

Worksheet
Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Offices: **Vermilion Cliffs National Monument**
Kanab Field Office

Tracking Number: N/A

Casefile/Project Number: **DOI-BLM-AZ-A020-2015-0006-DNA**

Proposed Action Title/Type: **Claremont United and Chad Nichols Special Recreation Permits**

Location/Legal Description: **The proposed action is within the Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness and Vermilion Cliffs National Monument, Kanab Field Office, Paria and Sand Hills Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs)**

Gila and Salt River Meridian AZ, Coconino County, Townships 40, 41, 42 North, Ranges 03, 04, 05, 06, 07 East.

Salt Lake Meridian UT, Kane County, Townships 44, 43 North Ranges 01, 02 West

A. Description of the Proposed Action and any applicable mitigation measures

The proposed action is to authorize Special Recreation Permits (SRPs) for Claremont United Church of Christ Congregational (CUCCC) and Chad Nichols. CUCCC would guide backpacking trips from White House, Wire Pass, Buckskin, or Middle Route Trailheads to Lee's Ferry. These trips would include traveling in the Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness. The trips would include camping in the Paria Canyon permit area with at least a 200' distance from springs. The applicants anticipate guiding clients through Paria Canyon during the spring and fall months when the risk for flash flooding is lower and temperatures are more comfortable. If weather has made it dangerous to travel in the slot canyons, the group would visit other areas of Vermilion Cliffs National Monument (such as White Pocket) using 4X4 vehicles.

Chad Nichols would guide photography and backpacking workshops. These workshops could consist of overnight camping. The guide would also lead the photography trips into Paria Canyon-Coyote Buttes Special Management Area (SMA). These authorized guided activities in the SMA would abide by SMA rules/permit regulations and would not exceed group size limits. Permits for the SMA (separate from the guides' SRP) would need to be obtained separately by all clients either via the online permitting system

(http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/fo/arizona_strip_field.html) or the walk-in lottery (http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/arolrsmain/paria/coyote_butttes.html). Day trips into Wire Pass,

Buckskin Gulch, Paria Canyon, and Middle Route require day-use permits from the trailheads. The applicant would use 4x4 vehicles to access the areas.

The permits' duration would be for 10 years, contingent on annual authorization letters. Vermilion Cliffs National Monument would be the lead office for these permits.

B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance

LUP Name/Date Approved *Vermilion Cliffs National Monument Resource Management Plan (RMP), January 29, 2008*

The proposed action is in conformance with this RMP because it is specifically provided for in the following decisions:

- **DFC-RR-12:** The primary strategy for the Sand Hills SRMA is to target a demonstrated undeveloped recreation-tourism market demand from local community and regional/national visitors for hunting opportunities, guided backcountry tours, hiking, viewing, and appreciating wildland landscapes, and motorized/mechanized/nonmechanized exploring. This demand is supported by the area's distinctive remote, rugged landscape, its vast size, and the largely open, undeveloped character of its recreation settings. Regional and local recreation-tourism visitors value this area for the distinctive kinds of dispersed recreation it produces.
- **DFC-RR-15:** The primary strategy for the Paria SRMA would be to target a demonstrated destination recreation-tourism market demand from community resident, regional, national and international visitors for viewing unique geology and enjoying world-class slot canyon backpacking and hiking. This demand is supported by the area's distinctive landscape of spectacular geology and scenery, challenging terrain, and its connectivity to other world-class sites (Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, Glen Canyon NRA, and Kanab Field Office). Recreation-tourism visitors, ranging from local to international, highly value these public lands as recreation-tourism destinations.
- **MA-RR-12:** The current group sizes and visitor use limits in Paria Canyon, Buckskin Gulch, Wire Pass, and Coyote Buttes will continue, subject to adaptive management decisions deemed necessary through monitoring and evaluation of resource and social conditions. Current visitor use limits are 20 persons per day (cumulative from all access points), in each of the three sections of the Special Management Area: Paria Canyon, Coyote Buttes North, and Coyote Buttes South, or a total daily limit of 60. Maximum group size in Paria Canyon is 10, and in Coyote Buttes North and South, the limit is 6. Dogs are allowed in all areas, but are subject to applicable fees. Fees for all non-commercial permits are \$5 per person, per day. For visitors wishing to bring their dogs into the Paria Canyon/Coyote Buttes Special Management Area, the cost is \$5 per dog, per day.
- **MA-RR-27:** SRP application packages--- would be considered for authorization on a case-by-case basis upon receipt of application.

- **MA-RR-31:** Commercial, competitive, organized group/event, and special area permits may be authorized when such uses accomplish or are compatible with management objectives and other plan provisions. Recreation activities requiring use authorization may be limited in listed species and other sensitive habitats.

