

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

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**Categorical Exclusion  
DOI-BLM-CO-SO50-2016-0008 CX**

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**December 2015**

**Global Hunting Resources  
Film Permit**

*Location: Public lands within the Uncompahgre Field Office portions of Colorado Game Management Units 60, 61 and 62, excluding areas within Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area*

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**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Uncompahgre Field Office  
2465 South Townsend Avenue  
Montrose, CO 81401  
Phone: (970) 240-5300**





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## **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION**

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-SO50-2016-0008 CX

PROJECT NAME: Film Permit: Global Hunting Resources

PLANNING UNIT: Uncompahgre Field Office

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: 6<sup>th</sup> Principal Meridian, T. 15 N., Rs. 95 -96 W.; New Mexico Principal Meridian, Tps. 44 – 51 N., Rs. 8 – 20 W.

APPLICANT: Aaron Neilson

BACKGROUND: Aaron Neilson of Global Hunting Resources is proposing to commercially film his commercially guided mountain line hunt on public lands. Neilson will be hunting with a BLM permitted guide from Allout Outfitters in Colorado Game Management Units (GMUs) 60, 61, and 62. There will be one hunter and one person running the camera with the goal of documenting the hunt as it transpires.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: The proposed action is to issue a commercial film permit to Aaron Neilson of Global Hunting Resources. The activities that will be authorized under the film permit include:

1. Use of public lands within the Uncompahgre Field Office within GMUs 60/61/62 for the purposes of filming a legal hunt of a mountain lion.
2. Hunter will be guided by an outfitter permitted by BLM Uncompahgre Field Office (UFO). Guide will be using dog pack to locate and track game.
3. Planned hunt areas are:
  - a. Unit 60 South of Gateway
  - b. Unit 61 North of 25 Mesa Road
  - c. Unit 62 South of 25 Mesa Road
4. Crew will consist of one hunter and one camera operator.
5. No props or sets or equipment other than hunting gear and video camera will be used.
6. These activities are excluded from two areas (Map 1):
  - a. Sims Mesa, (New Mexico Principal Meridian, T. 47 N., R. 9 W., secs. 2-6; T. 47 N. R. 10 W., secs.1; T. 48 N., R. 9 W., secs. 18-20 and secs. 27-35; T. 48 N., R. 10 W., secs. 13-14, secs. 23-26, and sec. 36).
  - b. Campbell Point Area , (New Mexico Principal Meridian, T. 49 N., R. 16 W., sec. 7, secs. 17-20, and sec. 29; T. 49 N., R. 17 W., secs.1-3, secs. 11-13, and

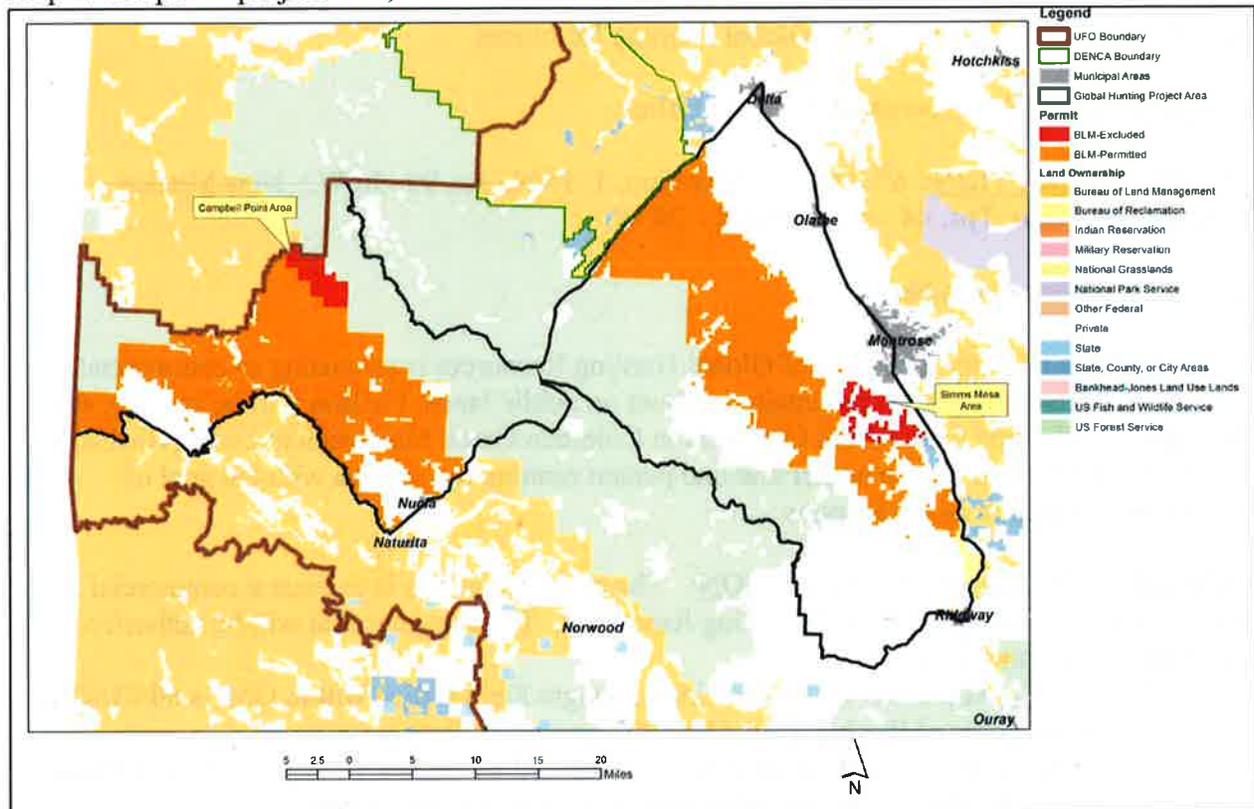
sec. 24; T. 50 N., R. 17 W., secs. 33-34).

