

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

**Documentation of Categorical Exclusion
DOI-BLM-NV-L030-2011-0004-CX
January, 2011**

Yucca Chuckers 2011-2013 Competitive Motorcycle Race

Lincoln County, NV

Caliente Field Office
Caliente, Nevada
Phone: 775 726-8100
Fax: 775-726-8111



A. Background

BLM **Caliente Field Office** Lease/Serial/Case File
Office: No.: **Three Year Permit**
NV-045-11-001

Proposed Action **Yucca Chuckers 2011 Competitive Motorcycle Race**
Title/Type:
Location of Proposed Action: T 4S R62E section 30, 31
T 5S R61E section 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21,
24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 34
See map Attachment A

Proposed Action: Yucca Chuckers Motorcycle Club has applied for a Special Recreation Permit. The purpose of the action is to conduct a competitive motorcycle race on the last Saturday in March 2011-2013. The map at the end of this document shows all the proposed courses and the proposed course for March 26, 2011. The proponent would use a new course each year to give the active washes a rest.

The race would be conducted using motorcycles. The start/finish, staging, pit, and spectator viewing area would be located on public land that has been used as a pit area for similar events in the past. The course follows existing roads and trails that cross Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administrated land. The event would consist of multiple classes. The Pewee bike (50cc) racecourse is approximately one mile, the Mini bike 65-85 cc racecourse is approximately 15 miles, and the Big Bike ≥(125cc) race is approximately 28 miles.. 100 participants and 75 participants are anticipated for this event.

Checkpoints would be located along the race course to assure entrants are limited to the authorized route only, and to radio in any accidents, injuries, or disabled vehicles. Participants caught short coursing or missing checkpoints would be disqualified. A sweep of the race course would be conducted after the leader crosses the finish line to check for disabled racers. An approved emergency response team consisting of a dedicated ambulance and EMTs would be onsite to provide emergency medical services.

A BLM outdoor recreation planner would monitor for compliance of the event. The race promoter and all participants would be required to abide by BLM stipulations (SRP stipulations 1-16 and Special Stipulations for SRPs common to all Field Offices, Nevada). Post event, the permittee would be required to perform rehabilitation work on portions of the racecourse that utilize or cross major roads to pre-event conditions. All work, including the submittal of a post use report and payment of fees, must be performed within 15 days following the event. After 15 days, BLM recreation staff would conduct a post use inspection to evaluate any resource damage and to check if the rehabilitation of the roads and course clean up has been completed.

This event is located within the Ely Resource Management Plan (RMP) Alamo Motorcycle

Special Recreation Permit Area.

This event is located in the White River South Watershed, outside of tortoise habitat and is not within any ACECs or wilderness areas.

The only grazing allotment affected in the Six Mile Allotment

B. Land Use Plan (Plan) Conformance

LUP Name: **Ely Resource Management Plan** Date Approved/Amended: **August 20, 2008**

The proposed action is specifically provided for in the following management decisions: In the 2008 Ely RMP under Recreation “REC-11-12 (p81)” REC-11: “Manage four special recreation permit areas totaling approximately 1.3 million acres to provide opportunities for competitive motorcycle special recreation permit events.” REC-12: “Manage competitive motorcycle events on designated routes with special recreation permit areas.” In addition, management decisions for other resources and concerns that would possibly be impacted by the project were reviewed, and it was determined that the proposed action is in conformance with the Plan.”

The proposed project is in conformance with the LUP, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decisions and/or goals and objectives:

Goals: “Provide quality settings for developed and undeveloped recreation experiences and opportunities while protecting resources.”

Objectives: “To provide a wide variety of recreation opportunities to satisfy a growing demand by a public seeking the open, undeveloped spaces that is characteristic of the planning area.”

In addition, management decisions for other resources and concerns that would possibly be impacted by the project were reviewed, and it was determined that the proposed action is in conformance with the Plan

C: Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with in accordance with 516 DM 11.9 H(1), Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day use or overnight use up to 14 consecutive nights; that impacts no more than 3 staging area acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized in a land use plan.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR 46.215 apply because the potential for significant impacts to public and private resources will be mitigated through stipulations issues with the proponent's permit and attached to this document (See attachment A).