LUP Name/Date Approved *Kanab Field Office Resource Management Plan, October, 2008*

The proposed action is in conformance with this RMP because it is specifically provided for in the following decisions:

- **REC 22:** Management responses to unacceptable resource and/or social conditions would range from least restrictive methods (e.g., information and education) to most restrictive (e.g., visitor limits, supplemental rules, or restrictions). Where feasible, the least restrictive methods would be the first priority.
- **REC 37:** Issue SRPs after evaluation of the various factors including the following:
 - Use conforms to the recreation goals and objectives outlines in the RMP
 - Nature of proposed event or activity (i.e., commercial versus competitive)
 - Size (acreage) and sensitivity of land and resources affected (ACEC, WSA, Wilderness)
 - Compatibility with other uses, activities, and visitors in that area
 - Proposed number of participants and group size
 - Associated vehicle and equipment
 - Time (daily, seasonally) and duration of proposed us
 - Potential social impacts (crowding, group encounters, conflicting activities, and/or experiences)
 - Specific resources impacted (e.g., wildlife, cultural, paleontology, visual, riparian, soil, air and water)
 - Rehabilitation and monitoring needs and feasibility
 - Support needs (people, equipment, supplies, vehicles)
 - Safety issues
- **WL-29:** Non-permanent (short-term) activities would be allowed within the spatial buffer ($\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile for general raptor species, 1 mile for peregrine) of nests during the nesting season as long as those activities are shown to be non-impacting to nesting raptors.

Due to the topography of Paria Canyon, a restriction of one-half mile would protect nesting raptors, including peregrine.

In addition, the proposed action would not conflict with other decisions contained within these RMPs.

C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.

Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Commercial Motorized Special Recreation Permits on Vermilion Cliffs National Monument and Ferry Swale Area (DOI-BLM-AZ-020-2010-0001-EA), July 7, 2011.

Special Recreation Permits for Commercial Recreation Activities on Public Lands in Arizona (EA-AZ-931-93-001), August 24, 1993

EA-AZ-010-97-16 Paria Canyon/Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness Management Plan Amendment – this EA amends recreation management within the wilderness from the Paria Canyon – Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness Management Plan (1986).

Other related documents: Paria Canyon – Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness Management Plan, September 1986.

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

DOI-BLM-AZ-020-2010-0001-EA specifically analyzes motorized vehicle tours within Vermilion Cliffs National Monument.

EA-AZ-010-97-16 analyzes this type of activity, specifically within the same area in which the proposed action would occur. This EA states that, “Commercial services may be authorized for activities that are appropriate to realize recreational or other wilderness purposes of the area.” Any activities authorized in the wilderness must meet the objectives set out in the Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness Management Plan. The recreation objectives state:

The area would be managed to provide a spectrum of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation, featuring a natural wilderness environment, solitude, physical and mental challenge, and inspiration consistent with preservation of wilderness values. Commercial use would be managed to allow outfitters and guides to meet public needs as appropriate when that use is consistent with the protection of the wilderness resource.

The Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness Management Plan also states that the BLM would continue to monitor any commercial use, the impacts of commercial use as it related to Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) and adaptive management practices.

Within EA-AZ-931-93-001 it states:

Recreation: BLM manages public lands for a full range of recreation activities, including hiking, mountain biking, rock-hounding, hunting, camping, off highway vehicle driving,

nature study, and horseback riding. About 9 million visitor-use days occur on BLM land in Arizona. Many of these uses are by do-it-yourselfers who own the equipment and have the skills to participate on their own. Others who wish to experience the outdoors in natural settings rely on the services of commercial operators ("guides" or "outfitters") who lead trips onto public land for a fee.

The current proposed action is therefore essentially similar to that analyzed in the existing EAs, and covers the same area analyzed in these EAs.

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

Documentation of answer and explanation:

There are four alternatives analyzed in DOI-BLM-AZ-020-2010-0001-EA with Alternative C as the proposed action. Alternative C states, "This alternative represents the proposed action for motorized commercial recreation while providing for the protection of natural and cultural resources (i.e., Monument objects) and visitor experiences. Under this alternative, conservation management of natural resources would be emphasized utilizing an adaptive management program while traditional uses and commercial recreational opportunities would be maintained to the extent possible." This EA focused on SRP holders that would spend the majority of their trips using motorized vehicles for tours and not shuttling to trailheads. "...commercial activities within the Paria Canyon, Vermilion Cliffs, and Cliffs and Rims RMZs, as well as trailhead access to the Coyote Buttes South permit area (Coyote Buttes RMZ) are not part of the alternatives analyzed in this assessment since: a) these RMZs are within designated wilderness and would therefore not have motorized use within them; and/or b) involve activities (such as trailhead shuttles) that primarily involve non-motorized uses." While the majority of the activities proposed in the current proposed action would be for shuttling hikers to trailheads to access the Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness, there could also be some guided motorized tours outside of the wilderness, so DOI-BLM-AZ-020-2010-0001-EA is appropriate for this DNA analysis.

The Paria Canyon/Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness Management Plan Amendment (EA-AZ-010-97-16) has four alternatives, the Proposed Action, Alternative A, Alternative B, and No Action Alternative. The proposed action establishes use limits. It adds mandatory reservations, and limited number of permits. Alternative A is similar to the proposed action, however it would not change use limits. Alternative B would more aggressively and intensively manage the wilderness with greater use limits. The No Action Alternative would continue with current management where fees are collected without use limits or requiring permits.

The range of alternatives considered in the existing EA-AZ-931-93-001, is also appropriate with respect to the current proposed action. There are two alternatives analyzed in EA-AZ-931-93-001, the proposed action and no action. The proposed action in that EA would provide the BLM with the ability to approve, deny, or modify a proposed operation, as well as modify or add to the list of stipulations that commercial operators must comply with. Thus, should monitoring reveal

that the proposed action is causing significant conflicts or adverse impacts to other resources or uses, special limits or rules would be developed and implemented through required procedures to mitigate those impacts. This is relevant to the current proposed action because specific stipulations would be included to minimize impacts to resources.