The activities will take place between December 15 and December 23, 2015.

The company will provide the BLM Uncompahgre Field Office with a filming schedule for locations on public lands as soon as practicable, but no later than 24 hours prior to anticipated filming days.

The permit would be issued under FLPMA. The permit would be subject to advanced rental and the attached stipulations.

Map 1. Proposed project area, BLM lands and exclusion areas.



**PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW:** The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with the following plan (43 CFR 1610.5):

**Name of Plan:** Uncompahgre Basin Resource Management Plan

**Date Approved:** July 1989

**Decision Number/Page:** Page 143, item 4.

**Decision Language:** Lands cases generated by other agencies, individuals, and entities would be analyzed and processed on a case by case basis in accordance with guidance provided by this plan.

Name of Plan: San Juan/San Miguel Resource Management Plan

Date Approved: December 1984

Decision Number/Page: Page 1-14

Decision Language: A wide range of outdoor recreation opportunities will continue to be provided for all segments of the public, commensurate with demand.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 11.9, Number E.19 which allows, "issuance of short-term (3 years or less) rights-of-way or land use authorizations for such uses as storage sites, apiary sites, and construction sites where the proposal includes rehabilitation to restore the land to its natural or original condition."

None of the following exceptions in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply.

Exclusion	YES	NO
1. Have significant adverse effects on public health and safety.	_____	<u>X</u>
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, floodplains; national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.	_____	<u>X</u>
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.	_____	<u>X</u>
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	_____	<u>X</u>
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	_____	<u>X</u>
6. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	_____	<u>X</u>
7. Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places.	_____	<u>X</u>
8. Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species.	_____	<u>X</u>
9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	_____	<u>X</u>
10. Have disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations.	_____	<u>X</u>
11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian	_____	<u>X</u>

- religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites. \_\_\_ X
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. \_\_\_ X

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Area of Responsibility</u>
Jana Moe	Realty Specialist	Lands and Realty
Edd Franz	Outdoor Rec Planner	Recreation; SRP Administration.
Melissa Siders	Wildlife Biologist	Fish; Wildlife; Threatened and Endangered Species; Migratory Birds.
Glade Hadden	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources; Native American Religious Concerns.

REMARKS:

**Cultural Resources:** The proposed action will have no effects to any known or anticipated National Register or otherwise eligible historic properties. The project is exempt from Cultural Resource survey under the provisions of BLM Manual 8110.23B4. No further work is required.

**Native American Religious Concerns:** There are none know or anticipated from this project.

**Threatened and Endangered Species:** By excluding two areas from use, there will be not affect to any Federally Listed species (Map 1).

Protection of Gunnison Sage Grouse and Critical Habitat—exclusion of the following areas from the permit:

- Sims Mesa Area (New Mexico Principal Meridian, T. 47 N., R. 9 W., secs. 2-6 and sec. 9; T. 47 N., R. 10 W., sec. 1; T. 48 N., R. 10 W., secs. 13-14, secs. 23-26 and secs. 35-36; T.48 N., R. 9 W., secs. 18-20, and secs. 27-34)

Protection of Canada lynx and its denning/wintering habitat—exclusion of the following areas from the permit:

- BLM lands within 2 miles of USFS boundary between Dark Canyon and Little Johnson Creek (New Mexico Principal Meridian, T. 49 N., R. 16 W., sec. 7, secs. 17-20, and sec. 29; T.49 N., R. 17 W., secs. 1-3, secs.11-12, sec. 21, secs. 27-28, and secs. 33-34)

Recreation/Wilderness: The proposed filming activity will have no additional effect on wilderness or recreation beyond the permitted hunting activities.

