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EIS OFFICE

# Rangeland Program Summary

## Record of Decision Riley EIS Area



SF  
85.35  
.07  
R54  
1982b  
Suppl.

# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Burns District Office  
74 South Alvord  
Burns, OR 97720

June 13, 1983

Enclosed for your review and comment is the Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) and Record of Decision for the Riley EIS area of the Burns District. This document summarizes the proposed Rangeland Management Program and outlines the proposed decisions developed from the Riley Grazing Management Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) analysis. The Rangeland Management Program and related decisions are the result of land use planning (completed in 1982) and the analysis of several program alternatives contained in the Riley EIS published in September of 1982.

Release of the RPS to interested groups and individuals serves as public notice of the proposed Rangeland Management Program for the Riley EIS area and begins a 30-day comment period. Please review this summary and give us your comments.

Your written comments should be sent to: District Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 74 S. Alvord, Burns, Oregon 97720. Comments will be accepted until July 15, 1983.

An RPS update will be prepared and circulated for public review by late 1984. It will incorporate changes due to public comment, consultation with operators and any additional staff input concerning the proposed land use plan and decisions contained in this brochure.

Thank you for your past cooperation and we look forward to any further input you may have that will assist us in managing your public lands.

Sincerely yours,

Joshua L. Warburton  
District Manager

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
 BURNS DISTRICT  
 RILEY GRAZING MANAGEMENT  
 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

1982

LEGEND

- Public Land
- Malheur National Wildlife Refuge
- State Land
- Squaw Butte Experiment Station
- Private

Allotment Numbers and Names

- |                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 7001 East Warm Springs    | 7032 Hotchkiss             |
| 7002 West Warm Springs    | 7033 Silves River          |
| 7003 East Wagontire       | 7034 Scat Field            |
| 7004 West Wagontire       | 7035 Silves Meadow         |
| 7005 Glass Butte          | 7036 Hayes                 |
| 7006 Rimrock Lake         | 7037 Coal Pit Springs      |
| 7007 Hat Butte            | 7038 Curry Gordon          |
| 7008 Sheep Lake - Shields | 7039 Cave Gulch            |
| 7009 Dry Lake             | 7040 Landing Creek         |
| 7010 Claw Creek           | 7041 East Silves           |
| 7011 Upper Valley         | 7042 Dole Smith            |
| 7012 Pack Saddle          | 7043 Lone Pine             |
| 7013 Zogmann              | 7044 Cowing                |
| 7014 Badger Spring        | 7045 Whiting               |
| 7015 Second Flat          | 7046 Baker Hill Field      |
| 7016 Juniper Ridge        | 7047 Pea Body              |
| 7017 Cluster              | 7048 Varien Canyon         |
| 7018 Silver Lake          | 7049 Forks of Poison Creek |
| 7019 Palomino Buttes      | 7050 Clemens               |
| 7020 Sand Hollow          | 7051 Sawtooth MNF          |
| 7021 Weaver Lake          | 7052 Lone Pine Field       |
| 7022 Dog Mountain         | 7053 Silves Canyon         |
| 7023 West Sagehen         | 7054 Cricket Creek         |
| 7024 East Sagehen         | 7080 Devine Canyon         |
| 7025 Gouldin              | 7081 Harney Basin          |
| 7026 Horton Mill          | 7082 Hines Field           |
| 7027 Emigrant Creek       | 7083 Malheur Refuge        |
| 7028 Stinger Creek        | 7085 Rainbow Creek         |
| 7029 Spring Creek         | 7086 Rough Creek           |
| 7030 Skull Creek          | 7087 Silver Creek Valley   |
| 7031 Hay Creek            | 7088 Sunset Valley         |

Allotment Boundary

NOTE: Map numbers refer to last two digits of allotment numbers.  
 Allotments 7080 thru 7088, inclusive, are unallotted status.