Since EA-AZ-931-93-001 was issued, Vermilion Cliffs National Monument was designated (in 2000) through Presidential Proclamation. The establishment of the monument did not change the validity of this existing EA including the appropriateness of the range of alternatives, because any resource that could have been affected by the proposed action was analyzed, including those now considered monument objects.

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Since the existing EA No. EA-AZ-931-93-001 was issued, Vermilion Cliffs National Monument was designated. Designation of the monument would not change the analysis contained within the existing EA, because the EA analyzed impacts to resources that are now considered Monument objects, with the exception of the California condor reintroduction program. The condor reintroduction project began after the completion of the EA-AZ-931-93-001, in 1996. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service began releasing a non-essential, experimental population of California Condors (*Gymnogyps californianus*) as a part of a species recovery effort. EA No. DOI-BLM-AZ-020-2010-0001-EA was completed after designation of Vermilion Cliffs National Monument, and potential impacts to Vermilion Cliffs National Monument objects were fully considered and analyzed in that document.

EA-AZ-010-97-16 states that the BLM would, "Restrict Bureau-permitted activities within known/occupied nesting and other crucial use areas of threatened or endangered raptors or other special status species." Commercial climbing would not be permitted in the canyons. Restrictions on activities that could affect raptors are included as part of the current proposed action and mitigating measures addressing special status species would be attached to the permit as stipulations. (The stipulations applicable for these SRPs can be located on Page 10.) Thus, the existing analyses are still valid.

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:

The impacts of the proposed action are similar to those contained within the existing EAs in that:

Chapters 3 and 4 of DOI-BLM-AZ-020-2010-0001-EA, in conjunction with the Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences sections of EA-AZ-931-93-001, addressed the direct and indirect impacts of actions essentially similar to the current proposed action. The impacts are sufficiently site-specific and detailed in the EAs for the level of the current proposed project, and would not differ from the EA analysis. The current proposed action would not change the anticipated cumulative impacts that were analyzed in the EAs.

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:

The nature of public involvement in the EAs remains in compliance with NEPA public involvement requirements. Consultation and coordination for these EAs was extensive. During the public review process, over 700 persons and/or organizations received information about EA-AZ-931-93-001, and interested individuals, groups and agencies received information about EA-AZ-010-97-16.

The BLM began the process of involving the public on December 10, 2008 for DOI-BLM-AZ-020-2010-0001-EA by mailing scoping letters to over 300 special recreation permit holders and special interest organizations, Federal, state, and local government entities, Tribes, and other potentially affected parties, requesting comments or issue concerns during a 30-day scoping period. A news release for this environmental assessment was issued on December 19, 2008. The public was notified of the availability of a preliminary EA by sending a Notice of Availability of the EA on June 9, 2010, to approximately 370 parties of interest on the Arizona Strip District mailing list, other authorized land users in the area, SRP holders and applicants, and tribes. This Notice of Availability allowed for a 35-day public comment period.

Public involvement and interagency review associated with the review of the EAs is adequate for the current proposed action as there is no deviation of the proposed action outside those areas and activities as stated and analyzed in the existing EAs.

E. Persons/Agencies /BLM Staff Consulted

Name, Title Resource

Gloria Benson, Tribal Liaison
Diana Hawks, Recreation/Wilderness/VRM
Laurie Ford, Lands/Realty/Minerals
Jeff Young, Wildlife/T&E Wildlife
John Herron, Cultural Resources
Jace Lambeth, Special Status Plants
Whit Bunting, Range/Vegetation/Weeds/S&G
Richard Spotts, Environmental Coordinator
John Sims, Supervisory Law Enforcement

Relevant Managers: Lorraine Christian, Arizona Strip Field Office Manager; Harry Barber, Kanab Field Office Manager

Steve Rosenstock, AZ Game and Fish Department

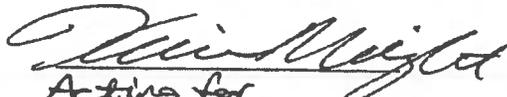
Daniel Bulletts, Acting Environmental Program Director for the Kaibab Paiute Tribe

Peter Bungart, Cultural Staff for the Hualapai Tribe

Dawn Hubbs, Cultural Staff for the Hualapai Tribe

Conclusion

Based on the review documented above, we conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plans and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.


Acting for
Lorraine M. Christian
Arizona Strip Field Office Manager

4/29/15
Date


for Harry Barber
Kanab Field Office Manager

4-29-15
Date

Note: The signed Conclusion on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and program-specific regulations.

Arizona Strip District Office

SPECIAL RECREATION PERMIT STIPULATIONS

In order to protect and preserve the natural and cultural resource values on the Arizona Strip and provide for public safety, the attached terms and conditions/stipulations are incorporated as part of the special recreation permit (SRP). These stipulations are specific to the Arizona Strip District and are in addition to those found within Form 2930-1 (SRP Application Permit) and BLM H-2930-1 (Recreation Permit Administration). These stipulations are incorporated as part of the SRP and apply to the permittee and all employees working for him/her. Failure to comply can result in permit revocation.

