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

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

A. Background

BLM Office: __Kremmling_____

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: __COC-74437__

Number: BLM-CO-120-2010-0053-CX

Proposed Action Title/Type: Buffalo Creek Ranch Right-of-Way

Location of Proposed Action: T. 6 N., R. 79 W., Section 34

Description of Proposed Action:

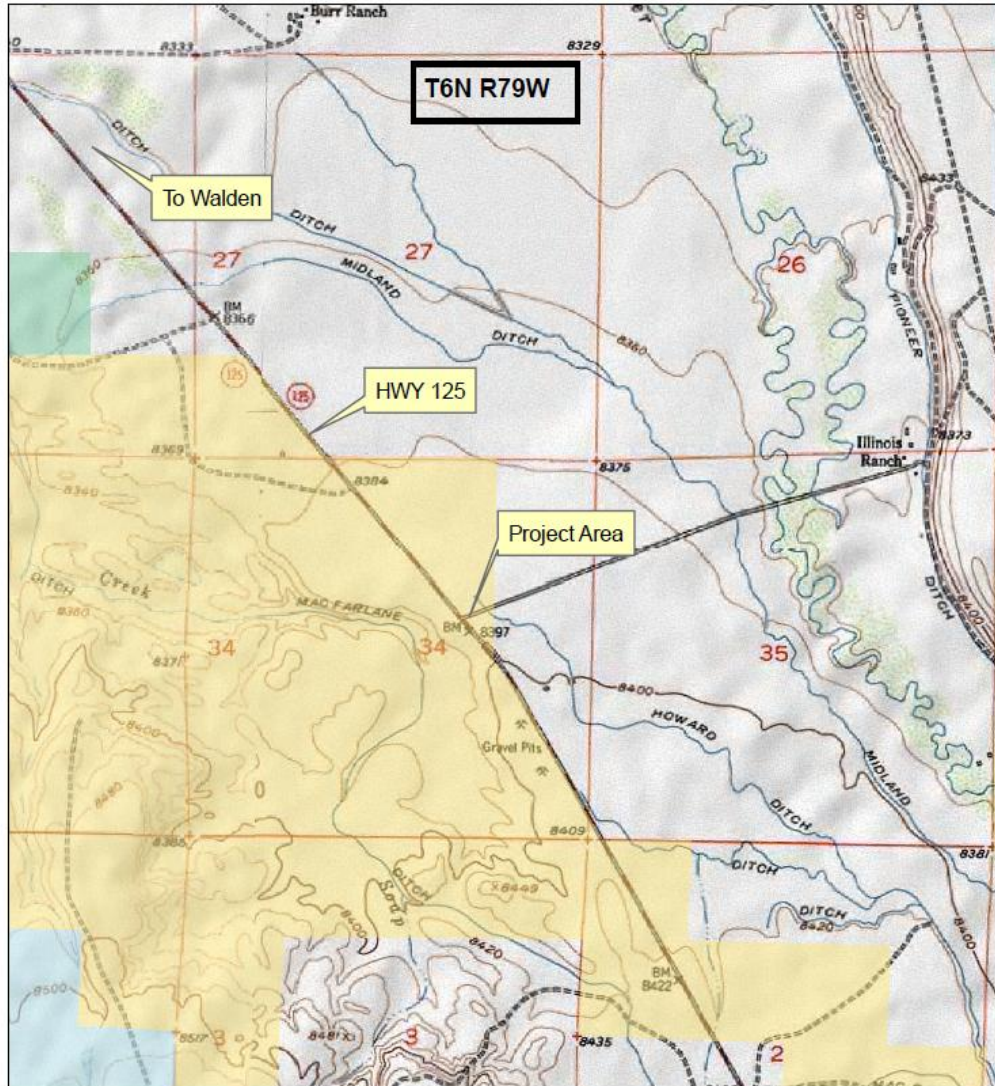
Buffalo Creek Ranch has applied for a right-of-way (ROW) for an existing access road and entry way that was found to be in trespass. A 16 foot cattle guard was also installed in the road. The private property line is located approximately one quarter of a mile south of the existing road which is located along Colorado State Highway 125. The new entry way is partially constructed and is located 100 feet from the highway. The existing road is approximately 420 feet long and 20 feet wide.

The new entry way consists of two four foot by four foot by seven foot concrete and rock bases, log archway with a ranch sign which is 20 foot by 30 foot, two 20 foot gates across the 16 foot cattle guard, and two ten foot gates for livestock access on each side of the ranch sign. Approximately 180 feet of barbed wire would be replaced with 240 feet of wood fence stretching from the gate to the highway (drawings in the casefile).

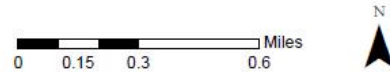
The old cattle guard right off the highway is too narrow and too close to the highway for semi trucks and trailers to safely enter and exit the ranch. The previous entry way rotted and fell over due to abundant presence of water in the ditch during irrigation. Both would be removed along with the barbed wire fence. Construction would be completed by November 2010.



Buffalo Creek Ranch COC-074437



- Legend**
- land_status**
- Land Status**
- Bureau of Land Mgt
 - Division of Wildlife
 - National Park
 - National Rec Area
 - National Wildlife Refuge
 - Private
 - State
 - State Forest
 - US Forest Service



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Annie Sperandio, 08-16-2010
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B. Land Use Plan Conformance

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

Date Approved/Amended: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

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

Decision Number/Page: II-B-12 pg.14

Decision Language: Provide the opportunity to utilize public lands for development of facilities which benefit the public, while considering environmental and agency concerns.

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 11.0, E. (17).

“Grant of a short rights-of-way for utility service or terminal access roads to an individual residence, outbuilding, or water well.”

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.

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

Name	Title	Area of Responsibility	Date Review Completed
Bill Wyatt	Archaeologist	Archaeology & Indian Consultation	9-30-2010
Megan McGuire	Biologist	Wildlife, T&E	8/16/10
Paula Belcher	Hydrologist	Soil, Air & Water	9/13/10
Susan Cassel	Asst. Field Manager	NEPA	9/30/2010

D. Signature

Authorizing Official: /s/ Susan Cassel Date: 9/30/2010
(Signature)

Name: Susan Cassel
Title: Associate Field Manager

Contact Person

Annie Sperandio
P O Box 68
Kremmling, CO 80459
970-724-3002

DECISION RECORD
CX # BLM-CO-120-2010-0053-CX

DECISION: It is my decision to authorize the Proposed Action as described in the attached CX.

This decision is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, and the Clean Water Act. This decision is also in conformance with the LUP and other applicable laws, regulations and policies.

This action is listed in the Department Manual as an action that may be categorically excluded. I have evaluated the action and have determined that it does not represent an extraordinary circumstance and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.

RATIONALE: The proposed action to issue Buffalo Creek Ranch a ROW for an existing access road and entry way was chosen to resolve a trespass issue that will not affect resources.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: /s/ Susan Cassel

DATE SIGNED: 9/30/2010