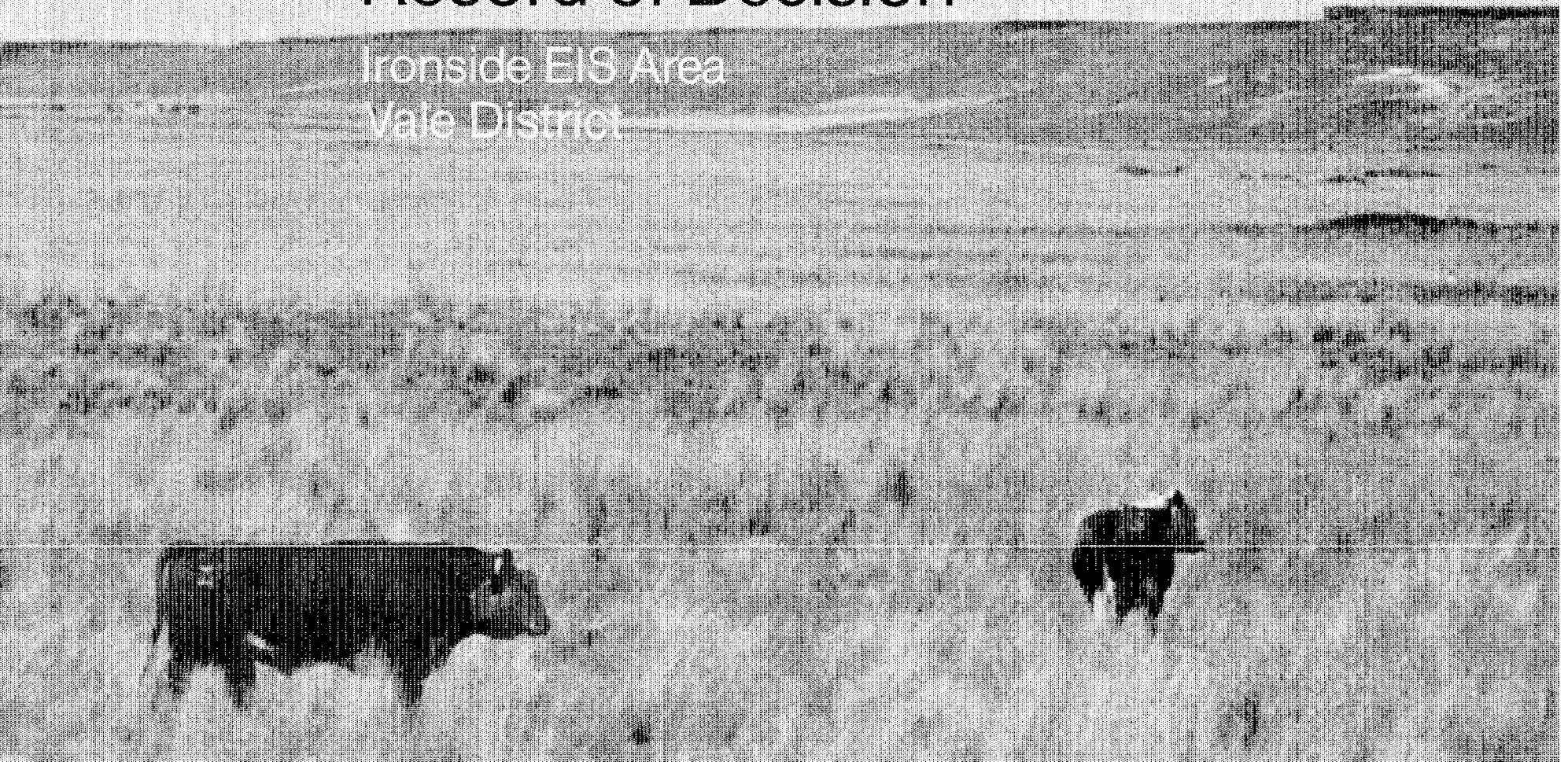
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management

Vale District Office
P.O. Box 700
Vale, Oregon 97918

Rangeland Program Summary (RPS)
Record of Decision

Ironside EIS Area
Vale District



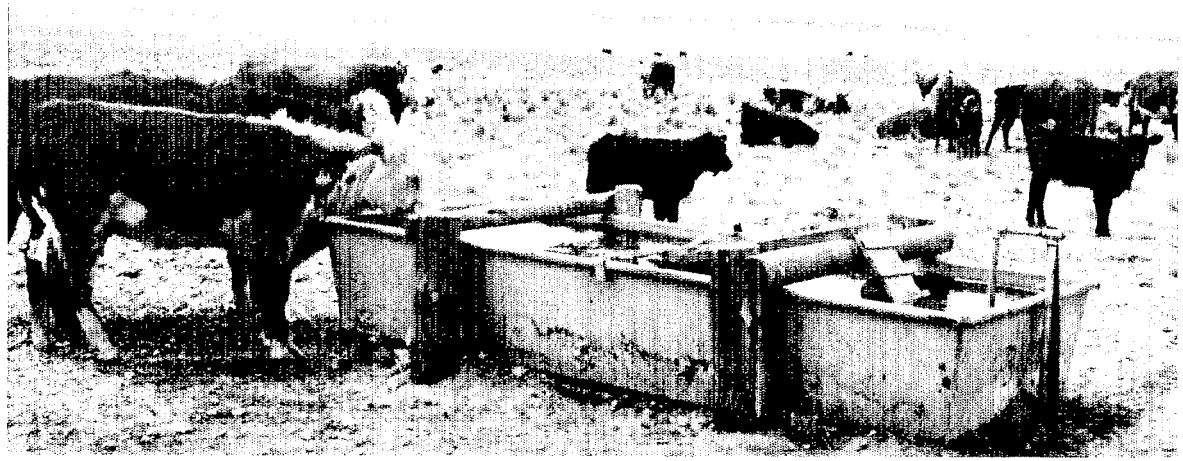
ABSTRACT

This document constitutes the public record of decision and summarizes the major range management actions to be taken on approximately 619,000 acres of public land in the Vale District, Oregon. The actions included in this decision are designed to meet the objectives identified in the proposed action described in the Ironside Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). These actions incorporate the findings of the EIS and the public comments on the draft RPS and the concerns expressed by the public and other government agencies during the consultation period this past summer.

The initial authorized annual livestock grazing use will be 102,836 animal unit months (AUMs). This level is a 2 percent downward adjustment from the historic grazing preference of 104,944 AUMs, and an increase of about 11 percent from the 1981 active authorized use of 92.242 AUMs. This allocation reserves approximately 70 percent of the total annual vegetation production for watershed protection, wildlife habitat, and other non-livestock uses. The initial allocation of forage to livestock, cornpared to historic grazing use, will increase use on 10 allotments and decrease use on 47 allotments. Livestock grazing use will be unchanged on the remaining 26 allotments. Individual allotment decisions implementing the rangeland managernent plan will be issued in early January 1982. These decisions will be effective March 1.1982, and will include individual allotment adjustments that will be phased in over a period of five years or less.

Twenty-nine allotments covering 567.004 acres will have intensive management, which consists of initiating grazing systems and constructing range improvements. Fifty-four allotments covering 45,998 acres will have nonintensive management, consisting primarily of custodial livestock management. No livestock grazing will be authorized on 5,998 acres.

The following rangeland improvements are planned: 29,940 acres of brush control: 56 miles of fence; 22 miles of pipeline; 43 spring developments: 35 reservoirs; and 2 wells.



Environmental assesments will be prepared prior to construction of range improvements or significant modifications of the range management program.

Resource monitoring studies and evaluations will be conducted following implementation of grazing systems and range improvements to determine if objectives are being met. Where progress toward meeting objectives is not satisfactory, adjustments will be made. A report of the progress made in implementing this program and improving resource conditions will be prepared periodically and published in future Rangeland Program Summary updates.

Introduction

Purpose

This Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) briefly describes the Bureau of Land Management's program relating to range management in the Vale District's portion of the Ironside Grazing Management Environmental Impact Statement (Ironside EIS) area in eastern Oregon. It also constitutes the public record of decision on grazing management in that portion of the EIS area. This program consists of four parts:

1. the allocation of vegetation for livestock, wildlife, wild horses and nonconsumptive uses,
2. the grazing systems to be implemented,
3. the range improvements to be constructed,
4. the monitoring and evaluation program to be conducted.

