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July 2000



Planning Update for the Burns District



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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

April 2000

BURNS DISTRICT OFFICE

HC 74-12533 Hwy 20 West

Hines, Oregon 97738

Web Site: <http://www.or.blm.gov/Burns>



PLANNING UPDATE

Introduction

This is the ninth annual Planning Update published by the Burns District. We hope you will give us feedback on its content, layout, and usefulness to you.

It is our desire to keep you informed on issues, activities, and opportunities we think are of interest to our publics. More importantly, we are seeking ideas and comments from those who may be affected by our multiple-use management programs. This issue reports Fiscal Year (FY) 1999 accomplishments and planned work for FY00. For general information or for comments regarding the Planning Update, please write to the address shown above.

What You Can Find In This Document

Updates like this one are published annually. While the format is flexible, major sections similar to those described below will be included in each edition.

Summary of Work: This section identifies the fiscal year accomplishments and work proposed for the following year. Usually, only significant work or issues will be discussed. More general information is available to individuals upon request.

Feature Report: Reports in this section highlight high profile projects or planning efforts on the District.

Rangeland Program Summary: This section outlines progress being made in implementing the rangeland management objectives identified in the Resource Area's land use plans.

Environmental Assessment (EA) Register: Listed in this section are those EAs expected to be completed this fiscal year. Some may have been identified in the last update, but have not yet been completed.

EAs and decision documents can also be found on our internet site at http://www.or.blm.gov/Burns/Planning/Planning_Index.htm

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

FIGURE 1 - GENERAL LOCATION MAP

2000



40 0 40 80 Miles

40 0 40 80 Kilometers

LEGEND

- BLM State Office
- BLM District Office
- BLM Resource Area Office
- BLM District Boundary
- BLM Resource Area Boundary



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SUMMARY OF WORK ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PLANS

This section is not intended to be a comprehensive description of all activities, but rather a summary of significant activities and land use implementation actions, both accomplished and planned. For additional information, please contact the Burns District Office staff.

This summary includes FY99 accomplishments and FY00 planned work for the following programs:

Prescribed Fire and Fire Management*
Wild Horse and Burro*
Recreation
Lands and Realty
Forestry
Web Page Update

FEATURE REPORT

PRESCRIBED FIRE AND FIRE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

The Burns District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is currently using a combination of prescribed fire and mechanical treatment to enhance and rejuvenate mountain big sagebrush, quaking aspen, and ponderosa pine plant communities. These areas are important habitats for numerous wildlife species and are a significant forage resource for domestic livestock. Prescribed burning increases plant diversity at the species and landscape level, helps rehabilitate ecosystem functions and processes, reduces accumulations of hazardous fuels, and can increase quality and quantity of available forage.

Encroachment of western juniper into mountain big sagebrush and quaking aspen plant communities is a major concern across large areas of the District. Historically, western juniper was limited to rocky ridge tops and shallow soil areas where fires rarely burned. Past livestock management and fire suppression actions have reduced the influence of fire in these areas. Subtle shifts in climate may have also helped western juniper expand its range over the last 100 years. As western juniper density and cover increase, diversity of habitats decreases and potential conflicts over remaining resources increase.

A similar pattern has occurred in the forested areas of the District. Fire suppression and past management actions have helped shade-tolerant conifers move into ponderosa pine stands. Encroachment by shade-tolerant trees increases the number of trees per acre and the competition for resources; this has an adverse effect on forest health. Trees are weakened by the increased competition and are open to attack by insects and disease. The suppression of fire has also permitted a dense layer of shrubby understory plants to develop.

The prescribed fire in the ponderosa pine forest of the District was an underburn of just over 1,000 acres. The project achieved the goals of reducing hazardous fuel accumulations and thinning the stand to help improve forest health. By reducing competition from encroaching fir trees and dense understory shrubs, ponderosa pine will have more resources available and be better able to resist attack by insects and diseases.

In 1999, the Burns District conducted three prescribed burning projects: two on Steens Mountain and one in the forested land in northern Harney County. All three prescribed fires were part of multiyear projects. The two projects on Steens Mountain treated 19,900 acres in mountain big sagebrush and western juniper. Approximately 57 percent of that area, or 11,400 acres, was actually burned. These burns produced a complex mosaic of burned and unburned areas. Since 1996, these two projects have treated 38,500 acres. Over the long term, a complex pattern of burned and unburned areas in mountain big sagebrush and quaking aspen plant communities will be produced. This pattern, or mosaic, will provide a diversity of habitats for numerous animal species.

In addition to prescribed burning, chain saws have also been used to remove western juniper from quaking aspen stands where fire was impractical or did not carry. Cutting of western juniper helps to reduce competition and the disturbance stimulates sucking, or sprouting, of the quaking aspen. Quaking aspen stands that were burned or cut have been temporarily fenced from domestic livestock, deer, and elk. This will allow quaking aspen suckers to grow above the reach of large herbivores, domestic or wild. Once the suckers are out of reach the stands will be evaluated and removed.

In lower elevation sagebrush plant communities where fuel conditions, proximity to sensitive habitats, or presence of introduced annuals make fire impractical, the Burns District is using a technique known as “brush beating.” Brush beating uses a large mower that kills large sagebrush, but leaves smaller shrubs and herbaceous plants relatively unharmed. In 1999, the Burns District “brush beat” 500 acres to improve wildlife habitat and reduce hazardous fuels. Cutting the brush in irregular shapes is another way to create a complex pattern or mosaic.

In 2000, the Burns District is planning to conduct four prescribed fires totaling 7,700 acres. Three of these fires will occur in sagebrush plant communities and one will be in ponderosa pine forest on the north end of the District. In addition to the prescribed fire, the District will continue to cut western juniper in mountain big sagebrush and quaking aspen stands where the application of fire is impractical or will not achieve the desired resource objectives.

The current prescribed fire program on the Burns District has successfully reintroduced fire to sagebrush, aspen, and ponderosa pine plant communities. The District is also using mechanical treatments to improve plant communities where the application of fire is impractical or will not meet management objectives. These management actions are improving habitat for numerous wildlife species and providing greater quality and quantity of forage for domestic and wild herbivores.

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Photo by Steve Moresfield

FEATURE REPORT

WILD HORSE AND BURRO PROGRAM

The Burns District is the lead office for Oregon and Washington's wild horse adoption and gathering program. The District manages eight wild horse Herd Management Areas (HMAs) and provides support for the management of 11 others that are located in the Lakeview, Vale, and Prineville Districts. In addition, one herd is managed by the Ochoco National Forest near Prineville and a second near Dayville is managed jointly by the Prineville District and the Malheur National Forest.

Currently, approximately 2,500 horses are on the range in Oregon's 21 HMAs. Horse numbers increase annually at a rate of 18 to 20 percent. Each herd is gathered every 3 to 5 years, depending on range conditions and actual population numbers, which are determined by range studies and periodic census.

Since the 1999 planning update, the Burns District's Kiger and Riddle HMAs were gathered in August 1999, and a total of 118 excess horses were removed from these areas to provide for proper management of rangelands. These animals and 407 other horses gathered in the Lakeview and Vale Districts were delivered to the Burns Wild Horse Corrals, and were made available to the public through the Wild Horse Adoption Program.

In FY01, the Burns District plans to gather the Stinkingwater, Warm Springs, and Alvord-Tule Springs HMAs. Approximately 335 excess animals will be removed from these areas. Another approximately 440 animals will be added to the adoption program by other Districts in Oregon.

Oregon's wild horses are known nationally for their quality and color, and are very popular with the Nation's adopters. Each of Oregon's herds have their own unique characteristics. Some examples are the South Steens pintos, Hog Creek and Palomino Butte palominos, Warm Springs Appaloosas, Stinkingwater horses that have draft blood, and the highly sought after Kiger Mustangs in the Kiger and Riddle HMAs.

Gathered excess animals are available to qualified adopters through adoption events held at the Burns Wild Horse Corrals and in cities throughout Oregon and Washington. Burros from the southwest are also available at some Oregon adoption events. Eight adoption events were held in 1999 and eight will be held in 2000. In 1999, 341 horses and burros were adopted in Oregon and Washington. Other animals were transported to other states for adoption.

BLM is now using competitive bidding to establish adoption fees at adoption events. Competitive bidding replaces the lottery method that has been used in past years. Through the lottery method, adopters had to rely on "the luck of the draw" for horse selection. Competitive bidding allows all animals to be available to all adopters present. At adoption events, animals are adopted to the highest bidders. Excluding Kiger Mustangs, the average adoption fee during the past year for Oregon events was about \$195 per animal.

The October 1999 Kiger Mustang Adoption held in Burns attracted adopters from many states and one from Germany. Although, one yearling Kiger filly was adopted for a record \$19,000; the average adoption fee for 82 other Kigers was \$717.

Wild horse gentling demonstrations are held at most adoption events. These demonstrations not only provide adopters an opportunity to learn about a variety of gentling and training techniques, but also generate a lot of interest in the adoption program.

Upcoming adoption events in 2000 include:

| | |
|----------|------------------------|
| April 30 | Spokane, Washington |
| June 3 | Longview, Washington |
| June 25 | Ellensburg, Washington |

Animals are also available to adopters through "Walk Up" appointments at the Burns Corrals for the minimum adoption fee of \$125 per animal.

