United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Date 2/23/09

Environmental Assessment LL-CAC-0500-09-009

Cache Creek Dash Horse Endurance Ride
Location: Payne Ranch Colusa County

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Ukiah Field Office
2550 North State Street
Ukiah, CA 95482
Phone: (707) 468-4000
FAX: (707) 468-4027
Chapter 1 - Introduction

Project Title: Cache Creek Dash Special Recreation Permit; Equestrian Ride

Name and Address of Proponent: Jennifer and Alyssa Stalley
5580 Hankins Road
Williams, CA 95987

Case File: CA-050-09-SRP-003

Project Location: Cache Creek Natural Area (CCNA)/Cache Creek Management Area and the Payne Ranch

Land Status Verified: Yes

Affected Surface Area: Up to 50 miles of existing trail within the Cache Creek Natural Area/Cache Creek Management Area and the Payne Ranch would be used for the event. See Appendices for maps and photos.

Relationships to Statutes and Regulations:
The proposed action is consistent with Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and Federal natural resource related policies and laws including:

- The proposed action is consistent with Federal natural resource related policies and laws including: Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (16 U.S.C. 470aa - 470mm)
- Native American Graves and Repatriation Act of 1990 (43 CFR 7)
- American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978
- Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1977 (Clean Water Act) (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.)
- Clean Air Act of 1955
- Taylor Grazing Act, as amended, 1970
- Lacey Act (Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974)
- Public Rangelands Improvement Act 1978
- Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003
- Wilderness Act of 1964
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968
- Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1977
- BLM Manual Section 6840
- Executive Order 11987 Exotic Species
- Executive Order 13112 (1999) National Invasive Species Council
- Executive Order 12580 Clean Water
- Executive Order 13112 Invasive Species
- Executive Order 13186 Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds
- Executive Order 13084 Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Government
- Executive Order 12989 Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations
- Executive Order 11990 Protection of Wetlands
- Executive Order 11988 Floodplain Management
- Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage Wilderness Act (Oct 2006)

**Conformance with Applicable Land Use Plan or other Plans:**
The proposed action is in conformance with the Ukiah Resource Management Plan (Record of Decision September 2006) for the Cache Creek Management Area.

- Section 2.14 Recreation, Goals, page 23: “Provide a range of outdoor recreation settings, experiences, and opportunities that balance the public’s demand while minimizing recreation impacts to other resources.”

- Section 3.4 Cache Creek, 3.4.2.1 Visual Resource Management, page 55: ”Middlecountry Zones VRM Class III…”

- Figures BLM Lands and Management Units, Cache Creek Figure 5a, Recreation Opportunity Spectrum classifications identified on the map.

**Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action**

*Purpose* – Recreation demands continue as individuals/groups become more engaged in the management and use of public lands. High use requests are handled through the BLM’s Special Recreation Permit (SRP) process. Permitted events are one way to accommodate recreation demands.

*Need* -
BLM needs to respond to the recreation demands. BLM works with individuals/clubs to assist with providing recreation opportunities while balancing resource impacts. It is
desirable for individuals/groups to sponsor/coordinate recreation events because BLM does not have the staff nor budget to dedicate to such projects.

**Description of Alternatives, including Proposed Action**

This Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared to analyze the request for an equestrian endurance ride. The applicants propose holding the Cache Creek Dash, an endurance ride for equestrian riders within the Cache Creek Natural Area. The EA is a site-specific analysis of potential impacts that could result to the BLM managed trails, crossings, and facilities involved with the implementation of this one day event.

Though this is the first organized equestrian event the trails, crossings, and facilities identified within the proposal have and are still being used by equestrian riders who frequent the CCNA on a regular basis.

If approved, the Special Recreation Permit would be issued for the dates of May 15 – 17, 2009, with the actual event to be held May 16, 2009.

**Alternatives Considered, but Dismissed from Analysis:**
The original proposal included a course along the Judge Davis Trail to Wilson Valley, which would have entered into the Cache Creek Wilderness Area. Per 43 CFR 6302.20 (i) Prohibited Acts, competitive events are prohibited within BLM wilderness. The proposed action was subsequently amended to eliminate any trails within wilderness.

An alternative to consider holding the Cache Creek Dash on another date was brought to the attention of the Ukiah Field office and dismissed. Safety concerns related to weather stresses of heat and cold on the horses and riders, chances for trails being more impacted from the event, and the possibility of user conflicts lead to the dismissal.