The RPS also describes how the initial and subsequent grazing decisions needed to implement the program will be made.

The Ironside area encompasses public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management in both Baker County and the northern portion of Malheur County. Range management decisions concerning the Baker County portion of the EIS area are covered in a separate RPS prepared by the Baker District.

The Ironside EIS was prepared in compliance with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) —

Natural Resources Defense Council agreement of April 11, 1975. The EIS, completed in 1980, analyzed the proposed action and five alternatives. It included resource data primarily gathered prior to 1979.

Additional site specific information is contained in draft allotment management plans available at the Vale District office.

Background

The Vale District portion of the Ironside area includes 619,000 acres of public land in Malheur County. most located north of U.S. Highway 20. The grazing allotments in this area also contain 324,880 acres of land in other ownerships.

The area is divided into 83 allotments used by '123 livestock permittees. Range improvement projects completed prior to 1981 include 850 miles of fence, 100,000 acres of land treatments. 280 reservoirs, 240 springs, 14 wells, 100 miles of pipeline and 130 cattleguards.

Historic grazing preference is 104,944 AUMs. The 1981 active authorized use was 92,242 AUMs. Cattle accounted for nearly 100 percent of these AUMs (400 AUMs were licensed to sheep in one allotment). The difference between the grazing preference and the 1981 authorized use was largely the result of 1978 agreements with livestock operators to voluntarily reduce use until allotment management plans were completed. Because of these agreements. interim grazing systems and adjusted stocking rates have been in effect for the past 4 grazing seasons. Any administrative action to adjust livestock allocations will be made from the historic grazing preference.

Past management has caused the following ecosste condition and trend. Changes that may have occurred since 1977 are not reflected in the ecosite condition and trend data:

Ecosite Condition in 1977

	Climax	Late	Middle	Early	Condftion Not Determined'
Acres:	7,811	93,165	174,734	185,117	112.327
Percent:	2	20	38	40	

Trend of Ecosite Condition in 1977

	Upward	Static	Downward	Trend Not Determined
Acres:	32.258	341,012	87.557	1X4.741
Percent:	7	74	19	

'Includes 61,438 acres of seedings and 50,889 acres of rock and other land that could not be classified

Deer and antelope are the prirnary big game species, with elk occurring in small numbers. Chukar partridge and a variety of other upland birds inhabit the area along with some waterfowl, fur bearers and numerous non-game species,

Thirteen streams in the area provide about 34 miles of cold water fish habitat. Species are primarily rainbow and redband trout. Fishing and hunting are the most significant recreational activities. There is a total of 103 miles of stream. and numerous springs and reservoirs that produce 488 acres of riparran habitat.

One wild horse herd exists in the Hog Creek area of Allotment #4 (203). In 1975 a management decision specified numbers of wild horses to range from 30 to 50 head. The herd 'was reduced during the summer of 1981 so it presently numbers about 35 head.

The Program

The Decision

The program that will be implemented consists of the following major actions:

1) The initial allocation of livestock forage as follows:

Livestock	102,836 AUMs
Wildlife	5,170 AUMs
Wild Horses	600 AUMs
Nonconsumptive'	5,274 AUMs

' Includes forage in study plots, administrative sites, recreation sites and areas too far from water or on slopes too steep for livestock grazing.

2) The implementation of grazing systems of 29 intensive management allotments.

3) The completion of range improvements at an approximate cost of $840,000 on the intensive management allotments.

4) The continuation of nonintensive management on 54 allotments.

5) The monitoring and evaluation of resource uses and changes in condition caused by implementation of this decision.

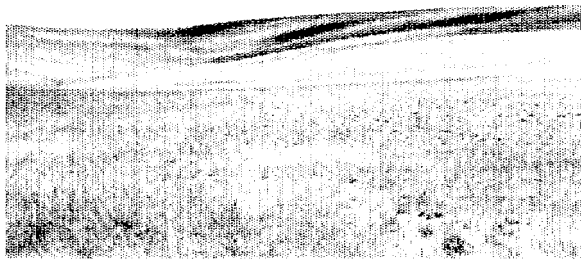
Consideration of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Goals

Only the Proposed Action and the Limit Downward Adjustments alternative. of those alternatives addressed in the Ironside EIS, are consistent with all six policy goals of the NEPA.

These policy goals are set forth in Sec. 101 (bj of NEPA:

In order to carry out the policy set forth in this Act, it is the continuing responsibility of the Federal Government to use all practicable means, consistent with other essential considerations of national policy, to improve and coordinate Federal plans, functions, programs. and resources to the end that the Nation may:

(1) fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as 'trustee of the environment for succeeding generations:
(2) assure for all Americans a safe. healthful. productive, and esthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;
(3) attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health or safety? or other undesirable and unintended consequences;
(4) preserve important historic. cultural. and natural aspects of our national heritage, and



maintain, wherever possible, an environment which supports diversity and variety of individual choice;

(5) achieve a balance between population and resource use which will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities: and

(6) enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

The program to be implemented is primarily a blend of The Proposed Action and the Limit Downward Adjustments alternatives with some specific modifications resulting from public comments received during the planning/EIS process, incorporation of new resource data, comments as a result of the Draft RPS and individual consultations on Allotment Managernent Plans and implementation of policies and regulations adopted since completion of the Ironside EIS. Inclusion of these changes will reduce the adverse social and economic impacts, while maintaining the beneficial aspects of the Ironside EIS Proposed Action. As revised, the program is the environmentaiiy preferred aiternative and is consistent with all six NEPA goals.

What the Program Is

The major program actions were designed to meet objectives of several of BLM's resource management responsibilities. This section includes a detailed description of the major actions and their relationship to these diverse program objectives. Implementation of this program and accomplishment of many of the objectives is dependent on future appropriation of funds.

1. Grazing Management

The program includes allocation of 102,836 AUMs for livestock. 5,170 AUMs for deer, antelope and elk, 600 AUMs for wild horses, and 5,274 AUMs for nonconsumptive uses. Forage allocations for livestock for each allotment are shown in Appendix I. Overall, this allocation represents an increase in livestock use of about 11 percent from the 1981 authorized use, and a 2 percent reduction from the historic grazing preference. As a result of recent changes in the Federal Grazing Regulations (43 CFR Part 4100). the grazing adjustments greater than 15 percent included in this program may be phased-in over a period of 5 years, rather than 3 years as the Ironside EIS Proposed Action. This change outlined in has been adopted to be responsive to a large number of comments expressing concern for the adverse economic impacts of the EIS Proposed Action.

Twenty-nine allotments covering 567,004 acres of public lands are scheduled for intensive management. Approximate seasons-of-use and grazing systems to be implemented are summarized below and detailed by allotment in Appendix II. Allotment Management Plans (AMPs) have been drafted for all intensive management allotments. The range improvements necessary to implement these grazing systems are shown for each allotment in Appendix III.

Other management actions will be used to manage more intensively livestock grazing and include herding, salting, changing season of use, and use crested wheatgrass seedings to reduce pressure on native ranges.

Fifty-four allotments, covering 45,998 acres on numerous scattered tracts of public land, are scheduled for nonintensive management. Within this total, 348 acres will be fenced to exclude livestock. An additional 5,998 acres will have no authorized grazing use.

2. Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Management

The following actions are included in the program to maintain or improve aquatic and riparian habitat:

- Fence 20 miles of stream and 70 acres of riparian habitat to exclude livestock grazing.
- Maintain one fenced exclosure containing 1.5 miles of stream and 6 acres of riparian habitat in the Cottonwood Wildlife Area.
- Improve or maintain about 45 miles of stream and 180 acres of riparian habitat by intensive management (restricting livestock numbers and seasons of use to early spring or late fall and winter).
- Improve riparian areas at spring developments by fencing I-2 acres at overflow areas where potential for substantial improvement exists. This will exclude grazing from about 75 acres of riparian habitat.
- Improve fishery and riparian habitat at four reservoirs by excluding grazing on about 65 acres at Allotment #3, South Cottonwood, and Murphy Reservoirs which contain about 15 acres of aquatic and riparian habitat.

