



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado River Valley Field Office
2300 River Frontage Road
Silt, Colorado 81652

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2014-0051-CX

A. Background

BLM Office: Colorado River Valley Field Office

Lease/Serial/Case File No: See below table.

Proposed Action Title/Type: Commercial and Organized Group River Recreation Permit Holders, Special Recreation Permit (SRP) Renewals, Amendments and New Permits

Location of Proposed Action: Bureau of Land Management public lands and related waters within the Colorado River Valley Field Office as shown below. See Attachment A.

Company Name	Permit #	Activity	Permitted Locations	Permit Period	Previous NEPA
Aspen Fly Fishing Guide Service Inc	CO-078-14-99-05	Guided Wade & Float Fishing Trips. (Day Use Only)	Lower CO (Glenwood Springs to South Canyon), Roaring Fork (Wingo Jct)	4/1/2014-4/1/2023	DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2010-0067-CX
Bangert Enterprises dba Sage Outdoor Adventures	CO-140-11-06-0	Guided Whitewater Rafting Trips. Add duckies (inflatable kayaks). Overnight Use; Already permitted for rafting and location – Change limit from one trip annually to	Upper Colorado River (State Bridge to Dotsero); Camping authorized at Windy Point, Before Bond, Cottonwood Bend, Catamount,	Permit Amendment to take place 4/1/2014-10/31/2022	DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2013-0039-CX

		unallocated number of trips based on reinstating historic joint permit.	Pinball, Cottonwood Island (on the actual island), and Lyon's Gulch.		
Blue Sky Adventures, Inc	CO-140-13-05	Guided Whitewater Rafting & Inflatable Kayak Trips, Rafting and Kayak Instruction. (Day Use Only)	Lower CO River (Horseshoe Bend, South Canyon), Roaring Fork River (Wingo Jct)	4/1/2014-4/1/2023	DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2013-0039-CX
Colorado River Center Inc.	CO-073-04-00-02-0	Guided Whitewater Rafting, Ducky and Kayak Trips. Amend permit to add shuttling of river-related rental equipment and people. (Day Use Only for shuttle service)	Upper Colorado River (State Bridge to Dotsero). Shuttling service allowed at Windy Point, Catamount, Pinball, Cottonwood Island, and Lyon's Gulch Recreation Sites.	4/1/2014-3/30/2022	DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2012-0033-CX
Elk Mountain Expeditions LLC	CO-140-13-03	Guided Whitewater Rafting and Guided Inflatable Kayak Trips (Day Use Only)	Roaring Fork River (Wingo Junction)	4/1/2014-4/1/2023	DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2013-0039-CX

Fly Fishing Outfitters (JW Packer, LLC. dba)	CO-078-06-93-10	Guided Float Fishing Trips (Day Use Only)	Lower CO River (South Canyon), Upper CO River (State Bridge to Dotsero), Eagle River (Edwards to CO River Confluence)	4/1/2014-4/1/2015	DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2013-0039-CX
Glenwood Canyon Rafting, Inc	(970) 384-0445	Guided Whitewater Rafting and Inflatable Kayak Trips. (Day Use Only)	Lower CO River (South Canyon)	4/1/2014-4/1/2023	DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2013-0039-CX
Keys Guide and Outfitting, LLC	CO-140-04-02-05	Guided Rafting, Kayaking and Fishing Trips (Day Use Only)	Lower CO River (South Canyon), Roaring Fork River (Wingo Jct)	4/1/2014-4/1/2023	DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2010-0067-CX
Liquid Descent, LLC	(970) 372-2870	Guided Whitewater Rafting and Kayak Trips. (Day Use Only)	Eagle River (Wolcott)	10/1/2014-4/1/2023	DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2010-0071-EA
Gore Creek Fly Fishermen (Specialty Sports Venture LLC dba)	CO-078-06-90-14	Guided Wade and Float Fishing Trips (Day Use Only)	Lower CO River (South Canyon), Upper CO River (State Bridge to Dotsero), Eagle River (Edwards to CO River Confluence)	4/1/2014-4/1/2023	DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2013-0039-CX
S and S Outfitters LLC dba Emerald Water Anglers	CO-140-12-06	Guided wade and float fishing trips. Day use only.	Upper Colorado River (State Bridge to Bair Ranch); Lower	4/1/2014-4/1/2023	DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2012-0081-CX