**Chapter 2 - Proposed Action and Alternatives**

**Alternative A – Proposed Action:**
The Cache Creek Dash equestrian endurance ride would be a competitive one day event planned for 100+ competitors and up to 40 spectators. In addition there would be up to 2-3 dozen spectators. Riders would leave Cowboy Camp individually at scheduled intervals, follow a designated trail course, make required stops at identified locations for established amounts of time and three vet checks of the horses, and finish back at the Cowboy Camp location. Winners are determined based on time and physical condition of the horse and rider while on the course and in the finish area.

Cowboy Camp would serve as a start and finish location. The group camp site at Cowboy Camp would be reserved exclusively for participants in this event. With the exception of the group camp site, the Cache Creek Natural Area will remain open to the public during both event preparation and the event. Event participants will be doubling up to minimize the number of horse trailers and support vehicles at the group camp site. Additional
parking for trailers will be available at the overflow parking area, just north of the group camp. It is anticipated that there may be up to 50 trailers with trucks.

Soils impacts at the group camp area are anticipated to be minor, as the group camp area is mostly flat and soils are relatively compacted here. The speed of vehicles in this area will likely not exceed 10 mph, so impacts from vehicle tires cutting into the soil should be insignificant. Vegetation impacts at the group camp will be negligible, as the area has been both treated with Roundup and mowed with a flail mower to treat weeds, annual vegetation and reduce fire risk. It is the responsibility of the applicants to ensure that parking is handled in an orderly organized fashion, and they will have support staff to handle this issue.

The rides would consist of a 25 mile course for the inexperienced, and a 50 mile course for the experienced riders with a staggered start for all participants. The course would be entirely on existing trails primarily on BLM and a short California Department of Fish and Game managed lands. Both rides begin and end at the group camp area below Cowboy Camp, with stops and veterinarian checkpoints at High Bridge, Bear/Cache confluence, and Judge Davis Trailhead (See attached maps). An additional site at Roadkill Café, although not an official vet check, will be manned by a veterinarian to provide water and to briefly observe the horses as they pass by without conducting the other in-depth checks that will be done at the other three check sites. The course originates at the group camp area and would cross Bear Creek at the existing equestrian creek crossing approximately ¾ mile south of Cowboy Camp. Additionally there is a second crossing further on during the event at High Bridge, where there is a one hour rest area and vet check. The course will be marked a week ahead of time by clothespins with flagging that are clipped onto trailside vegetation. All clothespins with flagging will be removed within a week following the event. The majority of trails are on BLM land, with an additional 2.5-mile loop on CDFG land. All areas, with the exception of the group camp site, will be open to the recreating public. It will not be necessary to rope off the vet checkpoints, as these checks will not interfere with other recreationist’s use of the trails. These checkpoints will only be manned by the vets and an assistant. There will be six additional porta-potties brought in to the group camp area for the event. Standard water troughs holding several hundred gallons each, will be brought in at the four check stations a week ahead of the event and filled. A water truck will be on standby at Cowboy Camp to refill any of the troughs as necessary during the event.

There will be HAMM radio operators at Cowboy Camp and throughout the course (at check points). The organizers have also notified the sheriff’s departments and local search and rescue teams. There will be one vendor operating under the applicants permit.

**Monitoring and Compliance:**

1. **Roles:**

   **Project lead** – Gregg Mangan Cache Creek Natural Area Manager
2. Responsibilities:

**Project lead:** Responsible for following up on permit requirements, working with the sponsors on an acceptable endurance course, and coordinating the event with the noxious weed control contractor (grazing).

**S/W/A:** Responsible for pre and post event monitoring of soils and water resources. This would focus primarily on identifying any notable impacts to soils and water at the two creek crossings, as well as along the routes.

**Cultural Resources:** Responsible for pre and post event monitoring to validate those cultural sites were avoided and cultural impacts did not occur.

**Recreation:** Responsible for permit compliance – Gregg

1. Method:
   Monitoring will focus on physical site inspections of trail conditions, creek crossings, facilities, and other locations of interest.

2. Reporting:
   Written reports of findings would be submitted to the project lead and placed in the sponsor’s SRP packet. A post report would be submitted to the sponsors upon expiration of the permit.

Mitigation Measures:
Mitigation measures have been included as stipulations for the event (Appendix B). Those that address resource impacts have been listed below.