Horse enthusiasts are finding that wild horses have a place among America's horses, and that they perform admirably in a variety of situations. Adopters report that the gentling process is occasionally challenging, but always rewarding. Wild horses are commonly used for pleasure and trail animals, packing, ranch work, and occasionally in competitive events. They are known for their intelligence, endurance, and agility.

Information about the Wild Horse Program is available through the internet at the following sites:

National Wild Horse and Burro Web Page: <http://www.blm.gov/whb>

Burns District Home Page: http://www.or.blm.gov/Burns/burns_wild_horses_and_burros.htm

Adoption applications and information may also be obtained by calling the Burns District Office at (541) 573-4456.

RECREATION PROGRAM

THREE RIVERS RESOURCE AREA

In 1999, a new reservoir was constructed in the Silvies Valley approximately 1-mile from U.S. Highway 395 and U.S. Forest Service (FS) Road 17. This new reservoir is a cooperative project between the BLM and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). When full, the reservoir will be approximately 17-20 surface acres in size. Managed as a "day-use only" area for fishing opportunities, it will be stocked with fingerling rainbow trout in the fall of 2000.

Chickahominy Reservoir also saw some major improvements in 1999. The main pumphouse was remodeled and a new fish cleaning station was completed. New holding tanks were installed for the fish cleaning station and the campground host site.

Cooperative management continues between the BLM, ODFW, and Harney County with the rehabilitation of the Chickahominy Reservoir shoreline. The objective of the rehabilitation project is to control motorized access by having only one access road with pullouts to three key fishing areas. Parking will be provided at these pullout sites and the areas will be managed for day-use only.

The access road will provide a hard surface road for fish stocking to the upper portion of the reservoir. The improved gravel road will improve the survival of stocked fingerling rainbow trout and give anglers a better recreation experience by reducing risks both to their vehicles and to the resource. It will also improve water quality of the reservoir by reducing sedimentation from wet season use, uncontrolled vehicle access, and the dumping of gray water from camping next to the reservoir. This project should be completed in the fall of 2000 depending on funding.

The Burns District Recreation Program staff spent approximately 1-week on a Service First project with the FS rebuilding seven pit toilets at the Joaquin Miller Campground, located approximately 21 miles north of Burns on U.S. Highway 395. Recreation sites at Moon and Warm Springs Reservoirs continue to be upgraded and maintained.

Andrews Resource Area

Many projects were completed in the Andrews Resource Area in 1999, including new facilities, maintenance, and improvement of old facilities. At Page Springs Campground, two double Romtec toilets were installed to replace older facilities and access to the day-use picnic area was improved for those with disabilities. Three single Romtecs replaced existing facilities at Fish Lake Campground. Ten cottonwood trees were planted at two campgrounds. New, historically accurate gates were installed at the corrals and the entrance to Riddle Brothers Ranch National Historic District. Several visitor information and interpretive signs were placed throughout the Resource Area.

Several volunteer groups assisted with trail maintenance projects on Steens Mountain and in other areas. Five miles of trail corridor were cleared of brushy vegetation and waterbars were repaired and installed in Little Blitzen Canyon. Waterbars were cleared on a trail in Cottonwood Canyon in the Pueblo Mountains.

Dispersed campsites were rehabilitated in many areas on the District. Back country campsite monitoring continued in four main canyons and began in one more area with additional data collected on human impacts to biotic and physical resources. Campsites were plotted using GPS, videotaped, and photo points were established. Information regarding hiking opportunities was added to the District's web page.

Plans are being developed for other recreational opportunities. These include development of three walking trails on Steens Mountain, a trail head display for Little Blitzen Canyon, and improvements to visitor information kiosks and signs throughout the Resource Area. Maintenance of campgrounds and recreation sites will continue.

LANDS AND REALTY PROGRAM

Processing of the Davis land exchange was postponed until late 1999 when the BLM's Washington Office granted approval to continue with the effort. When completed, the exchange will consolidate public and private lands on the east side of the Steens Mountain and in Catlow Valley. In addition, easements will be secured through the exchange that will provide important public access to public land on the east side of the Steens.

In 1999, the Three Rivers Resource Area sold 1,867 acres of isolated tracts of public land. Resource inventories and other work was completed to prepare an additional 4,200 acres to be offered in the years 2000 and 2001. Since the sale program started in 1996, approximately 3,600 acres have been conveyed.

A 2-year temporary land withdrawal was processed by the Burns District and Oregon State Office, BLM and approved by the Secretary of the Interior. The temporary withdrawal is necessary to protect the Steens Mountain from certain types of land uses where BLM has little control, pending a decision on permanent legislation or administrative designation for the mountain.

In 1999, the District granted several rights-of-way for buried telephone and fiber optics lines to improve local communications service in the area. These improvements were an outgrowth of a multistate fiber optics line which was completed through the District in 1998. Additional rights-of-way and permits were also issued for development and use of roads, small scale electric power lines, commercial filming, and other public land uses. Subsequent monitoring was implemented to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the appropriate permits.

In 2000, right-of-way and land use permit applications will continue to be processed as they are received and unauthorized use dealt with as it is discovered. It is anticipated that right-of-way activity may decrease slightly over last year's levels since most foreseeable communications service upgrades occurred in 1999. Road use agreements for private log and rock hauling are expected to remain stable.

Oregon Public Broadcasting met with BLM late in 1999 to propose an FM radio translator site on public land at Jack Mountain where a microwave repeater site currently exists. The translator is necessary to provide FM radio service to the Frenchglen area and to residences in the Blitzen Valley. If Oregon Public Broadcasting's proposal develops into a formal application, a communications site plan will be developed for Jack Mountain and a right-of-way processed for the translator.

The Three Rivers Resource Area has initiated processing of an extension of the existing land withdrawal for the Diamond Craters Outstanding Natural Area/Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ONA/ACEC). The current withdrawal is scheduled to expire early in the year 2001. Other land which was acquired and designated as part of the ONA/ACEC is also proposed to be added to the withdrawal so that it receives the same protection as the land in the special area.

Approximately 1,000 acres of isolated, unmanageable public land tracts were recently sold and conveyance processing is currently ongoing. An additional 1,600 acres are proposed to be offered in the summer or fall of the year 2000. Screening of disposal parcels, appraisal, and resource inventory for additional acreage will be undertaken so that the land sale program can continue into 2001 and 2002.

The EA and title work for the Davis Land Exchange is planned for later this year. Once this work is accomplished and if a final decision is made to proceed, the closing of the Davis Exchange could occur late in the year 2000.

Final title acceptance will be secured on administrative road easements that were acquired in 1999 to provide for access to the Cow Creek Timber Sale. Preliminary work will be initiated for access associated with future BLM timber sales in the Pine Creek area.

Negotiations and preliminary work will be initiated on a proposal to sell public land currently under lease for a shooting range operated by the Burns Butte Sportsman Club under the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. The club has fully developed the range and has shown interest in seeking fee title to the land.

FORESTRY PROGRAM

The Forestry Program is primarily confined to the Three Rivers Resource Area, except for minor amounts of special forest product sales in the Andrews Resource Area.

Forest health treatments continue to be the District's priority for forest management. The Dry Pine thinning project began implementation in FY99 with a contract for 252 acres of noncommercial thinning and piling. The project will continue in FY00 with another 185 acres to be noncommercially thinned and piled. The Craft Point Designated Old Growth area will have 57 acres noncommercially thinned and piled to reduce bark beetle damage.

The Cow Creek Forest Health Project began implementation with the selective harvest of 500,000 board feet of timber. It is expected that it will continue in FY00 with 55 acres of noncommercial thinning and the fencing of 13 acres of aspen. Aspen stands are an important habitat that have become a District priority for restoration. The Newell/Mountain and Rattlesnake aspen rehabilitation projects will be implemented this year. They involve cutting invaded junipers and pines out of five aspen stands and then fencing the stands to protect the regenerating aspen from browsing animals.

An EA will be written to analyze forest management options for the consolidated block of BLM land in the Silvies Valley that resulted from a recent land exchange. The Newell Forest Health Project will propose to treat 934 acres of overstocked second growth ponderosa pine stands. Treatments will include fencing and/or replanting 24 aspen stands, noncommercial thinning, slash piling and burning, timber harvest, and road relocations and closures. The authorized officer may subsequently change, alter or amend any planned timber sales.

Special forest products including juniper boughs, posts, and firewood continue to be provided as a service to the public. We also participate in the combined personal use firewood program with the Burns District, Malheur National Forest and the Snow Mountain District, Ochoco National Forest. This program enables permit holders to use one permit to cut firewood on Federal land managed by both agencies. Juniper control projects have been identified in the wildlife section of this update.

WEB PAGE UPDATE

The Burns District Office has upgraded the Internet web site at <http://www.or.blm.gov/Burns> to include new pages on District Trails, a District Photo Tour, a Steens Mountain Information Page, Fire Management including the Helitack and Prescribed Burning Program, Planning Documents, Free Brochures, and local Archaeological sites. The web site still maintains News, Information, What We Do, BLM Facts, Recreation, Wild Horses, and the Directory. A new web page to be added in May of 2000 will be a current EA page. This web page will have EAs in open public comment period and decision notices. The public will be able to provide public comment through this web site.

