

BLM WYOMING MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

FOR PROCESSING MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL SPECIAL RECREATION PERMITS for COMMERCIAL OUTFITTING AND GUIDE ACTIVITIES ON PUBLIC LANDS

Introduction

In 2005, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Wyoming State Office entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the USFS Rocky Mountain Region, Intermountain Region; Wyoming Office of State Lands & Investments; Wyoming Game and Fish Commission; US Fish and Wildlife Service; NPS Grand Teton National Park; and the Wyoming State Board of Outfitters and Professional Guides to cooperate in maintaining and enhancing the quality of service provided by the outfitter industry in the State of Wyoming through the coordinated application of State and Federal laws and regulations governing the operation of outfitting and guiding services.

The purpose of this MOU was to maintain and enhance the quality of service provided by the outfitter industry in the State of Wyoming through the coordinated application of State and Federal laws and regulations governing the operation of outfitting and guiding service.

The MOU affords BLM to process commercial Special Recreation Permits (SRPs) beyond the established National Standards in the BLM Recreation Permit Administration Handbook H-2930-1.

Authority

Regulations contained in 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 2930, Subpart 2932, "Special Recreation Permits for Commercial Use, Competitive Events, Organized Groups, and Recreation Use in Special Areas" to administer permits for outfitting and guiding on BLM public lands. The BLM is authorized to enter into MOUs on the public lands by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, PL 94-579. The BLM Recreation Permit Administration Handbook H-2930-1 (2006) sets the parameters for the management of processing permits on the public lands. The purpose of the handbook is to establish direction and provide for procedures that will ensure that use on public lands will control visitor use, protect recreational and natural resources, and provide for the health and safety of visitors.

Objective

The current management objective of the BLM Special Recreation Permit (SRP) system is to accommodate the demand for certain categories of recreational uses of the public lands within allowable use levels in an equitable, safe and enjoyable manner while minimizing resource impacts and user conflicts.

Benefits

- Streamline the process.
- Reduce workloads.
- Administer commercial SRPs with more continuity and to communicate BLM's expectations to both existing and potential permittees.

Policy

The Wyoming BLM Field Offices will continue to process multi-jurisdictional permits. The Wyoming BLM's goal of providing one-stop-shopping customer service has created circumstances when applications for SRPs are accepted and processed by a Field Office in a different location than the proposed use. The purpose of this guidance is to provide a process to be followed in each Field Office.

Upon receipt of an SRP Application, the subsequent procedures will be followed:

1. The Lead Field Office (where the application has been submitted) will:
 - a. Review the application, operating plan, and related documents.
[Note: The applicant must file his application in the office where the primary activity will occur. The hunting areas do not have to be adjacent to each other. However, an applicant cannot file an application in an office where no activity will occur.]

(1) It is the responsibility of the Lead Field Offices to ensure that the applicant is familiar with the hunting areas they are requesting and what game they are providing services for.
 - b. Serve as the primary contact with respect to all actions associated with the permit.
 - c. Complete the "AUTHORIZING OFFICE" Section of the SRP Interoffice Coordination Report (Form WY-2932-1) contact the affected Field Office(s) to find out if the appropriate NEPA documents have been completed for the type of use/activities requested, review and comment (in 2 weeks). In lieu of providing copies of the SRP application and related documents to each affected Field Office(s), the Lead Field Office will summarize the SRP application in the Interoffice Coordination Report. In the event the NEPA documents have not been finished, timeframes will be arranged for completion.
 - d. Complete the Special Recreation Permit Interoffice Coordination Report and provide copies to all affected Field Offices.
 - e. Ensure comments and stipulations from affected Field Office(s) are included in the SRP and the Interoffice Coordination Report is filed in the permittees case file.

- f. If the permittee requests overnight uses/camps or facilities outside of the issuing office's jurisdiction, permit should not be approved until the interoffice coordination is complete.
 - g. Upon receipt of the Interoffice Coordination Report from all affected Field Office(s), issue the permit, perform monitoring, collect all fees, and process post-use reports.
2. Each affected Field Office will:
- a. Review and comment on the submitted proposal in 2 weeks of receipt of the Interoffice Coordination Report unless otherwise agreed upon between the parties.
 - b. Initiate new NEPA document if required.
 - c. Keep copies of the report and return original Interoffice Coordination Report to the Field Office.

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