

Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy
U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management
Prineville District, 3050 NE Third Street, Prineville, Oregon

Proposed Action Title: Squaw Creek Allotment, #2558, Grazing Lease Renewal

DNA Number: OR-054-06-118

Project or Serial Number: N/A

Location of the Proposed Action: Squaw Creek Allotment is located eleven air miles south of Kimberly, Oregon

Purpose and Need for Action: The lessee requested that the current lease be renewed.

Description of the Proposed Action: Renew a grazing permit for the permittee in the above listed allotments for a term of ten years. Except for the term shown on the permit, all terms and conditions on the permit will remain the same, including allocated AUM's and season of use.

Plan Conformance:

The above project has been reviewed and found to be in conformance with one or more of the following BLM plans.

The proposed decision is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions: See explanations under the NEPA Adequacy Criteria, items 1-7, pages 2 and 3.

Applicable NEPA document and related documents:

The following NEPA document and related documents address the proposed action. These documents are available for review at the Prineville District BLM office:

Two Rivers Resource Management Plan (RMP) & Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and Record of Decision June 1986.

NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. *Is the current proposed action substantially the same action (or is a part of that action) as previously analyzed?*

Livestock grazing in the Squaw Creek Allotment is addressed on page 46 of the RMP/EIS/ ROD referenced above. Grazing use in the 5,061 acre allotment is to be continued with a grazing preference of 301 AUM's. No portion of the allotment is proposed for livestock exclusion. The grazing season authorized is from April 1 to October 2.

2. *Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document appropriate with respect to the current proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?*

Alternatives in the planning document (page 1 to page 5 of the Draft EIS) ranged from emphasizing commodity production and enhancement of economic benefits to emphasizing natural values.

3. *Is the existing analysis valid and are the conclusions adequate in light of new information or circumstances (including, for example, riparian functioning condition (PFC) reports; rangeland health standards assessments, Unified Water Assessment categorizations; inventory and monitoring data; most recent Fish and Wildlife Service lists of threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species; most recent BLM lists of sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that all new information and all new circumstances are insignificant with regard to the analysis of the proposed action?*

The Bureau of Land Management is required to assess all public land grazing allotments for compliance with the Standards for Rangeland Health & Guidelines for Grazing Management (43 CFR 4180). An assessment was signed on September 30, 2004, by Christina M. Welch, Field Manager, Central Oregon Resource Area. The assessment concluded that the grazing management did **not** conform to the guidelines for livestock grazing management. It recommended that a ranch plan be developed in cooperation with Natural Resource Management Services (NRCS) to create additional pastures and develop additional water sources for livestock.

In the fall, 2005, the pasture fences were constructed on the public and private lands in the allotment to create additional pastures in cooperation with the NRCS. A deferred rotation grazing system was initiated to manage the livestock grazing.

4. *Do the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA documents(s) continue to be appropriate for the current proposed action?*

The Two Rivers RMP/EIS addressed impacts of continued grazing and provided objectives and recommendations to facilitate maintenance of existing ecological

condition trends (pages 14-16 and 42-54 of ROD). The approach is still considered vital.

5. *Are the direct and indirect impacts of the current proposed action substantially unchanged from those analyzed in the Draft Two Rivers RMP/EIS)? Does the existing NEPA document analyze site-specific impacts related to the current proposed action?*

Impacts resulting from grazing are essentially unchanged from those analyzed in the Draft Two Rivers RMP/EIS. The Draft Two Rivers RMP/EIS(pages 58-72) stated grazing management will beneficially impact soils and water resources, plant diversity, riparian vegetation, wildlife upland habitat, and fish habitat. Under the preferred alternative grazing will have no significant effect on vegetation types and improve ecological condition. Under the preferred alternative there will be a low impact to cultural resources by grazing.

