

**Checklist for Determination of Existing NEPA Adequacy**

**Document Title:** D.C. Outfitters Permit Renewal

**Document Number:** 201-BLM-AE-6010-2013-0033-DNA

**Case File Number:** AZA32226

**Preparer Name and Title:** James Scott Ford, Outdoor Recreation Planner

**Date Scoping Initiated:** 8/7/13

**Date Scoping CLOSED:** 8/23/13

*Tom Schnell*  
Thomas J. Schnell, AFM for Non-Renewable Resources

*Tim Goodman* & Jeff Conn  
Biologist Assigned

*Joe David*  
Joe David, AFM for Renewable Resources (~~acting~~)

*Scott C. Cooke* 8/7/13  
Scott C. Cooke, SFO Field Manager

*Tom Schewe*  
NEPA Coord. Assigned

Critical Elements and Other Issues	Specialists	Affected		Comments		Document Review	Date
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Signature	
Air Quality* <i>ES?</i>	Appropriate RMS		✓		✓	<i>James Scott Ford</i>	10/22/13
ACECs*	Tom Schnell		✓		✓	<i>Tom Schnell</i> Acting DRP E-15	10/18/13
Climate Change <i>RJ</i>	Appropriate RMS		✓		✓	<i>Tom Schnell</i>	10/21/13
Cultural Resources*	Dan McGrew		✓		✓	<i>Dan McGrew</i>	8/18/13
Env. Jus. and Socio-economics	Tim Goodman		✓		✓	<i>Tim Goodman</i>	8/8/13
Floodplains* <i>RJ</i>	Appropriate RMS		✓		✓	<i>RJ Estes</i>	10/21/13
Hazardous Materials*	RJ Estes		✓		✓	<i>RJ Estes</i>	10/21/13
Lands/Realty	Roberta Lopez		✓		✓	<i>Roberta Lopez</i>	10/18/13
NEPA Maps	Sharisse Fisher		✓		✓	<i>Sharisse Fisher</i>	10/21/13
Nonnative/Invasive Plants*	Dave Arthun		✓		✓	<i>Dave Arthun</i>	10/22/13
Native American Rel.*	Dan McGrew		✓		✓	<i>Dan McGrew</i>	8/9/13
Prime/Unique Farmlands* <i>ES</i>	Appropriate RMS		✓		✓	<i>RJ Estes</i>	10/21/13
Range <i>ES</i>	Appropriate RMS		✓		✓	<i>RJ Estes</i>	10/21/13
Soils <i>RJ</i>	Appropriate RMS		✓		✓	<i>RJ Estes</i>	10/21/13
Solid Waste*	RJ Estes		✓		✓	<i>RJ Estes</i>	10/21/13
T&E Animal Species*	Tim Goodman		✓		✓	<i>Tim Goodman</i>	8/8/13
T&E Fish/Fisheries	Heidi Blasius		✓		✓	<i>H. Blasius</i>	8/19/2013
T&E Plant Species*	Tim Goodman		✓		✓	<i>Tim Goodman</i>	8/8/13
VRM*	Ron Peru		✓		✓	<i>Ron Peru</i>	10/18/13
Water Quality (Grnd. & Srfc.)*	Appropriate RMS		✓		✓	<i>H. Blasius</i>	8/19/2013
Water Rights	Appropriate RMS		✓		✓	<i>H. Blasius</i>	8/19/2013
Wetlands/Riparian*	Appropriate RMS		✓		✓	<i>H. Blasius</i>	8/19/2013
Wild & Scenic River*	Tom Schnell		✓		✓	<i>Tom Schnell</i>	10/18/13
Wilderness*	Tom Schnell		✓		✓	<i>Tom Schnell</i>	10/18/13
Wilderness Characteristics	Tom Schnell		✓		✓	<i>Tom Schnell</i>	10/18/13
Wildlife	Tim Goodman		✓		✓	<i>Tim Goodman</i>	8/8/13

Other							
*required by law							
Attachments:							
Planning and Environmental Coordinator: <u><i>[Signature]</i></u>						Date: <u>10/22/13</u>	
Assistant Field Manager - Reviewed/Recommended: <u><i>[Signature]</i></u>						Date: <u>10/22/13</u>	
						AZ-040-1790-2	
						(Rev. 08/02)	