Pre and post event monitoring would be performed by BLM staff specialists. Actual monitoring would occur not earlier than a week before, or later than two weeks after the event date. If post-event monitoring results show the endurance event had notable negative effects on the soils and vegetation, at the creek crossings and along the trail routes, the sponsors would have up to 30 days from the date they are made aware of the concern to correct the problem.

UC Davis has flagged plants/re-vegetation plots along the Bear Creek segment of the endurance ride. Contestants are to stay on the established trail to avoid the plots. The CCNA manager would work with the sponsors to identify areas of avoidance. It may be necessary to barrier off these plots with plastic construction fencing to protect them from trampling.

To eliminate conflicts, the CCNA manager would coordinate locations and dates for the event with the noxious weed control (grazing) contractor.
Alternative B – No Action:
This proposal is to not authorize the special recreation permit for the Cache Creek Dash equestrian ride.

Monitoring and/or Compliance:
There would be no need for event monitoring and compliance.

Chapter 3 – Affected Environment

The Cache Creek Natural Area (CCNA) includes over 72,000 acres of BLM-managed lands and 4,700 acres of State and County lands. This secluded, hilly expanse of oak woodlands, grasslands, riparian habitat, and chaparral is traversed by Cache Creek, with its year-round water flow. Elevations range from 3200 feet atop Brushy Sky High, to 600 feet in the eastern portion of Cache Creek along State Route 16. Showcasing the CCNA are 35 miles of the main fork of Cache Creek and 2.5 miles of the north fork. Also present are several perennial tributary creeks.

Along the creeks, wetland grasses, rushes and sedges grow under a canopy of cottonwoods, willows, oaks and alders providing excellent wildlife habitat. Approximately two-thirds of the area is comprised of chaparral vegetation including the mixed chaparral, serpentine chaparral and chamise chaparral vegetation types. The remainder of the CCNA is comprised of native oaks, riparian, and grassland habitats.

The CCNA is a primitive area closed to motorized vehicles. The Cache Creek Wilderness Area is entirely within the CCNA boundary. There are developed facilities along the CCNA perimeter including: hiking trailhead at Judge Davis; wildlife viewing and equestrian riding at Cowboy Camp; trailhead for hiking, equestrian, and mountain biking at High Bridge; trailhead for hiking, equestrian, and rafting at Redbud; and facilities for primitive camping, hiking, and rafting at Buck Island. Non-hunting (target) shooting is not allowed. Instead the area is managed to improve habitat for wildlife and rare plants, to protect cultural resource values, and to offer primitive recreation opportunities, including wildlife viewing, river running, hiking, equestrian use, hunting, and fishing.

Cache Creek offers visitors spectacular views of bald eagles, free-roaming tule elk herd, wild turkey, black bear, blacktail deer and other upland species. The area also holds pockets of the rare adobe lily, and archaeological resources dating back 12,000 years. Predominant habitat types found within the project area include native oak woodlands, annual grassland meadow, chamise chaparral, and riparian.

There are no federally-listed plant or animal species known to occur within the project area. Two BLM sensitive species in or nearby meadows of Bear Creek: foothill yellow-legged frog (Rana boylii) and adobe lily (Fritillaria pluriflora).
Bear Creek water is very saline and alkaline, with high mineral content including boron, carbonates, and sulphates. It is also very high in methyl mercury. The State EPA has listed a health advisory for Bear Creek recommended that no fish or shellfish be consumed due to the high methyl mercury levels. Flow in the creek is currently flowing at 5 cfs, considerably lower than normal levels for this time of year due to the lower than normal rainfall. Riparian vegetation at both creek crossings is dominated by the invasive tamarisk and native grasses such as saltgrass and baltic rush. Vegetation at the group camp site is comprised primarily of annual grasses and forbs, which were recently selectively treated with Roundup and mowed. Approximately two miles of the course trails fall within the Cache Creek Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), an area designed in 1985 in recognition of the bald eagle population, tule elk population, riparian resource along Cache Creek, and the opportunities for primitive recreation. Trail use during this event will not have any impact on the special resources protected by the ACEC. Several invasive weed species occur within the event area, including yellow starthistle, medusahead, and barbed goatgrass.

