

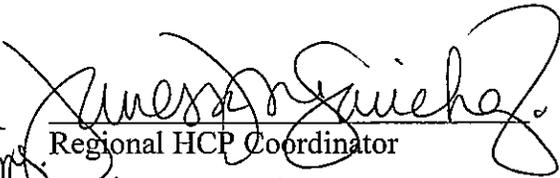
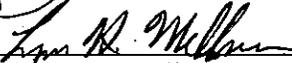
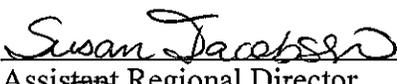
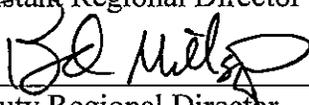
**ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION STATEMENT (EAS)**

Within the spirit and intent of the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and other statutes, orders, and policies that protect fish and wildlife resources, I have established the following administrative record and have determined that the action of programmatically implementing selected grassland improvement and ranch management activities in the 828,000-acre Malpai Borderlands region of Cochise County, Arizona and Hidalgo County, New Mexico:

- \_\_\_\_\_ is a categorical exclusion as provided by 516 DM 2, Appendix 1 and 516 DM 6, Appendix 1 and no further NEPA documentation will be made.
- XX is found not to have significant environmental effects as determined by the attached Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is found to have significant effects, and therefore further consideration of this action will require a notice of intent to be published in the *Federal Register* announcing the decision to prepare an EIS.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is not approved because of unacceptable environmental damage, or violation of Fish and Wildlife Service mandates, policies, regulations, or procedures.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is an emergency action within the context of 40 CFR 1506.11. Only those actions necessary to control the immediate impacts of the emergency will be taken. Other related actions remain subject to NEPA review.

Other supporting documents:

- x   Environmental Assessment and FONSI
- x   Biological/Conference Opinion
- x   Findings Document

acting		8/19/08
	Regional HCP Coordinator	Date
		9/4/08
	NEPA Coordinator	Date
Acting		9.10.08
	Assistant Regional Director	Date
Acting		11 September 2008
	Deputy Regional Director	Date