

Checklist for Determination of Existing NEPA Adequacy

Document Title: Double H Outfitter permit application	
Document Number: DOI-BLM-AZ- 600-2015-0003	Case File Number: AZA 33270
Preparer Name and Title: Todd Murdock/ Outdoor Recreation Planner	
Date Scoping Initiated: 10/27/2014	Date Scoping Closed:



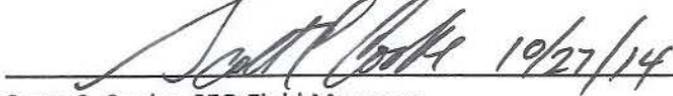
 Thomas J. Schnell, AFM For Non-Renewable Resources

Biologist Assigned: ~~Choose a value~~ Jeff Conn

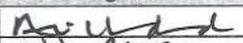
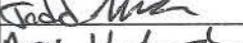
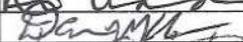
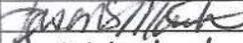
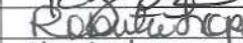
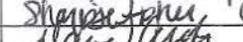
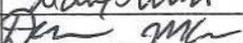
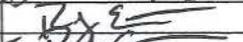
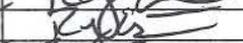
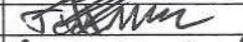
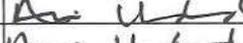
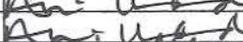
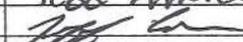


 Acting AFM For Renewable Resources

 NEPA Coordinator Assigned

 10/27/14

 Scott C. Cooke, SFO Field Manager

Critical Elements & Other Issues	Specialist	Affected		Comments		Document Review Signature	Date
		Yes	No	Yes	No		
Air Quality*	Renewable AFM		✓		✓		11/17/14
ACECs*	Todd Murdock		✓		✓		11/14/14
Climate Change	Renewable AFM		✓		✓		11/17/14
Cultural Resources*	Dan McGrew		✓		✓		11/17/14
Env. Jus. & Socioeconomics*	Tim Goodman J. Martin		✓		✓		11/17/14
Floodplains*	Renewable AFM		✓		✓		11/17/14
Hazardous Materials*	RJ Estes		✓		✓		11/17/14
Lands/Realty	Roberta Lopez		✓		✓		11/17/14
NEPA Maps	Sharisse Fisher		✓		✓		11/17/14
Nonnative/Invasive Plants*	Dave Arthun		✓		✓		11-25-14
Native American Rel.*	Dan McGrew		✓		✓		11/17/14
Prime/Unique Farmlands*	Appropriate RMS		✓		✓		11/17/14
Range	Appropriate RMS		✓		✓		11/17/14
Soils	Appropriate RMS		✓		✓		11/17/14
Solid Waste*	RJ Estes		✓		✓		11/17/14
T&E Animal Species*	Tim Goodman		✓		✓		11/24/14
T&E Fish/Fisheries*	Heidi Blasius		✓		✓		11/24/14
T&E Plant Species*	Tim Goodman		✓		✓		11/24/14
VRM*	Todd Murdock		✓		✓		11/14/14
Water Quality (Grnd. & Srfc.)*	Renewable AFM		✓		✓		11/17/14
Water Rights	Renewable AFM		✓		✓		11/17/14
Wetland/Riparian*	Renewable AFM		✓		✓		11/17/14
Wild & Scenic River*	Todd Murdock		✓		✓		11/17/14
Wilderness*	Todd Murdock		✓		✓		11/14/14
Wilderness Characteristics	Todd Murdock		✓		✓		11/14/14
Wildlife	Biologist Assigned	✓			✓		11/24/14
Other							

*required by law

Attachments: _____

Planning and Environmental Coordinator: Roberta Lopez Date: 11/25/14

Roberta Lopez (acting) Date: 11/25/14
 Assistant Field Manager – Reviewed/Recommended

Worksheet
Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy (DNA)

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
NEPA #: DOI-BLM-AZ-G010-2015-0003

A. BLM Office: Safford Field Office

Lease/Serial/Case File No. AZA33270

Project Title/Type: Double H Outfitters SRP

Location of Proposed Action: Safford Field Office (Gila Mountains, Gila Box, Eagle Creek, Bonita Creek, Aravaipa Canyon vicinity, Units 27,28,31,32)

Description of the Proposed Action: Double H Outfitters to provide guided hunts for bighorn sheep within the Safford Field Office from December 1, 2014, to December 1, 2019. Group size would average 3-6 people per trip with 1-2 trips per year. Average length of each trip would be up to 7 days. Overnight camping would take place on state and public land. No horses or pack animals will be used. The outfitter would provide meals, snacks, and bottled water. Cooking would be done with a stove and wood fire. All trash and game parts would be hauled out and properly disposed of. Pit toilets would be used for human waste. First aid kits will be carried on each trip. Standard stipulations for all commercial recreation use will apply including noxious weed stipulations and Leave No Trace principles. This will be a 5-year permit.

