Forest Service Grand Mesa, Uncompangre and Gunnison National Forests 2250 Highway 50 Delta, CO 81416 Voice: 970-874-6600 TDD: 970-874-6660

File Code: 2210

1950

Date: March 20, 2009

Notice of Decision USDA-Forest Service, Grand Mesa, Uncompangre and Gunnison National Forests

SAN JUAN RANGELAND LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT

Ouray Ranger District Grand Mesa, Uncompangre and Gunnison National Forests Ouray, Gunnison, Hinsdale Counties, Colorado

The Ouray Ranger District, Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests (GMUG) has issued a Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (DN/FONSI) for the *San Juan Rangeland Landscape Assessment Environmental Assessment* for these cattle allotments: Baldy, Big Blue, Big Park, Boiler, Box Factory, Coal Creek, Cobbs Gulch, Cocan Flats, Corbett Creek, Green Mountain, Lou Creek, Section 25, West Dallas; sheep allotments: Crystal Peak-Lower Elk, Hero-Idarado, Bear Creek, Miner-Poughkeepsie, Uncompahgre Peak-North Henson, Big Blue-Fall Creek-Little Cimarron; and the Ridge, Middle Fork, and East Fork Stock Driveways.

The decision authorizes permitted livestock grazing on the Baldy C&H, Big Park C&H, Boiler C&H, Coal Creek C&H, Corbett Creek C&H, Green Mountain C&H, Lou Creek C&H, Section 25 C&H, West Dallas C&H, Crystal Peak-Lower Elk S&G, Hero-Idarado S&G, Bear Creek S&G, Uncompahgre Peak-North Henson S&G, Big Blue-Fall Creek-Little Cimarron S&G; the North and Guard Station pastures of the Big Blue C&H, and that portion of Miner-Poughkeepsie S&G used with Bear Creek allotment; and the Ridge, Middle Fork, and East Fork Stock Driveways. The Big Blue C&H, Box Factory C&H, Cobbs Gulch C&H, Cocan Flats C&H, South and Falls pastures of the Big Blue C&H, and the remaining portion of Miner-Poughkeepsie S&G allotments will remain vacant pending additional future analysis for temporary grazing on an as needed basis, and to mitigate possible future changes on the Bear Creek S&G allotment due to potential conflicts between Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep and domestic sheep.

This decision is subject to administrative review pursuant to Federal Regulations at 36 CFR 215.11 or 36 CFR Part 251 Subpart C. Appeals (including attachments) must be in writing and filed (regular mail, fax, e-mail, hand-delivery, express delivery, or messenger service) with the Appeal Deciding Officer (§ 215.8) within 45 days following the date of publication of this legal notice in the *Montrose Daily Press*. The publication date of this legal notice is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an appeal (§ 215.15 (a)). Those wishing to appeal should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. Pursuant to 36 CFR 215.13 (b), only those individuals or organizations who submitted comments during the comment period may file an appeal.





The addresses for filing appeals are:

USDA, Forest Service, Region 2 Attn: Appeal Deciding Officer 740 Simms Street Golden, CO 80401

Fax: 303-275-5134 to the attention of Appeals;

Email: appeals-rocky-mountain-regional-office@fs.fed.us.

It is an appellant's responsibility to provide sufficient activity-specific evidence and rationale, focusing on the decision, to show why the Responsible Official's decision should be reversed. At a minimum, an appeal must include the following (§215.14): (1) Appellant's name and address (§ 215.2), with a telephone number, if available; (2) Signature or other verification of authorship upon request (a scanned signature for electronic mail may be filed with the appeal); (3) When multiple names are listed on an appeal, identification of the lead appellant (§ 215.2) and verification of the identity of the lead appellant upon request; (4) The name of the project or activity for which the decision was made, the name and title of the Responsible Official, and the date of the decision; (5) The regulation under which the appeal is being filed, when there is an option to appeal under either this part or part 251, subpart C (§ 215.11(d)); (6) Any specific change(s) in the decision that the appellant seeks and rationale for those changes; (7) Any portion(s) of the decision with which the appellant disagrees, and explanation for the disagreement; (8) Why the appellant believes the Responsible Official's decision failed to consider the substantive comments; and (9) How the appellant believes the decision specifically violates law, regulation, or policy. Notices of Appeal that do not meet the requirements of 36 CFR 215.14 will be dismissed.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 215.9(a), if no appeal is filed, implementation of this decision may occur on, but not before, the fifth day from the close of the appeal period.

Copies of this EA and decision may be downloaded from the internet at: http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/gmug/policy/

For further information or to obtain copies of the EA or DN/FONSI, please contact Kelley Liston, at 970-240-5408 or kliston@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,

/s/ Tammy Randall Parker

TAMMY RANDALL-PARKER District Ranger