Climate change may result from: natural processes, such as changes in the sun's intensity; natural processes within the climate system (e.g. changes in ocean circulation); human activities that change the atmosphere's composition (e.g. burning fossil fuels) and the land surface (e.g. urbanization) (IPCC, 2007). Rising greenhouse gas (GHG) levels are likely contributing to global climate change. In the project area, climate change is typically expected to result in warmer, drier conditions and potentially more extreme weather events. Natural processes such as volcanic eruptions contribute to the increasing levels of GHGs in the atmosphere. Human activities related to the proposed action, livestock grazing, also contribute GHGs in the form of methane.

**Chapter 4 Environmental Impacts**

**Impacts to Supplemental Authorities of Alternative A (Proposed Action):**
The following are either not present or would not be affected by the proposed action: Air Quality, T&E Species, Hazardous & Solid Wastes, Floodplains, Farm Lands, Environmental Justice, Native American Religious Concerns, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Wilderness, Cultural Resources, Essential fish habitat, and Healthy Forest Initiative.

**Water Quality:** There would be a minimal affect to water quality. At the two Bear Creek equestrian crossings there would be an increased level of turbidity during the actual event caused by the horses crossing the creek. Within a few hours after the event (similar to monitoring conducted for motorcycle events), the turbidity level for Bear Creek should be back to normal. Bear and Cache Creeks are within the Cache Creek drainage and are governed by basin plans subject to federal and State Clean Water Acts. BLM would require full compliance with all applicable Federal, State and local laws, regulation and policies to protect both surface and groundwater.
ACEC's: Although the event occurs within an Area of Environmental Concern (ACEC), there would be no effects to the values for which the ACEC was designated. This use is considered a compatible use within the ACEC.

Wetlands/Riparian Zone: Affects should be minimal and only along the existing trail next to Bear Creek, where the endurance ride would cross Bear Creek, and where the ride would make the turn back up the Judge Davis Trail at Cache Creek. Due to the staggered start of participants, it is anticipated that the horses would cross one or two at a time. No disturbance would be allowed in the water course except the temporary wading of horses as they cross to continue on the trail. UC Davis has flagged research plants/re-vegetation plots along the Bear Creek segment of the endurance ride. Contestants are to stay on the established trail to avoid the plots. The CCNA manager would work with the sponsors to identify areas of avoidance.

Invasive, Non-Native Species: Several invasive species including yellow starthistle, medusahead, and barbed goatgrass are found within the event area. Some seed of these invasives could be spread by horses. However, this is considered a minor impact as seed can be spread just as easily by hikers, mountain bikers, and by wind.

Impacts to Other Resources:
The following are not affected by the proposed action:

Vegetation: This is expected to be minor because the course is being run on existing trails. Impacts that could occur would be some trampling of trailside vegetation.

Wildlife: Impacts to wildlife would be temporary disturbance from the number of horses and participants, and resident species would return to those areas after the event has been completed.

Soils: Impacts to soils from the event would be minimal and only along existing trails such as some surface disturbance. Holding the event in May means there would be more soil moisture allowing the soils to be less erosive as opposed to potential earlier or later event dates. Prior to the event, the applicant has been authorized to conduct routine maintenance along the course trails to repair damage from the current cattle grazing. This work by the applicants is in addition to the routine maintenance work conducted by our Operations staff to repair cattle damage.

Recreation: Recreationists intending to use Cowboy Camp, Judge Davis and Roadkill Café area could be displaced by the event participants and logistical support staff. This displacement would primarily be on the date of the event, May 16th. This is a temporary and small scale based on the number of visitors.
Climate Change: The assessment of GHG emissions and climate change remains in its formative phase. The lack of scientific tools designed to predict climate change on regional or local scales limits the ability to quantify potential future impacts of climate change on resources in the project area. In addition, while the proposed action may involve some future contribution of GHGs, these contributions would not have a noticeable or measurable effect, independently or cumulatively, on a phenomenon occurring at the global scale believed to be due to more than a century of human activities.

Impacts to Supplemental Authorities of Alternative B (No Action): There would be no affects to any Supplemental Authorities.

Impacts to Other Resources: There would be no impacts to other resources

Residual Effects: The numbers of spectators, participants, horses associated vehicles and trailers could cause incremental damage to the facilities at the Cowboy Camp equestrian area. However, this area was designed for recreational horseback riding and to accommodate the identified maximum number of participants.

Cumulative Effects: BLM has made an effort to accommodate recreation demands for general use as well as special events (permitted events). Recreation permits for special events are processed on a case-by-case basis. Although this is the first request for an equestrian event in the Cache Creek Management area, the success could prompt annual occurrence or additional permit applications. Cumulative effects of multiple equestrian events could result in resource degradation and the limitation of future discretionary events.

