

## BCCA SPECIAL USE PERMITS - OPERATING PROCEDURES

The Blackfoot Community Conversation Area (BCCA) allows for Special use activities only when and where the activities contribute to the perpetuation of the BCCA Goals and Objectives, as laid out in the plan above. Special Use Permits (SUPs) will be issued only for activities applied for with the Project Proposal Form (Appendix 6) and approved by the BCCA Council (Council) prior to commencement of the requested activity. Individual, non-motorized use or motorized use in accordance with the current Recreational Motorized Use Policy does not require an SUP. SUPs include, but are not limited to, educational tours, group sponsored activities and promotional meetings. SUPs may or may not include authorization to use motorized vehicles in restricted areas. SUPs are not intended to include or regulate legal road access easements or management activities authorized by the Council. Management (Administrative) activities include but are not limited to planned forest management, grazing lease use and administration, weed management, BCCA Land Steward (Steward) work, game warden patrol, planned restoration activities, and Conservation Easement enforcement.

APPLICATION PROCESS: A party requesting an SUP will fill out the Project Proposal Form (Appendix 6) and submit to the Council for consideration. To allow for sufficient time for Council consideration and/or possible Work Group consideration, requests must be made well in advance of the requested activity (30 or more days prior). The Council, or its designated Work Group, will vote on all SUP requests in a timely fashion, via the “thumbs-up/thumbs-down” method. All meetings of the Council are open to the public. The Executive Committee of the Council may, at its discretion, choose to consider and permit an SUP request requiring consideration less than 30 days.

ADMINISTRATION: If approved by the Council, the Land Steward (Steward) will issue the requesting party a signed SUP, detailing any special requirements specified by the Council. The Steward will monitor the activity, and report back to the council on the actions and/or results of the activity.

TERMINATION: The Council reserves the right to terminate, at its sole discretion, any SUP it has permitted, whether or not the activity allowed under the permit has commenced.

LEGAL REVIEW: The Council shall consult with Blackfoot Challenge attorneys, as necessary, regarding issues of permitting, liability, contracting, insurance, accidents, conflicts of interest, and private benefit.

RESPONSIBLE PARTY: The BCCA Management Committee is responsible for ensuring all SUP Applications are addressed in a timely fashion, and administered effectively by the Steward. The Steward will issue SUP following Council action, ensure compliance with the permit conditions, and report back to Council.

DEFINITIONS: Special v. Administrative Use

Special Use Permits (SUPs) may be granted by the Council for special requests for a wide variety of activities on the BCCA. SUPs may or may not include authorization to use motorized vehicles in restricted areas. To obtain an SUP, a requesting entity must submit an application to the Council well in advance of the planned activity for Council consideration (minimum 30 days). SUPs may include, but are not limited to:

- ◇ Educational tours and events, such as for schools, weeds, wildlife awareness, winter survival, safety (Note that the Blackfoot Challenge Education Coordinator has blanket permission for smaller educational events when not taking vehicles behind gates)

- ◇ Graduate Student or other research, scientific or otherwise
- ◇ Wildlife monitoring (such as the “wolf rider”)
- ◇ Promotional or political meetings and events
- ◇ Community events
- ◇ Wagon trains
- ◇ Training events
- ◇ Snowmobile event (FWP permit)
- ◇ Recreational Motorized Vehicle (RMV) uses exceeding the current RMV Policy limits
- ◇ Commercial activities of any kind (commercial firewooding, commercial christmas tree cutting, guided trail rides)

Special Use requests that have been *DENIED* (and reasons for denial) by Council in the past include: Commercial spreading of human ash remains (legal liability); Search and Rescue training (issues of non-compatibility with the mission and vision for the BCCA); Guided trail rides (inadequate information provided by requesting entity).

Administrative Uses, which are “landowner management” activities, are specifically authorized by either legal documents or the Council. Administrative Uses do not require an SUP. Administrative Uses may or may not include authorization to use motorized vehicles in restricted areas. Administrative Uses include but are not limited to:

- ◇ Planned forest management
- ◇ Grazing lease use and administration, by the Lessees or the Steward
- ◇ Land Steward Patrol
- ◇ Land Steward administration of contractors or other planned activities
- ◇ Weed management, by contractors, Lessees or Steward
- ◇ Game Warden or FWP-Block Management technician patrol
- ◇ DNRC or Volunteer Fire Department wildfire response activities
- ◇ Access and maintenance for irrigation rights and irrigators (including USFWS/Trout Unlimited to monitor water use)
- ◇ Planned restoration activities
- ◇ Conservation Easement monitoring by USFWS
- ◇ Use of road easements by Agency easement holders (DNRC, FWP, USFS)
- ◇ Use of road easements by Private easement holders (Valiton, Roe, and Poett families, all for various lengths of the Ovando Haul Road)
- ◇ Other activities as approved by the Council