Comments: Report predator kills on BLM *[Signature]*

**To:** Specialists

**From:** J. Scott Ford, Outdoor Recreation Planner(acting)

**Date:** 08/06/2013

**Subject:** Scoping of DNA for D C Outfitters, Special Recreation Permit Renewal

**NEPA Number:** Pending(Sharisse will assign # and produce map upon return from A/L)

**Case File:** AZA32226

**Location:** Public Lands administered by BLM within the Safford Field Office boundaries

**Quad:**

**Any Known Issues:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** D.C. Outfitters is applying to renew their special recreation permit which expired on 08/01/13. D C Outfitters proposes to provide guided hunts for deer primarily in East Aravaipa but the permit would allow DC to offer these services on public lands throughout the Safford Field Office. No overnight camping would occur on public land. The base camp would be on private land. Stock animals to be fed and watered and kept overnight on private land. Trash would be packed out and cat holes used to dispose of human waste. The outfitter would provide meals, snacks, and water. Cooking would be over a camp stove. This would be a 5-year permit.

**The Proposed action conforms with the following Land-Use Plan:**  YES  NO

The proposed action conforms with the Safford District Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Record of Decision approved September 1992 and July 1994. According to page 22 of the RMP, "Rights-of-way, leases and permits will be considered on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with the decisions of this Resource Management Plan.")

**Access:** *Include general access description and attach applicable maps and additional materials.*



**C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.**

List by name and date all applicable NEPA documents that cover the proposed action.

Special Recreation Permits for Commercial Recreation Activities on Public Lands in Arizona EA Number AZ-931-93-001 and EA Number AZ-040-08-14.

List by name and date other documentation relevant to the proposed action (*e.g.*, biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, and monitoring report).

N/A

**D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria**

**1. Is the proposed action substantially the same action (or is a part of that action) as previously analyzed?**

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes

The proposed actions are provided for in the Safford RMP. Additionally the existing special recreation permit EA for commercial recreation activities on public lands in Arizona analyzes day use and multiple day trips for commercial recreation operators who propose activities that comply with the standard stipulations shown in Attachment A of the EA. Much of the EA analyzes overnight camping, multiple day activities, vehicle use, use of pack stock, use of campfires, and use of latrines. D.C. Outfitters use of the public lands includes hunts for deer in East Aravaipa. They do not propose to camp overnight on public lands. They do plan to use a base camp located on private land. Access to guided areas will be by horse, mule, pickup truck or foot. Meals will be provided on private land. Snacks and water will be brought in and all trash packed out. Stock animals will be fed and watered on private land, and will be watered as required at water sources in the guided area. Stock animals will be kept overnight on private land.

**2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the current proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, resource values, and circumstances?**

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes

The trips D.C. Outfitters propose are included in the types of activities analyzed in the 1993 SRP EA. The types of activities proposed are covered by the analysis of the existing EA.

**3. Is the existing analysis adequate and are the conclusions adequate in light of any new information or circumstances (including, for example, riparian proper functioning condition [PFC] reports; rangeland health standards assessments; Unified Watershed Assessment categorizations; inventory and monitoring data; most recent Fish and Wildlife Service lists of threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species; most recent BLM lists of sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that all new information and all new circumstances are insignificant with regard to analysis of the proposed action?**

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes

The existing EA analyzes two alternatives, the Proposed Action Alternative (issues a commercial permit with stipulations) and the No Action Alternative (no permitting). That range of alternatives adequately covers DC Outfitters proposed hunts. There has been no significant change in the circumstances or significant new information germane to the Proposed Action. Additional wildlife species have been listed under the Endangered Species Act since preparation of the existing EA. The Safford Field Office reviewed the current Fish and Wildlife Service; County Species List in relation to the actions specified in the permit request in conjunction with the standard special recreation permit stipulations and concluded that there would be no effect from the proposed action on listed species. There are no issues regarding invasive species, water quality, and Environmental Justice.

**4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?**

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes

The methodology/analytical approach previously used is appropriate for the Proposed Action. Since the existing EA covers a broad range of commercial recreation activities over a large area (public lands in the entire State of Arizona), the analysis is somewhat general in nature. The proposed commercial activities, however, are simple, and really no different than the same activities carried out by thousands of private hunters, hikers, and horseback riders using public lands annually. The analysis in the existing EA is appropriate to cover the effects of the proposed operations. The direct and indirect impacts of the proposed guiding business are not significantly different than those identified in the existing SRP EA. The impacts of these activities would be less than many of the overnight activities analyzed in the existing EA. Further, additional beneficial economic impacts would result from the issuance of a permit for the proposed guiding activity.