In addition to the Burns District web site, we also maintain the Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council (SEORAC or RAC) web site at <http://www.or.blm.gov/SEOR-RAC>. This web site provides the RAC's mission, jurisdictional boundary and map, list of council members, news releases, *Federal Register* notices, and the meeting minutes for public review. The RAC provides representative citizen counsel and advice to the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture through the BLM and FS concerning the planning and management of the public land and National forest resources located in whole or in part within the Burns, Vale, and Lakeview Districts of the BLM and the Fremont, Deschutes, Ochoco, and Malheur National Forests.

As part of our continuing effort to make information we have added EAs and decision documents to our website. You can find them at http://www.or.blm.gov/Burns/Planning/Planning_Index.htm.

BURNS DISTRICT RANGELAND PROGRAM SUMMARY

Introduction

The purpose of the Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) Updates for each Resource Area is to outline the progress being made in implementing the rangeland management objectives as identified in the current land use plans.

Interested Publics

Following issuance of this RPS Update, there will be a 30-day comment period for the public to request "interested public" status. If you believe that any of the future actions indicated in the RPS Update may affect your interests, and you wish to be considered an interested public, contact the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Burns District Manager in writing by June 2000. You must identify which specific future actions concern you, the allotment or allotment(s) involved, and your reason for requesting this status. You will then be provided opportunities to be involved in the decision-making process for the management of livestock grazing in these allotments. If you have been an interested public in the past and have not been actively involved, you will be dropped from our list. If you wish to continue your interested public status, you must advise us in writing by the above-mentioned date.

THREE RIVERS RANGELAND PROGRAM SUMMARY UPDATE

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to outline the progress being made in implementing the rangeland management objectives of the Three Rivers Resource Management Plan (RMP).

Fiscal Year (FY) 2000 Plans

During FY00, the monitoring data will be analyzed, interpreted, and evaluated to document the progress of management to meet resource objectives for the following allotments. An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health will be included in the evaluation.

| Allotment No. | Allotment Name |
|---------------|-------------------|
| #5104 | Soldier Creek |
| #5106 | Cow Creek |
| #5208 | Emmerson |
| #5209 | Crane |
| #5302 | Big Bird |
| #5514 | Coal Mine Creek |
| #5529 | House Butte |
| #7002 | West Warm Springs |
| #7003 | East Wagontire |
| #7009 | Dry Lake |
| #7019 | Palomino Buttes |
| #7021 | Weaver Lake |
| #7025 | Gouldin |
| #7058 | Narrows |

In addition, assessments for standards will be made using an abbreviated evaluation process on the following custodial allotments:

| Allotment No. | Allotment Name |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
| #5314 | Baker Fenced Federal Range (FFR) |
| #5317 | Hatt Butte |
| #5318 | Black Butte |
| #5322 | Briggs' FFR |
| #5323 | Clemens' FFR |

| Allotment No. | Allotment Name |
|---------------|----------------------|
| #5324 | Riddle FFR |
| #5325 | Marshall Diamond FFR |
| #5326 | Jenkins N Lake FFR |
| #5327 | Jenkins B Flat FFR |
| #5328 | Fisher FFR |
| #7034 | Scat Field |
| #7037 | Coal Pit Springs |
| #7038 | Curry Gordon |
| #7042 | Dole Smith |
| #7044 | Cowing |
| #7045 | Whiting |
| #7046 | Baker Hill |
| #7047 | Peabody |
| #7048 | Varien Canyon |
| #7050 | Clemens Individual |
| #7052 | Lone Pine Field |

Allotment Management Plans (AMPs) will be developed or revised for the following allotments:

| | |
|-------|-------------------|
| #5104 | Soldier Creek |
| #5105 | Camp Harney |
| #5106 | Cow Creek |
| #5205 | Venator |
| #5212 | Mahon Ranch |
| #5214 | Hamilton |
| #5302 | Big Bird |
| #5514 | Coal Mine Creek |
| #5521 | Rocky Basin |
| #5529 | House Butte |
| #7002 | West Warm Springs |
| #7019 | Palomino Buttes |
| #7021 | Weaver Lake |
| #7036 | Hayes |
| #7051 | Sawtooth MNF |
| #7058 | Narrows |

FY99 Accomplishments

| Allotment No. | Allotment Name | Category* | Implementation Progress |
|---------------|----------------|-----------|---|
| | | | *I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial |
| 4040 | Poison Creek | C | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999 and found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present. A reservoir for recreation was completed in February 2000. This reservoir will be excluded from grazing which removes the portion of Poison Creek that is on public land from the allotment. |
| 4096 | Hi Desert | C | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present. |
| 4097 | Trout Creek | I | <p>An AMP was developed in 1999 that incorporates the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and addresses the conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These conflicts and concerns include range condition. The objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain the late and mid-seral ecological conditions throughout the allotment, and • continue to improve riparian habitat condition in the Lost Creek Pasture. <p>A grazing system has been designed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.</p> |
| 4126 | Abraham's Draw | C | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present. |
| 4138 | White | C | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standard for upland watershed function was being met. The standards for riparian/wetland watershed function, ecological processes, water quality, and Special Status species were not met. The determination was that livestock were a significant factor in ecological processes not being met. Further investigation will be conducted to determine actual boundaries of the allotment and determine the actions that will reverse this situation. |

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

| | | | |
|------|--------------|---|---|
| 4143 | Silvies | I | <p>An AMP was developed in 1999 that incorporates the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and addresses the conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP and during the evaluation process. These conflicts and concerns include forage allocation for elk, riparian and aquatic habitat condition, wetland habitat condition, Special Status species, water quality, range condition and historic structures and features. Resource objectives of the AMP are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• cause an upward trend in riparian condition on North Mountain Creek, Newell Creek, and all side-drainages associated with these main waterways by the year 2000;• cause an upward trend in all riparian and wet meadow habitat withing the allotment by the year 2000;• maintain all good range condition plant communities and cause an upward trend in all fair and poor range condition plant communities by 2002;• cause an upward trend in habitats for the Special Status species, redband trout;• maintain and enhance locally important historic features and properties;• optimize wetland habitat for nesting waterfowl in the Upper Mountain Creek Pasture and foraging habitat for water birds in the West of Highway Wetland Pasture. <p>Fully to implement the grazing system outlined in the AMP, 6 miles of fence were removed and 9 miles of fence were upgraded or constructed.</p> |
| 5001 | Harney-Crane | C | <p>An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species were being met. Usually, riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present in the allotment, but the current level of Malheur Lake has moved into the allotment. As an ephemeral component of the allotment, these standards are being met.</p> |
| 5105 | Camp Harney | M | <p>An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found that the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, water quality, and Special Status species were met. It was determined that the standard for riparian/wetland watershed function was not met and livestock was a significant factor. The AMP is scheduled to be rewritten to address this standard.</p> |

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

| | | | |
|------|-------------|---|---|
| 5202 | Hunter | M | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found that the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species were met. The standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality were not present. |
| 5205 | Venator | I | <p>An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 1999 to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. Results indicate that forage production far exceeds forage demand. The grazing system identified in the AMP is obsolete due to fencing on private land. An interim system which has been in place to address the pasture changes was found to be meeting resource objectives. The assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health found that the standards for upland watershed function, riparian/wetland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species were met, and it is unknown whether or not the water quality standard is being met. The evaluation recommends:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• rewriting the AMP to formalize the grazing system that is being used;• rewriting the objectives to reflect the resource conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP;• rewriting the rangeline agreement to show the boundary change made by the 1998 fence;• increasing the stocking rate on a trial basis, and• changing the selective management category to "I." |
| 5212 | Mahon Ranch | M | An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 1998 to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. Results indicate that the grazing system identified in the AMP has not been followed, however, the grazing treatments being used have been meeting resource objectives. Forage production is in balance with forage demand and no change in stocking rate is recommended. The assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health found that the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species were met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present. The evaluation recommends continuing the existing rest-rotation grazing system and formalizing it into an AMP with objectives which are written to reflect the conflicts and concerns in the Three Rivers RMP. The evaluation also recommends rewriting the rangeline agreement to remove the Windy Point Pasture from the allotment since the RMP closed it to grazing. |

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

In August 1999, a wildfire burned 185 acres on the top of Windy Point. Approximately 150 acres were reseeded to native shrubs and forbs. A protective fence will be constructed to provide exclusion to grazing. Noxious weed will be controlled if monitoring discovers weed invasion.

