CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENTATION

A. Background

BLM Office: Prineville District Office, Deschutes Resource Area
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) register #: DOI-BLM-ORWA-P000-2016-0047-CX
Project/lease/serial/case file #: None
Proposed action title: Transfer Grazing Preference – 96 Ranch Allotment
Location: Map attached, approximately 23 miles north east of Brothers, Oregon.

Description: The proposed action is to transfer the BLM grazing preference for the 96 Ranch Allotment (#05251) from 96 Ranch LLC to Christian Radabaugh, 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 476 active AUMs authorized. 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.

Allotment	Livestock Kind	Grazing Season	%PL	AUMs
96 Ranch	Cattle	03/1-02/28	65	476

B. Land use plan conformance

Land use plan name: **Brothers/La Pine Resource Management Plan**
Date approved: **July 1989**

The proposed action is in conformance with the above plan as the 96 Ranch Allotment included on the map of Grazing Allotments on page 83 of the RMP.

The proposed action is consistent with the Brothers/La Pine Resource Management Plan decisions, objectives, terms, or conditions:

Page 74, Allotment Management: "Grazing management is accomplished by decision or agreement with affected parties."
Page 75, Management Direction: "Grazing management in the Brothers portion will continue so as to maintain or improve ecological status on all grazing allotments..."

C. Compliance with NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.5.D (1), effective August 14, 2007, "Approval of transfers of grazing preference". This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances present that would significantly affect the environment. This action is solely administrative and there are no effects to the environment through the transfer of grazing preference. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply. See attached CX Extraordinary Circumstances Documentation checklist.

D. Signature

I considered the Proposed Action, land use plan, and compliance with 516 DM 11.5.D (1). A thorough evaluation was conducted to determine if any extraordinary circumstances were present that could potentially impact the environment. Upon review no significant impacts were identified, so further NEPA analysis is not necessary.

Responsible official: _____ 4/26/16

Jeff Kitchens, Field Manager, Deschutes Resource Area — Date

Contact person

For additional information concerning this review, contact: Emily Lent, RMS, Prineville District Office, 3050 NE 3rd Street, Prineville, OR 97754, telephone: (541) 416- 6789, E-mail: elent@blm.gov.

CX EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES DOCUMENTATION The proposed action would:	**YES**	**NO**
2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety.		X
Rationale: Approval of an application for transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e. name change on existing permit) is an administrative function with no effects on public health or safety.		
2.2 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 (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		X
Rationale: This management action, approval of a transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e.		

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.		