GENERAL Terms (FORMS 2930-1 AND 2930-2)

1. The permittee shall comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, ordinances, regulations, orders, postings, or written requirements applicable to the area or operations covered by the Special Recreation Permit (SRP). The permittee shall ensure that all persons operating under the authorization have obtained all required Federal, State, and local licenses or registrations. The permittee shall make every reasonable effort to ensure compliance with these requirements by all agents of the permittee and by all clients, customers, participants, or spectators under the permittee's supervision.
2. An SRP authorizes special uses of the public lands and related waters and, should circumstances warrant, the permit may be modified by the BLM at any time, including modification of the amount of use. The authorized officers may suspend or terminate an SRP if necessary to protect public resources, health, safety, the environment, or because of non-compliance with permit stipulations. Actions by the BLM to suspend or terminate an SRP are appealable.
3. No value shall be assigned to or claimed for the permit, or for the occupancy or use of Federal lands granted thereupon. The permit privileges are not to be considered property on which the permittee shall be entitled to earn or receive any return, income, price or compensation. The use of a permit as collateral is not recognized by the BLM.
4. Unless expressly stated, the SRP does not create an exclusive right of use of an area by the permittee. The permittee shall not interfere with other valid uses of the Federal land by other users. The United States reserves the right to use any part of the area for any purpose.
5. The permittee or permittee's representative may not assign, contract, or sublease any portion of the permit authorization or interest therein, directly or indirectly, voluntarily or involuntarily. However, contracting of equipment or services may be approved by the authorized officers in advance, if necessary to supplement a permittee's operations. Such contracting should not constitute more than half the required equipment or services for any one trip and the permittee must retain operational control of the permitted activity. If equipment or services are contracted, the permittee shall continue to be responsible for compliance with all stipulations and conditions of the permit.

6. All advertising and representations made to the public and the authorized officers must be accurate. Although the addresses and telephone numbers of the BLM may be included in advertising materials, official agency symbols may not be used. The permittee shall not use advertising that attempts to portray or represent the activities as being conducted by the BLM. The permittee may not portray or represent the permit fee as a special Federal user's tax. The permittee must furnish the authorized officers with any current brochure and price list if requested by the authorized officers.
7. The permittee must assume responsibility for inspecting the permitted area for any existing or new hazardous conditions, e.g., trail and route conditions, landslides, avalanches, rocks, changing water or weather conditions, falling limbs or trees, submerged objects, hazardous flora/fauna, abandoned mines, or other hazards that present risks for which the permittee assumes responsibility.
8. In the event of default on any mortgage or other indebtedness, such as bankruptcy, creditors shall not succeed to the operating rights or privileges of the permittee's SRP.
9. The permittee cannot, unless specifically authorized, erect, construct, or place any building, structure, or other fixture on public lands. Upon leaving, the lands must be restored as nearly as possible to pre-existing conditions.
10. The permittee must present or display a copy of the SRP to an authorized officers' representative, or law enforcement personnel upon request. If required, the permittee must display a copy of the permit or other identification tag on equipment used during the period of authorized use.
11. The authorized officers, or other duly authorized representative of the BLM, may examine any of the records or other documents related to the permit, the permittee or the permittee's operator, employee, or agent for up to three years after expiration of the permit.
12. The permittee must submit a post-use report to the authorized officers for every year the permit is in effect. If the post-use report is not received by the established deadline, the permit will be suspended and/or late fees assessed.
13. The permittee shall notify the authorized officers of any incident that occurs while involved in activities authorized by this permit, which result in death, personal injury requiring hospitalization or emergency evacuation, or in property damage greater than \$2,500 (lesser amounts if established by State law). Reports must be submitted within 24 hours. Contact BLM Ranger, John Sims at (435) 644-1211 or NPS Chief Ranger, Chad Corey at (435) 688-3280.

SRP MANAGEMENT

1. Permits issued for more than one year are subject to annual authorization. To secure authorization, the permit holder (and all persons operating under the permit, must:
 - a) Perform satisfactorily under the terms and conditions of this permit.
 - b) Be in conformance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, regulations, orders, postings, written requirements applicable to the area, and operations covered by

the permit.

- c) Ensure that all persons operating under the permit have obtained all required federal, state, and local licenses or registrations.
 - d) Have on file, with the office issuing the permit, current insurance identifying the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, as additional insured (see Insurance section below).
 - e) Have no outstanding, past due, or unpaid billing notices.
 - f) Turn in current post-use report showing gross income earned, pay 3% of gross from post-use report, and pay the minimum fee for commercial special recreation permits (see Financial section below).
2. The permittee must maintain, on file with the BLM, a current and correct list of employees who will be conducting services for the company on public lands. Persons providing services under this permit must be employees of the permittee.
 3. The permittee must allow BLM representatives to complete permit checks to determine the validity of the permit, to ascertain the group has a copy of the permit and all required equipment, and to orient trip participants about the use of public lands and related waters and safety.

