

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

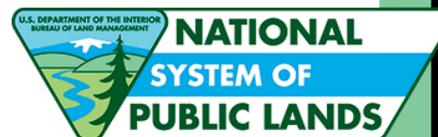
BLM

**Documentation of Categorical Exclusion
DOI-BLM-NV-L030-2011-0005-CX
February, 2011**

**Southern Nevada Desert Racers (SNDR)
2011 Competitive Motorcycle Race**

Lincoln County, NV

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



A. Background

M Office: **Caliente Field Office** Case File No.: **NV-045-11-004**
NEPA# DOI-BLM-NV-L030-2011-0005-CX

Proposed Action Title/Type: **SNDR 2011 Competitive Motorcycle Race**

Location of Proposed Action: T2S R68E Sections 9-16, 21-29, and 32-36
T2S R69E Sections 7-11, 14-22, 26-30, and 33-36
T3S R68E Sections 1, 4 and 10-15
T3S R69E Sections 1-3, 6-9, 11-13, 16-20, 24, 30 and 31
T3S R70E Sections 6-9, 16, 19-21 and 29

Proposed Action:

The proposed action is to allow a competitive motorcycle race sponsored by Southern Nevada Desert Racers Motorcycle Club (SNDR) on April 9, 2011. The proposal would occur in the Ely District, South East of the community of Panaca. An estimated 150/200 race participants and 100 spectators or pit crewmembers are expected for this event. Race activities would start at 7:00 am and should be finished by 6:00 pm.

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. A water truck would be used for dust control on the dirt road to and from pit and spectator area. The course is south of state route 319 and east of U. S. 93, it follows existing roads and trails that cross Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administrated land. The event would consist of multiple classes. Course consists of two main loops with a smaller connector section to accommodate the younger rider class. The Pewee bike (50cc) racecourse is approximately one mile, the Mini bike 65-85 cc racecourse is approximately 15 miles, and the Big Bike (≥ 125 cc) race is approximately 46 miles. Checkpoints would be located along the racecourse to assure entrants are limited to the authorized route only, and to radio in any accidents, injuries, or disabled motorcycles. Participants deviating from the designated route or missing checkpoints would be disqualified. It is mandatory that all bikes are cleaned before and after the event. Spark arrestors and gas mats are also mandatory. A sweep of the racecourse 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 (Attachment A, SRP stipulations 1-16 and Special Stipulations for SRPs common to all Field Offices, Nevada). The permittee would be required to perform rehabilitation work on impacted 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 damages to resources or trails and roads, and to ensure activity cleanup.

This event is located in the Panaca Valley, Escalante Desert, and the Clover Creek North Watershed.

Range allotments are Warm Springs, Road Side, White Hills, Rabbit Springs, Sheep Springs, Buckboard and Panaca Cattle.

B. Land Use Plan (Plan) Conformance

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

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. Conduct an assessment of current and future off-highway vehicle demand, and plan for and balance the demand for this use with other multiple uses/users. Develop sustainable off-highway vehicle use areas to meet current and future demands, especially for urban interface areas.”

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. . To provide visitor information to familiarize people with recreational opportunities throughout the planning area and encourage minimum impact or “Leave No Trace” and “Tread Lightly” recreational skills and ethics for recreational activities.”

The proposed action is specifically provided for in the following management decision:

REC-12 (p81): 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.”

