

Posted: _____

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Kremmling Field Office
P.O. Box 68
Kremmling, CO 80459**

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

A. Background

BLM Office: Kremmling Field Office Lease/Serial/Case File No.:

Number: DOI-BLM-CO-120-2009-0050-CX-North Sand Hills Visitor Outreach Event

Proposed Action Title/Type: Colorado Powersports and Stay The Trail Memorial Day Weekend Visitor Outreach Event

Location of Proposed Action: SE1/4 Sec. 35, T. 11 N., R. 79 W.

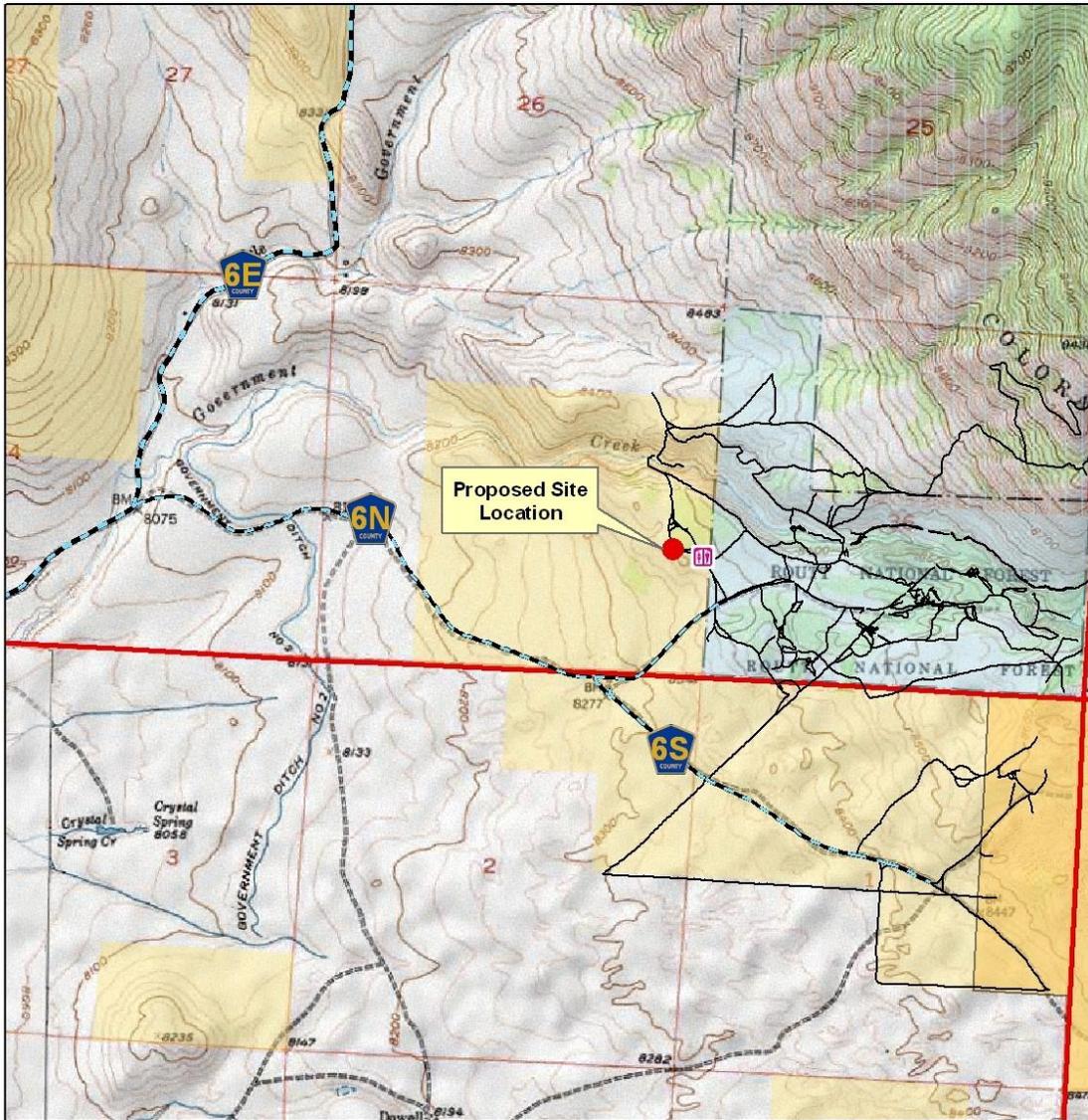
Description of Proposed Action: The Proposed Action would authorize a visitor outreach event held by Colorado Powersports and the Colorado Off Highway Vehicle Coalition (COHVCO) 'Stay The Trail' Responsible Recreation Program at the North Sand Hills Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) during Memorial Day weekend. The event would be permitted between Thursday, May 21, 2009 and Tuesday, May 26, 2009 when visitation is at its highest levels.