Grazing Systems
(acres)

Rest Rotation Exclusions	Deferred	Deferred Rotation	Spring	Spring or Fall	Fenced[1] Federal Range	Fenced
84.152	124,866	234,979	59,090	40,988	18,862	4.067

[1]Fenced Federal Range — Usually small tracts of public land, fenced into pastures with larger amounts of private lands. Generally these are nonintensive management areas: however. there are some public lands included in intensive management allotments which fit this definition.

- Continue to protect Morrison Reservoir by maintaining the exclosure of 15 acres (about 5 acres of aquatic and riparian habitat will be included within the fence).

3. Water Resources Management

Erosion and runoff rates will be decreased by reducing grazing intensity and improving ecosite condition. It is estimated that after grazing has occurred, about 70 percent of the total vegetation produced annually in the area will be available to reduce soil loss and maintain site productivity. In addition, erosion and runoff rates should decrease on 29,940 acres through brush control.

Water quality will be maintained or improved on 65 miles of stream, on more than 100 springs. and 4 reservoirs as a result of stabilizing and improving riparian vegetation.

4. Wildlife Habitat Management

Big game is allocated 5.170 AUMs of forage that could be consumed by livestock. Also. the 70 percent of the vegetation not used by livestock is available for wildlife forage and cover. This allocation should support peak winter concentrations of about 6.500 deer, 100 elk and 900 antelope. Lower animal numbers are present throughout the remainder of the year. This allocation of wildlife forage was established in coordination with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), public resource users, and other interest groups. Actual numbers of big game vary from year to year

depending on climatic condition: however, present populations are probably near or slightly under the numbers stated above. If ODFW proposes changes in the game management objectives presently established. the present forage allocation would be reconsidered in the planning/decision-making process.

Forage allocation needs for other wildlife species have not been specified at this time. General wildlife habitat needs are considered in the management of aquatic and riparian areas: by establishing vegetation objectives consistent with habitat needs, by implementing grazing systems which will meet these vegetation objectives, and by designing range improvements to enhance habitat conditions.

On winter concentration areas, the following described grazing systems will benefit big game by minimizing dietary overlap and direct competition for forage:

a. Modified rest rotation or early spring grazing will benefit woody plants on 100.500 acres of upland and/or riparian habitat.
b. Restricted seasons of use on 39,000 acres of seeding will preserve fall green-up for wintering deer and antelope.

Brush control on 29,940 acres will be designed to provide an optimum balance between wildlife cover and forage areas. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will be consulted to assist in the design of specific land treatments.

5. Wild Horse Management

A herd of 30 to 50 wild horses will be maintained in the Hog Creek Herd Management Area by allocating 600 AUMs of livestock forage. The herd size and the forage allocation will be increased proportionately to any future livestock forage increases granted in Allotment #4 (203).

6. Resource Monitoring and Evaluation

The following resource studies will be conducted in intensive management allotments to evaluate the effectiveness of the range management program.

a. Livestock

Livestock use data will be obtained from the permittee annually. These records will reflect grazing in each pasture. Livestock counts will be made periodically by the Bureau to verify these records.

b. Vegetation

Utilization studies will be conducted annually to measure how much vegetation, by key forage species, is removed by grazing. Trend studies will be conducted to determine long term changes in plant species composition in relation to vegetative objectives.

c. Climate

Precipitation data will be gathered annually and evaluated to determine the effect of crop-year precipitation on herbage yields and for correlation with utilization studies.

d. Water Quality and Aquatic Life

Studies will be conducted to measure water quality and quantity. Low level infrared photography will be used to document changes in aquatic habitats (including riparian vegetation) due to implementation of grazing management systems.

e. Wildlife

Actual use data will be obtained on elk, antelope and deer from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and supplemental BLM studies. Important habitats will be monitored to identify wildlife needs, and habitat trends and use. Studies will be conducted on exclosures in riparian areas to monitor vegetative trend. wildlife use and water yield.

f. Sensitive. Threatened and Endangered (T/E) Species

The species being considered for listing by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service as either endangered or threatened will be studied to determine the effects of the management program.

What the Program Does

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

1. Livestock Forage.

The planned level of grazing combined with grazing systems and range improvements will maintain or improve ecosite condition. Over a 15-year periocl, available livestock forage is expected to increase by about 25 percent to about 128,300 AUMs. Of the estimated 25,500 additional AUMs about 2.500 will come from brush control and 23.000 from improved grazing management systems.

A short-term loss of forage vegetation production will occur on 29,940 acres proposed for- brush control.

2. Soils and Water

Increased perennial plant cover resulting from the planned livestock management and land treatments will protect soils from both wind and water erosion. In the long term, this increased perennial cover is expected to reduce runoff by 3,000 acre-feet annually. while stabilizing stream-banks and decreasing soil loss by 68 acre-feet per year.

3. Aquatic and Riparian Habitat

Water developments and fencing are expected to result in a more even distribution of livestock. With fewer animals around perennial streams, water quality is expected to improve.

Sixty-five miles of stream, more than 100 spring overflows, and 4 reservoirs will be managed and/or fenced to decrease livestock concentrations and fecal coliform bacteria. Riparian habitat will be maintained or improved on 340 acres included in these areas. This constitutes 70 percent of the total riparian acres in this portion of the Ironside EIS Area. The 35 reservoirs planned would add about 20 acres of aquatic and riparian habitat. The program will significantly improve habitat conditions for more than 100 bird species as well as other terrestrial animals requiring riparian habitat.

Adverse impacts now caused by livestock grazing will continue on approximately 28 miles of stream riparian zones (27 percent of total miles identified) and 148 acres (30 percent of total riparian acres identified). However, none of these strearns are considered crucial for fish, and the benefits of fencing or other methods of protection did not justify the cost. Of the 28 miles identified above. 1.5 miles are in unallotted areas and 4.5 miles are in nonintensive management areas The remaining 22 miles of stream will be under grazing systems such as rest rotation or deferred rotation and may be adversely affected by grazing livestock.

4. Wildlife

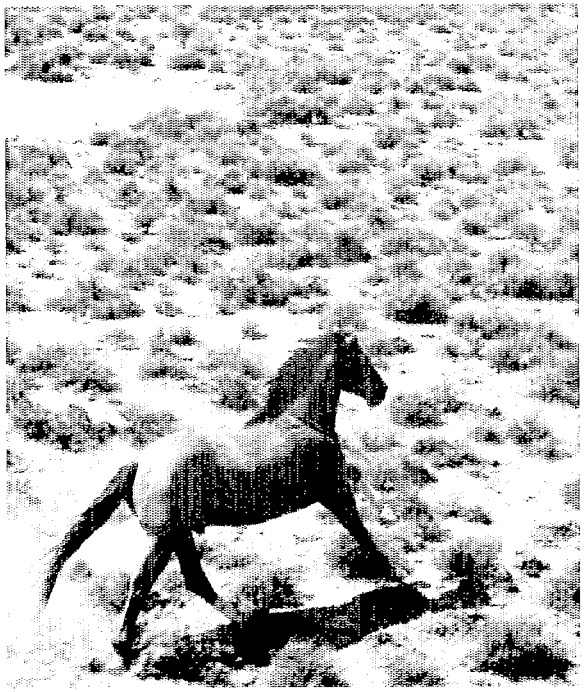
The vegetation allocation will assure a dependable supply of forage for big game on public land. If consistent with land use plan objectives, a portion of the increased forage expected in the long term may be allocated to big game.

The 35 reservoir developments will make additional upland areas useable by game and non-game species.

The grazing systems planned in deer and antelope winter ranges will help insure adequate quantities of quality forage. These systems will benefit about 6.000 deer on 100,000 acres of mule deer winter range and 800 antelope on 39,000 acres of antelope winter range.

Brush control on 29,940 acres using fire, chemical sprays or mechanical treatments, will add diversity and improved forage areas for most big game and non-game animals. However, some species such as sage sparrow and sagebrush lizard which are dependent on sagebrush will probably be displaced from treatment areas.

Wildlife species differ markedly in their habitat requirements. This program will help provide a variety of vegetative successional stages and a corresponding variety of habitats for the widest number of species.