Summary of Alternatives: Alternative A – Proposed Action BLM would authorize the Special Recreation Permit allowing the Cache Creek Dash equestrian endurance ride with 25 and 50 mile courses to proceed as requested by the applicants.

Alternative B – No Action BLM would not authorize the Special Recreation Permit for the Cache Creek Dash equestrian ride.

Chapter 5 Consultation and Coordination

Persons, Groups, and Agencies Consulted:
Consultation with tribes and other agencies were deemed necessary due to the management and resource protection emphasis of the area. BLM directly consulted with Kesner Flores of the Cortina Rancheria and Craig Thompsen of the UC Davis Range Science Department regarding this potential event. Gregg Mangan (BLM Cache Creek Manager) has also coordinated with the existing grazing lease regarding the specifics of the event. The Applicant consulted with Paul Hoffman of California Department of Fish and Game regarding the segment of the course on Fish and Game managed lands.

Summary of Public Participation:
During preparation of the EA, the public was notified of the proposed action by posting on the Ukiah Field Office Internet NEPA webpage on March 4, 2009. A public comment period was offered from March 4, 2009 to April 30, 2009. As of May 5, 2009, no comments were received. A field tour of the endurance course involving BLM staff and the event sponsors is planned for the latter part of March or Early April.

BLM List of Preparers:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Critical Elements/Programs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jonna Hildenbrand</td>
<td>Recreation and Wilderness</td>
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<td>Walt Gabler</td>
<td>Law Enforcement, Public Health/Safety</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frank Arriaza</td>
<td>Air Quality, Water Quality, Wetlands/Riparian, &amp; Soils</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Lloyd</td>
<td>Cultural and Native American Religious Concerns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jonna Hildenbrand</td>
<td>Environmental Justice</td>
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<td>Alice Vigil</td>
<td>Realty</td>
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<td>Gary Sharpe</td>
<td>Hazardous &amp; Solid Waste</td>
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<td>Wildlife &amp; Botany, T &amp; E vegetation</td>
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<td>Jonna Hildenbrand</td>
<td>Wild and Scenic Rivers and VRM</td>
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<td>Noell Sturdevant</td>
<td>Geysers/Geology</td>
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<td>Prime or Unique Farm Lands</td>
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<td>Jim Dawson</td>
<td>Fire/Fuels</td>
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<td>Bill Dabbs</td>
<td>Engineering &amp; Operations</td>
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<td>Jonna Hildenbrand</td>
<td>Social/Economic</td>
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Project Lead ___________________ Date ___________________

Environmental Coordinator ___________________ Date ___________________

Supervisory Multi-Resource Specialist ___________________ Date ___________________
APPENDICES:

APPENDIX A: - MAPS – 25 mile loop and 50 mile loop
APPENDIX B: - Permit Stipulations
APPENDIX B
Permit Stipulations

GENERAL STIPULATIONS

1. This permit is issued for the period specified herein. It is revocable for any breach of conditions hereof or at the discretion of the authorized officer of the Bureau of Land Management, at any time upon notice. This permit is subject to valid adverse claims heretofore or hereafter acquired.

2. This permit is subject to all applicable provisions of the regulations (43 CFR Part 2930) which are made a part hereof.

3. This permit is subject to the provisions of Executive Order No. 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended, which sets forth the Equal Opportunity clauses. A copy of this order may be obtained from the BLM.

4. This permit may not be reassigned or transferred by Permittee.

5. Permittee must pay the sum of estimated user fees in advance of permit issuance.

6. Permittee must observe all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations applicable to the premises; to erection or maintenance of signs or advertising displays and must keep the premises in a neat, orderly manner, and sanitary condition.

7. Permittee must take all reasonable precautions to prevent and suppress forest, brush, and grass fires, and to prevent polluting of waters on or in vicinity of the public lands.

8. Permittee must not enclose roads or trails commonly in public use.

9. Permittee must pay the United States for any damage to its property resulting from this use.

10. Permittee must notify the BLM of address change immediately.
11. Permittee must not cut any trees on the public lands without prior written permission from the BLM.

