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**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Kremmling Field Office  
P.O. Box 68  
Kremmling, CO 80459**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-120-2010-0018-EA

PROJECT NAME: Livestock Grazing Permit Renewal for # 0501790 for Richards Livestock.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Allotment 07133 (Sheep Mountain) 1836 acres  
T. 10N., R. 81W., 6<sup>th</sup> PM, Section 28, 29, 31, 32, 33  
T. 9N., R. 81W., 6<sup>th</sup> PM, Section 4, 5

Allotment 07134 (Palisade) 400 acres  
T. 9N., R. 81W., 6<sup>th</sup> PM, Section 5, 8, 9, 22

APPLICANT: Richards Livestock

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE ACTION: Richards Livestock Inc's livestock grazing permit # 0501790 that authorized livestock grazing on Allotments 07133 (Sheep Mountain) and 07134 (Palisade) expired on February 28, 2010. Richards Livestock Inc. has applied to renew their livestock grazing permit. The permit is subject to renewal at the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior for a period of up to 10 years. Renewal of livestock grazing permit # 0501790 would allow the Richards Livestock Inc. to continue grazing on their designated allotment for a period of 10 years beginning on March 1, 2010.

Background/Introduction/Issues and Concerns: In 1999, allotment 07133 was assessed for Land Health Standards. It was determined at that time that livestock were causing resource problems in and around the Sheep Mountain fen. As part of the 2000 permit renewal EA, the allotment would be split in half with a pasture fence to allow for rest and deferment to address the concerns within the allotment. Before constructing the new fence, an electric fence was used to test the effectiveness of a permanent fence. It was determined that a permanent fence would not be effective in keeping livestock in the correct pasture due to topography. In 2006, a fence was constructed around Sheep Mountain fen to protect the fen from livestock impacts. In 2005, an updated grazing plan was developed to allow for rest once every three years to help improve land health.

In 2008, an ID team from the Kremmling Field Office reassessed allotment 07133 for compliance with the Standards. The ID team determined the allotment is in compliance with all of the Standards. Since the allotment has improved and meets the Standards, the grazing system implemented in 2005 will remain in effect. Allotment 07134 was not assessed for standards due to limited amount of public land and no new resource concerns or issues.

Within allotment 07133, a sagebrush treatment project was completed to improve bitterbrush. There is also a proposal to burn aspen and sagebrush on the upper slopes of Sheep Mountain to improve habitat for Bighorn Sheep.

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES:**

Proposed Action: The Proposed Action would renew livestock grazing permit # 0501790 with no changes to the number or kind of livestock, season of use, or authorized livestock grazing preference as expressed in AUMs (animal unit months\*). A copy of the permit with standard terms and conditions is enclosed.

Animal unit month = the amount of forage needed to sustain one cow and calf for one month.

Livestock grazing permit # 0501790 will authorize livestock grazing to the following extent:

Allotment	Livestock		Season of Use	Percent Public Land	AUMs
	Number	Kind			
07133 (Sheep Mountain)	203	Cattle	6/1-6/30	100	200
07134 (Palisade)	70	Cattle	5/16-6/30	53	53

Allotment 07133 would allow livestock grazing for 203 cattle from 6/1-6/30 twice every three years.

The Total Active AUMS for each allotment may not be the same as the authorized livestock grazing AUMs in the table above due to how AUMs are calculated.

Total Active AUMs:

