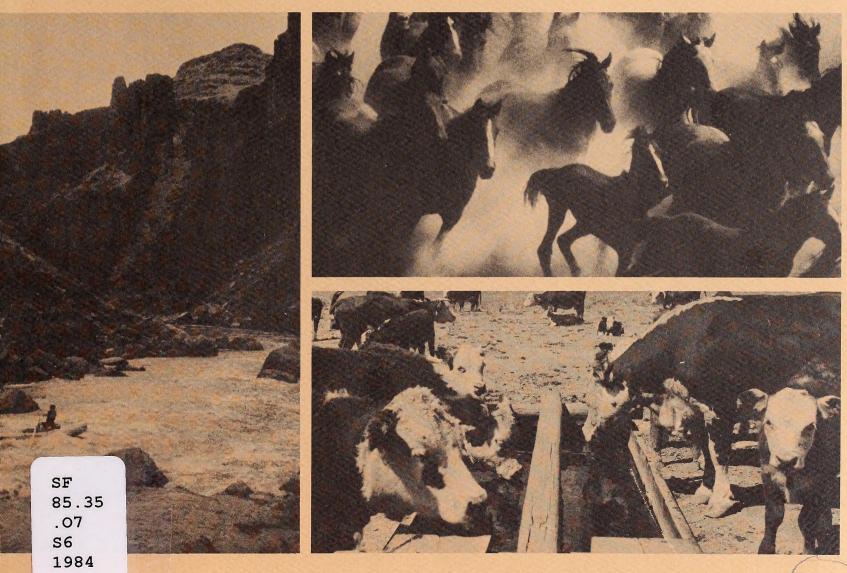




U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Bureau of Land Management

Vale District Office 100 Oregon Street P.O. Box 700 Vale, Oregon 97814

# Southern Malheur Rangeland Program Summary (RPS)



January 1984



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VALE DISTRICT OFFICE P.O. Box 700 (100 Oregon Street) Vale, Oregon 97918

The Southern and Northern Malheur Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) and Record of Decision is enclosed for your review. This document is the culmination of a planning and environmental process which started in late 1980. The area encompassed by the RPS involves approximately 4 million acres of public lands in the Vale District. This document contains grazing decisions to be implemented in the

majority of allotments in the RPS area. In some instances consultation with affected livestock operators is still continuing. Decisions regarding livestock grazing in these allotments will be made once the consultation process has been completed. These decisions, as well as progress made in those allotments where grazing management and project development have been implemented, will be discussed in future RPS updates which will be

published periodically.

Release of this document serves as public notice of the proposed range management program. You have thirty days in which to provide us comments if you feel that you have been adversely affected by any of the decisions contained herein. If you wish to protest or appeal a decision, you must notify the Vale BLM District Manager in writing before the comment period closes indicating which allotment decision(s) you are adversely

affected by.

Your interest and involvement in the planning and environmental process is appreciated and we look forward to your continued review of future RPS documents as they become available. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions regarding this RPS.

Fearl M Purker

**District Manager** Fearl M. Parker

#16696220

ID88070743

## Decision

I recommend adoption of the Preferred Alternative (Alternative 3) of the Southern Malheur Grazing Management Final Environmental Impact Statement of September, 1983 with the following modifications:

- 652 AUMS less allocation to livestock, as shown in Table 3.
- Adjustments in livestock use will be made only when and to the extent, estimated forage production is greater or less than 10 percent of current active preference.
- Changes in proposed range improvement projects as shown in Table 4 of this RPS.
- Minor Grazing System Changes. Approved grazing systems are listed in Appendix 2.

Signed:

District Manager, Vale

Date: \_

I approve the Grazing Management Plan and the underlying MFP decisions as recommended. Formal protests to this plan submitted in accordance with Bureau planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.5-2) will be considered timely until February 6, 1983.

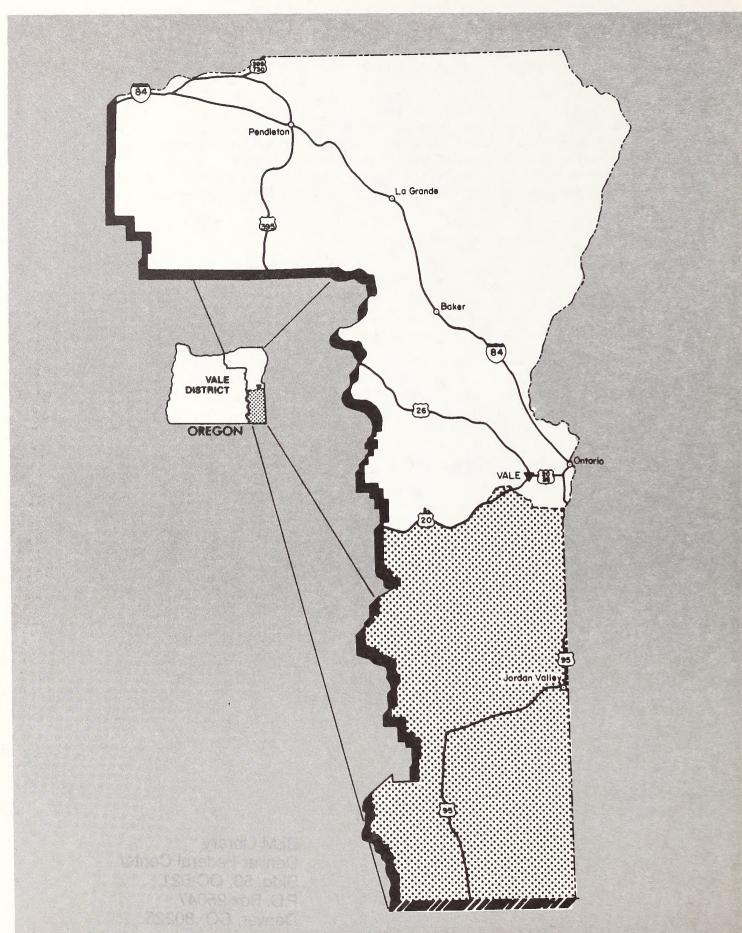
Fearell Signed: State Director, Oregon

Date:

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## VICINITY MAP SOUTHERN MALHEUR EIS

## Introduction

## Purpose

This document summarizes the Bureau of Land Management's range management program in the Vale District. The Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) is based on the Southern Malheur Grazing Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The RPS constitutes the proposed record of decision on grazing management in the EIS area. The proposed program consists of five parts:

• The allocation of forage for livestock, wildlife and wild horses,

- The grazing systems to be implemented,
- The categorization of allotments for selective management,
- The range improvements to be constructed,
- The monitoring and evaluation program to be conducted.

The RPS also describes how the initial and subsequent grazing adjustments will be made in order to implement the grazing management program.

The grazing management decision to be implemented is, with modifications, the Preferred Alternative described in the Southern Malheur Draft EIS. These modifications are described in this RPS. Refer to the EIS for detailed descriptions of livestock grazing management and ecological conditions.

## Land Use Planning Objectives

The following objectives for grazing management of public lands within the Southern Malheur EIS area resulted from land use planning completed in March, 1983:

• Improve ecological condition and increase forage production through the development and implementation of economically feasible grazing systems and range improvements. Allocate available forage between competing uses.

• Use prescribed fire (both natural and controlled burning) as a preferred vegetation manipulation method.

• Maintain or improve riparian vegetative condition by restricting or excluding livestock use (period and/or numbers) in all important riparian zones along perennial streams, lakes and reservoirs.

Decisions relating to the above grazing management objectives were deferred in the land use plan until the grazing management EIS was completed. The Southern Malheur Grazing Management EIS has since been finalized. The findings of that EIS coupled with public comment received and subsequent economic analyses have been the basis for the decisions contained in this document.

## Background

The Vale District administers the grazing on nearly 4 million acres of public land within the Southern Malheur EIS area. There are an additional 126,919 acres of public land administered by other federal agencies, approximately 238,595 acres of State land and about 484,000 acres of private land within the EIS area. The district public rangelands are divided into 53 allotments (Figure 1-1).

During 1981 there were 120 permittees with 320,346 AUMs of active preference, however, only 309,103 AUMs were actually sold. Range improvement projects completed prior to 1981 include 333,568 acres of seedings, 210,919 acres of brush control, 2,087 miles of fencing, 147 cattleguards, 477 miles of pipeline, 690 reservoirs or water catchments, 295 spring developments, 31 wells and 11 guzzlers.

The present trend data are shown on Table 1.

Wildlife habitats of special concern consist of approximately 163,000 acres of crucial deer winter range; about 600,000 acres of winter antelope range; nearly 100,000 acres of sage grouse nesting habitats; 2,814 acres of stream riparian habitat; 155 acres of lake and reservoir riparian habitat; and 253 stream miles of fish habitat.

The American peregrine falcon is classified as endangered and the bald eagle is classified as threatened in Oregon under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Although both species migrate through the EIS area, observations are rare and no active nests have been found. Bald eagles are attracted to areas where wintering waterfowl concentrate. The western snowy plover and kit fox, which are classified as threatened by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, are known to occur in the EIS area. Of special concern is the Whitehorse cutthroat trout which is a District sensitive species. This species is particularly adapted to the harsh desert environment found in the Trout Creek Mountains of Southern Malheur County.

