

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT - ALTURAS FIELD OFFICE

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENTATION

A. Background

BLM Office: Alturas Field Office LLCAN02000

NEPA File No.: DOI-BLM-CA-N020-2010-0013-CX

Proposed Action Title/Type: Perry Allotment Permit Transfer

Location of Proposed Action: The Perry allotment, consisting of 200 acres of public land, is located within Modoc County, California, approximately 25 miles northeast of Alturas, California:

Mount Diablo Meridian
T. 46N. R.14E.,
Sec. 2, N/2;

Description of Proposed Action: Transfer of the Perry Allotment Grazing Permit from F.L. Perry (deceased) to Norman Perry. Base property will consist of the 181.6 acres described as Parcel #18 in the attached deed. The term of the permit will be for ten years and will be a renewal under the Appropriation Act authority, as no current NEPA exists for the allotment. The authorized use will remain unchanged and consists of 24 AUMs with a season of use from 5/1 to 5/31.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

This action conforms to the Alturas Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Record of Decision (ROD), approved on April 17, 2008 because it is specifically provided for or is clearly consistent with the RMP objectives and decisions.

C. Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with H-1790-1-National Environmental Policy Act Handbook, Appendix 4, p. 150:

D. Rangeland Management

1. Approval of transfers of grazing preference.

D. Signature

This categorical exclusion is appropriate for this action because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The Proposed Action has been scoped by an interdisciplinary team of specialists in the Alturas Field Office and there were no issues or unresolved conflicts identified. I have determined that the above described project is a categorical exclusion, in conformance with the Alturas RMP, and does not require further NEPA analysis.

Timothy J. Burke
Field Manager

Date

E. Contact

For more information, contact Kiley Whited, at (530) 233-7918

Attachments:

Perry Allotment Map
Noxious Weed Map
Norman Perry Deed

Review of Extraordinary Circumstances

The Department of the Interior Manual 516 2.3A (3) requires review of the following “extraordinary circumstances” (516 DM 2 Appendix 2) to determine if an otherwise categorically excluded action would require additional environmental analysis/documentation.

Would the proposed action: (YES or NO)

1) Have significant impacts on public health or safety.

Yes No

Date: 5/11/10

Comments:

2) Have significant impacts 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 (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.

Yes No

Date: 06/04/2010 DJS

Comments: A segment of the National Historic Applegate Trail runs through this allotment-no impacts to the Trail from this grazing permit transfer. CS 6-2-2010

3) Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].

Yes No

Date: 5/11/10

Comments:

4) Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.

Yes No

Date: 5/11/10

Comments:

5) Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.

Yes No

Date: 5/11/10

Comments:

6) Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.

Yes No

Date: 5/11/10

Comments:

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 No

Date: 06/04/2010 DJS

Comments: See comments in #2

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.

Yes No

Date: 06/29/2010

Comments: There are no T&E, special status species or designated Critical Habitat for plant species on the allotment.

9) Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.

Yes No

Date: 5/11/10

Comments:

10) Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).

Yes No

Date: 5/11/10

Comments:

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 No

Date: 06/04/2010 DJS

Comments:

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 No

Date: 06/02/2010

Comments: The Perry Allotment #00132 grazing permit transfer would have a low probability to 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. A review of the Alturas Field Office noxious weeds database shows no existing sites within the allotment. However, 6 Mediterranean sage sites and 3 yellow starthistle sites were inventoried and treated in

2009 approximately 1 mile from the allotment boundary and approximately 2 miles to the nearest public lands within the allotment. In 2010 the weed crew inventoried and treated only 3 Mediterranean sage sites and no yellow starthistle sites. BLM will continue to inventory the area to ensure noxious/invasive weeds do not become established and/or to prevent any further spread of any existing infestations found during the inventory and treatment process. AMU

Reviewers:

 Botany/Riparian

 Date

 Cultural Resources

 Date

 Wildlife

 Date

 Invasive Species

 Date