

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

**DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2016-0040-DNA
January 2015**

**Carter County Unit Allotment
Permit Transfer**

Location: **Carter County**
T.4S., R 56E. Sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 23 and 24
T.4S., R.57E. Sections 6, 7 and 18

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

BLM Office: Miles City Field Office

NEPA Number: DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2016-0040-DNA

Case File/Project No: #2503732 and #2504021

Proposed Action Title/Type: Carter County Unit Allotment Permit Transfer

Location/Legal Description: Carter County, MT See map.
 T.4S., R 56E. Sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 23 and 24
 T.4S., R.57E. Sections 6, 7 and 18

A: Description of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action is to issue a grazing permit for the Carter County Unit Allotment to Jason King (Authorization # 2503732 and #2504021). The permit would be issued for a three year term (11/1/2015 to 11/1/2018); terms and conditions would not change and are as follows:

GR# 2503732

Allotment Name and Number	Livestock		Grazing Period		% PL	Type Use	AUMs
	Number	Kind	Begin	End			
Carter Co. Unit #00456	166	C	6/1	10/15	71	Active	531

Total Active AUMs 531

Terms and Conditions

Grazing in accordance with signed Nisley AMP dated 9/02/1971 and revised 10/28/1991. Actual use report is due no later than 15 days after grazing is ended on AMP; or permittee will be billed for the total preference and actual use will still be required.

GR# 2504021

Allotment Name and Number	Livestock		Grazing Period		% PL	Type Use	AUMs
	Number	Kind	Begin	End			
Carter Co. Unit #00456	166	C	6/1	10/15	71	Active	531

Total Active AUMs 531

Terms and Conditions

Grazing in accordance with signed Nisley AMP dated 9/02/1971 and revised 10/28/1991. Actual use report is due no later than 15 days after grazing is ended on AMP; or permittee will be billed for the total preference and actual use will still be required.

Applicant: Jason King
County: Carter
DNA Originator: Philip Reiersen

B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance

LUP Name* Miles City ARMP Date Approved 2015

Other document** _____ Date Approved _____

Other document** _____ Date Approved _____

**List applicable LUPs (for example, resource management plans; activity, project, management, or program plans; or applicable amendments thereto)*

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). *This proposed action is in accordance with the BLM 2015 Miles City Field Office Approved Resource Management Plan (ARMP), The ARMP states on page 3-11, Livestock Grazing Authorization, MD LG 7 “Approximately 2,700,000 acres and an estimated 546,496 animal unit months (AUMs) are available for livestock grazing; and page 3-10, MD LG 2: “The BLM will follow the BLM’s 1997 Record of Decision for Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management Final Environmental Impact Statement for Montana and north and South Dakota as amended by table 2-6 (Miles City Field Office RMPGRSG Habitat Objectives) on page 2-15 of Miles City Field Office ARMP.”*

C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (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.
Carter County Unit permit renewal 2012 ([DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2012-0174-EA](#))

List by name and date other documentation relevant to the proposed action (e.g., biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation and monitoring report).
Carter County Unit: Standards for Rangeland Health Assessment, 2004.

John and Dan Nisley Allotment Management Plan 1991.

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?** *Yes, the proposed action is similar to the proposed action in the Carter County Unit permit renewal 2012 (DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2012-0174-EA). The proposed action is issuing the permit with the same terms and conditions on the same allotment.*

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, resource values?** *Yes, the Carter County Unit permit renewal 2012 (DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2012-0174-EA) analyzed the proposed action and considered a No Grazing alternative. The 1991 Allotment Management Plan for this allotment also discusses that stocking rates may be temporarily or permanently adjusted when warranted by range studies or livestock conditions that show an excessive or under use of vegetation. Those alternatives, as well as AMP provisions, are appropriate because this is a non-controversial project which continues existing management conditions.*

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 circumstance would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?** *Yes, the existing analysis is adequate. The allotment involved is meeting Land Health Standards. The allotment is in priority Greater Sage-Grouse habitat and meets desired conditions within the Miles City Field Office ARMP based on a 2014 habitat assessment. Sagebrush canopy cover and height, as well as forb and grass conditions meet desired habitat indicators.*

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?** *Yes, the impacts analyzed in the Carter County Unit permit renewal 2012 (DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2012-0174-EA) are the same for the current proposed action. The Carter County Unit permit renewal 2012 (DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2012-0174-EA) analyzed site specific impacts on the same allotment as the proposed action. The cumulative impacts are unchanged from those identified in the Carter County Unit permit renewal 2012 (DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2012-0174-EA).*

5. **Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?** *Yes, the public and interagency review of the existing NEPA document is adequate for the current proposed actions.*

E. Interdisciplinary Analysis: Identify those team members conducting or participating in the preparation of this worksheet.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Resource Represented</u>	<u>Initials & Date</u>
Fiona Petersen	Wildlife Biologist	Wildlife	<i>FP 12/22/2015</i>
Dawn Doran	Acting Supervisory RMS	Review	DLD 12-31-15

/s/ Kathy Bockness
Environmental Coordinator

1/8/2016
Date

F. Mitigation Measures: List any applicable mitigation measures that were identified, analyzed, and approved in relevant LUPs and existing NEPA document(s). List the specific mitigation measures or identify an attachment that includes those specific mitigation measures. Document that these applicable mitigation measures must be incorporated and implemented.

