

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

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**Categorical Exclusion  
DOI-BLM-CO-SO50-2016-0016 CX**

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**February, 2016**

**Todd-Flowers Grazing Preference Transfer**

*Location: Montrose County, CO*

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**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Uncompahgre Field Office  
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Montrose, CO 81401  
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## **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION**

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-S050-2016-0016-CX

PROJECT NAME: Todd-Flowers Grazing Preference Transfer

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Portions of T. 47 N., R. 8 W., Sec. 20-32; T. 46 N., R. 8 W., Sec. 5-8; T. 46 N., R. 9. W., Sec. 1, New Mexico Principal Meridian. See Map.

APPLICANT: Todd Gray

BACKGROUND:

Todd Grey is the owner of the 640 acre TJ Bar Ranch, which is the base property that provides grazing privileges on Log Hill allotment #05529. Grazing preference on Log Hill allotment has been held by Gary Cooper, via a base property lease with Todd Grey, since 2011. The base property lease between Todd Grey and Gary Cooper expired on December 31, 2015. In February, 2016, Todd Gray submitted an application to have the grazing preference on Log Hill allotment transferred to Jack Flowers, based on a lease of the TJ Bar Ranch.

The transfer of grazing preference is considered administrative in nature and serves to transfer livestock grazing privileges, with the same class of livestock and forage allocation, from one grazing preference holder to another. Approval of grazing preference transfers are outlined in 43 CFR 4110.2-1(d) and 4110.2-3.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION:

The proposed action is to transfer grazing preference on Log Hill allotment from Todd Grey to Jack Flowers as the result of a base property lease. This base property lease is effective from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2021. At the termination of the lease, grazing preference would return to the owner/lessee of JT Bar Ranch. Grazing preference for Log Hill #05529 allotment would therefore be held by Jack Flowers for the term of the base property lease. Jack Flowers has been found to be a qualified applicant for a grazing permit.

The previous grazing preference on this allotment was for domestic sheep. This preference transfer would change the class of livestock to cattle, as analyzed in EA CO-150-2008-016, pages 65-66. The associated AUMs, livestock numbers, and season of use are summarized in the table below. The proposed action is compliant with 43 CFR 4110.2-1(d) and 4110.2-3.

Allotment Name & No.	Percent Public Land	Active AUM's	Suspended AUM's	Permitted AUM's	Permitted Season of Use
Log Hill #05529	81	189	0	189	5/1 – 6-11

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3) the following plan:

Name of Plan: Uncompahgre Basin Resource Management Plan

Date Approved: July, 1989

Decision Number/Page: 36

Decision Language: Management unit 3...will maintain current forage allocations for livestock grazing until studies determine adjustments are needed.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The proposed action qualifies as a Categorical Exclusion under 516 DM 11.9, Number D.1, which allows “approval of transfers of grazing preference”. This is the administrative approval of grazing preference transfer applications.

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 adverse effects 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	___	<u>X</u>

- effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species. \_\_\_ X
- 9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. \_\_\_ X
- 10. Have disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations. \_\_\_ X
- 11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian 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>
Glade Hadden	Archaeologist
Ken Holsinger	Biologist

REMARKS:

Cultural Resources: Transfer of grazing preference will have no direct or indirect impact to any National Register or otherwise eligible historic properties. No inventory is required under the provisions of BLM 8110.23B4 and no further work is required.

Native American Religious Concerns: There are none known or anticipated for this action.

Threatened and Endangered Species: Transfer of grazing preference will have no direct or indirect impact to threatened, endangered or sensitive species. There are no animal or plant species listed, proposed, or candidate to the Endangered Species Act that are known to inhabit or derive important use of the Log Hill Allotment.

NAME OF PREPARER: Angela LoSasso

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR:

DATE: 3/15/16

DECISION AND RATIONALE:

I have reviewed this Categorical Exclusion and have decided to approve the administrative transfer of grazing preference on Log Hill #05529, as a result of a base property lease held by Jack Flowers.