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| 5214 | Hamilton | I | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found that the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species were met. The standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality were not present. |
| 5218 | Bennett's FFR | C | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present. |
| 5300 | Alkali | M | An AMP was developed in 1999 which incorporates the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and addresses the unique situation of this allotment. Ninety-five percent of this allotment is seeded to crested wheatgrass. The forage in this allotment is not allocated permanently to any permittee, it is used to ameliorate conditions in other parts of the Resource Area by allowing use to be moved into this allotment from other areas on a temporary basis. The resource objective for this allotment is to maintain all seeded areas in excellent or good condition over the next 10 years. A grazing system has been designed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture. In order to facilitate moving permittees onto the allotment from various parts of the Resource Area, a set of handling corrals has been constructed. |
| 5303 | Dry Lake | M | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found that the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met. Data were insufficient to determine whether or not the water quality standard was met. The standard for riparian/wetland watershed function was not met, but the determination was that livestock was not a significant factor. The area involved has been excluded from grazing for many years. |

FY99 Accomplishments

| Allotment No. | Allotment Name | Category* | Implementation Progress |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------|--|
| | | | *I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial |
| 5305 | Crow's Nest | M | <p>An AMP was developed in 1999 to incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address the conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The conflict or concern identified is Special Status species. The objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain all seeded areas in excellent or good condition over the next 10 years to provide an average of 800 to 1,000 AUMs each year for livestock and wildlife; and • provide nesting and rearing opportunity for long-billed curlews in either pasture during May to mid-June each year. <p>A grazing system has been designed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.</p> |
| 5306 | Rocky Ford | M | <p>An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present.</p> |
| 5309 | Happy Valley | M | <p>An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found that the standards for upland watershed function and ecological processes have been met. It also found that the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function, water quality, and Special Status species have not been met and that livestock are a significant factor. An AMP has been implemented that addresses these standards. One and one-half miles of riparian protection fence were constructed to exclude Riddle Creek from grazing. Wild horses, in excess of Appropriate Management Levels (AMLs), were removed from this allotment in October 1999 to keep the herd area in a thriving natural ecological balance. Prescribed burns were completed on 2,863 acres.</p> |
| 5310 | Riddle Mountain | I | <p>Prescribed burns were completed on 591 acres.</p> |
| 5313 | Burnt Flat | I | <p>An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found that the standards for upland watershed function, riparian/wetland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met. The standard for water quality is not present. Wild horses, in excess of AMLs, were removed from this allotment in October 1999 to keep the herd area in a thriving natural ecological balance.</p> |

FY99 Accomplishments

| Allotment No. | Allotment Name | Category* | Implementation Progress |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------|--|
| | | | *I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial |
| 5316 | Virginia Valley | M | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present |
| 5329 | Riddle-Coyote | I | Prescribed burns were completed on 258 acres. |
| 5330 | Barnes Well | M | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function and Special Status species have been met. The standard for ecological processes has not been met but the determination was that livestock are not a significant factor. The standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present. |
| 5331 | Smyth-Kiger | I | Wild horses in excess of AMLs were removed from this allotment in October 1999 to keep the herd area in a thriving natural ecological balance. Prescribed burns were completed on 4,289 acres. |
| 5501 | East Cow Creek | M | An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 1999 to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. The results indicated that the current grazing system is meeting the resource objectives. The assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health showed the standard for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species were achieved and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present. The AMP was revised in 1999 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and to address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These conflicts and concerns include erosion, big game habitat, elk forage allocation, Special Status species, and range condition. The objectives are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain those plant communities in late seral stage and in good condition while causing an upward trend in those plant communities in mid-seral and in fair condition throughout the allotment over the next evaluation period (approximately 10 years); and • maintain the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from May through early July each year in at least half of the allotment during the next evaluation period. |

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

A grazing system has been designed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.

5502 Rock Creek M

The AMP was revised in 1999 to incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The conflicts and concerns include erosion and Special Status species. The objectives developed for the AMP are:

- maintain all seral stages in their current status to provide a diversity of habitat types and conditions and forage requirements during the next four grazing cycles; and
- maintain the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from May to mid-July during the next 10 years.

A grazing system has been designed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.

5504 State Field M

An AMP was developed in 1999 to address the resource concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The conflicts and concerns are Special Status species and traditional root gathering areas. The objectives are to:

- maintain those plant communities in late seral stage and good condition, and those plant communities in mid-seral stage and fair condition, in the allotment over the next evaluation period (approximately 5 years); and
- maintain the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from May through early July each year during the next evaluation period.

A grazing system has been designed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.

5506 Muddy Creek M

A spring development was completed to provide clean water for livestock and wildlife and prevent trampling of the spring source.

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

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| 5508 | Baker-Knowles | M | <p>An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present. The AMP was revised in 1999 to incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address the conflicts and concerns from the Three Rivers RMP. The conflicts and concerns identified are elk forage allocation and Special Status species. The objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• maintain the mid-seral low sagebrush/Idaho fescue range sites and the late-seral stiff sagebrush/Sandberg bluegrass range sites; and• maintain an adequate supply of forbs for sage grouse from April through mid-July each year. |
| 5511 | Moffet Table | I | <p>This allotment contains the only potential habitat in the Three Rivers Resource Area for bull trout, a Federally listed threatened species. The Middle Fork of the Malheur River is identified as potential winter habitat for bull trout. Bluebucket Creek is a tributary of the Middle Fork. The Middle Fork has been managed under a grazing system under which livestock used the pasture annually in May, July, and August every other year. The Bluebucket Pasture was used every other year in May, June, and July. To manage for improving riparian conditions for bull trout habitat, 4.75 miles of fence were constructed in the fall of 1999 to fence both riparian reaches into riparian pastures. These areas will be rested for a period of at least 5 years. After this period, the proposal is to use the pastures early in the year (May) to provide opportunities for regrowth. This use will occur only if sufficient riparian recovery has been attained.</p> |
| 5515 | Mule Creek | I | <p>The AMP was revised in 1999 to incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The conflicts and concerns include water quality, elk forage allocation, riparian or aquatic habitat condition, and Special Status species. The objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• maintain 3,417 acres in late seral-stage and 4,665 acres in mid-seral stage in the mountain big sagebrush/Idaho fescue-Thurber needlegrass and Wyoming big sagebrush/bluebunch wheatgrass range sites in all of the pastures over the next 10 years; |

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

- maintain the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from May to mid-July each year;
- maintain at least 85 percent of the current stands of browse in healthy condition by ensuring a 1:1 ratio of seedling and young to dead and decadent bitterbrush plants over the next 10 years;
- maintain the current upward (improving) trend in the good condition riparian habitat in Mule Creek during the next 10 years.

A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.

5517 Otis Mountain I

The AMP was revised in 1999 to incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The conflicts and concerns include big game habitat condition, elk forage allocation, and Special Status species. The objectives are to:

- maintain 2,877 acres currently in Potential Natural Community (PNC) and late seral stage and cause an upward trend on 10,406 acres currently in mid-seral stage, in order to provide forage and habitat for livestock and big game in the following amounts of forage over the next evaluation period (5 years), 1,738 AUMs for livestock, 100 AUMs for deer, 72 AUMs for elk;
- maintain or improve the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from May through early July each year in at least half of the allotment during the next evaluation period;
- maintain 85 percent of the current stands of bitterbrush in healthy condition by maintaining a 1:1 ratio of young and seedling plants to dead and decadent plants in all of the pastures during the next evaluation period.

A grazing system has been established which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and utilization targets have been established for each pasture.

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

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| 5521 | Rocky Basin | M | <p>An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 1999 to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether present management is meeting resource objectives. Results indicate that the system outlined in the AMP is working toward meeting resource objectives but a small voluntary decrease in stocking rate is necessary to balance forage demand with forage production. The assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health found that the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species were being met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present.</p> |
| 5524 | Dawson Butte | I | <p>The AMP was revised in 1999 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The conflicts and concerns include water quality, erosion, riparian or aquatic habitat condition, Special Status species, and range condition. The objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• cause an upward trend in the early and mid-seral stage Wyoming big sagebrush/bluebunch wheatgrass, Wyoming big sagebrush/Sandberg bluegrass, and Wyoming big sagebrush/Idaho fescue range sites over the next evaluation period;• increase the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from April through mid-July in the allotment every year;• continue an upward trend in the riparian habitat condition on Stinkingwater Creek, and• maintain a stable trend in the crested wheatgrass seedings during the next evaluation period. <p>A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species, stocking rate and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture. A trough was replaced at a spring development.</p> |
| 5528 | Cooler | M | <p>An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present.</p> |

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

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| 5531 | Stinkingwater | I | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function and ecological processes were met. The standards for riparian/wetland watershed function, water quality, and Special Status species were not met and the determination was that livestock were a significant factor. An AMP was prepared in 1997, which addresses these standards and the new system should meet all standards and resource objectives. |
| 5532 | Mountain | I | Three and one-quarter miles of protective fence were built to protect an area which burned in a wildfire in 1998. It will provide rest from grazing to allow the vegetation to reestablish. |
| 5536 | Alder Creek | I | One waterhole was cleaned. |
| 5537 | Buck Mountain | M | <p>An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes and Special Status species were met. The standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality were not met and the determination was that livestock are a significant factor. The action taken to resolve this was to construct a protective fence on Warm Springs Creek with no plans to authorize grazing in the creek enclosure. In addition, the AMP was revised in 1999 to incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The conflicts and concerns include water quality, elk forage allocation, riparian or aquatic habitat condition, and Special Status species. The objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain those plant communities in late seral stage and good condition, while causing an upward trend in those plant communities in mid-seral stage and fair condition throughout the allotment over the next evaluation period (approximately 10 years); • maintain the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from May through early July each year in at least half of the allotment during the next evaluation period; • cause an upward trend in the poor riparian condition along Warm Spring Creek and Stockade Creek over the next 5 years. <p>A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.</p> |

