

2007 Grazing Permit/Lease Renewals

For

Allotments with

Riparian Areas

within the

Pocatello Field Office

Environmental Assessment

#ID-320-2007-EA-327

Previously #ID-320-2006-EA-3189

**United States Department of Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

**Pocatello Field Office
Pocatello, Idaho**

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INTRODUCTION

Background

Several authorities direct the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), as part of their multiple-use mandate, to issue grazing permits/leases that authorize livestock grazing on public lands. As a consequence, both the Malad Framework Management Plan (MFP, 1981) and the Pocatello Resource Management Plan (RMP, 1988) have established grazing allotments and grazing allocation decisions. Pertinent decisions guiding livestock grazing within the Pocatello Field Office (PFO) are listed in the Malad MFP and the Pocatello RMP; the Malad MFP is supported by the *Bannock-Oneida Grazing Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)* and the Pocatello RMP is supported by the *Pocatello EIS*.

Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health & Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management

Grazing management must ensure that allotments meet or make significant progress toward meeting the Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health (ISRH); significant progress is measurable or observable by changes in the indicators that demonstrate improved rangeland health. Meeting the ISRH provides for healthy landscapes with proper nutrient cycling, hydrologic cycling and energy flow through the ecosystem. Indicators of rangeland health are physical and biological factors and processes appropriate to soil type, climate and landform that can be measured or observed.

In accordance with 43 CFR § 4180.1 Fundamentals of Rangeland Health, § 4180.2 Standards and Guidelines for Grazing Administration and the BLM Idaho State policy, allotments are to be evaluated to determine whether they are meeting ISRH and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management (GLGM). Furthermore, the PFO is mandated by Congress to renew grazing permits by 2009 which includes evaluating the rangeland health of the allotment and current grazing management.

The grazing allotments analyzed in this environmental assessment (EA) tend to be relatively small and comprised of BLM, private, state and/or other federal land parcels. The BLM manages about 31 percent of the riparian areas in these allotments. The BLM lands tend to be relatively isolated, in moderate to steep mountainous topography. In 15 of the allotments, there is no legal access to the BLM public lands. This highly fragmented ownership pattern and low proportion of public land within the allotments makes grazing management difficult, especially in those areas where livestock tend to congregate such as riparian areas.

Between April and July 2006, an interdisciplinary team (IDT) of resources specialists assessed and evaluated the ISRH on the subject allotments using the evaluation form found in Appendix I. Information from the Malad MFP, the Pocatello RMP, grazing case files, allotment files, fuels surveys, botanical data, cultural survey data, riparian inventories, specialists' knowledge and professional judgment were used to evaluate the allotments; it was determined that the available information was adequate for determining compliance with the ISRH.

Riparian areas were evaluated for ISRH and/or Proper Functioning Condition (PFC). The BLM Riparian and Wetland Database, Ecological Solutions Group*, provided data on PFC using the following indicators: plant composition, plant cover, plant utilization; streambank stability, cover; and stream channel functionality as indicators. Based on the IDT evaluation, it was determined that the only standards not being met due to livestock grazing management were three standards that are associated with riparian areas; i.e., Standards 2, 3 and 7. Adjustments in grazing management would be necessary in allotments in which livestock are the factor for not meeting standards. (* www.ecologicalsolutionsgroup.com/Lasso/default.html)

Type of Action

The Pocatello Field Manager would reissue a total of 32 grazing permits within 33 allotments for a total preference of 3,339 Animal Unit Months (AUMs) of which 3,224 are active and 115 are suspended.

Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to reissue the 32 grazing permits/leases (Authorization Number) listed in Table 1 with stipulations in the *terms and conditions* and/or *annual indicator criteria* that will direct livestock management to meet or move towards meeting ISRH. Table 1 contains a list of operators, 33 allotment names, kinds and numbers of livestock, permitted and suspended uses (animal-unit-months, AUMs), the number of public acres, and the percentage of public land in each allotment. The 33 subject allotments are part of a need for analysis that arises from the permit/lease renewals, to be issued by 2009.

