

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

BEN AVERY BURRO TRAPPING
DOI-BLM-AZ-P010-2011-032-CX

A. Background

BLM Office: *Hassayampa Field Office (HFO)*

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: N/A

Proposed Action Title/Type: Authorize the use of bait traps to capture nuisance burros on and near the Ben Avery Shooting Range.

Location of Proposed Action: T. 6 N., R. 2 E, SW1/4SW1/4 Sec. 28

Description of Proposed Action: Bait trap approximately 40 nuisance wild burros that regularly access Ben Avery Shooting Range. These burros are outside of the Lake Pleasant HMA on state, Game and Fish, and private lands.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan (LUP) Name: Bradshaw-Harquahala 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):

Wild Burro Management, Page 56

Management Action HB-4:

Burros will be removed from the Lake Pleasant HMA when the population exceeds the AML or if burros are determined to be nuisance animals as defined by the Wild Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971.

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)

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:

D4: Removal of wild horses or burros from private lands at the request of the landowner.

State lands are the same as private lands as we are only authorized under the Act to manage for wild burros on lands under the jurisdiction of the BLM.

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 the potential impacts to cultural resources, recreational opportunities, travel management, and wildlife habitat prior to authorizing the Proposed Action, and I have determined that no significant impacts to these public land resources would occur.

D: Signature

Authorizing Official: _____/s/_____ Date: _03/01/2011_____

Steven Cohn
Hassayampa Field Office Manager

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact:
Roger Oyler, Arizona Wild Horse & Burro Program State Lead, 602-417-9241

BLM Categorical Exclusions: Extraordinary Circumstances¹
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: The proposed action is not directly safety or health related. Some burros do access either SR 74 or New River Road, and the proposed action in this regard would reduce potential safety issues presented by wild burros on the highway through their removal.
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: The trap is in an area previously disturbed, on land owned and/or controlled by the State of Arizona, and is completely portable. There will be no anticipated impacts to any of the above resources.
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: This project will not result in controversial or unresolved conflict. The proposed action, or actions identical to the proposed action, is specifically addressed in the Wild Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971, as amended.
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: None
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: None
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: None

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

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: The proposed action is not on Lands under the jurisdiction of the BLM.
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: None present
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: Not applicable
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 impacts
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: None present
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: None present

Approval and Decision

Attachment 2

Compliance and assignment of responsibility: Roger Oyler

Monitoring and assignment of responsibility: Roger Oyler

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:** 02/22/2011

Roger Oyler
Project Lead

Reviewed by: _____/s/_____ **Date:** 02/28/2011

Leah Baker
Planning & Environmental Coordinator

Reviewed by: _____/s/_____ **Date:** 03/01/2011

Steven Cohn
Manager

Project Description:

Bait trap approximately 40 nuisance wild burros that regularly access the Ben Avery Shooting Range. These burros are outside of the Lake Pleasant HMA on state and private lands.

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:** __03/01/2011__

Steven Cohn