			Colorado River (South Canyon, Garfield Creek Site); Roaring Fork River (Wingo Junction to the Colorado River confluence)		
Charm Chauffeurs LLC dba Charm Shuttles	N/A	Shuttle Service	Lower CO River (South Canyon)	4/1/2014-4/1/2015	None
Harcourt Fly Fishin 3G LLC dba River Shuttles	N/A	Shuttle Service	Lower CO River (South Canyon)	4/1/2014-4/1/2015	None
New Shuttle Special Recreation Permit Applications	N/A	Shuttle Service	All Developed Sites Administered by BLM CRVFO	If already have SRP, will amend existing SRP to include service. If do not have SRP, will issue one year SRP.	None
New River Special Recreation Permit Applications that previously had historic use under a joint permit with the Kremmling Field Office	N/A	Floatboating or fishing operations.	Upper Colorado River (State Bridge to Bair Ranch)	If already have SRP, will amend existing SRP to include service. If do not have SRP, will issue one year SRP.	None

Description of Proposed Action: The proposed action is to renew, amend or issue the Special Recreation Permits (SRP's) as listed above. All put-ins, take-outs, and campsites are located in developed recreation sites or previously approved campsites. Developed recreation sites are as follows: South Canyon (day use only), Wingo Junction (day use only), Wolcott, Community (day use only), Lyon's Gulch, Cottonwood Island (day use only), Pinball, Catamount, and Windy Point. Previously approved primitive campsites include Before Bond, Cottonwood Bend and Cottonwood Island. All other BLM lands listed are for day use only, including wade fishing, picnic stops, etc.

Land Use Plan Conformance: The proposed action is subject to, and has been reviewed for, conformance with this plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3).

Name of Plan: Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan Glenwood Springs Resource Area

Date Approved: January, 1984; revised in 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; and amended in 2012 – Approved Resource Management Plan Amendments/Record of Decision (ROD) for Solar Energy Development in Six Southwestern States.

Decision Number/Page: pages 5, 34

Decision Language: The action is in conformance with "Administrative Actions" of the RMP, which approves the "issuance of permits for ...competitive and commercial recreation activities." The action is also in conformance with the Recreation Resource Management Objective Page 34: "To ensure the continued availability of outdoor recreational opportunities which the public seeks and which are not readily available from other sources, to reduce the impacts of recreational use on fragile and unique resource values, and to provide for visitor safety."

B. Compliance with NEPA:

The proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 11, Appendix 4, Number 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 apply.

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

BLM Interdisciplinary Team Authors and Reviewers		
<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Areas of Participation</i>
Kimberly Miller	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Wild and Scenic Rivers, Wilderness, Recreation
Pauline Adams	Hydrologist	Soils, Water, and Air Quality
Erin Leifeld	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources and Native American Religious Concerns
Everett Bartz	Rangeland Management Specialist	Range Management, Riparian Zones
Kristy Wallner	Rangeland Management Specialist	Invasive, Non-native Species (Noxious weeds), Rangeland Management
Isaac Pittman	Rangeland Management Specialist	Range Management
Carla DeYoung	Ecologist	ACEC, Vegetation, T/E/S Plants, Land Health Standards
Greg Wolfgang	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Visual Resources, Travel

REMARKS/MITIGATION: The following mitigations will be carried forward within the permit under Special Conditions:

The Special Recreation Permit Terms, Conditions and Stipulations for all Permitted Activities (Attachment B) will apply to the permits. A copy of these terms is signed by the permittee and is in their file.

Additional Special Stipulations will apply to the permits. See Attachment C for details.

The Proposed Action would meet Wild and Scenic eligibility management criteria because the action would not alter the preliminary classification of Recreational, the free flowing nature of the river, or the Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV's) associated with the river segment of Scenic, Geologic, Wildlife, Historic or Botanical. The ORV of Recreational will be enhanced and benefit through this Proposed Action.

The Proposed Action would not alter the Lands with Wilderness Characteristics findings in 2011 because these locations have been historically used by both the public and commercial outfitters, even before 2011, when Pisgah Mountain was found to have wilderness characteristics; and the Proposed Action does not intend to impact naturalness or outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive, unconfined recreation on the public lands off of the river.

Threatened and Endangered Plants

If future botanical surveys find populations or individuals of the threatened Ute ladies'-tresses at any of the identified camp sites, Section 7 consultation with US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) will be required. Following consultation, these sites may be removed from the approved camp site list or other mitigation may be required.

Cultural Resources and Native American Discovery Stipulations

If subsurface cultural values are uncovered during operations, all work in the vicinity of the resource will cease and the authorized officer with the BLM notified immediately. The operator shall take any additional measures requested by the BLM to protect discoveries until they can be adequately evaluated by the permitted archaeologist. Within 48 hours of the discovery, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and consulting parties will be notified of the discovery and consultation will begin to determine an appropriate mitigation measure. BLM in cooperation with the operator will ensure that the discovery is protected from further disturbance until mitigation is completed. Operations may resume at the discovery site upon receipt of written instructions and authorization by the authorized officer.

Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the holder must notify the authorized officer, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony on federal land. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4 (c) and (d), the holder must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery that could adversely affect the discovery. The holder shall make a reasonable effort to protect the human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony for a period of thirty days after written notice is provided to the authorized officer, or until the authorized officer has issued a written notice to proceed, whichever occurs first.

