I. TITLE

Lavoy Tables Allotment Management Plan

II. INTRODUCTION

A. General

Lavoy Tables Allotment (No. 6031) is divided into four pastures, Lavoy Tables Pasture (12,392 acres), South Duhaime Seeding (3,457 acres), Savoy Lake Pasture (15,364 acres) and the P Hill Pasture (10,616 acres). See Map 1. The allotment was surveyed by the Ecological Site Inventory (ESI) team in 1984. Four general vegetative types were identified in the allotment: 1) big sagebrush/bunchgrass on deeper soils; 2) low sagebrush/bunchgrass on shallow soiled ridges and benches; 3) western juniper/sagebrush/bunchgrass along drainages and benches; and 4) crested wheatgrass seeding. Key forage species are Idaho fescue, bluebunch wheatgrass, Thurber's needlegrass and squirreltail.

B. Objective

The objective of this Allotment Management Plan (AMP) is to improve ecological status of the upland vegetation by the year 2000 as represented below, by maintaining an upward trend in dispersion of key forage species.

Ecological Status	Present %	Target %
PNC	1	4
Late Seral	42	50.5
Mid Seral	47	37
Early Seral	1.5	0
Excellent Seeding	6.5	6.5
Other	2	2

III. GRAZING MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

A. Provide 2,373 AUMs for livestock, 36 AUMs for wild horses and 60 AUMs for wildlife as constrained by sustained yield and multiple-use.

Actual use studies, utilization studies and climate data will be used to assess progress towards meeting this objective.

B. Maintain and/or improve ecological status of the allotment.

Pace 180 trend studies complimented with 3 x 3 photo plots, as well as reinventory (ESI) will be used to assess progress toward meeting this objective.

C. Maintains wilderness characteristics within the Blitzen River Wilderness Study Area (WSA).

A 3 x 3 photo plot as well as monthly Interim Management Plan (IMP) WSA surveillance will be conducted to assess progress toward meeting this objective.

IV. GRAZING MANAGEMENT

A. Active Preference

The present grazing preference and season of use in the Lavoy Tables Allotment is as follows:

Permittee	Active Preference	Suspended Preference	Total Preference	Exchange of Use	Season of Use
Akers, Ed	2,373	0	2,373	100	04/01-10/31

B. Proposed Management

1. Treatments

The proposed management is divided into three grazing treatments, each with a specific time period related to forage plant requirements.

"Early" Treatment (04/01 to 04/30) - Grazing forage plants during this treatment utilizes previous years growth along with some early green-up. Removal of livestock on April 30 or before is essential to allow the plants to regrow while there is sufficient soil moisture. This will allow the plant to store carbohydrates, improve vigor and will provide some forage for the following grazing season. The plants will also be able to flower and disseminate seeds prior to the next grazing period.

"Graze" Treatment (05/01 to 07/15) - This treatment allows for grazing during the critical growth period of most plants. Carbohydrate reserves are continually being utilized because the green parts of the plants are constantly being removed by livestock. They will not be grazed during the "Graze" treatment 2 years in a row. The pastures under the "Graze" treatment will be deferred the following grazing season.

"Deferred" Treatment (07/16 to 10/31) - Grazing during this treatment will not begin until after most plants have reached seed ripe and have stored adequate carbohydrate reserves.

2. Grazing System

A deferred rotation grazing system is proposed for this allotment (see Table 1). This system is proposed in order to improve ecological status by increasing establishment of key forage species. The allotment will be grazed at an average rate of 17.6 acres per AUM (see tables below).

Pasture	Acres	AUMs/Yr Year 1	AUMs/Yr Year 2	AUMs/Yr Year 3	AUMs/Yr Year 4	Avg AUM
S.Duhaime Sdg.	3,457	848	593	848	593	4.8
Lavoy Tables	12,392	593	848	593	848	17.2
Savoy Lake	15,364	593	593	339	339	33.0
P Hill	10,616	339	339	593	593	22.8

Permittee	Livestock Numbers	Season	AUMs	AC/AUM
E.Akers	339	04/01-10/31	2,373	17.6

C. Range Improvements

Range improvements may be necessary to facilitate management and the need for them will be determined through rangeland monitoring. All proposed projects are subject to NEPA compliance and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) priority funding.