## What the Rangeland Management Program Is

The program to be implemented consists of the following major actions:

## Table 1 - EIS Summary Comparison of Long Term Impacts of the Alternatives

Significant Resource	Existing Situation	Alt. 1 No Action	Alt. 2 Emphasize Livestock	Alt. 3 Preferred Alternative	Alt. 4 Emphasize Non-Livestock	Alt. 5 Emphasize Wild Horses
Water Runoff Fecal coliforms Sediment yield		NC NC NC	NC NC NC	+ L + L + L	+ L + H + M	+ L + L + M
Vegetation Range Trend (3,992,250 Acres Total) Up Static Down Unknown Total residual ground cover Forage production (AUMs)	16% 75% 5% 4% NC 462,249	42% 46% 12% 0% NC NC	64% 33% 3% 0% - H + 15%	78% 20% 2% 0% - H + 12%	77% 21% 2% 0% - M 6%	58% 40% 2% 0% - M + 6%
Streamside Riparian Vegetation Trend (2,814 Acres T Increasing Static Decreasing Unknown	"otal)"	3% 75% 16% 6%	3% 74% 17% 6%	14% 76% 4% 6%	15% 75% 4% 6%	15% 75% 4% 6%
Wildlife Populations Deer Antelope Small mammals Water-associated birds Upland game birds Other birds Reptiles Amphibians Fish		NC NC NC NC NC NC NC - L - M	NC +L -L NC -L -L -L -M	NC +L -L -L -L -L -L	NC NC + L + L + L + L + L + L + L + H	NC NC + L + L + L + L + L + L + L + H
Soils Upland Erosion (3,992,250 Acre Decreasing Static Increasing Streambank Erosion (375 Miles Increasing Static Decreasing Unknown		40% 46% 14% 14% 45% 26% 15%	7% 61% 32% 14% 41% 30% 15%	17% 67% 16% 35% 46% 4% 15%	41% 48% 11% 42% 40% 3% 15%	37% 37% 26% 42% 38% 5% 15%
Wild Horses (Numbers)	1,531	1,365	900	1,100	600	3,666
Recreation Projected visitor use		NC	NC - L	NC – L	NC NC	NC NC
Visual Resources (Contrast) Special Areas		NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
Degradation Socioeconomics <sup>2</sup> Local personal income (\$000) Local employment (jobs)	44,100 1,320	+ 120/ + 120 + 4/ + 4	+ 3045/ + 3430 + 114/ + 104	+ 1918/ + 2700	) + 567/ + 900   + 19/ + 27	- 250/ + 466 - 5/ + 14

Note: NC = no change, + = beneficial, - = adverse, L = low, M = medium, H = high

Species composition of key woody and herbaceous species.
 Socioeconomic impacts are shown as changes from the existing situation in Malheur County. Short term/long term changes in personal income (at annual rates) is in thousands of 1981 dollars.

The initial allocation of existing available forage:

Livestock	410,369 AUMs
Wildlife (competitive)	5,296 AUMs
Wild Horses	13,200 AUMs

 Categorization of allotments into the Improve category (14 allotments and 1,762,930 acres), the Maintain category (27 allotments and 1,932,354 acres), and the Custodial category (11 allotments) and 233,337 acres) has been designed to concentrate public funds and management efforts on allotments which have the most significant problems and potential for improvement. Another 64,000 acres will continue in unallotted status. Implement grazing management plans on all allotments in Improve and Maintain categories. Refer to Administrative Action section of text. Construction of new range improvement projects at a cost of \$3,305,000 (includes both private and B.L.M. funding) to facilitate management to improve range use and condition.

• Monitoring and evaluation of changes in resource condition and uses caused by implementation of this decision.

The grazing management program includes a forage allocation to livestock, wildlife and wild horses to meet resource objectives. Forage allocations for each allotment are shown in Appendix 1. Overall, the initial livestock forage allocation is a 28 percent increase over the current active preference. This initial allocation is an increase over the current active preference on 22 allotments, no change on 27 allotments, and a decrease on 4 allotments. Reductions will be made in accordance with regulations as provided in 43 CFR 4110.3-2 (c). The initial livestock forage allocations will be subject to some change as a result of new data gathered during the ongoing consultation, allotment agreement and allotment management plan (AMP) process.

Grazing systems are designed to improve 148 miles of streamside riparian habitat. No livestock grazing would be permitted within existing exclosures (8,400 acres) or on 478 acres of new exclusions surrounding streams and reservoirs that have potential for significant riparian habitat improvement.

In order to improve wildlife habitat and to provide an adequate supply of forage for wildlife needs, big game is initially allocated 5,296 AUMs of competitive forage. Initial and long term forage allocations would meet the forage demand for the existing management objective numbers of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) for deer, elk, antelope and bighorn sheep.

## What the Rangeland Management Program Does

This program enables BLM to meet the multiple use mandates and agency mission spelled out in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA, 1976), the Public Rangeland Improvement Act (PRIA, 1978), and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, 1969). The following discussion summarizes the effects of the proposed rangeland management program.

## Range Condition and Forage Production

Grazing systems are designed to maintain or change ecological conditions to benefit wildlife, wild horses or livestock. Maximum utilization levels of 50 percent on native range and from 50-65 percent on seeded range are allowed, the latter being dependent upon grazing pressures needed to achieve specific pasture objectives in crested wheatgrass seedings. For example, in order to stimulate a seeding to produce maximum yields it may be necessary to allow periodic heavy utilization to remove old and decadent plants (wolf plants). Under these utilization levels, 410,369 AUMs would be available for allocation to livestock. Proposed range improvements include seedings (49,019 acres), brush controls (190,393 acres), fences (105 miles), and water developments (294 developments).

## **Soils and Water**

Overall soil and watershed conditions will be improved by the rangeland management program. Changes in trend of erosion on upland soils are directly correlated with changes in ecological condition and total residual cover (see Table 1 for trend). In riparian areas where livestock are excluded, water tables would be raised and summer flows increased. Water quality (sediment yield, water temperature, fecal coliforms) would improve slightly for those areas excluded from livestock. About 53 percent of the stream miles in the EIS area have little or no potential to respond to changes in livestock management, either because they are inaccessible to livestock or the riparian improvement potential is low.

## **Aquatic and Riparian Habitat**

Response to grazing management would occur primarily in the streamside riparian areas that are accessible to livestock and have a medium or high riparian improvement potential. On these streams (148 miles) livestock use would be either excluded (stream segments fenced from grazing), or controlled through special grazing treatments. Reservoir riparian habitats would improve by fencing nine existing reservoirs which have the potential for riparian improvement. Where exceptional reservoir riparian potential exists, or would be developed in the future, measures would be taken to provide both livestock water and riparian improvement for wildlife species.

## Wildlife

Wildlife species differ widely in their habitat requirements. This range management program would help provide a variety of vegetative successional stages and a corresponding variety of habitats for wildlife. Small mammals, birds and fish that are dependent on riparian areas would increase. Conversely, reductions of small animals that are dependent on sagebrush would occur on approximately 239,400 acres because of seedings and brush controls. Deer populations are expected to remain stable with slight increases in antelope numbers due to proposed vegetative manipulations and new waters. Significant improvement in stream fish habitat would occur especially in the Trout Creek Mountains (Whitehorse Basin) on 42 miles of stream which contain the only known population of Whitehorse cutthroat trout.

The grazing systems planned in important deer and antelope winter ranges are expected to improve or maintain present habitat conditions.

## Wild horses

Wild horses would be allocated sufficient forage to provide for a maximum total population of 1,100 head. This is a reduction of 19 percent from the 1982 management levels (see Table 2). These levels were established based on limiting factors, such as, availability of yearlong public water. Wild horse numbers were evaluated at a level which would utilize approximately half the forage in the herd management areas. Since there would be no introductions of unrelated brood stock from other areas a minimum viable herd size would be established at 75 animals. This would provide an adequate gene pool and result in healthy, vigorous herds. Three herd areas do not meet this criteria.

## **Economic Conditions**

The expenditure of approximately \$3,305,000 for construction of range improvements during a five year implementation period is expected to increase local personal income by \$450,000 annually. Based on the U.S. Forest Service IMPLAN System, an inter-industry model was prepared by the BLM and was used in estimating local personal income impacts to Malheur County.

In the short term a total loss of 3,155 AUMs of livestock forage would be experienced by 11 permittees. There would be a net gain of 90,023 AUMs experienced by 30 permittees. This net gain would result in an increase of \$1,500,000 of annual local personal income without any additional rangeland projects.

The effect on ranch values as collateral for loans or in the sale of the ranch properties has been

## **Table 2 - Forage Allocation to Wild Horses**

Herd Management Area	1982 Existing		No Action <sup>1</sup>		RPS Proposal	
	Numbers	AUMs	Min/Max	AUMs	Min/Max	AUMs
Basque	38	456	19-37	444	0	0
Three Fingers	220	2640	90-150	1800	75-150	1800
Cold Springs	167	2004	80-130	1560	75-150	1800
Cottonwood Creek	64	768	38-70	840	0	0
Jackies Butte	215	2580	75-150	1800	75-150	1800
Sand Springs	260	3120	130-260	3120	100-200	2400
Coyote Lake <sup>2</sup>	162	1944	81-162	1944	125-250	3000
Sheepshead	385	4620	193-385	4620	100-200	2400
Potholes	20	240	15-21	252	0	0
Atturbury	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cottonwood Basin	0	0	0	0	0	0
Morger	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stockade	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	1531	18372	751-1365	16380	550-1100	13200

<sup>1</sup>No Action herd levels are at the 1982 management levels. Potholes, Basque, Three Fingers, Cold Springs, Cottonwood Creek and Jackies Butte herd levels are based on the 1975 Management Framework Plans. Levels for other herds are based on 1982 herd levels.

calculated by using a public forage license value of \$45 per AUM. Accordingly, 11 permittees would have the value of their property reduced by nearly \$142,000 in the short term. Conversely, there would be a gain of over 4 million dollars in ranch value for 30 permittees.

Under the grazing management program local income and employment attributable to forage use would be increased assuming that all active grazing preferences were utilized.

## How the Rangeland Management Decision was Developed

## **Alternatives Analyzed in the EIS**

The Southern Malheur EIS analyzed the environmental consequences of the preferred rangeland management program and four alternative programs. Refer to the EIS for a detailed description of the alternatives and to Table 1 for a comparison of the long term effect of the various EIS alternatives. Following is a brief discussion of each alternative and why it was or was not selected.

## No Action (Alternative 1)

Alternative 1 continues the present situation. No changes from present management conditions would occur. Grazing permits would continue to be issued at 1981 active preference levels, which is below grazing capacity on seven allotments (572,526 acres) and at or above grazing capacity on 46 allotments (3,419,724 acres). As shown on Appendix 1, there would be no change in the 1981 forage allocation levels. Wild horses occurring in nine herd management areas would continue to be managed as identified in existing wild horse management plans and gathering plans.

The No Action Alternative was not selected because it fails to make beneficial use of existing surplus forage and would not correct existing resource problems such as poor condition or riparian areas and upland areas of unsatisfactory ecological condition.