Allotment 07133 is permitted for 200 AUMS

Allotment 07134 is permitted for 53 AUMS

**Design Features of the Proposed Action:**

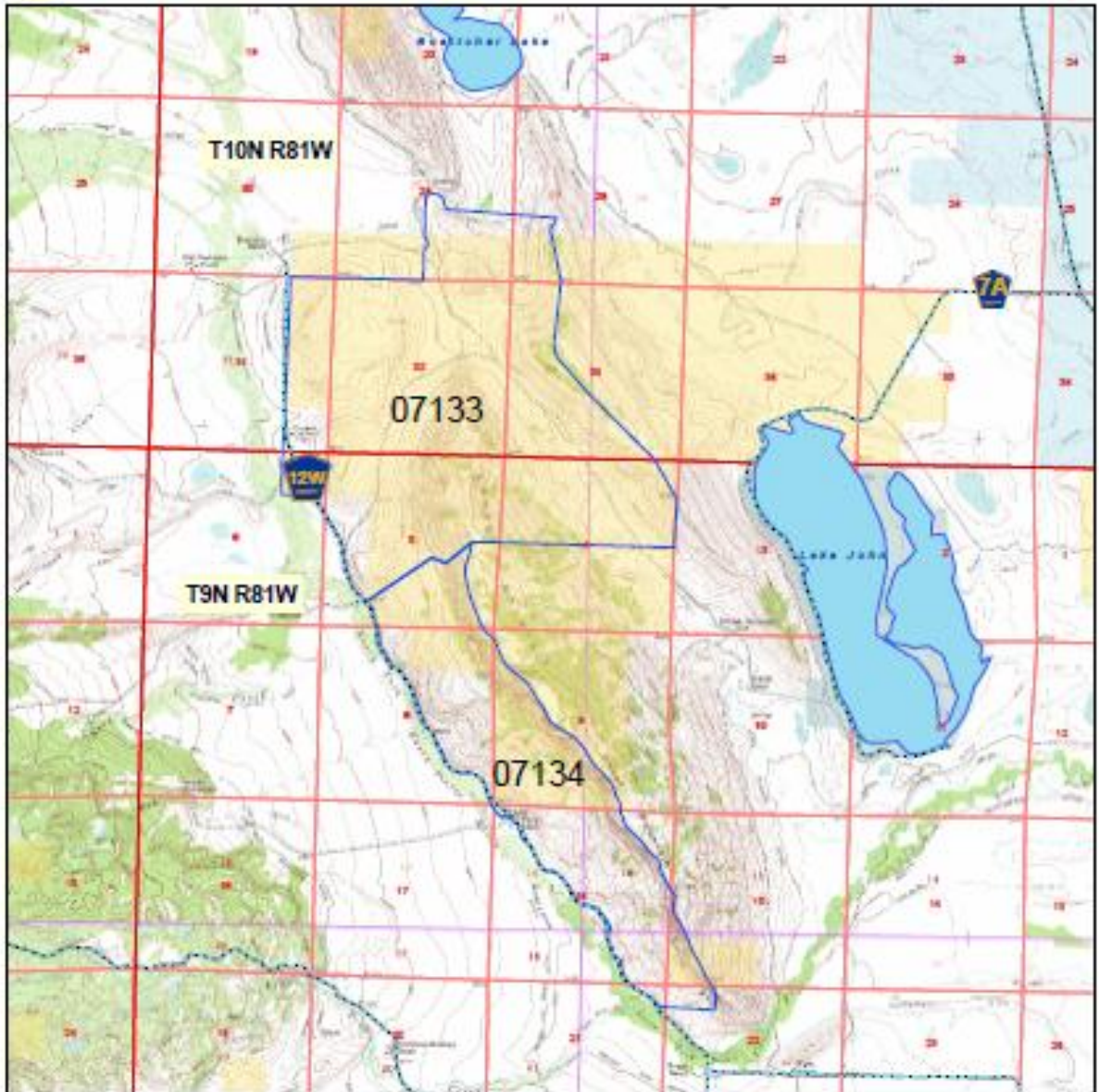
- The permittee would be responsible for notifying the BLM of all county listed noxious weeds which result from their livestock grazing operation
- The BLM would be responsible for implementing noxious weed control measures, which would include partnership with the Jackson County Weed Abatement Program.
- Within the Temporary Travel Restriction Area, the permittee is allowed to travel only along fencelines for fence maintenance with no cross-country travel. In the event a

fenceline is also a land ownership boundary, all motorized travel would occur on the non-BLM side of the fence if the permittee is the landowner. Other motorized travel within the temporary closure area would be limited to the existing routes until further analysis and designations are made within the Resource Management Plan revision. (See Appendix 3 and 4)

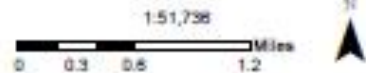
- Within the Temporary Travel Restriction Area, permit case-by-case motorized cross-country within the temporary closure for instances of retrieving injured animals or other emergencies. All instances should be approved by the authorized officer beforehand when possible. In the case of an emergency, any motorized cross-country travel would be reported to the BLM immediately. Any permitted or cross-country travel would be evaluated for resource damage. Any rutting of soils or damage to vegetation found to be excessive and establishing a new route would require reclamation by the permittee. (See Appendix 3 & 4)



# Richard Livestock



- Legend**
- County Roads
  - Major Roads
  - Reservoirs
  - Major Streams
  - Bureau of Land Mgt
  - Division of Wildlife
  - National Park
  - US Forest Service
  - National Wildlife Refuge
  - Private
  - State
  - State Forest
  - Wetland\_06 polygons



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2009

No Action Alternative: The No Action Alternative is the same as the Proposed Action since there is no change to the permit.