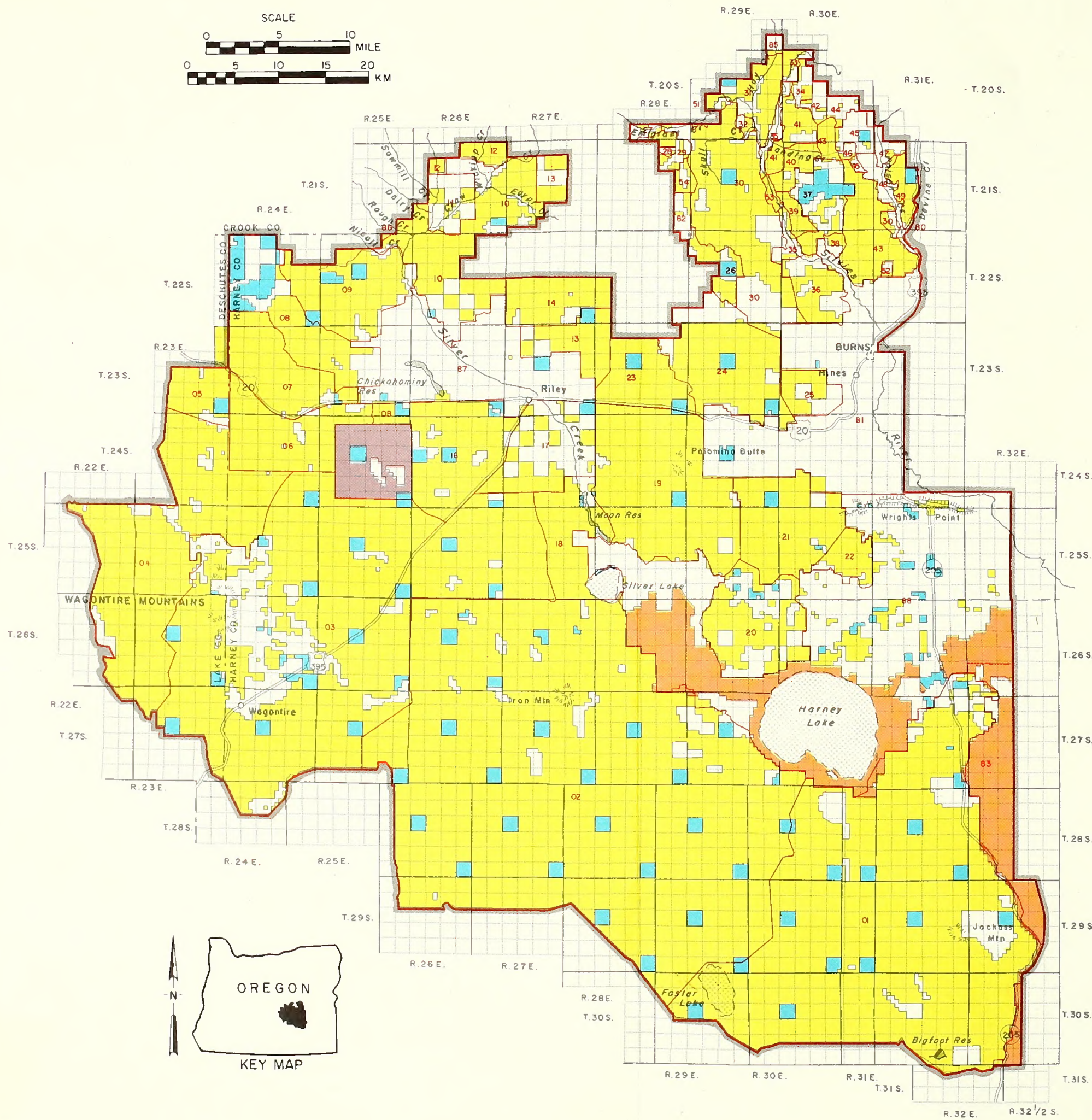


FIGURE 1-1  
 LAND STATUS and  
 ALLOTMENTS



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## Introduction and Background

There are approximately 1,081,140 acres of public land administered by BLM within the Riley EIS area. The public rangelands are divided into 55 allotments which have a variety of grazing systems utilized in their administration. There are an additional 56,500 acres of State land and 167,700 acres of private land within these allotments.

Prior to 1983, there were 47 livestock operators with about 73,500 AUMs of active preference. Range improvement projects already completed comprise 500 miles of fence; 28 cattleguards; 540 water catchment facilities including springs, reservoirs, wells and waterholes; and 26,000 acres of seedings.

There are two wild horse herd management areas in the EIS area: the Palomino Buttes herd and the Warm Springs herd. Between 1979 and 1980, management plans were developed which specified that:

1. The Palomino Buttes herd be managed for 30 to 60 horses.
  2. The Warm Springs herd be managed for 100 to 200 horses.
- Total: 130-260 horses.

The most recent inventories conducted in 1982 indicate there are approximately 305 horses in the herd management areas.

Principal wildlife habitat consists of 360,000 acres of deer summer and winter range; 469,000 acres of antelope winter and summer range; 106,000 acres of sage grouse strutting and nesting habitat; 6,100 acres of water-associated habitat for birds and 29 stream miles of fish habitat. The present forage, riparian and wildlife habitat condition and trend data are shown in Appendix 3.

## The Rangeland Management Program Purpose

This document is the Bureau of Land Management's Rangeland Management Program Summary (RPS) and is the Record of Decision for rangeland management in the Riley EIS area. It is based on the analysis and decisions reached about livestock grazing as a result of the Riley EIS planning process. The general land use goal for the Riley EIS area is to improve and/or maintain vegetation condition to benefit livestock, wildlife, and wild horses while balancing economic uses with natural and cultural values by implementing intensive grazing management. The RPS outlines

the steps and procedures proposed to be taken in order to achieve this goal.

The RPS also explains how initial and subsequent grazing decisions required for program implementation will be made. Please refer to the Riley EIS for detailed descriptions of livestock grazing management and range conditions.

## What The Program Is

As referred to earlier, the purpose of the proposed program is to implement planning decisions needed for management, protection, and enhancement of the rangeland resources. The program would involve an implementation period determined by funding levels followed by a 15-year period for monitoring and the achievement of management objectives.

The program consists of the following major steps:

- 1) The initial allocation of existing forage production:

Livestock	73,318 AUMs
Wildlife	2,340 AUMs
Wild Horses	2,364 AUMs
Nonconsumptive	667 AUMs

- 2) Utilizing intensive grazing management on 41 allotments.

3) Implementation costs for the range management program totaling \$1,758,632. Combined with intensive grazing management, the effort would achieve an increase of 26,671 AUMs for a long-term sustained total forage production of 105,360 AUMs. The proposed range improvements and estimated forage increases mentioned above will be concentrated in seven allotments.

- 4) Monitoring and evaluation of changes in resource condition as well as uses associated with implementation of this decision.