The North Sand Hills SRMA is an area that receives high levels of Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) use requiring a BLM management presence. This presence includes visitor services such as the promotion of responsible motorized recreation, education of the areas with natural and cultural resources, providing information on the areas rules and regulations, and the sale of Colorado OHV registrations. The BLM has partnered with the 'Stay The Trail' educational trailer the past two years aiding in the promotion of responsible motorized recreation. However, neither the BLM nor the 'Stay The Trail' Responsible Recreation Program has the ability to sell Colorado OHV registrations. By partnering with Colorado Powersports for visitor outreach, OHV registrations will be able to be sold at the North Sand Hills SRMA promoting the compliance of Colorado OHV registration requirements.

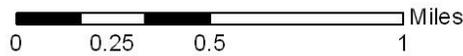
Colorado Powersports trailers and the 'Stay The Trail' educational trailer would have an assigned site of less than .5 acres near the Aspen Restroom that would provide a highly visible and safe location for visitors. Additionally, a BLM information table and staff would also be located at this site. The site will be located adjacent to a pasture fence in an area already disturbed by past and present camping with motor homes and trailers, and a staging area for OHV's. This partnership would provide visitors with information on the areas rules and

regulations, area natural and cultural resources, “Tread Lightly” and “Stay The Trail” responsible recreation messages. Free sound tests will also be provided allowing visitors to verify if their OHV will meet the new Colorado Sound Law requiring all OHV’s to meet the 99 dB(A) if manufactured before 1/1/1998 and 96 dB(A) if manufactured after 1/1/1998. This Colorado Sound Law becomes effective July 1, 2010. To attract visitors to the outreach event, Colorado Powersports will provide a free barbeque and free guided demo rides of ATV’s that meet the new Colorado Sound Law. Demo rides will promote responsible motorized recreation, OHV safety, wearing helmets and having OHV registrations.

North Sand Hills Visitor Outreach Event



Reference Map
NW Colorado



1:24,000



Legend

- Routes
- County Roads
- Major Roads
- Reservoirs
- Wilderness Study Area
- Bureau of Land Mgt
- US Forest Service
- Private
- State
- State Forest
- Restroom

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.

North Sand Hills Visitor Outreach Event - 5/13/2009
s./NEPA/2009 NEPA MAPS

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD) _ Date Approved/Amended: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

Decision Number/Page: Decision Number II B 7a/ Page 11

Decision Language: a. Objective. "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, and resource interpretation."

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, conditions):

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,

1.5 H. Recreation Management

(1) 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 CX cannot be used for commercial boating permits along Wild and Scenic Rivers. This CX cannot be used for the establishment or issuance of Special Recreation Permits for "Special Area" management (43 CFR 2932.5).

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 DM2 apply.

I considered other potential site locations that could be permitted within BLM administered lands, the potential resource damage and public health and safety concerns. Other potential locations identified were not sufficient in size without creating new disturbance and resource damage. These sites were along main access roads that have high levels of traffic that could be blocked by visitors creating public health and safety issues. The Proposed Action site location is in an area already heavily disturbed by past and present camping and OHV use and is within short walking distance to a restroom facility. Due to the existing disturbance of the proposed site,

DECISION RECORD
CX# DOI-BLM-CO-120-2009-0050-CX

DECISION: It is my decision to authorize the Proposed Action as described in the attached CX.

This decision is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, and the Clean Water Act. This decision is also in conformance with the LUP and other applicable laws, regulations and policies.

This action is listed in the Department Manual as an action that may be categorically excluded. I have evaluated the action and have determined that it does not represent an extraordinary circumstance and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.

RATIONALE: The proposed action was chosen in cooperation with the proponent to educate the public on the impacts and responsible use of OHV recreation on public lands.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: /s/ Peter McFadden

DATE SIGNED: 5/18/09