



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
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Black Rock Field Office  
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In Reply Refer To:  
NVW03500-19-01  
8372 (NV030.02)

*Return Receipt Requested --- By email*

Mr. Skip Canfield  
Coordinator  
Nevada State Clearinghouse  
Nevada Division of State Lands  
901 S. Stewart St, Suite 5003  
Carson City, NV 89701-5246

Dear Mr. Canfield:

The Bureau of Land Management, Winnemucca District Office, Black Rock Field Office (BLM/WDO/BRFO), is currently reviewing Black Rock City, LLC's (BRC) new permit proposal for the 2019-2028 Burning Man Event. The event is proposed for the Black Rock playa inside the National Conservation area. BRC is proposing the following actions as part of their new permit:

- Potentially increase the population at the event to 100,000;
- Expand the closure area by 561 acres;
- Expand the bus and travel options to the event;
- Expand the perimeter fence for the city by 1.3 miles; and
- Expand the city by 1,250.

The enclosed Executive Summary contains more details on BRC's proposal.

The BLM anticipates completing the analysis for the event in one Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Relevant state agencies are invited to participate with us as an official cooperator at whatever level of involvement they choose, ranging from a review capacity to being a formal cooperating agency. The role of formal cooperating agency has some criteria and requirements.

Please send us notification by letter within 30 days of receipt of this letter if you chose to be considered as a Cooperating Agency. The BLM will develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for your review prior to formalizing Cooperating Agency Status. In either capacity, your comments, concerns, and recommendations will be fully considered and incorporated in our work.

Thank you for your consideration of this invitation. If you have any questions, please contact

Mark Hall, Project Manager, at (775) 623-1529 or at the above address.

Sincerely,

s\\Mark E. Hall\\s

Mark E. Hall, PhD  
Field Manager  
Black Rock Field Office

Enclosures (1)

Black Rock City LLC (“BRC”) is requesting a ten-year permit to produce the Burning Man event (“Event”) in the southern part of Nevada’s Black Rock Desert from 2019 through 2028 with a maximum population of 80,000-100,000 people. The Event would last eight days and culminate on Labor Day. BRC would start building infrastructure up to 35 days before the Event starts and would finish site clean-up 35 days after the Event ends. BRC would have the ability to expand the existing Closure Order boundary in the northeast, adding 561 acres to accommodate a 10-mile Event perimeter fence and a growing population over the life of the 10-year SRP.

During the Event, the 8-Mile entrance to the playa would be closed to the non-participant public, but the 3-Mile entrance, 12-Mile entrance, East Playa Highway and West Playa Highway (to the north and south of the perimeter fence) would remain open. BRC would conduct Leave No Trace on site during and at the conclusion of the Event, and would return to the Black Rock Desert in the spring to conduct additional environmental mitigation as needed.

BRC would mitigate traffic to and from Burning Man through a combination of existing programs: a) alternative transportation, b) vehicle passes, c) arrivals during build week, and d) Gate opening times and metered Exodus. Burner Express Bus (BxB) would expand to accommodate a greater number of passengers and a higher percentage of the population, as would Burner Express Air (BxA).

BRC has required vehicle passes (in the form of scannable stickers) on every vehicle entering the Event since 2013. The number of vehicles passes in distribution has not changed since their introduction and would not change in the future, even with an increase in population; the number of people and vehicles accessing the Event site during build week would, however, increase with an increase in population to accommodate staff, artists, theme camps, and mutant vehicles arriving pre-event. Exodus would continue to be monitored and managed by BRC to create smoother traffic flows at the end of the event.

BRC would manage environmental and vending programs to ensure compliance with all BLM requirements and to educate participants about regulations and best practices. BRC would provide for and manage dust abatement and sanitation. Registration and placement of mutant vehicles, art, theme camps, would all be managed by BRC, as would city layout. Playa Restoration would provide on and off-site clean-up post-event, including along nearby roadways. BRC would protect the playa surface and NCA with procedures for open fires, fire containment, burn locations, post holes and trenches, cultural resources, and hot springs protection.

BRC would coordinate and work closely with BLM and Pershing County to provide appropriate and reasonably necessary levels of law enforcement at the Event. BRC would work with the Burning Man permit cooperating agencies (“Cooperators”) that support public health and safety

efforts onsite and in nearby communities - including the Washoe County Sheriff's Office ("WCSO"), Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal ("PLPT"), and Nevada Highway Patrol ("NHP") - to provide traffic enforcement in their respective areas of jurisdiction, including the towns of Gerlach and Empire.

BRC would manage and provide Basic Life Support ("BLS") and Advanced Life Support ("ALS") on site, available to all participants, staff, and official personnel. BRC's ALS and BLS services would comply with all applicable federal, state, and local requirements. Medical services are currently, and would continue to be, provided and managed by BRC's Emergency Services Department ("ESD"). ESD would provide first-aid stations placed strategically around the Event site, beginning operations at least four days prior to the Event start and ending operations approximately two days after the Event is over. The first-aid stations would provide BLS services and basic first aid to participants 24 hours per day during the operational period and would be staffed by qualified, trained, licensed medical professionals. BRC would provide ambulance services that comply with all federal, state, and local requirements.

BRC would provide security functions including searching vehicles in ticket scanning lanes at the Burning Man Gate ("Gate"), patrolling the Burning Man perimeter fence, enforcing driving rules, and serving as facilitators with law enforcement on numerous issues including vehicle speed and registration, child safety, evictions, and community mediation. Fire suppression, and rescue equipment and personnel would be available 24 hours per day to respond to vehicular and/or structural incidents from four days prior to the start of the Event until two days after its conclusion.

Each year, the Event population would be capped. The population count under this cap would include all attendees of the Event including participants, staff and volunteers present at any single point in time. The population would not include government personnel, or BRC vendors who provide infrastructure services on site, such as sanitation, dust abatement and potable water. BRC would provide population counts to BLM each day for the duration of the Closure Order and would submit a summary report post-event. BRC would also provide BLM with a population prediction model in advance of the Event to help ensure appropriate planning and implementation for public health and safety.