These four steps form the core of the proposed Rangeland Management Program and are designed to achieve the program objectives of the Riley land use plan. Implementation of this program and accomplishment of many of the objectives is dependent on future appropriation of funds.

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## What The Program Does

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

### I. Grazing Management

The program allows for a planned level of grazing use combined with grazing systems and range improvements. This program will improve the forage condition on over 82 percent of the planning unit. Over the long-term, forage production is expected to increase by 34 percent to an estimated 105,360 AUMs. The program includes a forage allocation to livestock, wildlife, wild horses, and nonconsumptive uses to meet resource objectives. Initial and long-term forage allocations for each allotment are shown in Appendix 1. The long-term forage production predicted for each allotment may change as a result of new data gathered during the upcoming consultation and Allotment Management Plan (AMP) development process.

### II. Big Game Habitat Management

Wildlife species differ widely in their habitat requirements. In order to improve or maintain various habitats the program provides the following measures:

a) An adequate supply of forage for big game needs. This is 2,340 AUMs or a 10 percent increase above the present allocation to big game. This allocation will assure a dependable supply of forage to meet the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODF&W) objective numbers of big game using public lands.

b) Competition between livestock and big game for forage is minimized by the following practices:

1. Most of the existing season long (spring-summer) grazing systems will be changed to rest rotation or deferred rotation systems. Basically, this will increase the condition of the forage as well as allow a sufficient amount of early spring forage for big game.

2. Reliable yearlong water sources will be developed in specific areas where water is the limiting factor to yearlong use by big game.

3. Increased habitat diversity and forage quality will result from the proposed vegetation manipulation projects. Although wildlife species which are dependent on sagebrush will be displaced in the larger treatment areas, the overall population of sagebrush-dependent animal species will not be affected significantly.

### III. Water Resources and Riparian Wildlife Habitat Management

BLM administers 35.7 miles of streams and 387 acres of riparian vegetation located mostly on small tributaries of the Silvies River and Silver Creek drainages. The BLM administered streams represent an insignificant amount of these drainages therefore improvement in the riparian vegetation along those stream segments will have little impact on overall water quality and fish habitat.

The existing and proposed grazing systems in these areas are designed to provide rest during the critical part of the growing season for the key herbaceous and woody species. For some of these systems, the objective to reestablish and/or maintain a healthy willow population along streams will be of significant benefit, especially to nongame wildlife species.

### IV. Wild Horse Management

The Palomino Buttes herd management area and the Warm Springs herd management area will be maintained in accordance with the existing herd management plans. The Palomino Buttes herd will be maintained at 30 to 60 wild horses and the Warm Springs herd will be maintained at 100 to 200 wild horses. To meet their forage needs, 2,365 AUMs will be allocated to wild horses. There will be no reduction in the wild horse allocations during the upcoming consultation and AMP development process.

### V. Socio-Economic Conditions

The expenditure of approximately \$1,479,000 for construction of range improvements during a 10-year implementation period is expected to increase local personal income by \$102,000 annually. The U.S. Forest Service inter-industry model was used by the BLM in April 1983 to estimate local personal income impacts to Harney County.

There will be no short-term change from historic grazing preference for any of the allotments and thus no change in ranch property values. However, in the long-term (after 15 years) an additional 26,671 AUMs should be available. The annual local personal income should be increased by \$235,000. The improvement in rancher net income should produce an increase of \$1,200,000 in ranch asset value, based on changes in net ranch income.

## Development of the Decision

The Riley EIS analyzed the environmental impacts of a preferred alternative (the Proposed Action) and three other alternative programs. Refer to the draft Riley EIS for detailed descriptions of the Proposed Action and additional alternatives. Appendix 3 illustrates the long-term effects of the EIS alternatives.

Following is a brief discussion of each alternative and why it was not selected, along with the rationale for the selection of the Riley EIS Proposed Action.

### Alternative 1 - No Action

Consideration of this alternative is required by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations. It basically constitutes a continuation of the present situation. For the purpose of analysis, it is assumed that no additional range improvement projects would be undertaken or additional intensive grazing management implemented.

This alternative was not adopted because it would fail to solve present resource problems. Forage conditions would decline on approximately 8 percent of the EIS area. Less than 1 percent of the streamside riparian vegetation in poor and fair condition would receive protection. The forage allocation would continue at the present level with future reductions possible when forage condition began to decline.

### Alternative 2 - Emphasize Livestock Grazing

Under this alternative a high level of forage would be allocated to livestock while maintaining or improving range conditions. There would be approximately 17,500 more AUMs of initial forage compared to the proposed program. This would occur mainly due to the increased implementation of range improvements and a reduction of the two wild horse herds by 1,260 AUMs. As with the no action alternative, less than 1 percent of the streamside riparian vegetation in poor and fair condition would receive protection. Wildlife AUMs would remain the same. The

vegetation manipulation projects would be designed to treat 80 percent of the total area as compared to 60 percent under the proposed program. Up to 100 percent of the brush could be removed within any sage grouse wintering ground. The wildlife habitat diversity would be lower than the proposed program because of the additional sagebrush removal. These results are contrary to ODF&W recommendations.

This alternative was not selected because of the range improvement costs and the conflicts which arise with wildlife and wild horse management objectives. As increased emphasis is placed on economic values, other resource values would be compromised. This blend of the uses is not consistent with the public's demand for multiple use management of public land resources.

