

DOI-BLM-AK-F020–2012–0022CX- Special Recreation Permit Camp Li-Wa

A. Background

BLM Office: Eastern Interior Field Office

LLAKF02000

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: FF096035

Proposed Action Title/Type: Special Recreation Permit 2930

Location of Proposed Action: Steese National Conservation Area, Pinnell Mountain National Recreation Trail

Description of Proposed Action:

Camp Li-Wa (Collin Amick) has applied for a Special Recreation Permit (SRP) for the purpose of providing guided backpacking trips annually along the Pinnell Mountain National Recreation Trail. Camp Li-Wa needs to obtain a SRP in order to legally provide guided backpacking activities. Guided trips and supporting activities are scheduled to be conducted between mid-June and early August of each year. Up to four trips with up to 6 people on each trip may occur annually. Each trip will occur between Monday and Friday with 3 to 4 nights out on the trail. Trips will not occur during the week before and week after summer solstice (inclusive). Camp sites will be within 2 miles of the shelter cabins but not adjacent to the cabins or other appropriate site. No camping will occur at either Eagle Summit or Twelvemile Summit Waysides. Water will be obtained at the shelter cabins or other suitable water sources and filtered or treated for potability. All cooking will be with backpack type stoves and human waste will be disposed of using “Cat holes”.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Steese National Conservation Area Resource Management Plan/Record of Decision

Date Approved/Amended: February 6, 1986

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s): Prescriptions Common to All Management Units, Recreation Management, Management Direction, Visitor Use Management and Information, states that “Special Recreation Use Permits are required for commercial uses such as commercial outfitting and guided and commercial river trips, etc. (page 6). Prescription for Primitive Management Unit, Management Direction, Rational indicates that the Pinnell Mountain Trail and its primitive setting should be maintained for the enjoyment of the public (page 18).

C. Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, H. Recreation Management. 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. (Dated 05/08/08; #3799)

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 516 DM 2 apply.

EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES	YES/NO
1) May have significant impacts on public health or safety.	No
2) May 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 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.	No
3) May have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.	No
4) May have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	No
5) Might establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	No
6) May have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	No
7) May have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.	No
8) May 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.	No
9) Might violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	No
10) May have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).	No
11) Might 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).	No
12) Could 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).	No

I considered:

There are two other SRPs for guided backpacking along the PMNRT with the potential of 3, two-night trip annually and up to 10 people per trip. One permit excludes use from 20 June through 5 July for summer solstice and July 4.

D. Approval and Contact Information

I have found that the proposed action is in conformance with the Steese Resource Management Plan and qualifies as a categorical exclusion.

/s/ Lenore Heppler 7/2/2012

Lenore Heppler
Field Manager
Eastern Interior Field Office

Date

Contact Person

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