Financial

1. The permittee must submit a post-use report by January 31. The report must contain a trip-by-trip log of: trip location with beginning and ending dates, number of clients, and guides, and gross receipts for the trip. In reporting gross receipts, the permittee will report all payments made by the customer, with the only exception being retail sales of durable goods that remain the property of the customer and have an expected service life extending beyond the guided activity.
2. Request for deductions based on pre/post trip transportation and lodging expenses and percentage of time on public land, if being claimed, must also be submitted with post-use. Requests for transportation and lodging deductions must be accompanied by copies of supporting receipts documenting proof of payment.
3. The permittee must maintain the following internal accounting records pertaining to the permit:
 - a) W-2 records or a similar record of employment for all employees conducting trips under the permit.
 - b) A record of all financial relationships with booking agents or advertisers.
 - c) A record of all receipts or compensation including payments, gratuities, donations, gifts, bartering, etc., received from any source on trips conducted under the permit.
 - d) A record of all payments made by the permittee and claimed as a deduction in the permittee's fee submission.
4. The BLM retains the right to verify permit compliance from the books, correspondence, memorandums, and other records of the permittee, and from the records pertaining thereto of a proprietary or affiliated company during the period of the permit and for 3 years thereafter

regardless of physical location.

Insurance

1. At a minimum, the permittee must have in force public liability insurance in the appropriate amount as shown on the permit.
2. The policy must state that the insurance company shall have no right of subrogation against the United States of America.
3. Such insurance must name the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, as additional insured and provide for specific coverage of the permittee's contractually assumed obligation to indemnify the United States against any claims.
4. The policy must stipulate that the authorized officers of the Bureau of Land Management shall be notified 30 calendar days in advance of the termination or modification of the policy.
5. The permit is not valid unless the permittee maintains a current authenticated certificate of the required insurance on file with the office issuing the permit.
6. The permittee must indemnify and hold harmless the United States against any responsibility or liability for damage, death, injury, or loss to persons and property that may occur during the permitted use period or as a result of such use.
7. The permittee must furnish a copy of the insurance policy directly to the authorized officers.
8. The name of the insured on the insurance policy must be the same as the name on the permit. Those permittees holding insurance policies that insure only the permittee and not the permittee's employees must ensure that their employees also have the required insurance in effect and that a certificate of insurance is furnished to the authorized officers.
9. For multiyear permits, the insurance policy must be provided the first year, but on each subsequent year the authorized officers may accept a valid certificate of insurance.

Environmental and Resource Protection

All trips must follow Leave No Trace principles.

LANDS AND REALTY

1. The permittee may be required to furnish written permission from private property landowners whose property, land, or water is affected by the use associated with the permit. The SRP does not give permission to cross over or use any private lands. The permittee is fully responsible for all trespass on and/or damage to private land which results from the conduct of their activities.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

2. Employees and clients will be instructed that it is unlawful to disturb, deface, excavate or remove any archaeological or paleontological objects or structures. Look but don't touch! Rock art may be photographed but not touched. Collection of prehistoric or historic artifacts is prohibited on Federal Lands and is prosecutable under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act and other laws, both federal and state. Disturbance, defacement, or excavation of prehistoric and historic sites is also prohibited (see ARPA for additional prohibited acts).

3. Intentional removal or excavation of Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects or objects of cultural patrimony is a violation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act

TRAVEL MANAGEMENT

4. Permittee shall limit vehicle traffic to the designated routes. No motorized cross-country travel is permitted.
5. All motor vehicle use will comply with applicable off-highway vehicle regulations.
6. The permittee will practice proper precautions to prevent the spread of noxious weeds/invasive species. Therefore, all machinery (street legal motorized vehicles, non-street legal all-terrain vehicles, trailers, etc.) that has been used outside the proposed use area must be cleaned prior to use and be free of accumulated plant parts (including the undercarriage) in order to prevent the possible introduction and spread of noxious weeds/invasive species.
7. Permittee is responsible for the proper cleanup of all vehicle fluid (including, but not limited to, fuel, motor oil, hydraulic fluid, gear oil, and coolants), vehicle parts, etc., prior to submission of the Post-Use Report and prior to the release of any required posted bond.
8. Ingress and egress access to Vermilion Cliffs National Monument (VCNM) and Kanab Field Office (KFO) is permitted through Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM) roads and trails. No tour or trip elements would be conducted on GSENM except for parking at trailheads and hiking into the permitted resource area.
9. No overnight camping of SRP groups at GSENM trailheads i.e., Wirepass trailhead and Buckskin trailhead. Camping may only be accommodated at established campsites i.e., Whitehouse campground/trailhead. All campground fees must be paid over and above SRP fees.

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

10. SRP holders must adhere to 43 CFR 4140.1 which prohibits: installing, using, maintaining, modifying, and/or removing range improvements without authorization; cutting, burning, spraying, destroying, or removing vegetation without authorization; damaging or removing U.S. property without authorization; littering; failing to reclose any gate or other entry during periods of livestock use; and interfering with lawful uses or users including obstructing free transit through or over the public lands by force, threat, intimidation, signs, barriers, or locked gates.
11. Harassment of livestock or destruction of private and public improvements such as water catchments, pipelines, fences and gates is prohibited. Gates will be left open or closed, as they are found.

WILDLIFE

General Requirements

12. Harassment of wildlife, destruction of or tampering with private and public improvements such as wildlife catchments is prohibited.

California condor

13. The permittee will notify the BLM Arizona Strip wildlife team lead (435-688-3373) within 5 days of the completion of the trip if California condors visit the participants while permitted activities are underway. Permittee and participants will be instructed to avoid interaction with condors. Subsequent activities will be modified if those activities are determined to have adverse effects on condors.
14. California condors are highly susceptible to the effects of micro-trash. Micro-trash includes small and easily ingestible materials such as bottle caps, broken glass, cigarette butts, small plastic bits, bullets, and bullet casings, even food materials. Any sites used will be cleaned up at the end of each day of use (e.g., trash removed, scrap materials picked up) to minimize the likelihood of condors visiting the site. BLM staff may conduct site visits to the area to ensure adequate clean-up measures are taken.