DECISION AND RATIONALE:

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.

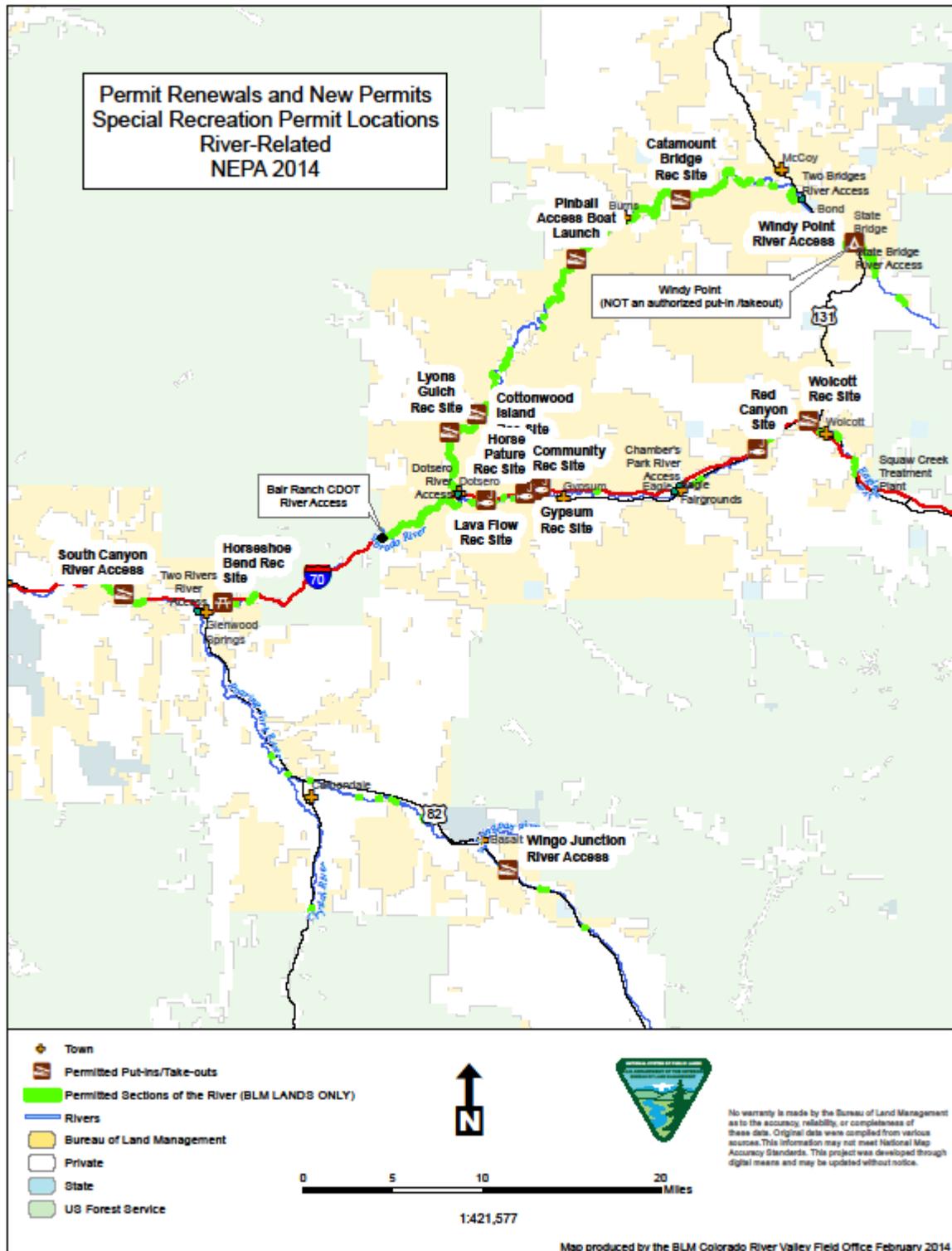
C. Signature

Authorizing Official: Greg Wolfgang Date: 4/24/2014
Greg Wolfgang
Acting Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Kimberly Miller, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Colorado River Valley Field Office, 2300 River Frontage Road, Silt, CO 81652, (970) 876-9075.

Attachment A



Attachment B

SPECIAL RECREATION PERMIT TERMS, CONDITIONS AND STIPULATIONS FOR ALL PERMITTED ACTIVITIES

Stipulations: The following standard stipulations are automatically included and apply to all permits (some additional stipulations are specific to only certain activities). Failure to comply with these stipulations may result in remedial actions listed below under Performance Evaluation, Section XVIII. B. Per 2932.40, violations of permit terms or stipulations may be subject to fines and imprisonment, in addition to administrative penalties.