5. Wild Horses

The allocation of 600 AUMs of competitive forage should maintain the Hog Creek wild horse herd in a healthy condition. Two reservoirs scheduled for construction will provide water and allow the herd to use a portion of the area which has not always been available. Management of a population of 30 to 50 wild horses should allow browse species on the deer winter range and the riparian vegetation along Hog Creek to improve.

6. Socio-Economic Conditions

The expenditure of approximately $839,000 during the five-year implementation period is expected to increase local personal income by about $68,000 annually. A study completed in 1980 by Oregon State University for the Baker County Court indicates that an adjustment in grazing use results in a total (direct and indirect) change of local personal income of $18.35 per AUM. While perhaps not strictly applicable for economic conditions in Malheur County. the study provides a uniform basis for estimating local economic impacts of changes in dependent grazing.

The net short-term change from historic grazing preference for all affected allotments is a reduction of 2.108 AUMs This short term loss of grazing use is expected to reduce private property values by $437.000. In addition. the net reduction of annual local personal income for residents of Malheur County would be about $39.000. However, because of the estimated $67.000 increase in personal income from the range improvement program. local personal income should increase by $28,000 annually.

In the long term. new water developments will result in livestock traveling a shorter distance from feed to water and thus improve utilization patterns. Vegetation manipulation and improved management will lead to increased quantity and quality of forage. The net impact should improve livestock performance.

Although some ranchers will experience a short term negative economic impact from initial livestock reductions. in the long term (after 15 years) an additional 25,506 AUMs should be available. Based on the Baker County study prepared by OSU, the annual local personal income of permittees, their employees, other local businesses and their employees. would be increased by 5460.000. This increase would also lead to a wet increase in private property assessed valuation of about $1.7 million dollars.

Alternatives

The Ironside EIS analyzed the environmental impacts of a proposed rangeland management program and the following five alternative actions. Portions of these alternatives are included in the adopted rangeland program.

The Proposed Action, the Limit Downward Adjustments, the Optimize Livestock Grazing, and the Optimize Wildlife. Wild Horses. and Noncomsumptive Uses alternatives were derived from the EIS scoping process and the land use plans developed for the Ironside EIS area.

The No Action Alternative is mandated by CEQ regulations and the Eliminate Livestock Grazing Alternative was included for comparison as a matter of Bureau Policy.

No Action

This alternative would provide for authorized livestock use to continue at the present level (91,493 AUMs). There would be no specific forage allocation for wildlife or wild horses. although the number of wild horses would be maintained at 30 to 50 head.

No new allotment management plans would be developed. Present stocking rates and seasons of use would continue. Existing range improvement projects would be maintained, but no new developments would be constructed.

This alternative was not adopted because forage plants on fair and poor condition ranges would remain in low vigor and there would be little or no improvement in rangeland condition. Riparian vegetation would continue to deteriorate. Competition between livestock and wildlife would remain high on some big game winter ranges.

Eliminate Livestock Grazing

This alternative would eliminate all livestock grazing on all BLM-managed public lands in the Ironside area. The 600 AUMs of livestock forage allocated to wild horses would be maintained. While existing range improvements would be left in place. only those benefiting other resources would be maintained.

This alternative was not adopted because it is contrary to the mandates of the Taylor Grazing Act and would not enhance multiple use of the public lands as outlined in the Federal Land Policy and Mangement Act of 1976.

Limit Downward Adjustments

This alternative and its impacts are the same as the proposed action except for those allotments where the downward adjustment exceeds 20

percent of the present active livestock use. Reductions would be phased in over a five-year period. The initial reduction or increase in the first year would not be more than either- 20 percent or one-third of the livestock adjustment included in the proposed action. Range studies would then be initiated to monitor actual use. forage utilization and trend to determine what adjustments of use are needed in the third and fifth years of implementation. Grazing systems and range improvements would be implemented during the five-year period. The scheduled incremental reductions or increases would not be made if resource objectives are being met.

Economic impacts would be reduced by providing a longer phase-in period to reach the adjustment needed to balance livestock use with forage supply. Data from monitoring studies would indicate the action that would be required to meet resource management objectives. Accepting this alternative may cause a two-year delay in reaching the program objectives.

The five-year phase-in criteria of this alternative was accepted and made a part of the selected program, as modified by a Bureau policy published in the Federal Register on January 19, 1981.

Optimize Livestock Grazing

This alternative would intially allocate al% available forage (113,880 AUMs) to livestock. This amount is 11,044 AUMs more for livestock than the selected program. There would be no allocation of competitive forage for big game. Riparian areas would be protected only to the extent needed to meet federal and state water quality standards. Wildlife exclosures would be grazed 1 out of every 3 years,

Livestock grazing would have preference over the other resource values. Most MFP objectives or constraints which give priority to non-livestock uses would not apply. All other aspects of the selected program, including range improvement projects and grazing systems. would apply in implementing this alternative.

This alternative was not selected because of the adverse consequences the additional land treatments would have on deer winter range areas and other wildlife habitats. Also this alternative does not allocate livestock forage to wildlife. These animals would continue to consume about 5,000 AUMs of livestock forage leading to potential overgrazing in wildlife concentration areas. Impacts on riparian areas and erosion would be greater than at the present time.

Optimize Wildlife, Wild Horses, and Nonconsumptive Uses

Under this alternative the allocation of forage would favor wildlife and nonconsumptive uses. There would be 20,720 AUMs less forage for livestock than the proposed action. The allocation under this alternative would be achieved by excluding livestock from all riparian areas, by allocating to wildlife the forage required to support the highest historic big game populations, and by limiting total grazing use by all animals to 40 percent of the annual production of the key species.

This alternative would allocate forage in excess of the current wildlife needs. The present population of big game animals is near the proposed "Herd Managernent Objective" numbers. Deer populations are presently lower than the historic peak but elk numbers are at their historic peak. However, allocation of forage would not exceed the need of big game numbers that will eventually be established. Wild horses wou Id be allowed to increase to 196 head and would be allocated 2,360 AUMs of forage.

Limiting total forage use to 40 percent of the key species will generally hasten range and riparian area improvement. Although this alternative is environmentally sound and would benefit most resource conditions, it is not accepted as the adopted program because of the resulting negative economic and social impacts. In addition, wildlife objectives can basically be achieved by allocating forage as described in the proposed program to meet the needs of the "Herd Management Objective" numbers of big game. Also. by implementing grazing systems and making use adjustments and developing range improvement projects, a balanced multiple use program can be achieved without the adverse economic and social impacts associated with a program weighted heavily to wildlife and nonconsumptive uses.

Relationship of This Rangeland Management Program to the Ironside EIS Proposed Action and Alternatives

Intensity of Mangement

The Ironside EIS proposed action identified 35 allotments for intensive management. This rangeland management program will implement intensive management on 29 of these allotments. The remaining six will be managed less intensively for the following reasons:

Sheep Corral Creek Allot. No. 122 — Only 16 percent (1,318 acres) of this allotment is public land. Ninety-nine percent (1.299 acres) is in late

(good) ecosite condition. There were no significant values identified during the planning which would indicate a change in management is necessary.

Cottonwood Creek Allot. No. 140 — This **allotment has701** acres of public land and 748 acres of private land. The original reason for intensive management was to improve one mile of riparian vegetation along Cottonwood Creek. Instead. the one mile of Cottonwood Creek will be managed by the range user to improve the riparian habitat. The Bureau will monitor this stream to evaluate trend. If improvement does not occur within 5 years the Bureau will fence the stream to exclude livestock.

Malheur River Allot. No. 219 -There are 640 acres of public land and 1,080 acres of private land in this allotment. The primary reason for intensive management was to protect and improve riparian habitat along 1.2 miles of the Little Malheur River. Instead. this 1.2 mile section of the stream (160 acres including upland habitat) will be fenced to exclude livestock use.

Lockhart Mountain Allot. No. 224 — This allotment wth 1,600 acres of public land and 2,560 acres of private land was erroneously shown as an intensive management area in the Ironside EIS.

Vale Butte (N) Allot. No. 409 and Vale Butte (S) Allot. No. 413 — these two areas contain 525 acres of public land and 28 acres of private. Vegetation on both allotments is predominantly in late (good) condition. The opportunities and need to improve resource conditions do not warrant a change from the present nonintensive management.

