

Categorical Exclusion Documentation Format for Actions Other Than Hazardous Fuels and Fire Rehabilitation Actions

Project Name: NEPA Number DOI-BLM-AZ-C010-2014-0029-CX

BLM Office: Kingman Field Office

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: _____

A. Background

Thomas McReynolds has held the grazing permit on Harcuvar Allotment in partnership with Elijah Hopkins since 1994. Both parties wish to dissolve the partnership and now Thomas McReynolds would like to transfer the grazing permit to himself and his wife under the name of Thomas and Barbara McReynolds Family Trust.

Proposed Action Title/Type:

Transfer of grazing permit from Elijah Hopkins and Thomas C. McReynolds IV, to Thomas and Barbara McReynolds Family Trust.

Location of Proposed Action:

Harcuvar Allotment – all of which lies within T10N, R11W; T10N, R12W; T10N, R13W; T09N, R14W; T09N, R13W; T09N, R12W; T09N, R11W; T08N, R13W; T08N, R12W; T08N, R11W; T07N, R13W and T07N, R12W. Harcuvar Allotment lies within the boundary of the Lake Havasu Field Office but is administered by the Kingman Field Office.

Description of Proposed Action:

The BLM-KFO will authorize the Harcuvar Allotment grazing permit transfer. This transfer of grazing privileges will be with the same terms and conditions found within the current permit.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Lake Havasu Field Office Resource Management Plan (RMP)

Date Approved/Amended: May 2007

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable RMP because it is specifically provided for in the following RMP decision(s):

GM-2. Livestock use and associated management practices will be conducted in a manner consistent with other multiple use needs and objectives to ensure that the health of rangeland resources is preserved or improved so that they are productive for all rangeland values. Where needed, public rangeland ecosystems will be improved to meet objectives.

GM-3. A total of 1,359,765 acres will be allocated for livestock grazing use as follows:

1,121,701 acres as Available

Grazing Transfer/Harcuvar Allotment

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238,064 acres as Unavailable

Note that acreage is included in allotments managed by neighboring Field Offices (Kingman and Yuma). See Map 19.

GM-4. Guidelines for grazing administration apply to all livestock grazing activities on BLM-administered-lands.

C. Compliance with NEPA

This Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, D. Rangeland Management (1) Approval or 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 (See Attachment 1), and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply.

I considered the plan conformance and NEPA compliance record and have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the approved land use plan, and none of the exceptions described in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2 apply, and no further environmental analysis is required.

D: Authorizing Official

Name: /s/ Ruben Sánchez Date: April 2014

Title: Field Manager

E. Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Celeste Mimnaugh, Rangeland Management Specialist (928-718-3715) at the Kingman Field Office located at 2755 Mission Blvd, Kingman, Arizona, 86401.

Attachment 1: Extraordinary Circumstances Review

Extraordinary Circumstances	Comment (Yes or No with supporting Rationale)
1. Have significant effects on public health or safety.	No
2. 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; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.	No, the grazing transfer is a name change only, with the same terms and conditions found within the current permit. The grazing season for the allotment will remain the same.
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].	No
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	No
5. Establishes a precedent for future action or represents a decision in principle about future actions with significant environmental effects.	No
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	No
7. Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.	No
8. 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.	No
9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	No
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).	No
11. 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).	No
12. 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).	No

Approval and Decision

Attachment 2

Compliance and assignment of responsibility: (Range Program, Celeste Mimnaugh)

Monitoring and assignment of responsibility: (Range Program, Celeste Mimnaugh)

Review: *We have determined that the proposal is in accordance with the categorical exclusion criteria and that it would not involve any significant environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review.*

Prepared by: /s/ Celeste Mimnaugh **Date:** 5/12/2014
*Celeste Mimnaugh, Rangeland
Mgt. Specialist
Project Lead*

Reviewed by: /s/ John Reid **Date:** 5/12/2014
*John Reid
NEPA Coordinator*

Reviewed by: /s/ Don McClure **Date:** 5/12/2014
*Don McClure, Assistant Field
Manager
Supervisor*

Project Description: The BLM-KFO will authorize the Harcuvar Allotment grazing transfer. This transfer of grazing privileges will be with the same terms and conditions found within the current permit.

Decision: Based on a review of the project described above and field office staff recommendations, I have determined that the project is in conformance with the land use plan and is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis. It is my decision to approve the action as proposed, with the following stipulations (if applicable).

Approved By: /s/ Ruben Sánchez **Date:** 05/19/2014
Ruben Sánchez
Field Manager, Kingman Field Office

- 1) **Exhibits: Stipulations:** This grazing transfer will contain the same terms and conditions as the current permit and the grazing season will remain the same.