

**Categorical Exclusion Documentation Format for Actions Other Than Hazardous
Fuels and Fire Rehabilitation Actions**

**Cystic Fibrosis Great Strides
DOI-BLM-AZ-P010-2011-026-CX**

A. Background

BLM Office: *Hassayampa Field Office (HFO)*

Lease/Serial/Case File No. NA:

Proposed Action Title/Type **Cystic Fibrosis Great Strides Fundraiser:**

Location of Proposed Action **Vulture Peak Trailhead:**

Description of Proposed Action Approximately 50 to 75 hikers will register by 8 a.m. on March 6, 2011 to hike to Vulture Peak. After participants complete the hike light refreshments will be served. Clean up will be completed by noon. Parking will occur in the hardened space already provided near the trailhead including the camping area and camping spurs.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan (LUP) Name: **Bradshaw Harquahala Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan**

Date Approved/Amended: **4/22/2010**

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s): RR-30 Special Recreation Permits are authorized on a case by case basis for all recreation activities meeting the requirements in 43 CFR 2930 and applicable manuals, policies, and guidance.

The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s) (objectives, terms, and conditions):

Explain specific or implied decision(s): Permits are discretionary actions that management considers for approval or disapproval. According to the LUP, this action is covered by the above decision.

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 2, Appendix 1, or 516 DM 11.5:

Insert appropriate categorical exclusion number and description.

In addition, 516 DM 11 11.9, Actions for Categorical Exclusion H Recreation Management: Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day use or overnight use up to 14 consecutive nights; that impacts no more than 3 staging area acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized in a land use plan.

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 DM 2 or 516 DM 11.5 apply.

I considered: Parking areas have been used as a camping area for motor homes for decades. An engineered trail leads the hiker to the peak. This area has been used for recreation participation and is well known and well established for uses such as hiking and camping. Attached are stipulations/mitigations for this event.

D: Signature

Authorizing Official: _____/s/ 2/22/2011 _____
Steven Cohn
Field Manager

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact:
Mary Skordinsky, 623-580-5586

Note: A separate decision document must be prepared for the action covered by the CX. See Attachment 2.

BLM Categorical Exclusions: Extraordinary Circumstances¹

¹ If an action has any of these impacts, you must conduct NEPA analysis.

Attachment 1

The action has been reviewed to determine if any of the extraordinary circumstances (43 CFR 46.215) apply. The project would:		
1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: Action is requesting use of existing recreation area for parking and existing trail system.
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?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: N/A
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)]?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: None
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: No known unique or unknown environmental risks.
5. Establish a precedent for future action, or represent a decision in principle about future actions, with potentially significant environmental effects?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: This event is not on-going. The fundraiser is for one day and people associated with the event will be present on site for less than 12 hours.
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: The potential for an insignificant action to add up to become major may always exist. The scenario for this happening is all fundraisers and commercial ventures applying for the use of this area at the same time or throughout the year would affect and alter the physical and social aspects.
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?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: Confirmed

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?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: Confirmed
9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: Wildlife clearance has been obtained from the wildlife specialist, "I have no wildlife concerns related to this activity."
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: No health or environmental statues would be compromised.
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)?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: As part of the LUP and prior documents.
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)?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: Hikers will be involved on an engineered trail and the use of already hardened surfaces restrict the propagation of weeds.

Approval and Decision

Attachment 2

Compliance and assignment of responsibility: Insert Program or Employee

Monitoring and assignment of responsibility: Insert Program or Employee

Review: *We have determined that the proposal is in accordance with the categorical exclusion criteria and that it would not involve any significant environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review.*

Prepared by: _____/s/_____ **Date:** _Feb18, 2010_____

Mary Skordinsky
Project Lead

Reviewed by: _____/s/_____ **Date:** _ 2 / 2 2 / 2 0 1 1

Leah Baker
Planning & Environmental Coordinator

Reviewed by: _____/s/_____ **Date:** 0 2 / 2 2 / 2 0 1 1

Steven Cohn
Manager

Project Description:

Paste Project Description here

Decision: Based on a review of the project described above and field office staff recommendations, I have determined that the project is in conformance with the land use plan and is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis. It is my decision to approve the action as proposed, with the following stipulations (if applicable).

Approved By: _____/s/_____ **Date:** _02/22/2011_____

Steven Cohn