

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
White River Field Office
73544 Hwy 64
Meeker, CO 81641**

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

NUMBER: CO-110-2004-039-CER

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER (optional): N/A

PROJECT NAME: Resource Area Wide Signage Installation and Maintenance

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: White River Resource Area

APPLICANT: BLM WRFO

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION:

BLM intends to install, maintain and remove transportation, recreation and interpretive related signs at various sites on the White River Resource Area. The majority of the signage will be directional/compliance related travel management installations. Signs will be installed within road rights-of-way or in existing turn-outs in the case of large information boards. When closing a route is necessary, signage will be installed along the centerline of the route to deter travel. If signs are to be placed within ACECs and/or known areas of cultural concentration such as Canyon Pintado National Historic District the appropriate specialist will be contacted prior to any installation activities.

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

Name of Plan: White River Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP).

Date Approved: July 1, 1997

Decision Number/Page: 2-44

Decision Language: Manage motorized vehicle travel on public lands to provide for public need and demand, protect natural resources, provide for the safety of public land users, and to minimize conflicts among various users of public lands.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 6, Appendix 5.4, G(1), (2), (3) and (4). None of the following exceptions in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply.

| Exception | YES | NO |
|--|------------|-----------|
| 1. Have significant adverse effects on public health and safety. | | X |
| 2. Have adverse effects 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, floodplains; national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas. | | X |
| 3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. | | X |
| 4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks. | | X |
| 5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. | | X |
| 6. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. | | X |
| 7. Have adverse effects on properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places. | | X |
| 8. Have adverse effects on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species. | | X |
| 9. Have the potential to violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. | | X |
| 10. Have the potential for a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations. | | X |

| Exception | YES | NO |
|---|-----|----|
| 11. Restrict access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites. | | X |
| 12. Significantly, 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. | | X |

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

The proposed action was presented to, and reviewed by the White River Field Office interdisciplinary team on 1/13/04.

Date

A list of resource specialists who participated in this review is available upon request from the White River Field Office.

REMARKS:

Cultural Resources: N/A

Native American Religious Concerns: N/A

Threatened and Endangered Species: N/A

COMPLIANCE PLAN (optional): N/A

NAME OF PREPARER:



NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR:



DECISION AND RATIONALE: I have reviewed this CER and have decided to approve the proposed action.

This action is listed in the Department Manual as an action that may be categorically excluded. I have evaluated the action relative to the 12 criteria listed above and have determined that it does not represent an exception and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:



Field Manager

DATE SIGNED:

01/23/04