Operator Name (Authorization Number)	Allotment Name / Number	Livestock	Season of Use	Permitted Active AUMs / Suspended AUMs	Public Acres	% Public Land
Mickelson, Marlow H. (1103694)	BURTON CREEK-2 / 04194	112 cattle	05/16- 09/30	113	795	11
Allan H Thompson estate (1103882)	CEDAR CREEK / 04382	4,000 sheep	05/20- 09/30	230	1,026	7
Chesterfield Land & Livestock Co (1103569)	CHESTERFIELD RANGE / 14069	5,000 cattle	05/01- 09/30	351	3,779	1
Loveland Livestock Co (1103742)	CHESTERFIELD RANGE / 14069	550 cattle	05/01- 09/30	97	3,779	1
Shyrl Simons (1100124)	CHESTERFIELD RESERVOIR / 04345	50 cattle	05/01- 09/30	30	56	20
Carl & Greg Barkdull (1102616)	COLD WATER ISOLATED / 05329	7 cattle	04/01- 05/31	14	152	100
Fred & Kathleen Anderson (1103628)	COTTONWOOD CREEK-2 / 14128	97 cattle	06/01- 09/30	156	1,217	40
Richard Lagomarsino (1103515)	CROW CREEK-2 / 14015	5 cattle	06/01- 09/30	19	121	100
Marjorie M. Strawn (1103677)	CUSICK CREEK / 04477	2 horses	05/16- 10/15	10	30	100
Hawks & Son (1103583)	DAIRY HOLLOW / 04407	24 cattle	05/16- 09/01	86	402	100

Operator Name (Authorization Number)	Allotment Name / Number	Livestock	Season of Use	Permitted Active AUMs / Suspended AUMs	Public Acres	% Public Land
William B. Robison (1103631)	DAIRY RIDGE / 04305	175 cattle	05/16- 09/30	739	4,028	46
Fish Haven Cattlemen Assn (1103625)	FISH HAVEN-2 / 14125	60 cattle	05/16- 09/30	60	960	22
Gentile Valley Land & Cattle Co (1103634)	GRAYS LAKE OUTLET / 03344	3000 cattle	05/15- 09/31	11	40	1
	MEADOW CREEK / 04136	3000 cattle	05/15- 09/30	43	160	1
Kent D. Skinner (1103847)	HARER POINT-2 / 04354	83 cattle	05/16- 09/30	188	1,319	50
Henry Creek Ranch (1103903)	HENRY CREEK-3 / 04403	77 cattle	06/01- 10/01	77	536	23
Peggy M. Stolworthy (1103869)	HIGH COUNTRY / 04423	115 cattle	07/01- 09/30	128	1,280	37
	JONES BASIN-1 / 04422	115 cattle	05/01- 06/01	21	40	18
Eugene Worton (1103545)	HORSE CREEK-1 / 04045	19 cattle	06/01- 09/30	74	360	100
Bear Lake Powell LLC (1103732)	INDIAN CREEK / 04232	99 cattle	05/01- 06/15	42	430	28
Grant Lloyd (1103736)	LANDER TRAIL / 04236	200 cattle	05/16- 09/30	50	202	16
Rich Livestock Co (1103820)	LITTLE BLACKFOOT RIVER / 14319	2,000 sheep	06/15- 07/15	3	40	1
High Basin Cattle Co (1103896)	MINER CREEK / 04413	12 cattle	10/01- 02/28	8	86	13
Zeldon K. Griffiths (1103589)	NORTH CREEK / 14089	11cattle	06/01- 09/30	44	377	100
Bloomington Cattle Assn (1103587)	PARIS CANYON / 14087	735 cattle	06/26- 09/25	25 / 25	449	1
Don C. Workman (1103912)	ROCKY PEAK / 04412	115 cattle	05/01- 09/15	157	1,242	30
Cliff & Charles Johnson (1103706)	STOCK VALLEY HILLS / 04206	25 cattle	05/01- 09/30	126	649	100
Tueller Brothers Partnership (1103843)	SURNGE CANYON-2 / 04379	20 cattle	05/15- 10/15	35	160	36
Sheldon & Cody Kendall (1103560)	THATCHER HILL-2 / 14060	300 cattle	05/01- 09/30	68	520	5
Michael E. Chambers (1103342)	TOPONCE CREEK / 06093	104 cattle	05/15- 06/01	34	760	55
Drew Jensen (1109998)	TRAIL CREEK-1 / 04419	27 cattle	10/01- 02/28	8	52	6
Irvin Nielsen Trust (1103782)	WILLOW CREEK COUNTY LINE / 03802	137 cattle	06/01- 09/30	11	41	2
Natural Guardian Ltd Partnership (1100127)	WOLVERINE CANYON / 14094	31 cattle	05/01- 10/31	75	638	40
Dennis O. Thompson (1103325)	YAGO CREEK / 06079	43 cattle	06/01-06/15 07/15-09/10	102 / 90	1,340	100

Location of Proposed Action

The subject allotments are scattered throughout the PFO area (Map 1) and are located entirely or partially in Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Bonneville, Caribou, Franklin and Power counties in southeastern Idaho; allotments are depicted in more detail in Maps 2 – 4.

