

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

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

**NEPA No. DOI-ID-T0300-2015-0001-CX**

**A. Background**

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

Proposed Action Title/Type: White Cloud Outfitters Special Recreation Permit (SRP)

Location of Proposed Action: All public land managed by the BLM within Idaho Department of Fish and Game Moose Hunt Unit 44. This unit includes all BLM land within the Shoshone Field Office north of Highway 20, east of Fairfield/Soldier Creek, west of Lava Lake and south of the Sawtooth National Forest Ketchum Ranger District.

Description of Proposed Action: The Shoshone Field Office has received an application for a one-time bull moose hunt in Idaho Fish and Game Hunt Unit Moose area 44. This unit includes IDFG big game units 44, 48, and 49 which is composed of all BLM land within the Shoshone Field Office north of Highway 20. The hunt will take place October 28 – November 3 and consists of one hunter, one non-hunter, one guide, and one packer. Motorized vehicles will stay on existing roads, however, hunting will occur primarily on horseback. Scouting will take place in late August and September. Camping will occur on the U.S. Forest Service Sawtooth National Recreation Area (SNRA) across from Anderson Creek; no camping will occur on BLM.

**B. Land Use Plan Conformance**

Land Use Plan Name: Sun Valley Management Framework Plan (MFP). Date Approved/Amended: 2003.

The proposed action is in conformance with the Sun Valley MFP. Even though outfitting and guiding is not specifically addressed it is clearly consistent with the management philosophies for each of the management units.

North Camas Management Unit General Philosophy: “The majority of this area is identified for disposal by state exchange or other means. Some large blocks of public land will be retained and managed for open space, recreation, wildlife habitat, and livestock grazing.”

Big Wood Management Unit General Philosophy: “This unit will be managed to protect the watershed resources, wildlife habitat, open space, and scenic values. However, continued livestock grazing, timber harvesting, recreational activities, and mineral development will be encouraged as long as the proposed uses do not significantly reduce the other values.”

Muldoon Management Unit General Philosophy: “This area will be managed for multiple use with livestock grazing, watershed protection, recreation, and wildlife habitat being the major uses.”

Sun Valley Management Unit General Philosophy: “This area will be managed for recreation, local government needs, and open space.”

**C. Compliance with NEPA:**

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act in accordance with the Categorical Exclusion (CX) reference in 516 DM 11.9 H (1) which includes: 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.

There is no potential for significant impacts because of the type of action, stipulations and the fact that this permit is for a single event. Big game hunting has occurred in the project area for decades and, providing motorized vehicles stay on existing roads, impacts are negligible and pose no significant impacts to other resource values.

**D. Signature**

Authorizing Official: /s/ Holly Crawford (for) Date: 10/20/14

Name: Codie Martin

Title: Acting Shoshone Field Manager

**Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact John Kurtz, Outdoor Recreation Planner, 208-732-7296.