UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Twin Falls District
Burley Field Office
15 East 200 South
Burley, ID 83318

NEPA No. DOI-BLM-ID-T020-2014-0004-CX

A. Background

BLM Office: Burley Field Office.

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: N/A

Proposed Action Title/Type: Application for Grazing Preference by Kurt and Brandon Mason of Mason Brothers, LLC from Raymond and Esther Butler (1102137).

Location of Proposed Action: T. 11 and 12 S, R. 17 and 18 E, various sections south of Twin Falls Idaho, Twin Falls County (See attached Map).

Description of Proposed Action: Mason Brothers, LLC has made application for a transfer from Raymond and Esther Butler to Mason Brothers, LLC for the existing grazing preference for the Western Stockgrowers #04031 and Hub Butte-WSG #04053 Allotments. Therefore, in accordance with 43 CFR 4110.2-3, the Proposed Action is to approve the transfer of grazing preferences from Raymond and Esther Butler to Mason Brothers, LLC as applied.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Twin Falls Management Framework Plan (MFP)
Date Approved/Amended: 1982

__X__ The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is consistent with the LUP decision(s) (objectives, terms, and conditions): Although transfers are not identified specifically in the Twin Falls MFP, the LUP outlines rangeland management i.e., grazing, as an appropriate use within the Western Stockgrowers and Hub Butte-WSG Allotments. This transfer will not change the grazing management on these allotments as identified in the LUP.

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 D.1, Appendix 4 – Approval of transfers of grazing preference.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. This is

because there are no effects to the environment through the transfer of a permit. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR 46.215 applies.

Consideration of Extraordinary Circumstances:

This CER Sheet documents the review of the proposed action to determine if any of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 46.215 applies. If any of the extraordinary circumstances apply to the proposed action, then an EA or EIS must be prepared. Any evidence or concerns that one or more of the exceptions may apply must be brought to the attention of the manager who is authorized to approve the proposed action.

1. The proposed action would not have significant impacts on public health or safety.

Approval of an application for transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e.name change on existing permit) with no additional use(s) authorized is an administrative function with no effects to public health or safety.

2. The proposed action would not 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; or ecologically significant or critical areas.

This management action, approval of a transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e. name change on existing permit), would not have any environmental impacts since this action is a routine administrative procedure that would not change the grazing management on the allotment.

3. The proposed action would not have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].

The proposed approval of application for grazing preference is a routine administrative procedure that would not change the grazing management on the allotment.

4. The proposed action would not have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.

Livestock grazing is an ongoing activity; the transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e.name change on existing permit) poses no unique or unknown environmental risks.

5. The proposed action would not establish a precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.

Approval of existing grazing preference transfer for continuation of existing grazing preference is a routine administrative procedure that would not change the grazing management on the

allotment. This action neither establishes a precedent for future actions nor represents a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.

6. The proposed action would not have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.

This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference, would be neither individually nor cumulatively significant.

7. The proposed action would not have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau.

This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e.name change on existing permit), would have no effect on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places.

8. The proposed action would not 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.

This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e.name change on existing permit), would have no known effect on federally listed, candidate, or BLM special status plant/ wildlife species.

9. The proposed action would not violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.

This routine administrative procedure (i.e.name change on existing permit) is consistent and compatible with all known Federal, State, local and Tribal laws or requirements imposed for protection of the environment.

10. The proposed action would not have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)

This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e.name change on existing permit), would have no effect on low income or minority populations.

11. The proposed action would not 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).

This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e.name change on existing permit), would have no effect and would not limit access for

ceremonial use of Indian sacred sited by Indian religious practitioners; nor would there be adverse effects to the physical integrity of sacred sites.

12. The proposed action would not 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).

This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e.name change on existing permit), would not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native species.