OVERNIGHT CAMPING

15. Camping is prohibited within ½ mile of active condor nests (2/1 to 11/30), golden eagle nests (2/1 to 11/30), peregrine nests (3/01 to 8/1), Mexican spotted owl nests (3/01 to 8/31), and golden or bald eagle winter roosts (10/15 to 4/15). (See Appendix B.)
16. Camping is prohibited in areas of known special status plants. (See Appendix B.)
17. All camps will be prohibited within one-quarter mile of a natural water hole or man-made watering facility containing water, to allow wildlife or domestic stock access to water.
18. All camps will be located at least 200 feet from any known archaeological sites, including prehistoric camps, rock shelters, caves, and historic buildings. For all trips and at all base camps with locations serviced by a motorized vehicle, the permittee must have a toilet system that allows for the proper carry-out and disposal of solid human body waste that is adequate for the size of the group and length of the trip. In locations remote from a permittee's vehicle, and outside Paria Canyon, solid human waste must be buried in a sunny location in bare soil or carried out. Toilet paper must be carried out and not buried or burned.
19. Camp locations and other use areas shall be maintained in a sanitary condition at all times; waste material at those areas shall be removed and disposed of promptly at an appropriate waste disposal site. "Waste" means all discarded matter including, but not limited to, human waste, trash and refuse. Burying garbage is prohibited.
20. At a vehicle based camp, the permittee must camp along designated "open" roads, in existing disturbed areas only.
21. The permittee must use existing campfire circles when they exist, rather than construct new ones. If no existing fire circles, sites should be selected that can be "naturalized" at departure.
22. Camp fires will have a vegetation free barrier of five feet or more away from trees, shrubs and other vegetation. Fires shall not be built next to rocks or encircled with stones/rocks, in order to avoid fire scars.
23. The permittee may use only dead and down wood for campfires (unless otherwise directed). Cutting or removing any live vegetation or standing dead vegetation is prohibited.

24. The permittee must take all reasonable precautions to prevent wild land fires. Fires must be out and cold when camp is unattended.

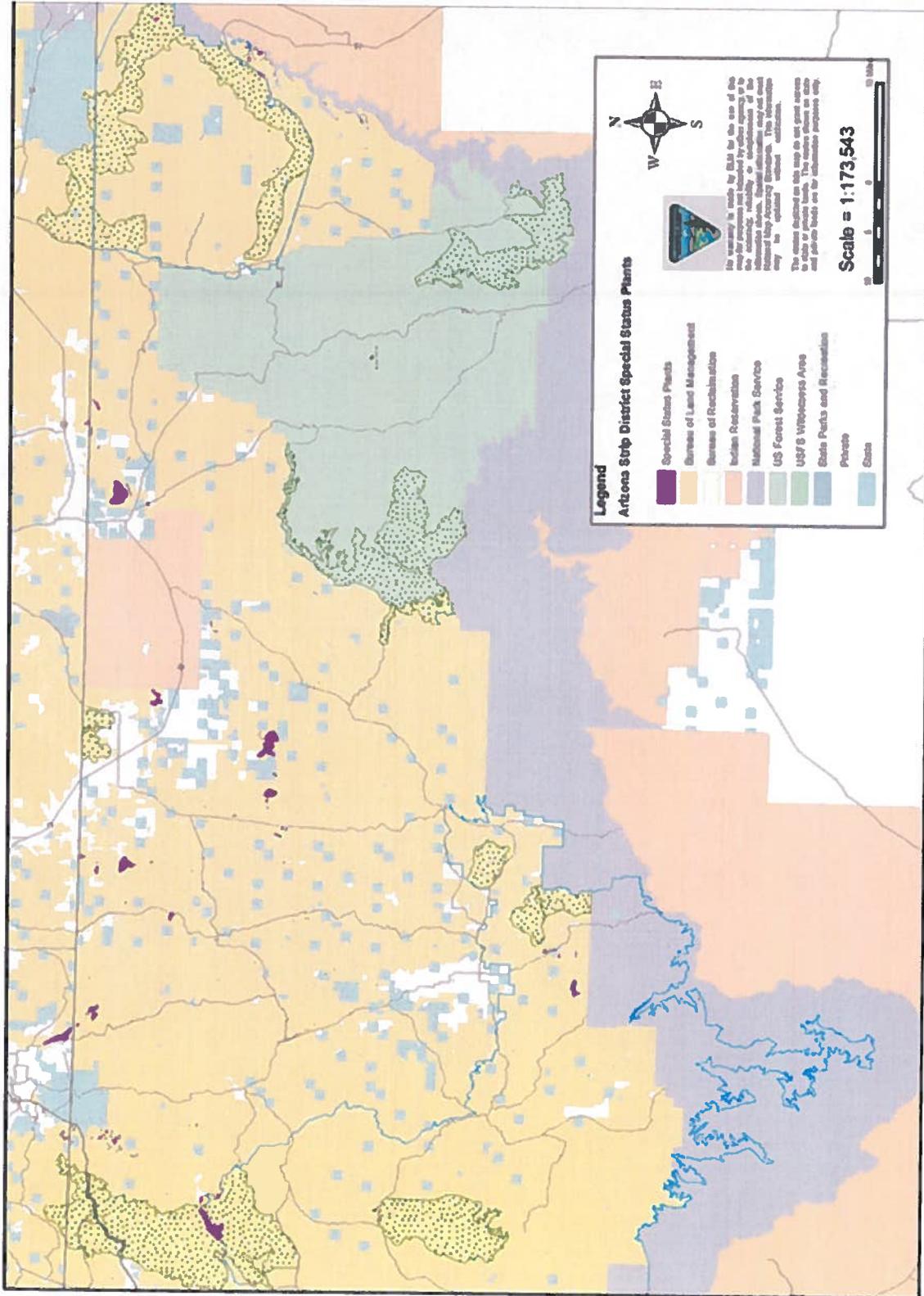
PARIA CANYON-VERMILION CLIFFS WILDERNESS

