

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Twin Falls District  
Jarbidge Field Office  
2536 Kimberly Rd.  
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION**

**NEPA No. DOI-BLM-ID-T010-2013-0014-CX**

**A. Background**

**BLM Office:** Jarbidge Field Office. **Lease/Serial/Case File No.:**

**Proposed Action Title/Type:** Organized Group Special Recreation Permit

**Location of Proposed Action:** Approximately three (3) acres of BLM land adjacent to Cedar Creek Reservoir, 17 miles west of Rogerson, ID. The proposed location is located completely within the Cedar Creek Reservoir Mineral Material Pit boundaries which has been previously disturbed and is void of native vegetation.

**Description of Proposed Action:** The Bureau of Land Management, Jarbidge Field Office (BLM) has received an application from Sam Brannan Chapter #1004 for an Organized Group Special Recreation Permit for their annual Koyote Howling Competition, August 1-4, 2013. Participants would be charged \$35.00 to offset expenditures for food, trash dumpster, portable toilets, and certificates of participation for attendees. No reserved, developed campsites are part of the submitted operations plan. Approximately 85 to 100 attendees are expected.

All motorized vehicle use will be required to stay on existing roads and parking areas devoid of vegetation within the proposed site. Individual camps and portable sanitation facilities will not be placed on native vegetation.

No ground disturbing, open campfires constructed of rock, brick, or metal rings will be authorized; the use of fire pans, portable campfire containers, and/or cooking grills is permitted.

**B. Land Use Plan Conformance**

**Land Use Plan Name:** Jarbidge Resource Management Plan (RMP)

**Date Approved/Amended:** March 23, 1987

The proposed action is in conformance with the Jarbidge Resource Management Plan (RMP), approved March 23, 1987. The proposed action is in conformance with the Resource Management Guidelines which state: "BLM will manage recreation on the public lands. A variety of means to maintain or improve recreation opportunities will be considered." (Jarbidge RMP, Pg. II-93).

### **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(1) which states: “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;..”. No surface disturbance is expected to result from the proposed activity. The proposed action qualifies to be processed as a categorical exclusion.

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. See Attachment B, Sam Brannan Koyote Howlers Special Recreation Permit Categorical Exclusion Review Sheet. The proposed action meets the guidelines in 43 CFR 2920.2-2. Notification of the preparation of a categorical exclusion was given on the BLM Idaho NEPA website on April 9, 2012.

Based on my review of the proposed action described above and field office staff recommendations, I have determined that the proposed action would not result in unnecessary or undue environmental degradation, is in conformance with the applicable land use plan, and is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis. It is my decision to offer a Special Recreation Permit to Sam Brannan Koyote Howlers pursuant to the authority of Section 302(b) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. This permit will authorize the use on public lands described above for an Organized Group Special Recreation Permit.

### **D. Signature**

**Authorizing Official:**     /s/ Brian W. Davis         **Date:**     07/11/2013    

**Name:** Brian W. Davis

**Title:** Field Manager