

DECISION/RATIONALE

DECISION

I have determined that implementation of the proposed action to modify the winter portion of the Duncan Mackenzie ten year grazing permit as outlined in Environmental Assessment OR-030-02-023 is in conformance with the SEORMP and ROD. My decision is to implement the proposed action and modify the grazing permit. The new permit will read as follows:

Allotment	Livestock		Grazing Period		% PL	Type Use	AUMs
	Number	Kind	Begin	End			
Morcum	54	Cattle	12/01	3/31	100	Active	213

RATIONALE

My rationale for this decision is as follows. The modified permit will not cause detrimental affects to the vegetation. Grazing use will merely be made at a slightly different time during the same basic winter/spring grazing season. By March 31st, very little growth if any will have occurred, therefore minimizing the affects to the vegetation. Grazing at this time will occur mainly outside of the growing season, and before the critical period of plant growth. A small amount of spring growth could occur if the lows were above freezing and the daily highs remained quite warm.

Modifying the permit will neither enhance nor degrade the wilderness study area. Values such as primitiveness, unconfined recreation, solitude, species diversity, scenery, etc will still be available to the public and not affected by the proposed action. Soils, air quality, noxious weeds, wildlife, special status plant species, recreation, cultural resources, and areas of critical environmental concerns will not be affected.

This permit change is a reasonable action and will benefit the permittee. No impacts were identified that will significantly affect any aspect of the human environment.

Environmental Assessment OR-030-02-023 was posted on the Vale District website and a Notice of Proposed Action was published in the Argus Observer on October 3, 2003. The EA was also mailed to various interested publics and no comments were received.

s/Jerry L. Taylor

November 21, 2003

Jerry L. Taylor, Field Manager, Jordan Resource Area

Date