NAME OF PREPARER: Jana Moe

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR:  Jedd Sondergard

DATE: 12/10/15

COMPLIANCE WITH NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, E.19. 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.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: 

Sara Dawson,  
Acting Field Manager  
Uncompahgre Field Office

DATE SIGNED: 12.10.2015

STIPULATIONS FOR FILM PERMIT COC-77476  
Global Hunting Resources

1. The film company, herein referred to as the holder, shall provide the BLM Uncompaghre Field Office with a filming schedule for locations on public land as soon as practicable, but no later than 24 hours prior to anticipated filming days. The BLM contact person is Jana Moe at (970) 240-5324 and the alternate is Nick Szuch at (970) 240-5322.
2. Prior to conducting any filming activities on the public land, the holder shall provide a certificate of liability insurance for not less than \$1,000,000, naming the United States, Bureau of Land Management ( BLM ), as a co-insured.
3. The holder, and/or its representatives, shall have a copy of the BLM Film Permit (2920-1) and the attached Stipulation in Exhibit A with them at all times while occupying public land.
4. Hunter must have and carry a mountain lion hunting license issued by Colorado Parks and Wildlife.
5. Filming will be allowed within the Tabeguache Area and the Camelback Wilderness Study Area (WSA) however in the event that an area becomes designated as wilderness before or during filming, the wilderness portion of the permit will be terminated.
6. The BLM does not guarantee access to public lands unless legal access for the general public is available. Where legal public access is not available, the permittee is responsible for obtaining permission from the landowner(s) to travel through or use private lands.
7. Permittee shall comply with Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) designations and restrictions in the area of operation as identified in the Resource Management plan and prescribed in 43 CFR 8340. Permit issuance does not waive any OHV use restrictions or license or registration requirements. Colorado State Law requires in-state all-terrain vehicles (ATV's) and previously non-licensed motorcycles be registered.
8. No motor vehicle use is allowed in WSAs.
9. No construction of props or alterations of existing landscape will be allowed.
10. After each filming session, all equipment shall be removed from the area and the site returned to its prior condition.
11. The holder shall provide for the safety of the public during staging, filming and all activities associated with the project.

12. Anyone associated with this project shall not disturb historic, archaeological, or scientific resources, including collecting artifacts, or they will be subject to prosecution. If in connection with operations under this permit, the holder, its contractors, subcontractors, or the employees of any of them, discovers, encounters or becomes aware of any objects or sites of cultural or paleontological value or scientific interest such as historic or prehistoric ruins, graves or grave markers, fossils, or artifacts, the holder shall immediately suspend all operations in the vicinity of the cultural or paleontological resource and shall notify the AO of the findings (16 U.S.C. 470h-3, 36CFR800.112). Operations may resume at the discovery site upon receipt of written instructions and authorization by the AO.
13. The final filming product shall have written and/or verbal acknowledgment of the film locations on public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, Uncompaghere Field Office, Colorado.

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**Decision Record**

**(DOI-BLM-CO-S050-2016-0008 CX)**

PROJECT NAME: Film Permit: Global Hunting Resources

DECISION: It is my decision to issue a film permit to the applicant as stated in the Proposed Action of the subject Categorical Exclusion (CX).

The permit will be authorized under the authority of and be subject to the terms and conditions in 43 CFR 2920 and rental payment as determined by the authorized officer. The permit will be subject to the standard stipulations of the land use permit and the stipulations shown in Exhibit A.

MITIGATION MEASURES:

All stipulations shown in Exhibit A of the CX shall be adhered to.

RATIONALE:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, E.19. 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 use is temporary and will not cause any surface disturbing activities which meets the non-impairment standard for filming in a Wilderness Study Area (WSA) as directed by BLM Manual 6330 – Management of BLM Wilderness Study Areas. The Proposed Action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply.

COMPLIANCE WITH MAJOR LAWS and CONFORMANCE WITH LAND USE PLAN:

The decision is in compliance with applicable laws, regulations and policy, including the Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act and National Historic Preservation Act.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The BLM informed the public about this project by listing it on the online NEPA Register and a copy of the completed CX will be posted on the NEPA website found here:  
[https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/lup/lup\\_register.do](https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/lup/lup_register.do).

ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES:

If you are adversely affected by this decision, within 30 days of receipt of this decision you have the right of appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations at 43 CFR §4.400.

NAME OF PREPARER: Jana Moe

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR:  Jedd Sondergard

DATE 12/10/15

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL



Sara Dawson  
Acting Field Manager  
Uncompahgre Field Office

DATE SIGNED 12.10.2015