### Alternative 3 - Emphasize Non-Livestock Values

The objective of this alternative would be to emphasize non-livestock values (wildlife, wild horses, water quality, etc.) in those areas where conflicts with livestock grazing have been identified. There would be a decrease of 28,400 AUMs allocated to livestock and an increase of 12,500 AUMs allocated to wild horses. The numbers of range improvements, especially vegetation manipulation, would be substantially reduced. Approximately 97 percent of the streamside riparian vegetation in fair or poor condition would be excluded from livestock use. There would be some reduction in livestock numbers from the Palomino Buttes and Warm Springs wild horse herd management areas to allow maximum wild horse numbers consistent with maintenance of wildlife and other resource values.

Alternative 3 was not selected because of the adverse economical and social impacts on the local economy as a result of the major emphasis being placed on nonconsumptive resource uses. Although this alternative is environmentally sound, most of the benefit to resource values are essentially achieved in the proposed program but at a lower expense to the social and economic structure of the local community.

## Proposed Action

The proposed action would increase the long-term allocation of livestock forage by 20,991 AUMs. This would be accomplished through range improvement projects and changes in grazing systems. The vegetation manipulation projects would be consistent with the ODF&W recommendations. There would be no reduction in the minimum size of the two existing wild horse herd populations. The proposed action would provide for a blend of resource management conditions and uses which fall between those in Alternative 2 and Alternative 3.

While the proposed action benefits most resource conditions including social and economic, it was accepted but not in its entirety. This was due to an analysis of the benefits that would be derived from certain range improvements compared to the cost of those projects. Several projects were dropped from consideration because they were found not to be cost effective. Following is additional rationale for the selection of the proposed action.

## Environmental Preferability

Environmental preferability is an index of assessing the proposed action and the three other alternatives analyzed in the Riley EIS. It is judged using the criteria in the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Title I, Section 101 of NEPA establishes the following goals as guidelines for preferred environmental qualities:

- (1) fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations;
- (2) assure for all Americans - 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 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.

Each alternative was rated as to how well it complied with the six NEPA goals listed above. Full compliance was rated as "10" and noncompliance rated as "1" with the numbers between used to show the degree of compliance. The "No Action" alternative was considered to be of average preferability "5" between the extremes of 1 to 10. Table 1 depicts the results of this analysis process.

The Proposed Action from the Riley EIS ranked first on the basis of compliance with the six NEPA goals. In summary, the Proposed Action was selected as the most preferred combination of the following factors:

- a) Cost effective expenditures of public funds.
- b) The blending of multiple use concepts in resource management.
- c) Environmental preferability.
- d) Favorable local economic and social repercussions.
- e) Compliance and coordination with interagency recommendations.
- f) Compliance with Federal laws.

**Table 1 Compliance with NEPA Goals by Alternative**

NEPA Goal Number	Proposed Action	No Action (Alternative 1)	Emphasize Livestock (Alternative 2)	Emphasize Non-Livestock Values (Alternative 3)
1	7.2	5.0	5.2	7.7
2	7.0	5.0	4.4	7.7
3	8.1	5.0	4.4	6.8
4	7.2	5.0	4.9	7.4
5	8.1	5.0	5.3	7.3
6	7.9	5.0	4.9	6.7
<b>Overall Rating</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>7.3</b>



# The Relationships Between the Rangeland Management Program and the Riley EIS Proposed Action

The Proposed Action of the Riley EIS consisted of a combination of grazing systems, range improvements and forage allocations designed to achieve resource management objectives. The Proposed Action with some changes in the proposed range improvement projects was selected as the Rangeland Management Program. The range management decisions needed to implement the Range Management Program are outlined below.

## 1. Selective Management

The priority of range improvement completion and annual expenditures by BLM for range supervision, monitoring and project maintenance will be incorporated into the Range Management Program based upon a selective management policy. This approach is a land categorization process which helps Bureau personnel assign management priorities among allotments within a planning unit. The selective management policy is also designed to concentrate public funds and management efforts on allotments which 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. The selective management category for each allotment is listed in Appendix 1.

## 2. Rangeland Investment Analysis

Each allotment's range development program was subjected to a Rangeland Investment Analysis. This analysis process is used to design and evaluate the economic efficiency of various combinations of range improvements and management actions. This process was completed prior to development of the Riley Rangeland Management Program.

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 7.875 percent. There have been several revised B/C ratios computed for each allotment where improvements have been proposed through the Riley EIS process. These revisions provide an opportunity to closely scrutinize each proposed project and the costs attached to it. Ratios greater than 1.0 denote the benefits outweigh the costs and vice versa for ratios less than 1.0. Another method of analysis used in evaluating economic efficiency is the IROR. This method analyzes the costs and benefits of an investment over time and presents the rate of return on that investment. The IROR is 8.3 percent for all allotments combined, where improvements are proposed. The B/C ratio and IROR for these allotments are illustrated in Table 2.

## 3. Allotment Evaluation and Ranking

This step is a cumulative process which helps managers integrate economic, resource and social objectives into selecting, ranking and scheduling program implementation. Factors including return on investment, resource values, resource conflicts, willingness for private investment, public controversy, and additional staff input were considered by the Area Manager to form an allotment ranking. This ranking was reviewed by the District Manager who assigned a final ranking (Table 2) for each allotment. The Area Manager then developed an implementation schedule based on the final ranking.