Although it did not cause a net change in acreage or numbers of intensively managed allotments, two allotments were combined and one allotment was divided. At the request of the range users, Alkali Spring, Allotment No. 101, was combined with Stripe Mtn., Allotment No. 157. The total acreage for the two allotments and other pertinent data are shown under the Alkali Spring Allotment. Also at the request of the range users, Buckbrush, Allotment 218, was split into two allotments: Buckbrush, Allotment 218, and Brian Creek, Allotment 215. The fencing required to facilitate this split will be funded by the range users. The management objectives for these allotments have not changed.

Due to an error, the allotment boundary between Boswell Spring, Allotment 120, and Brogan Canyon, Allotment No. 148, was incorrect. This change resulted in 414 acres being taken from the nonintensively managed Boswell Spring Allotment and added to the intensively managed Brogan Canyon Allotment.

The Ironside EIS proposed action identified 53 allotments for nonintensive management. This has been changed to 54 since Clover Creek, Allotment No. 210, was split and parts are now shown under Clover Creek Allotment No. 210, and West Clover Creek Allotment No. 213.

Management Systems

The Ironside EIS proposed action included tentative grazing systems developed to achieve a specific management objective. Without changing these objectives, different grazing systems have now been developed for several allotments which will require a minimum of new range improvements and will take into account factors such as differences in elevation and climate.

In order to provide consistency, the following limitations were applied to the EIS area regarding the grazing intensity allowable under a variety of grazing systems and resource objectives.

Objective	Grazing System	Allowable Utilization
Maintain or improve riparian vegetation	Spring or Fall	40%
Improve native range ecosite condition	Seasonlong	40%
Improve native range ecosite condition from Early (poor) to Middle (fair)	Deferred roation	50%
Improve native range ecosite condition from Middle (fair) to Late (good)	Deferred rotation	60%
Improve or maintain native range ecosite condition	Deferred or Rest rotation	60% 60%
Improve or maintain seedings	Deferred rotation	65%

These limitations and guidelines allow the allocation of different amounts of forage for different kinds of grazing systems and to attain the resource objectives.

The following changes in management of riparian areas will be made:

- Two years rest from livestock grazing will not be required on any riparian area because the Ironside EIS estimated that two years rest will allow attainment of the riparian management objective only 5 years sooner (10 years instead of 15). The loss of livestock forage required by two full years rest is not warranted.

- The EIS proposed that the Cottonwood Mountain pasture of Allotment #2 (201) be grazed as a unit under restricted seasons and reduced utilization rates to improve the riparian area along NG Creek and Cottonwood Creek. Instead, the headwater riparian areas with potential for improvements will be fenced from the remainder of the pasture and grazed separately. This will allow increased livestock use in the upland areas.

- The EIS proposed that the Malheur River Allotment No. 219 be grazed as a unit under restricted seasons and reduced utilization rates to improve the riparian area along Little Malheur River. This same proposal applied to Indian Creek in the Stud Horse Pasture of Allotment #3 (202). Instead. these riparian areas will be fenced to exclude livestock grazing and the remaining areas managed to improve or maintain upland vegetation.
- The EIS proposed to exclude livestock grazing on 1.5 miles of Willow Creek in the nonintensive managed Boswell Spring Allotment No. 120. Due to an allotment boundary adjustment, one mile of Willow Creek is now included in the intensively managed Brogan Creek Allotment No. 148. The area now will be grazed under a restricted system with a riparian objective. One-half mile of Willow Creek will still be fenced to exclude livestock grazing.

Range improvements

Range improvement plans have been substantially reduced as a result of allotment management plan consultations, preliminary feasibility analysis, and benefit/cost analysis. The following table compares the summary of projects proposed in the Ironside EIS versus those in the RPS.

The seedings were eliminated due to the high costs when compared to the benefits. Also, some of the areas previously proposed for seedings were changed to brush control projects without seeding.

Since brush control could have negative impacts on wildlife habitats the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will be consulted during the layout and design for specific land treatment projects.

Range Improvement Program Comparison

	Seedings (Acres)	Brush Control (Acres)	Fence (Miles)	Springs	Wells	Reservoirs	Pipelines (Miles)
EIS	12,853	22,296	130	46	2	65	62
RPS	0	29,940	56.25	43	2	35	21.5

It is anticipated that all projects would be subject to further modification because of site specific environmental analysis, engineering analysis, and congressional appropriations.

Forage Production

A 1976 Ocular Reconnaissance Range Survey was the basis for livestock forage production estimates for the 29 intensive management allotments. The data depicted ire the EIS were not adjusted to a normal growing year. The precipitation for that year was about two-thirds of normal for the public lands within the Vale District. The data used in the Ironside EIS has now been adjusted upward to reflect production in normal percipitation years.

During 1978, 1979 and 1980 utilization and actual use studies were conducted on each grazed pasture in the 29 intensive rnanagement allotments. The utilization and actual use information was adjusted to normal year precipitation and used as another set of livestock forage production data. Although neither the range survey nor the utilization and actual use methods are perfectly accurate. at-9 assumption was made for purposes of analysis that current production lies between the two sets of forage production data.

After total production was calculated for both sets of data, the appropriate deductions were made for non-livestock forage users (big game. wild horses and nonconsumptive uses) and adjustments made for the type of grazing system proposed. If the historic grazing preference fell between the two forage production figures. the preference level would be proposed as the initial stocking rate. If the historic grazing preference was higher than either of the two figures, the initial stocking level was reduced to the higher of the two numbers. If historic grazing preference was below the range, the initial stocking was increased to the low number. The initial stocking rates will be confirmed or adjusted at the end of the third and fifth year study period as provided by the recently adopted grazing regulations.

The precipitation adjustment to the 1976 Range Survey, the actual use utilization data in the method described above, and application of the utilization standards for grazing systems and resource objectives previously described, resulted in increasing available livestock forage from the 66,905 AUMs shown in the EIS to 102,636 AUMs in this WPS.

Experimental Stewardship Program

Section 12 of the Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-514) authorized and directed the development and implementation, on an experimental basis on selected areas. of a program which provides incentives to, or rewards for, the holders of grazing permits and leases where stewardship results in an improvement of the range condition of lands under permit or lease. The program, known as the Experimental Stewardship Program, is to explore innovative grazing management policies and systems which might provide incentives to improve range conditions. On or before December 31, 1985, a report will be made to Congress on the results of stewardship program:; which have been approved.

In the Ironside Area, one allotment, Beulah Reservoir- (217), has been approved under the Experimental Stewardship Program described above. Three other allotments. Alkali Spring (101), Allotment #2 (201), and Allotment #3 (202), are being recommended for inclusion in the Experimental Stewardship Program, but have not been approved at this time. The pertinent aspects of those allotment programs included En this RPS do not reflect rancher initiated programs. but are the Bureau's Allotment Management Plan proposals.

If the Experimental Stewardship proposals are approved for those three allotments this RPS may require an amendment to reflect significant changes in the three rangeland management programs.

Public Involvement

Planning

District personnel made periodic formal and informal contacts during the planning process with representatives of 30 agencies and organizations.

Fifty-two responses were received to a written notice dated September 17, '1976. asking for information and recommendations for the planning effort. Individual contacts with public land users, agencies. etc.. to gain specific resource information numbered almost 100 during 1976-1978. The Oregon A-95 Clearinghouse gave comments April 25, 1978, May 1, 1978. and April 18. 1979.

An open house was held in Vale. Oregon. on April 4.1979, to solicit comments and suggestions on the multiple use analysis and alternative decisions. More than 90 individuals and representatives of agencies and institutions either attended this workshop or gave comments later.

Twenty-six persons attended an August 13-14. 1979, afternoon and evening open house to discuss the proposed MFP decisions.

Draft EIS

August 16. 1979: .A meeting was held at Ontario, Oregon. to determine which issues should be considered for discussion in the Ironside EIS and to design realistic alternatives to the proposed action. Twenty persons attended.

February 20, 1980: Dr. Kerry Gee, Colorado State University Agricultural Economist under BLM contract, met with 25 ranchers from the Ironside area to gather economic data relating to ranch budgets.

April 28, 1980: The Draft Ironside Grazing Management EIS (Interior DEIS 80-26) was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and released to the public on April 28, 1980. The 60-day comment period ended on June 27, 1980.