Conformance With Applicable Land Use Plan

The Malad MFP (1981) and the Pocatello RMP (1988) allocate livestock grazing in the subject allotments. Therefore, issuing new grazing permits/leases in these allotments is in compliance with the two above-mentioned planning documents.

Relationship to Statutes, Regulations or Other Plans

The following regulatory provisions are relevant to this EA: (a) The Taylor Grazing Act of June 28, 1934, as amended (43 U.S.C. 315, 315a through 315r); (b) The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) as amended by the Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.); (c) Executive orders transfer land acquired under the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act of July 22, 1937, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1012), to the Secretary and authorize administration under the Taylor Grazing Act.; (d) The Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.); and (e) Public land orders, Executive orders, and agreements authorize the Secretary to administer livestock grazing on specified lands under the Taylor Grazing Act or other authority as specified. [43 FR 29067, July 5, 1978, as amended at 49 FR 6449, Feb. 21, 1984; 49 FR 12704, Mar. 30, 1984; 50 FR 45827, Nov. 4, 1985; 61 FR 4227, Feb. 5, 1996]; Code of Federal Regulations 43 Part 4100.

PROPOSED ACTION & ALTERNATIVES

Terms and Conditions Common to all Alternatives

The following *terms and conditions* would apply to the subject allotments under all alternatives:

- Salt, mineral/protein blocks will be placed at least ¼ mile from water sources to improve livestock distribution.
- In connection with allotment operations under this authorization, if any human remains, cultural, archaeological, historical, paleontological, or scientific objects and sites are discovered, the permittee shall stop operations in the immediate area of the discovery, protect such resources, and immediately notify the BLM Authorized Officer (AO) of the discovery. The immediate area of the discovery must be protected until the operator is notified to resume operations by the AO.
- Maintenance of all BLM range improvements within the allotment(s) included in this permit is the responsibility of the permittee/lessee.

- It is the responsibility of the permittee/lessee to install and maintain wildlife escape ramps in all watering facilities and troughs that occur on BLM public lands within their allotment(s) or are part of a BLM range improvement.
- The permittee/lessee will notify BLM of any occurrences of noxious or invasive weed infestations on their allotment(s).
- By accepting the grazing permit/lease, the permittee/lessee agrees that the authorized officer or his representatives and contractors shall have the right of ingress and egress over lands controlled by the permittees/lessees for the purpose of achieving the management objectives and orderly administration of public rangelands under this grazing permit/lease.
- The allotments shown on this permit/lease shall meet the objectives as described in 43 CFR, subpart 4180 – Fundamentals of Rangeland Health and the Standards and Guidelines for Grazing Administration. Any changes in management will be based upon resource evaluations and analysis as scheduled and completed by the Field Office Manager.

The following *terms and conditions* would be deleted under all alternatives.

- The grazing use must not exceed 50% utilization or be detrimental to the range's soil or vegetation, which is consistent with the Pocatello RMP (1988).
- Operators found to be in violation of state law may be subject to civil or criminal penalties.
- Livestock and base property leases must be in compliance with the Idaho Falls District lease policy of 1991.

ALTERNATIVE A – NO ACTION: Reissue unmodified Grazing Permits/Leases with no change to *terms and conditions* or *annual indicator criteria*.

The Pocatello Field Manager would reissue grazing permits, with no changes to the *terms and conditions* or the *annual indicator criteria*, to 32 permittees to authorize grazing on public land within the 33 subject allotments (See: Table 1).

ALTERNATIVE B – PROPOSED ACTION (LIMITED RIPARIAN GRAZING): Issue modified Grazing Permits/Leases with stipulations, under the *terms and conditions* and *annual indicator criteria*, that would facilitate meeting or make significant progress towards meeting standards in allotments where livestock grazing is the factor for not meeting or not making progress towards meeting Standard 2 (Riparian Areas and Wetlands), Standard 3 (Stream Channel and Floodplain) or Standard 7 (Water Quality) or where riparian areas are not in Proper Functioning Condition (PFC). There would be no change in the permits/leases

of the allotments that are meeting Standards 2, 3 and 7, or to those permits/leases in which livestock grazing is not a factor in not meeting or not making progress towards meeting standards.