## 4. Grazing Systems and Areas of Use

Essentially, the RPS grazing systems and subsequent management objectives for all the allotments remained unchanged from the Riley EIS. However, management actions utilized in accomplishing the management objectives for each of the "I" category allotments has been altered for several individual allotments and in some cases combinations of allotments. In some allotments, adjustments in use areas will involve shifting livestock use from an allotment needing rest from grazing use to an allotment where a surplus of forage will be available. These adjustments of use between allotments do not involve altering any existing allotment boundaries, nor the total grazing preference within the allotments. Producing the surplus forage to allow these shifts in areas of use requires that most of the range improvement effort be concentrated in a few allotments. These few allotments will form a management base which is "off-site" from the allotments needing rest from grazing use. This off-site management base concept for implementing grazing systems will allow the native ranges of various "I" category allotments to be rested from grazing pressure without involving the installation

**Table 2 RPS Proposed Range Improvements and Investment Analysis**

Improvement Type	Allotment Name and Number <sup>1</sup>					
	Silver Wagon <sup>2</sup> (0318)	West Wagontire (7004)	Palomino Buttes (7019)	Sand Hollow (7020)	Dog Mountain (7022)	Hayes (7036)
Steel Fence (mile)	16		9		5	
Electric Fence (mile)	51	21	6	8		
Pipeline (each)	38	17	7	5		
Well (each)	3	2	1			
Reservoir (each)					1	2
18,000g Storage Tank (each)	1	2	1	1		
10,000g Water Trough (each)	5			3		
Cattleguard (each)			1			
Brush Ctrl./Burn (acre)	18,497	5,000	2,000			
Brush Ctrl./Spray (acre)	19,200	6,031	2,975			
Seeding (acre)	36,197	11,031	4,975			
EIS Proposed Action B/C Ratio	<sup>3</sup>	.4	.3	.7	<sup>3</sup>	.1
RPS B/C Ratio	1.2	.8	.8	1.3	.8	3.0
Internal Rate of Return (IROR)	9.4%	4.9%	4.9%	13.3%	5.2%	57.2%
<b>Total Improvement Cost (\$)</b>	1,068,815	382,748	199,229	74,628	21,397	11,814
Final Priority Ranking (Number)	3	4	5	1	6	2

<sup>1</sup> Only allotments with proposed improvements are listed.

<sup>2</sup> The Silver Wagon (0318) Allotment is not a formally designated allotment but actually a combination of two allotments - East Wagontire (7003) and Silver Lake (7018). The Silver Wagon Allotment is labeled as such for discussion purposes only.

<sup>3</sup> There was no EIS B/C ratio because at the time of the EIS analysis, no improvements had been proposed in this allotment.

of range improvements where they otherwise would not be cost effective. The allotments where the range improvement effort will be concentrated into a management base, are listed below.

**Silver Wagon Complex (0318) (The East Wagontire (7003) and Silver Lake (7018) allotments):** This complex will accomplish many of the management objectives for the Riley EIS area. The greatest potential for cost efficient range improvements lies within this complex. It will form the management base for implementing grazing systems by providing additional pasture units for rotating grazing use off the following allotments: Rimrock Lake (7006), Dry Lake (7009), Claw Creek (7010), Second Flat (7015) and Juniper Ridge (7016). As a result, the resource condition and carrying capacity are expected to improve. The more pasture units available, the greater the flexibility in management.

**West Wagontire (7004):** The range improvements and additional forage created in this allotment will be used as an off-site management base for a grazing system in the Glass Butte (7005) allotment.

**Sand Hollow (7020):** The range improvements and additional forage created in this allotment as the result of a previous fire rehabilitation program will be used as an off-site management base for a grazing system in the Gouldin (7025) allotment.

**5. Forage Allocations**

The short-term (initial) RPS forage allocations (Appendix 1) will be the same as the Riley EIS Proposed Action. The difference between the long-term RPS forage allocations and the EIS proposed action allocations are outlined in Table 3. This long-term period is considered 15 years. The substantial increases are primarily due to a reassessment of the forage production of the crested wheatgrass seedings scheduled for implementation. Through the EIS process, the production of the seedings was estimated to be four acres/AUM. Three acres/AUM was used as the projected forage productivity for the seedings in the RPS Rangeland Management Program.

**Table 3 Comparison of Long-Term Forage Allocations and Proposed Range Improvements**

	EIS Proposed Action Forage Allocation	RPS Proposed Forage Allocation
Livestock	94,485 AUMs	99,989 AUMs
Wildlife	2,340 AUMs	2,340 AUMs
Wild Horses	2,364 AUMs	2,364 AUMs
Non-Consumptive	667 AUMs	667 AUMs
<b>Total</b>	<b>99,856 AUMs</b>	<b>105,360 AUMs</b>

Type of Range Improvement	EIS Proposed Action Range Improvements	RPS Proposed Land Use Range Improvements
Steel Fence (miles)	176	38
Electric Fence (miles)		78
Spring (each)	8	
Pipeline (miles)	62	67
Wells (each)	5	6
Reservoir (each)	43	3
Waterhole (each)	23	
18,000g Storage Tank (each)		5
10,000g Water Trough (each)	8	
Cattleguard (each)		1
Brush Ctrl./Burn (acres)	22,000	25,497
Brush Ctrl./Spray (acres)	33,703	28,206
Seeding (acres)	55,703	52,203
<b>Total Improvement Cost</b>	<b>\$2,022,930</b>	<b>\$1,758,632</b>

The forage requirements for wildlife and wild horses are satisfied with present forage allocations, thus any increase in forage production will be allocated to livestock which is consistent with the objectives of the proposed Rangeland Management Program. The increased forage will go towards fulfilling total grazing preference in accordance with the Federal Grazing Regulations (43 CFR 4100).