June 3-4, 1980: Public hearings on the draft were held in Ontario, Oregon, and Baker, Oregon, respectively. Oral testimony was received from eight people in Ontario and 18 in Baker. A total of 26 letters were recieve.

Final EIS

September 22, 1980: The Final Ironside Grazing Management EIS was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and made available to the public. Five comment letters were submitted for consideration in the final land use decisions.

Aside from those comments received concerning the quality of the EIS analysis. the majority of the comments expressed concerns about the adverse economic impacts to be caused by the proposed action. Many comments were also concerned with the management of riparian and other important wildlife habitats areas. In addition, several comments pointed out that study data gathered since 1978 had not been considered in the EIS.

All the comments received were considered prior to drafting this rangeland management program. These comments were incorporated in the following ways where consistent with policy and resource objectives:

a. Major grazing use adjustments will be phased-m over a five-year period rather than three years. This action will provide a longer period for adjusting operations and will provide additional time to evaluate monitoring studies data and to allow time for management actions to be completed.

b. Riparian area management has been reviewed to include an optimum acreage within practical management systems and feasible exclusion areas.

c. Study data collected since 1978 have been evaluated from all intensive management allotments. including many where the EIS showed significant adjustments were necessary. Where the new data did not support the need for grazing adjustments, the adjustments were scaled back to reflect the new data.

Draft RPS

March 13. 1981: **A** Draft Rangeland Program Summary and Record of Decision for Vale District's part of the Ironside EIS Area was released. Written com ments were accepted through April 24, 1981. Six persons or groups submitted written comments.

March 26, 1981: A public comment meeting was held in Ontario. Oregon. Seven persons attended and commented.

March - April. 1981: The Draft RPS was presented to the State and National Congressional delegations. the governor's office. the Malheur County Court. the Vale District Multiple Use Advisory Council, and the Vale District Grazing Advisory Board.

July 16, 1981: A letter update of the Draft RPS was issued summarizing twelve items considered for amendments to the Draft RPS. Comments were requested through August 15, 1981. No comments were received.

Allotment Management Plant Consultation

May 19. 1981- present: Consultation meetings with individual livestock operators and other interested parties in 29 intensive management allotments were conducted to formulate management plans. The result of those meetings was generally excellent. General agreement was obtained in the major points of the plan at the first meeting. Others took additional meetings and field tours to resolve differing opinions.

September 11, 1981: A meeting was held with the Vale District Grazing Advisory Board and progress on Allotment Management Plans was discussed. A resolution was passed to recommend approval of all Allotment Management Plans that involved no disagreement. The Grazing Board requested that they only review in detail those plans where agreement was not possible.

September 25, 1981: A letter was sent out to the 54 operators in nonintensive allotments outlining the specific proposal for each al lotment. Ten days were allowed for written comments and October 1 and 2 was set as a time for oral comments to be received in Vale. No written and nine oral comments were received.

Implementation

Administrative Action

AMPs will be completed for all intensively rnanaged allotments by December 15, 1981. Individual permittees and anyone who, in writing within 30 days of issuance of the RPS, has indicated that their interests are affected by the decisions contained in this document will be issued a "Notice of Proposed Decision" in late December 1981. The "Notice of Proposed Decision" may be protested or appealed under provisions of the grazing regulations (43 CFR 4160.2 and 4160.4). Except where appeals are filed, the decisions will be effective March 1, 1982, for the 1982 grazing year.

Implementation and Budget Appropriations

Achievement of the resource objectives for the Ironside area is dependent upon completion of range improvements. A list of the projects and the funding needed for implementing this program and achieving the land use plan objectives is shown in Appendix III. In most allotments few range improvements are needed and grazing systems will be implemented immediately. In other cases, interim grazing systems will be implemented pending construction of needed range improvements. The proposed range improvements will be completed within a five-year periad if $168,000 is appropriated annually. Estimated annual costs fsr range supervision, monitoring and project maintenance is $120,000.

The Allotment Management Plan project proposals were screened based on a Benefit/Cost (B/C) ratio that included all benefits and all costs (federal. private and social). If a B/C ratio of at least 1.0 was not obtained with initial project proposals, adjustments were made in design, scope, or nature of proposed investments consistent with management objectives. The resulting B/C ratios for each allotment having range improvement proposals is shown in Appendix III.

After the screening process all AMP proposals were ranked in numerical order to favor those allotments that: 1) Have the highest amount of permittee contributions; 2) Have the poorest ecosite (rangeland) condition: 3) Have the greatest adverse adjustment in stocking rate; and 4) Have the highest B/C ratio. That numerical ranking of allotments is shown in Appendix III. The allotment ranking will generally be used in scheduling proposed improvements, although there may be other factors, such as scheduling several projects of one type in a given geographic area for efficiency, which would alter the ranking order.

Construction of the planned rangeland facilities will begin in Fiscal Year 1982 if funds become available. BLM's range management and range improvemment programs are funded through Congressional appropriations and from 50 percent of the grazing fees collected.

Grazing Use Adjustments and Monitoring

For intensive management allotments, adjustments of 15 percent or less of active use will be made effective March 1, 1982. If monitoring studies later indicate a need for fur&her reductions. additional adjustments will be made in the third and fifth year after the initial adjustment. Deviations from the schedule of grazing adjustments as established in the final decision must be based on additional data of at least equal quality to that upon which the original schedule was based. If the monitoring studies indicate a need to modify the final decision either upward or downward, the District Manager *will issue an amended decision following consultation with the livestock operator and publication of an updated RPS.

For nonintensive management allotments. adjustments of 15 percent or less will become effective March 1, 1982. Adjustments of 15 percent or more will be made in equal annual increments during the first 3 years.

The initial reduction, other management actions or a combination of both included in the final allotment grazing decision will be large enough to assure significant progress toward achieving the identified vegetation objectives.

Periodic Progress Reports

As this rangeland management program is implemented. a record of progress will be maintained and the specific program details will be contained in periodic updates of the RPS. The publication will provide a summary of livestock grazing decisions. monitoring results, range Improvement progress and management system information. These reports will be distributed periodically in late fall or winter for public information and comment.

FORAGE ALLOCATION

Allotment Number & Name		Public Land (acres)	Other Land (acres)	Management[1] Type	Wildlife Forage (AUMs)	Livestock Use (AUMs)	Historic Grazing Preference (AUMs)	1981 Authorized Use (AUMs)	Adjustment from Historic Grazing Preference (AUMs)
101	Alkali Spring	61,005	9,943	I, SP	278	11,995	13,361	12,598	-1,366
102	Cottonwood	33,459	1,989	I	422	7,018	7,383	5,148	-365
103	Poall Creek	2,967	1,553	I	27	655	655	556	0
104	West Bench	1,111	135	I	2	116	211	113	-45
105	Willow Creek (Lvstk)	3,837	1,111	I	3	494	986	430	-492
106	Jamieson	80	352	N	1	5	24	24	-19
107	Grove Road	360	4,233	N	4	22	64	64	-42
108	Golden Eagle Mine	400	1,801	N	7	46	34	34	+12
109	Bridge Creek	40	440	N	1	4	4	4	0
110	Reservoir Butte	1,000	1,110	N	10	61	182	182	-121
111	Lyman Creek	80	2,560	N	2	7	7	7	0
112	Ironside Mtn. (W)	1,003	3,880	N	20	124	124	124	0
113	Boston Horse Camp	764	1,543	N	13	83	245	245	-162
114	Ironside Mtn. (E)	2,197	13,750	N	36	140	140	140	0
115	Cow Valley	594	29,927	N	7	43	80	80	-37
116	East Moores Hollow	872	4,130	N	8	54	110	110	-56
117	Becker Creek	1,272	7,626	N	14	92	567	567	-475
118	Malheur Res.	775	3,327	N	9	56	80	80	-24
119	Lost Valley	800	4,730	N	9	58	210	210	-152
120	Boswell Spring	1,088	4,332	N	20	30	120	120	-90
121	Middle Willow Cr.	480	2,743	N	7	45	45	45	0
122	Sheep Corral Cr.	1,318	6,851	N	8	337	212	212	+125
123	Wickiup Gulch	1,905	3,708	N	18	118	140	140	-22
124	Bridge Gulch	2,730	1,340	N	26	169	488	488	-319
125	Phipps Creek	1,751	1,465	I	62	155	155	156	0
127	Thorn Flat	3,412	615	I	26	987	987	802	0
129	Dry Gulch	863	1,242	N	10	62	140	140	-78
130	Malheur City	1,351	3,603	I	7	255	328	273	-73
131	Baldy Mountain	3,292	1,599	I	22	520	503	444	+17
132	Bully Creek	5,151	3,580	I	16	980	980	707	0
133	Krivett	240	2,417	N	4	26	46	46	-20
134	Juniper Mtn.	874	1,925	N	20	126	126	126	0
135	Dry Creek Indiv.	1,601	2,357	N	15	99	280	280	-181
136	King Field Indiv.	850	2,562	N	10	61	116	116	-55
137	Phipps Cr. (E)	580	2,790	N	6	35	84	84	-49
138	Boulder Cr.	358	4,913	N	5	31	84	84	-53
139	Phipps Cr. (N)	3,767	2,350	I	39	784	784	784	0
140	Cottonwood Creek	701	740	N	8	38	87	87	-49
141	Ferriers Gulch	320	4,240	N	4	28	54	54	-26
142	Ironside School	40	1,213	N	1	4	4	4	0
143	Alder Creek	1,212	2,179	I	18	198	198	198	0
144	Cow Creek	1,299	2,301	N	18	112	330	330	-218
145	Bridge Cr. (E)	900	4,650	N	12	78	165	165	-87
146	Eldorado Cr.	360	1,240	N	5	31	60	60	-29
147	Quarry	80	76	N	51	2	15	15	-13
148	Brogan Canyon	2,080	1,060	I	55	360	360	300	0
149	Wheel Gulch	817	1,207	N	8	50	82	82	-32
150	Butterfield Spr.	628	4,590	N	6	39	74	74	-35

