

**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**

**NEPA No.** DOI-BLM-ID-T030-2014-0023-CX

A. Background

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

**Proposed Action Title/Type:** Issue a Special Recreation Permit to Sun Valley Marketing Alliance.

**Location of Proposed Action:** Boise Meridian, Range 17 East, Township 4 North, Section 24. The general location is the River Run portion of the Bald Mountain Ski Area.

**Description of Proposed Action:** The Bureau of Land Management, Shoshone Field Office (BLM) is responding to an application from Sun Valley Marketing Alliance for a special recreation permit (SRP) for the use of BLM-administered public lands in conjunction with their 2014 mountain bike national championship race event to be held in Ketchum, Idaho. Sun Valley Marketing Alliance is proposing to host the event on Bald Mountain within the permitted ski area for Sun Valley Company. The ski area encompasses land owned by Sun Valley Company, and public lands administered by both the BLM and United States Forest Service (USFS). The event would include one race on July 5, 2014. The race would use existing trails on USFS and BLM administered public lands as well as Sun Valley Company owned lands. The Special Recreation Permit would include stipulations to which Sun Valley Marketing Alliance would be required to adhere.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

**Land Use Plan Name:** Sun Valley Management Framework Plan (MFP).

**Date Approved/Amended:** December 1981/August 2003.

The proposed action is in conformance with the Sun Valley Analysis Unit Specific Management Decisions and Rationale for Recreation. Recreation Decision Number 1 states, "Manage the Bald Mountain area for intensive ski development. Allow additional development that is in accordance with a master plan approved by BLM and the U.S. Forest Service in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of the Bald Mountain Winter Sports Area". (Sun Valley MFP, Pg SV-9)

**C. Compliance with NEPA:**

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with the 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 areas acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads, trails or in areas authorized in a land use plan. This CX cannot be used for commercial boating permits along Wild and Scenic Rivers. This CX cannot be used for the establishment or issuance of Special Recreation Permits for “Special Area” management” (43 CFR 2932.5).

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.

The proposed action does not include any surface disturbance, is temporary, and does not require motorized cross-country travel; thus any potential wilderness characteristics would not be affected. The requested locations are not within a Wilderness Study Area (WSA).

There is no potential for significant impacts because of the type of action and stipulations. Mountain biking has occurred in this area since 1987 and the Sun Valley Company has been hosting and allowing large events and concerts on their property for 75 years. As long as the permittee follows the operating plan and stipulations, impacts are negligible and pose no significant impacts to other resource values.

**D. Signature**

Authorizing Official: /s/ Elizabeth Maclean

Date: 6/23/2014

Name: Elizabeth Maclean

Title: Shoshone Field Manager

**E. Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact John Kurtz, Outdoor Recreation Planner, at (208)732-7296 or at 400 West F Street, Shoshone, Idaho 83352.