

NEPA COMPLIANCE RECORD

Categorical Exclusion (CX)



Bureau of Land Management
Safford Field Office
Safford, AZ

I. PROJECT INFORMATION

NEPA #: DOI-BLM-AZ-G010-2019-0021-CX		Serial/Case File No.: 46130					
Title: Lone Star Allotment Grazing Preference Transfer							
Proposed Action/Type: Grazing Preference Transfer							
Proposed Action (Who, What, When, Where, How): A Section 3 grazing permit transfer of preference from Michael John to Freeport-McMoRan Safford Inc. Active Allotment, CYL: Yes, 10 year permit. This Allotment is located in Graham County approximately 1 miles north of Safford, Arizona. BLM sections included within the Lone Star Allotment: T6S, R20E, Sections 11, 14, 21, 22, 27, 28, 33, & 34. T6S, 20E, Sections 13, 14, 15, 16, 20,21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 33, 34, & 35. T6S, R28E, Sections 17, 18, 19, & 20. T7S R27E, Sections 4 & 7.							
Authorization Schedule Information:							
Allot #	Allot Name	Livestock	Livestock Kind	Begin	End	% PL	AUMS
46130	Lone Star	127	Cattle	3/1	2/28	57	869
✓ Map Attached							
Applicant (if any): Freeport-McMoRan Safford Inc.							
Applicable CX: (BLM NEPA Handbook H-1790-1 Appendices 3 or 4): Appendix 4: Part D(1) Rangeland Management. Approval of transfers of grazing preference.							

II. PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW

This proposed action is subject to the following land use plan: Safford District Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Record of Decision approved September 1992 and July 1994.

The proposed action has been reviewed and determined to be in conformance with this plan [43 CFR 1610.5, BLM MS 1601.04(C)(2)].


Project Lead

3/8/2019
Date



III. RESOURCE PROGRAM CONSULTATION & COORDINATION

III (A). CX Applicability/ Exception Review

Date Internal Scoping Initiated: 11/19/2019		Date Internal Scoping Closed:		
Applies? Yes No	NAME	EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCE (EXCEPTION)	SIGNATURE*	DATE
<i>*Signature indicates that I have reviewed the project to determine the applicability of an extraordinary circumstance.</i>				
If any of the following extraordinary circumstances are applicable to the action being considered, either an EA or EIS must be prepared for the action. Brackets [#] refers to corresponding BLM NEPA Handbook H-1790-1 Appendix 5 Categorical Exclusions: Extraordinary Circumstances (per 516 DM 2, Appendix 2.)				
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	[AFM]	§45.215(a) Have significant impacts on public health or safety.	Ai TR	3/19/19
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	[Project Lead]	§45.215(b) Have significant effects on such unique geographic characteristics as prime farmlands; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; wetlands (EO 11990); or floodplains (EO 11988).	Jason Smith	3/8/19
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Wells/Zackary Kelley	§45.215(b) Have significant effects on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as park, recreation or refuge lands; national natural landmarks; national monuments; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; or other ecologically significant or critical areas.	Robert Wells	3/8/19
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dan McGrew	§45.215(b) Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, or on such unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources. §45.215(i) Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. §45.215(k) 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 (EO 13007).	Dan McGrew	3/13/19
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mark McCabe	§45.215(h) Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species. §45.215(b) Have significant impacts on migratory birds, or other ecologically significant or critical areas.	Mark McCabe	3/12/19
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emily Burke	§45.215(i) 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 EO 13112).	Emily Burke	3/8/19
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	[AFM]	§45.215(c) Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [42 USC 4332(2)(E)].	Ai TR	3/19/19
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	[Project Lead]	§45.215(d) Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	Jason Smith	3/8/19
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	[AFM]	§45.215(e) Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	Ai TR	3/19/19
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	[Project Lead]	§45.215(f) Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	Jason Smith	3/8/19
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	[AFM]	§45.215(j) Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898).	Ai TR	3/19/19



III (B). Critical Resources Review

Critical Resource	Specialist	Affected, but less than Significant		Comments		Signature	Date
		Yes	No	Yes	No		
1. NRHP/Cultural	D. McGrew		X		X	<i>D. McGrew</i>	3/13/19
2. TES Species	M. McCabe		X		X	<i>M. McCabe</i>	3/13/19
3. Floodplains/Wetlands	A. Evenson A. Evenson		X		X	<i>A. Evenson</i>	3/19/19
4. Invasive Species	E. Burke		X		X	<i>Emily H. Burke</i>	03/8/19

Comments/Attachments: _____

IV. FINAL REVIEW

This proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act in accordance with 516 DM 11.9 D(1): Rangeland Management-Approval of transfers of grazing preference.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. It has been reviewed to determine if any of the exceptions described in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply.

The action does not have significant adverse effects on public health and safety nor does the action adversely affect such unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources, parks, recreation, or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, floodplains, or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department's National Register of Natural Landmarks. The action does not have highly controversial environmental effects nor have highly uncertain environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risk nor does it adversely affect a species listed or proposed to be listed on the list of endangered or threatened species. It does not establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about a future consideration with significant environmental effects or related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. The proposed action does not adversely affect properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or threaten to violate a Federal, State, local or tribal law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment or which require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands) or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act.

Mitigation Measures/Stipulations:

None



NEPA Coordinator: [Signature] Date: 3/19/2019

Assistant Field Manager: [Signature] Date: 3/22/19
Recommended

V. DECISION

I have reviewed this plan conformance and NEPA compliance record and have determined that the proposed action does not conflict with major land use plans and will not have any significant impacts on environmental resources. Therefore, it does not represent an exception, and is categorically excluded from further environmental review. It is my decision to implement the project, as described, with the incorporation of the mitigation measures specified in Section IV above.

Authorized Official: [Signature] Date: 4/12/19
Scott C. Cooke
Field Manager