# Emphasize Livestock Grazing (Alternative 2)

The objective of Alternative 2 is to allocate a high level of forage to livestock while maintaining or improving range and forage conditions. Under this alternative forage production for livestock would increase by 40 percent (124,710 AUMs) over 1981 active use levels. The initial and long term allocations under this alternative would provide sufficient forage to meet current Oregon This alternative was not selected because residual ground cover and riparian vegetation would decrease significantly. Decreases in wildlife diversity and fish populations and an increase in erosion can be expected with these losses. Also, many of the proposed range improvements would not be cost effective.

## **Preferred Alternative (Alternative 3)**

The objective of Alternative 3 is to implement intensive grazing management to improve and maintain ecological and forage conditions to benefit wildlife, wild horses and livestock. Under this alternative forage production for livestock would increase by 29 percent (91,442 AUMs) over 1981 active use levels. The initial and long term allocations under this alternative would provide sufficient forage to meet current Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife big game objectives for mule deer and antelope. A maximum wild horse population of approximately 1,100 horses would be maintained in six herd management areas. Grazing systems are designed to maintain or improve ecological and streamside riparian habitat. Only cost effective range improvement projects would be implemented under this alternative.

The Preferred Alternative was selected because it provides the greatest overall benefits to resource conditions and social and economic needs. This alternative would take advantage of existing surplus forage while improving riparian habitat and areas in unsatisfactory ecological condition. Other reasons for selecting the Preferred Alternative are discussed in the section on Environmental Preferability of Alternatives.

# Emphasize Non-Livestock Values (Alternative 4)

The objective of this alternative is to emphasize non-livestock values where conflicts with livestock grazing has been identified. Under this alternative forage production for livestock would increase by 10 percent (32,638 AUMs over 1981 active use levels. Initial and long term allocations under this alternative would provide sufficient forage to meet current Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife big game herd management objectives. The allocation to wild horses would be sufficient to maintain a maximum population of 600 horses in four herd areas. Under this alternative no livestock grazing would be authorized in existing exclusions and would be restricted from perennial and intermittent riparian areas having potential for improvement. Responses to grazing management under this alternative would occur primarily in the streamside areas that are accessible to livestock and have a medium to or high riparian improvement potential.

This Alternative was not selected because it significantly reduces economic benefits in order to achieve minor improvements in low potential riparian areas. This alternative also drastically reduces wild horse populations.

### **Emphasize Wild Horses (Alternative 5)**

The objective of Alternative 5 is to emphasize wild horse values in all 13 wild horse herd management areas. Outside herd management areas the grazing management program would remain the same as for the Emphasize Non-livestock Alternative (Alternative 4). Under this alternative forage production for livestock would decrease seven percent (20,652 AUMs) from the 1981 active use levels. The allocation to wild horses would be sufficient to maintain a maximum population of 3,666 horses. Sufficient forage would also be provided to meet current Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife big game objectives.

This alternative was not selected because ecological conditions would not improve on wildhorse herd areas because proper grazing management could not be implemented. Both personal income and employment would decrease in the short term and would only increase slightly in the long term.

# Environmental Preferability of the Alternatives

Environmental preferability is judged using the criteria in the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Title I, Section 101(b) of NEPA establishes the following goals:

1. fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations;

2. assure for all Americans a safe, healthful, productive, and esthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;

3. attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences;

4. preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage, and maintain, wherever possible, an environment which supports a diversity and variety of individual choice; 5. achieve a balance between population and resource use which will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities; and 6. enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

The Preferred Alternative in the EIS ranked first in environmental preferability. It was felt to be in compliance with all NEPA goals, especially goals 1, 3, 5 and 6. The Preferred Alternative was followed by the Emphasize Non-livestock Values (Alternative 4). While Alternative 4 was felt to be in greater compliance with goal 2 than the Preferred Alternative, it was felt that it did not comply as well with goals 5 and 6.

The Emphasize Livestock Alternative (Alternative 2) was in greatest compliance with goal 6 and to a lesser degree goals 1 and 5 because of its emphasis on maximum productivity. The continue present management or No Action Alternative (Alternative 1) was felt to be in compliance with goals 2 and 4 because it maintains current conditions. This alternative was not in compliance with goals 1, 3, 5 and 6 since it makes no attempt to enhance environmental quality or diversity and does not improve social or economic well being. The Emphasize Wild Horses Alternative (Alternative 5) was in compliance with goal 3 since it removes all impacts of livestock grazing in wild horse herd areas. It is not in compliance with goals 2, 5 and 6 because of adverse effects on economic conditions.

## Relationship of the Rangeland Management Program to the Southern Malheur EIS Preferred Alternative.

The grazing systems, forage allocation and range improvements listed below are similar to the Preferred Alternative described in detail in the Draft Southern Malheur Grazing Management EIS.

Changes to the Preferred Alternative are identified in tables 3 and 4.

# Table 3 - Comparison of InitialForage Allocations (AUMs)

	Preferred Alternative Allocation	RPS Allocation
Livestock	411,021 <sup>1</sup>	410,369
Wildlife	5,296	5,296
Wild Horses	13,200	13.200
Non-Consumptive	30,463	30,463

<sup>1</sup>Erroneously shown in EIS as 404,463.

Type of Range Improvements	EIS Preferred Alternative	RPS Decision
Fence (miles)	123	105
Spring (each)	66	74
Pipeline (miles)	25.3	39
Wells (each)	4	3
Reservoirs (each)	148	168
Waterholes (each)	8	10

#### **Vegetation Manipulation (acres)**

Brush control/Seed	34,695	44,999
Seed Only	0	4,020
Brush Control	79,581	190,3931

Increase due to planned shift to burning which is far more cost-effective than originally proposed chemical spray.

#### Forage Allocation

The RPS forage allocation is slightly less than the allocation in the EIS as outlined in Table 3. Changes resulted from the incorporation of 1982 forage production data. Adjustments in livestock use will be made only when and to the extent estimated forage production is greater or less than 10 percent of current active preference. The forage allocation total in the EIS was incorrectly shown as 404,463 AUMs instead of 411,021 AUMs.

#### Grazing Systems

The differences between the EIS Proposed Action and the RPS initial decision are the results of the selective management policy, Rangeland Investment Analysis and the ongoing consultation process. The revised period of use and grazing systems are shown in Appendix 2.

#### Range Improvements

There is a significant difference between the proposed range improvement program shown in Table 4 and those included as part of the Southern Malheur EIS Proposed Action. Changes are the result of project elimination or modification based upon an updated Rangeland Investment Analysis and implementation of the selective management policy. The Rangeland Investment Analysis was used to design and evaluate the economic efficiency of various combinations of range improvements and management actions. The benefit/cost (B/C) ratio and internal rate of return (IROR) are two numeric indicators of economic efficiency. The B/C ratio presents a proportion of benefits to costs for an investment, given an interest rate of 7.895 percent. Ratios greater than

The modifications and revisions from the Southern Malheur EIS include adding projects to the investment package and changing the method of treatment to achieve the same objective. For example: the original B/C analysis considered only chemical brush control, while the updated analysis considered brush control by chemical and/or burning. Brush control by burning is more cost effective than chemical application and as a result, additional acres of brush control by burning are proposed within this RPS, to speed up change in ecological conditions from fair to good. The additional seeding would improve areas in poor ecological condition. Additional projects are also included that were not cost effective when analyzed alone, but cost effective when considered in a package with other projects.

## **Public Involvement**

The public was involved throughout the planning process to identify issues and concerns. Issues related to grazing management that were identified include the following:

- How should vegetation be allocated?
- How should livestock grazing be managed?
- How should wildlife habitat be managed?
- How and where should wild horses be managed?

• How should wetland, riparian and stream habitats be managed?

Public meetings for scoping the Southern Malheur Grazing Management Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) were combined with meetings to discuss the development of the Preferred Alternative for the Southern and Northern Resource Area's Management Framework Plans (MFP). The MFPs at that stage consisted of four land use allocation alternatives that had been developed from criteria established with earlier public input. The four alternatives called for various allocations of forage, different amounts of protection for riparian areas and various proposals for range investments.

The MFP alternatives were discussed in five public meetings in McDermitt, Nevada; Boise, Idaho; and Vale, Jordan Valley and Portland, Oregon, during late September and early October, 1982. Oral and The comments received during scoping focused on four main issues: riparian area management, wild horses, forage allocation and range investments.

The Draft Southern Malheur Grazing Management Environmental Impact Statement (Interior DEIS 83-21) was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and released to the public in April 1983 and open for comments until June 30, 1983. Informal public meetings were held in Jordan Valley and Vale, Oregon, June 7 and 9, 1983, to answer questions on the draft EIS. Comments that presented new data, questioned facts or the adequacy of the impact analysis, or raised questions or issues bearing directly on the draft EIS were responded to in the Final EIS (Interior FEIS 83-39) released September 21, 1983. The primary concern expressed was related to the treatment of riparian areas in the grazing management program. Reexamination of sitespecific proposals and impact analysis as shown in the DEIS indicated that the riparian improvement objectives of the Preferred Alternative were not being achieved. Therefore, the grazing management proposed in the Preferred Alternative (Alternative 3) for streamside riparian areas was revised in the final EIS. The revision affects sitespecific proposals for grazing management on approximately 76 miles of stream. This change would place more stream riparian areas under deferred rotation management, which would exclude grazing during July and August every year.

## How the Rangeland Management Decision will be Implemented

## **Administrative Actions**

Release of this Southern Malheur Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) and Record of Decision serves as public notice of the proposed range management program and will be the start of a 30 day comment period.

After release of the RPS, allotment management plans (AMPs) will be developed for the majority of allotments. Consultation and coordination with the affected range users and other interested parties will be a part of allotment management plans and allotment agreements. Appendices 1, 2 and 3 outline the major actions to be taken on each allotment and is in essence the Record of Decision required by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations.

The order of range improvement completion and annual expenditures by BLM for range supervision, monitoring and project maintenance has been based upon the allotment categorization under the selective management policy (see Appendix 1). Under this policy each allotment was placed in one of three management categories. The policy is designed to concentrate public funds and management efforts on allotments that have the most significant problems and potential for improvement.

There are three categories into which allotments have been grouped according to their present condition and potential: Improve (I) Category, Maintain (M) Category, and Custodial (C) Category. Objectives for the categories are to: "improve" current unsatisfactory resource condition; "maintain" current satisfactory resource condition; and manage "custodially", while protecting existing resource values.

