

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
White River Field Office
220 E Market St
Meeker, CO 81641**

DETERMINATION OF NEPA ADEQUACY (DNA)

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-110-2013-032-DNA

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER:

PROJECT NAME: Paramount Wildlife Management's Trapping Camp

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: T3S, R103W, Sec. 1 (N 39° 49.364' W 108° 53.798')

APPLICANTS: Kevin Herrman (Paramount Wildlife Management)

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION:

Kevin Herrman, doing business as (dba) Paramount Wildlife Management, has applied for a new Special Recreation Permit (SRP) to set up a camp at one location on the North Fork of Texas Creek from mid-December through February of each year and occupy the camp for a maximum total of approximately 40 days while maintaining a trap line for fur bearing animals on BLM lands within the White River Field Office (WRFO) (see Figure 1).

The camp would be located approximately 20 miles south of Rangely, CO along the North Fork of Texas Creek, off County Road 109 (Missouri Creek) on BLM Road 1212. This camp would consist of 2-3 wall tents (20'x14', 17'x14', and 10'x12') and typically be occupied by 2-3 people, with 7 people being the maximum number of people in this camp. Everyone involved in this operation would be either family or friends and would not pay or compensate anyone to participate in this activity. All refuse and trash would be packed out and the site would be left clean at the end of use each season. Human waste will be collected in self-contained toilets/privies and removed from BLM lands. Waste from self-contained toilets must be disposed of at a State approved sewage disposal facility. Fuel wood would be obtained from dead and down wood in the vicinity of the camp.

The trap line would consist of 50 cage traps dispersed alongside of a total of 16 miles of county and BLM roads. These roads include portions of Rio Blanco County Roads 23, 25, 109, 116 and BLM Roads 1062, 1211, 1212, and 1225 (see Figure 1). These roads would be traveled each day during the time the traps are in place with a full-sized motor vehicle, all-terrain-vehicles, or snowmobiles, depending on conditions. The traps would be in place a maximum of 40 days, but typically 25-35 days a year. Most of the fur bearer hides taken in this operation would be sold for profit.

Design Features:

1. Fire wood will be obtained from BLM lands for use at the camp only and collected from dead and down trees only. Fire wood will not be transported off BLM lands. Vehicles may travel up to 300 feet from an existing road, way, or trail to gather firewood as long as no damage is caused to resources. In order to prevent the creation of new routes, there will be no repetitive use of the same travel route off existing routes to gather fire wood.
2. Human waste will be collected in self-contained toilets/privies and removed from BLM lands. Waste from self-contained toilets must be disposed of at a State approved sewage disposal facility.
3. No motorized or mechanized travel will occur in Oil Springs Mountain Wilderness Study Area. Motorized travel is limited to existing roads for maintaining the trap lines and accessing the camp location.
4. The applicant will be responsible for knowing private property and public lands boundaries and is not authorized to operate on private property.
5. No ground disturbance will occur at trap sites.
6. The applicant has signed and agreed to the BLM Colorado-Special Recreation Permits Terms, Conditions, and Stipulations for All Permitted Activities. Particular stipulations in this document that pertain to this proposal include but are not limited to:

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.

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 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.

XVII. RESOURCE PROTECTION

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 ...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.

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.

Decision to be Made: The BLM will decide whether or not to issue the new SRP for camping and maintaining a trap line, and if so, under what terms and conditions.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW:

Name of Plan: White River Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP).

Date Approved: July 1, 1997

Decision Number/Page: 2-43

Decision Language: "Special recreation permits (SRPs) will be issued to qualified guides and outfitters based on need and demand for services."

REVIEW OF EXISTING NEPA DOCUMENTS:

List by name and date all existing NEPA documents that cover the Proposed Action.

Name of Document: White River Resource Area Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/FEIS).

Date Approved: June 1996

Name of Document: Special Recreation Permit Program,
Environmental Assessment # CO-017-WR-070

Date Approved: August 2, 2002

NEPA ADEQUACY CRITERIA:

1. Is the new Proposed Action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?

Documentation of answer and explanation: The new Proposed Action is essentially similar to the selected alternative analyzed in the EA CO-017-WR-070. It is within the same analysis area and there are no substantial differences.