### 6. Range Improvements

There is a significant difference between the RPS proposed range improvements shown in Table 3 above and those included in the Riley EIS Proposed Action. A number of proposed projects have been altered or dropped from consideration because they were not cost efficient. All of the proposed range improvements in Rimrock Lake (7006), Dry Lake (7009), Claw Creek (7010), Second Flat (7015) and Juniper Ridge (7016) allotments have been deleted. With the concept of an off-site management base being used to complete grazing systems in these allotments, their dependency on range improvements was lessened considerably. Specific proposed range improvements and their total cost by allotment are shown in Table 2.

### 7. Other Resource Programs

The management objectives for the other non-range resource programs described in the Riley EIS remain unchanged and the Rangeland Management Program decisions reflect the intent of these objectives.

## Public Involvement

Throughout the planning process, formal and informal public input has actively contributed to the development of the proposed rangeland program. During the preparation of the Riley land use plan, a public meeting was held in Burns (January 1982) to discuss the development of a preferred alternative and for the purpose of defining significant issues for the Riley EIS. There was also a 30-day comment period for both written and oral comments which served as an additional forum for public input. The public feedback helped formulate the preferred and three other alternatives for the draft Riley EIS.

The draft Riley EIS was released to the public in June 1982 and open to comment until August 3, 1982. In the interim, an informal meeting was held in Burns on July 14, 1982 to answer questions. In September 1982, the final Riley EIS was distributed to the public.

## Implementation of the Decision Administrative Actions

After the release of the Riley RPS, allotment management plans will be developed for high priority allotments through consultation and coordination with operators and other interested parties.

An RPS Update, to be published in late 1984, will outline any changes in the actions to be taken on each allotment and progress made on implementation of the Rangeland Management Program.

## Range Improvements and Appropriations

Achieving the resource objectives of the Riley land use plan is dependent upon completion of range improvements. A tentative list of the projects proposed for each allotment and the approximate cost for implementing the respective grazing program is shown in Table 2. In the allotments where only a few range improvements are needed, grazing systems can be implemented immediately. In other allotments, interim grazing systems will be implemented pending completion of the range improvements.

The installation of range improvements will begin in fiscal year 1984 and continue as funds become available. BLM's range management and range improvement programs are funded through congressional appropriations and a portion of the grazing fees collected by the District. At present funding levels, full implementation of the Rangeland Management Program is not expected within the 10-year development period.

## Grazing Use Adjustments

The initial forage allocation for each allotment is illustrated in Appendix 1 and the proposed season-of-use is shown in Appendix 2. Since there are no changes proposed in active preference for any allotment, no decisions will be issued unless someone indicates in writing that their interests are adversely affected. In these situations and prior to future adjustments (either increases or decreases), a decision will be issued to affected parties.

## Resource Monitoring and Evaluation

A variety of resource studies will be conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of the Rangeland Management Program. 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 the most intensive and will be designed to measure progress toward objectives and the environmental conditions which affect that progress.

In the Maintain (M) category allotments, monitoring intensity will be reduced with the primary emphasis placed on changes from current resource conditions.

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

The following are the major rangeland elements to be monitored.

### a. Plants

**Trend** - Studies will be conducted periodically on selected upland and significant riparian areas to determine changes in plant species' composition to determine progress in meeting vegetation objectives.

**Utilization** - Forage utilization studies will be conducted to determine the pattern of grazing use and how much vegetation is removed by grazing animals. Browse utilization studies will continue on deer winter ranges.

**Sensitive, Threatened and Endangered** - There are seven plant species known to occur in the Riley EIS area which are being considered for listing as either endangered or threatened by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Population trend studies will be conducted as needed to determine the effects of the management program.

### b. Animals

**Livestock** - Actual use data will be obtained from the permittee annually on I and M category allotments. These records will reflect the number and class of animals grazing each pasture and the dates livestock graze there. Livestock counts will be made periodically by the BLM to verify these records.

**Aquatic animals** - Studies will be conducted in significant riparian areas to determine changes in populations of fish and other aquatic wildlife.

**Wildlife** - Use data will be obtained from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and supplemental BLM studies. Observation of animal populations and use patterns in conjunction with other agencies will be the principal monitoring methods.

**Waterfowl and Raptors** - Nesting success studies will be continued on significant breeding areas for waterfowl and raptors.

### c. Water

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

### d. Weather

Weather data will be analyzed annually to estimate the effects of crop-year precipitation on herbage yields and for correlation with forage utilization studies.

## Progress Reports

During implementation of the Rangeland Management Program, a record of progress will be maintained and reported in updates of this Rangeland Program Summary. These publications will outline changes to be made in the Rangeland Management Program and will contain monitoring results, range improvement progress, improvement efforts made by the operators and management system information.

