

To: Staszak, Cynthia[cstaszak@blm.gov]
Cc: Matthew Betenson[mbetenso@blm.gov]
From: Backer, Dana
Sent: 2017-03-16T17:48:33-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Research Permit/Letter/Admin Rd Use - request
Received: 2017-03-16T17:48:46-04:00
[FIA 2017 Plots.xlsx](#)
[25-148 GSENM Admin.pdf](#)
[25-158 GSENM Admin.pdf](#)
[FIA 2017 plot map.pdf](#)
[USDA-RMRS admin rd use letter 2017.docx](#)
[UT-2017-030-03-B letter USDA RMRS.docx](#)
[UT-2017-030-03-B permit USDA RMRS 3.16.17.doc](#)

Hi Cindy,

Thanks for calling these items to my attention. I have answered your questions (see below), have had Ken review the application, and talked with Kevin Miller about the tags and nails they place for relocating the plots.

I am submitting the entire package again for your review. Please let me know if there are any outstanding questions.

If you approve the permit, I will ask Tami to draft the letters on letter head and prepare them for your signature.

Thanks
Dana

1. Since their permit expired, it looks like we are starting over? Shouldn't the current permit reference the past permit?

We have records of a 2005 and 2011 permit. I added the number of the 2011 permit to the new permit.

2. The box for "specialist review" was checked N/A. Wouldn't we want to engage ken B in this, if he isn't already.

Ken did look at it and approved it. The only reason I did not previously have him look at it is because the soil plot is outside the Monument.

3. The "in WSA" box is checked. I assume at some point we have concluded that the research is not impacting wilderness values? Do the plots have some sort of permanent marker?

In a conversation with Kevin Miller, said that it was discussed when the permit was renewed in 2011 and with similar markers that a Cat Ex was used but not documented in the permit. The CE used is Departmental CE 1.6. Nondestructive data collection, inventory, study, research and monitoring activities.

From the PI, describing the markers.

The only trees with the tree tags are the two witness trees on the point center so we can find the steel stake each visit. The other tree we tag is a reference point tree that is used to find the location. This tree (or object) is generally easy to find on an aerial photo and gives us a directions (azimuth and distance) to our location in the event the GPS isn't working.

The other trees that are assessed (greater than 3 inches in diameter or cumulative diameter for multiple stemmed trees) are nailed at the base of the tree, again for reference.

The majority of our locations were established prior to the area becoming a Monument or wilderness study areas. We do pull visible hardware that is obvious and replace with tags and nails at ground level. In the event that our witness trees are visible from a road or trail, we place tags away from the road or trail so to not be observed.

The tags are painted a dark color prior to the field visit, to make them less visible.

By the way, the steel stake has a diameter roughly 3 mm. The stake is bent on half (to form a loop) and placed down to ground level with a stick through the loop so to be easy to find in 10 years.

4. When we provide an authorization to use admin roads, I like to attach a map with the permitted routes highlighted. That helps clarify for the permitte.

New maps attached.

The process works fine...and typically I would not have too many questions. You can have Tami put on letterhead and I can even sign these electronically if Tami is OK with the

system.

Let

Cindy Staszak
Monument Manager
Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
669 S. Hwy 89-A
Kanab, UT 84741
Office: 435 644-1240
Cell: 435 691-4340
Fax: 435 644-1250

On Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 2:43 PM, Backer, Dana <dbacker@blm.gov> wrote:

Hi Cindy

The Rocky Mountain Research Stations's permit for conducting Forest Inventory and Analysis monitoring expired at the end of last year. Thus, there is a permit and permit letter for your review (which includes a map and table of 2017 plots).

There is also a request to utilize two admin roads. A separate letter for that is authorization is attached.

The one soil plot that requires minimal ground disturbance is outside of the Monument boundary.

All of these files can be found in

Z:\Science Program\Science 1\1 Permits & Proposals\Permits\2017\USDA FIA-RMRS

Please let me know if this process for permit authorization is okay with you. I could also work with Tami to get the letter head and File Reference number before this goes to you for review. Let me know what is easiest for you.

Thanks

Dana

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Dana Backer
Science Program Administrator
Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument

Kanab, UT 84741
435-644-1257

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Dana Backer
Science Program Administrator
Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument
Kanab, UT 84741
435-644-1257



**Scientific Research and Collection Permit
Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument**

Applicant: USFS – Rocky Mountain Research Station
Address: 507 25th Street
 Ogden, UT 84401

Application Date: March 8, 2017

Issue Date: March 15, 2017

Expiration Date: December 31, 2021

GSENM Number: UT-2017-030-03-B (previous permit 2011-2016 number UT-030-11-02-B)

State Permit Number (if applicable):

Federal Permit Number (if applicable):

1. Is the research covered by an assistance agreement with this office and/or other BLM offices? If yes provide the number. No

2. Description of research. Conduct inventory and monitoring on fixed research locations (25 plots in 2017). Measure and identify trees, shrubs, grasses, forbs. Monitor for insect and disease occurrence.