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document appropriate with respect to the new Proposed Action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Two alternatives (Proposed Action and No Action Alternative) were analyzed in EA CO-017-WR-070. No reasons were identified to analyze additional alternatives and these alternatives are considered to be adequate and valid for the Proposed Action.

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new Proposed Action?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Additional projects have been analyzed in the area but no known changes in circumstances or information have been found, thus the original analysis is still valid. Please see the comments below regarding cultural resources, wild horses, and threatened and endangered wildlife and plants species for further discussion.

4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new Proposed Action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?

Documentation of answer and explanation: The direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that could result from implementing this Proposed Action would still remain similar to EA CO-017-WR-070.

5. Is the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA documents adequate for the current Proposed Action?

Documentation of answer and explanation: This project was posted on the WRFO online NEPA register on 1/9/2013. As of 12/4/2013 no comments or inquiries have been received. A copy of the completed DNA will also be posted to the online NEPA register.

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

The Proposed Action was presented to, and reviewed by, the White River Field Office interdisciplinary team on 1/8/2013. A complete list of resource specialists who participated in this review is available upon request from the White River Field Office. The table below lists resource specialists who provided additional remarks concerning cultural resources and special status species.

Name	Title	Resource	Date
Michael Wolfe	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns	12/4/2013
Melissa J. Kindall	Range Technician	Wild Horses	12/5/2013
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Special Status Wildlife Species	12/3/2013
Baili Foster	Ecologist Intern	Special Status Plant Species	1/9/2013

REMARKS:

Cultural Resources: The proposed camp area was inventoried at the Class III (intensive) level (Wolfe 2013). No cultural resources were identified. The survey area included a buffer

surrounding the camp area. Access to trap line will use vehicles on existing roads and cross-country travel will be on foot. Therefore there will be “no effect” to historic properties. The possibility for inadvertent discoveries of cultural resources always exists so the standard cultural resources mitigation is required.

Native American Religious Concerns: No Native American Religious Concerns are known in the area, and none have been noted by Northern Ute Tribal authorities. Should recommended inventories or future consultations with Tribal authorities reveal the existence of such sensitive properties, appropriate mitigation and/or protection measures may be undertaken.

Wild Horses: If the BLM, WRFO is allowed in the future to gather wild horses within and adjacent to the West Douglas Herd Area (WDHA) at the same time as the associated Proposed Action, coordination efforts between Paramount Wildlife Management (Paramount) may require a change in either Paramount’s schedule or location of traps or both depending on the gathering operation taking place and in which area of the WDHA. The WRFO will attempt to make adjustments but there is no guarantee that the gather operation will not affect Paramount’s operation in some way.

Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species: There are no threatened or endangered wildlife species that are known to inhabit or derive important use from the project area. The Proposed Action is not expected to have any substantial influence on special status or wildlife species in general.

Threatened and Endangered Plant Species: Special status plants are known to occur in the project area. The nearest known special status plant population occurs 0.8 miles outside of the project area. However, since the Proposed Action will take place outside of the growing season and project members will remain on or near the county roads; there will be no special status plant species issues or concerns associated with the Proposed Action.

MITIGATION:

1. The applicant is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the allotment that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing archaeological sites or for collecting artifacts.
2. If any archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, activity in the vicinity of the discovery will cease, and the BLM WRFO Archaeologist will be notified immediately. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The applicant will make every effort to protect the site from further impacts including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage until BLM determines a treatment approach, and the treatment is completed. Unless previously determined in treatment plans or agreements, BLM will evaluate the cultural resources and, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), select the appropriate mitigation option within 48 hours of the discovery. The applicant, under guidance of the BLM, will implement the mitigation in a timely manner. The process will be fully documented in reports, site forms, maps, drawings, and photographs. The BLM will forward documentation to the SHPO for review and concurrence.

3. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the applicant must notify the AO, by telephone and written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), the applicant must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the AO.
4. If the BLM, WRFO is allowed in the future to gather wild horses within and adjacent to the West Douglas Herd Area (WDHA) at the same time as the associated Proposed Action, coordination efforts between Paramount Wildlife Management (Paramount) may require a change in either Paramount's schedule or location of traps or both depending on the gathering operation taking place and in which area of the WDHA. The WRFO will attempt to make adjustments but there is no guarantee that the gather operation will not affect Paramount's operation in some way.

REFERENCES:

Wolfe, Michael

- 2013 Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of the Paramount Wildlife Management Trapping Camp, in Rio Blanco County, Co. (SHPO # RB.LM.NR2385; WRFO #13-10-16). Manuscript on file at WRFO-Meeker, Colorado.

COMPLIANCE PLAN: On-going compliance inspections and monitoring will be conducted by the BLM White River Field Office staff before, during, and after the permitted seasons. The applicants will be placed on a probationary status for a minimum of two consecutive years prior to the conversion of the permits to a five year status. Annual reviews will be conducted of each applicant's operations to insure compliance with the agreed upon terms, stipulations, and conditions of the permit. WRFO recreation staff and law enforcement personnel will also conduct periodic, random on-site inspections of each permittee's operations to insure compliance. The issuance of these permits is discretionary and can be revoked by the WRFO Authorized Officer at any time.

NAME OF PREPARER: Aaron Grimes, BLM WRFO Outdoor Recreation Planner

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Heather Sauls

CONCLUSION

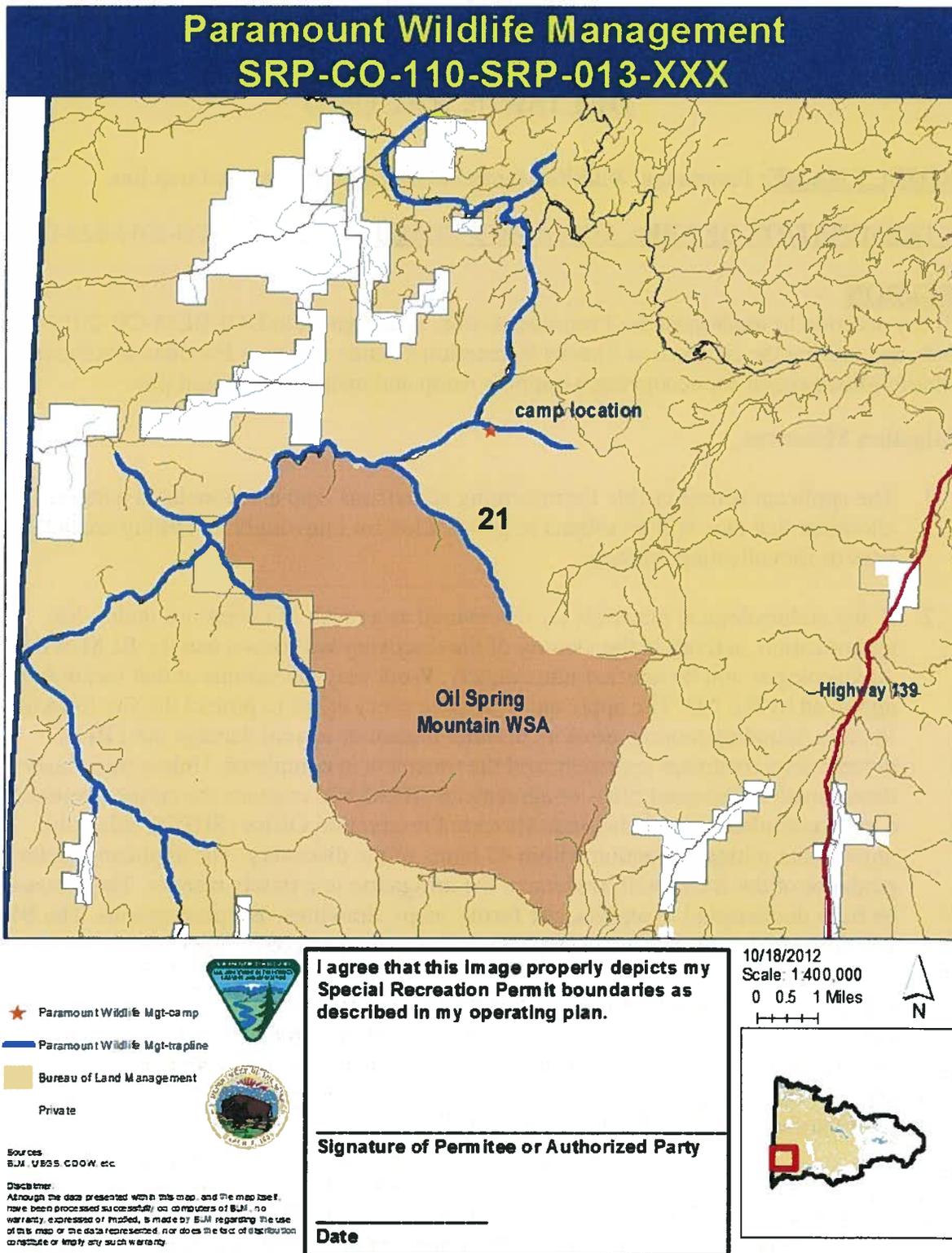
Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the Proposed Action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: 
Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: 12/05/13

