

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

Twin Falls District
Shoshone Field Office
400 West F Street
Shoshone, ID 83352

**Categorical Exclusion Documentation Format When Using Categorical Exclusions Not
Established by Statute**

NEPA No. DOI-BLM-ID-T030-2014-17-CX

A. Background

BLM Office: Shoshone Field Office. Lease/Serial/Case File No.: N/A

Proposed Action Title/Type:

The action is a lease of a livestock grazing permit from one applicant to another. The permit terms and conditions are remaining the same but there will be a name change on the permit.

Location of Proposed Action: Boise Meridian, Camas County and Blaine County Idaho; Lower Rock Creek Allotment, Swinging Bridge Allotment and Timmerman Hills Allotment.

Description of Proposed Action: The current permittee, Heart Rock Ranch, LLC, has applied to lease all of the AUMS in three of their four grazing allotments (533 AUMs in Lower Rock Creek, 340 AUMs in Swinging Bridge and 440 AUMs in Timmerman Hills) to a different permittee – Bashaw Family Trust for a term of three years. This is an administrative procedure only and nothing on the ground will change. The season of use, active preference and type of livestock will remain the same as it was under the previous grazing permit.

The base property that is being leased along with the allotments is below:

T. 1 South, R. 18 East, Sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, N ½ 16, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28 and 34

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Sun Valley MFP. Date Approved/Amended: 1981.

_____ The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s): *[Insert relevant objectives, goals, decisions from the LUP with page citations]*.

 X The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s) (objectives, terms, and conditions): This action is specifically provided for in CFR 4110.2-3 Transfer of grazing preference as long as the lease meets all of the requirements and qualifications. The

paperwork that has been submitted shows that all of the requirements and qualifications are being met.

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 4-153. “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. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR 46.215 apply. Attached is the Categorical Exclusion Review Sheet, Consideration of Extraordinary Circumstances.

I considered the lease of grazing preference from Heart Rock Ranch, LLC to Bashaw Family Trust. This action is an administrative action and no changes to the terms and conditions of the grazing permit will occur. The season of use, class of livestock and AUMs will remain unchanged.

D. Signature

Authorizing Official: /s/ James D. Barnum Date: April 4, 2014

Name: James D. Barnum

Title: Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Joanna Tjaden, Rangeland Management Specialist, (208) 732-7292 at address listed in heading.