

A. Background

BLM Office: Arizona Strip Field Office and Vermilion Cliffs National Monument.
Lease/Serial/Case File No.: 05327

Proposed Action Title/Type: Grazing permit transfer for Allotment No. 05327 (Coyote Allotment) from William B. Nielson to Ron Henderson and Sherrie Finicum. Animal Unit Months: 2060.

Location of Proposed Action: The subject allotment geographically occurs as follows: Salt Lake Meridian, Utah, T. 43 S., R. 2 W., secs. 31-33; T. 43 S., R. 3 W., secs. 35 and 36; T. 44 S., R. 2 W., secs. 4-8; and T. 44 S., R. 3 W., secs. 1-3 and 10-12. Gila and Salt River Meridian, Arizona, T. 40 N., R. 3 E., secs. 1-3 and 10-12; T. 40 N., R. 4 E., secs. 6 and 7; T. 41 N., R. 2 E., secs. 13, 24, 25, and 36; T. 41 N., R. 3 E., all; T. 41 N., R. 4 E., secs. 6, 7, 18, 19, 30, and 31; T. 42 N., R. 3 E., sec. 32-36; and T. 42 N., R. 4 E., sec. 31. The Coyote Allotment encompasses part of the Paria Plateau, Coyote Valley, the Buckskin Mountain in Arizona, and Pine Hollow area in Utah, as shown on the attached map.

Description of Proposed Action: The proposed action is the transfer of William B. Nielson's grazing permit for Allotment No. 05327 (Coyote) to Ron Henderson and Sherrie Finicum. There are no changes to the grazing preference (2,060 Animal Unit Months) or terms and conditions of the permit to be transferred. All field officials are directed to renew grazing permits and leases (permits) that expire between March 13, 2009 and September 30, 2009 (inclusive) and which will not be fully processed before they expire, in accordance with Section 426 of Title IV of Division E of Public Law 111-8 (Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009). This Act amends Section 325, Title III, Public Law 108-108 (Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2004) by extending the end date of the provisional language through September, 2009. The text of Section 426 reads as follows: *Section 325 of Public Law 108-108 is amended by striking "fiscal years 2004-2008" and inserting "fiscal year 2009."*

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Arizona Strip Field Office Resource Management Plan and the Vermilion Cliffs National Monument Management Plan.

Date approved/Amended: January 29, 2008.

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUPs because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

LA-GM-01(both LUPs): All allotments will continue to be classified as available for grazing by livestock under the principle of multiple use and sustained yield.

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 11.9 D.I, Appendix 1, Rangeland Management Item #1: Approval of transfers of grazing preference.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM2 apply.

D: Signature

Authorizing Official (Arizona Strip Field Office):

Name: Lorraine M. Christian:

_____ Date _____

Title: Arizona Strip Field Manager

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Ben Ott, Range Management Specialist, Arizona Strip Field Office; 435 688 3329, Ben_ott@blm.gov

Attachment 1

EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES REVIEW AND CHECKLIST

IMPORTANT: Appropriate staff should review the circumstances listed below, and comment for concurrence. Rationale supporting the concurrence should be included where appropriate.

EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES	YES/NO & RATIONALE (If Appropriate)	STAFF
Does the proposed action...		
1. Have significant impacts on public health and safety?	No	Wadsworth
2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness or wilderness study 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 (Executive Order 13186); and other ecologically significant or critical areas?	No	Hawks, Smith, Jensen, Ott
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)]?	No	Spotts
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	No	Spotts
5. Establish a precedent for future action, or represent a decision in principle about future actions, with potentially significant environmental effects?	No	Spotts
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	No	Spotts
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?	No	Herron
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?	No	Jensen/ Hughes
9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No	Benson
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?	No	Ott
11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners, or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?	No	Benson
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)?	No	Walker