FORAGE ALLOCATION

Allotment Number & Name		Public Land (acres)	Other Land (acres)	Management[1] Type	Wildlife Forage (AUMs)	Livestock Use (AUMs)	Historic Grazing Preference (AUMs)	1981 Authorized Use (AUMs)	Adjustment from Historic Grazing Preference (AUMs)
151	Canyon Creek	480	1,514	N		35	60	60	2 5
152	Canal	272	1,253	N	33	16	57	57	-41
153	South Willow Cr.	1,632	5,127	N	32	85	85	-85	
154	Shasta Butte	510	3,437	N	3	21	61	61	-40
155	Amelia Butte	240	4,387	N	3	13	13	13	0
201	Allotment #2	46,352	4,423	SP	196	8,742	8,742	6,772	0
202	Allotment #3	76,866	15,564	SP	586	14,583	12,238	9,625	+2,345
203	Allotment #4[2]	57,548	1,903		164	5,502	5,502	5,502	0
204	Allotment #6	6,938	501		71	1,201	1,540	1,540	-339
205	Rail Canyon	22,884	2,970		203	3,023	3,023	3,023	0
206	Dearmand/Murphy	35,096	12,333		324	6,485	6,485	4,968	0
208	Ringe Butte	440	3,240	N	5	32	105	105	-73
209	Oregon Canal	1,280	3,770	N	15	94	21	21	+73
210	Clover Cr. Indiv.	5,600	20,500	N	77	248	453	453	-205
211	Castle Rock	23,212	20,437		245	5,935	4,188	4,187	+1,747
212	Butte Tree	640	2,240	N	11	69	123	123	-54
213	West Clover Cr.			N		235	435	435	-200
214	Richie Flat	17,599	607		225	3,168	3,549	3,022	-381
215	Brian Creek	4,784	60		27	1,090	1,090	927	0
216	Whitley Canyon	14,201	4,757		261	2,320	2,320	1,979	0
217	Beulah Res.	35,997	13,574	I,S	463	5,753	5,753	5,460	-
218	Buck Brush - Brian Creek	17,853	3,435		75	3,108	3,108	2,777	
219	Malheur River	640	1,080	N	11	53	170	170	-117
222	Willow Basin	41,639	9,189		341	7,433	8,123	6,385	-690
223	Lava Ridge	11,168	1,344		183	1,722	1,722	1,722	
224	Lockhart Mtn.	1,600	2,560	N	27	214	159	159	+55
225	Chukar Park	540	540	N	-	35	105	105	-70
226	Cottonwood Cr.	950	920	N	11	68	192	192	-124
227	Westfall	1,442	280		25	167	126	124	+41
228	Scratch Post Butte	920	6,560	N	21	132	84	84	+48
233	Squaw Butte	320	2,000	N	5	35	67	67	-32
244	Post Creek	1,140	3,280	N	16	98	320	320	-222
402	North Harper	29,030	2,991		207	4,192	3,329	4,585	+863
409	Vale Butte (N)	80	28	N	2	10	10	10	0
413	Vale Butte (S)	445	28	N	2	36	72	72	-36
Unallotted		5,998		U	-	0	-	-	-
Total:		619,000	324,880		5,170	102,836	104,944	92,242	-2,108

[1] I-Intensive management, N-Nonintensive management, U-Unalloted. These designations are subject to revision after completion of categorization under the Selective Management Policy.
S-Approved for experimental Stewardship Program authorized under the Public Rangelands Improvement Act (PRIA, 1978).
SP-Stewardship Proposal — livestock use (AUMs) is the amount BLM would allocate if the Stewardship Program presently under consideration is not approved.

[2] 203 Allotment #4 has 600 AUMs allocated for 30-50 wild horses in the Hog Creek Herd Management Area.

APPROXIMATE PERIODS US USE AND GRAZING SYSTEMS

Allotment Number and Name		Management Objectives[1]	Period Of Use	Grazing Systems (Public Land Acres) Spring	Spring or Fall	Deferred	Deferred Rotation	Rest Rotation	Exclusion	FFR[2]
101	Alkali Spring[3]	a, b, e	04/01-10/31	0	4875	20899	34499	0	113	619
102	Cottonwood	a, b, e	04/01-10/31		0	0	32941	0	518	0
103	Poall Creek	a	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	2965	0	2	0
104	West Bench	d	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	1111	0	0	0
105	Willow Creek (Lvstk)	a	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	3837	0	0	0
125	Phipps Creek	a	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	1751	1751	0	0
127	Thorn Flat	a, b	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	3412	0	0	0
130	Malheur City	a,	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	1124	0	0	227
131	Baldy Mountain	a,	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	3292	0	0	0
132	Bully Creek	d	04/01-10/31	0	0	5149	0	0	2	0
139	Phipps Cr. (N)	a	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	3767	0	0	0
143	Alder Creek	a	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	0	1212	0	0
148	Brogan Canyon	c	03/01-09/15	0	840	1240	0	0	0	0
201	Allotment #2[3]	a, b, c, e	03/01-10/31	6062	0	13301	25355	0	1098	536
202	Allotment #3[3]	a, b, c, e	03/01-10/31	18370	16031	27606	686	0	469	3704
203	Allotment #4[3]	a, b, c, d, e	03/01-10/31	6446	0	0	25163	25855	84	0
204	Allotment #6	c	03/01-10/31	6614	0	0	0	0	324	0
205	Rail Canyon	a, b, c	03/01-10/31	3686	0	13793	5399	0	6	0
206	Dearmand/Murphy	a, b, c	03/01-10/31	1013	0	9361	1730	20040	72	2880
211	Castle Rock	a, b	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	12632	7662	364	2554
214	Richie Flat	a, e	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	17362	0	167	70
215	Brian Creek	a, b	04/15-11/15	2294	0	2490	0	0	0	0
216	Whitley Canyon	a, b, d	03/01-10/31	0	0	2612	858	10318	362	51
217	Beulah Res.	a, b, c, d	03/01-10/31	3274	0	0	21801	7084	10	3828
218	Buck Brush	a, b	04/01-10/31	0	0	10081	6824	513	0	435
222	Willow Basin	a, c	03/01-10/31	11331	0	0	15205	11468	112	3523
223	Lava Bridge	b, c, e	04/01-10/31	---	7800	2769	—	0	164	435
227	Westfall	a	04/01-10/31	0	1442	0	—	0	0	0
402	North Harper	a, e	04/01-10/31	0	0	15565	13265	0	200	0
Nonintensive Allot.[4]			N/A	—	—	—	—	—	348	46650
Unalloted[5]				—		—	—	—	5998	—
Total Acres.				59090	40988	124866	234979	84152	10413	64512

[1] Management Systems are proposed to achieve the following general objectives which are referenced by letter above.
a. Improve ecosite (range) condition
b. Maintain ecosite (range) condition
c. Improve or maintain riparian vegetation
d. Maintain or improve mule deer winter forage
e. Maximize availability of fall greenup in crested wheatgrass seedings for wintering mule deer and/or antelope.

