

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

DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2016-0046-DNA

January 2016

**Devils Creek Common Allotment and Individual Allotment
Permit Transfer**

Location: **Garfield County**
 T. 20 N., R. 33 E. Section 6
 T. 21 N., R. 33 E. Section 19
 T. 21 N., R. 32 E. Sections 13-15 and 22-26

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-C020-2016-0046-DNA

Case File/Project No: #2504050

Proposed Action Title/Type: Devils Creek Common Allotment and Individual Allotment Permit Transfer

Location/Legal Description: Garfield County, MT (see map).
 T. 20 N., R. 33 E. Section 6
 T. 21 N., R. 33 E. Section 19
 T. 21 N., R. 32 E. Sections 13-15 and 22-26

A: Description of the Proposed Action: The proposed action is to transfer the grazing preference for the Individual Allotment (#00304) and the Devils Creek Common Allotment (#00233) to the new base property owner. The Individual Allotment was analyzed and determined to be meeting the Standards for Rangeland Health in 2015 and the Devils Creek Allotment was analyzed and determined to be meeting the Standards for Rangeland Health in 2016. The permit would be issued for a 10 years term (3/1/2016 to 2/28/2026); terms and conditions would not change and are as follows:

GR# 2504050

Allotment Name and Number	Livestock		Grazing Period		% PL	Type Use	AUMs
	Number	Kind	Begin	End			
Individual #00304	2	C	3/1	2/28	100	Custodial	26
Devils Creek Common #00233	47	C	5/1	8/30	100	Active	189

Active AUMs: 215 Suspended AUMs: 0

Terms and Conditions

Individual Allotment: Grazing is authorized during the listed season for the recognized capacity of the public land. Livestock will not be on the public land continuously for the entire season. Livestock numbers are not restricted.

Devils Creek Common Allotment: Grazing is authorized on a restricted season of use.

Applicant: Kelly and Jody Pierson
County: Garfield
DNA Originator: Jon David

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-C020-2009-0281-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).

Individual Allotment: Standards for Rangeland Health Assessment, 2015.

Devils Creek Allotment: Standards for Rangeland Health Assessment, 2014.

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 Individual and Devils Creek Common Allotment Transfer and Lease EA, 2009 (DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2009-0281-EA). The proposed action is issuing the permits with the same terms and conditions for the same allotments.*
- 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 Individual and Devils Creek Common Allotment Transfer and Lease EA, 2009 (DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2009-0281-EA) analyzed the proposed action and considered a No Grazing alternative. Those alternatives were determined to be appropriate for the current proposed action.*
- 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 Allotments are located outside any of the Greater sage-grouse habitat management areas regarded as Priority Habitat Management Areas (PHMA), Restoration Habitat Management Areas (RHMA), or General Habitat Management Areas (GHMA).*
- 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 Individual and Devils Creek Common Allotment Transfer and Lease EA, 2009 (DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2009-0281-EA) are the same for the current proposed action. The Individual and Devils Creek Common Allotment Transfer and Lease EA, 2009 (DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2009-0281-EA) analyzed site specific impacts on the Individual Allotment and the Devils Creek Common Allotments. The cumulative impacts are unchanged from those identified in the Individual and Devils Creek Common Allotment Transfer and Lease 2009 (DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2009-0281-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>Resource</u>	<u>Initials & Title</u>	<u>Represented</u>	<u>Date</u>
Kent Undlin	Wildlife Biologist		Wildlife	<i>KU 2/10/16</i>
Reyer Rens	Supervisory RMS		Review	RR 4/5/2016

/s/ Kathy Bockness
Environmental Coordinator

4/6/2016
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.