D: Signature

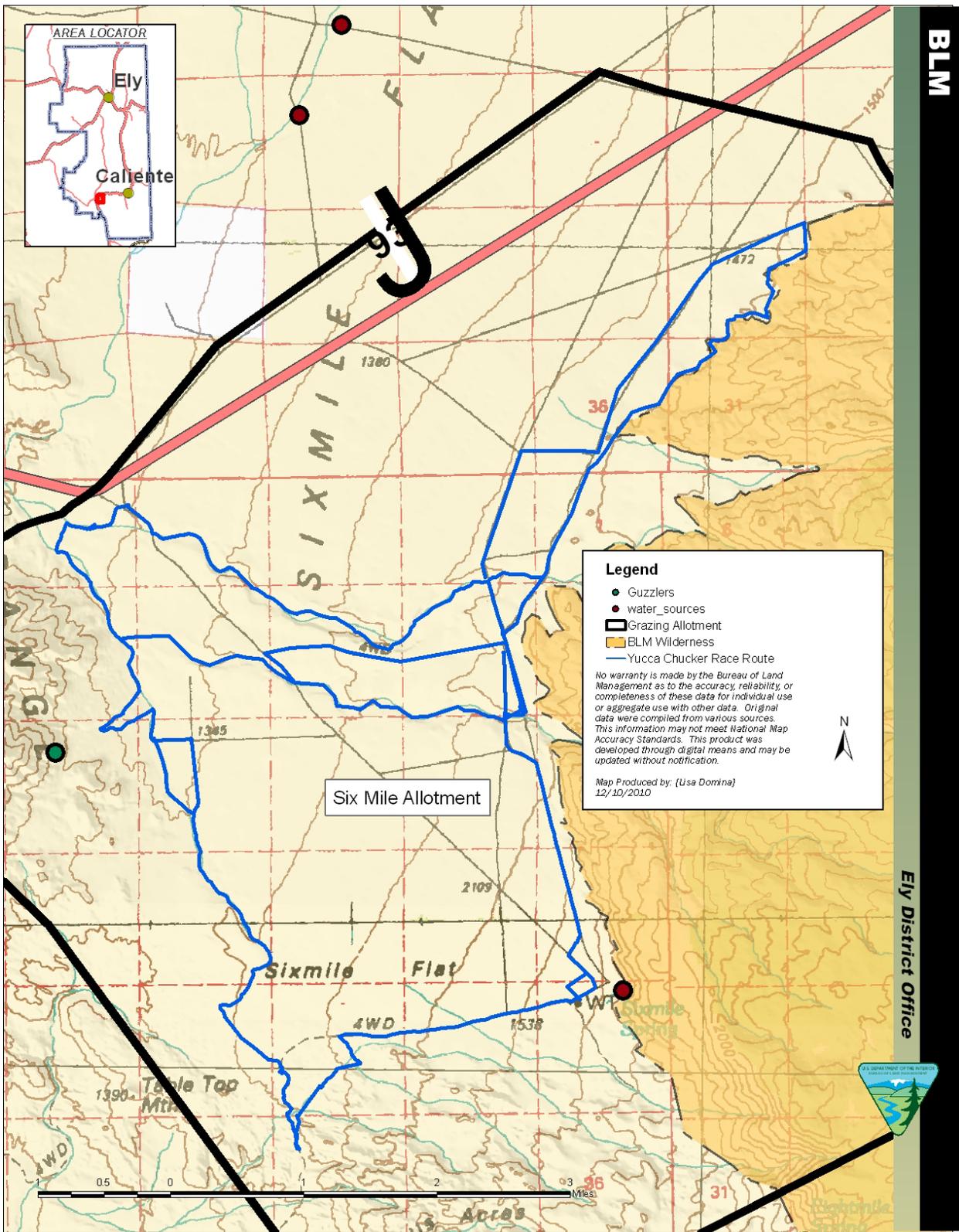
Authorizing Official: /s/Shirley Johnson for Victoria Barr Date: 2/8/2011
(Signature)

Name: Victoria Barr

Title: Field Manager, Caliente Field Office.

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Lisa Domina at Elizabeth_Domina@blm.gov Outdoor Recreation Planner, Caliente Field Office, P.O Box 237 Caliente, NV 89008 (775)726-8116.



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Bureau of Land Management
Caliente, NV

Caliente Categorical Exclusion Review Record

YUCCACHUCKER 2011			
DOI-BLM-NV-045-2011-0004-CX	Resource Specialist/ID Team Member	Y/N or (NP*)	Initials/Date
Would the Proposed Action:	Melanie Peterson	N	MP 2/4/11
Have significant impacts on public health or safety? (43 CFR 46.215 (a))	Leslie Riley	N	LR 2/9/11
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 11988); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments*; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas? (43 CFR 46.215 (b)) *None within or near the Field Office.	Cultural/Historic Resources		
	Recreation Lands		
	Park or Refuge Lands	NP	
	Wilderness/WSA	Sam Styles DS NP	2-4-11
	Drinking Water Aquifers	Mark D'Aversa N	2/9/11 MS
	Prime Farmlands	Mark D'Aversa N	2/9/11 MS
	Wetlands/Floodplains	Mark D'Aversa N	2/9/11 MS
	Migratory Birds	N	MSD/2-1-11
ACECs/Cultural	Leslie Riley N	LR 2/9/11	
ACECs/Wildlife	NP	MSD/2-1-11	
Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau? (43 CFR 46.215 (g))	Leslie Riley		
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? (43 CFR 46.215 (h))			
Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)? (43 CFR 46.215 (i))	Sheri Wysong	N	SW 2/9/11
Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)? (43 CFR 46.215 (k))	Elvis Wall	N	EW 2/3/11
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)? (43 CFR 46.215 (l))	Cameron Boyce	N	CB 2/1/2011
Concerns not Specifically Mentioned in the Extraordinary Circumstances			
Air Quality	Sheri Wysong	N	SW 2/8/11
Wastes, Hazardous or Solid	Melanie Peterson	N	MP 2/4/11
Forests and Rangelands	Domenic Bolognani		
Other			



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Caliente Field Office

P.O. Box 237 (1400 South Front St.)