Alternatives Considered But Eliminated From Further Analysis:

No livestock grazing was considered but eliminated from further analysis for the following reasons:

- Livestock grazing with the Kremmling Field Office was fully analyzed and authorized in the RMP/EIS as recorded in the 1984 Approved Plan and Record of Decision. At that time a “No Grazing Alternative” was considered but not selected.
- This alternative is not consistent with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) that stated: “the public lands be managed in a manner which recognizes the Nation’s need for domestic sources of minerals, food, timber, and fiber from public lands.....”
- During public scoping and staff review there were no issues or concerns identified that would support a “No Grazing Alternative.”
- It has been determined that significant progress toward achieving compliance with the Standards for Public Land Health in Colorado would occur with the appropriate livestock grazing guidelines set forth in the Proposed Action.

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

Name of Plan: Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD)

Date Approved: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

Decision Number/Page: Livestock grazing pages 6 and 8 as revised.

Decision Language: Objectives of the RMP/ROD include allocation of a base level of livestock forage and maintaining or improving forage production and condition in areas where livestock grazing is a priority or is compatible with the land use priority. The RMP designated the project area with a livestock grazing priority.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT / ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES / MITIGATION MEASURES:

**WETLANDS & RIPARIAN ZONES** (includes a finding on Standard 2)

**Affected Environment:** In 2002, the BLM contracted to have the North Park area mapped for fens. Sheep Mountain fen was one of sixteen fens identified on public lands. The fen is primarily fed by one spring and supports open water and quagmire habitat. It is unique in that the fen is located above the valley floor on the shoulder of Sheep Mountain. The BLM considered drilling upland well to reduce livestock grazing pressure on the fen, but the permittee did not support the action. Due to the topography and size of the allotment, the BLM did not think grazing schedules alone would reduce trampling and high utilization levels. The fen has been successfully excluded from livestock grazing since 2006. The Colorado Natural Heritage Program inventoried the enclosure in 2009, observing a deep thatch and good native plant populations. The drier edges and the lower end of the surrounding wetland are outside the enclosure. Livestock do not tend to congregate in these areas, and no signs of trailing the fence have been observed.

**Environmental Consequences:** The 2005 grazing system providing one year of rest in a three year period, combined with the fen enclosure has improved the wetland and fen vegetative cover and vigor. Livestock can no longer access the wetter areas of the fen, eliminating any additional pooping. Livestock are primarily watered on private land, reducing the amount of time that livestock tend to congregate in the wetlands surrounding the enclosure.

**Mitigation:** None

**Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for riparian systems:** The wetlands within the allotment are in proper functioning condition and are meeting the Standard. Renewing the existing permit will continue the current conditions and maintain longterm wetland health.

**SOILS** (includes a finding on Standard 1)

**Affected Environment:** Allotment 7134 has no known soil concerns and has not been field assessed. Allotment 7133 had approximately 190 acres that were considered to be functioning at risk during the 1999 field assessment. The east side of the allotment adjacent to the two track road was more heavily utilized and without good ground cover. Soil pedestalling and erosion were evident. Roads in the area tend to channelize runoff and add to the erosion. Livestock supplements (salt) were placed near the road, further attracting livestock to congregate in the area. During the 2008 assessment, livestock distribution had improved within the allotment and vegetative cover had increased. The vegetation treatment has benefitted this area also, and only the roads were erosion concerns. No salt blocks were observed in the area of concern.

**Environmental Consequences:** The renewal of the permit would continue the current conditions of the allotments, which are adequate to protect soils. Vegetation treated by the

proposed burns could result in improved ground cover in some areas, as revegetated areas improve livestock distribution.

Mitigation: None

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for upland soils: The two allotments are considered meeting the Upland Soils Land Health Standard. The Proposed Action would continue the 2005 grazing plan which will maintain current conditions.

#### VEGETATION (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: The vegetation within the grazing allotments is a mixture of sagebrush and aspen trees with an understory of grasses and forbs. During the 1999 land health assessment, there were concerns about vegetation health in the uplands and around the Sheep Mountain fen due to livestock use in allotment 07133. Since the 1999 assessment, a permanent four wire fence was built around the Sheep Mountain fen to exclude livestock from watering in the fen and a new grazing system was implemented.

