

DECISION RECORD

Revised

for

Rabbit Creek Gap Fences
EA# OR-010-89-15

DECISION: The following is the decision of the Bureau of Land Management; Amend the previous Rabbit Creek Gap Fence Decision Record (date 8/29/89) to include construction of 1.4 mile of barbed-wire fence back away from the Rabbit Creek rim that would connect from the already existing gap fence rock cribs. Moving the fence away from the rim would allow movement of wildlife and prevent livestock from trailing off the gaps. Following the completion of the fence, repairs and normal maintenance will be assigned to the allotment permittee under the existing cooperative agreement for the original gap fence project.

NOXIOUS WEED CONSIDERATIONS:

The project was initially reviewed by the Lakeview Resource Area Noxious Weed Coordinator at a RA scoping meeting. The project area is within the Warner Valley Management Area and any discovery of noxious weed infestations will be mapped and reported.

RATIONALE:

The current proposed fence addition is substantially the same action as previously analyzed in EA #OR-010-89-15. The objective of this additional fence would be to further control the cattle drift that is beginning to become a consistent problem. This new fence will work to eliminate several gaps along the rim that have become a path for cattle. One other alternative was considered in the EA, "no action". The "no action" alternative was reviewed and found that the problem of livestock drifting of the rim would continue.

Scott R. Florence

Scott R. Florence, Manager
Lakeview Resource Area

5/9/00

Date

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FONSI

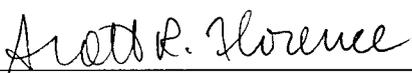
Revised for
Rabbit Creek Gap Fences

EA# OR-010-89-15

The Bureau of Land Management, Lakeview District, Lakeview Resource Area, has analyzed a proposal and its alternatives to construct approximately 1.4 miles of additional three wire-barbed fence that would connect to BLM's existing Rabbit Creek Gap fence constructed in 1990. The environmental impacts of the gap fencing project were previously analyzed in EA# OR-010-89-15. The purpose and environmental impacts of the proposed additional fencing are essentially the same as those previously analyzed for the Rabbit Creek Gap Fence project. Therefore, a new environmental analysis is not needed. The objective of this proposed project is the same as the gap fencing project: to control livestock from trailing off the Rabbit Creek rim into the Colvin Timbers pasture. The sporadic cattle drift has been documented and at times had resulted in several number of cattle grazing in a pasture that usually is scheduled for REST. The proposed action would improve the management with better control of livestock by the allotment permittee and decrease the potential for unauthorized cattle drift and cattle concentrating at the bottom of Rabbit Creek (dry) drainage. The project is in conformance with the Warner Lakes Management Framework Plan as amended 1989 and the 1983 Lakeview Grazing Management Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

There are no floodplains, wild and scenic rivers, known hazardous waste areas, areas of religious concern, prime or unique farmlands in the immediate project area. The project area does not qualify for potential wilderness designation. No adverse or beneficial significant impact is anticipated to lands, recreation, minerals, air or water quality, or low income/minority populations. Surveys conducted in 1990 found no threatened or endangered plants or cultural or paleontological resources in the area. The proposed additional fence location will be field checked prior to construction, and fence location adjusted, if needed.

On the basis of the analysis contained in the attached EA and all other available information, it is my determination that none of the alternatives analyzed constitutes a major federal action that would adversely impact the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is unnecessary and will not be prepared.



Scott R. Florence, Manager,
Lakeview Resource Area

3-27-00
Date