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

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| 5565 | Upton Mountain | I | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standard for ecological processes was met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality were not present. The standard for upland watershed function was not met and the determination was that livestock were a significant factor. A grazing system was put in place to resolve this. The standard for Special Status species was not met due to wildfire. The determination was that livestock were not a significant factor. The control valves on a reservoir were repaired so that a pipeline running from the reservoir is functioning to make water available away from the reservoir site. |
| 5566 | Texaco Basin | I | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function and ecological processes were met. The standards for riparian/wetland watershed function, water quality, and Special Status species were not met and the determination was that livestock was a significant factor. An AMP was implemented with a grazing system to resolve these problems and meet resource objectives. |
| 7001 | East Warm Springs | I | In August 1999, a wildfire burned 383 acres north of Jack Mountain. Approximately 350 acres were seeded to a mixture of shrubs, grass, and forbs. A protective fence will be constructed around the burned area to provide at least 2 years of rest from grazing to allow the vegetation to reestablish. Noxious weeds will be controlled if monitoring discovers weed invasion. |
| 7002 | West Warm Springs | I | In August 1999, a wildfire burned 1,047 acres southwest of Harney Lake. Approximately 450 acres were seeded to Wyoming big sagebrush. Noxious weeds will be controlled if monitoring discovers weed invasion. |

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

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| 7006 | Rimrock Lake | I | <p>An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 1999 to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. The results indicate that the existing grazing system is meeting resource objectives at the light stocking rate that has been used. The assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health shows the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met. There has been no information collected on the wetland and playa habitats in the allotment so no assessment can be made for the riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality standard. The evaluation recommends rewriting the objectives to conform to the RMP, developing an AMP identifying a grazing system which will meet resource objectives, and reducing the stocking rate on a voluntary basis. An AMP was developed in 1999 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The conflicts and concerns include big game habitat, playa habitat, Special Status species, and range condition. The objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• maintain the current percentages of seral stages in the allotment to provide the varied habitat and forage requirements for wildlife and livestock over the next 10 years; and• maintain or improve all playa and other wetland habitat condition in the allotment. <p>A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture. The permittee has agreed to voluntary nonuse to bring forage demand into balance with forage production.</p> |
| 7009 | Dry Lake | I | <p>A solar pump and pipeline were installed on a spring to move water away from the spring source and allow livestock to water from troughs in another pasture.</p> |

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

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| 7010 | Claw Creek | I | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function and ecological processes have been met. The standards for riparian/wetland watershed function, water quality, and Special Status species have not been met and the determination was that livestock are a significant factor. An AMP is in place which is resolving the resource conflicts and meeting the resource objectives. Two reservoirs were cleaned out, two cattleguards were installed, and .25-mile of allotment boundary fence was constructed in 1999. |
| 7015 | Second Flat | I | Two guzzlers were installed in 1999 to provide water for wildlife. |
| 7016 | Juniper Ridge | M | An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 2000 to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. Results indicate that the grazing treatments identified in the AMP are meeting the resource objectives. The assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present. The evaluation recommends continuing the management identified in the existing AMP and changing the selective management category to "M." |
| 7024 | East Sagehen | I | An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 1999 to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. The results indicate that the grazing treatments outlined in the AMP are meeting the resource objectives with the exception of the big game browse objective. The assessment for Standards for Rangeland Health found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present. The evaluation recommends rewriting the objectives to slightly modify the grazing treatment to shorten the season of use on the browse species. |

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

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| 7027 | Emigrant Creek | C | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met. The standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality have not been met. There is not enough information to make a determination of whether or not livestock are a significant factor. |
| 7028 | Stinger Creek | C | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function and ecological processes have been met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function, water quality, and Special Status species are not present. |
| 7029 | Spring Creek | C | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met. The standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present. |
| 7030 | Skull Creek | I | <p>The AMP was revised in 1999 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include water quality, erosion, forage allocation for elk, riparian/aquatic habitat condition, Special Status species, and range condition. The objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain an upward trend in the mountain big sagebrush/ Idaho fescue and low sagebrush/Idaho fescue range sites while maintaining the late seral stage status in the same range sites in all pastures during the next evaluation period (5 years); • maintain the upward trend in the riparian habitat condition along 3.5 miles of Skull Creek in both the Boulder Springs and Lake Creek Pastures; • maintain 85 percent of the current stands of bitterbrush in healthy condition by maintaining a 1:1 ratio of young and seedling plants to dead and decadent plants in all of the pastures during the next evaluation period (5 years); • maintain the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from May through early July each year in at least half of the allotment during the next evaluation period. |

A grazing system has been designed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.

FY99 Accomplishments

| Allotment No. | Allotment Name | Category* | Implementation Progress |
|---------------|----------------|-----------|--|
| | | | *I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial |
| 7031 | Hay Creek | I | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function and ecological processes have been met. The standards for riparian/wetland watershed function, water quality, and Special Status species have not been met, but the determination is that livestock are not a significant factor. The allotment has an AMP and the allotment is in an upward trend and the aquatic habitat is improving. |
| 7032 | Hotchkiss | C | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present. |
| 7051 | Sawtooth MNF | M | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function, riparian/wetland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met and there was no data to assess for the water quality standard. |
| 7054 | Cricket Creek | C | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted in 1999. It found the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and Special Status species have been met and the standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present. |
| 7062 | Capehart Lake | I | Approximately 500 acres of big sagebrush/bunchgrass were brush beat in November 1999 to invigorate decadent Wyoming big sagebrush. Young sagebrush and understory species will benefit from reduced competition. |

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

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| 7063 | Roundtop Butte | I | An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 2000 to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. The results indicate that the grazing system has been partially followed. The assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health found that the standards for upland watershed function and ecological processes have been met. The standards for riparian/wetland watershed function and water quality are not present. The standard for Special Status species was not met but the determination was that livestock are not a significant factor. The evaluation recommended slight modification to the grazing system to provide more rest to the allotment. |
| 7082 | Hines Field | C | An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health found all standards have been met. |

ANDREWS RANGELAND PROGRAM SUMMARY UPDATE

Introduction

Priority work for the Andrews Resource Area remains those allotments with riparian/water quality values. Allotments with significant riparian resource values and updated management plans continue to show improvements in condition and trend. Management efforts specific to each allotment are listed below.

The SEORMP/EIS will reestablish resource objectives which all allotments must meet. Specific management prescriptions will still be made on an allotment or watershed basis.

FY00 Plans

During FY00, the monitoring data will be analyzed, interpreted, and evaluated to document the progress of management to meet resource objectives for the following allotments. An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health will be included in the evaluation.

| Allotment No. | Allotment Name |
|---------------|-------------------|
| #6012 | Alvord |
| #6015 | Trout Creek |
| #6018 | Mann Lake |
| #6032 | Krumbo Mountain |
| #6033 | Chimney Allotment |
| #6040 | Stonehouse |

An Allotment Management Plan (AMP) will be developed for the following allotment:

| Allotment No. | Allotment Name |
|---------------|----------------------|
| #6040 | Stonehouse Allotment |

FY99 Accomplishments

| Allotment No. | Allotment Name | Category* | Implementation Progress |
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*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

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| 6001 | North Catlow | I | On August 23, 1999, 1,100 acres of public land burned in the Rock Creek Pasture of North Catlow Allotment. The possibilities for rehabilitation of this fire were analyzed in EA OR-026-99-049. This resulted in reseeding 1,100 acres with plant species best adapted to that specific site. The area will have a minimum of two growing seasons rest from livestock grazing. |
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| 6002 | South Steens | I | The actions outlined in the AMP/EA to accomplish resource objectives, and the Catlow Redband Trout and Tui Chub Conservation Agreement and Strategy continue to be implemented. The upper elevation pastures, private and public (V Lake, Telephone Field, and Penland Pastures), continue to be rested from livestock grazing to prepare for prescribed burns, to allow recovery from prescribed burns and wild fire, and to accelerate establishment of deciduous woody species on portions of the riparian systems of the Catlow streams. These pastures were rested in 1998 and 1999 and will be rested in 2000. |
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In 1999, the springs in the Penland Pasture, identified in the AMP to be developed and piped to troughs, were completed, except the protection fences scheduled to be built in 2000.

Prescribed burns identified in the AMP and scheduled to be completed in 1998 were completed in 1999 (4,384 acres public land, 1,840 acres private land). Further prescribed burning is scheduled to be completed in 2000. Approximately 1,185 acres of public land was burned in a wildfire in Ankle Creek basin in the fall of 1999 that will recover through natural revegetation.

During 1999, 4.5 miles of old nonfunctional barbed wire fence were removed from the South Fork of the Donner und Blitzen WSA 2-85G and 1-mile of old nonfunctional barbed wire fence was removed from the boundary of this WSA within the South Steens Allotment.

