



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Winnemucca District Office  
Black Rock Field Office  
5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard  
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445  
Phone: (775) 623-1500 Fax: (775) 623-1503  
Email: [wfoweb@blm.gov](mailto:wfoweb@blm.gov)  
[www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo.html)

In Reply Refer To:  
NVW03500-12-01  
2930/1792 (NV030.05)

Dear Interested Public:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Winnemucca District, Black Rock Field Office, has issued a multi-year Special Recreation Permit (SRP) to Black Rock City (BRC), LLC authorizing the annual Burning Man event through 2016, contingent upon annual reviews showing BRC's compliance with the terms and stipulations of the permit. The Burning Man event will be held on the Black Rock Playa from Aug. 26 through Sept. 2.

This year, the BRC is required to keep the maximum population from exceeding 68,000 people during the event. The BLM is also requiring BRC to comply with 13 standard stipulations, which are common to all SRPs, and 48 special stipulations specific to the Burning Man event. The special stipulations relate to matters such as event set-up, signage, security, public safety, resource management, debris removal, fee calculation and payment, and event take-down and clean-up.

The "Burning Man 2012-2016 Special Recreation Permit Environmental Assessment" (EA) analyzes a participant population level from 58,000 to 70,000 as well as public access, traffic control, resource management, dust abatement, fire management, event security and public safety, event setup and signage, runway and aircraft, sanitary facilities, and event take down and clean-up.

The SRP Decision is subject to the following conditions as well as the standard and special stipulations mentioned above:

1. The SRP for any year is subject to cancellation or modification during the permit period based upon performance of the permittee, changes in law, regulation or policy, changes in resource conditions, or upon newly available information.
2. Authorization for any events during the 2013-2016 periods is subject to a separate SRP decision. Prior to issuance of any year's SRP decision, a detailed review and evaluation of the previous year's event will be conducted; as necessary, the special stipulations will be modified (subject to NEPA) to address issues and concerns raised during the previous event or otherwise identified for the applicable year's event.

3. Additionally, each year's SRP decision and/or the special stipulations attached thereto will specify the maximum population allowed for that year's event. The maximum population authorized in any year may not exceed 70,000 participants, as that term is defined in the 2012-2016 Environmental Analysis (EA), unless the requisite additional NEPA analysis is completed.

The Burning Man event has taken place on public lands on the Black Rock Desert Playa every year but one since 1990. Last year more than 53,000 people traveled to the remote desert location to participate. The operations associated with the event occupy about 4,400 acres of public land for a seven week period starting with fencing the site perimeter the second week of August and concluding in late September with the final site cleanup. The major activities are confined to several weeks in late August and early September associated with final setup, the actual event, and the initial phases of cleanup. During this period, Black Rock City becomes one of the largest cities in Nevada.

The SRP Decision and associated National Environmental Policy Act documents are available for viewing at [http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo/blm\\_information/nepa0.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo/blm_information/nepa0.html) and upon request from the BLM Winnemucca District Office, 5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard, Winnemucca, NV 89445-2921, during regular business hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for federal holidays.

For more information, please contact Greg Page, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Black Rock Field Office at (775) 623-1500.

Sincerely,

\S\ Gene Seidlitz

Gene Seidlitz  
District Manager  
Winnemucca District