

Appendix A19 Goodrich Individual Allotment #161

1.0 Introduction

According to the RMP, Goodrich Individual #161 Allotment consists of approximately 240 acres of public land and 80 acres of private land. The allotment is surrounded by public land, Payette National Forest, and private land.

Through the Evaluation and Determination, it was found that

- Livestock management is in conformance with the Watershed (#1), Native Plant Communities (#4), and Threatened and Endangered Species (#8) standards;
- Compliance with all applicable guidelines for livestock grazing management being achieved.

2.0 Description of Alternatives

2.1 Alternative A – No Action

Livestock grazing authorization would continue, with the current grazing permit expiring February 28, 2010. Mandatory terms and conditions of the grazing permit are:

Allotment	Livestock	Season of Use	Percent Public Land	Grazing Preference		
				Active	Suspended	Total
Goodrich Individual #161	16 Cattle	04/01 to 05/31	100%	32	0	48
	16 Cattle	10/01 to 10/31		16		

Following are allotment specific terms and conditions that would be attached to the grazing permit:

1. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(b), the permittee must notify the BLM Field Manager, by telephone or with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony on Federal Land. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c), the permittee must immediately stop any ongoing activities connected with the discovery and make a reasonable effort to protect the discovered remain or object.
2. The allotment listed on this grazing permit is subject to the requirement of 43 CFR 4180 – Fundamentals of Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Administration. This permit shall be modified (if necessary) to meet these requirements upon completion of a standard and guidelines assessment and determination as scheduled by the authorized officer
3. Turn-out is subject to Boise District range readiness criteria.
4. Your certified Actual Use Report is due within 15 days of completing your authorized annual grazing use.
5. Salt and/or supplement shall not be placed within one-quarter (¼) mile of springs, streams, meadows, aspen stands, playas or water developments.
6. Changes to the scheduled use require prior approval.

7. Trailing activities must be coordinated with the BLM prior to initiation. A trailing permit or similar authorization may be required prior to crossing public lands.
8. Livestock exclosures located within your grazing allotment(s) are closed to all domestic grazing use.
9. Range improvements must be maintained in accordance with the cooperative agreements and range improvements permits in which you are a signator or assignee. Allotment boundary fences must be functioning prior to allowing livestock onto the allotment.
10. All appropriate documentation regarding base property leases, lands offered for exchange-of-use, and livestock control agreements must be approved prior to turn-out. Leases of land and/or livestock must be notarized prior to submission and be in compliance with Boise District Policy
11. Failure to pay the grazing bill within 15 days of the due date specified shall result in a late fee assessment of \$25.00 or 10 percent of the grazing bill, whichever is greater, not to exceed 250.00 payment.

2.2 Alternative B – Proposed Action

Based on field mapping of existing fences and information provided by the permittee, the acreage for Goodrich Individual Allotment has been recalculated. There are 17 acres more of public land and 19 fewer acres of private land within the proposed allotment boundary than are shown in the RMP. The allotment now contains approximately 318 acres, including 257 acres of public land (81 percent) and 61 acres of private land (19 percent). These revised acres reflect the most accurate and up-to-date information, and would be used for the new term permit.

To incorporate updated allotment information and current grazing management guidance, it is proposed to:

1. Modify the allotment boundary to correspond to existing fencelines;
2. Change the allotment name from Goodrich Individual #161 to Little Johnson Allotment #161;
3. Modify the percent public land term of the grazing permit to 81 percent;
4. Renew the grazing permit showing maximum authorizations for livestock numbers, season-of-use, and AUMs (each of these columns would be stand-alone sections of the permit therefore standard method for calculating AUMs would not apply). Annual flexibility of livestock numbers and/or season-of-use would be allowed based on seasonal circumstances (example - range readiness; variations in permittee's management; but not limited to these situations). Management flexibility would be allowed provided livestock use remains within the sideboards of maximum livestock numbers and season-of-use, and without exceeding authorized AUMs.
5. Use Annual Indicators as a tool to insure continued conformance with Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.

Based on the proposed action, livestock grazing would be authorized for a maximum of 48 AUMs from May 1 through the end of October. Generally, livestock would be on the allotment between mid-May and the end of June when they would be moved to neighboring private lands. Fall use is generally in October due to trailing cattle. Terms and conditions necessary to regulate grazing activities on public land would be added to the grazing permit. Annual

Indicators would be used to describe utilization criteria. Term of the renewed grazing permit would be for ten years, from March 01, 2009 to February 28, 2019 as follows:

Allotment	Livestock (maximum)	Season of Use (maximum)	Percent Public Land	Grazing Preference		
				Active	Suspended	Total
Little Johnson #161	25 Cattle	05/01 to 10/31	81%	48	0	48

Following are allotment specific Terms and Conditions to be attached to the grazing permit:

1. Livestock grazing for Little Johnson Allotment will comply with Field Manager’s Decision that became final on (intentionally left blank at this time, date to be inserted when the decision becomes final).
2. Authorized AUMs would not be exceeded on public lands. Livestock numbers and season of use, as shown above, indicate maximums that would be allowed under this permit. Permittee has discretion to manage within these numbers, provided overuse does not occur on public land.
3. Changes to the scheduled use require prior approval, on an annual basis.
4. The Annual Grazing Use Report (BLM Form 4130-5) must be properly completed, signed, dated and submitted within 15 days of completing your authorized annual grazing use.
5. Annual maintenance of range improvements would be completed prior to livestock entry of the allotment.
6. Livestock turn-out is subject to Boise District range readiness criteria.
7. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(b), permittee must notify the BLM Field Manager, by telephone followed with written confirmation, immediately upon discovery of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony on federal land. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c), permittee must immediately stop any ongoing activities connected with the discovery and make a reasonable effort to protect discovered remains or object.
8. Salt and/or mineral blocks shall not be placed on public lands within one quarter (¼) mile of springs, streams, meadows, riparian habitats or aspen stands.

Flexibility

Scheduled turn out dates by pasture may be adjusted based on Range Readiness and Annual Indicators. Grazing schedule adjustments require prior approval from the Authorized Officer.

Based on the results of monitoring associated with Annual Grazing Use Indicators, periodic modifications to authorized grazing management may be imposed. Monitoring data collected would be used to ensure adherence with Annual Indicators, listed below. Modifications may include, but are not limited to: duration of grazing use by pasture, and/or reducing livestock numbers by pasture. These modifications would be coordinated annually with the permittee and incorporated into the annual authorization.

Annual Indicators

Adherence to the Annual Indicators listed below, and the prescribed grazing management program are expected to make progress towards meeting, and maintaining achievement of the Standards for Rangeland Health and land use plan objectives. Periodic collection, evaluation, and interpretation of monitoring data would provide an indication of the potential success of the grazing management prescription.

1. Average utilization by livestock on key bunchgrass species would not exceed 40 percent during the period of critical growth (May 1 through June 30), and 50 percent outside the critical growth period.
2. Utilization on shrubs would not exceed 30 percent of current year's production as determined by Browse Removal Method, or other approved methods.

3.0 Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

Affected environment is discussed in the main body of this EA, with additional information provided below.

3.1 Vegetation

3.1.1 Affected Environment – Vegetation

The native plant community is functioning adequately to maintain a diverse plant community in structure and function and promote proper nutrient, energy and hydrologic cycling.

3.1.2 Environmental Consequences – Vegetation

3.1.2.1 Alternative A

The Idaho rangeland health standard for native plant communities is being met on this allotment. Livestock grazing management under this alternative is expected to continue to meet the standard by maintaining or promoting healthy productive and diverse native animal habitat and populations of native plants appropriate to soil type, vegetation, climate and landform to provide proper nutrient cycling, hydrologic cycling and energy flow.

3.1.2.2 Alternative B

The Idaho rangeland health standard for native plant communities is being met on this allotment. Livestock grazing management changes proposed under this alternative are expected to continue to meet the standard by maintaining or promoting healthy productive and diverse native animal habitat and populations of native plants appropriate to soil type, vegetation, climate and landform to provide proper nutrient cycling, hydrologic cycling and energy flow.

3.2 Soils

3.2.1 Affected Environment – Soils

The watershed is functioning to promote adequate nutrient, energy and hydrologic cycling.

3.2.2 Environmental Consequences – Soils

3.2.2.1 Alternative A

The Idaho rangeland health standard for watersheds, based on soil site stability and hydrologic function, is being met on this allotment. Livestock grazing management under this alternative is expected to continue to meet the standard by promoting proper infiltration, retention, and release

of water appropriate to soil type, vegetation, climate and landform to provide proper nutrient cycling, hydrologic cycling and energy flow.

3.2.2.2 Alternative B

The Idaho rangeland health standard for watersheds, based on soil site stability and hydrologic function, is being met on this allotment. Livestock grazing management changes proposed under this alternative are expected to continue to meet the standard by promoting proper infiltration, retention, and release of water appropriate to soil type, vegetation, climate and landform to provide proper nutrient cycling, hydrologic cycling and energy flow.

3.3 Wildlife – Including Special Status Animal Species

3.3.1 Affected Environment – Wildlife – Including Special Status Animal Species

There are no populations of threatened, endangered, or proposed species, or their habitat, known to occur on Goodrich Individual Allotment. Although identified as sage grouse habitat, the allotment is better suited as Columbian sharp-tailed grouse habitat. The Idaho rangeland health standard for special status animal species is being met on this allotment.