Ground disturbance is associated with one soil plots which is located **just outside the Monument boundary**. On three subplots, we collect all duff and litter in a 12 inch circle. On one subplot, drive a bulk density sampler that is 2 inches in diameter and 8 inches long into the ground if not restricted by rock.

3. Contact information: Maryfaith Snyder

Phone: 801-625-2724

Cell: 801-725-0134

Fax: 801-625-5129

E-mail: msnyder@fs.fed.us

For GSENM office use only below this line.

4. Specialist review complete? ☒ Yes ☐ No
 Name: Ken Bradshaw

8. Curation agreement? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 Attach

5. Complies w/ MMP? ☒ Yes ☐ No

9. Permit granted? ☒ Yes ☐ No

6. In WSA status? 19 of 25 ☒ Yes ☐ No
 plots in WSA

10. Permit extension? ☐ Yes ☒ No

7. Special Stipulations? Attach ☐ Yes ☒ No

11. Area of activity: See attached Excel spreadsheet of plot UTM's and Map.

12. If collecting is authorized. Materials to be collected:

Authorization. Permission is hereby given to the above named individual to collect material(s) specified in the approved research proposal, within the guidelines of permit requirements outlined below.

By:
 Cynthia Staszak
 Monument Manager

Date

I have read and agree to the stipulations of this permit.

By:
Science Permittee Name

Date

STANDARD RESEARCH PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

We ask that you follow all **Leave No Trace Principles** (<https://lnt.org>) and the following.

1. This permit may not be assigned to any other institution, group, or individual. Any modifications to the permit must be requested in writing to the Science Program Administrator.
2. This permit is valid only for the period specified. The permit may be suspended or modified at the discretion of the Monument Manager. Field work under this permit may be halted temporarily by either verbal or written notice from the Monument Manager or other Authorized Officer for violations of permit terms and conditions or for administrative purposes of the BLM.
3. All terms and conditions of this permit shall remain in effect, including reporting requirements, until all permit terms and conditions have been met, regardless of permit expiration date.
4. A copy of this permit must be carried by the individual in direct charge of field work during the course of all work conducted under permit.
5. This permit shall not be exclusive in character, and the Bureau of Land Management reserves the right to authorize other uses of the land during the tenure of this permit. Field work shall be carried out in such a manner as to not impede other legitimate uses of the Monument, except when a provision has been made by the Monument Manager or delegated representative.
6. The Department of Interior, including its bureaus and employees, shall be held blameless for any and all events, deeds, or mishaps, regardless of whether or not they arise from operations under this permit.
7. Field schedule must be coordinated with the Science Program Administrator or a designated representative in advance of field work.
8. The Monument Manager, and /or designated representatives shall have access to the study area during or after performance of field work, and shall have the right to inspect all materials removed.
9. Any stakes, flagging, or other temporary materials used to identify localities in the field shall be removed upon completion of field activity. No permanent survey monuments or markers shall be disturbed or removed during the course of field work.
10. Unless otherwise agreed, all costs shall be borne by the permittee, including costs of curation.
11. Interpreting and sharing the science conducted on GSENM with staff, volunteers and the public, is critical. There shall be a public outreach component for each research project. Recommendations or opportunities for public presentations, a field trip, or the something similar shall be coordinated with the Science Program Administrator.
12. Collections, if authorized, of materials acquired from public lands under the provisions of this permit remain the property of the United States Government and may be recalled at any time for use by the BLM. A designated repository for this project is not necessary. Any recall or transfer of material will be coordinated by BLM with the designated repository. Public display of material collected under this permit shall cite Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, Bureau of Land Management, Utah.
13. Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, and the BLM, Utah shall be cited in any report, publication, paper, news article, film, television program or other media, resulting from field work under this permit. Copies of such documents shall be provided to the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Headquarters. To assist in producing the best possible science, you are encouraged to forward manuscripts for review to the Science Program Administrator prior to submitting them for publication.

14. Access to research site(s) is authorized only across BLM administered lands. Use of private lands or lands administered by another agency must be secured separately.

15. A report of all activities conducted under this permit shall be prepared by December 31 of each year during the tenure of the permit. This report will be submitted to the Monument Headquarters, in care of the Science Program Administrator. The report shall include a catalog of all specimens collected, if authorized, a description of work accomplished, results, copies of datasets (with FGDC compliant metadata for final reports) and any recommendations for future research or management activities.

16. For any collections that will be curated, a list of all specimens collected must be provided in the annual report to the Science Program Administrator. Each specimen must contain the following information: scientific name, description, collection location (latitude / longitude or UTM Zone 12, NAD83), collection number, and facility's accession number. Provide the curation facility, address, and a point of contact at the facility.

17. Pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Regulations at 43 CFR 10.4, the permittee shall notify the Science Program Administrator or Monument Manager immediately upon the inadvertent discovery of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony, with written confirmation. All work in the vicinity must and reasonable efforts shall be made to protect the remains pending BLM action. Activities may resume within 30 days of receipt of the written confirmation of notification unless the situation is resolved sooner.

18. Commercially provided services such as transportation, cooking and packing must be sought from outfitters authorized by the Monument. For a current list of outfitters, please contact Science Program Administrator at 435-644-1257 or dbacker@blm.gov.

Camping

1. Overnight camping in the Monument requires a permit. Currently, permits are free of charge and may be obtained at Visitor Centers or at designated trailheads. Camping restrictions described in the GSENM Management Plan, p. 35, must be followed. The GSENM Management Plan is available on line https://www.blm.gov/nlcs_web/sites/style/medialib/blm/ut/grand_staircase-escalante/planning/monument_management.Par.83655.File.dat/GSENM%20Management%20Plan.pdf

2. No camping within 300 feet of an isolated water source (i.e., seep, spring, pond, rock pool, water pocket).

3. Permittee will maintain all premises to standards of repair, orderliness, neatness, and sanitation acceptable to the Monument. Camp areas will be regularly cleaned and no trash or litter will be allowed to accumulate.

Fire

1. Campfires are not allowed in the Escalante and Paria/Hackberry Canyons, No Mans Mesa, nor in archaeological sites, rock shelters and alcoves throughout the Monument.

2. In the Front country and Passage Zones, campfires are allowed only in designated fire grates, designated fire pits, or mandatory fire pans. Wood collection for campfires is not allowed. Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely; leave cool ashes.

3. In the Outback and Primitive Zones campfires are allowed. Use an existing fire ring instead of building a new one. The use of fire pans is encouraged. Only dead and down wood can be collected. Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely, scatter cool ashes, and restore the area to a natural

condition before leaving.

Group Size Limits

1. Group size is limited to 25 people in the Passage and Outback Zones including guides.
2. Group size within the Primitive Zone is limited to 12 people and 12 pack animals including guides, however within the Paria River corridor in the Primitive Zone group size is limited to 25 people including guides.
3. Group size limits cannot be achieved by staggering individual groups along a single route by time or distance. Instead, individual groups must comply with group size limits by utilizing separate and unique routes, or by traveling from opposite ends of a single route. If traveling from opposite ends of a single route, groups may pass each other, however they cannot gather at a single location.

Wilderness Study Areas

1. Permittee is responsible for knowing the location of wilderness and wilderness study areas (WSA) comply with the restrictions that apply to such areas. Maps and information concerning restrictions are available at the Monument website

Transportation and Access

1. All machinery (street legal motorized vehicles, non-street legal all-terrain vehicles, dirt bikes etc.) that has been used outside the Monument must be cleaned prior to use in the Monument, to prevent the possible introduction and spread of noxious weeds.
2. Motorized or mechanized vehicles may pull off designated routes no more than 50 feet for direct access to dispersed camping areas in the Outback Zone, except in Wilderness Study Areas, endangered plant areas, relict plant areas and riparian areas.
3. Access onto the Monument will be along defined roads listed on the transportation map in the Grand Staircase- Escalante National Monument Management Plan.
4. Cross-country motorized travel on the Monument is prohibited. All motorized and mechanized (bicycles, deer carts) vehicles must stay on designated roads while traveling in the Monument.
5. Permittee shall not construct new trails, or maintain existing trails without written authorization from the Monument.
6. The permittee shall not use paint or flagging, or construct cairns to mark trails, unless specifically allowed by this permit.

Sanitation and Aesthetics

1. Burning and burying food waste are prohibited.
2. Utilize a portable self-contained toilet system when less than 300 feet from water sources, campsites, and trails. All human waste must be packed out and disposed of at a certified disposal site.
3. If a small portable toilet cannot be used, deposit solid human waste in catholes dug 4 to 6 inches deep at least 300 feet from water sources, camp, and trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished. Never dig a cathole under an overhang or shelter.
4. If camping in one location for multiple days, a trench may be dug to dispose of human waste. To dig a trench,

start with a cathole dug 4 to 6 inches deep and expand it in one direction as additional people use it; soil dug from the trench should be used to cover the feces.

5. To wash yourself or your dishes, carry water 300 feet away from water sources and use small amounts of biodegradable soap. Scatter strained dishwater and pack out remaining food particles.

Supplemental Stipulations for Permittees using Riding or Pack Animals

1. Horses or other pack animals are not allowed in relict plant communities, archaeological sites, rock shelters, or alcoves. Sheep species will not be allowed for pack use.

2. Weed free hay, straw and non-germinable grains may be used to feed and bed livestock, or be placed in the bottom of stock carrying vehicles.