# Appendices



# Appendix 1

## RPS Forage Allocation

Allotment Number and Name	Public Lands (Acres)	Other Lands (Acres)	Selective Management Category M,I,C	Initial <sup>1</sup> Livestock Allocation (AUMs)	Livestock (AUMs)	Proposed Rangeland Program Long-Term Allocation		
						Wildlife (AUMs)	Wild Horses (AUMs)	Non-consumptive Uses (AUMs)
7001 East Warm Springs	174,266	27,457	M	7,955	7,955	149	960	137
7002 West Warm Springs	282,589	24,079	I	10,584	11,641	55	864	9
7003 East Wagonire	158,048	41,146	I	9,158	24,000	82	0	0
7004 West Wagonire	66,718	3,927	I	7,493	11,170	55	0	0
7005 Glass Butte	6,973	1,593	I	972	1,075	16	0	0
7006 Rimrock Lake	21,035	1,399	I	1,775	2,050	17	0	12
7007 Hat Butte	18,213	806	M	2,209	2,209	28	0	0
7008 SheepLake-Shields	13,097	12,823	M	1,638	1,638	32	0	87
7009 Dry Lake	18,514	8,072	I	2,884	3,175	52	0	53
7010 Claw Creek	24,244	9,313	I	2,950	3,250	114	0	91
7011 Upper Valley	1,745	5,155	C	254	254	2	0	34
7012 Pack Saddle	2,991	647	M	316	316	2	0	57
7013 Zoglmann	2,240	1,600	I	160	200	7	0	0
7014 Badger Spring	11,043	920	M	1,048	1,048	97	0	0
7015 Second Flat	8,281	1,921	I	638	704	69	0	0
7016 Juniper Ridge	21,768	4,082	I	1,950	2,403	52	0	0
7017 Cluster	9,024	12,516	M	648	648	8	0	0
7018 Silver Lake	16,286	1,625	I	1,755	3,420	14	0	0
7019 Palomino Buttes	47,406	2,594	I	2,762	4,700	406	360	6
7020 Sand Hollow	14,648	9,780	I	300	1,360	9	0	0
7021 Weaver Lake	22,643	1,560	I	1,396	1,675	31	180	16
7022 Dog Mountain	5,120	735	I	0	200	5	0	0
7023 West Sagehen	12,501	1,455	M	1,848	1,848	117	0	0
7024 East Sagehen	22,451	6,378	M	2,393	2,393	164	0	0
7025 Gouldin	4,091	2,350	I	567	621	45	0	2
7026 Horton Mill	2,880	1,450	M	494	494	17	0	0
7027 Emigrant Creek	225	1,360	C	112	112	1	0	4
7028 Stinger Creek	50	265	C	3	3	1	0	0
7029 Spring Creek	1,509	990	M	60	60	13	0	0
7030 Skull Creek	26,860	11,054	M	2,403	2,403	317	0	28
7031 Hey Creek	5,754	5,639	M	585	585	25	0	27
7032 Hotchkiss	415	335	C	26	26	4	0	4
7033 Silvies River	1,044	699	M	245	245	10	0	0
7034 Scat Field	837	1,796	C	96	96	7	0	0
7035 Silvies Meadow	1,356	3,150	M	159	159	10	0	0
7036 Hayes	5,510	3,290	I	329	700	30	0	0
7037 Coal Pit Springs	2,895	6,890	M	370	370	26	0	0
7038 Curry Gordon	729	340	C	72	72	6	0	0
7039 Cave Gulch	2,004	35	M	210	210	20	0	0
7040 Landing Creek	3,614	189	M	740	740	32	0	76
7041 East Silvies	4,294	965	M	594	594	41	0	24
7042 Dole Smith	445	1,565	M	25	25	5	0	0
7043 Lone Pine	15,131	370	M	2,137	2,137	90	0	0
7044 Cowing	260	1,490	C	20	20	3	0	0
7045 Whiting	399	3,403	C	48	48	9	0	0
7046 Baker Hill	188	522	C	20	20	2	0	0
7047 Peabody	268	1,514	C	60	60	3	0	0
7048 Varlen Canyon	317	2,696	C	14	14	2	0	0
7049 Forks of Poison Creek	2,879	730	M	592	592	18	0	0
7050 Clemens	466	429	M	57	57	8	0	0
7051 Sewtooth MNF	535	5,170	M	32	32	0	0	0
7052 Lone Pine Fields	160	320	C	6	6	1	0	0
7053 Silvies Canyon	925	15	M	100	100	5	0	0
7054 Cricket Creek	970	480	C	40	40	6	0	0
7055 Hoover Fields	419	2,830	C	16	16	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,069,271<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>243,916</b>		<b>73,318</b>	<b>99,989</b>	<b>2,340</b>	<b>2,364</b>	<b>667</b>

<sup>1</sup> The initial livestock allocation is the same as the present active preference total for each allotment.  
<sup>2</sup> Only public lands within administered allotments.