Applicant (if any):

B. Conformance with the Land Use Plan (LUP) and Consistency with Related Subordinate Implementation Plans

LUP Name*	Safford RMP	Date Approved	<u>ROD Part I Sept,1992 and</u> <u>ROD Part II July, 1994</u>
LUP Name*	_____	Date Approved	_____
Other document**	_____	Date Approved	_____

*List applicable LUPs (e.g., Resource Management Plans or applicable amendments).

**List applicable activity, project, management, water quality restoration, or program plans.

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUPs because **it is specifically** provided for in the following LUP decisions:

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 decisions (objectives, terms, and conditions):

The Safford District will endeavor to provide a variety of recreational opportunities that meets public demand and are compatible with the Bureau's stewardship responsibilities.

C. Identify the applicable NEPA document(s) and other related documents that cover the proposed action.

List by name and date all applicable NEPA documents that cover the proposed action.

Special Recreation Permits for Commercial Recreation Activities on Public Lands in Arizona EA Number AZ-931-93-001.

List by name and date other documentation relevant to the proposed action (e.g., source drinking water assessments, biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, rangeland health standard's assessment and determinations, and monitoring the report).

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the current proposed action substantially the same action (or is a part of that action) as previously analyzed?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes

The proposed actions are provided for in the Safford RMP. Additionally the existing special recreation permit EA for commercial recreation activities on public lands in Arizona analyzes day use and multiple day trips for commercial recreation operators who propose activities that comply with the standard stipulations shown in Attachment A of the EA. Much of the EA analyzes overnight camping, multiple day activities, vehicle use, use of pack stock, use of campfires, and use of latrines.

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the current proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, resource values, and circumstances?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes

The trips Double H Outfitters proposes are included in the types of activities analyzed in the 1993 SRP EA. The types of activities proposed are covered by the analysis of the existing EA.

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, riparian proper functioning condition [PFC] reports; rangeland health standards assessments; inventory and monitoring data; most recent lists of endangered species listing; updated BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that all new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes

The existing EA analyzes two alternatives, the Proposed Action Alternative (issues a commercial permit with stipulations) and the No Action Alternative (no permitting). That range of alternatives adequately covers Double H. Outfitters proposed guided hunts. There has been no significant change in the circumstances or significant new information germane to the Proposed Action. Additional wildlife species and critical habitat have been listed under the Endangered Species Act since preparation of the existing EA. The Safford Field Office reviewed the current Fish and Wildlife Service; IPAC Species List in relation to the actions specified in the permit request in conjunction with the standard Special Recreation Permit stipulations and concluded that there would be no effect from the proposed action on listed species. There are no issues regarding invasive species, water quality, and Environmental Justice

4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes

The direct and indirect impacts of the proposed guiding business are not significantly different than those identified in the existing SRP EA. The impacts of these activities would be less than many of the overnight activities analyzed in the existing EA. Further, additional beneficial economic impacts would result from the issuance of a permit for the proposed guiding activity.

The proposed hunting guiding business would not change the analysis of cumulative impacts in the existing EA because it is included in the types of commercial activities analyzed in that EA. Further, the existing environment has not changed substantially since 1993, necessitating further analysis of impacts from commercial recreation uses.

5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes

Public involvement in the existing SRP was substantial. About 700 draft EAs were mailed for review and comment during preparation of the analysis. Many individuals, organizations, and agencies were asked to review the draft EA.

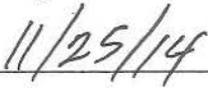
DECISION:

I have reviewed this plan conformance and NEPA compliance record and have determined that the proposed action is either (a) in conformance with or (b) clearly consistent with terms, conditions, and decisions of the approved land use plan and that no further environmental analysis is required. It is my Decision to implement the project, as described, with the mitigation measures identified below.