## **Grazing Decisions**

Forage allocation, categorization and grazing systems proposed for each allotment are shown in Appendix 1 and 2.

Where the proposals reflect no change from the present situation this RPS serves as the Record of Decision.

In those cases where changes from the present situation are proposed, the changes will be implemented by agreement with the concerned parties if possible. Where consultation does not result in agreement, individual decisions will be issued to implement the proposal.

In those cases where individual decisions are required they will be issued prior to the 1984 grazing season.

Increases or decreases in livestock forage will be accomplished in three increments, on the first, third and fifth year of a five year implementation period, except that adjustments of 15 percent or less of active preference will be phased in over a period of less than 5 years. These adjustments may subsequently be modified based on the results of monitoring.

## Range Improvements and Appropriations

Achieving the resource objectives of the Southern Malheur Land Use Plan is dependent upon receiving sufficient funding to complete range improvements, and adequate staffing to implement grazing systems, supervise grazing use and monitor resource changes. A list of projects, a ranking by priority and the approximate cost for implementation are shown in Appendix 3. Ranking of allotment priority is based on resource condition and proposed projects at the present time. Allotment analysis will be a continuing process that reflects current conditions. Ranking is subject to change based on changes in resource conditions, project redesign, or private contributions by individual operators.

Consistent with Bureau policy, first priority for rangeland improvements will be given to Improvement (I) category allotments. Range improvements in the Maintain (M) category and Custodial (C) category allotments will generally only be implemented if the necessary funds are provided by the individual operator. Exceptions such as fencing fishery streams and reservoirs in Maintain(M) and Custodial(C) categories may be made to prevent loss of a critical resource value or to assure continuing operation of an existing management plan.

Projects in wilderness study areas will be governed by the wilderness interim management guidelines until Congress has determined whether they will or will not be designated wilderness.

Installation of the proposed rangeland facilities will begin in a limited way in fiscal year 1984 and continue as funds are available. BLM's range management and improvement programs are funded through congressional appropriations and one-half of the grazing fees collected. Allotment Management Plans will normally be a prerequisite for project implementation.

## Resource Monitoring and Evaluation

A number of different resource studies will be conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of the range management program and are included in the district monitoring plan completed in March, 1983. Both the type and intensity of monitoring will vary considerably between the three allotment management categories outlined in the selective management policy.

Monitoring in the Improve (I) category will be most intensive and will be designed to measure

progress toward objectives and the environmental factors that affect progress.

In the Maintain (M) category allotments, monitoring will be less intensive with primary emphasis on detecting changes from current resource conditions.

Monitoring in the Custodial (C) category allotments will be limited to periodic inventories and observations of resource uses to measure long-term resource condition changes.

Regardless of the management category, monitoring will be continued at the present intensity on all allotments where there would be substantial changes in use levels. The monitoring intervals and standards are based on the sensitivity of the resource to the decisions involved.

The following are the major rangeland elements to be monitored.

## **Trend and Utilization**

Trend studies will be conducted to determine changes in plant species composition in relation to vegetation objectives. Forage utilization studies will be conducted to determine pattern of grazing and how much vegetation is removed by grazing animals. Browse utilization studies will be used in deer and antelope winter range.

## Sensitive, Threatened or Endangered Species

Prior to implementation of the grazing management program, field investigations and analysis will be made to evaluate possible impacts to these species.

#### Livestock

In the Intensive and Maintain Category allotments, livestock use data will be obtained from the permittee annually. These records will reflect the number and class of animals grazing in each pasture and the amount of time they graze.

Livestock counts in conjunction with an "as needed" ear tagging program will be used by the Bureau to verify these records.

## Wildlife

Use data will be obtained on antelope, deer, elk and bighorn sheep from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and supplemental BLM studies. Important habitats will be monitored to identify wildlife needs, and habitat trends and use. Use patterns, periodic observation and consultation with other agencies will be the principal monitoring methods. Nesting success studies will be continued for raptors.

Studies will be conducted in representative riparian areas to determine changes in habitat conditions and populations of fish and wildlife. Such monitoring would comply with BLM Manual procedures. Studies will include collection of data on aquatic insects, water temperature, riparian aquifer recharge, and fish composition.

## Water Quality

Water quality monitoring will be initiated in accordance with BLM policies and Sections 208 and 313 of the Federal Clean Water Act.

#### Weather

Weather data will be evaluated annually to determine the effects of crop year precipitation on herbage yields and for correlation with utilization studies.

# Opportunities for Protest and Appeal

This RPS outlines the decisions developed for the Southern Malheur EIS area. The program and related decisions are the result of land use planning and the analysis of several alternative programs contained in the Southern Malheur Draft EIS published in April 1983.

The release of this RPS to interested groups and individuals serves as public notice of the decisions relating to range management on BLM administered lands in the Southern Malheur EIS area. Interested parties if they so indicate in writing will receive copies of individual grazing decisions needed to implement the program. Individual decisions will begin to be issued to the affected permittees 30 days after release of this document for those allotments where changes are proposed and agreement has not been reached. These decisions will be listed in subsequent RPS updates.

Copies of agreements that have been completed will be available for public inspection during regular work hours at the Vale District BLM Office.

## **Periodic Progress Reports**

As this rangeland management program is implemented, a record of progress will be maintained and specific program details will be outlined in periodic updates of the RPS. These publications will contain a summary of livestock grazing decisions, monitoring results, range improvement progress, improvement efforts made by permittees and management system information.

This record of progress will be reflected in future RPS updates that will be distributed for public information and comment.

#### 12

# APPENDICES

## 14

## Appendix 1 - RPS Livestock Forage Allocation (AUMs)

Allot. No.	Allotment Name	Federal Acres	Categor- ization <sup>1</sup>	Big Game AUMs	Wild Horses AUMs	1981 Livestock Active Preference	1982 Suspended Preference	EIS Preferred Alternative Livestock Allocation	RPS 5 Livestock Allocation	Comments
0300	Skull Springs	278,465	1	639	1,800	27,332	0	27,379	27,332	2, 5
0303	Turnbull Lake	81,403	М	45	0	6,964	0	8,005	6,964	
0304	Black Butte	50,091	1	176	0	5,779	0	7,319	6,665	
0305	Bridge Creek	13,531	M	102	0	1,178	0	1,609	1,216	
0306	Jonesboro	19,936		153	0	2,661	0	2,748	2,661	
0307	Boney Basin	17,002	A 21	144	0	2,963	0	2,487	2,663	2
0400	Harper Basin	427,338	1	644	0	38,910	0	34,213	38,539	9, 5
0407	Little Valley	13,916	М	23	0	774	0	1,243	1,400	2, 9
0408	Mitchell Butte	2,545	С	17	0	152	0	55	114	
0410	Radar Hill	5,126	М	11	0	686	0	680	686	
0412	Chalk Butte	261	1	7	0	60	0	53	60	
0500	Mahogany	327,129	1.1	786	1,800	34,848	16,618	32,260	34,848	2, 5
0501	Blackjack	14,232	M	71	0	1,050	0	1,103	1,050	
0502	Derrick	844	М	11	0	244	0	233	244	
0506	Birch Creek	2,751	М	19	0	191	0	170	191	
0601	Dowell	47,742	С	36	0	2,450	0	2,751	2,450	7
0602	Horseshoe T	42,537	С	123	0	4,025	0	3,906	4,025	7
0603	McEwen	60,656	M	129	0	5,254	0	7,193	7,527	1, 2, 3, 10
0604	Morger	61,783	C	62	0	2,100	0	1,965	2,100	7
0605	Venator	21,604	М	96	0	2,309	0	2,463	2,309	2, 10
0701	Sheepheads	78,682	М	72	1,344	3,000	0	3,902	4,985	1, 2, 3, 5, 11
0801	Barren Valley	442,894	M	124	5,706	10,237	0	29,049	35,463	1, 2, 3, 5, 11
0802	Sand Gap	40,012	С	4	750	1,119	0	2,085	1,119	10
0901	Lodge	17,404	М	4	0	. 3,150	0	3,066	3,150	2, 5, 10
0902	West Cow Creek	139,885	М	116	0	9,738	0	16,294	15,271	2, 5, 11
0903	East Cow Creek	44,379	М	42	0	6,444	0	8,366	8,141	2, 5
0904	Bogus Creek	4,498	С	0	0	250	0	250	250	10
0905	Oliver	6,897	М	12	0	560	0	504	560	2
0907	Morcum	5,566	С	0	0	150	0	150	80	8, 10
1001	Arock	67,997	М	108	0	9,519	0	14,898	13,709	2, 5, 11
1002	Antelope	52,465	1	58	0	10,671	0	10,128	10,415	6
1003	Wroten	16,218	1	0	0	2,636	330	3,987	2,695	2, 3
1004	Willow Creek	74,901	1	103	0	10,521	1,639	13,986	10,975	1, 2, 3, 5
1005	Raburn	6,254	M	0	0	1,040	0	1,383	1,257	2, 3, 11
1006	Eiguren Individual	3,266	С	0	0	301	0	367	301	5, 10

Allot. No.	Allotment Name	Federal Acres	Categor- ization <sup>1</sup>	Big Game AUMs	Wild Horses AUMs	1981 Livestock Active Preference	1982 Suspended Preference	EIS Preferred Alternative Livestock Allocation	RPS 5 Livestock Allocation	Comments
1007	Arelgold	1,864	С	0	0	194	0	194	194	5, 10
1101	Jackies Butte	212,161	M	76	1,800	14,334	0	24,884	21,611	2, 3, 11
1102	Ambrose Maher	4,002	С	32	0	580	0	580	580	10
1103	Jackies Butte	19,522	Ċ	34	0	485	0	1,182	485	4
1201	Fifteen Mile	331,400	I.	392	0	25,713	0	25,308	25,713	2, 3, 5
1202	McCormick	53,808		60	0	8,694	2,5616	5,107	6,133	2, 11
1203	Zimmerman	30,474	1	95	0	5,208	2,233	5,295	7,3014	2
1204	Willow Creek	83,442	AND I WAR	122	0	5,030	0	5,183	5,030	2, 5
1301	Gilbert	52,781	М	109	0	4,277	0	8,316	7,394	2, 11
1302	Echave	16,762	M	9	0	1,500	0	3,573	4,013	2, 3, 11
1303	Sherburn	44,026	М	34	0	3,613	0	8,110	7,996	2, 3, 11
1304	Albisu-Alcorta	12,843	М	33	0	994	0	1,299	1,436	-1-1-1
1305	Eiguren	64,443	M	20	Ő	5,500	0	8,683	7,113	2, 3, 11
1306	Campbell	157,037	М	40	0	14,364	Ō	37,443	34,812	1, 2, 3, 11
1307	Louse Canyon	127,785	М	104	0	11,135	0	16,755	14,555	1, 2, 3, 11
1308	Ten Mile Seeding	3,477		0	0	0	0	657	664	2, 5
1401	Anderson	39,404	М	73	Ō	2,964	0	5,429	6,564	1, 2, 3, 11
1402	Star Valley	183,180	M	126	0	6,495	Ő	6,773	7,360	1, 2, 3, 11
Totals	3	3,992,250 <sup>2</sup>		5,296	13,200	320,346	23,381	411,0213	410,369	