I. RISKS, HAZARDS AND SAFETY

- A. Adequate first aid and safety equipment shall be provided while performing the permitted activities.
- B. All guides and employees responsible for clients in the field shall be trained in First Aid and hold a valid certification of training from the American Red Cross or its equivalent.
- C. In case of human death, or wildfire, involving the permitted operation, the County Sheriff shall be notified immediately, and the BLM shall be notified immediately after the Sheriff is notified.

II. INDEMNIFICATION

- A. The permittee shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the United States and/or its agencies and representatives from any and all demands, claims, or liabilities of every nature whatsoever, including, but not limited to damages to property, injuries to or death of persons, arising directly or indirectly from, or in any way connected with the authorized use and occupancy of the lands authorized for use under this permit.
- B. Insurance: Coverage shall be obtained for the permitted operations in the minimum liability coverage amounts of:

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR MINIMUM INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS		
SRP Event or Activity	Per Occurrence	Per Annual Aggregate
Low Risk: general non-competitive and non-commercial activities such as group camping, group activities, mounted orienteering, backpacking, or dog trials.	\$300,000	\$600,000
Moderate Risk: whitewater boating, horse endurance rides, OHV events, mountain bike races, rock climbing (with ropes), ultra-light outings, rodeos	\$500,000	\$1,000,000
High Risk: bungee jumping, speed record events, unaided rock climbing, heli-skiing, or aviation assisted activities	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000 - \$10,000,000

- C. An insurance certificate shall be submitted, stating the limits of coverage, identifying the "Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management" as additional insured, that includes the minimum shown above, expiration date, and a list of the activities that are permitted and insured.
- D. The permittee will ensure the BLM will be notified 30 days in advance of termination or modification of the policy, or modification of such insurance.
- E. The insured on the insurance certificate must match the permitted name of business or organization on the permit form.

IV. LIMITATIONS

- A. This permit authorizes only temporary use in connection with the operations, during the period(s) and in the area(s) identified in the permit and authorized by an Annual Operating Authorization.
- B. If an existing commercial permittee wishes to sell or otherwise terminate his or her business and desires that permit privileges be transferred to a new owner, the permittee must notify the authorized officer in advance, in writing, and receive advance written approval for the permit transfer from the authorized officer.
- C. Use of Non-Public lands: This permit does not authorize use of non-BLM land (i.e. private, city, county, state, or other federal land).
- D. The applicant shall provide upon request the name(s) and address(s) of private landowners whose property is used in connection with the permitted operations, and evidence of permission to use such land.
- E. Access to Public Lands: The BLM does not guarantee legal access to public lands unless legal access for the general public is available. Where legal public access is not available, the permittee is responsible for obtaining permission from the landowner(s) to travel through or use private lands.
- F. Multi-Year Permits: A multi-year permit is not valid unless accompanied by a current Annual Operating Authorization.
- G. Joint Permit Requirement: Code of Federal Regulation citations for both the BLM and Forest Service are valid and will be enforced for joint permits on associated public lands.
- H. If a lion outfitter does not own their own dogs, the permittee must furnish copies of all lease or rental arrangements for the dogs and/or dog handler(s) that they plan on using upon request. Dog handlers must be listed as guides.

V. ASSIGNMENT AND SUBLETTING OF PERMIT PRIVILEGES

The permittee may not assign permit privileges to a third party, including booking agents. The permittee or permittee's representative may not assign, contract, or sublease any portion of the permit authorization or interest therein, directly or indirectly, voluntarily or involuntarily. However, contracting of equipment or services may be approved by the authorized officer in advance, if necessary to supplement a permittee's operations. Such contracting should not constitute more than half the required equipment or services for any one trip or activity and the permittee must retain operational control of the permitted activity. If equipment or services are contracted, the permittee shall continue to be responsible for compliance with all stipulations and conditions of the permit.

The following is required:

- A. A third party advertisement used to book a trip must clearly indicate that the trip will be operated by the company holding the permit;
- B. Guides and employees must fall under federal and state employment regulations and be listed in the operating plan prior to each operating season. (ie. IRS Form-1099, independent contractor form).
- C. If you are proposing to employ guides or employees who are licensed and/or permitted outfitters elsewhere that must be disclosed at the time you submit their name and information on your guide list.
- D. Written notice must be given to the BLM to use equipment with outfitter markings (company names, logos, etc.) other than those of the permit holder prior to the time of use (hunt, launch, tour, etc.).

VI. NON-EXCLUSIVE USE

- A. Roads, trails and trailheads, or campsites commonly in public use shall not be blocked or enclosed by the permittee.
- B. Public lands will generally remain available on a first-come, first served basis to other commercial and private recreational users.