D. Flexibility

Grazing treatment dates or livestock moves between pastures and into and out of pastures are approximations based upon forage plant physiological requirements. The different stages of forage plant growth are highly dependent upon the weather; therefore, grazing treatments or moves of livestock could fluctuate from year to year. Dates previously listed are target dates based upon monitoring data.

E. Billing Procedures

Grazing fees are due on the due date specified on the grazing fee bill. Payment will be made prior to grazing use.

V. MONITORING/EVALUATION

A. Techniques

1. Utilization (Key forage Plant)

An ocular estimate is made of forage utilization within one of six utilization classes including: no use (0-5 percent), slight (6-20 percent), light (21-40 percent), moderate (41-60 percent), heavy (61-80 percent) and severe (81-100 percent). Observations are made of the appearance of the rangeland, and especially the key species, along a transect which traverses the key area and pasture.

2. Utilization (Modified Cole Browse)

Under the Modified Cole Browse method, a transect is run to collect data on 25 to 50 plants of a browse species. This method provides data on age and form classes, availability and hedging, estimated utilization, and growth and use indexes for the browse component of the plant community. These data are used to make annual utilization and trend estimates.

3. Trend (3 x 3 photo plot)

The photo plot method includes taking a close-up photograph of a 3 x 3-foot plot and a general view photograph of the study site. Measurements and/or estimates can be made to provide quantitative data concerning vegetation characteristics.

4. Actual Use

Actual livestock grazing use data are important in evaluating causes of trend on specific areas of rangeland. Actual use data are essential in evaluations directed toward adjusting grazing use and revising management plans. Knowledge and interpretation of past use provides a basis for future management decisions. Actual use data are considered along with authorized use, estimated use, utilization, trend, climate and other data for allotment evaluations.

Actual use data are obtained from livestock operators annually or at the end of specified grazing periods. Every effort must be made to submit complete and accurate data. Actual use reports are certified by the operator to be accurate.

5. Climate

Weather factors, particularly amount, distribution and timing of precipitation have a dramatic effect on vegetative productivity and will be considered when evaluating this allotment.

These techniques are consistent with the Burns District Monitoring Plan.

B. Allotment Evaluation Frequency

The Lavoy Tables Allotment will be evaluated on a 5-year timeframe. No more than 5 years will elapse between evaluations. Trend data will also be evaluated on a 5-year schedule. Actual use, upland utilization and climate data will be gathered annually.

C. Livestock Use Adjustments

Utilization, actual use and climate data are all used to calculate potential stocking levels (PSL). The formula for PSL is as follows:

$$PSL = \frac{\text{Target Utilization x Actual Use}}{\text{Measured Utilization x Yield Index}}$$

The yield index is a quantitative estimate of the year's production expressed as a percentage.

VI. MAPS

See appendix for maps showing the following:

A. Map 1

1. Allotment boundary
2. Pasture names and location
3. WSA boundary
4. Land status

B. Map 2

1. Monitoring locations

VII. SIGNATURES

Ed Akers — 4-4-91

Ed Akers — Date

Glenn T Patterson — 4/23/91

Andrews Resource Area Manager — Date

TABLE 1

GRAZING FORMULA

TREATMENT	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
Early												
Graze												
Deferred												

YEARLY GRAZING SCHEDULE

	MANAGEMENT UNIT	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
First Year 1991	P Hill												
	S. Duhaime												
	Lavoy Tables												
	Savoy Lake												
Second Year 1992	P Hill												
	S. Duhaime												
	Lavoy Tables												
	Savoy Lake												
Third Year 1993	P Hill												
	S. Duhaime												
	Lavoy Tables												
	Savoy Lake												
Fourth Year 1994	P Hill												
	S. Duhaime												
	Lavoy Tables												
	Savoy Lake												
Fifth Year 19													
Sixth Year 19													