Note: The signed Conclusion in this DNA Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.

ATTACHMENTS: Figure 1. Proposed 2012 Permitted Area for Paramount Wildlife Management



**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
White River Field Office
220 E Market St
Meeker, CO 81641**

DECISION RECORD

PROJECT NAME: Paramount Wildlife Management-trapping camp and trap line

DETERMINATION OF NEPA ADEQUACY NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-2013-032-DNA

DECISION

It is my decision to implement the Proposed Action, as mitigated in DOI-BLM-CO-2013-032-DNA, authorizing the issuance of Special Recreation Permits to Kevin Herrman dba Paramount Wildlife Management for occupying a trapping camp and maintaining a trap line.

Mitigation Measures

1. The applicant is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the allotment that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing archaeological sites or for collecting artifacts.
2. If any archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, activity in the vicinity of the discovery will cease, and the BLM WRFO Archaeologist will be notified immediately. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The applicant will make every effort to protect the site from further impacts including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage until BLM determines a treatment approach, and the treatment is completed. Unless previously determined in treatment plans or agreements, BLM will evaluate the cultural resources and, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), select the appropriate mitigation option within 48 hours of the discovery. The applicant, under guidance of the BLM, will implement the mitigation in a timely manner. The process will be fully documented in reports, site forms, maps, drawings, and photographs. The BLM will forward documentation to the SHPO for review and concurrence.
3. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the applicant must notify the AO, by telephone and written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), the applicant must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the AO.
4. If the BLM, WRFO is allowed in the future to gather wild horses within and adjacent to the West Douglas Herd Area (WDHA) at the same time as the associated Proposed Action, coordination efforts between Paramount Wildlife Management (Paramount) may require a change in either Paramount's schedule or location of traps or both depending on

the gathering operation taking place and in which area of the WDHA. The WRFO will attempt to make adjustments but there is no guarantee that the gather operation will not affect Paramount's operation in some way.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS & CONFORMANCE WITH THE LAND USE PLAN

This decision is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act and the National Historic Preservation Act. It is also in conformance with the 1997 White River Record of Decision/Approved Resource Management Plan.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The BLM informed the public about this project by listing it on the online WRFO NEPA Register on 1/9/2013 and a copy of the completed Documentation of NEPA Adequacy will also be posted on online NEPA register.

RATIONALE

The proposal for issuing these Special Recreation Permits conforms to the land use plan and the NEPA documentation previously prepared fully covers the Proposed Action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES

Process for Appeals

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 wishes to appeal to the IBLA must file in the office of the officer who made the decision a notice that he wishes to appeal. "Information on Taking Appeals to the Board of Land Appeals" is enclosed for your convenience.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:



Field Manager

DATE SIGNED:

12/05/13