Environmental Consequences: Under the new grazing permit, livestock would only be allowed to graze allotment 07133 two out of three years. This would help improve the vegetation within the allotment by allowing for a full season of rest from livestock. This rest would increase seed production, vigor and root growth needed to improve vegetation health over time. There would be no change in grazing use for allotment 07134. Under the no action alternative, rest would be provided for allotment 07133 as required in the current permit.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Wildlife, Aquatic and Wildlife, Terrestrial): In 2008 allotment 07133 was re assessed for the Colorado Standards for Public Land Health. It was determined that all areas were meeting the land health standard however continued rest or deferment is needed. Allotment 07134 was not assessed for standards because this allotment is small custodial allotments with no know resource concerns or problems.

#### ACCESS/TRANSPORTATION

Affected Environment: Portions of allotments 07133 and 07134 are within the Sheep Mountain Travel Restriction Area. This temporary travel restriction was initiated August 31, 2005 to protect public safety, prevent soil erosion, and protect vegetation within the Sheep Mountain area. This temporary closure would not preclude future travel management designations within the Resource Management Plan revision and the temporary closure remains in effect until designations are completed. BLM administered lands outside the Sheep Mountain Travel Restriction Area are designated as "Open".

Environmental Consequences: The current Resource Management Plan revision would analyze routes within the parcel for designation. Until the revision is completed, no motorized cross country travel would be permitted and travel is limited to routes identified with the Sheep Mountain Temporary Travel Restriction Map. Grazing permittees have exemptions as outlined within the design features of the proposed action. The proposed action would not create

significant impacts to access and the existing transportation system since temporary restrictions are already in place. There would be no impact to BLM administered lands outside the Sheep Mountain Travel Restriction Area since those lands are currently designated as “Open”.

The No Action Alternative is the same as the Proposed Action, so the environmental consequences would be the same.

#### CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY:

Livestock grazing has been an important use of the public lands in the Kremmling Field Office since the introduction of domestic livestock in the 1870s. Presently, the Field Office supports a grazing program on approximately 378,000 acres of BLM-administered public lands. Currently, these public ranges are licensed at a level of approximately 39,726 Animal Unit Months (AUMs) for livestock. In North Park, there are approximately 260,000 acres of BLM-administered public lands that are currently being grazed, and 26,656 AUMs that are licensed.

For the purpose of this EA, the general geographic boundary for cumulative impact analysis is North Park. The lands administered by the Kremmling Field Office are divided north to south by the Continental Divide. The public lands to the north of the divide are generally referred to as North Park, and those to the south of the divide, Middle Park.

In looking at reasonably foreseeable actions in North Park, there has been recent interest in oil and gas exploration on private and federal lands. There is a potential this activity could impact livestock grazing by increasing weeds, reducing forage or displacing livestock. Other reasonably foreseeable actions that are projected within North Park include range improvement projects, timber sales, prescribed fire and vegetation treatments. The majority of these projects are anticipated to occur on BLM lands. Projects like these will improve vegetation for livestock on both private and public land.

#### PERSONS / AGENCIES CONSULTED: See Appendix 2 for Tribal List.

Starting in January 2007, a scoping process was begun to request information concerning the renewal of grazing permits/leases and to prioritize areas or allotments with issues and concerns. The Kremmling Field Office sent scoping letters, along with land status maps showing the affected allotments to the following groups and agencies: Colorado Division of Wildlife (Steamboat Springs, Walden, Hot Sulphur Springs, Fort Collins); District Board of Grazing Advisors; County Commissioners of Grand and Jackson counties; Stock Growers Association (Middle Park, North Park, Upper Big Laramie River Ranch Assoc.); Northwest Resource Advisory Council, United States Forest Service (Silverthorne, Granby, Walden); US Fish and Wildlife Service (Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge); Tribal Councils (Arapaho, Shoshone, Southern Ute); Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs; Ute Indian Tribe Uintah and Ouray Agency Business Committee; Colorado Environmental Coalition; and Colorado State Land Board (Lane Osborn).

The BLM Colorado State Office also mailed outreach letters concerning the renewal of grazing permits/leases to all Congressional offices, State and Federal agencies, and major environmental, conservation, and user group organizations.

In addition, individual letters were sent to the affected permittees/lessees informing them that their permit/lease was up for renewal and requested any information they wanted included in, or taken into consideration during the permit renewal process. A Notice of Public Scoping was posted on the internet at the Colorado BLM homepage, and in Grand and Jackson county newspapers asking for public input on permit/lease renewals and the assessment for compliance with the Standards for Public Land Health in Colorado within the Kremmling Field Office. This notice was followed up with an internet posting of the Kremmling Field Office prioritization of allotments and a determination as to which allotments would be assessed according to the Standards for Public Land Health in Colorado. The proposed permit renewal was also posted on the Kremmling Field Office Internet NEPA register.