Due to a court order which closed the public land within the Donner und Blitzen Wild And Scenic River corridor to livestock grazing until the impacts of grazing are analyzed in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) (ONDA v. Green Civil No.#95-2013-HA), no livestock grazing has occurred within the Blitzen Pasture. No grazing has occurred in this pasture since 1996. Livestock will remain excluded from public land within this pasture pending determination of the analysis contained in the SEORMP/EIS. The SEORMP/Final EIS is currently being written.

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

Public land totaling 9,612 acres and private land totaling 15,582 acres were burned by wildfire in the summer of 1998 and subsequently seeded in the fall of 1998. These burns were rested from grazing in 1999 and will be rested again in 2000. Most of this acreage is within Skull Creek Pasture; however, significant acreages are within North Catlow, South Catlow, Steens, and Hollywood Field Pastures.

The Lauserica and Stephens Fence Extension EA OR-026-98-33 was completed in 1998. The Decision and Finding of No Significant Impacts, which authorized the construction of these fences as outlined in the proposed action of the EA, was issued January 11, 1999. These fences were determined to be essential to the management and accelerated improvement of two of the Catlow streams, Home and Threemile Creeks. This decision was subsequently appealed and petitioned for a stay by ONDA. The stay was granted by the Interior Board of Land Appeals. The granting of a stay prevents fence construction pending a hearing before and a decision by an Administrative Law Judge. No date has been scheduled for this hearing.

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|------|---------------------------|---|---|
| 6003 | Fish Creek- Big Indian | I | The 10-year grazing permit expired for this allotment on February 28, 2000. This 10-year grazing permit will be reissued under Section 123 of Public Law 106-113. The court order from ONDA v. Green (Civil No. 95-2013 HA.), which closed public land within the Donner und Blitzen Wild and Scenic River corridor to grazing until the impacts of grazing are analyzed in an EIS, continues in effect. As a result, Newton Cabin Pasture and Blitzen Meadows have not been grazed since 1996 and continue to be closed to livestock grazing. This analysis of impacts of livestock grazing within the Wild and Scenic River corridor is contained within the SEORMP/EIS currently being prepared in final. The Nye fence, which is the southeastern boundary of Fish Creek-Big Indian Allotment and the boundary between this allotment and Steens Summit nonuse area, was reconstructed to a let down fence. The permittee constructed the fence and the BLM provided the materials. |
| 6005 | Mud Creek | I | In June 1998, a flash flood destroyed six fence crossings in Bridge Creek Canyon. The crossings were reconstructed during the 1999 field season to protect riparian habitat and fisheries. |

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

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| 6007 | Ruby Springs | M | In 1999, a 0.6-mile fence was constructed to form a riparian pasture. The pasture will be rested from livestock for about 5 years or until the woody vegetation along this portion of McCoy Creek has recovered enough to allow livestock back into the area. |
| 6008 | Krumbo | I | The evaluation and analysis of rangeland monitoring and determination of conformance with the Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Management for Public Lands administered by the BLM in Oregon and Washington were signed September 27, 1999. The AMP was signed January 10, 2000. |
| 6010 | East Ridge | I | In 1999, EA OR-026-99-19 entitled East Ridge Prescribed Burns and Juniper Cutting was completed and circulated for public review. The final decision to approve this action was signed on August 25, 1999. The purpose of these prescribed burns and juniper cutting is to reintroduce the natural function of fire into aspen, remnant aspen, mountain big sagebrush-bunchgrass, and riparian communities on 1,200 to 1,600 acres of public land in the mid-canyon of Kiger Gorge. These communities have lost or are losing aspen overstory, mountain big sagebrush, and associated shrubs. Also portions of Kiger Creek and its tributaries have juniper displacing deciduous woody species within the riparian zone. The juniper cutting will allow fire to carry in those portions of plant communities which have lost shrub understory species. This is a cooperative effort between the BLM, private landowners, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the Eastern Oregon Research Station, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Work on this project started in the winter 1999/2000 and will continue for the next several years. |
| 6012 | Alvord | I | The Alvord seeding of approximately 2,000 acres of public land was maintained during the fall and winter of 1999/2000. The BLM provided the brush beater, rangeland drill, the Harney County Advisory Board provided the seed, and the permittee provided the tractor and operator to complete the work. |

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

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| 6014 | Tum Tum | M | An allotment evaluation and EA were completed in 1999 and permitted use was changed from 360 to 478 AUMs. The allotment is grazed during the winter and actual use and utilization studies have shown that additional AUMs are available and could be utilized. This EA also analyzed the effects of adding 1-mile of fence on the west side of the allotment to divide the allotment into three pastures. One well was drilled to provide better management of livestock grazing. |
| 6015 | Trout Creek Mountain | I | Management under the current AMP continues to contribute to an upward trend in riparian areas. Completion of Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) assessment in 1999 found the majority of streams in the allotment to be in PFC. An October 20, 1999 tour with interested publics resulted in favorable comments on the allotment condition and trend. In 2000, 3.2 miles of fence will be realigned on the headwaters of East Fork of Big Trout Creek. This project will further serve to enhance riparian conditions in the East Fork and Headwaters Pastures. An EA will be completed in June 2000 that analyzes the impacts of construction of a 2-mile division fence in the Upper Antelope Pasture. This fence is intended to improve early season use in this seeding, further reducing grazing pressure on higher elevation native pastures. |
| 6020 | Pueblo-Lone Mountain | I | <p>During the winter of 1999/2000, 1,000 acres in the Colony Seeding Pasture were disced and reseeded to a mixture of crested wheatgrass, forage kochia, great basin wildrye, and fourwing saltbush. This project was identified in the Pueblo-Lone Mountain AMP. This pasture will be rested from grazing for two growing seasons following this seeding rehabilitation effort. In 2000, a fence will be constructed to exclude Tum Tum Lake from livestock grazing. This project was also identified in the AMP.</p> <p>An assessment of the Rincon pipeline will be completed in 2000, to determine possibilities for increased water efficiencies. This pipeline was completed in the early 1960's, and while functioning well, is due for maintenance and upgrading. The purpose of this effort is to improve overland water flow at Dip Spring, which supplies water to the pipeline.</p> |

FY99 Accomplishments

Allotment No. Allotment Name Category* Implementation Progress

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

Grazing use according to the Pueblo-Lone Mountain AMP continues to result in improved upland meadow and riparian conditions. Continued protection of Van Horn Creek from livestock use is contributing to improved riparian and aquatic conditions for the resident Lahontan cutthroat trout.

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| 6026 | Mann Lake | I | The evaluation and analysis of rangeland monitoring and determination of conformance with the Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Management for Public Lands administered by the BLM in Oregon and Washington are currently being conducted. |
| 6028 | Miners Field Allotment | I | On August 4, 1999, a lightning-caused wildfire occurred in the Miner's Field and Fields Basin Allotments. Approximately 3,534 acres of public land were burned, with the majority of the fire occurring within the O'Keefe Pasture of the Miner's Field Allotment. An emergency fire rehabilitation plan (EA OR-026-99-044) was completed following control of the fire on August 7, 1999. Two thousand acres of the burned area within the O'Keefe Pasture were seeded in the fall of 1999 to a mixture of grass and shrub species, utilizing native and some naturalized species. This pasture will be rested from grazing use for two growing seasons following this rehabilitation effort. |
| 6030 | Reickens Corner | I | On August 23, 1999, 960 acres of public land burned in the Reicken's Corner Pasture of Reicken's Corner Allotment. The rehabilitation of this fire was analyzed in EA OR-026-99-049. This resulted in reseeding 960 acres with plant species best adapted to that specific site. Five miles of temporary protective fence were constructed and the area will have a minimum of two growing seasons rest from livestock grazing. |
| 6032 | Krumbo Mountain | I | The evaluation and analysis of rangeland monitoring and determination of conformance with the Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Management for Public Lands administered by the BLM in Oregon and Washington are currently being conducted. |
| 6034 | West Slope | M | A 3.8-mile allotment boundary fence is scheduled to be constructed in the summer of 2000 to improve riparian management on about 12 miles of McCoy Creek and its tributaries. |

FY99 Accomplishments

| Allotment No. | Allotment Name | Category* | Implementation Progress |
|---------------|----------------|---|---|
| | | *I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial | |
| 6040 | Stonehouse | | The analysis and evaluation of monitoring studies were completed by the BLM during 1999. This evaluation determined that the current livestock management on this allotment was not in conformance with the Standards for Rangeland Health and the Guidelines for Livestock Management on Public Lands in Oregon and Washington. The issues addressed in the evaluation that will be addressed in the subsequent EA/AMP are riparian condition of upper Riddle Creek, Stonehouse Creek, fisheries, WSAs, upland range condition, sage grouse habitat, condition of wetland meadows, juniper encroachment, and the reintroduction of fire. The EA/AMP (EA OR-026-99-47) which resulted from this evaluation is currently in development and it is expected to be available for public review in May of 2000. |

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REGISTER

The following are Environmental Assessments (EAs) which were scheduled but were not completed and new EAs recently initiated. The EAs for these projects are now completed or expected to be completed in FY00. A notice is published in the Burns Times-Herald when each new EA is available for review by the public and the date when the comment period ends.

