

Posted: 8/28/2014

**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.: N/A

Number: DOI-BLM-CO-120-2014-035-CX

Proposed Action Title/Type: World Team Sports Special Recreation Permit (SRP)

Location of Proposed Action:

T. 1 S., R. 82 W., 6th P.M., Sections 12, 13, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 33;

T. 1 S., R. 81 W., 6th P.M., Sections 7, 17, 18, 19;

T. 2 S., R. 82 W., 6th P.M., Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 18;

T. 2 S., R. 83 W., 6th P.M., Sections 13, 24, 25, 26.

Description of Proposed Action:

A Special Recreation Permit would be issued to Helene Mattison of World T.E.A.M Sports to conduct a multi-sport event for able bodied and disabled athletes. The event would occur from September 12th through 14th, 2014. The event would have nine teams with five participants per team (one person using a wheelchair, one amputee, and three able-bodied-helpers) and 10 to 15 support staff for a total of 60 people involved with the event.

Day One of the event would start on County Road (CR) 11 near French Creek with hand/mountain bikes. The participants would travel down to Radium and up to Grand CR 1 (Trough Road) using the existing roads and trails in the vicinity of the hot springs (see attached maps). The course continues on Grand CR 1 to the Gore Canyon Ranch Road, participants would ride to the parking area, then walk down to the river. Guides would raft from Launch 3 down to Gore Canyon Ranch and pick up the participants. The course would continue down the river to the hot springs where two team members would hike to the top of the cliffs and rappel back to the river. Once all team members were back in river in rafts the teams would continue downstream to Rancho del Rio.

Day Two of the event would begin at Rancho del Rio with the teams rafting towards the State Bridge Boat Access. At Cable Rapid, two team members will do a river swim. At State Bridge Boat Access, team members would hike up Piney Peak Road for approximately 1.2 miles then turn around. Once the team members return to State Bridge Boat Access, they will get on bikes,

ride on Highway 131 to Trough Road and continue up Trough Road to Rancho del Rio. The course ends on Day Two at Rancho.

The permit would include the following special stipulations:

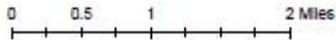
1. Authorization letters from Colorado Parks and Wildlife and all owners of private property that the racers, event staff or spectators would access before, during, or after the event will be received in the Kremmling Field Office.
2. All floatboating vessels (boats, boating gear, and employees) for the event would be supplied by a BLM KFO permitted outfitter in good standing.