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

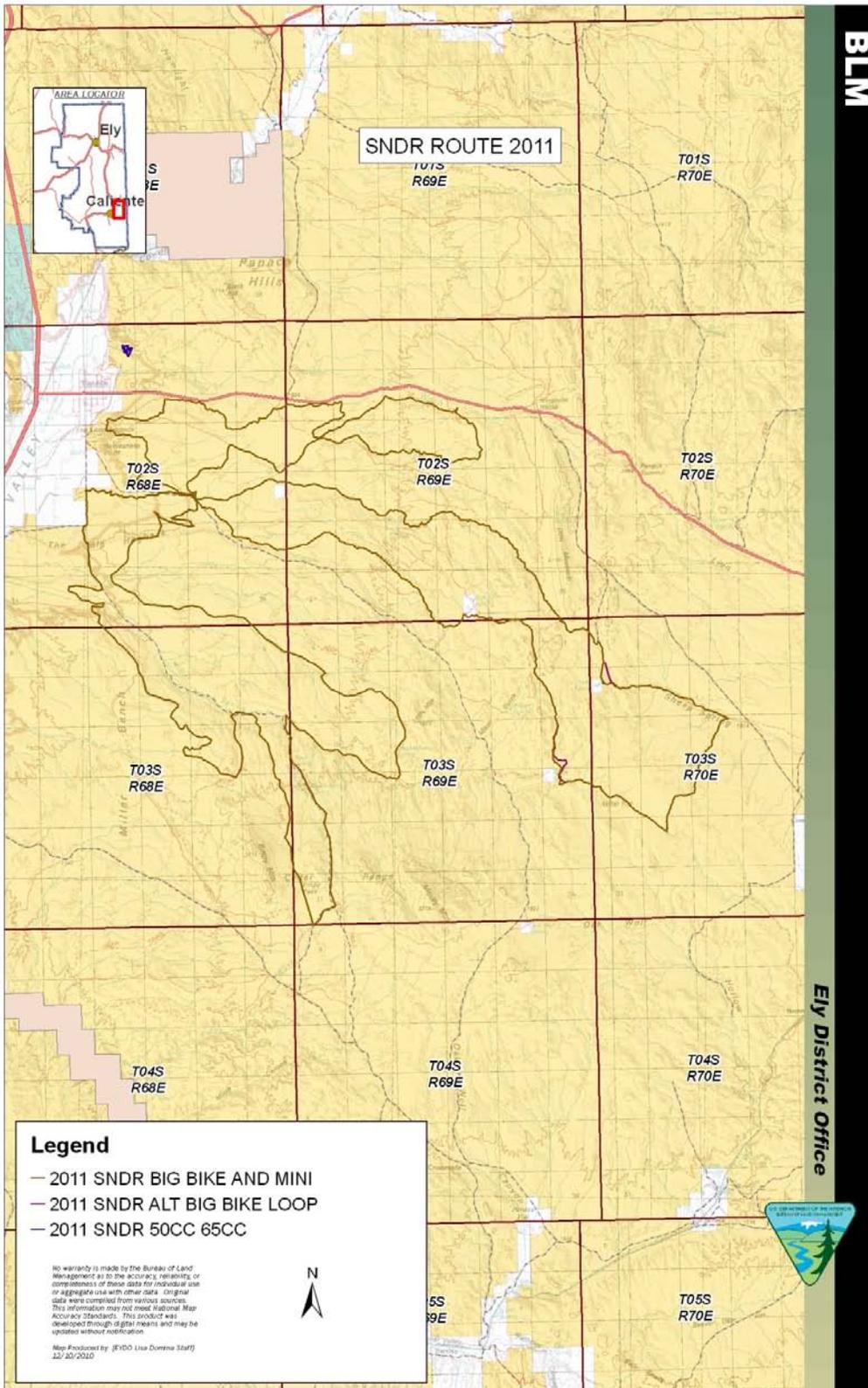
Authorizing Official: /s/Clint Wertz (Acting) Date: 3-15-11
(Signature)

Name: Victoria Barr
Title: Field Manager, Caliente Field Office.

Contact Person

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

Attachment B





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 SNDR Motorcycle Race
Bill O'Hara
1318 Gloria Ln.
Boulder City, NV 89005

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Special Recreation Permit
NV-045-11-004
NEPA # DOI-BLM-NV-L030-2011-0005-CX

It is my decision to approve the Special Recreation Permit and implement the SNDR 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:

The proposed action is to allow a competitive motorcycle race sponsored by SNDR. The start/finish, staging, pit, and spectator-viewing area would be located on public lands that have 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: 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.

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: Clint Wertz 3-15-11
Victoria Barr Date
Field Manager
Caliente Field Office