**5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?**

Documentation of answer and explanation: **Yes**

Public involvement in the existing SRP was substantial. About 700 draft EAs were mailed for review and comment during preparation of the analysis. Many individuals, organizations, and agencies were asked to review the draft EA.

**E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff Consulted**

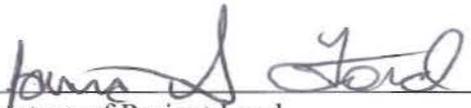
<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Resource/Agency Represented</u></b>
J. Scott Ford		Recreation
Dan McGrew		Cultural Resources
Tim Goodman		Wildlife, T&E Species, Environmental Justice
David Arthun		Nonnative/Invasive Plants/Range
Roberta Lopez		Lands/Realty
Heidi Blasius		Fisheries

Note: Refer to the EA/EIS for a complete list of the team members participating in the preparation of the original environmental analysis or planning documents.

**CONCLUSION**

- Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the existing NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitute BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

Note: If one or more of the criteria are not met, a conclusion of conformance and/or NEPA adequacy cannot be made and this box cannot be checked

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Project Lead

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of NEPA Coordinator

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Responsible Official

10/22/13  
Date

**Note:** The signed CONCLUSION on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.

**DECISION:**

I have reviewed this plan conformance and NEPA compliance record and have determined that the proposed action is either (a) in conformance with or (b) clearly consistent with terms, conditions, and decisions of the approved land use plan and that no further environmental analysis is required. It is my Decision to implement the project, as described, with the mitigation measures identified below.

Mitigation measures or other remarks:

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Field Manager

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date

Special Recreation Permit  
**OPERATING PLAN**  
For Commercial Outfitters and Guides

*It is important that you fill out the form as completely as possible. If something does not apply to you, note "n/a" in that section. Incomplete plans will delay permit processing.*

**1. Business Information:**

Business Name: DC Outfitters

Classification: Individual  Partnership  Corporation  
(if applicable, attach Articles of Incorporation, Operating Agreement and/or Bylaws)

Owner/Partner(s) Names: Robert C Gomez

Business Address: PO Box 57 City: Thatcher State: Az Zip: 85552

Business Phone Number: 928-428-7977 Cell Phone Number: 928-965-3939

Fax Number: 928-428-8020 E-mail Address: RJAVOO25@Hotmail.com

Website Address: DCOUTFITTERS.COM

Brief description of your business operations and services offered: HUNTING Guide  
Operation

Others authorized to represent your business (office managers, agents, etc.):

Name	Position
<u>Robert C Gomez</u>	<u>Partner</u>
_____	_____

**2. Trip Information:**

Average Group Size: 2 Maximum Group Size: 4

Average Length of Trip (breakdown by location/route if applicable): 5 days

Number of Guides per Group: 1 per 2 hunters max

Number of Trips per Week: 1

Bottled water  Filter  Boiled  Chemicals  Other

Cooking facilities (check all that apply):

Stove  Wood  Fire  Charcoal  Fire  Firepan

Transportation:

List all vehicles used (trucks, vans, jeeps, hummers, ATVs, etc.):

Type	Year	Make	Model	Color	License #	State
Truck	2004	Ford	F250	Gray	012 MRG	IL
PU	2007	Ford	F350	White		AZ

Do your vehicles have your business logo on them? Yes  No

(if yes, please attach an example or photo of your logo)

PC Outfitters.com on back window

River Related Services(List # of craft owned and check all other services provided):

Oar Rafts  Canoes  Kayaks  Shuttle Service

Other(describe)

Do you rent boats or other equipment?  Yes  No

If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Location where you propose to operate:

River Name/Section: \_\_\_\_\_

Put-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Take-Out: \_\_\_\_\_

Frequent Stops/Camps: \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Subcontractor Information:**

Do you use subcontractors to supplement your business? Yes  No   
(if yes, complete below for each subcontractor used)

Subcontractor Name      Phone Number      Service Provided

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Background Information:**

List other permits you have held (include Forest Service permits, etc.):

Forest Jumper 7 yrs  
Private OHM 2 yrs  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

