

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Carson City District Office

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Project Lead: Arthur Callan

Field Office: Sierra Front

Lead Office: Sierra Front

Case File/Project Number: NVC02-13505

Applicable Categorical Exclusion: 516 DM 11.0(H): Recreation Management (1): Issuance of SRPs 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.

NEPA Number: DOI-BLM-NV-C020-2013-0013-CX

Project Name: Rancho Red Rock

Project Description: Teresa Kauffman is proposing to renew her SRP to conduct commercial horseback rides along and estimated 29.5 miles of dirt roads (~20 mi) and established trails (~9.5 mi) on public lands north of Reno, Nevada. Although most use would start from their private land in Rancho Haven, Ms. Kaufman has identified three "remote" staging areas where they would trailer horses and shuttle customers to. Depending on seasonal weather constraints and customer demand, an estimated 1 to 5 guided trips involving 2 to 6 customers would be conducted weekly throughout the year; most of the use would occur in the spring and fall. Riding time, route and starting point selection varies with rider capabilities, trail difficulty, and weather. The range of annual use is 20-300 customers; with an average of 65 customers per year.

The permit would authorize this activity to continue for another five years with annual review.

Is the project located within preliminary general habitat for sage-grouse? Yes No

Is the project located within preliminary priority habitat for sage-grouse? Yes No

Applicant Name: Teresa Kauffman

Project Location: T22N, R18E, S. 1-2, 10-11, 14-15; T23N, R18E, S. 1, 12-15, 22-25, 27; T23N, R19E, S. 5-8, 18-19, 30; T42N, R18E, S. 36; T24N, R19E, S. 31. Washoe County

BLM Acres for the Project Area: 23 acres

Land Use Plan Conformance: Section 8 – REC-2: Desired Outcomes, 1: "provide a wide variety of recreation opportunities on public land under administration of the CFFO".

Name of Plan: NV – Carson City RMP.

CONCLUSION: Based upon the review of this Proposed Action, I have determined that the above-described project is a categorical exclusion, in conformance with the LUP, and does not require an EA or EIS.

Approved by:



Leon Thomas
Field Manager
Sierra Front Field Office

3-28-13

(date)