VII. CONDUCT AND MANNERS

- A. The permittee is at all times responsible for the actions of himself, his employees, clients and guests in connection with the authorized operations, and shall not cause a public disturbance or engage in activities which create a hazard or nuisance.
- B. The permittee shall practice the TREAD LIGHTLY and LEAVE NO TRACE land ethics and inform their clients about these practices and ensure that they follow them.
- C. An outfitter shall maintain accurate and up to date records.
- D. An outfitter shall maintain a regular place of business at which mail and phone calls can be received and provide address and physical location of such business to the BLM. Any change of mailing address, place of residence, or telephone number shall be reported to the BLM within thirty (30) days of such change.

VIII. MODIFICATION OR AMENDMENT

- A. If needed, the permittee shall request amendment or modification of the permit prior to issuance of the annual operating authorization for changes in: use areas or sites, season of use, services provided, fee structure, or any other changes in operations.
- B. Check with individual field offices for permit amendment deadlines.

IX. PAYMENTS

- A. **Use Fee Payments:** Permit fees are due and payable in advance based on estimated use gross receipts. Payments shall be made to the Field Office by check, credit card, money order or cashier's check, payable to the "Bureau of Land Management".
- B. **Periodic Payments:** At the Field Manager's discretion, when the estimated use fee is greater than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), a schedule for periodic payments may be arranged.
- C. **End of Season Payment:** The post-use reports and/or trip logs are due 30 days after the last day of use or as specified on SRP. The actual use fee shall be calculated from the reports by the field office and billed accordingly.
- D. **Refunds:**
 - 1. All overpayments will be credited for use for the following operating season.
 - 2. Refunds may be issued in the case of permit transfers, permit cancellations, and expired non-renewing permits. Refunds must be requested in writing.
- E. **Late Payments**
Late payment of fees may result in additional fee penalties, permit probation, suspension, and/or cancellation, and interest and administrative handling charges.
- F. **Deductions:** Allowable deductions in permit fees shall be agreed upon in advance, and may include costs related to the permitted operations incurred by the permittee for long distance off-site transportation, and off-site lodging, per Handbook H-2930-1.
- G. **Discounts for Non-Public Lands use (For Upland Use Only)** must be requested and approved prior to use. No discounts are allowed for river related permits.

X. USE REPORTS

- A. **Commercial Trip Logs:** The permittee shall submit trip logs within 30 days of the authorized use season or as specified on the permit, on a form provided by the BLM, or an approved equivalent.
- B. **Event Post Use Report:** A Post Use Report shall be submitted as specified or within 30 days of the last day of use authorized or as specified on permit, on a form provided by the BLM, or an approved equivalent.
- C. Trip log and post use reports shall indicate accurately the dates of use, location, type of use, the total number of clients served during the term of the permit, total staff, total receipts and total deductions claimed, discounts for time off public lands, and describe any accidents or injuries occurred, and management problems or concerns.
- D. **Late Use Reports:** Late submission of use reports may be cause for action against the permittee, including probation, suspension, and/or cancellation, and criminal penalties.
- E. **Non-Use:** Zero use must be requested in writing. Minimum fees still apply. The authorized officer may cancel a permit after two consecutive seasons of non-use. In certain areas covered by Special Recreation Management Plans, travel management plans, or other site-specific plans, special provisions regarding non-use of permits may apply.

XI. INSPECTION OF RECORDS AND PREMISES

- A. The BLM and its cooperators, including the Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and USDA Forest Service, shall at all times have the right to enter the premises located on public land on official business. The permittee shall acquire reasonable access to private lands owned or utilized in the permitted operation for purposes related to administration of the permit.
- B. The authorized officer, or other duly authorized representative of the BLM, may examine any of the records or other documents related to the permit, the permittee, the permittee's operator, employee, or agent for up to three years after expiration of the permit.

XII. SIGNING AND ADVERTISING

- A. Signs or advertising devices on public land require advance approval on the location, design, size, shape or color, and message.
- B. All advertising shall be accurate and not misrepresent in any way the services or accommodations provided, or the area authorized for use. Brochures, web pages and other advertising materials shall include the following disclosure: "All or part of this operation is conducted on Public Lands under special permit from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management".
- C. Official BLM agency symbols may not be used in advertising.

XIII. CAMPSITES

- A. Camps may be set up for no longer than necessary, and no earlier than 5 days prior to the first day of use authorized and must be removed within five days after the authorized use period. No year-round, permanent camps may be established on BLM lands; only temporary facilities are permitted.
- B. Camps shall be located to avoid conflict with public road and trail traffic, and stream or lake access, and to the extent possible shall be located out of sight of major trails.
- C. All campsites and temporary improvements shall be as described in the approved operating plan.
- D. All campsite facilities including but not limited to tents, latrines, livestock control facilities, shall be located at least 200 feet from the nearest spring, stream, lake, pond or reservoir unless specifically authorized otherwise.
- E. All campsites must be approved prior to use. Clearances may be required, such as inventories for cultural resources and/or for threatened or endangered species.

