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

## **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION**

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-120-2009-0043-CX

PROJECT NAME: Transfer Livestock Grazing Permit # 051775 with authorized livestock grazing on Allotment 07521 (Snider-Murphy) from John B. and Carolyn Hudak Murphy Living Trust to Merrit Linke.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Allotment 07521 (Snider-Murphy) contains all or part of the following:

T. 1 N., R. 76½ W., 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., Sections 1 and 2  
T. 1 N., R. 77 W., 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., Section 12

APPLICANT: Merrit Linke

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: John and Carolyn Murphy have agreed to lease their base property and livestock grazing on BLM livestock grazing allotment 07521 (Snider-Murphy) to Merrit Linke for a period of 3 years beginning on May 15, 2009. The Proposed Action would transfer the base property and livestock grazing on allotment 07521 (Snider-Murphy) from the John B. Murphy and Carolyn Hudak Murphy Living Trust to Merrit Linke.

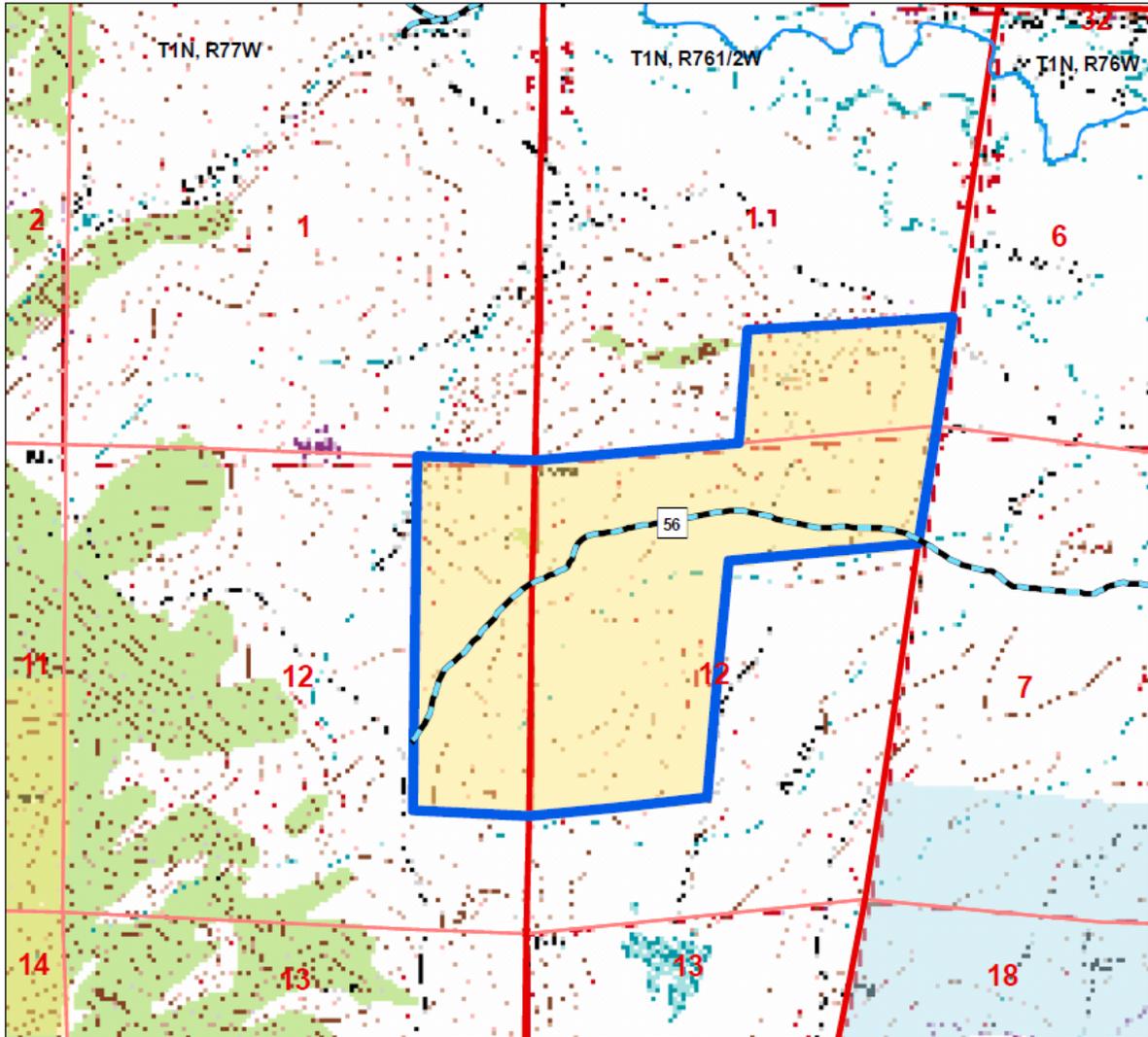
No changes will be made to the number or kind of livestock, season of use, or amount of authorized livestock grazing preference expressed in AUMs\* as a result of this transfer. BLM Livestock Grazing Permit # 051775 authorizes livestock grazing to the following extent:

Allotment	Livestock		Season of Use	Percent Public Land	AUMs
	Number	Kind			
07521 (Snider-Murphy)	44	Cattle	06/01 – 06/30	100	44

\* AUM = animal unit month = the amount of forage needed to support one cow and calf for one month



# 07521 SNIDER-MURPHY



Legend	
	County Roads
	Major Roads
	07521 Snider-Murphy
	Reservoirs
	Major Streams
	Wilderness Study Area
	ACEC
Land Status	
	Bureau of Land Mgt
	Division of Wildlife
	National Park
	National Rec Area
	National Wildlife Refuge
	Private
	State
	State Forest
	US Forest Service

0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles

1:19,079

No Warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the Accuracy, Reliability, or Completeness of this Data for Individual Use or Aggregate Use with Other Data.

Maps: Granby  
BLM, Kremmling FO 12/09/2008

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with the following plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3):

Name of Plan: Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD)

Date Approved: December 1984 (updated February 1999)

Decision Number/Page: Livestock grazing pages 6 through 8, as amended

The Proposed Action has been reviewed for compliance with this plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3)

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The Proposed Action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 6, Appendix 5, Section 5.4, D (1) “*Approval of Transfer Grazing Preference*”. None of the following extraordinary circumstances in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply.

<b>Extraordinary Circumstances</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety		X
2.2 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
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2)(E)].		X
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
2.7 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
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 for these species.		X
2.9 Violate a Federal Law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X

2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		X
2.11 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
2.12 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:

Name	Title	Area of Responsibility	Date Review Completed
Megan McGuire	Wildlife Biologist	Wildlife, T/E, and Sensitive Species	4/27/09
Bill B. Wyatt	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources & Tribal Consultation	5/26/2009
Paula Belcher	Hydrologist	Soil, Water, Air, and Riparian	5/28/2009
Frank G. Rupp	Archaeologist	Paleontology	6/1/2009
Susan Cassel	Asst. Field Manager	NEPA	6/3/09

REMARKS:

**Cultural Resources:** Past actions have resulted in a cultural resource inventory to determine if those actions would cause potential adverse affects to known and unknown cultural resource sites from livestock grazing, motorized travel, and recreational use. When project undertakings are identified, a cultural resource inventory would be conducted to determine if sites are present and their eligibility, project effects, and mitigation requirements if necessary.

**Native American Religious Concerns:** Consultation was completed for the original allotment renewal. Future undertakings would require tribal consultation to identify traditional cultural properties.

**Threatened and Endangered Species:** The proposed transfer would not impact Endangered, Threatened, or Sensitive Species.

**COMPLIANCE PLAN:** Compliance with the renewed livestock grazing permit and its associated terms and conditions would be accomplished through the Kremmling Field Office Range Management Program. Livestock grazing would be monitored by the range staff and other area personnel, as appropriate, to ensure compliance. The Kremmling Field Office Range Monitoring Plan would be used to schedule periodic utilization checks, collect trend data, and evaluate allotment condition. When activity plans have been developed covering an allotment,

monitoring methods and schedules included in them would be applied to the allotment. Changes would be made to the permit, based on monitoring, when changes are determined necessary to protect land health.

NAME OF PREPARER: Richard Johnson

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Susan Cassel

DATE: 6/3/09

ATTACHMENTS: Livestock Grazing Permit # 051775 with Standard Terms and Conditions.

DECISION AND RATIONALE: I have reviewed this CER and have decided to implement the proposed action.

This action is listed in the Department Manual as an action that 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 extraordinary circumstance and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: /s/ Peter McFadden

DATE SIGNED: 6/9/09