Categorization (see Administrative Actions section for definitions) 1

- I Improve
- M Maintain C Custodial
- <sup>2</sup> Includes approximately 64,000 acres with grazing use presently unallotted.
- 3 Changed due to addition error in final EIS.
- 4
- Now includes allocation of forage for pastures located in Nevada. RPS livestock allocation includes 1982 monitoring data and additional criteria whereby no change required if active preference is within 10% of forage 5 production. Allocation becomes final unless protested in writing within 30 days after release of the RPS. Voluntary non-use

#### Comments

- Allocation dependent on project implementation. 1.
- Consultation continuing. 2.
- З. Allocation dependent on implementation of grazing system.
- 4. Allocation dependent on utilization monitoring results.
- 5. Allotment boundary adjustments probable. New allotments may be formed.
- 6.
- 7.
- Consultation resulted in changed grazing system/season of use rather than reduced allocation. State exchange to be consummated in the near future. No change is anticipated. Public land acreage and grazing capacity changed due to allotment boundary changes and grazing preference transfers. Grazing preference transfer from Harper Basin (0400) to Little Valley (0407). 8.
- 9.
- No change.
  Adjustments to be made in increments based on monitoring studies.

Allotment Number	Pasture Number	Pasture Name	Primary Objectives	Present Grazing System	EIS Preferred Alternative Grazing System	RPS Grazing System Decision	Comments
■0300	101 102 103 104	N Racehorse S Racehorse Simmons Gulch Squaw Cr Sdg	A A D A	RR4 EA RR4 DR1	DR1 DR1 DR2 DR1	DR1 DR1 DR2 DR1	2 2 2 2
-	105	Shearing Plant	D	DR1	DR2	DR1	2
	106 107 108 109 110	Lake Ridge Rufino Butte Red Butte No Butte Cr Middle Butte Cr	D A A A A	RR2 DR1 DR1 DR4 DR4	DR2 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	DR2 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	2 2 2 2 2 2
	111 112 113 114 115	So Butte Cr FFR Windy Res Ex Cherry Cr Res Ex Tim Peak Res Ex	A B D D D	DR4 FFR DR1 DR1 EXO	DR1 FFR EXO EXO EXO	DR1 FFR EXO EXO EXO EXO	2 3 1 1
	116 117 118 201 202	Hannah Res Ex Squaw Cr Res Ex Box Canyon Basque Slaughter Gulch	D D A D A	DR1 EXO RR2 RR2 RR2 RR2	EXO EXO DR1 DR2 DR1	EXO EXO DR1 DR2 DR1	1 2 2 2
	203 204 205 207 208	Cottonwood Basin Arrien FFR Mosquito SDG Granite Cr Canyon	A B B A D	RR2 SS RR2 RR4 WO	DR2 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	2 2 2 2 2 2
	209 210 211 212 213	Horse Queen Atturbury Monument Chapman Road Canyon	A B B A A A	DR1 RR2 DF DR1 DR1	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	2 2 2 2 2 2
	214 215 216 217 218	Wildcat Coldspring FFR Granite Cr Res Chapman Res Littlefield Res	A B D D D	RR2 FFR DR1 RR4 DF	DR1 FFR DR1 RR4 EXO	DR1 FFR DR1 RR4 EXO	2 3 2 2 1
0303	226 01 02 03 04	Creston Slaten Juniper Mtn Whiskey Spring Clark Flat	A A B A A	RR4 RR2 DF RR2 RR2 RR2	DR1 DR1 DF DR1 DR1	DR1 DR1 DF DR1 DR1 DR1	2 2 2 2 2
0304	05 06 01 02 03	Sand Basin FFR Juntura Sdg Butte Terry Basin	A B B A B	RR2 FFR EA RR2 RR2 RR2	DR1 FFR SS RR2 RR2 RR2	DR1 FFR DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	2 3 2 2 2
	04 05 06 07 08	Meeker Mtn Weisner Juniper Basin Sdg Potholes Water Gulch	A D B E A	DR2 EA DR1 DR1 RR2	DR1 DR2 SS DR1 RR2	DR1 DR2 DR1 DR1 RR2	2 2 2 2 2
	09 10 15 16 17	Sheep Rocks Parks Moritz McGetrick FFR	A E D B B	RR2 RR2 DF RR2 FFR	DR2 RR2 DR2 DR1 FFR	DR2 RR2 EXO DR1 FFR	2 2 1 2 3
0305	01 02 03 04 05	Willow Spring Tables Dugout-Bridge Gulch FFR Willow Spr Res Ex	E A E B D	RR1 RR1 RR1 FFR RR1	RR1 RR1 RR1 FFR EXO	RR1 RR1 RR1 FFR EXO	2 2 2 3 1
0306	01 02 03 04 05	Sperry Creek Indian Creek Trail Saddle Horse Horse Camp	E E E A	RR4 RR4 DR1 RR4 SS	DR1 RR2 RR2 RR2 RR2 RR2	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	2 2 2 2 2

Aliotment Number	Pasture Number	Pasture Name	Primary Objectives	Present Grazing System	EIS Preferred Alternative Grazing System	RPS Grazing System Decision	Comments
■0307	06 07 08 09 01	Antelope Swales Dinner Creek Tims Peak FFR Lower Field	B A B B E	RR4 SS SS FFR SS	RR2 DR1 DR1 FFR DR1	DR1 DR1 DR1 FFR DR1	2 2 2 3 2
	02 03 04 05 06	Upper Field Private FFR Wildhorse Basin Ex Big Swales Res Ex	A B B D D D	DR1 DR1 FFR DR1 SS	DR1 DR1 FFR DR1 SS	DR1 DR1 FFR DR1 SS	2 2 2 2
₩0400	101 102 103 104 105	Callahan Little Valley Sdg Winter Spr Sdg Hunter Freezeout	E B E B E	DR4 SF SR DR4 DR4	DR4 SS SS DR4 DR4	DR4 SS SS DR4 DR4	2 2 2 2 2 2
	106 107 108 109 110	Drip Springs FFR Chukar Keeney Creek Winter Rip	A A D D	SS FFR DR4 DR4 SF	DR4 FFR DR2 DR2 DR2 DR2	DR4 FFR DR2 DR2 DR2 DR2	2 2 2, 1 1
	111 112 113 114 301	Callahan Spr Rip East Harper Stacy Cabin Ex Cabin Springs Ex Cow Hollow Sdg	D D D D B	EXO EXO EXO EXO DR1	EXO EXO EXO EXO DR1	EXO EXO EXO EXO DR1	3 3 3 2
	302 303 304 305 306	Rock Creek Sagebrush Ryefield Sdg Grassy Sdg Grassy Mtn	A A E B B	DR1 DR4 DR4 DR4 DR4 DR1	DR1 DR4 DR4 DR4 DR4 DR1	DR1 DR4 DR4 DR4 DR4 DR1	2 2 2 2 2 2
	307 308 309 310 311	FFR Mud Springs Ex Sage Res Ex Rock Creek Rip Ryefield Res Ex	A D D D D	FFR EXO EXO DR1 EXO	FFR EXO EXO EXO EXO	FFR EXO EXO EXO EXO EXO	1
	312 313 314 401 402	Twin Springs Ex Littletwin Res Ex N Grass Mtn Res Ex Double Mtn Sand Hollow Sdg	D D D A E	EXO DR1 DR4 SF SS	EXO EXO EXO DR1 DR1	EXO EXO EXO DR1 DR1	1 1 2 2
	403 404 405 408 410	Canyon Kane Springs Freezeout Lake Hurley Spring Dry Creek Rip	A A B B D	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR4 DR4	SS SS DR1 DR4 DR2	SS SS DR1 DR4 DR2	2 2 2 2 1, 2
	411 412 413 414 415	Kane Spr Res Ex Sponge Spr Ex Flowing Wells Ex Dm Spring Ex Freezesum Res	D D D D D D	EXO DR1 EXO EXO DR1	EXO EXO EXO EXO EXO EXO	EXO EXO EXO EXO EXO	3 1 1
	417 418 419 501 502	Morton Dm Russell FFR Dm Res Dry Creek Buttes West Juniper	A A D A E	SF FFR SF DR1 DR1	DR1 FFR EXO DR1 DR1	DR1 FFR EXO DR1 DR1	2 1 2 2
	503 505 506 507 508	Schaeffer McNulty Hub Field Mud Flat FFR Antelope Flat Sdg	B E A A E	DR1 DF SF FFR DR1	DR1 DR1 SF FFR DR1	DR1 DR1 SF FFR DR1	2 2 2 2
	509 601 602 603 604	Juniper Cr Res Cedar Mtn Willow Spring Red Butte Rust FFR	D B D B A	DR1 DR1 WO WO FFR	EXO DR1 WO WO FFR	EXO DR1 WO WO FFR	1 2 2, 3 2