3.3.2 Environmental Consequences – Wildlife – Including Special Status Animal Species

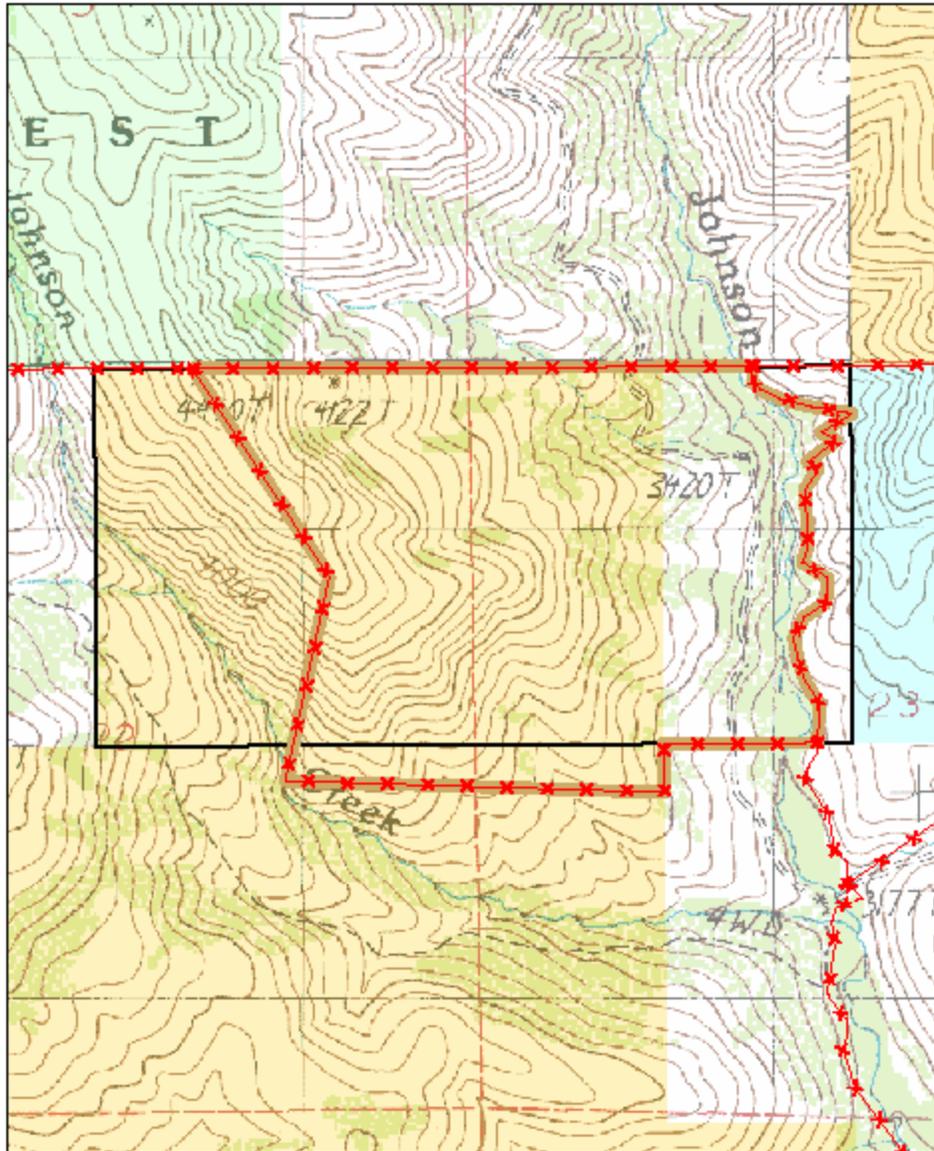
3.3.2.1 Alternative A

Livestock grazing management under this alternative is expected to continue to meet the standard by maintaining or promoting healthy productive and diverse native animal habitat and populations of native plants appropriate to soil type, vegetation, climate and landform.

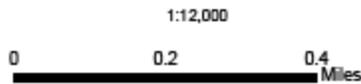
3.3.2.2 Alternative B

Livestock grazing management under this alternative is expected to continue to meet the standard by maintaining or promoting healthy productive and diverse native animal habitat and populations of native plants appropriate to soil type, vegetation, climate and landform. The primary difference between the two alternatives is an anticipated shift towards more late-spring grazing in exchange for less fall grazing. This shift would have more impact on native grasses and forbs during their growing season and a correlated reduction in ground-nesting cover height. This height reduction would affect nesting success for sage grouse and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse. Conversely, with reduced fall grazing, shrubs including bitterbrush and mountain shrubs would benefit, as would nesting habitat for shrub-steppe dependent nesting passerine birds.

Little Johnson Creek Allotment #161 T 16 N R 2 W



Map Legend	
	Fence
	Proposed Allotment Boundary
	1988 Management Plan
	BLM
	Forest Service
	Private
	State of Idaho



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