12. Permittee must indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the United States and/or its agencies and representatives against and from any and all demands, claims, or liabilities of every nature whatsoever, including, but not limited to, damages to property, injuries to or death of persons, arising directly or indirectly from, or in any way connected with the Permittee's use and occupancy of the public lands described in this permit or with the event authorized under this permit.

13. Authorized representatives of the Department of the Interior, other Federal agencies, and State of California must at all times, have the right to enter the premises on official business.

14. Permittee must abide by all special stipulations attached.

15. The permittee shall do everything possible to ensure that event participants and spectators do not harass or collect wildlife, plants, livestock, or archaeological features or artifacts.

16. Permittee must not disturb archaeological and historical values, including, but not limited to petroglyphs, ruins, historic buildings, and artifacts. The Permittee is responsible for informing all persons associated with this permit (organizers and participants) that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing Native American Indian shrines, historic and prehistoric archaeological sites, or for collecting artifacts of any kind, including historic items and/or arrowheads from Federal lands pursuant to the 1906 American Antiquities Act (P.L. 59-209; 34 Stat. 225; 16 U.S.C. 432, 433), the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (P.L. 96-95; 93 Stat. 721; 16 U.S.C. 470ee as amended), and/or other federal laws and regulations.

17. Permittee must leave in place any hidden cultural values uncovered through authorized operations. If subsurface cultural resources are unearthed during operations such as trail repair prior to the event, activity in the vicinity of the cultural resource will cease and a BLM representative notified immediately. Pursuant to 43 C.F.R. 10.4, the holder of this authorization must notify the authorized officer by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, the Permittee must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer. The permit holder might be responsible for the cost of evaluation and any decision as to proper mitigation measures that are made by the authorized officer (BLM).
18. The Permittee shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws; ordinances; regulations; orders; postings; or written requirements applicable to the area or operations covered by the SRP. The Permittee shall ensure that all persons operating under the authorization have obtained all required Federal, State, and local licenses or registrations. The Permittee shall make every reasonable effort to ensure compliance with these requirements by all agents of the Permittee and by all clients, customers, participants, or spectators under the Permittee’s supervision.

19. An SRP authorizes special uses of the public lands and related waters and, should circumstances warrant, the permit may be modified by the BLM at any time, including modification of the amount of use. The authorized officer may suspend or terminate an SRP if necessary to protect public resources, health, safety, the environment, or because of non-compliance with permit stipulations. Actions by the BLM to suspend or terminate an SRP are appealable.

20. No value shall be assigned to or claimed for the permit, or for the occupancy or use of Federal lands or related waters granted thereupon. The permit privileges are not to be considered property on which the Permittee shall be entitled to earn or receive any return, income, price, or compensation. The use of a permit as collateral is not recognized by the BLM.

21. Unless expressly stated, the SRP does not create an exclusive right of use of an area by the Permittee. The Permittee shall not interfere with other valid uses of the federal land by other users. The United States reserves the right to use any part of the area for any purpose.

22. The Permittee or Permittee’s representative may not assign, contract, or sublease any portion of the permit authorization or interest therein, directly or indirectly, voluntarily or involuntarily. However, contracting of equipment or services may be approved by the authorized officer in advance, if necessary to supplement a Permittee’s operations. Such contracting should not constitute more than half the required equipment or services for any one trip and the Permittee must retain operational control of the permitted activity. If equipment or services are contracted, the Permittee shall continue to be responsible for compliance with all stipulations and conditions of the permit.

23. All advertising and representations made to the public and the authorized officer must be accurate. The addresses and telephone numbers of the local BLM office may be included in advertising materials, but the Permittee shall not use advertising that attempts to portray or represent the activities as being conducted by the BLM. The Permittee may not portray or represent the permit fee as a special federal user’s tax. The Permittee must furnish the authorized officer with any current brochure and price list if requested by the authorized officer.

24. The Permittee must assume responsibility for inspecting the permitted area for
any existing or new hazardous conditions, e.g., trail and route conditions, landslides, avalanches, rocks, changing water or weather conditions, falling limbs or trees, submerged objects, hazardous wildlife, or other hazards that present risks for which the Permittee assumes responsibility.

25. In the event of default on any mortgage or other indebtedness, such as bankruptcy, creditors shall not succeed to the operating rights or privileges of the Permittee’s SRP.

26. The Permittee cannot, unless specifically authorized, erect, construct, or place any building, structure, or other fixture on public lands. Upon leaving, the lands must be restored as nearly as possible to pre-existing conditions.

