

**NEPA COMPLIANCE RECORD
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX)
Safford Field Office**

NEPA #: DOI-BLM-AZ-G010-2014-00016-CX

Serial/Case File No. Grazing allotments (#05218 and 05218)

Proposed Action Title/Type: The proposed action is the transfer of grazing preferences on the Bidigin and D'Amico Allotments.

Location of Proposed Action (include name of 7.5 topographic map): The Bidigin and D'Amico allotments are located in the central portion of Cochise County, approximately 15 miles north of Douglas, AZ, and are on the southwest aspect of the Swiss helm Mountains. Topography is characterized by high mountains and small valleys.

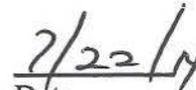
Description of Proposed Action: Transfer the existing grazing preference from the current permittee Phillip Stadler to Coy James. All terms and conditions of the permit would remain the same.

Applicant (if any): Coy James

PART I: PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW. This proposed action is subject to the following land use plan: Safford District Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Record of Decision approved September 1992 and July 1994.

The proposed action has been reviewed and determined to be in conformance with this plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM MS 1617.3).


Specialist Signature


Date

PART II: CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW

NEPA #: DOI-BLM-AZ-G010-2014-00016-CX

ASSIGNMENT AND REVIEW

Subactivity: _____
Case/Project No.: 05218/05222

Project Name: Bidigin/D'Amico Allotment Transfer
Location (legal description): T 20S , R. 27E W. Sec. 20-36
NLCS Unit: _____
Quad Name: Swisshelm Mountain
Project Lead: RJ Estes

Draft Review: Unit Manager/Supervisor: Melanie Barnes Date: 7/22/14
Technical Review:

Applies?		NAME	EXCEPTION	SIGNATURE	DATE
Yes	No				
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RJ Estes	(1) Have Significant adverse effects on public health or safety?	<i>RJ</i>	7/22/14
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Todd Mordak	(2) Have adverse effects on such unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources, parks, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, floodplains or ecologically significant or critical areas including those listed on the Department's National Register of Natural Landmarks.	<i>Todd Mordak</i>	7/22/14
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M. Barnes	(3) Have highly controversial environmental effects	<i>M. Barnes</i>	7/22/14
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M. Barnes	(4) Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	<i>M. Barnes</i>	7/22/14
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M. Barnes	(5) Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	<i>M. Barnes</i>	7/22/14
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M. Barnes	(6) Individually Insignificant, but cumulatively significant effects.	<i>M. Barnes</i>	7/22/14
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dan McGrew	(7) Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.	<i>Dan McGrew</i>	08/13/14
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tim Goodman	(8) Have adverse effects on species listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species.	<i>Tim Goodman</i>	7/22/14
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dan McGrew	(9) Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	<i>Dan McGrew</i>	08/13/14
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tim Goodman	(10) Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations.	<i>Tim Goodman</i>	7/22/14
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dan McGrew	(11) Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners.	<i>Dan McGrew</i>	08/13/14
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dave Arthun	(12) Contribute to the introduction, continuation existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species.	<i>Dave Arthun</i>	7-22-14

Final Review:

Environmental Coordinator: Melanie Barnes Date: 7/22/14

This proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act in accordance with 516 DM 11, 11.9, D (1): Rangeland Management-Approval of transfers of grazing preference.

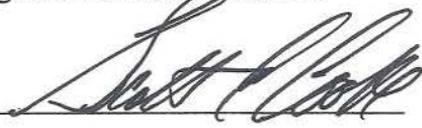
This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. It has been reviewed to determine if any of the exceptions described in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply.

The action does not have significant adverse effects on public health and safety nor does the action adversely affect such unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources, parks, recreation, or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, floodplains, or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department's National Register of Natural Landmarks. The action does not have highly controversial environmental effects nor have highly uncertain environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risk nor does it adversely affect a species listed or proposed to be listed on the list of endangered or threatened species. It does not establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about a future consideration with significant environmental effects or related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. The proposed action does not adversely affect properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or threaten to violate a Federal, State, local or tribal law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment or which require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands) or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act.

Mitigation Measures/Stipulations:

No mitigation measures or stipulations are warranted in this transfer.

Part III: Decision. I have reviewed this plan conformance and NEPA compliance record and have determined that the proposed action does not conflict with major land-use-plans and will not have any major adverse impacts on other resources. Therefore, it does not represent an exception, and is categorically excluded from further environmental review. It is my decision to implement the project, as described, with the mitigation measures attached.

Authorized Official:  Date: 8/18/14