XIV. CAMPFIRES

- A. Unless permanent fire rings are designated, open campfires shall be built only in areas free of hazardous fuels. Fire rings or pits shall be set on bare mineral soil. After use, fire rings or pits shall be obliterated and the site rehabilitated. Open fires may be prohibited in certain areas or during periods of extremely high fire hazard by order of the BLM, the applicable county or the State of Colorado.
- B. Campfires shall be completely extinguished when left unattended. The permittee is responsible for all fires started by him/her self, employees, or clients, and may be held responsible for fire suppression costs resulting from wildfire caused by his/her operations.

- C. An axe, shovel, water bucket or extinguisher for fire control shall be available at each campfire.
- D. Wildfire caused by the permitted operation shall be reported immediately to the nearest BLM office. The permittee is responsible for informing employees, clients, and participants of the current fire danger and required restrictions or precautions that may be in effect.

XV. LIVESTOCK USE

- A. Authorized pasture use of livestock is temporary and limited to transportation purposes, and will not establish a priority for future use of the range. Rangeland grazing may be restricted and feed may be required to be packed, all feed supplied as part of permitted operations must be certified weed free. The permittee shall prevent localized over grazing and damage to vegetation by permitted livestock.
- B. Construction of permanent fences or corrals is not permitted. Temporary livestock control structures may be erected with advanced approval, including corrals and hitching racks, provided they are dismantled after the use season.
- C. The permittee may be required to pay additional fees for forage consumed by livestock during the permitted operations. This fee will be at the current rate for grazing use.
- D. Livestock shall not be tied to trees for other than short term, temporary stops. Hobbles, pickets, high lines or corrals shall be used to control livestock.
- E. Livestock control structures (corrals, hitching racks, pickets, high lines) must be at least 200 feet from springs, streams, lakes, reservoirs or other water sources. Whatever method of livestock control is used, it will not result in removal or death of the under story vegetation.
- F. Pack stock may be grazed if permitted by the SRP. If electric fences are used, they will be moved every 3 days to a new area. If picket ropes are used, they will be moved every other day to a new area. If high lines are used, their location must be approved in advance.

XVI. EQUIPMENT CACHES

Food and/or equipment caches require advance authorization. When authorized, caches shall be neatly stored out of sight of roads and trails. Food caches must be "wildlife proof."

XVII. RESOURCE PROTECTION

- A. Aesthetics: Permittee shall protect the scenic and aesthetic values of the public lands used in the operations, and maintain premises on permitted areas to acceptable standards of repair, orderliness, and cleanliness.
- B. Rehabilitation: After camps and other temporary facilities are dismantled, insofar as practical, the area shall be left in a natural state. Reseeding with BLM approved seed mix may be required of any areas disturbed by campsites.
- C. Sanitation: Self contained or pit type toilets/privies, with or without tent coverings, shall be used at all campsites on public land. The permittee will be responsible for establishing a latrine for all permitted camps and for final rehab when the camp is removed. Waste from self contained toilets must be disposed of at a State approved sewage disposal facility. When abandoned, toilet pits shall be covered with a minimum of 12 inches of topsoil and back filled to pre-existing grade. While in use, human waste in pits shall be covered with a layer of topsoil or lime after each individual use.

- D. **Trash Disposal:** Camps and other permitted areas shall be regularly cleaned and no trash or litter shall be allowed to accumulate. Combustible trash may be burned when campfires are authorized. All non-combustible trash, including but not limited to tin cans, spent brass, glass bottles, foil, and wire shall be packed out. Trash shall not be buried on public land.
- E. Dead animals and their remains shall be disposed of at least 200 feet away from springs, streams, lakes, ponds, campsites, roads/trails.
- F. Waste or by-products of any kind shall not be discharged into any stream, reservoir, lake or pond.
- G. **Soils:** Permittee shall conduct the permitted operations in a manner which prevents rutting, or soil erosion.
- H. **Vegetation Damage/Removal:** All operations shall be conducted in a manner which prevents damage to or loss of vegetation cover. Poles may be cut for temporary facilities if these are authorized by permit on public land. Cutting, clearing or defacing of standing trees, alive or dead, or clearing and cutting of shrub/groundcover for any other reason shall require specific advance authorization. When tree cutting is authorized, stumps shall be left no higher than 6 inches above ground level and slash shall be lopped and scattered. A separate permit is required for removal and transportation of woodland/tree products from public land.
- I. **Firewood Cutting:** Firewood may be cut on public land only for campsite use while on public land, and may not be transported off the public lands without a separate firewood cutting permit. Only dead and down trees shall be cut for firewood, with stumps left no higher than 6 inches above ground level, and the slash shall be lopped and scattered.
- J. **Protection of Public Property:** Signs, equipment, markers, fences, livestock watering facilities or any other property found on public land shall not be damaged, destroyed, defaced, removed, or disturbed.
- K. **Cultural Resources:** All persons associated with operations under this permit must be informed that any objects or sites of cultural, paleontological, and scientific interest, such as historic or prehistoric resources, graves or grave markers, human remains, ruins, cabins, rock art, fossils, or artifacts shall not be damaged, destroyed, removed or disturbed. If in connection with operations under this permit any of the above resources are discovered, the permittee shall immediately stop operations in the immediate area of the discovery, protect such resources, and notify the BLM authorized officer of the discovery. The immediate area of the discovery must be protected until the operator is notified in writing to proceed by the authorized officer.
- L. **Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas (WSA):** Use of electric generators, all motorized and mechanized equipment including chainsaws and vehicles is prohibited within a Wilderness and most WSAs. Check with your local office to see if there are exceptions. If supplemental livestock feed is used, cubed, pelletized, or processed feed or certified weed free hay shall be used.
- M. Permittee is responsible for knowing where Public Land, Wilderness, and WSA boundaries are and the restrictions that may apply to an area of operation within these boundaries. Maps and information concerning restrictions are available at the local Field Office.

