

**United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

**Categorical Exclusion Not Established By Statute
DOI_BLM_UT_C020-2015-0030-CX**

May 2015

J.D. Jackson to Clay Palfreyman Transfer

Location: Gunnison Valley Allotment

Applicant/Address: *Clay Palfreyman, 369 E. 1875 S., Springville, UT 84663*

Richfield Field Office
150 E 900 N
Richfield, Utah 84701
435-896-1500
435-896-1550



**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENTATION FORMAT WHEN USING
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS NOT ESTABLISHED BY STATUTE**

A. Background

BLM Office: Richfield Utah

Lease/Serial/Case File No: _____

NEPA Number: DOI-BLM-UT-C020-2015-0030-CX

Proposed Action Title/Type: J.D. Jackson to Clay Palfreyman Transfer

Location of Proposed Action: Gunnison Valley Allotment

Description of Proposed Action: In May of 2015, J.D. Jackson requested a transfer of 508 active and 439 suspended AUMs on the Gunnison Valley Allotment to Clay Palfreyman. This grazing permit proposed to be offered to Mr. Palfreyman would include the same Mandatory Terms and Conditions of Mr. Jackson's permit. The permit for Mr. Palfreyman would not be for a ten year period. Only the remainder of Mr. Jackson's term permit would be offered.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Richfield Field Office Resource Management Plan and Final EIS. **Date Approved/Amended:** October 2008

Option 1 : The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

These lands are managed according to decisions in the Richfield Field Office Resource Management Plan (RFO RMP) which was completed and signed in 2008. Within Table 15, Livestock Grazing Decisions (GRA) of the RMP, the Goals and Objectives is to:

- Provide for the orderly use, improvement, and development of the range for livestock grazing.
- Provide for livestock grazing while maintaining rangelands in properly functioning condition.
- Maintain healthy, sustainable rangeland ecosystems and restore degraded rangelands to meet Utah's Standards for Rangeland Health and to provide a wide range of public values, such as wildlife habitat, livestock forage, recreation opportunities, clean water, and functional watersheds.
- Integrate livestock use and associated management practices with other multiple use needs and objectives to maintain, protect, and improve rangeland health.

Allowing a new grazing permit (this would be a transfer from an existing permit) applicant permitted use on the Gunnison Valley Allotment would address these Management Actions on Page 106 of the RMP.

- GRA-2. Adjust permit terms and conditions (e.g., permitted use, amount of use, season of use, and kind and class of livestock) when grazing permits are renewed, transferred, or as otherwise deemed necessary by site-specific evaluation of monitoring data and environmental analysis.
- GRA-3. Use livestock grazing to enhance ecosystem health or mitigate resource problems (e.g., noxious/invasive weed control and hazardous fuel reduction) where supported by site specific environmental analysis.

Option 2 : 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 decision(s) (objectives, terms, and conditions): (list).

C. Compliance with NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 43 CFR Part 46.210 (516 DM 11.9):

D. Rangeland Management.

(1) 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. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR Part 46.215 apply.

D: Signature

Authorizing Official: Wayne A. Wetzel Date: 11 June 2015
(Name) Federal Manager
(Title)

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Brandon Jolley, Rangeland Management Specialist, Richfield Field Office, 150 E 900 N, Richfield, UT 84701. Phone number: 435-896-1500

Attachments

Attachement 1-Gunnison Valley Allotment map

Categorical Exclusion Review Record

Resource	Yes/No*	Assigned Specialist Signature	Date
Air Quality	No	Mark Dean	6/1/2015
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	No	Jennifer Christensen	5.26.2015
Cultural Resources	No	Stan Andersen	6.2.2015
Environmental Justice	No	Brandon Jolley	6/1/15
Farm Lands (prime or unique)	No	Brant Hallows	6/1/15
Floodplains	No	Brant Hallows	6/1/15
Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds	No	Brant Hallows	6/1/15
Migratory Birds	No	Larry Greenwood	5-22-15
Native American Religious Concerns	No	Stan Andersen	6.2.2015
Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate Species	No	Larry Greenwood	5-22-15
Wastes (hazardous or solid)	No	Stan Andersen	6.2.2015
Water Quality (drinking or ground)	No	Mark Dean	6/1/2015
Wetlands / Riparian Zones	No	Mark Dean	6/1/2015
Wild and Scenic Rivers	No	Jennifer Christensen	5.26.2015
Wilderness	No	Jennifer Christensen	5.26.2015
Other:			

*Extraordinary Circumstances apply.

Environmental Coordinator Brandon Beal

Date: 6/11/2015

Extraordinary Circumstance to Categorical Exclusions

Exceptions to Categorical Exclusion Documentation

The action has been reviewed to determine if any of the extraordinary circumstances (43 CFR 46.215) apply. The project would:

Extraordinary Circumstances		
1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety.		
Yes	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: No significant impacts on public health or safety will occur as a result of a simple change of preference from one operator to another.
2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		
Yes	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: The allotment has had a land health evaluation completed as well as the permit renewed through the NEPA process. This CX is a simple transfer of preference from one operator to another without any changes to the mandatory terms and conditions. Because there will be no changes in the terms and conditions of this permit, there would also be no significant impacts on the aforementioned items as a result of this authorization.
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102 (2) (E)].		
Yes	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: There are no highly controversial environmental effects or unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources at these locations. The allotment has had a land health evaluation completed as well as the permit renewed through the NEPA process. This CX is a simple transfer of preference from one operator to another without any changes to the mandatory terms and conditions.
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		
Yes	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: The permit has already been analyzed and approved through the NEPA process. The mandatory terms and conditions will not change. This categorical exclusion is a simple change of preference from one operator to another, thus no highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or unique or unknown environmental risks will occur.
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principal about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		
Yes	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: The proposed action has no environmental effects that have not already been analyzed separately under the permit renewal process. It also does not establish precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principal about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively		

Extraordinary Circumstances

significant environmental effects.