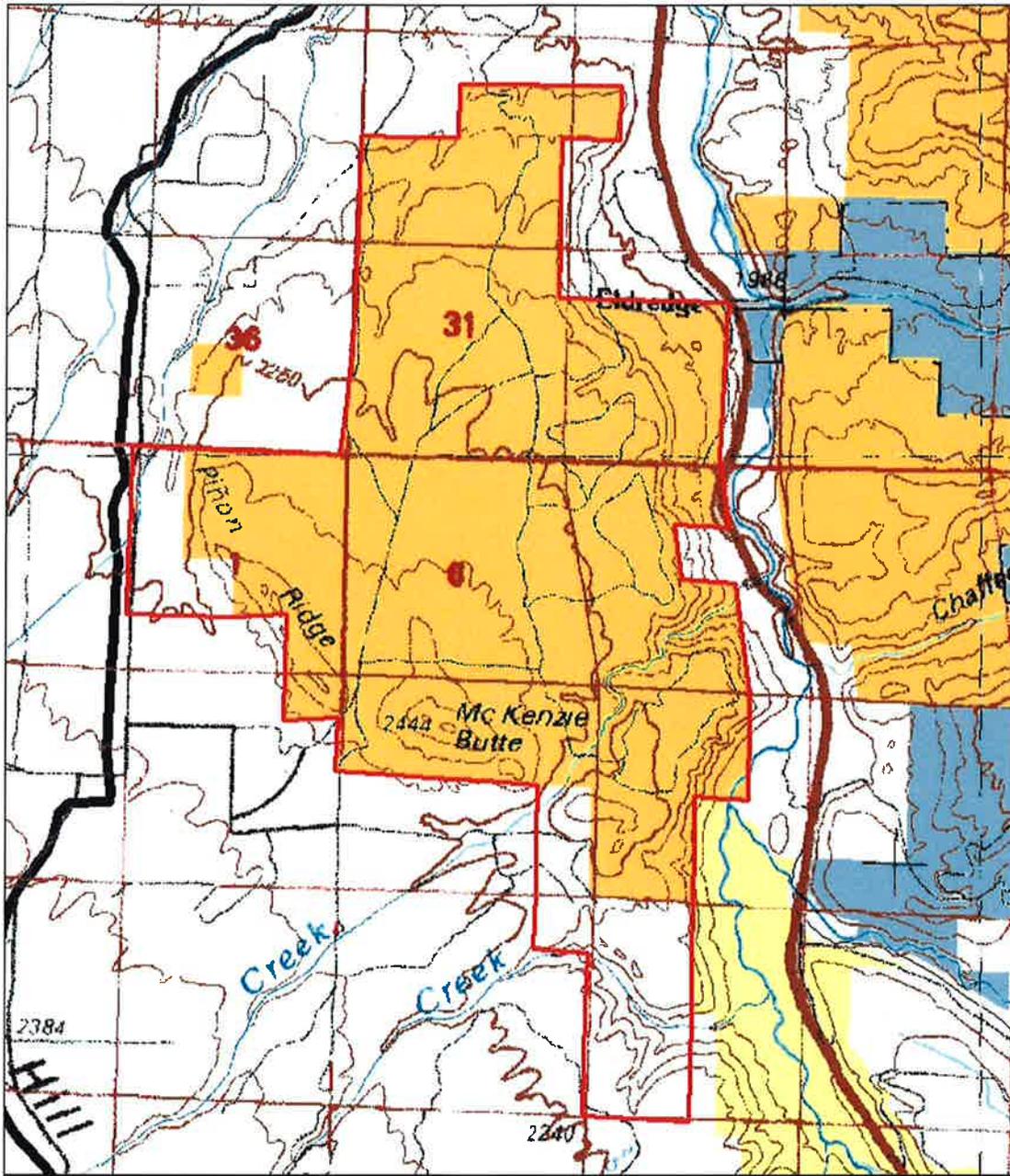
There are no impacts to public land since the transfer action only results in a transfer of grazing preference. The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under

the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, Section: D, Range Management, Number 1, which allows "approval of transfers of grazing preference". I have evaluated the action relative to the 12 criteria listed above and have determined that it does not represent an exception and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: Jay L Dawson acting  
Field Manager  
Uncompahgre Field Office

DATE SIGNED: 3/16/14

Map



**Log Hill Allotment #05529**

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 Allotment Boundary



**NOTE TO MAP USERS**  
 No warrantee is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of the data layers shown on this map. The official land records of the data providers should be checked or current status on any specific tract of land.