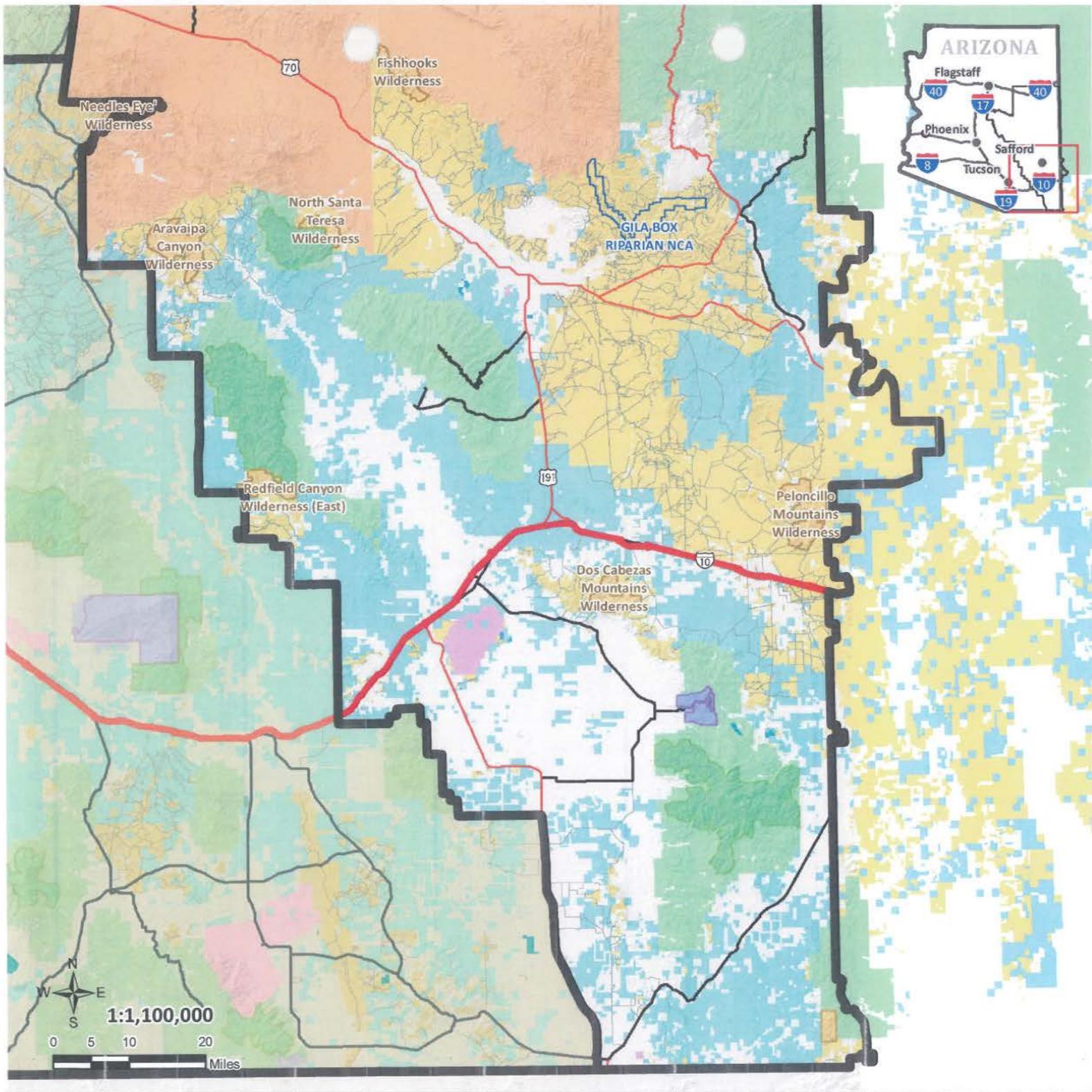
In the past five years, have you or any of your company representatives or employees been convicted of a federal, state, or local violation in connection with outfitting/guide operations or associated activities (including AZ Game & Fish violations)? Yes      (No)

Have you had a BLM or USFS permit denied, suspended, or revoked?

Yes      (No) X If yes to either question, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I certify that the information given by me in this application is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I acknowledge that I am required to comply with requirements and stipulations on Form 8370-1. Any additional stipulations that are required by the authorized officer when the permit is issued. I further understand that the provision of false information or the failure to keep this Operating Plan or other permit information updated are grounds for probation, suspension, or revocation of the permit.

 1/12/06  
Applicant Signature Date



**D.C. Outfitters SRP Renewal  
DOI-BLM-AZ-G010-2013-0033-DNA**

- |                |                                |              |          |                     |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--------------|----------|---------------------|
| Interstates    | BLM National Conservation Area | BLM          | Military | State               |
| US Highways    | BLM Wilderness Area            | Indian Lands | NPS      | State Wildlife Area |
| State Highways | Local or State Parks           | Private      | USFS     |                     |



United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Gila District Office  
Safford Field Office

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