

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENTATION

A. Background

BLM Office: Prineville District Office, Deschutes Resource Area

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) register #: DOI-BLM-ORWA-P000-2016-0041-CX

Project/lease/serial/case file #: None

Proposed action title: Transfer Grazing Preference – Horse Ridge and Barlow Cave Allotments

Location: Map attached, approximately 10 miles East of Bend, Oregon.

Description: The proposed action is to transfer the BLM grazing preference for the Horse Ridge (#05210) and Barlow Cave (#05208) Allotments from Stephen Roth to Lorenzen Ranches INC, due to changes in control of the existing base property. The existing property meets the base property requirements as described in 43 CFR 4110.2-1(a) (1) and (2). The permit has 600 active AUMs authorized for Barlow Cave and 1624 active AUMs authorized for Horse Ridge. The proposed administrative action involves transferring grazing preference from one individual to another and does not pose any significant environmental effects. The existing terms and conditions and management practices of the permit would remain unchanged as a result of the transfer of grazing preference. These include season of use, permitted AUMs, and kind of livestock as listed below.

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Livestock Kind</u>	<u>Grazing Season</u>	<u>%PL</u>	<u>AUMs</u>
Barlow Cave	Cattle	03/1-02/28	100	600
Horse Ridge	Cattle	03/1-02/28	91	1624

B. Land use plan conformance

Land use plan name: Upper Deschutes Resource Management Plan Date approved: September 2005.

The proposed action is in conformance with the above plan because it is specifically provided for in the following land use plan decisions: Appendices, RMP Map 5 Livestock Grazing Allotments. These areas are identified as available for grazing.

Page 76-79, Objective LG-1; "Promote healthy sustainable rangelands, provide for continued livestock grazing..."

Page 245, Appendix G Livestock Grazing Management Summary

The RMP is available at the BLM office or on the internet at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/prineville/plans/prinevillermpp.php>

name change on existing permit), is a routine administrative procedure that would not have any environmental impacts.		
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].		X
Rationale: The proposed approval of transfer of existing grazing preference is a routine administrative procedure to change a name on an existing permit and would have no controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts.		
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
Rationale: Livestock grazing is an ongoing activity; the transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e. name change on existing permit) poses no unique or unknown environmental risks.		
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
Rationale: Approval of existing grazing preference transfer for continuation of existing grazing preference is a routine administrative procedure. This action neither establishes a precedent for future actions nor represents a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
Rationale: This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference, would be neither individually or cumulatively significant.		
2.7 Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.		X
Rationale: This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e. name change on an existing permit), would have no effect on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places.		
2.8 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.		X
Rationale: This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e. name change on existing permit), would have no known effect on federally listed, candidate, or BLM special status plant/wildlife species.		
2.9 Violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X
Rationale: This routine administrative procedure (i.e. name change on existing permit) is consistent and compatible with all known Federal, State, local and Tribal laws or requirements imposed for protection of the environment.		
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		X
Rationale: The transfer of a grazing preference would have no measurable impact on low income or minority populations.		
2.11 Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands		X

by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).		
Rationale: This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e. name change on existing permit), would have no effect and would not limit access for ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners; nor would there be adverse effect to the physical integrity of sacred sites.		
2.12 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).		X
Rationale: This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e. name change on existing permit), would not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native species.		