Allotment Number	Pasture Number	Pasture Name	Primary Objectives	Present Grazing System	EIS Preferred Alternative Grazing System	RPS Grazing System Decision	Comments
0407	01 02 03 04 06	N Vines Hill E Vines Hill S Vines Hill Rabbit Farm-Ltl Vlly Vine Hill Res EX	B A B B D	DR1 RR4 DR1 DR4 EXO	DR1 RR4 DR1 DR4 EXO	DR1 RR4 DR1 DR4 EXO	2 2 2 2
0408 0410	01 02 01 02 03	Mitchell Butte Butte Rip Radar Hill Radar Sdg FFR	A D A B A	SS SS DR2 DR2 FFR	SS EXO DR2 DR2 FFR	SF EXO DR2 DR2 FFR	2 1 2 2
■0412 ■0500	01 301 302 303 304	Chalk Butte FFR Tunnel Canyon Alkali BAS Board Corral	A E A E B	EA DR1 SS DR1 DF	EA DR1 SS DR1 DR1	DR1 DR1 SS DR1 DR1	2, 4 2 2 2 2 2
	305 306 307 309 310	Wildhorse Basin Sheephead Sdg. Camp Kettle Antelope McIntyre	B B D B A	DR3 SS DR1 DR3 DR1	DR3 SS SF DR3 SF	DR3 SS SF DR3 SF	2 2 2 2 2 2
	311 312 313 315 316	Saddle Butte Bannock Sulphur Spr Sdg Riverside FFR	A A B A A	DR1 DR1 SS DR1 FFR	DR1 DR1 SS DR2 FFR	DR1 DR1 SS DR2 FFR	2 2 2 2
	317 318 319 320 321	Saddle Butte Rip Alkali Rip Board Corral Pit Ex Antelope Spr Ex Saddle Butte Rex	D D D D D	DR2 SS EXO EXO DR1	DR2 EA EXO EXO EXO	DR2 EA EXO EXO EXO	1, 2 1, 2 1
	322 323 324 325 326	McIntyre Res Pinnacle Res Cunningham Rex Bar Cross Basin Ex Leslie Gulch	D D D D E	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 EA	EXO EXO EXO EXO EA	EXO EXO EXO EXO EA	1 1 1 1 2
	329 330 331 332 401	Three Finger Ex Antelope Test Plot Leslie Gulch Plot Mahogany RNA Top Spray N	C C C C A	EXO EXO EXO EXO DR2	EXO EXO EXO EXO DR1	EXO EXO EXO EXO DR1	2
	402 403 404 405 406	Top Spray S McBride Creek Rockville Sdg N Spring Cr Sdg Rockville Sdg S	A A B B B	DR2 DR2 SS SS SS	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	2 2 2 2 2 2
	407 408 409 410 411	lon Falen Sdg Spring Basin Sdg Carter Cr Sdg Shalerock	B E B B A	DR1 SS SS SS DR1	DR1 DR5 SS SS RR4	DR1 DR5 SS SS RR4	2 2 2 2 2 2
	412 413 414 415 416	Old Maid Sdg N Sagehen Basin Falon Spr Ex Strode Spr Ex Spring Mtn Sdg	E A F F B	SS DR1 EXO EXO SS	SS RR4 EXO EXO SS	SS RR4 EXO EXO SS	2 2 2
	417 418 419 420 421	Spring Mtn Nr Sheaville Old Maid S Dog Creek Pit Ex Sticky Joe Sdg	A A E D E	DR1 DR1 SS EXO SS	DR1 DR1 SS EXO SS	DR1 DR1 SS EXO SS	2 2 2 2
	422 423 424 501 503	MacKenzie FFR Carter Cr Rip Sagehen Rip Blackrocks Blue Canyon	A D D D B	SS SS DR1 WO DR1	SS EA EA WO DR1	FFR EA EA WO DR1	1, 2 1, 2 2 2

Allotment Number	Pasture Number	Pasture Name	Primary Objectives	Present Grazing System	EIS Preferred Alternative Grazing System	RPS Grazing System Decision	Comments
	504 505 506 507 508	Spring Basin McCain Spr Sdg Mahogany Mtn Road Res P Plot	E E A B B	EA DR1 DF DR1 DR1	SS DR1 DF DR4 DR4	SS DR1 DR DR4 DR4 DR4	2 2 2 2 2 2
	509 510 511 512 513	Shellrock N Shellrock Fish Creek Tableland Annex Schnable Creek Sdg	A A A B E	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	DR4 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	DR4 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	2 2 2 2 2 2
	514 515 516 517 518	FFR Hang Up Res Ex Schnable Res Ex McConnel Res Ex Ground Hog Ex	A D D D D	FFR DR1 DR1 DR1 EXO	FFR EXO EXO EXO EXO	FFR EXO EXO EXO EXO	1 1 1
0501	519 520 521 524 01	Road Res Ex Hawk's Nest Wild Rose Circle Bar FFR East	D D D A E	EXO DR1 DR1 FFR DR1	EXO EXO EXO FFR DR1	EXO EXO EXO FFR DR1	1 1 2
0502 0506 0601	02 03 01 01 01	West Brown Butte River Birch Creek Turnbull	E I D D	DR1 EXO FFR SS DR4	DR1 EXO FFR SS DR4	DR1 EXO FFR SS DR4	2 2 5
0602	02 03 01 02 03 04	Obenchain-Duck Butte FFR Westside-Rnd Mtn Rockjack-Big Flat Northside Eastside		DR1 FFR DR1 SF SS DR1	DR1 FFR DR1 SF SS DR1	DR1 FFR DR1 SF SS DR1	5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5
0603	05 01 02 03 04	FFR Lower Swamp Vischer Hickey Hughes	B B B B	FFR EA RR4 RR4 DF	FFR RR1 RR1 RR4 DF	FFR RR1 RR1 RR4 DR1	5
0604	05 06 08 09 01	Swamp-Big Flat Stockade Duck Pond FFR Turnbull Lake	B B B	DR4 DR1 DR1 FFR EA	DR4 DR1 DR1 FFR EA	DR4 DR1 DR1 FFR EA	5 5
0605	02 03 05 01 02	Little Lakes-Mustang Piute FFR North Heifer-Deadman Jake Hughes	A B	DR1 DF FFR RR3 DR1	DR1 DF FFR RR3 DR1	DR1 DF FFR RR3 DR1	5 5 5
0701	03 04 05 01	Deadman FFR Lower Homestead Sheepheads	B B B B B	SS FFR SS DR2 SS	SS FFR SS DR2 SS	SS FFR SS DR2 DF	
0801	02 03 04 05 • 00	Bone Cr Res Ex Rock Corral Sp Ex Sheepheads Plot W Ryegrass Crooked Cr Sp Res Ex		EXO EXO EXO SS EXO	EXO EXO EXO DR5 EXO	EXO EXO EXO DR5 EXO	
	01 02 03 04 05	South Bowden Hills North Palomino Hills East Ryegrass	B B B B B	WO WO WO WO	EA WO WO SF DF	EA WO WO SF DF	
0802	06 08 09 10 01	BV Study Plot Bowden Guzzler Ex 4 Guzzler Exs FFR Sand Gap	D D D B B	EXO EXO EXO FFR WO	EXO EXO EXO FFR WO	EXO EXO EXO FFR WO	

Allotment Number	Pasture Number	Pasture Name	Primary Objectives	Present Grazing System	EIS Preferred Alternative Grazing System	RPS Grazing System Decision	Comments
0901 0902	01 02 01 02 05	West East Riley Horn Mud Flat Bogus Creek	H B B A A A	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	DR4 DR4 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	DR4 DR4 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	
	06 07 08 09 10	Navaro V Owyhee Canyon BC West Crater BC Clarks Butte Dog Lake E & W	B B B B B	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR2	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 RR4	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 RR4	
	12 13 16 17 18	Arock Owyhee Butte #2 Owyhee Butte #3 Owyhee Butte #4, #5 Owyhee Butte #1	A B B B B	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	
	19 20 21 22 23	Lower Butte Lower Fd Lodge Annex E & W Owyhee Butte #3 Ex Mud Flat Ex Bogus Cr Ex	D B D D D	EXO RR4 EXO EXO EXO	EXO RR4 EXO EXO EXO	EXO RR4 EXO EXO EXO	
0903	24 25 26 27 01	Navaro V Guzzler Ex Bogus Lake Ex FFR Owyhee Butte BB Ex Hooker Creek N	D D B E B	EXO EXO FFR EXO DR1	EXO EXO FFR EXO DR1	EXO EXO FFR EXO DR1	
	02 03 04 05 06	Hooker Creek S Jordan Valley N Jordan Valley S Big Ridge N Barlow BC	B B B B H	DR1 DR5 DR5 DR1 DR1	DR1 DR5 DR5 DR1 DR1	DR1 DR5 DR5 DR1 DR1	
	07 08 09 10 11	Cowgill Boulder Downey Canyon Little Sandy W Little Sandy NE	B B B B H	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR2 DR1	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR2 DR1	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR2 DR1	
	12 13 14 15 16	Little Sandy S Lava Big Ridge S Barlow Ex L Sandy Sp Ex	B B D D D	DR1 SS DR1 EXO EXO	DR1 DR1 DR1 EXO EXO	DR1 DR1 DR1 EXO EXO	
0904 0905 0907	17 18 01 01 01 01	FFR Barlow Ex Bogus Creek Oliver Morcum	B D B H B	FFR EXO FFR DF FFR	FFR EXO FFR DF FFR	FFR EXO FFR DR2 FFR	
1001	01 02 03 04 05	Bull Pasture Rock Creek Sdg Tankey Noon Little Grassy	D B B B B	EXO DR1 RR4 DR1 RR4	EXO DR1 RR4 DR1 RR4	EXO DR1 RR4 DR1 RR4	
	07 08 09 10 11	Monument Dry Creek Rome #1 Rome #2 Rome #3	B B B B B	DR1 RR4 RR4 RR4 RR4 RR4	DR1 RR4 RR4 RR4 RR4 RR4	DR1 RR4 RR4 RR4 RR4 RR4	
	12 13 14 15 16	Rome #4 Round Mtn Rome #5 Pinto Horse Noon Res Ex	B B B B D	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 EXO	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 EXO	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 EXO	
1002	17 18 01 02 03	Rock Cr Res Ex FFR Antelope W Antelope E Sheep Spring Sdg	D B B B B	EXO FFR DR1 DR2 DR1	EXO FFR DR1 DR2 DR1	EXO FFR DR1 DR2 DR1	