XVIII. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

- A. The BLM shall conduct periodic inspections and performance evaluations of the permittee's operations and compliance with the terms, conditions and stipulations of the Permit.

Evaluation Ratings are as follows:

Acceptable means that the permittee has generally operated in accordance with the terms and conditions established for the permit

Probationary means that the permittee has not operated in full accordance with the terms and conditions of the permit. Corrective action by the holder is mandatory and continued operation at this level of performance is unacceptable. If this performance level is received 2 years in a row, the authorized officer may suspend or terminate the permit and/or deny future permit applications.

Unacceptable means that the permittee has not operated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the permit and cannot be allowed to continue. This performance level will result in suspension or termination of permit privileges as appropriate to the circumstances.

- B. **Violations and Penalties:** Any violation of the permit terms, conditions and stipulations may be subject to penalties prescribed in 43 CFR 2932.40, which may include fines up to \$1,000 and/or imprisonment up to 12 months. Additionally, any such violation may result in permit cancelation, suspension, or probation. Violations may also be cause for the BLM to deny approval of a Special Recreation Permit or Operating Authorization for subsequent years. If a permit is terminated, permit applications will not be approved for any person connected to or affiliated with the operation under a cancelled or suspended permit.

XVIII. CERTIFICATION

I have read the terms, conditions, and stipulations of the Special Recreation Permit Information Colorado handbook and understand that I must abide by them while performing activities in connection with the permitted operations.

Date _____ Signature _____

Print Name _____

Company Name _____

Revised: January 2014

Attachment C

SPECIAL RECREATION PERMIT

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL STIPULATIONS

Use authorized under this permit will be subject to standard SRP terms, conditions and stipulations and the special stipulations described below:

1. An outfitter shall maintain a regular place of business at which mail and phone calls can be received and provide address and physical location of such business to the BLM. Any change of mailing address, place of residence, or telephone number shall be reported to the BLM within thirty (30) days of such change.
2. An outfitter shall maintain accurate and up to date records.
3. When using the boat ramps and/or parking areas, persons responsible for representing this business must coordinate with other outfitters and the general public to minimize congestion on the boat ramps and within the parking areas. If conflicts arise, the BLM retains the authority to suspend or terminate the permit. If congestion becomes problematic, the BLM will terminate the most recent permits to commercial outfitters for that area first.
4. No permission is granted for any other BLM public lands on or adjacent to the lands and related waters on this permit within the Colorado River Valley Field Office. Public lands may be used in emergency situations and the BLM must be notified of use within 24 hours of the incident. (River rescues excluded.) No permission is granted or implied to use or cross private land within the area described by this authorization. Obtaining permission to trespass on private land is the responsibility of the permittee. No permission is granted or implied to use or cross land owned by the State of Colorado or the U.S. Forest Service without first obtaining a permit from the proper agency.
5. Precautions will be taken to minimize the spread of aquatic invasive species via proper cleaning and disinfecting procedures. BLM recommends that equipment be cleaned and disinfected between uses particularly if moving to new water bodies.
6. Fishing outfitters will use established fish handling protocols designed to minimize stress associated with the playing of fish, removal of hooks, and release of fish back into the water.
7. The permittee will keep at their place of business (address provided to the BLM) current copies of First Aid training cards, blank client waivers, and permission to use or access private land or other agency land related to operations on BLM public land. The permittee must provide proof of these items to the BLM upon request.
8. The permittee will require the use of a properly-sized whitewater type I, III, or V life jacket (approved on the label for paddling, whitewater, kayaking, etc. as required) in good working condition for each member of the party (including on all tubing trips). Inflatable life jackets are not allowed. Life jackets must be worn by both clients and guides at all times while in and on the water.
9. Operating or being in actual physical control of a floatation device is prohibited while the operator or guide is under the influence of alcohol or a drug or any combination thereto to a degree that renders the operator or guide incapable of safe operation. Further, operator or guide may not possess alcohol during field operations while tubing.

