



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado River Valley Field Office
2300 River Frontage Road
Silt, Colorado 81652
www.co.blm.gov



CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2010-0046-CX

A. Background

BLM Office: Colorado River Valley Field Office Permit/Serial/Case File No.: 0507552

Proposed Action Title/Type: Grazing Transfer

Location of Proposed Action: T4S and T5S, R91W, Sixth Principal Meridian, Garfield County, Colorado.

Description of Proposed Action: The proposed action is the transfer of grazing preference from West Elk Ranch, LLC to Burnt Ridge, LLLP. The base property associated with the grazing preference has recently been sold to Burnt Ridge, LLLP which has applied for the transfer of grazing preference. This grazing transfer is a result of the change in ownership of the base property and size of the base property. The grazing allotment involved and the associated grazing preference are summarized in the table below. This action is administrative in nature and serves only to transfer previously authorized livestock grazing privileges from one permit holder to another under same or similar conditions as those already permitted. The grazing permit issued to Burnt Ridge, LLC would have the same expiration date and the same terms and conditions as the current permit issued to West Elk Ranch, LLC. The proposed action is in accordance with 43 CFR 4110.2-3.

Grazing Preference (AUMS):

Allotment Name & No.	Active AUMs	Suspended AUMs	Permitted AUMs
Dodo No. 18025	18	18	36

B. Land Use Plan Conformance:

Land Use Plan Name: Record of Decision and Glenwood Springs Resource Management Plan.

Date Approved: Jan. 1984, revised 1988, amended in November 1991 - Oil and Gas Leasing and Development - Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement; amended Nov. 1996 - Colorado Standards and Guidelines; amended in August 1997 - Castle Peak Travel Management Plan; amended in March 1999 - Oil and Gas Leasing & Development Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement; amended in November 1999 - Red Hill Plan Amendment; amended in September 2002 – Fire Management Plan for Wildland Fire Management and Prescriptive Vegetation Treatment Guidance; amended in June 2007 – Record of Decision for the Approval of Portions of the Roan Plateau Resource Management Plan Amendment; and amended in March 2009 - Record of Decision for the Designation of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern for the Roan Plateau Resource Management Plan.

The Proposed Action is in conformance with the LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

Decision Language: The action is in conformance with Administrative Actions (pg. 5) and Livestock Grazing Management (pg. 20). Administrative actions states, “Various types of actions will require special attention beyond the scope of this plan. Administrative actions are the day-to-day transactions required to serve the public and to provide optimal use of the resources. These actions are in conformance with the plan”. The livestock grazing management objective as amended states, “To provide 56,885 animal unit months of livestock forage commensurate with meeting public land health standards.”

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 11.9, Section: D, Range Management, Number 1, Approval of transfers of grazing preference.

The Departmental Manual (516 DM 2.3A(3) & App. 2) requires that before any action described in the following list of categorical exclusions is used, the exceptions must be reviewed for applicability in each case. The proposed action cannot be categorically excluded if one or more of the exceptions apply, thus requiring either an EA or an EIS. When no exceptions apply, the following types of bureau actions normally do not require the preparation of an EA or EIS.

None of the following exceptions in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply.

EXCLUSION	YES	NO
1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety.		X
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.		X
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].		X
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
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.		X
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.		X
9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		X
11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the		X

physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).		
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).		X

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

None required

REMARKS/MITIGATION: There are no impacts to public land since the transfer action only results in a name change on the permit and a change to the size of the base property.

I considered this action and determined that it may be categorically excluded. I have evaluated the action relative to the 12 criteria listed above and have determined that it does not represent an exception and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.