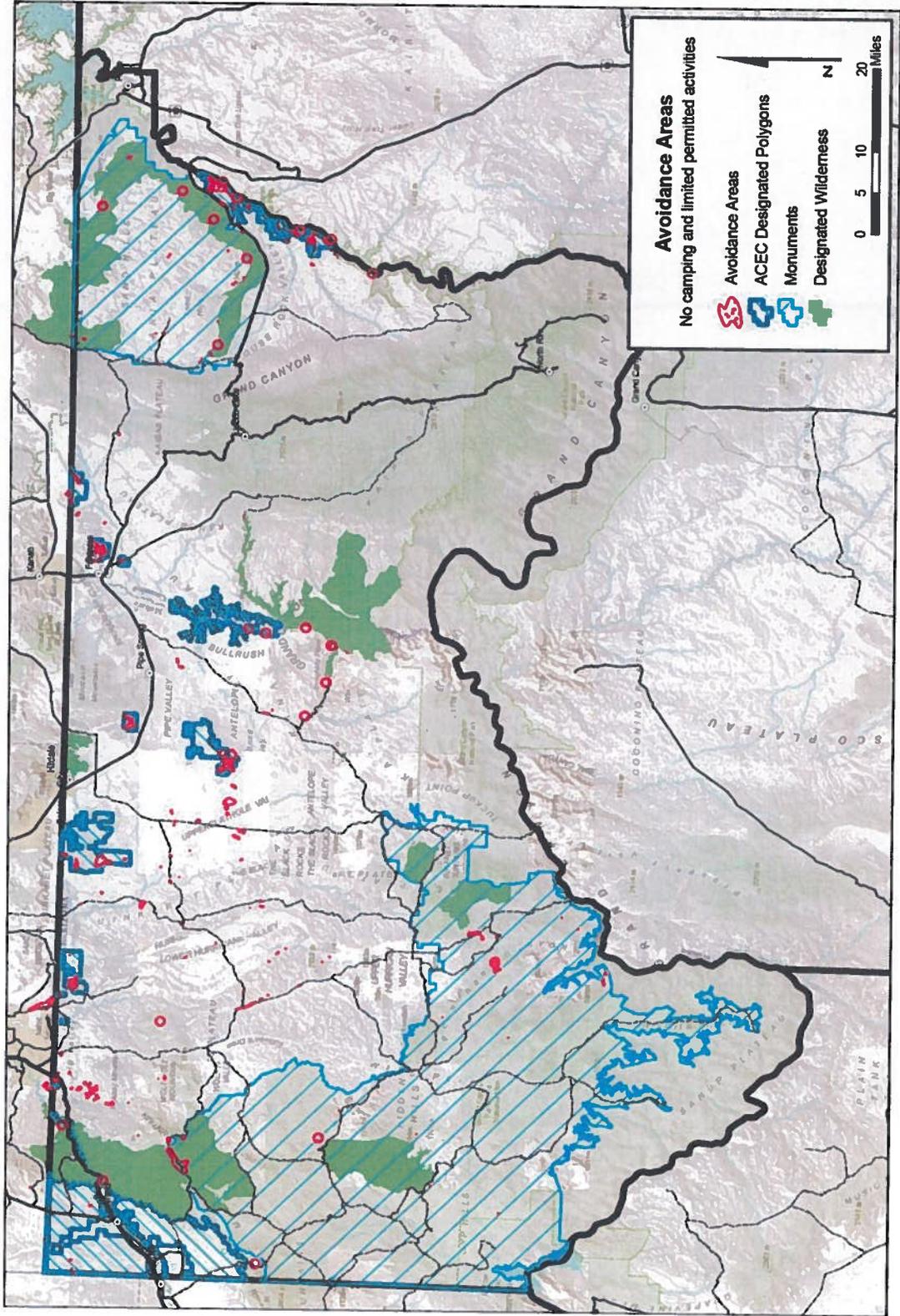
25. A human waste bag will be provided for each customer at overnight camps in Paria Canyon. All bags must be packed out of the wilderness area and properly disposed of in a trash receptacle.
26. Campfires are prohibited.
27. All camp and latrine areas will be at least 200 feet from springs