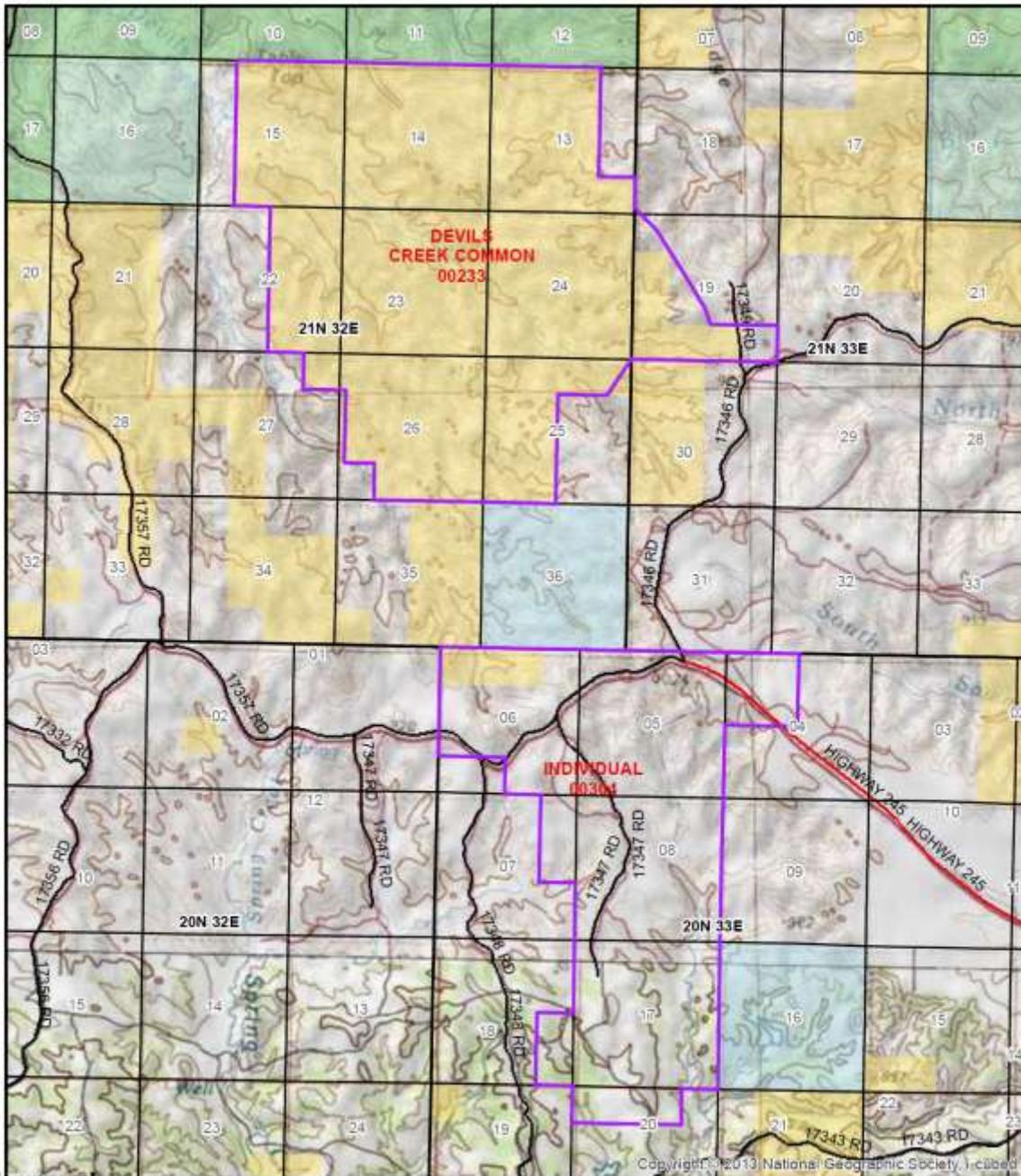
Note: If one or more of the criteria are not met, a conclusion of conformance and/or NEPA adequacy cannot be made and this box cannot be checked

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

4/6/2016
 Date



Devils Creek Common Allotment #00233 and Individual Allotment #00304



Legend

-  Grazing Allotment Polygons
-  Bureau of Land Management
-  Private
-  State
-  US Fish and Wildlife Service

January 12, 2016

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

1:60,848



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

CAUTION:
Land ownership data is derived from less accurate data than the 1:24,000 scale base map. Therefore, land ownership may not be shown for parcels smaller than 40 acres, and land ownership lines may have plotting errors.
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