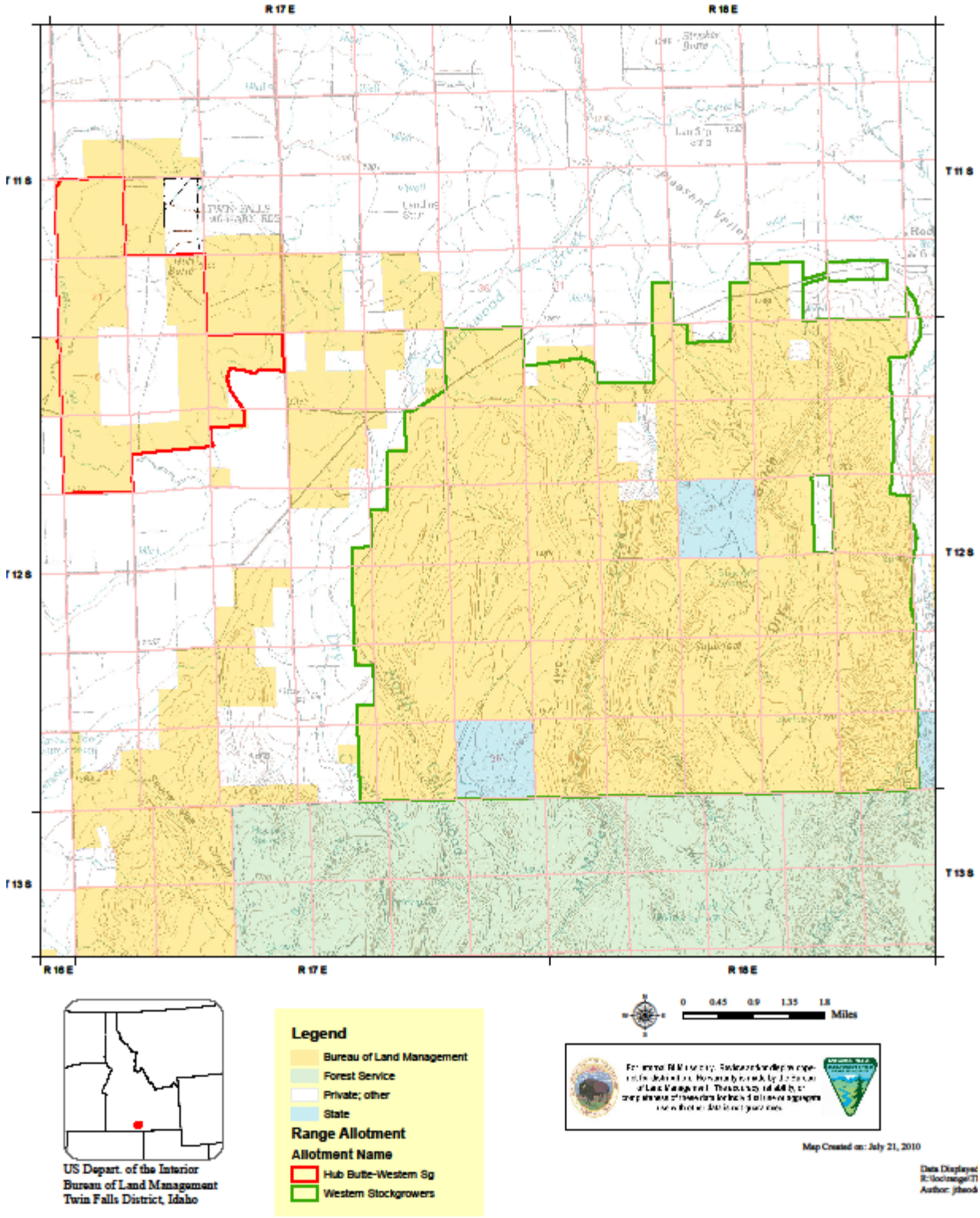
Participating Staff

Name of Participant	Position Title or Resource Expertise	Comments Provided (Initial One) None /	Attached	Date
Jason Theodozio	Botany/Range	/s/JT		11/18/13
Jesse Rawson	Wildlife	/s/JR		11/21/13
Lael Henrikson	Cultural Resources	/s/LH		11/21/13
Scott Sayer	Supervisory RMS	/s/SS		11/21/13

D. Signature

Authorizing Official: ____/s/Michael C. Courtney_____ **Date:** 11/22/2013_____
Name: Mike Courtney
Title: Burley Field Manager

Contact Person
For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Jason Theodozio, Rangeland Management Specialist, 677-6621, 15 East 200 South, Burley, ID 83318.


R 17 E
R 18 E
T 11 S
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Legend
Bureau of Land Management
Forest Service
Private; other
State
Range Allotment
Allotment Name
Hub Butte-Western Sg
Western Stockgrowers
0 0.45 0.9 1.35 1.8
Miles
Map Created on: July 21, 2010
US Depart. of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Twin Falls District, Idaho