Allotment Number	Pasture Number	Pasture Name	Primary Objectives	Present Grazing System	EIS Preferred Alternative Grazing System	RPS Grazing System Decision	Comments
	04 05 06 07 08	Soldier Creek SE Soldier Creek E Soldier Cr Sdg W Greeley North Greeley South	B B B B B B	DR1 SS SS DR1 DR2	DR1 SS SS DR1 DR2	DR1 DF1 DF1 DR1 DR2	
	09 10 11 12 13	Rock Black Butte N Black Butte S Parsnip Peak Antelope Flat	B B H H	DR1 SS SS DR1 SS	DR1 SS SS DR1 SS	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 SS	
	15 16 17 18 19	Three C Ex Parsnip Pk Ex Antelope Res Ex Tom Skinner Res Ex Cantor Corral Pit Ex	D D D D D	EXO EXO EXO EXO EXO	EXO EXO EXO EXO EXO EXO	EXO EXO EXO EXO EXO	
	20 21 22 23 24	Antelope Rim Sp Ex Gulch Pit Ex Cantor Corral Sp Ex Hicks Canyon Res Ex Bluch Sp Ex	D D D D D	EXO EXO EXO EXO EXO EXO	EXO EXO EXO EXO EXO EXO	EXO EXO EXO EXO EXO EXO	
1003	25 26 27 01 02	Round Peak Sp Ex Sagehen Ex FFR Brickey Springs Wildcat	D D B B A	EXO EXO FFR DR4 DR4	EXO EXO FFR DR4 DR4	EXO EXO FFR DR4 DR4	
1004	03 04 05 01 02	Coffee Pot Chicken Creek FFR Horse Ridge S Indian Canyon W	H D&H B B H	DR1 DR2 FFR DR1 DR1	DR1 DR2 FFR DR1 DR1	DR1 DR2 FFR DR1 DR1	
	03 04 05 06 07	Indian Canyon E Flat Creek Rim Basin Sdg Jaca Sdg E Willow Creek N	H B B B B	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR2 DR1	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR2 DR1	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR2 DR1	
	08 09 10 11 12	Frank Mahar BC Black Butte Gluch Sdg S Gluch Seeding N Willow Cr W	B B B B H	DR1 DR1 DR1 SS DR1	DR1 DR1 DR1 SS DR1	DR1 DR1 DR1 SS DR1	
	13 14 15 16 17	Willow Creek E Horse Ridge N Jaca Sdg W Horse Ridge E Castro Pit Ex	B B B A D	DR1 SS DR1 DR1 EXO	DR1 SS DR1 DR1 EXO	DR1 SS DR1 DR1 EXO	
1005	18 19 01 02 03	Castro Sp Ex FFR East West Mud Flat	D B B B B B	EXO FFR DR1 SS SS	EXO FFR DR1 SS SS	EXO FFR DR1 SS SS	
1006 1007 1101	04 01 01 02 04	FFR Eiguren Arrigold FFR China Gulch Sdgs Dry Creek Native	B B B B B	FFR FFR FFR DR2 DR1	FFR FFR FFR DR2 DR1	FFR FFR FFR DR2 RR1	
	05 06 07 08 09	Indian Fort Skull Creek Eastside Rome South Rome North	B B B B D	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR2 EXO	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR2 EXO	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR2 EXO	
	10 11 12 13	Crows Nest Res Ex Hardin Eps Ex Dry Creek Ex FFR Owyhee Springs Res	D D D B D	EXO EXO EXO FFR EXO	EXO EXO EXO FFR EXO	EXO EXO EXO FFR EXO	

Allotment Number	Pasture Number	Pasture Name	Primary Objectives	Present Grazing System	EIS Preferred Alternative Grazing System	RPS Grazing System Decision	Comments
1102 1103 ■1201	01 Ambrose Maher 01 Jackies Butte 01 Frenchie North 02 Twelve Mile Sdg 03 Whitehorse N Sdg		B&D B B B D	SS WO EA SF RR2	SS WO EA SF RR2	SS WO EA SF RR2	
	05 06 07 09 10	Dool-Jug Green Ponds Whitehorse-Dry Cr V Pasture Ore Canyon BC	H&D D D D B	DF DF DR DF DR1	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1 DR1	
	11 12 13 14 15	Ore Canyon Sdg Schoolhouse Sdg Etchart Sdg Jaca Sdg McDermitt	B B H B B	DR1 DR1 WO SF EA	DR1 DR1 DF SF EA	DR1 DR1 DF SF EA	
1301	16 17 18 19 01	Buckbrush Angel Cnyn Sdg Angel Cnyn Native Blue Mountain Battle Cr N	B B B B B	SF SF DF SS EA	SF SF DF SS EA	SF SF DF SS EA	
	02 03 04 05 06	Battie Cr S Woolhawk Battle Mtn Rattlesnake Deer Cr Sp	B B B B B	EA DR1 DR1 DR1 EXO	EA DR1 DR1 DR1 EXO	EA DR1 DR1 DR1 EXO	
1302 1303	07 01 03 01	FFR Joe Spg Ex Battle Mtn-Rttlsnk Anteiope Flat Bankofier Sdg	B D B H B	FFR EXO DR1 EA SF	FFR EXO DR1 EA SF	FFR EXO DR1 EA SF	
1304	02 03 04 05 01	High Peak Hanson Flat N Hanson Flat S FFR The Breaks	B B B B B	DR4 SS DR1 FFR DR1	DR4 SS DR1 FFR DR1	DR4 SS DR1 FFR DR1	
1305	02 03 01 02 03	Andy Fife Lazy T Beber Sdg Winter Area N Bull Creek Sdg	A B B A B	DR2 DR2 EA EA EA	DR2 DR2 EA EA EA EA	DR2 DR2 EA EA EA	
	06 07 08 09 10	Chimney Creek Eiguren Rattlesnk #2 Res Ex L Grassy Guzzler Ex Chimney Guzzler Ex	B B D D D	DR1 DR1 EXO EXO EXO	DR1 DR1 EXO EXO EXO	DR1 DR1 EXO EXO EXO	
1306	00 01 02 03	FFR Coyote Holes Res Ex Peacock Twin Springs Sacramento Hill	B D B B B	FFR EXO RR4 RR4 RR4 RR4	FFR EXO RR4 RR4 RR4 RR4	FFR EXO RR4 RR4 RR4 RR4	
1307	05 06 07 08 09 10 01 02 03	Starvation Sdg Horse Hill Lorribeau Holding Scmnto HIII Test Ex Peacock Ex Bell Spr Ex FFR Diamond Basin Steer Canyon Sdg Pole Creek	B B D D B B B B A	DR1 DF DF EXO EXO EXO FFR EA DR5 DR1	DR1 DF EXO EXO EXO FFR DR1 DR1 DR1	DR1 DF DF EXO EXO EXO FFR DR1 DR1 DR1	
	04 06 07 08 09	Louse Canyon Frenchman Creek Indian Spr Ex W Little Owyhee Ex Steer Cnyn Test Ex	D B D D D D	DR1 EA EXO EXO EXO	RR4 EA EXO EXO EXO	RR4 EA EXO EXO EXO	

Allotment Number 1308	Pasture Number	Pasture Name	Primary Objectives	Present Grazing System	EIS Preferred Alternative Grazing System	RPS Grazing System Decision	Comments
	10	FFR	В	FFR	FFR	FFR	
	11	Jeff Res	B	DR1	EXO	EXO	
	12	Louse Cnyn Rip	В	DR1	RR4	RR4	
1308	01	Ten Mile Sdg	В	SS	SS	SS	
	02	McDermitt Landfill	D	EXO	EXO	EXO	
1401	01	Spring-Bull Flat	A	SS	SS	SS	
1401	02	North	B	EA	EA	EA	
				EXO	EXO	EXO	
	03	W Little Owyhee Ex Junction Res	D	SS	EXO	EXO	
	04			00			
1402		North	Α		RR4	RR4	
		South	A		SS	DR2	
		Tri-State	В		EA	DR2	

## Key

#### Primary Objectives

- A Improve ecological condition B Maintain ecological condition
- С Study plot
- D Improve riparian habitat
- EF Maintain or improve winter range for mule deer and/or antelope
- Wildlife enclosure
- Increase availability of livestock forage G
- н Reverse downward trend

## Grazing

Syste

System	Yearly Sequence of Use	System	Yearly Sequence of Use
WO	Winter use every year	SF	EA/DF every year
SS	Use during critical growth	DF	Use after seed ripe every year
	period every year	DR1	1 year SS/1 year DF
UNA	Inaccessible or unallotted	DR2	1 year EA/1 year DF
EXO	Exclusion	DR3	1 year SS/1 year winter
EX2	Exclusion with use by wild horses	DR4	1 year EA or SS/2 year DF
EA	Early spring every year	RR1	1 year SS/1 year DF/1 year rest
		RR2	1 year SS/1 year rest
		RR3	2 or 3 years SS/1 year rest
		RR4	1 or 2 years early spring/1 year rest

Grazing

#### Comments

Grazing system dependent on project implementation or other work requiring funding not now available.
 Consultation continuing.
 Erroneously shown as grazing system in EIS - should be fenced federal range or exclosure
 To be combined with allotment 0500.