The Kremmling Field Office received 3 comments from the scoping effort. The CDOW had no concerns with the permit/lease renewals. The US Forest Service, Sulphur District of the Arapaho National Forest expressed no issues or concerns with renewing the permits/leases. In a comment letter from the Grand County Commissioners, they strongly support the renewal of all Middle Park and North Park permits/leases. They said the preservation of agricultural is extremely important in Middle Park and North Park.

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW: See IDT-RRC in Appendix 1.

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## DOI-BLM-CO-120-2010-0018-EA

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the attached environmental assessment, and considering the significance criteria in 40 CFR 1508.27, I have determined that the Proposed Action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. An environmental impact statement is therefore not required.

### DECISION RECORD

DECISION: It is my decision to authorize the Proposed Action as described in the attached EA and renew livestock grazing permit # 0501790 to be in effect from March 1, 2010 to February 28, 2020. This decision is contingent on meeting mitigation measures and monitoring requirements listed below.

RATIONALE: When a livestock grazing lease/permit expires, it is subject to renewal at the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior for a period of up to ten years. Livestock grazing when properly managed in accordance with good rangeland ecology practices, has been proven to result in improved land health. The public benefits from public lands which are maintained in a healthy condition and are able to produce sustainable resources for a variety of uses.

The livestock producer benefits from a renewed livestock grazing permit/lease to graze forage on BLM managed land. Livestock grazing on BLM managed land is an integral part of the livestock producer's operation, and an important part of local rural economies.

MITIGATION MEASURES: None

COMPLIANCE/MONITORING: Compliance with the renewed livestock grazing lease/permit and its associated terms and conditions would be accomplished through the Kremmling Field Office Range Management Program. Livestock grazing would be monitored by the range staff and other area personnel, as appropriate, to ensure compliance. The Kremmling Field Office Range Monitoring Plan would be used to schedule periodic utilization checks, collect trend data, and evaluate allotment condition. When activity plans have been developed covering an allotment, monitoring methods and schedules included in them would be applied to the allotment. Changes would be made to the lease, based on monitoring, when changes are determined necessary to protect land health.

NAME OF PREPARER: Peter Torma

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Susan Cassel

DATE: 5/10/2010

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: /s/ Susan Cassel (Acting)

DATE SIGNED: 5/11/2010

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) Livestock grazing permit #0501790 with standard terms and conditions Grazing Plan for allotment 07133
- 2) Sheep Mountain Off-Road Vehicle Implementation Plan Map
- 3) Travel Restriction closure notice

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 – Interdisciplinary Team Analysis Review Record and Checklist

Appendix 1

**INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM ANALYSIS REVIEW RECORD AND CHECKLIST:**

**Project Title: Permit Renewal for 0501790**  
**Project Leader: Peter Torma**  
**Date Proposal Received: (Only for external proposals)**  
**Date Submitted for Comment: 12/1/09**  
**Due Date for Comments: 5/1/2010**

**Need for a field Exam: (If so, schedule a date/time)**

**Scoping Needs/Interested or Affected Publics: (Identify public scoping needs)**

**Consultation/Permit Requirements:**

Consultation	Date Initiated	Date Completed	Responsible Specialist/ Contractor	Comments
Cultural/Archeological Clearance/SHPO	NA	1/19/2010	B. Wyatt	Past actions have resulted in a cultural resource inventory to determine if those actions would cause potential adverse affects to known and unknown cultural resources sites from livestock grazing, motorized travel, and recreational use. When project undertakings are identified, a cultural resource inventory would be conducted to determine if sites are present and their eligibility, project effects, and mitigation requirements as necessary.
Native American	4/10/2009	1/19/2010	B. Wyatt	Tribal consultation was initiated and to date no tribe has identified any area of traditional spiritual concern. All Section 106 undertakings would initiate additional Native American Tribal consultation to identify any potential effects to traditional spiritual places.
T&E Species/FWS	N/A	N/A	McGuire	
Permits Needed (i.e. Air or Water)	N/A	N/A	P Belcher	

**(NP) = Not Present**  
**(NI) = Resource/Use Present but Not Impacted**  
**(PI) = Potentially Impacted and Brought Forward for Analysis.**