World Team Sports SRP 2014

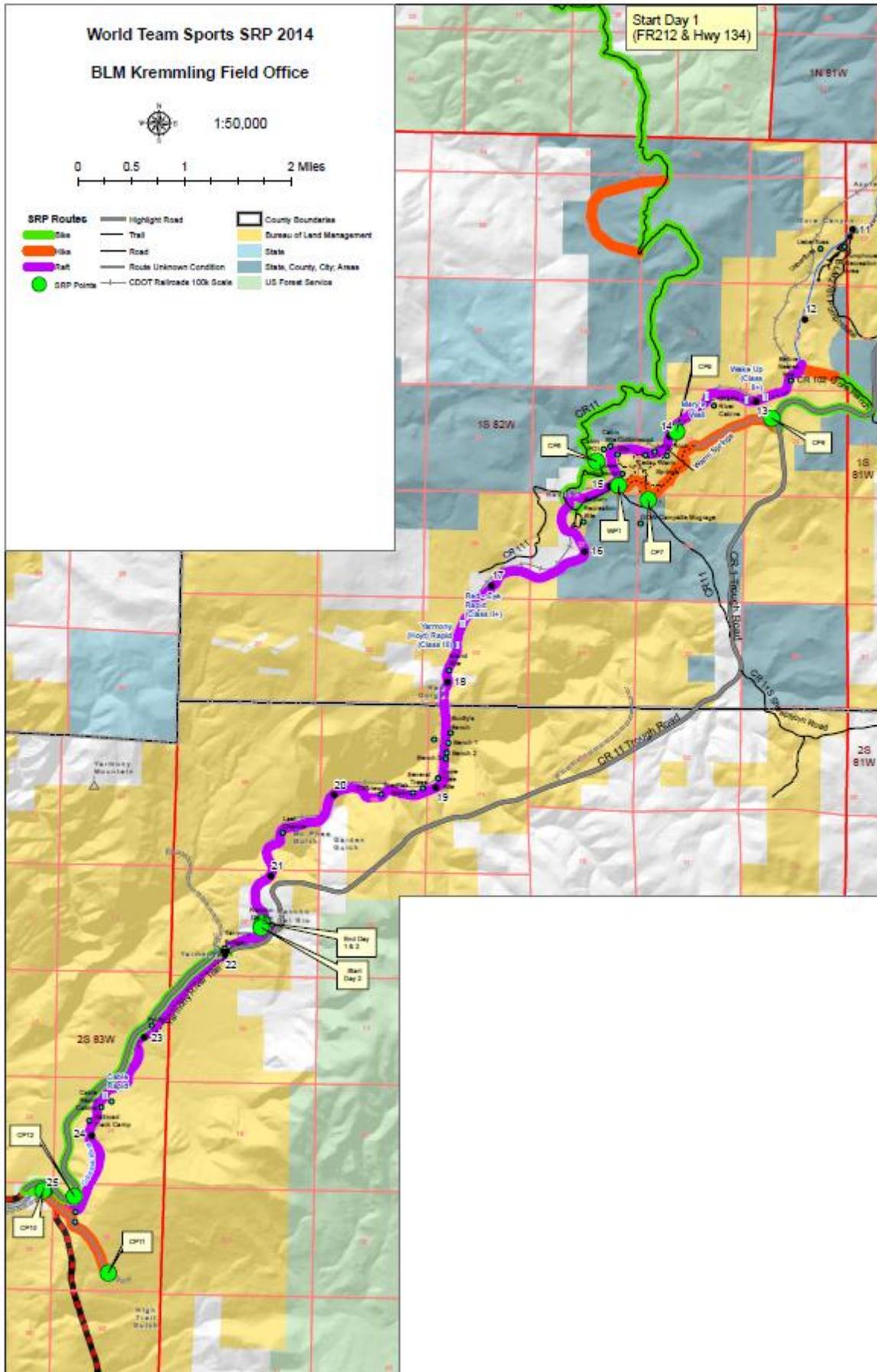
BLM Kremmling Field Office



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|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| SRP Route: | — Highway Road | ▭ County Boundaries |
| — Trail | ▭ Bureau of Land Management | |
| — Road | ▭ State | |
| — Route Unknown Condition | ▭ State, County, City, Area | |
| ● SRP Points | — CDOT Railroads 100k Scale | ▭ US Forest Service |



B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD) and the Recreation Management Plan for the Upper Colorado River
Date Approved/Amended: RMP- December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999 RAMP September 1, 1982; Updated June 2000

The Proposed Action occurs within the Upper Colorado River Special Recreation Management Area. The area is managed to provide and maintain floatboating opportunities and associated activities.

Decision Number/Page: Decision Number II B 7a, Page 9

Objective Language: “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.”

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 the number of people, floatboats, and bikes in the event and the segment of the river and land into the proposed action. I reached the decision that the proposed action would have no potential for significant impacts.

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

Name	Title	Area of Responsibility	Date Review Completed
Hannah Schechter	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Wild and Scenic Rivers, Recreation	8/21/14
Paula Belcher	Hydrologist	Soil, Water, Air, and Riparian	8/22/2014
Bill Wyatt	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources and Tribal Consultation	8/21/2014
Darren Long	Wildlife Biologist	T&E Species	8/26/14

Cultural Resources: A cultural resource inventory report #CR-08-14 was completed in 2008, on the route. No eligible sites were located. The project is a no effect, there are no historic properties affected.

Native American Consultation: Earlier tribal consultation in 2008, identified no areas of tribal traditional concern.

Threatened and Endangered Species: A portion of this event would go through the State Bridge Lynx Linkage Zone. The event would not interfere with Canada lynx ability to cross the landscape. There would be no impact to threatened, endangered, or sensitive species.

D. Signature

Authorizing Official: /s/ Stephanie Odell Date: August 28, 2014
(Signature)

Name: Stephanie Odell
Title: Field Manager

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact:

Hannah Schechter
Outdoor Recreation Planner
BLM Kremmling Field Office
(970) 724-3008
PO BOX 68
Kremmling, CO 80459

DECISION RECORD
CX # DOI-BLM-CO-120-2012-027-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 to authorize Team World Sports Event a Special Recreation Permit to conduct a multi-sport event for able bodied and disabled athletes. The event will be on BLM administered lands around the Upper Colorado River and was chosen to provide a recreational opportunity for the competitors in the event. Stipulations are included in the permit as required to protect natural resources and ensure that the permit is in compliance with current policies.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: /s/ Stephanie Odell

DATE SIGNED: 08/28/2014

TEAM WORLD SPORTS EVENT
STIPULATIONS
SPECIAL RECREATION PERMIT

1. Authorization letters from Colorado Parks and Wildlife and all owners of private property that the racers, event staff or spectators will access before, during, or after event will be received in the Kremmling Field Office.
2. All floatboating vessels for the event will be supplied by a BLM KFO permitted outfitter in good standing.