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Instruction Memorandum No.
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To: Northwest District Field Managers
Attn: Northwest District Outdoor Recreation Planners

From: District Manager

Subject: Special Recreation Permit policy guidance for amending SRPs associated with Colorado State Governor Tags

Program Area: Special Recreation Permits

Purpose: This Instruction Memorandum (IM) will provide guidance to Northwest District Field Managers regarding amending Big Game Hunting SRPs to authorize permittees to guide clients with Governor Tags.

Background: A Governor's Tag is a special license Colorado Parks and Wildlife allows sportsman organizations to raffle for fundraising. Organizations sell raffle tickets for these special licenses. The organization keeps 25% of the proceeds and the other 75% goes to CPW. These licenses allow the hunter to hunt in any open Game Management Unit in the state. A permitting issue can arise when the hunter who wins the raffle wants to hire an outfitter. Since the license is valid anywhere in the state, the outfitter needs to be permitted for the entire state to legally offer guided services. Policy guidance in H-2930-1 for Special Recreation Permits says state-wide permits should not be issued. To accommodate outfitters who are permitted in one field office but not in other field offices, specific guidance has been included in the Standard Term, Conditions and Stipulations for all SRPs in Colorado that allows an outfitter not permitted in a field office to work with an outfitter who is permitted. This relationship allows a client who wins a Governor's Tag to hire any outfitter in the state, and for that outfitter to work with permitted outfitters authorized on BLM-administered lands and provide guided services throughout the state. Dates for Governor's Tag hunts may extend beyond authorized dates on existing permits. As a result there are times when a permitted outfitter may request a change in authorized dates to accommodate a client holding a Governor's Tag.

Policy/Action: To ensure permitted outfitters are able to provide services to clients holding a Governor's Tag, all big game hunting SRPs will include an exception that allows the permittee to operate outside the normal authorized dates listed on their permits for the purpose of guiding clients with a Governor's Tag.

Authorized Officers for SRPs may determine the most efficient way to implement this policy.

Timeframe: All big game hunting SRPs will be amended before the start of the 2012 big game hunting seasons identified by CPW. This policy will remain in effect until further notice.

Budget Impact: Little to no impact.

Manual/Handbook Sections Affected: 43 CFR 2930, dated October 1, 2002, recently issued supplemental 43 CFR 2930, dated February 6, 2004, and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Manual and Handbook, H-2930-1, released March 30, 2004 and October 7, 2003 respectively.

Coordination: The BLM Colorado Special Recreation Permit Team prepared this guidance with consultation from State Outdoor Recreation Planners.

Contact:

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