NP NI PI	Discipline/Name	Date Review Comp.	Initials	Review Comments (required for Critical Element NIs, and for elements that require a finding but are not carried forward for analysis.)
<b>CRITICAL ELEMENTS</b>				
NI	Air Quality <b>Belcher</b>	5/3/10	PB	The Proposed Action does not impact air quality, which is good and meeting the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
NP	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern <b>McGuire</b>	12/9/2009	MM	There are no Areas of Critical Environmental Concern in the proximity of the proposed

					project area.
NI	Cultural Resources <b>Wyatt</b>	1/19/09	BBW		Past actions have resulted in a cultural resource inventory to determine if those actions would cause potential adverse affects to known and unknown cultural resources sites from livestock grazing, motorized travel, and recreational use. When project undertakings are identified, a cultural resource inventory would be conducted to determine if sites are present and their eligibility, project effects, and mitigation requirements as necessary.
NP	Environmental Justice <b>Cassel</b>	12/16/09	SC		According to the most recent Census Bureau statistics (2000), there are no minority or low income communities within the Kremmling Planning Area.
NP	Farmlands, Prime and Unique <b>Belcher</b>	5/3/2010	PB		There are no farmlands, prime or unique, in the proximity of the proposed project area.
NP	Floodplains <b>Belcher</b>	5/3/2010	PB		The allotments are located in the uplands and do not affect the functionality of the floodplain.
NP	Invasive, Non-native Species <b>Johnson Torma Hughes</b>	02/24/09	ZH		There are no known invasive, non-native species (noxious weeds) growing in the project area. Since soil or vegetation disturbing activities provide an avenue for the establishment or expansion of invasive, non-native species, the BLM would monitor the project area as specified in the Proposed Action.
NI	Migratory Birds <b>McGuire</b>	12/9/2009	MM		The allotments are currently in good condition. Since there are no changes proposed to the existing permit, impacts would not occur.
Ni	Native American Religious Concerns <b>Wyatt</b>	1/19/09	BBW		Tribal consultation was initiated and to date no tribe has identified any area of traditional spiritual concern. All Section 106 undertakings would initiate additional Native American Tribal consultation to identify any potential effects to traditional spiritual places.
NI	T/E, and Sensitive Species (Finding on Standard 4) <b>McGuire</b>	12/9/2009	MM		No T/E species. Greater sage-grouse, a BLM sensitive species, occur in the allotment. The allotments are currently in good condition. Since there are no changes proposed to the existing permit, impacts would not occur.
NP	Wastes, Hazardous and Solid <b>Hodgson</b>	12/03/09	KH		There are no quantities of wastes, hazardous or solid, located on BLM-administered lands in the proposed project area, and there would be no wastes generated as a result of the Proposed Action or No Action alternative.
NI	Water Quality, Surface and Ground (Finding on Standard 5) <b>Belcher</b>	5/3/2010	PB		The Proposed Action is a continuation of current conditions. The allotments have no water quality concerns and would not be affected by the renewal.
PI	Wetlands & Riparian Zones (Finding on Standard 2) <b>Belcher</b>	5/3/2010	PB		See the Wetland Section.
NP	Wild and Scenic Rivers <b>Windsor</b>	4/1/2010	AW		There are no eligible Wild and Scenic River segments in the proposed project area.
NP	Wilderness <b>Monkouski</b>	3/12/2010	JJM		There is no designated Wilderness or Wilderness Study Areas in the proximity of the