If you would like to be involved in the planning process for any particular project or would simply like to receive a copy of an EA for review, note the EA register number and contact the District or the project's primary contact listed below. This should be done as early as possible to allow for full consideration of your input.

| EA Register Number | Project Name | Proposed Action | Location | Critical Element | Completion Date/Decision/Action |
|--------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------|------------------|---------------------------------|
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* 020 = Burns District, 025 = Three Rivers Resource Area, 026 = Andrews Resource Area

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|---|
| EA OR-020-00-19 | Programmatic EA for Commercial Outfitting | The proposed action is to establish direction and guidance for issuing outfitter guide permits for other than day-use permits. The purpose of this action is to establish criteria and identify a process for issuing commercial outfitter/guide permits. | Districtwide | WSAs, Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSRs), ACECs, etc. | EA scheduled for completion in 2000. |
| Primary Contact: Fred McDonald | | | | | |
| EA OR-025-92-043 | Cow Creek Forest Health Project | The proposed action is to treat 225 acres in the Rattlesnake Forest Management Area. This project, originally proposed in 1993, was reinitiated using the most current inventory data. The purpose of this action is to improve forest health, to perpetuate and manage existing ponderosa pine trees, to salvage dead and dying trees, to improve stand vigor, to lower risk of wildfire, and to return timber stands to their historic range of variability. | T. 21 S., R. 32 E., Secs. 27, 28, 29, and 33 | Vegetative health | Decision Record signed August 11, 1999. |
| Primary Contact: Jon Reponen | | | | | |

| EA Register Number | Project Name | Proposed Action | Location | Critical Element | Completion Date/Decision/Action |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|---|
| EA OR-025-95-024 | Malheur River/ Bluebucket Creek Protection Project | The proposed action is to implement resource protection for Special Management Areas to reduce livestock grazing impacts. | T. 18 2., R. 34 E.; Secs. 33 and 34, Bluebucket Creek and Middle Fork of the Malheur River; Bluebucket Creek WSA | Recommended Wild and Scenic River, water quality, and bull trout habitat | Decision Record signed April 7, 1999. Project completed fall 1999. |
| Primary Contact: Bill Andersen | | The purpose of this action is to improve the condition of the riparian vegetation along the Malheur River and Bluebucket Creek. | | | |
| EA OR-025-95-029 | Texaco Basin Reservoir and WSR Fence | The proposed action is to construct 6 miles of fence along the west side of the Warm Springs Road in the Texaco Basin Allotment. | T. 22 and 23 S.; R. 36 E., Secs. 22, 26, 27, 28, 35, and 2, 11 | Recreation and riparian habitat | Project canceled. |
| Primary Contact: Jim King | | The purpose of this action is to keep livestock away from Warm Springs Reservoir during the recreation season and to allow better utilization of the crested wheatgrass seeding in the west half of the Reservoir Pasture. | | | |
| EA OR-025-96-014 | Poison Creek Reservoir | The proposed action is to construct a reservoir to hold approximately 140 acre-feet of water. | T. 18 S., R. 32 E., Sec. 17 | None | Project constructed November 1999. |
| Primary Contact: Fred Taylor | | The purpose of this action is to create a fishery in the area to provide fishing opportunities to the public. | | | |
| EA OR-025-97-012 | Riddle Creek Ecosystem Restoration Project | The proposed action is to conduct prescribed burns on approximately 10,000 acres over a 5 to 10-year period in mountain big sage brush sites invaded by juniper. | T. 29 and 30 S., R. 34 and 35 E., Riddle Mountain, Smyth Creek, Happy Valley, and Burnt Flat Allotments | Kiger Mustang ACEC | Decision Record signed February 5, 1998. Project completed fall 1999. |
| Primary Contact: Bill Andersen | | The purpose of this action is to maintain ecological function of these sites. | | | |
| EA OR-025-97-017 | Diamond Area Fences | The proposed action is to install 5 miles of fence. | T. 29 S., R. 34 E., Secs. 8, 9, 16, 21, 22,23, 27, 29, 30, 32, 33; T. 30 S., R. 34 E., Sec. 19 | Kiger Mustang ACEC | Project completed summer 1999. |
| Primary Contact: Jim King | | The purpose of this action is to protect 6 miles of riparian habitat and facilitate management of livestock grazing. | | | |

| EA Register Number | Project Name | Proposed Action | Location | Critical Element | Completion Date/Decision/Action |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|--------------------------|---|
| EA OR-025-98-014 | Dry Pine Precommercial Thinning and Aspen Rehabilitation | The proposed action is to implement forest management activities in various areas. The purpose of this action is to reduce overstocked ponderosa pine stands to improve forest health, reduce risk of "stand replacement" fires, to restore degraded aspen stands, and protect areas of high value from catastrophic wildfire, insects, and disease. | Pine Creek, Rattlesnake Creek, Loco Canyon, and Dry Mountain | None | Decision Record signed May 6, 1998. Implementation expected summer 2000. |
| Primary Contact: Jon Reponen | | | | | |
| EA OR-025-98-016 | Dry Mountain Fences | The proposed action is to construct two fences (5.25 miles) for improved livestock management. The purpose of this action is to exclude livestock from a parcel of land BLM recently acquired through a land exchange and to close an allotment boundary which will improve livestock control. | T. 22 S., R. 27 E., Sec. 19. T. 21 S., R 26 E., Secs. 10, 11, 12, and 13, near Dry Mountain | None | Project completed FY99. |
| Primary Contact: Nora Taylor | | | | | |
| EA OR-025-98-031 | Chicken Spring Fire Rehabilitation | The proposed action is to rehabilitate a 900-acre wildfire that burned August 1998. The purpose of the action is to minimize water erosion in high potential sites and restore wildlife habitat. The fence will exclude livestock until the site is restored. | T. 23 S., R. 35 E., Secs. 26 and 35 | None | Decision Record signed August 28, 1998. Project completed spring 1999. |
| Primary Contact: Bill Anderson | | | | | |
| EA OR-025-99-011 | Exclosure Fences | The proposed action is to construct exclosure fences around unalloted areas having Special Status plant populations in order to exclude livestock from these areas. The purpose of this action is to protect Special Status plant populations. | Various locations in Three Rivers Resource Area | Special Status plants | Decision expected spring 2000. |
| Primary Contact: Nora Taylor | | | | | |

| EA Register Number | Project Name | Proposed Action | Location | Critical Element | Completion Date/Decision/Action |
|---------------------|--|--|--|------------------------------|---|
| EA OR-025-99-016 | Clear Creek Riparian Pasture Fence | The proposed action is to construct 6 miles of fence. The purpose of this action is to create a separate pasture to protect and enhance riparian areas. | T. 22 S., R. 34 E., Stinkingwater Allotment | Biscuitroot Cultural ACEC | Decision expected spring 2000. |
| EA OR-025-99-017 | Stinkingwater Allotment Water Development | The proposed action is to develop three springs and one waterhole. The purpose of this action is to achieve better livestock distribution. | Stinkingwater Allotment | Biscuitroot Cultural ACEC | Decision expected summer 2001. |
| EA OR-025-99-014 | Newell Forest Health Project | The proposed action is to reduce road density, reconstruct road segments causing sedimentation into creeks, rehabilitate riparian areas, improve aspen and mountain mahogany stands, reduce hazardous fuel loadings, improve forest health through stocking control by using precommercial thinning and harvesting of commercial size material. The purpose of this action is to improve water quality, to reduce the risk of wildfire, to improve wildlife habitat, and to improve the health and vigor of the area's timber stands. | East side of Silvies Valley | Riparian | EA scheduled for completion in FY00. |
| EA OR-025-99-045 | Weed Lake Butte Fire Rehabilitation | The proposed action is to apply seed and construct fence. The purpose of this action is to rehabilitate an area burned by wildfire. | T. 27 S.; R. 29 E., Secs. 23, 24, and 36 | None | EA completed. Decision Record signed September 13, 1999. |
| EA OR-025-99-048 | Windy Point-Jack Mountain Fire Rehabilitation | The proposed action is to apply seed and construct fence. The purpose of this action is to rehabilitate an area burned by wildfire. | Princeton, Jack Mountain T. 28 S.; R. 30 E.; Secs. 27, 28, and 33 | None | EA completed. Decision Record signed September 20, 1999. |
| EA OR-025-99-50 | Otis Mountain Ecosystem Restoration Project | The proposed action is to use prescribed fire and mechanical methods to reduce juniper encroachment. The purpose of this action is to restore sage grouse habitat and to improve and rehabilitate aspen and mountain mahogany stands. | Otis Mountain area; T. 18 S.; R. 35 E., Secs. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35 | None | EA completed. Decision expected May 2000. |