[2] FFR. Fenced Federal Range --- Generally, small tracts of public land, fenced into pastures with larger amounts of private lands. Generally these are nonintensive management areas; however, there are some public lands included in intensive management allotments which fit this definition.

[3] Allotments 101 Alkali Spring, 201 Allotment #2, and 202 Allotment #3 are proposed for stewardship. The grazing system objectives shown are what the BLM would require if the stewardship program is not approved.

[4] Seasons of Use and grazing systems for the 54 nonintensive allotments are not shown. Generally the season of use is 04/01-10/31, however, this and the grazing system can vary from year to year, and will not be restricted unless damage to public lands is occurring.

[5] Unalloted public lands are not included in any grazing allotment and no grazing is authorized.

Appendix III

RANGE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM'

Allotment No.:	Allotment Name	Brush Control (acres)	Fence (miles	Springs	Wells	Reservoirs	Pipeline jmiiesj	Estimated R.I. costs (000)	Total Benefit/ Cosi	Total Benefits/ Federal cost	Priority for Federal Investment
101	Alkali Spring[2]	2000	7 00	3	1		7	$ 121	2.38	2.86	1
102	Cottonwood	2600	-0-	2	-0-	1	-0-	37	1.85	2.04	5
103	Poall Creek	500	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	5	1.76	1.76	22
104	West Bench	300	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-		1.65	1.65	14
105	Willow Creek	1100	2.00	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	17	1.03	1.08	
125	Phipps Creek (W)	-O-	1.50	-0-	-0-	2	-0-	18	1.83	N/A	18
127	Thorn Flat	-o-	0.00	1	-0-	-0-	-0-	2	1.06	1 68	21
130	Malheur City	300	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	3	2.18	2 18	12
131	Baldy Mountain	640	0.25	-0-	-0-	2	-0-	15	2.42	2 70	20
139	Phipps Creek (N)	-it-	1.50		-0-	-0-	-0-	2	3.18	4 6 7	16
148	Brogan Canyon	-O-	2.50	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-		12.86	13.11	6
201	Allotment #2[2]	3000	10.00	-0-	1	2	3.00	87	1.00	1.37	15
202	Allotment #3[2]	3000	12.00		-0-	3	-0-	69	3.10	3 67	11
203	Allotment #4	-o-	-0-	-(I-	-0-	-0-	8.00	40	1.26	1 58	13
205	Rail Canyon	,944	0.25	-G-	-0-	5	-0-	37	5.33	7.42	9
206	Dearmand/Murphy	1956	5.00		-0-	3	-0-	60	2.83	4.82	7
211	Castle Rock	-0-	1.00		-0-	-0-	-0-	20	1 02	1.50	24
214	Richie Flat	2500	1 50		-0-	1	-0-	40	3.42	2.68	
216	Whitley Canyon	2000	4.00		-0-	-0-	-0-	35	1.86	2.04	17
217	Beulah Reservoir	2100	4.00		-0-	6	-0-	69	2.46	3 12	10
218	Buck Brush	3000	2.50	-0-	-0-	2	-0-	46	1 06	1.16	19
222	Willow Basin	3000	-0-		-0-	5	-0-	65	2.67	3.25	2
223	Lava Ridge	-0-	1.25		-0-	3	.50	25	3 04	4.18	8
402	North Harper	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	3.00	15	1.08	1.37	23
	Totals	29,940	56.25	43	2	35	21.50	839			

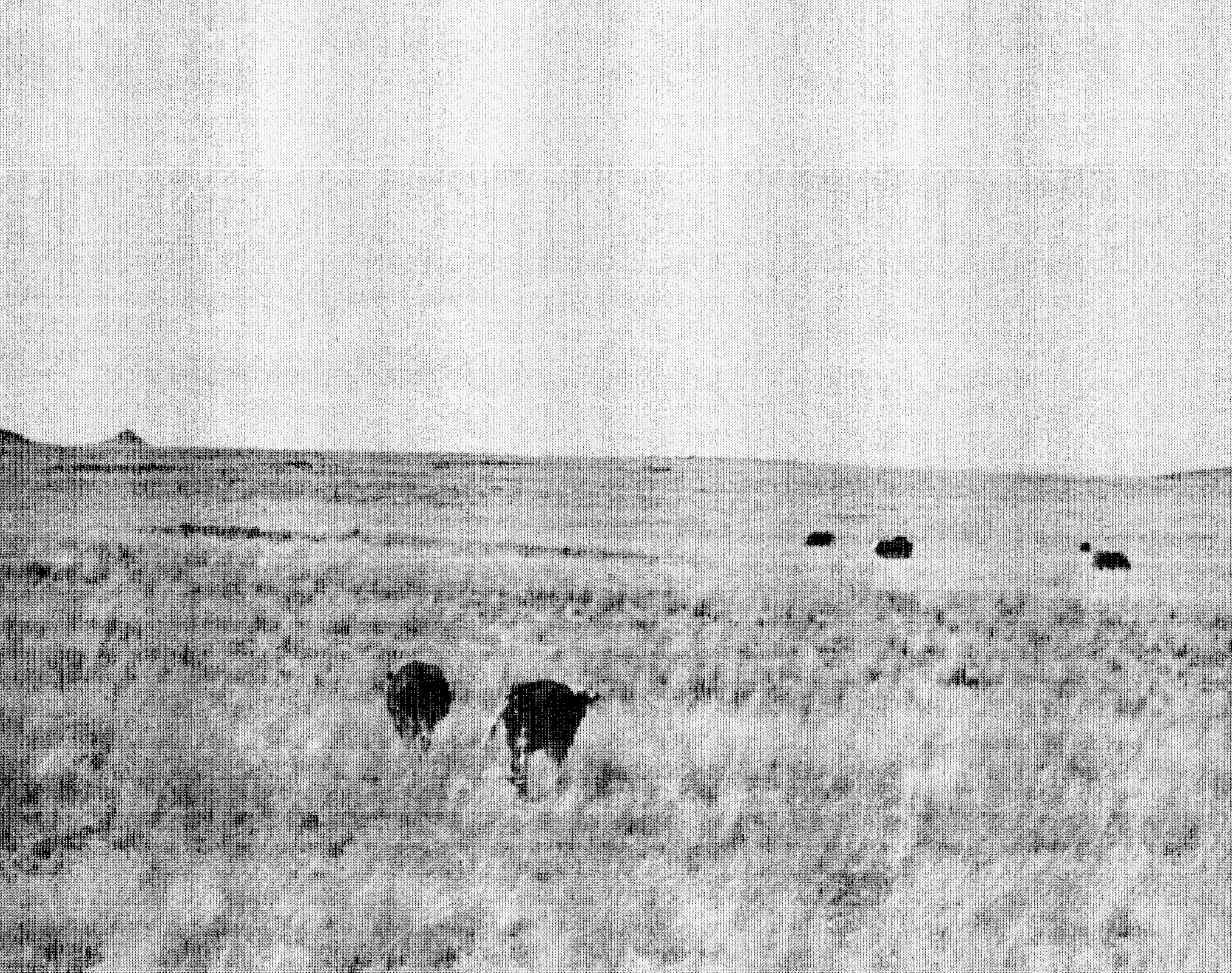
Range improvements may be added in nonintensive areas periodically. Improvements on these nonintensive areas would in most instances be funded by the operator. Costs shown here are based on 1980 values

These three allotments are proposed for Experimental Stewardship. The projects shown are those which would be developed by the Bureau if the Stewardship proposals are not approved.

Permittee Contributions = 100%

Natural Resource Conservation

As the Nation's principal conservation agency. the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This include fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources. protecting our fish and wildlife. preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places. and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interests of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.

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

☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1981—593-033 (2019)