Appendix A: Summary of SRP Limits & Map

Uplands RMZ-East Side	
Total Group Size (including guides)	6
Participant to guide ratio	5:1
Total # OHV/ATV	2/0
Total # SRPs/# guests	10/500
Cumulative # vehicles (per year)	250 vehicles
Duration of use	Up to 4 days
Season of Use	<p>Year-round except for the following restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No activities within ½ mile of active condor nests 2/01 to 11/30 • No activities within ½ mile of known golden eagle nests 2/01 to 11/30 • No activities within ½ mile of known peregrine nests 3/01 to 8/01 • No activities within ½ mile of known Mexican spotted owl nests 3/01 to 8/31 • No activities within ½ mile of golden or bald eagle winter roosts 10/15 to 4/15 • No activities within Vermilion Cliffs Wildlife Habitat Area (WHA) 4/01 to 7/15; the following areas are exempted from this restriction: Powell's Monument, Fisher Point, Soap Creek, Walts Bench, Wraither Arch, and Bush Head overlooks.
Uplands RMZ – West Side	
Total Group Size (including guides)	12
Participant to guide ratio	5:1
Total # OHV/ATV	3/12
Total # SRPs/ # guests	15/1,500
Cumulative # vehicles (per year)	940 vehicles
Duration of Use	Up to 4 days
Season of Use	<p>Year-round except for the following restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No activities within ½ mile of active condor nests 2/01 to 11/30 • No activities within ½ mile of known golden eagle nests 2/01 to 11/30 • No activities within ½ mile of known peregrine nests 3/01 to 8/01 • No activities within ½ mile of golden or bald eagle winter roosts 10/15 to 4/15 • No activities within Vermilion Cliffs WHA 4/01 to 7/15; the following areas are exempt from this restriction: Becky's and One Toe Ridge overlooks.
Uplands RMZ – Ferry Swale/Cedar Mountain	
Total Group Size (including guides)	16
Participant to guide ratio	7:1
Total # OHV/ATV	4/16
Total # SRPs/ # guests	15/2,000
Cumulative # vehicles (per year)	1,250 vehicles
Duration of Use	Up to 4 days
Season of Use	<p>Year-round except for the following restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No activities within ½ mile of active condor nests 2/01 to 11/30 • No activities within ½ mile of known golden eagle nests 2/01 to 11/30 • No activities within ½ mile of known peregrine nests 3/01 to 8/01 • No activities within ½ mile of golden or bald eagle winter roosts 10/15 to 4/15
Coyote Buttes RMZ	
Total Group Size (includes guides)	6
Participant to guide ratio	5:1
Total # OHV/ATV to access	2/6
Total # SRPs/# guests	10/900
Cumulative # of vehicles (per year)	565 vehicles
Duration of use	Up to 3 days
Season of use	Year-round

Appendix B: Special Status Plants, and Avoidance Area Maps





DECISION MEMORANDUM
DOI-BLM-AZ-A020-2015-0006-DNA

Claremont United and Chad Nichols Special Recreation Permits

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Vermilion Cliffs National Monument
Kanab Field Office

Approval and Decision

Based on a review of the project described in the attached Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) documentation and Field Office and Monument staff recommendations, we have determined that the project is in conformance with the Vermilion Cliffs National Monument Resource Management Plan and the Kanab Field Office Resource Management Plan. The DNA is based on EA-AZ-020-2010-0001 *Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Commercial Motorized Special Recreation Permits on Vermilion Cliffs National Monument and Ferry Swale Area*, EA-AZ-931-93-001, *Special Recreation Permits for Commercial Recreation Activities* and EA-AZ-010-97-16, *Paria Canyon/Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness Management Plan Amendment*, and these EAs specifically address outfitting and guiding services. It is our decision to approve the action as proposed with the Special Recreation Permit Stipulations.

Administrative Review or Appeal Opportunities

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR, Part 4 and the attached Form 1842-1. If an appeal is taken, your notice of appeal must be filed at the Arizona Strip Field Office, 345 East Riverside Drive, St. George, Utah 84790, within 30 days from receipt of this decision. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed from is in error.

In accordance with 43 CFR 2931.8 (b) this decision remains in effect pending appeal unless a stay is granted. If you wish to file a petition (pursuant to regulation 43 CFR 4.21 (58 FR 4939, January 19, 1993) (request) for a stay (suspension) of the effectiveness of this decision during the time that your appeal is being reviewed by the Board, the petition for a stay must accompany your notice of appeal. A petition for a stay is required to show sufficient justification based on the standards listed below. Copies of the notice of appeal and petition for a stay must also be submitted to each party named in this decision and to the Interior Board of Land Appeals and to the Office of the Solicitor (Department of the Interior, Office of the Field Solicitor, Sandra Day O'Connor U.S. Court House #404, 401 West Washington Street SPC44, Phoenix, AZ 85003-2151) (see 43 CFR 4.413) at the same time the original documents are filed with this office. If you request a stay, you have the burden of proof to demonstrate that a stay should be granted.

Except as otherwise provided by law or other pertinent regulation, a petition for a stay of a decision pending appeal shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

Standards for Obtaining a Stay

1. The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied,
2. The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits,
3. The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and
4. Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

*Acting
for*

Lorraine M. Christian
Field Manager, Arizona Strip Field Office

4/29/15
Date

for

Harry Barber
Field Manager, Kanab Field Office

4-29-15
Date

Attachment: Form 1842-1