					proposed project area.
<b>NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS</b> (A finding must be made for these elements)					
PI	Soils (Finding on Standard 1)	<b>Belcher</b>	5/4/2010	PB	See Soils Section
PI	Vegetation (Finding on Standard 3)	<b>Johnson Torma</b>	12/28/09	PT	See Vegetation Section
NI	Wildlife, Aquatic (Finding on Standard 3)	<b>McGuire</b>	12/9/2009	MM	The allotments are currently in good condition. Since there are no changes proposed to the existing permit, impacts would not occur.
NI	Wildlife, Terrestrial (Finding on Standard 3)	<b>McGuire</b>	12/9/2009	MM	The allotments are currently in good condition. Since there are no changes proposed to the existing permit, impacts would not occur.
<b>OTHER NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS</b>					
PI	Access/Transportation	<b>Monkouski</b>	3/12/2010	JJM	See Analysis.
NI	Forest Management	<b>K. Belcher</b>	4/22/2010	KB	No impact on forest resources as a result of implementing either the proposed action or the no action alternative.
NI	Geology and Minerals	<b>Hodgson</b>	12/03/09	KH	No impacts.
NI	Fire	<b>Wyatt</b>	1/19/2010	BBW	Grazing would reduce light flashy fuels. Cattle trails that result in the trampling and removal of vegetation would create potential fuel breaks.
NI	Hydrology/Water Rights	<b>Belcher</b>	5/3/2010	PB	No impacts.
NI	Paleontology	<b>Rupp</b>	11/15/2010	FGR	Environmental Consequences/Mitigation: There would be no impacts to Paleontological resources from renewing the grazing permit. Ground disturbing projects or undertakings will be reviewed to determine the need for Paleontological inventory.
NP	Noise	<b>Monkouski</b>	3/12/2010	JJM	No impact
PI	Range Management	<b>Johnson Torma</b>	12/28/09	PT	Since there are no changes to the permit impacts to livestock use from the proposed action or the No Action Alternative would not be impacted.
NI	Lands/ Realty Authorizations	<b>Cassel</b>	12/17/09	AS	There are no leases or permits in the proposed project area. There are two ROWs COC-008482 for Mt. Parks, and COC-009596 for Century Tel. No impacts would occur in the proposed area.
NI	Recreation	<b>Monkouski Windsor</b>	3/12/2010	JJM	Existing recreational uses in the general area include hunting, hiking, horseback riding, wildlife viewing; snowmobiling and driving for pleasure. There are no recreation activity plans or other special recreation designations for this area. The proposed action should have no impacts to the recreation resource.
NI	Socio-Economics	<b>Cassel</b>	12/16/09	SC	As there would be no changes to the permit, there would be no impacts to the Socio-Economics from the proposed action or the No Action Alternative.
NI	Visual Resources	<b>Windsor</b>	4/1/2010	AW	Visual resources would not be impacted by the proposed action or the no action alternative.
PI	Cumulative Impact Summary		5/7/2010	PT	
<b>FINAL REVIEW</b>					
	P&E Coordinator	<b>Cassel</b>	5/7/2010	SC	

Appendix 2

**NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES CONTACTED:**

Ivan Posey, Chairman  
Shoshone Business Council  
Shoshone Tribe  
P O Box 538  
Ft. Washakie, WY 82514

Mr. Norman Tidzump  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Shoshone Tribe, Cultural Center  
P.O. Box 538  
Fort Washakie, WY 82514

Ernest House, Sr., Chairman  
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe  
P O Box JJ  
Towaoc, CO 81334

Mr. Terry Knight, Sr., NAGPRA Representative  
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe  
P O Box 468  
Towaoc, CO 81334

Harvey Spoonhunter, Chairman  
Northern Arapaho Business Council  
P O Box 328  
Fort Washakie, WY 82514

THPO Director  
Northern Arapaho Tribe  
P O Box 396  
Fort Washakie, WY 82514

Ernest House, Jr., Executive Secretary  
Colorado Commissioner of Indian Affairs  
130 State Capitol  
Denver, Colorado 80203

Robert Goggles, NAGPRA Representative  
Northern Arapaho Tribe  
328 Seventeen Mile Road  
Arapaho, WY 82510