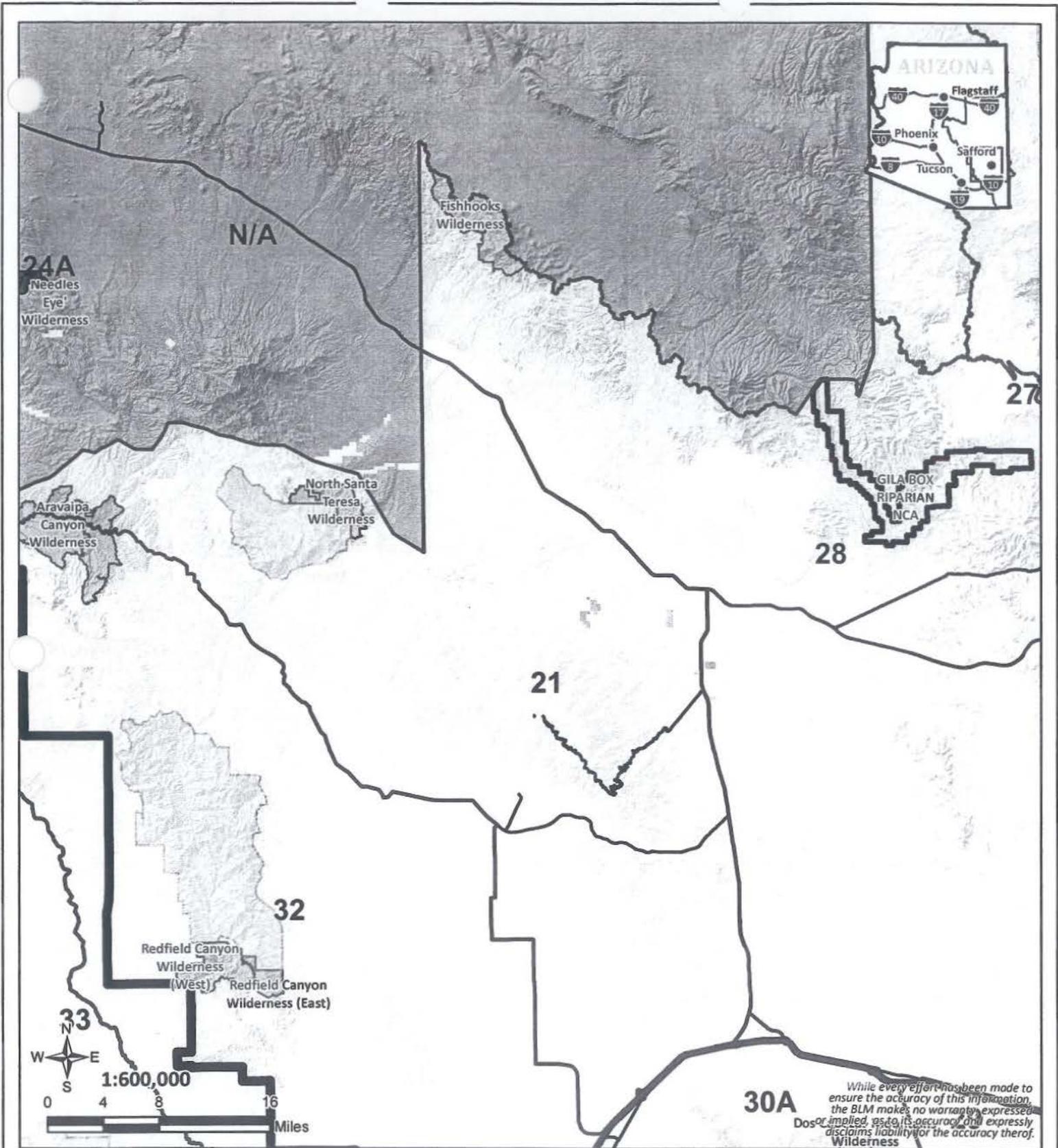
Mitigation measures or other remarks:



Field Manager



Date



Double H Outfitter
DOI-BLM-AZ-G010-2015-0003

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------|---|--------------------|
|  | BLM Wilderness Area |  | State |
|  | BLM |  | Private |
|  | Indian Lands |  | Proposed campsites |

United States Department of the Interior
 Bureau of Land Management
 Gila District Office
 Safford Field Office