6. *Can you conclude without additional analysis or information that the cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the current proposed action are substantially unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA documentation?*

The RMP does not specifically address cumulative impacts of grazing but does address long term impacts of the action with the assumption that the grazing activity will continue (impact analysis is on page 60 of Draft RMP/EIS). AUM's throughout the Two Rivers areas will change from 17,778 to 24,217 over time. Recommendations and objectives in the document reflect the impacts and expected improvements that will continue with the ongoing grazing. The proposed action is substantially unchanged from those analyzed impacts.

7. *Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with the existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the proposed action?*

Many of the individuals/organizations on our current "interested publics" list are the same as those on the mailing list for the RMP/EIS referenced above. A copy of this DNA worksheet will be mailed to a representative of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and to other individuals and organizations that have expressed an interest in this or similar actions.

Interdisciplinary Analysis:

The following Prineville District BLM employees reviewed this analysis for accuracy in their area of expertise.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Resource Represented</u>	<u>Intials/Date</u>
Don Zalunardo	Wildlife, Special Status Animals	DRZ 6/14/07
Heidi Mottl	Recreation, Wilderness	HM 3/25/07
John Morris	Fisheries	JM 5/1/07 Fish streams
John Zancanella	Cultural Resources	JZ 3/26/07
Ron Halvorson	Botany, Special Status Plants	RH 3/29/07
Kenneth Primrose	Range, Livestock Grazing	KP 5/2/07
Larry Thomas	Soils, Hazardous Materials	LT 5/4/2007
Dan Tippy	NEPA Coordinator	DT 5/2/07
Bill Pieratt	Noxious Weeds	WP 5-1-07

Mitigation Measures:

The following mitigation measures will be implemented as part of the proposed action: A Manual Supplement, entitled "Rangeland Monitoring in Oregon and Washington", was developed and adopted by the BLM as a guidance document. The Prineville District also developed a district-monitoring plan. Both of these documents receive periodic review and revision. These documents provide a framework and minimum standards for choosing the timing and study methods to collect information needed to issue decisions which affect grazing management as well as watershed, wildlife and threatened and endangered species

Recommendations:

I recommend that the grazing lease for the Squaw Creek Allotment be renewed.

Prepared By: M. Tippy Date 12-3-07
Title: Rangeland Management Specialist

Plan Conformance/DNA Determination

The proposed action and any specified mitigation measures (s) were determined to meet the criteria for a Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA). No additional environmental analysis is required. All cultural, T & E plant, and T & E wildlife specialists have provided clearance for the proposed project.

Reviewed By: Danny L. Dwyer Date 2/8/08
Environmental Coordinator

* Two species of Federally Listed, Federal Candidate or Bureaucratic Sensitive Wildlife found when a search of the district sightings database was done for the general area of this allotment. List is attached. DRZ

Approval:

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

Approved By: Danny L. Spring Acting Date 2/8/08
Christina M. Welch
Central Oregon Resource Area Field Manager

Note: The signature on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and cannot be appealed.