CONCLUSION

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

Note: If one or more of the criteria are not met, a conclusion of conformance and/or NEPA adequacy cannot be made and this box cannot be checked

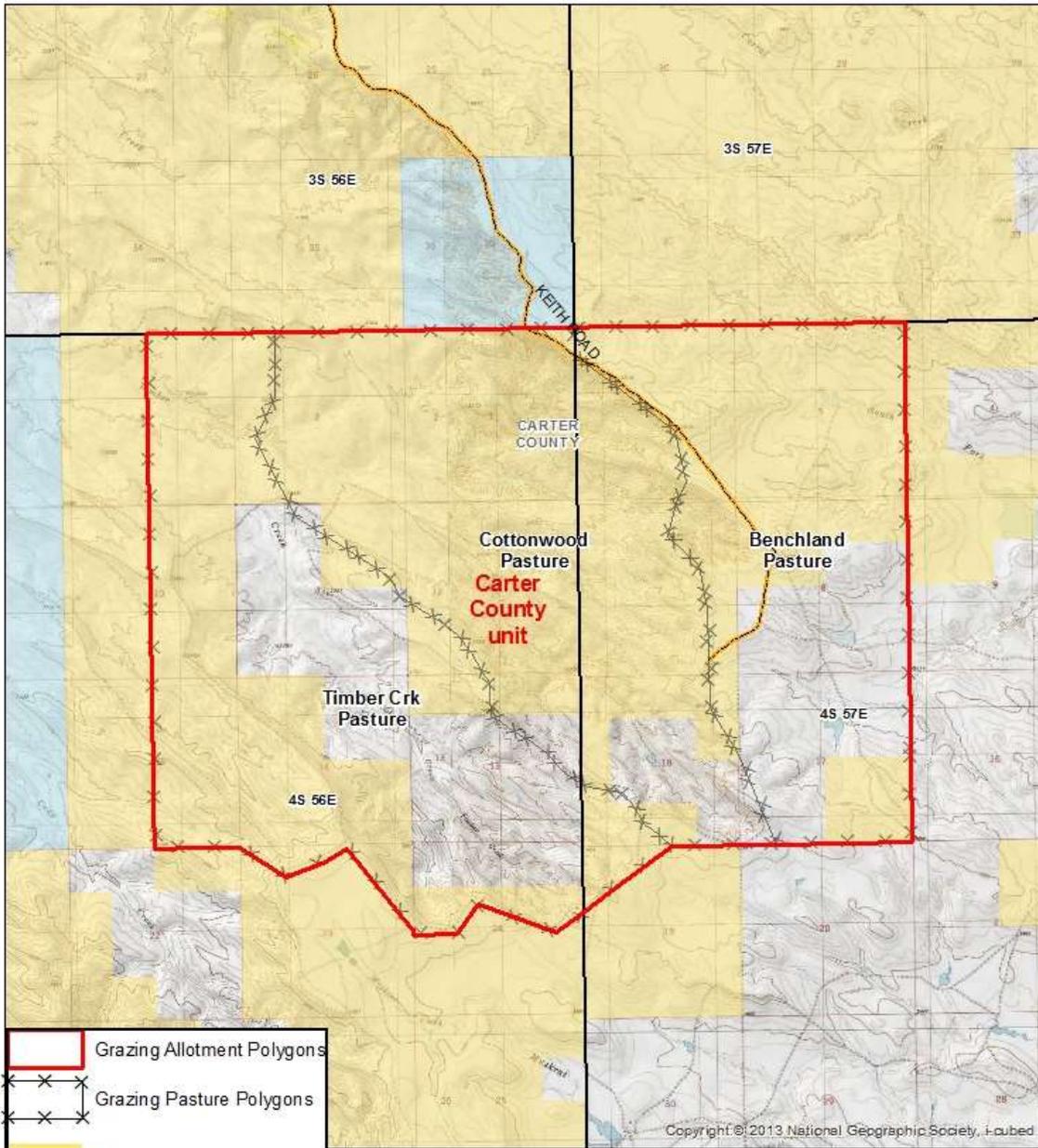
/s/ Wendy M Warren
Wendy M. Warren
Acting Field Manager

1/8/2016
Date



Carter County Unit

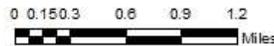
User Name: preierso
Date: 2/17/2015



	Grazing Allotment Polygons
	Grazing Pasture Polygons
	BLM
	Private
	State

Projected Coordinate System: NAD 1983 Albers
 Geographic Coordinate System: GCS North American 1983
 Datum: D North American 1983

1:50,000



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
 MILES CITY FIELD OFFICE

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