27. The Permittee must present or display a copy of the SRP to an authorized officer’s representative, or law enforcement personnel upon request. If required, the Permittee must display a copy of the permit or other identification tag on equipment used during the period of authorized use.

28. The authorized officer, or other duly authorized representative of the BLM, may examine any of the records or other documents related to the permit, the Permittee or the Permittee’s operator, employee, or agent for up to three years after expiration of the permit.

29. The Permittee shall notify the authorized officer of any accident that occurs while involved in activities authorized by these permits which result in: death, personal injury requiring hospitalization or emergency evacuation, or in property damage greater than $2,500 (lesser amounts if established by State law). Reports should be submitted within 48 hours in the case of death or injury, or 10 days in accidents involving property damage.

30. Payment due to the government shall be in conformance with existing regulations. The current minimum Special Recreation permit fee is $95.00. If Cost Recovery is used, it shall be actual cost to the government for processing the permit and monitoring all pre, actual and post permitted activities as reflected by charges, including salaries (direct and indirect costs), vehicle mileage, per diem, and administrative costs, made to a special account established to track event processing costs. Estimated fees or costs shall be provided to the applicant prior to permit approval and must be paid in advance.

31. The permittee shall complete a post-event report and submit it to the BLM Field Office issuing the permit within 15 calendar days of the completion of the event. In addition, the permittee will immediately notify the Field Manager, or his/her authorized officer of any serious injuries or fatalities, which occur in connection with the event. A written incident report will be submitted with a completed post-event portion of the permit. The Authorized Officer will provide permittee with BLM’s incident report (DI-134) which details all necessary information to be furnished for any serious injuries or accidents.
32. The permittee will be responsible for public safety in the event area. They are required to post warning signs at identified areas not already posted, and to hold a pre-race meeting to verbally inform endurance participants of all hazards.

33. For horse events, the permittee shall ensure the provision of first aid services capable of locating, rendering aid to, and evacuating any accident victim. First aid services shall include a person currently certified as an Emergency Medical Technician Basic (or higher) equipped with sufficient supplies for emergencies, including locally approved equipment for the immobilization of the cervical spine. A dedicated and reliable communications system shall be provided sufficient to provide immediate contact for the first aid provider (EMT) to local emergency dispatch centers.

34. Permittee shall monitor race events to prevent damage from course cutting and participants traveling off course. The permittee shall establish racecourse checkpoints to prevent short coursing. The permittee will be responsible for keeping contestants on the designated route/course. Participants who violate any of the mitigation measures or stipulations shall be disqualified from the race. Additionally, any support personnel found in violation of the stipulations, associated with a participant shall result in disqualification of that participant.

35. The event shall be confined entirely to a clearly defined and plainly marked area/route as shown on the authorized use area map. The endurance event will be strictly limited to existing roads and trails. The maximum allowable width of the course shall be no greater than the existing disturbance (road, old course, or trail).

36. Staking, flagging, materials, equipment, temporary facilities, litter and all other event related materials will be completely removed to an approved location and disposed of as agreed to by the authorized officer and permittee within 15 days following the event. If BLM post-race field checks reveal event related materials that have not been removed, BLM shall notify permittee and allow an additional 7 days for removal. Permittee shall be required to reimburse BLM for costs of subsequent field checks. If event materials remain after the second field check, BLM shall effect removal by both contract or BLM personnel, and bill the permittee for any associated costs.

37. Permittee shall provide a minimum of two (2) restrooms at the start and finish area if the area will be occupied for more than four (4) hours. All refuse must be removed from the event area and deposited in an approved treatment facility. All restroom facilities must be removed from the area within 24 hours after the event.

38. The Authorized Officer will complete a Post Event/Race Evaluation. Upon inspection, a determination will be made on which portions of the event area or
racecourse may need additional rehabilitation. The permittee may be required to grade, drag, disc, or seed soil and vegetation areas within the course, camping, and rest/pit areas that were significantly changed or impacted as a result of the event. Site specific stipulations requiring rehabilitation of areas must be accomplished within 15 days following the event unless a shorter timeframe is required for public safety. The permittee shall be responsible for all costs associated with rehabilitation required.

**SPECIFIC PERMIT STIPULATIONS**

39. Prior to the week of the Cache Creek Dash horse endurance event, the permittee shall inspect all approved trails and way points for hazards that pose a serious safety threat to the event’s contestants and animals. Areas not currently identified as a hazard will be marked and avoided. Permittee shall make a written report of said hazards, and shall promptly forward copies of the reports to BLM. This provision does not require the permittee to report the presence of usual hazards that are typically found in and along trails in the region.