Attachment
Squaw Creek Allotment, #2558, Map

all of # 2558

Date	ID	Species	T	R	S	1/4	1/8	1/16	Acc	Observer	M	F	U	A	Y	Un	T	Notes	Nearest Landmark
6/18/1980	987	AMERICAN KESTREL	11S	25E	2	n/a	n/a		TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7/29/1989	3005	AMERICAN KESTREL	12S	26E	3	n/a	n/a		TR640	unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
5/28/1980	1989	AMERICAN ROBIN	12S	25E	1	SW	n/a		TR160	Conroy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/2/1980	2010	AMERICAN ROBIN	12S	24E	5	NE	NW		TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/3/1980	937	AMERICAN ROBIN	11S	24E	3	SW	SE		TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/16/1980	977	AMERICAN ROBIN	12S	25E	2	n/a	n/a		TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/18/1980	988	AMERICAN ROBIN	11S	25E	2	n/a	n/a		TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/18/1980	989	AMERICAN ROBIN	11S	26E	3	n/a	n/a		TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7/29/1989	3006	ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER	12S	26E	3	n/a	n/a		TR640	unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/16/1980	978	BANK SWALLOW	12S	25E	2	n/a	n/a		TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
5/28/1980	1990	BARN SWALLOW	12S	25E	1	SW	n/a		TR160	Conroy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/2/1980	2011	BEAVER	12S	24E	5	NE	NW		TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/2/1980	2012	BEAVER	12S	24E	5	SE	NE		TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/3/1980	938	BELDING'S GROUND SQUIRREL	11S	24E	3	SW	SE		TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/3/1980	939	BELTED KINGFISHER	11S	24E	3	SW	SE		TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
10/31/199	1765	BIGHORN SHEEP	11S	26E	3	NW	SE		TR40	Petersen	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	LARGE BIGHORN RAM ON FRANKS CREEK ROAD	
7/21/1981	2538	BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE	11S	26E	2	SW	SW		TR40	unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7/29/1989	3007	BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE	12S	26E	3	n/a	n/a		TR640	unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/18/1980	990	BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE	11S	26E	3	n/a	n/a		TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/2/1980	2013	BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK	12S	24E	5	NE	NW		TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/2/1980	2014	BREWER'S BLACKBIRD	12S	24E	5	NE	NW		TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/3/1980	940	BREWER'S BLACKBIRD	11S	24E	3	SW	SE		TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/16/1980	979	BREWER'S BLACKBIRD	12S	25E	2	n/a	n/a		TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/18/1980	991	BREWER'S BLACKBIRD	11S	26E	3	n/a	n/a		TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/3/1980	941	CALIFORNIA QUAIL	11S	24E	3	SW	SE		TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/2/1980	2015	CANYON WREN	12S	24E	5	NE	NW		TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7/29/1989	3008	CANYON WREN	12S	26E	3	n/a	n/a		TR640	unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/3/1980	942	CASSIN'S FINCH	11S	24E	3	SW	SE		TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
5/28/1980	1991	CHIPPING SPARROW	12S	25E	1	SW	n/a		TR160	Conroy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/3/1980	943	CHIPPING SPARROW	11S	24E	3	SW	SE		TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/3/1980	944	CHUKAR	11S	24E	3	SW	SE		TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7/7/1981	2514	CHUKAR	11S	26E	6	n/a	n/a		TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7/21/1981	2539	CHUKAR	11S	26E	2	SW	SW		TR40	unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7/29/1989	3009	CHUKAR	12S	26E	3	n/a	n/a		TR640	unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/3/1980	945	COMMON GARTER SNAKE	11S	24E	3	SW	SE		TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7/29/1989	3010	COMMON GARTER SNAKE	12S	26E	3	n/a	n/a		TR640	unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/16/1980	980	COMMON MERGANSER	12S	25E	2	n/a	n/a		TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
5/28/1980	1993	COYOTE	12S	25E	1	SW	n/a		TR160	Conroy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
9/23/1980	889	COYOTE	11S	25E	2	n/a	n/a		TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/15/1980	981	EASTERN KINGBIRD	12S	25E	2	n/a	n/a		TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
1/19/1979	1904	GOLDEN EAGLE	12S	24E	4	n/a	n/a		TR640	Wayne Elmore	2	0	0	0	0	0	2		