Caliente, Nevada 89008-0237

http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/ely_field_office.html

In Reply Refer To:
2930 (NVL0300)

DECISION

Project Title Yucca Chuckers MC Race	:	Special Recreation Permit
Dale Wallis	:	NV-045-11-001 Three Year
P.O. Box 125	:	NEPA # DOI-BLM-NV-L030-2011-0004-CX
Caliente, NV 89008	:	

It is my decision to approve the Special Recreation Permit and implement the Yucca Chuckers 2011 Competitive Motorcycle Race as described in the *Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and non-statutory Categorical Exclusion of Federal Action* associated with the proposal. *In accordance with 43 CFR 2931.8*, this Decision is in full force and effective immediately.

Background Information:

Yucca Chuckers Motorcycle Club has applied for a Special Recreation Permit for a competitive motorcycle race on Saturday March 26, 2011. The start/finish, staging, pit, and spectator viewing area would be located on public land that has been used as a pit area for similar events in the past. The course follows existing roads and trails that cross BLM administrated land.

Scoping and Public Involvement:

An Interdisciplinary team scoped the proposed action for extraordinary circumstances in the Caliente Field Office on 1/4/2011 to 2/1/2011. Team members determined that there would not be significant or otherwise unacceptable impacts to the resources and concerns identified in the attached Categorical Exclusion Review Record and no *Extraordinary Circumstances* were identified. In addition, the proposal would not:

Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2)(E)]. (43 CFR 46.215 (c))

Rationale: The effects of overland OHV trail rides are well known. Decisions were made in the Ely RMP to resolve conflicts of racing with other resources.

Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks. (43 CFR 46.215 (d))

Rationale: The proposed action does not have any highly uncertain or potentially significant environmental effects nor does it involve any unknown environmental risks.

Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. (43 CFR 46.215 (e))

Rationale: The trail ride is a single event that will not determine the decisions for any future actions.

Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. (43 CFR 46.215 (f))

Rationale: There are no known actions that would cumulatively impact resources impacted by this action.

Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. (43 CFR 46.215 (i))

Rationale: The proposed action would not violate any Federal, State, Local or Tribal Law. Nor would it violate any law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.

Rational For Decision:

As determined on the associated *Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and non-statutory Categorical Exclusion of Federal Action*, the proposed action is in conformance with the Ely District Approved Resource Management Plan (August 20, 2008) and the qualifications of a categorical exclusion. No further environmental analysis is required based on review of the proposal and the 12 exceptions to categorical exclusions

Appeal:

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (Board), U. S. Department of the Interior (DOI) Office of Hearings and Appeals, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR, Part 4. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed from is in error. If an appeal is taken, a notice of appeal must be filed at the Bureau of Land Management, Caliente Field Office, 1400 S Front St., Caliente, NV within 30 days of either of receipt of the decision if served a copy of the document, or otherwise within 30 days of the date of the decision. If sent by United States Postal Service, the notice of appeal must be sent to the following address:

Bureau of Land Management
Caliente Field Office
P O Box 237
Caliente, NV 89008-0237

The appeal may include a statement of reasons at the time the notice of appeal is filed, or the statement of reasons may be filed within 30 days of filing this appeal. At the same time the original documents are filed with this office, copies of the notice of appeal, statement of reasons, and all supporting documentation also must be sent to each party named in this decision and to the U. S. DOI Solicitor at the following address:

Regional Solicitor, Pacific Southwest Region
U.S. Department of the Interior
2800 Cottage Way, Room E-2753
Sacramento, CA 95825-1890

If a statement of reasons is filed separately from the notice of appeal, it also must be sent to the following location within 30 days after the notice of appeal was filed:

Interior Board of Land Appeals
Office of Hearings and Appeals
4015 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22203

This Decision will remain in effect during the appeal unless a petition for Stay is granted. If the appellant wishes to file a petition pursuant to regulations at 43 CFR 4.21 for a stay of the effectiveness of this decision during the time that the appeal is being reviewed by the Board, the petition for a stay must accompany the notice of appeal. A petition for a stay is required to show sufficient justification based on the standards listed below. If the appellant requests a stay, the appellant has the burden of proof to demonstrate that a stay should be granted.

Standards for Obtaining a Stay

Except as otherwise provided by law or by other pertinent regulation, a Petition for a Stay of a Decision pending appeal shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

- (1) The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied,
- (2) The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits,
- (3) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and
- (4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

Approved By: /s/Shirley Johnson for Victoria Barr
Victoria Barr
Field Manager
Caliente Field Office

2/8/11
Date