40. The permittee shall provide BLM with a current certificate from an insurer that comprehensive insurance has been obtained for its operations under this permit in the following minimum amount of $2,000,000 per annual aggregate. The certificate must name the U.S. Government as additional insured, and give the BLM 30 days notice of cancellation or modification of such insurance.

41. The Cache Creek Dash Horse Endurance Event cannot cross the boundary and enter into the Cache Creek Wilderness Area. In accordance to 43 CFR 6302.20 “Except as specifically provided in the Wilderness Act, the individual statutes designating the particular BLM wilderness area, or the regulations of this part, and subject to valid existing rights, in BLM wilderness areas you must not:’ 43CFR6302.20(i) Engage or participate in competitive use as defined in section 2932.5 of this chapter including those activities involving physical endurance of a person or animal, foot races, water craft races, survival exercises, war games, or other similar exercises. There was no specific provision identified in Public law 109-362-Oct. 17, 2006 (Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage and Wilderness Act) to provide for the authorization of competitive events. Therefore competitive events are not allowed within the Cache Creek Wilderness Area.

42. This permit authorizes the permittee, contestants, and their horses to schedule overnight camping on public lands at the Cowboy Camp Group Area and close the campground to the general public. Evening campfires will be permitted within the campground as long as they are properly contained and annual fire restrictions have not yet been put into effect. The cost of processing this Special Recreation fee permit includes the cost of the exclusive use of Cowboy Camp
Group Area. Permittee will advise contestants and other overnight staff to implement Leave No Trace minimum impact principles, ensuring that proper sanitation practices are followed and the area is left clean. Under no circumstances may refuse be buried, burned or otherwise left on site in or around Cowboy Camp, High Bridge, or Judge Davis recreation sites.

43. The access gate into the Cowboy Camp Group Area must remain unlocked for safety and administrative purposes.

44. All participants, campers, and those associated with the Cache Creek Dash will be briefed by organizers on the day of the event regarding potential fire dangers with emphasis placed on not smoking or engaging in any other practice which could start a fire. The permittee or any participant may be held accountable for fire suppression of a wildland fire determined to be directly caused by those associated with the event.

45. The permittee will provide BLM with a contact telephone number where the permittee and/or representatives can be reached to respond to administrative questions.

46. Notification regarding any aspects of the Permittee’s operation will be made to the Field Manager or his designee.

   BLM Ukiah Field Office
   2550 North State Street
   Ukiah, CA 95482
   (707) 468-4000
   (707) 468-4027 fax

47. It is strongly recommended to only use certified weed free hay within the Cowboy Camp Group Camp Area.

48. Due to the likely presence of livestock on the range during the Cache Creek Dash, it may be necessary for course sponsors to ensure that livestock remain confined to the pastures where they are located on the day of the event. Because gates and electric fencing normally block some of the routes, on the day of the event these structures will need to be opened to allow access for event participants along the courses. Because of this it may be necessary at certain locations near the livestock to position monitors at these open gates to ensure that livestock do not move through the gates.

49. Notice of the Cache Creek Dash must be given to the CalFire station at the intersection of Hwys. 16 and 20 one week prior to the event because if an accident or injury occurs, CalFire could possibly be the first responders.
50. Participants are required to stay on the trails to avoid the UC Davis research plots along the Bear Creek segment. The Cache Creek manager will work with the sponsors to identify the avoidance areas. It may be necessary to barrier off these plots with plastic construction fencing for protection from trampling.

51. The Cache Creek manager will coordinate locations and dates for the event with the grazing contractor.

52. Pre and post event monitoring will be conducted by BLM staff specialist. Actual monitoring will occur the week prior to the event and within two weeks of after the event. If post event monitoring show the endurance race had notable negative effects, sponsors will have up to 30 days from the date they are made aware of the necessary corrects.

53. Vendor permits are temporary, short-term, non-exclusive, revocable authorizations to sell goods or services on public lands in conjunction with a recreation activity. Vendor permits do not authorize permanent structures and do not grant preferential rights for renewal or any possessory interests in real property on the public lands or related waters. The authorized officer shall place stipulations on the SRP to provide for the health and safety of visitors and protection of natural resources.

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