Date	ID	Species	T	R	S	1/4	1/6	Acc	Observer	M	F	U	A	Y	Un	T	Notes	Nearest Landmark
7/7/1981	2515	GOLDEN EAGLE	11S	26E	6	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
5/17/1998	1734	GOLDEN EAGLE	11S	26E	7	NW	SE	TR40	Sherrill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	CLIFF	
9/23/1980	890	GOLDEN-MANTLED GROUND SQ	11S	25E	2	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/18/1980	992	GOPHER SNAKE	11S	26E	3	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
9/23/1980	891	GOPHER SNAKE	11S	25E	2	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/2/1980	2020	GREEN-WINGED TEAL	12S	24E	5	NE	NW	TR40	Bristol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	RIPARIAN HABITAT INVENTORY	
6/3/1980	953	GREEN-WINGED TEAL	11S	24E	3	SW	SE	TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	STREAM INVENTORY FORM	
6/16/1980	982	KILLDEER	12S	25E	2	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
5/28/1980	1995	LAZULI BUNTING	12S	25E	1	SW	n/a	TR160	Conroy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
9/23/1980	893	LAZULI BUNTING	11S	25E	2	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
1/3/1993	3428	LONG-EARED OWL	11S	26E	2	SE	NW	TR40	Perkins	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NESTING OWLS HAVE APPARENTLY USED	
7/21/1981	2540	MOUNTAIN QUAIL	11S	26E	2	SW	SW	TR40	unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7/29/1989	3011	MOUNTAIN QUAIL	12S	26E	3	n/a	n/a	TR640	unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7/16/2001	149	MOUNTAIN QUAIL	11S	25E	2	n/a	n/a	TR160	J Morris	0	0	0	0	0	8	8		
9/17/2001	151	MOUNTAIN QUAIL	11S	25E	2	n/a	n/a	TR160	J Morris	0	0	0	0	0	10	10		
10/2/2001	152	MOUNTAIN QUAIL	11S	25E	3	n/a	n/a	TR160	J Morris	0	0	0	0	0	3	3		
11/15/200	155	MOUNTAIN QUAIL	11S	25E	2	n/a	n/a	TR40	J Morris	0	0	0	0	0	2	2		
6/16/1980	983	MOURNING DOVE	12S	25E	2	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
9/23/1980	894	MOURNING DOVE	11S	25E	2	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7/7/1981	2516	MOURNING DOVE	11S	26E	6	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7/21/1981	2541	MOURNING DOVE	11S	26E	2	SW	SW	TR40	unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
5/28/1980	1998	MULE DEER	12S	25E	1	SW	n/a	TR160	Conroy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/2/1980	2021	MULE DEER	12S	24E	5	NE	NW	TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	STREAM INVENTORY FORM	
6/16/1980	984	MULE DEER	12S	25E	2	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/18/1980	993	MULE DEER	11S	25E	2	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/18/1980	994	MULE DEER	11S	26E	3	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
9/2/1980	854	MULE DEER	11S	25E	2	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7/7/1981	2518	MULE DEER	11S	26E	6	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7/21/1981	2542	MULE DEER	11S	26E	2	SW	SW	TR40	unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7/29/1989	3012	MULE DEER	12S	26E	3	n/a	n/a	TR640	unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/2/1980	2022	NORTHERN FLICKER	12S	24E	5	NE	NW	TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	STREAM INVENTORY FORM	
6/3/1980	954	NORTHERN FLICKER	11S	24E	3	SW	SE	TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	STREAM INVENTORY FORM	
7/29/1989	3013	NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER	12S	26E	3	n/a	n/a	TR640	unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6/18/1980	995	NORTHWESTERN CROW	11S	26E	3	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
5/17/1998	1736	OSPREY	11S	26E	3	NW	SE	TR40	Sherrill	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	OBSERVED OSPREY HOVERING OVER JOHN DAY	
6/3/1980	965	PORCUPINE	11S	24E	3	SW	SE	TR40	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	STREAM INVENTORY FORM	
9/23/1980	895	PORCUPINE	11S	25E	2	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
10/27/199	1764	PRONGHORN	11S	25E	2	NE	SE	TR40	Petersen	0	0	0	0	0	16	16	UPLAND	
7/29/1989	3014	RACCOON	12S	26E	3	n/a	n/a	TR640	unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
9/23/1980	897	RED-TAILED HAWK	11S	25E	2	n/a	n/a	TR640	Doelker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