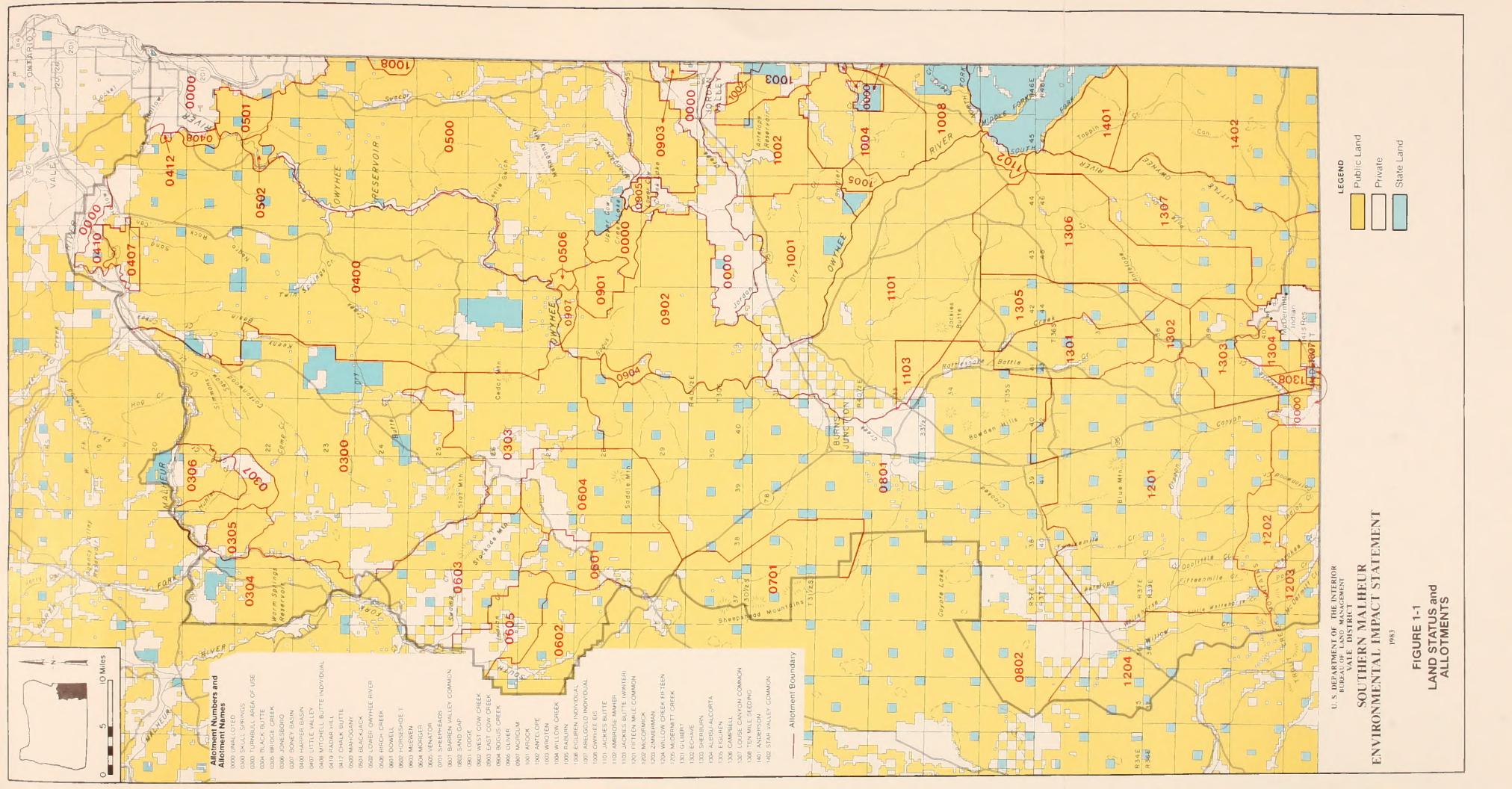
5. State exchange to be consummated in near future: no change anticipated.

Improve (I) Category allotments.

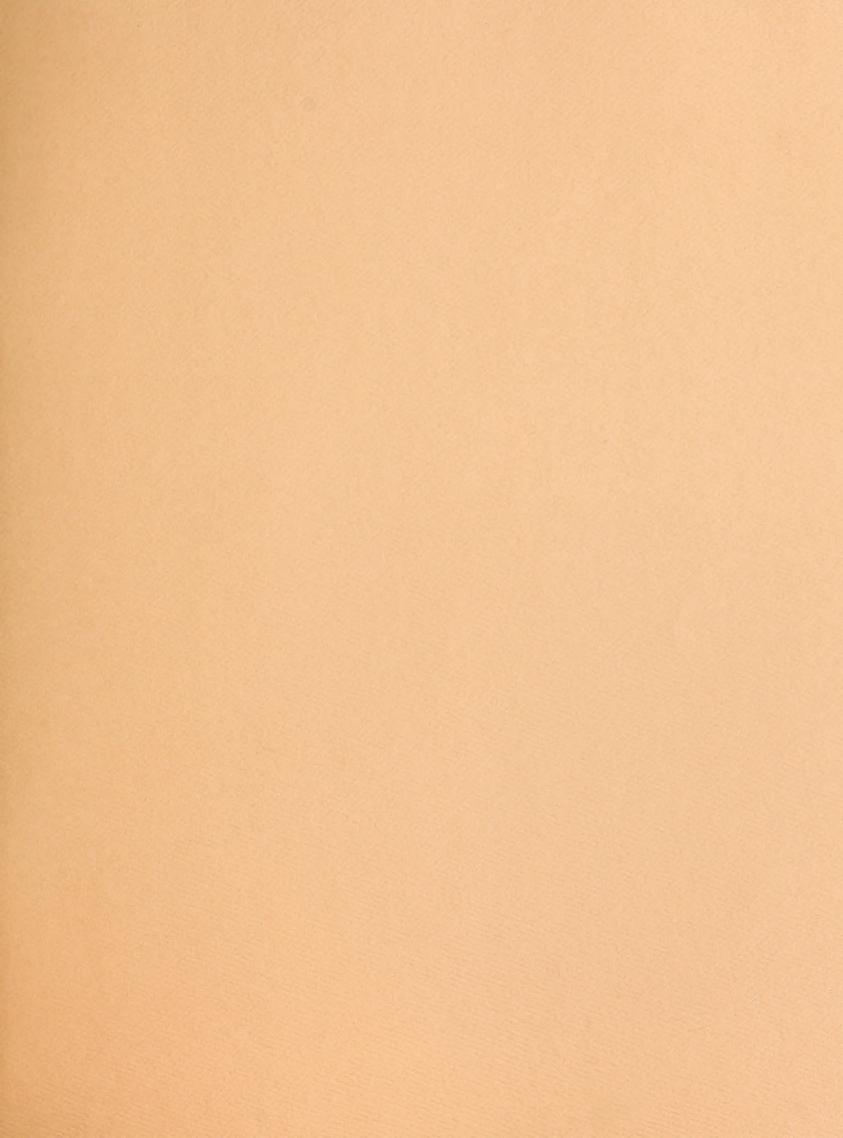
## 24 **Appendix 3 - Proposed Range Improvements**

Allot, No. Allotment Name	B/C Ratio	Initial <sup>1</sup> Ranking	Cost/000 Dollars	Internal Rate of Return	Fence Miles	Spring Dev.	Pipe Miles	Wells	Reser- voirs	Water Holes	Brctl Seed Acres	Bctl Only Acres	Seed Only Acres
0300 Skull Springs	1.2	4	200	9.8	0.0	9	0.0	0	30	0	0	2,920	1,020
0303 Turnbull Lake	1.1	7	117	9.4	0.0	2	0.0	0	9	0	0	20.056	0
0304 Black Butte	1.2	5	44	9.8	1.0	2	0.0	0	4	0	0	2,240	0
0305 Bridge Creek	1.3	8	32	12.9	0.0	1	0.0	0	4	0	0	3,240	0
0306 Jonesboro	0.9	6	52	6.7	0.0	2	0.0	0	10	0	0	0	0
■0307 Boney Basin	2.8	1	7	17.3	0.0	1	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0
■0400 Harper Basin	1.3	3	446	11.4	11.0	12	0.0	0	11	0	3,360	52,918	0
0500 Mahogany	1.1	2	529	9.1	10.0	21	0.0	0	12	0	0	45,460	3,000
0501 Blackjack	1.9	9	12	16.3	0.0	1	0.0	0	2	0	0	0	0
0603 McEwen	1.5	13	37	16.9	0.0	0	0.0	0	9	0	0	0	
0701 Sheepheads	1.3	16	120	11.5	0.0	1	5.0	0	16	0	0	0	
0801 Barren Valley	1.4	15	52	13.1	9.0	3	1.0	1	2	3	0	0	
0902 West Cow Creek	2.0	14	157	15.2	9.0	0	4.0	0	2	0	8,187	0	
0903 East Cow Creek	1.3	19	60	10.9	11.0	3	0.0	0	5	2	0	2,578	
0905 Oliver	1.2	18	12	11.1	2.0	0	0.0	0	2	0	Ó	0	
1001 Arock	1.2	22	107	10.2	5.0	0	2.0	0	13	2	921	5.043	
1002 Antelope	1.9	7	74	13.5	0.0	0	1.0	0	1	1	2,990	4,745	
1003 Wroten	1.4	5	22	12.8	0.0	0	0.0	0	1	0	0	4,369	
1004 Willow Creek	1.6	4	136	13.4	0.0	2	7.0	0	11	1	4,682	5,036	
1005 Raburn	1.6	17	4	11.1	0.0	0	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	
1101 Jackies Butte	2.5	12	172	20.5	0.0	0	4.0	1	6	0	0	11.577	
1201 Fifteen Mile	1.2	3	441	9.8	26.0	4	10.0	0	1	0	16.879	8,121	
1202 McCormick	1.1	1	133	9.5	6.0	1	0.0	0	1	Ō	1,400	9,575	
1203 Zimmerman	1.2	2	22	8.5	0.0	0	0.0	0	2	0	0	1,356	
1204 Willow Creek	1.4	6	117	11.6	4.0	Ō	5.0	1	ō	Ō	3.627	0	
1301 Gilbert	8.8	8	2	25.0	0.0	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	
1302 Echave	5.3	9	8	22.0	0.0	0	0.0	0	2	0	0	0	
1303 Sherburn	1.1	23	7	8.4	0.0	4	0.0	Ō	ō	0	0	0	
1304 Albisu-Alcorta	1.0	24	12	7.9	0.0	2	0.0	Ō	2	0	ō	Ō	
1305 Eiguren	3.8	11	20	21.5	0.0	ō	0.0	Õ	ō	Ő	õ	4,712	
1306 Campbell	5.2	10	16	21.8	0.0	ō	0.0	0	4	Ō	0	0	
1307 Louse Canvon	1.4	20	55	10.8	2.0	2	0.0	õ	2	Ő	2,773	Ő	
1401 Anderson	0.9	25	19	7.1	2.0	ō	0.0	õ	ō	Ő	_,0	3,794	
1402 Star Valley	1.2	21	56	10.3	7.0	Õ	0.0	Ō	2	1	õ	2,653	

<sup>1</sup> Two sets of priority ranking are shown. One for the Northern Malheur Resource Area (Allotments 0300 thru 0501) and one for the Southern Malheur Resource Area (Allotment 0603 thru 1402).
 Improve (I) category allotments.



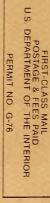




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