| EA Register Number | Project Name | Proposed Action | Location | Critical Element | Completion Date/Decision/Action |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|----------------------------|---|
| EA OR-025-00-04 | Three Rivers Juniper Management Project | The proposed action is to use mechanical means to cut juniper. The purpose of this action is to improve and restore sage grouse habitat, to improve and restore aspen and mountain mahogany stands, and to improve riparian areas. | North of Hwy 20 and in the Stinkingwater and Riddle Mountain areas | ACEC, riparian | EA completed. Decision expected April 2000. |
| Primary Contact: Rudy Hefter | | | | | |
| EA OR-025-00-11 | Mountains GrazingUse Project | The proposed action is to change season of use for grazing in the Mountain and Upton Mountain Allotments. The purpose of this action is to improve upland range conditions. | T. 23 S.; R. 35 E., Sec. 18 | Riparian | EA scheduled for completion in 2000. |
| Primary Contact: Bill Andersen | | | | | |
| EA OR-025-0014 | Maintaining Viable Populations of Wild Horses in the Stinkingwater HMA | The proposed action is to gather wild horses. The purpose of this action is to meet Appropriate Management Levels (AMLs). | Stinkingwater Herd Management Area | ACEC | EA scheduled for completion in 2000. |
| Primary Contact: Rudy Hefter | | | | | |
| EA OR-025-00-18 | Devils Slide Fence | The proposed action is to construct 0.3-mile of fence. The purpose of this action is to implement rest rotation and improve cattle distribution. | T. 18 S.; R. 33 E.; Sec. 26 | None | EA scheduled for completion in 2000. |
| Primary Contact: Leslie Richman | | | | | |
| EA OR-025-00-23 | Maintaining Viable Populations of Wild Horses in the Warm Springs Herd Management Area | The proposed action is to gather wild horses. The purpose of this action is to meet AMLs. | Warm Springs Herd Management Area | None | EA scheduled for completion in 2000. |
| Primary Contact: Rudy Hefter | | | | | |
| EA OR-025-00-24 | Bluebucket Prescribed Burn | The proposed action is to reintroduce fire into the forested areas on the south side of Bluebucket Creek. The purpose of this action is to improve health and vigor of overstory trees, to provide for the establishment of ponderosa pine, and to reduce the risk of high intensity wildfires. | Bluebucket Creek | Designated Old Growth, WSA | EA is scheduled for completion in 2000. |
| Primary Contact: Jeff Rose | | | | | |

| EA Register Number | Project Name | Proposed Action | Location | Critical Element | Completion Date/Decision/Action |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| EA OR-026-94-059 | Stonehouse Allotment Management Plan (AMP) | The proposed action is to implement a grazing system on the Stonehouse Allotment. This will be based on the evaluation. | T. 30 and 31 S., R. 34 and 35 E., northeast side of Steens Mountain | WSA; Riddle Creek and headwaters of Deep Creek | Allotment evaluation is planned for FY00; EA will be completed subsequently. |
| Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan | | The purpose of this action is to improve riparian and upland range condition and plant diversity on sagebrush and juniper-dominated sites. | | | |
| EA OR-026-95-034 | Davis/Wildhorse Land Exchange | The proposed action is to exchange approximately 1,945 acres of public land for 3,992 acres of private land around Mickey and Tule Springs and Stonehouse and Carlson Creeks. | Stonehouse and Carlson Creeks; Mickey and Tule Springs; east slopes of Steens Mountain and Alvord Desert | Riparian, recreation | EA scheduled for completion in FY00. |
| Primary Contact: Mark Sherbourne | | The purpose of this action is to consolidate public and private lands into more manageable units and acquire important wildlife, riparian, and recreation values and important public access. | | | |
| EA OR-026-98-023 | Sand Hollow Fence and Trough | The proposed action is to construct 0.75-mile of fence and install a water trough. | T. 32 S., R. 30 E., Sec. 1, Reichen's Corner Allotment | None | Project completed FY00. |
| Primary Contact: Dave Ward | | The purpose of this action is to facilitate the management of livestock in the Reichen's Corner Allotment. | | | |
| EA OR-026-98-033 | Lauserica Fence | The proposed action is to construct approximately 9.1 miles of fence (7.7 miles on public, 1.4 miles on private land) to separate the Steens Pasture from the Home Creek Pasture and to construct approximately 1-mile of fence on public land to separate Home Creek Pasture from Stephens Pasture. Existing nonfunctional fence would be removed. | T. 34 S., R. 31 and 32 E. | WSAs, Special Status species | Currently before IBLA. |
| Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan | | The purpose of the proposed activity is to provide additional livestock control enabling more effective management of livestock grazing. This will facilitate activities necessary to achieve the conservation goals of the Conservation Agreement, rangeland improvement goals of the South Steens AMP, and water quality goals of the South Steens Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP). | | | |

| EA Register Number | Project Name | Proposed Action | Location | Critical Element | Completion Date/Decision/Action |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|---|
| EA OR-026-98-036 | Dry Creek Fire Rehabilitation | The proposed action is to rehabilitate and construct 5 miles of temporary fence to protect 3,600 approximately acres of wildfire burned in two areas. | T. 24 S., and T. 35 S., R. 32 E., Secs. 3, 4, 33, and 34 | WSA, HMA | Project completed FY99. |
| Primary Contact: Cam Swisher | | The purpose of the action is to exclude livestock in these areas to allow natural recovery of the vegetation. | | | |
| EA OR-026-99-008 | East Fork/ Headwaters Fence Realignment | The proposed action is to remove fence and realign the pasture division fence in Trout Creek Allotment. | T. 41 S., R. 38 E., various sections | WSA | EA and Decision Record signed October 12, 1999. Project to be implemented FY00. |
| Primary Contact: Carolyn Chad | | The purpose is to eliminate the need for an existing ineffective enclosure along the east fork of Trout Creek, and to remove the existing pasture fence from a snow field. | | | |
| EA OR-026-99-009 | Tum Tum Allotment Evaluation and AUM Increase | The proposed action is to evaluate livestock carrying capacity of the Tum Tum . Allotment | T. 40 S., R. 35 E., Secs. 5, 6, 7, 17, 18, 19, and 20; 15 miles south of Fields | Special Status plant and fish species | Project completed FY00. |
| Primary Contact: Rick Hall | | The purpose of the action is to license available forage consistent with meeting management objectives. | | | |
| EA OR-026-99-010 | Abandoned Mined Land Remediation | The proposed action is to place grates, backfill or fence shafts and adits, and to remove or leave nearby mining remains. | Several locations east side of Steens, Denio Basin, and Catlow Valley | WSAs | Project completed FY00. |
| Primary Contact: Terri Geisler | | The purpose of this action is to remove the potential safety hazards and hazardous materials. | | | |
| EA OR-026-99-014 | Pack Trail Fence Extension | The proposed action is to construct approximately 0.5-mile of fence along a portion of McCoy Creek. | T. 31 S., R. 33 E., Sec. 20., McCoy Creek | None | Project completed FY99. |
| Primary Contact: Mark Sherbourne | | The purpose of this action is to improve riparian area management along approximately 2 miles of the creek. | | | |

| EA Register Number | Project Name | Proposed Action | Location | Critical Element | Completion Date/Decision/Action |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|--|
| EA OR-026-99-015 | McCoy Creek Protection Fence | The proposed action is to construct approximately 3.8 miles of fence along the boundary of two allotments. | T. 32 S., R. 33 E., Sec. 17, 20, 30, and 31, McCoy Creek | WSA, Special Status fish, riparian values | Project completed FY00. |
| Primary Contact: Mark Sherbourne | | The purpose of this action is to prevent cattle movement between the two allotments, and to improve management along approximately 12 miles of McCoy Creek and its tributaries. | | | |
| EA OR-026-99-018 | Tudor Lake Fence | The proposed project is to construct 0.5-mile of fence across public land. | T. 31 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 2 | None | Project completed FY00. |
| Primary Contact: Dave Ward | | The purpose of this action is to improve livestock management. | | | |
| EA OR-026-99-019 | East Ridge Prescribed Burns and Juniper Cutting | The proposed action is to cut juniper in preparation to restore the natural function of fire within aspen stands and adjacent to riparian zone within Kiger Gorge. Approximately 2,000 acres of public land would have fire reintroduction within a 5-10 year period. | T. 31 S., R. 33 and 34 E., Secs. 3, 6, 7, 11, 18, 19, and 30 | Kiger Creek | EA is scheduled for completion during FY00. |
| Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan | | The purpose of this action is to restore species' diversity to remnant aspen stands currently dominated by western juniper and to allow deciduous woody species to expand in community dominance along stream segments where juniper is filling the niche of these species. The purpose is also to restore ecological function. | | | |
| EA OR-026-99-24 | Programmatic EA for Commercial Day Use | The proposed action and the purpose of it are to provide direction to issue day-use commercial permits on same day as application | Districtwide | Some WSAs; RNA/ACECs; WSR | EA completed. Decision Record signed November 3, 1999. |
| Primary Contact: Fred McDonald | | | | | |
| EA OR-026-00-12 | Upper Antelope Division Fence | The proposed action is to construct approximately 2 miles of fence to divide the Upper Antelope Pasture into two units. | T. 40 S., R. 36 E., Secs. 3 and 4 | None | EA is expected October 12, 1999. |
| Primary Contact: Carolyn Chad | | The purpose of this action is to adjust grazing patterns in the crested wheatgrass seeding within the pasture, and improve the overall flexibility of the Trout Creek Mountain grazing rotation system. | | | |

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