Yes	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: The proposed action does not have a direct relationship to other actions. The grazing permit has already been analyzed for cumulatively significant environmental effects. This action is an administrative action of changing the permit from one operator to another.
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7. Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau.

Yes	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: The nature of the proposed action is such that no impact can be expected on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau.
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8. Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.

Yes	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: The proposed action does not have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.
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9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.

Yes	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: This proposed action in this categorical exclusion does not violate a federal law, or a state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. Please see plan conformance and NEPA compliance sections above.
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10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).

Yes	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: This proposed action in this categorical exclusion does not violate a federal law, or a state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. Please see plan conformance and NEPA compliance sections above.
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11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).

Yes	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: The nature of the proposed action is such that no impact can be expected on significant cultural resources.
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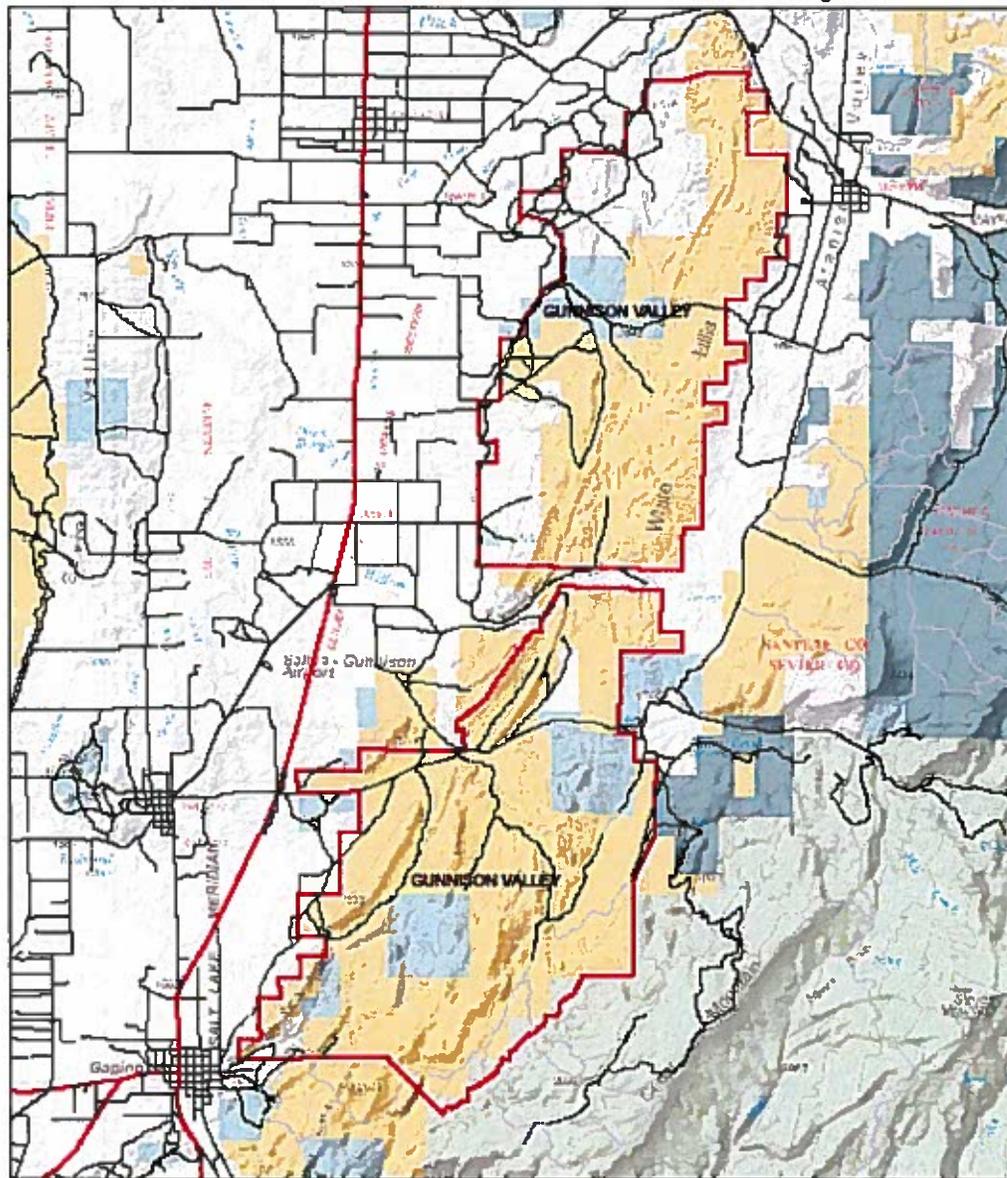
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).

Extraordinary Circumstances

Yes	No X	Rationale: The proposed action does not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112). The proposed action is an administrative action of changing the preference from one operator to another.
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Attachment 1: Gunnison Valley Allotment map

Gunnison Valley Allotment



Public Land State Land National Forest Private Land National Park

Allotment Boundary

No warranty is made by the BLM for use of the data for purposes not intended by the BLM.

This product may not meet BLM standards for accuracy and content. Different data sources and input scales may cause some misalignment of data layers.



BLM