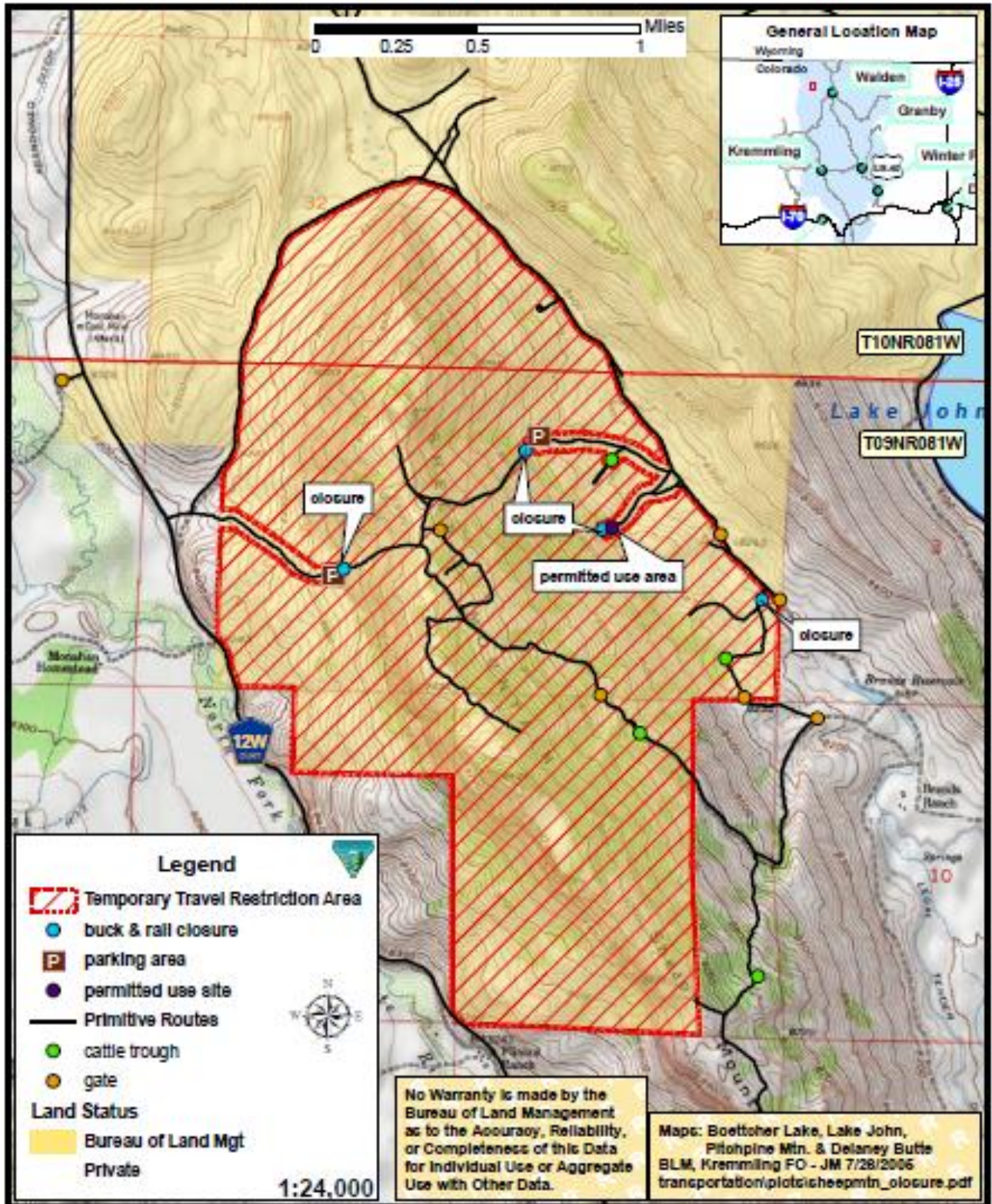
Mathew Box, Chairman  
Southern Ute Indian Tribe  
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Ignacio, CO 81137

Neil Cloud, NAGPRA Representative  
Southern Ute Tribe  
Mail Stop #73  
Ignacio, CO 81137

Curtis Cesspooch, Chairman  
Uintah & Ouray Tribal Business Committee  
P O Box 190  
Ft. Duchesne, UT 84026

Betsy Chapoose, Director  
Cultural Rights & Protection Specialist  
Uintah & Ouray Tribe  
P O Box 190  
Fort Duchesne, UT 84026

# Sheep Mtn. Temporary Travel Restriction Area



## Travel Restriction

In order to protect public safety, prevent soil erosion, and protect vegetation on Sheep Mountain, motorized travel is restricted to the existing access route(s) along the travel restriction area boundary shown on the attached map and described below. All other routes and areas within the travel restriction boundary are closed to motorized use, except those routes serving as access to designated parking areas or the designated permitted use site.

**In accordance with \*CFR 9268.3 (d) (1), the BLM public lands within the BLM boundary lines in Section 9, north along the west boundary line of Section 5 and north-trending access road in Sections 5 and 32, east and south along the existing access road into Sections 33 and 4, are restricted from motorized vehicle use (see Sheep Mtn Temporary Travel Restriction Map). Access to designated parking areas at the base of Sheep Mountain and to a designated permitted use site is allowed.** Motorized use on the slopes of Sheep Mountain are damaging the area's natural resources and creating a public safety hazard. Routine field checks will be conducted to ensure that this travel restriction is honored. Buck and rail closures have been installed to prevent use beyond designated access points.

*\*(d)(1) Closure of Lands. In the management of lands to protect the public and assure proper resource utilization, conservation, and protection, public use and travel may be temporarily restricted. Areas may be closed temporarily to:*

- (i) Protect the public health and safety;*
- (ii) Prevent excessive erosion;*
- (iii) Prevent unnecessary destruction of plant and wildlife habitat;*
- (iv) Protect the natural environment*

*(2) Penalties. Any person who knowingly and willfully violates any closure order issued under 9268.3 shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than 12 months or both.*

This temporary closure will not preclude future travel management designations for this area, to be completed in conjunction with ongoing travel management planning within the next few years.

If you have any questions about this closure or the travel management planning process, please contact Outdoor Recreation Planner Stacey Antilla at (970) 724-3039.

John F. Ruhs  
Field Manager

Date   8/31/05