D. Signature

Authorized Official: Michael R. Kinser

Date: 3/23/10

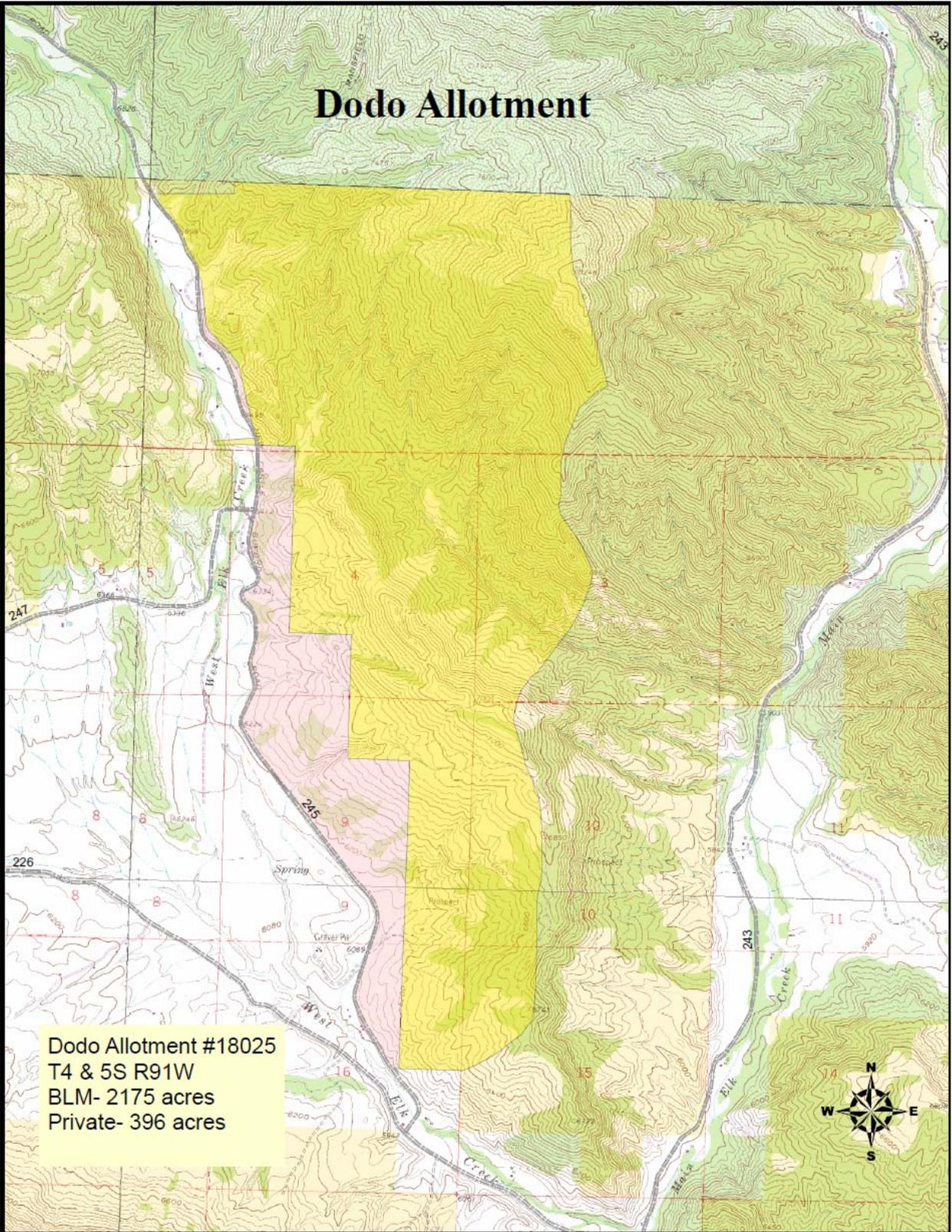
Name: Michael R. Kinser

Title: Acting Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Hjalmar, Range Technician, Colorado River Valley Field Office, 2300 River Frontage Road, Silt, CO 81652, 970-876-9072.

Dodo Allotment



Dodo Allotment #18025
T4 & 5S R91W
BLM- 2175 acres
Private- 396 acres