10. Guides on tubing trips must accompany clients at all times while the clients are in the water.
11. Guides on tubing trips must carry a first-aid kit and patch kit per trip.
12. Tubing trips must provide adequate passenger orientation and proper trash and human waste containers.
13. Stand Up Paddleboarding trips will be limited to 1 instructor, trip leader or guide for every 5 commercial passengers.
14. Stand Up Paddleboarding trips must comply with all Colorado State regulations, including:
 - Type 3, I or V personal flotation device must be worn by all clients and guides.
 - Must carry a first-aid kit.
 - Must carry a throwbag.
 - If inflatable, must carry a patch kit and pump per trip. (A patch that contains glue on the material and is made for wet conditions is acceptable.)
 - A helmet must be worn by all clients and guides.
 - Adequate passenger orientation must be provided.
 - Provide proper trash and human waste containers.
 - Vessel owners name, address and phone number must be permanently attached to each vessel.
 - All retention devices, if worn, must be of coiled cord and quick-release style, fastened at or above the waist.
 - Must follow all state and federal definitions of a vessel for Stand Up Paddleboards.
15. The permit holder must take precautions to not spread noxious weeds to public lands.
16. The permit holder will make sure all guides and employees display the BLM parking pass on their vehicles when conducting business operations while using the vehicle on BLM public land.
17. Cultural Resources and Native American Discovery Stipulations

If subsurface cultural values are uncovered during operations, all work in the vicinity of the resource will cease and the authorized officer with the BLM notified immediately. The operator shall take any additional measures requested by the BLM to protect discoveries until they can be adequately evaluated by the permitted archaeologist. Within 48 hours of the discovery, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and consulting parties will be notified of the discovery and consultation will begin to determine an appropriate mitigation measure. BLM in cooperation with the operator will ensure that the discovery is protected from further disturbance until mitigation is completed. Operations may resume at the discovery site upon receipt of written instructions and authorization by the authorized officer.

Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the holder must notify the authorized officer, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony on federal land. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4 (c) and (d), the holder must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery that could adversely affect the discovery. The holder shall make a reasonable effort to protect the human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony for a period of thirty days after written notice is provided to the authorized officer, or until the authorized officer has issued a written notice to proceed, whichever occurs first.

18. All associated activities shall use existing hardened trails within riparian areas. Do not create new trails or surface disturbances in riparian vegetation. (Riparian areas are defined as the interface between land and a river or stream; the river bank.)
19. Pet owners must clean up and properly dispose of pet feces within the site to maintain site sanitation.
20. When making vessel landings on the river banks outside of developed sites, use gravelly or rocky sites along the bank that are naturally hardened to this activity. Groups with multiple vessels must keep the landing site to its absolute minimum necessary and must not spread out up and down the river bank. Keep landing areas and sites to the minimum area necessary to complete your activity safely.

Date

Permittee



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado River Valley Field Office
2300 River Frontage Road
Silt, Colorado 81652

DECISION RECORD

PROJECT NAME: Commercial and Organized Group River Recreation Permit Holders, Special Recreation Permit (SRP) Renewals and New Permits

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2014-0051-CX

DECISION: It is my decision to issue the special recreation permits as described in the proposed action in the categorical exclusion DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2014-0051-CX. BLM has authority to grant such permits in accordance with 43 U.S.C. 1201; 43 U.S.C. 1701; 16 U.S.C. 460 L-6(a); and 43 CFR Group 2930.

PROCESS FOR APPEALS: Notice of the decision to be made on the action described in this categorical exclusion will be posted on the BLM Colorado River Valley Field Office NEPA website. The action is subject to appeal under 43 CFR 2931.8, parts 4 and 1840 of this title. A decision made under this part will go into effect immediately while appeals are pending unless a stay is granted under 4.21 (b) of this title.

An appeal is an opportunity for a qualified party to obtain a review of a BLM decision by an independent board of Administrative judges within the Department of Interior's Board of Land Appeals (IBLA). The IBLA determines whether the BLM followed applicable laws and regulations, adhered to established policies and procedures, and considered relevant information in reaching a decision.

Individuals, who believe they are adversely affected by a BLM decision to deny, modify or cancel a Special Recreation Permit (SRP) may appeal the decision. Appeals are made to the IBLA under Title 43 C.F.R, Part 4, pursuant to 43 C.F.R. 4.411. A person who wished to appeal to the IBLA must file in the office of the officer who made the decision a notice that he wished to appeal.

See Information on Taking Appeals to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (Form 1842-1) for further information. A copy of this form is available at the Colorado River Valley Field Office.

Authorizing Official: Greg Wolfgang Date: 9-24-14
Greg Wolfgang
Acting Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist