuery=buckland%2C%20ak#searchresultsanchor</a> and was accessed on April 21, 2020.</p>
<p><b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 &amp; § 58.5</b></p>		
<p>Air Quality</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>This project will improve existing homes in Buckland, Alaska. Buckland is in compliance with the Clean Air Act. The ADEC website referenced below does not list Buckland as a community with air pollution concerns - ADEC 2020a. Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) . Air Pollution in Alaska Communities. Available at: <a href="https://dec.alaska.gov/air/anpms/com">https://dec.alaska.gov/air/anpms/com</a></p>

		<p>munities/. Accessed: April 23, 2020. Also, please see the attached spreadsheet from the EPA Green Book (available here: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/green-book/green-book-data-download">https://www.epa.gov/green-book/green-book-data-download</a>) that lists all the nonattainment areas. Buckland is not listed.</p>
Coastal Zone Management Act	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>According to the NOAA Office for Coastal Management website detailing information by state (<a href="https://coast.noaa.gov/czm/landconservation/state/">https://coast.noaa.gov/czm/landconservation/state/</a>), Alaska does not have a statewide coastal management plan or zones. There is an exception for the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, but this is not located near the project location in Buckland, Alaska. ACMP 2011. Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP) 76 Federal Register 39857. Document No. 2011-16987</p>
Contamination and Toxic Substances	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Endangered Species Act	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>This project will have no effect on endangered species because the project does not involve any activities that have the potential to affect species or habitats. The Buckland Healthy Homes Project Policies and Workplan are attached and give the scope of the project, which is healthy homes rehabilitation of up to 40 houses in Buckland, Alaska. While the exact rehabilitation activities will be determined after initial house surveys, the workplan gives examples of potential remediation activities on page 11, under number 15. Potential remediation activities include interior black mold remediation, ventilation improvements, foundation adjustments, installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, and electrical system repairs. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the polar bear, listed as threatened under</p>

		<p>the Endangered Species Act (ESA), may occur in Buckland. There is no designated critical habitat in Buckland. The project occurs on the interior of existing homes within the footprint of the village. Therefore, the project will have No Effect on ESA-listed species or designated critical habitat (USFWS 2018, USFWS 2020). USFWS 2018. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) ESA Section 7 Consultation for Native Alaska Village Upgrades (Programmatic). Consultation 07CAAN00-2018-I-0145. August 7, 2018. (attached) USFWS 2020. USFWS. Information for Planning and Consultation. Buckland. Consultation Code: 07CAFB00-2020-SLI-0099; Event Code: 07CABF00-2020-E-00289. Available at: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/">https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/</a>. Accessed: April 23, 2020. (attached)</p>
<p>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>This project does not include any of the following activities: development, construction, rehabilitation that will increase residential densities, or conversion. While the project will involve rehabilitation of single family homes, it will be for the purpose of making the houses healthier to live in and not for the purpose of increasing residential density. Further, this project does not include any hazardous facilities. The bulk of the project work will occur at up to 40 residences, with outreach activities taking place at the community locations such as the school or tribal hall. The project does not include development, construction or rehabilitation that will increase residential densities or conversion. There are no storage containers containing liquid industrial fuels or hazardous liquids or gases within 1-mile of the project area. There are no hazardous facilities located within 1-mile of the project area (USEPA 2020). There are multiple aboveground fuel</p>

		<p>storage tanks. USEPA 2020. U.S Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Program. Buckland Zip Code 99727. Available at: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program">https://www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program</a>. Accessed: April 23, 2020.</p>
<p>Farmlands Protection</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>This project will not include any activities, including new construction, acquisition of undeveloped land, or conversion, that could potential convert one land use to another. Please see the attached Buckland Healthy Homes Project Policies and Workplan, which contains the project objective and description. The project will focus on the remediation of up to 40 existing residences in Buckland, Alaska. The project does not include acquisition of undeveloped land or conversion. The project makes improvements to the interiors of existing homes in Buckland. There are no Prime or Unique Farmlands in the State of Alaska or Farmlands of Statewide Importance. The project will not convert agricultural lands to non-agricultural uses. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Natural Resources Conservation Service. Alaska. Available at: <a href="https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/ak/soils/surveys/NRCS142P2_035988/">https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/ak/soils/surveys/NRCS142P2_035988/</a></p>
<p>Floodplain Management</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>Buckland does not have designated SFHAs and it has not been mapped in the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map System. Therefore, this project would not impact any homes in a SFHA. No new construction or substantial improvement to existing homes are proposed. No ground disturbance would occur. Site specific analysis will not be required for homes selected for improvements in Buckland. The FEMA Flood Map Service Center has a map for Buckland, Alaska which shows that</p>

		FEMA has not yet mapped the area. The map is available at: <a href="https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search?AddressQuery=buckland%2C%20ak#searchresultsanchor">https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search?AddressQuery=buckland%2C%20ak#searchresultsanchor</a> and was accessed on April 21, 2020.
Historic Preservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Noise Abatement and Control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	The project area is not within 1,000 feet of a major roadway, 3,000 feet of a railroad or 15 miles of a military airfield. The Buckland airport runway is located about 900 feet from the nearest home. The project does not include new construction or major rehabilitation, and is therefore in compliance and a site-specific noise analysis is not required.
Sole Source Aquifers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	This project will not involve activities beyond rehabilitation of existing buildings. Please see the attached Buckland Healthy Homes Policies and Workplan, which contain the project objective and description of the scope of work. The main project goal is to perform healthy homes remediation on up to 40 homes in Buckland, Alaska. Also, there are no EPA-designated sole source aquifers in Alaska ( <a href="https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ada1877155fe31356b">https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ada1877155fe31356b</a> )
Wetlands Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	This project does not include new construction, expansion of a building footprint, or ground disturbance. Please see the attached Buckland Healthy Homes Policies and Workplan, which contain the project objective and description of the scope of work. The main project goal is to perform healthy homes remediation on up to 40 homes in Buckland, Alaska. USFWS has not mapped wetlands in Buckland (USFWS 2020). A review of aerial photographs show the homes in Buckland are constructed on fill pads and are not located in wetlands. All improvements are to the interior of homes and ground



		disturbance is not proposed. The project will not impact wetlands. USFWS 2020. USFWS. National Wetlands Inventory. Surface Waters and Wetlands. Available at: <a href="https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html">https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html</a> . Accessed: April 23, 2020.
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	While Alaska does have rivers that are in the Nationwide Rivers Inventory, none are near the project location in Buckland. See the attached map from the Nationwide Rivers Inventory with a star marking approximate location of Buckland.
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</b>		
Environmental Justice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	This project does not have an adverse environmental impact. The project will benefit the health and environment of the residents and community by rehabilitating existing homes to be healthier in Buckland, Alaska where 98.5% of the population are Alaska Native (ACS, 2018). The project will be conducted by the Tribal Council and Tribal staff and is designed to improve the living conditions for the residents of Buckland. The project does not have a disproportionately high or adverse human health or environmental impact on the Tribe, low-income populations or minority populations. ACS, 2018. United States Census Bureau Search for Buckland, Alaska. Accessed on April 23, 2020. Available at: <a href="https://data.census.gov/cedsci/?q=Buckland,%20Alaska">https://data.census.gov/cedsci/?q=Buckland,%20Alaska</a>

**Supporting documentation**

[EPAGreenBookNonAttainmentAreas.xls](#)

[CBRSBuckland.png](#)

[USFWS\\_IPAC\\_20200423.pdf](#)

[ANTHC\\_2018\\_Section7Programmtic\\_Final.pdf](#)

[BucklandProjectWorkplan\\_Version1\(1\).pdf](#)

[BucklandACSdata.png](#)

[BucklandProjectWorkplan\\_Version1\(2\).pdf](#)

[FEMAfloodmapBuckland.png](#)

- [FEMA floodmap Buckland\(1\).png](#)
- [AkMapHistoricPlaces.png](#)
- [BucklandNoTHPO.png](#)
- [SHPOEmail2.pdf](#)
- [SHPOEmail1.pdf](#)
- [BucklandSoleSourceAquiferSearch.png](#)
- [BucklandProjectWorkplan\\_Version1\(3\).pdf](#)
- [BucklandNationalWetlandsMap.png](#)
- [BucklandProjectWorkplan\\_Version1\(4\).pdf](#)
- [WildandScenicRiversAK.png](#)
- [BucklandProjectWorkplan\\_Version1.pdf](#)
- [BucklandEPAToxicReleaseInventory\(1\).png](#)

**Written Strategies**

The following strategies provide the policy, standard, or process to be followed in the site-specific review for each law, authority, and factor that will require completion of a site-specific review.

<b>1</b>	<p>Contamination and Toxic Substances</p> <p>A site visit will be conducted at each subject site to document if there are visible dumps, landfills, industrial sites, or other locations containing or releasing toxic, hazardous, or radioactive materials, chemicals, or hazardous wastes nearby. On-site conditions will be documented via a written summary and photographs of the surrounding environment. The ADEC UST/LUST (<a href="https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/tanks/">https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/tanks/</a>) and EPA NEPAassist (<a href="https://www.epa.gov/nepa/nepassist">https://www.epa.gov/nepa/nepassist</a>) GIS databases will be assessed for facility records within one mile of each project parcel. For any regulated facility in the one-mile radius area currently in regulatory non-compliant status, per NEPAassist, an 'ECHO-detailing report' will be completed to determine the nature of the facility non-compliance and potential for pathways of contamination to the project parcel. If pathways of contamination exist from the non-compliant facility, the site-specific project will be denied HUD assistance. Approved site-specific projects will be approved with the condition 'Identified lead-based paint hazards, soil and/or dust indicated on the property's Lead Inspection and Risk Assessment (LIRA) Report will be mitigated through interim controls, hazard abatement, or a combination thereof and verified by a post mitigation Lead Report.'</p>
<b>2</b>	<p>Historic Preservation</p>

Buckland does not have any buildings on the National Register of Historic Places in Alaska, a list accessed on July 3, 2020 from <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/designations/nrhp.htm>. Project staff contacted the Alaska State Historic Preservation Office in May 2020 and provided specific information on the project on May 5, 2020. The Alaska SHPO found a determination of 'No Historic Properties Affected' for this project; however they did recommend that if homes older than 45 years apply to participate in the project require modifications not in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties <https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/four-treatments/treatment-rehabilitation.htm>, project staff should contact the AK SHPO. Homeowners will list the age of their house in the application to the program. In accordance with the direction provided by the SHPO detailed above, if houses that are over 45 years old are accepted into the program, project staff will contact the Alaska SHPO to let them know the homes are in the program. House surveys will reveal necessary remediation, and staff will consult with the Alaska SHPO prior to the Tier 2 Environmental Review to ensure retrofits are in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. If the house cannot be retrofit within accordance of the guidelines, the site will be denied HUD assistance. According to the Buckland Tribal Office staff in personal correspondence during April 2020, there are two homes in Buckland over this age. Should the homeowners of those homes choose to apply to the project and qualify to participate, project staff will ensure that the Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties are followed.

**Supporting documentation**

[BucklandTierIITemplate.docx](#)

[AkMapHistoricPlaces\(1\).png](#)

[SHPOEmail2\(1\).pdf](#)

[SHPOEmail1\(1\).pdf](#)

[BucklandNoTHPO\(1\).png](#)

[BucklandEPAToxicReleaseInventory\(1\).png](#)

[BucklandADECUndergroundStorageTanks.png](#)

[BucklandADECContaminatedSites.png](#)

**APPENDIX A: Site Specific Reviews**