## Appendix 2

### RPS Periods of Use and Grazing Systems (Acres)

Allotment Number and Name	Period of Use	Fenced Federal Range	Spring	Spring/Summer	Deferred	Deferred Rotation Annual	Deferred Rotation Biannual	Rest Rotation Three Past.	Rest Rotation Two Past. Biannual	Rest Rotation Two Past. Annual
7001 East Warm Springs	4/10-8/31	1,089				14,245				155,670
7002 West Warm Springs	4/01-9/30	100								282,029
7003 East Wagontire	4/01-10/31	8,778				79,212	70,059			
7004 West Wagontire	4/01-10/31	80					41,240	25,396		
7005 Glass Butte	4/01-10/31						6,973			
7006 Rimrock Lake	4/01-10/15						21,035			
7007 Hat Butte	4/16-10/31	105	860				17,248			
7008 Sheep Lake-Shields	4/01-9/30	400					10,641		1,521	
7009 Dry Lake	4/01-10/31			18,514						
7010 Claw Creek	4/01-10/31	102		24,142						
7011 Upper Valley	4/01-10/31	1,745								
7012 Pack Saddle	6/16-8/15					2,144				
7013 Zoglmann	5/01-9/30			2,240						
7014 Badger Spring	4/01-6/30					11,043				
7015 Second Flat	4/01-6/15	640		7,641						
7016 Juniper Ridge	4/01-9/30			21,768						
7017 Cluster	3/01-4/30	3,662		5,364					8,067	1,771
7018 Silver Lake	4/01-10/31				6,448					
7019 Palomino Buttes	4/01-10/31					44,971				2,435
7020 Sand Hollow	4/01-10/31			14,648						
7021 Weaver Lake	4/01-10/31									22,643
7022 Dog Mountain	5/01-8/15			5,120						
7023 West Sagehen	4/01-10/31						12,501			
7024 East Sagehen	4/01-10/31	332					22,119			
7025 Gouldin	4/01-8/31			4,051						
7026 Horton Mill	4/16-8/31							2,880		
7027 Emigrant Creek	4/01-10/31	225								
7028 Stinger Creek	4/01-10/31	50								
7029 Spring Creek	4/01-10/31	1,509								
7030 Skull Creek	4/21-10/11	2,817	5,685				19,867			
7031 Hay Creek	6/01-9/30	300		3,334		2,120				
7032 Hotchkiss	4/01-10/31	415								
7033 Silvies River	4/01-11/30	5			692		347			
7034 Scat Field	4/01-10/31	837								
7035 Silvies Meadow	7/01-10/31				1,356					
7036 Hayes	4/01-7/15	20		5,490						
7037 Coal Pit Springs	4/01-8/31							2,895		
7038 Curry Gordon	4/01-10/31	729								
7039 Cave Gulch	4/01-9/30								2,004	
7040 Landing Creek	4/01-5/31									3,614
7041 East Silvies	6/01-9/30			1,434				2,860		
7042 Dole Smith	6/01-9/30					445				
7043 Lone Pine	4/01-5/31		245							14,886
7044 Cowing	4/01-10/31	260								
7045 Whiting	4/01-10/31	399								
7046 Baker Hill	4/01-10/31	188								
7047 Peabody	4/01-10/31	268								
7048 Varien Canyon	4/01-10/31	317								
7049 Forks of Poison Creek	4/16-9/30							2,879		
7050 Clemens	4/01-10/31	466								
7051 Sawtooth MNF	6/01-6/10	535								
7052 Lone Pine Fields	4/01-10/31	160								
7053 Silvies Canyon	9/01-9/30				925					
7054 Cricket Creek	4/01-10/31	970								
7055 Hoover Fields	4/01-10/31	419								
<b>Totals</b>		<b>27,922</b>	<b>6,790</b>	<b>113,746</b>	<b>9,421</b>	<b>154,180</b>	<b>222,030</b>	<b>36,910</b>	<b>15,206</b>	<b>479,434</b>

## Appendix 3

### RPS and EIS Alternatives-Comparison of Long-Term Impacts

Vegetative Characteristic	Existing Situation	RPS and Proposed Action*	Alt. 1 No Action	Alt. 2 Emphasize Livestock	Alt. 3 Emphasize Non-Livestock
Forage Condition (Acres)					
Good	280,298	372,204	324,166	396,251	340,430
Fair	554,779	532,794	425,494	532,990	520,885
Poor	234,170	164,249	319,587	140,006	207,932
No Data	11,893	11,893	11,893	11,893	11,893
Trend of Total Residual Ground Cover (Acres)					
Increasing	No Data	1,182	0	598	9,707
Static	No Data	298,857	298,857	298,284	817,591
Decreasing	No Data	781,101	782,283	782,258	253,842
Long-Term Forage Production (AUMs)					
	78,689	105,360	78,689	106,061	90,359
Long-Term Trend of Streamside Riparian Vegetation (Acres)					
Increasing	No Data	164	18	77	331
Static	No Data	223	262	278	156
Decreasing	No Data	0	107	32	0
Long-Term Condition of Streamside Riparian Vegetation (Acres)					
Excellent	58	83	83	76	189
Good	139	217	114	121	152
Fair	59	52	83	59	35
Poor	108	29	84	108	5
Unknown	23	6	23	23	6
Long-Term Condition of Fish Habitat (Miles)					
Excellent	0	0	0	0	0
Good	5.9	8.4	6.2	6.2	8.4
Fair	12.9	11.5	13.7	13.7	12.5
Poor	10.3	9.2	9.2	9.2	9.2
Long-Term Trend of Fish Habitat (Miles)					
Increasing	-	3.6	1.4	1.4	4.6
Static	-	25.5	27.7	22.7	24.5
Decreasing	-	0	0	0	0
Long-Term Trend of Deer Habitat (Acres)					
Increasing	-	200,800	11,500	177,400	180,800
Static	-	149,700	344,500	149,700	179,200
Decreasing	-	9,500	4,000	32,900	0
Long-Term Trend of Antelope Habitat (Acres)					
Increasing	-	315,000	5,500	306,600	111,500
Static	-	154,000	451,500	154,000	292,000
Decreasing	-	0	12,000	8,400	64,500

\* The long-term impacts of the Rangeland Management Program (RPS) are expected to be the same as the Proposed Action of the Riley EIS except for the long-term forage production (see Forage Allocations).



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