

**United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management**

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**Environmental Assessment: DOI-BLM-ID-T020-2012-0011-EA (ID)**

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**Decision Record  
and  
Finding of No Significant Impact**

**JACKPOT 200**

*Location: Cassia and Elko Counties, Idaho and Nevada*

Burley Field Office  
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April 17, 2014

# **Decision Record / Finding of No Significant Impact Burley Field Office**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has conducted an Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-ID-T020-2012-0011-EA (ID) on a proposal to issue a ten-year (2014-2023) Special Recreation Permit (SRP) to Bonneville Off-Road Racing Enterprises (BORE) for the Jackpot 200 Off-Road Vehicle Race as described in the Proposed Action of Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-ID-T020-2012-0011-EA (ID).

## **Public Involvement**

This project has been listed on the Idaho NEPA Register since February 10, 2012. A scoping package was sent out to interested publics including the Eastern Region Supervising Habitat Biologist, Alan Jenne at the Nevada Department of Wildlife in Elko, Nevada and posted to the web (web link) on April 06, 2012. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game provided comments and recommendations and suggested that stipulations be provided for fire, noxious weeds and road rehabilitation after the race. U.S. Fish and Wildlife also suggested that stipulations be provided for fire, spark arrestors and noxious weeds and recommended identifying an alternate race location.

Stipulations have been added as Terms and Conditions (EA Attachment 2) to the SRP specifically to address concerns about noxious weeds and wildfire. The wildlife resources subheading contains a description of wildfire in the existing environment and potential impacts thereof.

## **DECISION**

I have decided to implement the Proposed Action as described in the Environmental Assessment (EA) to issue a ten-year (2014-2023) SRP to BORE for the Jackpot 200 Off-Road Vehicle Race as described in the Proposed Action of Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-ID-T020-2012-0011-EA (ID). This decision is contingent on meeting the monitoring requirement listed below and the permittee complying with all stipulations included on the reverse side of the Special Recreation Permit Application, as well as the additional terms and conditions attached to the Special Recreation Permit (EA Attachment 2).

1. BLM personnel will inspect the race course prior to the event to ensure the course is clearly marked and follows the routes identified in the permit and also to inspect pre-event conditions of the course. BLM personnel will be on-site during the event to monitor for compliance. Following the event, BLM personnel will conduct post-use monitoring to ensure that all clean-up and rehabilitation work has been completed within the time frames identified in the SRP stipulations.

This includes removal of all course markers within 48 hours of the event and completion of any needed rehabilitation work by 30 days after the event. Adherence to these stipulations, Terms and Conditions as part of the Proposed Action should minimize any potential adverse impacts to resources.

Based on the analysis of the potential environmental impacts contained in Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-ID-T020-2012-0011-EA (ID), I have determined that the Proposed Action with the mitigation measures described in stipulations on the Special Recreation Permit and in EA Attachment 2, additional stipulations will not have any significant impact on the human environment and that an environmental impact statement is not required.

### **Other Alternatives Considered**

Alternatives considered but not analyzed in detail include analyzing alternate race locations outside of Greater sage-grouse habitat or other locations of reduced habitat quality and low restoration potential, such as the Berger tract of the Burley Field Office or northern Jarbidge Field Office. The aforementioned was not analyzed in detail because it does not meet the purpose and need of the event, which is to conduct a race in known diverse terrain near Jackpot, NV. The Jackpot course is proposed by BORE because of the convenience of the start/stop staging area which is a reclaimed dump owned by Elko County, NV. This site is located near Highway 93 and provides access for large recreational vehicles and trailers that is not common elsewhere. This site also provides a diversity of terrain in a sparsely populated area where user conflicts would be minimized. Moving the race may be feasible but Berger has too many fences and visitors to be safe, the terrain is flat and boring thus not providing the opportunity BORE is looking for and it is not readily accessible to recreational vehicles.

### **FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

Based upon a review of the EA and the supporting documents, I have determined that choosing the Proposed Action would not be a major federal action and would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment, individually or cumulatively with other actions in the general area.

In making this determination, I considered the following factors:

- 1. Impacts may be both beneficial and adverse.** The EA includes a description of the expected environmental consequences of the Proposed Action. Under this alternative the Jackpot race would continue and as a result of implementing the Proposed Action recreational opportunities would continue for off-road vehicle racing in the area.
- 2. The degree to which the selected alternative will affect public health or safety.** This alternative will not significantly affect public health or safety. Health and safety measures are built in through stipulations to protect both driver and spectator health and safety.

3. **Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farm lands, wetlands, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.** There are no park lands, prime farm lands, wetlands, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas present within Jackpot racing area.

4. **The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.** The possible effects of the Proposed Action on the human environment are not highly uncertain nor do they involve unique or uncertain risks. BLM analyzed the possible effects on the human environment and the possible effects are well understood.

5. **The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.** Neither the Proposed Action, nor any of the alternatives sets precedent or represents a decision in principle about a future management consideration.

6. **Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts – which include connected actions regardless of land ownership.** Significant cumulative effects are not predicted. A complete disclosure of the effects is contained in the EA.

7. **The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or other objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.** There are no historic properties present on BLM managed lands within the Jackpot Race area of potential effect.

8. **The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, or the degree to which the action may adversely affect: 1) a proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species or its habitat, or 2) a species on BLM's sensitive species list.** There are no endangered or threatened species present on the BLM managed lands at the Jackpot race area.

9. **Whether the action threatens a violation of a federal, state, local, or tribal law, regulation or policy imposed for the protection of the environment, where non-federal requirements are consistent with federal requirements.** Choosing the Proposed Action will not violate any known federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. State, local, and tribal interests were given the opportunity to participate in the environmental analysis process.

## APPEALS

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR Part 4. Public notification of this decision will be considered to have occurred on April 17, 2014. Within 30 days of this decision, a notice of appeal must be filed in the office of the authorized officer at 15 East 200 South, Burley, Idaho 83318. If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy St., Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203 within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed with the authorized officer.

If you wish to file a petition for stay pursuant to 43 CFR Part 4.21(b) the petition for stay should accompany your notice of appeal and 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 irreparable harm to the appellant or resources if the stay is not granted, and
- (4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

If a petition for stay is submitted with the notice of appeal, a copy of the notice of appeal and petition for stay must be served on each party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken.

A copy of the notice of appeal, any statement of reasons and all pertinent documents must be served on each adverse party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken and on the Office of the Regional Solicitor, U.S. Department of the Interior, 6201 Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1180, not later than 15 days after filing the document with the authorized officer and/or IBLA.

**APPROVED**

/s/Lael Suzann Henrikson for  
Michael Courtney  
Field Manager

4/17/2014  
Date