Under Alternative B, the *terms and conditions* would apply to permits and leases where, due to livestock grazing practices, riparian areas are not in PFC or Standards 2, 3 or 7 are neither being met nor is progress being made to meet these standards. The *terms and conditions* and *annual indicator criteria* attached to each permit would be modified (below) to improve the condition of the riparian areas in the following allotments, which are not meeting standards for rangeland health with current livestock grazing practices.

The 17 affected allotments not meeting the riparian standards are: Cedar Creek (#04382), Chesterfield Range (#14069), Cottonwood Creek-2 (#14128), Crow Creek-2 (#14015), Dairy Hollow (#04407), Dairy Ridge (#04305), Fish Haven-2 (#14125), Harer Point-2 (#04345), Henry Creek (#04403), High Country (#04423), Horse Creek-1 (#04045), Indian Creek (#04232), Meadow Creek (#04136), North Creek (#14089), Paris Canyon (#14087), Thatcher Hill-2 (#14060) and Willow Creek County Line (#03802).

Alternative B – Limited Riparian Grazing: Modifications to Terms and Conditions

Under Alternative B, the following *terms and conditions* would apply to all permits and leases in allotments in which season of use begins before June 15th.

- Riparian areas within the allotment will be managed, as a minimum, to meet or move towards meeting Standards 2, 3 and 7 and Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) appropriate to soil type, climate, geology, and landform.
- Riparian areas will be closed to grazing after June 15th.

In those allotments where season of use begins on or after June 15:

- Riparian areas will be completely rested from livestock use two out of three years, while grazing in riparian areas will be limited to one in three years. Initial years of rest will occur in 2008 and 2009, graze in 2010 then the cycle repeats.

Alternative B – Limited Riparian Grazing: Annual Indicator Criteria

Under Alternative B, it is the responsibility of the permittees/leasees to limit the impact of livestock in riparian areas. Under Alternative B, the following *annual indicator criteria* would apply to the 17 allotments listed above that are not meeting Standards 2, 3 or 7 or are not in PFC:

- The grazing use on upland areas should not exceed 50% utilization or be detrimental to the range's soils and vegetation.
- The maximum allowable use by livestock in riparian areas should be: 4" median stubble height of herbaceous species on the streambank, 50% use of total annual leaders of

woody browse available to livestock, and 20% streambank alteration. Livestock would be removed when any one of these criteria are attained.

Under Alternative B, it is the responsibility of the permittees/lessees to ensure that these criteria are not exceeded by taking measures such as reducing the grazing period, changing use to cooler periods, herding, and using salt and mineral/protein placement in upland areas to attract livestock away from riparian areas.

Livestock use of riparian areas will be reduced by variety of methods, including but not limited to: Judicious placement of salt, mineral/protein blocks to attract livestock away from riparian areas, herding or riding to move livestock out of riparian areas, reducing the duration of riparian use and limiting or eliminating riparian use during the warm season (i.e., after June 15th).

ALTERNATIVE C – MANDATORY RIPARIAN CLOSURE: Issue modified Grazing Permits/Leases that close all riparian areas in allotments where livestock grazing is the factor for not meeting or not making progress towards meeting Standard 2 (Riparian Areas and Wetlands), Standard 3 (Stream Channel and Floodplain) or Standard 7 (Water Quality) or where riparian areas are not in Proper Functioning Condition (PFC). (See: Appendix II for a list of affected allotments and legal descriptions of the riparian area locations that would be closed under Alternative C).

The *terms and conditions* of each permit would be modified and *annual indicator criteria* created, to reduce the adverse effects of livestock grazing in riparian areas. In allotments where livestock grazing is the factor for not meeting Standards 2 (Riparian Areas and Wetlands), 3 (Stream Channel/Floodplain) and 7 (Water Quality) and/or in PFC or not making progress towards these three standards, riparian areas would be closed to grazing (*terms and conditions*). Permittees/leasees would manage their livestock such that livestock neither enter nor use riparian areas (*annual indicator criteria*). Any methods used on public land, such as fencing or feeding, which have not been previously analyzed, will require an analysis consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act and approval by the authorized officer prior to construction.

Alternative C - Riparian Closure: Modifications to Terms and Conditions

Under Alternative C, public land riparian areas in the 17 affected allotments would be closed to livestock grazing. See: Appendix II for the modified *terms and conditions* that close the riparian areas in the 17 affected allotments under Alternative C. The 17 affected allotments are the same as those listed under Alternative B.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

Table 2 lists the critical elements of the environment which are subject to statute, regulation or executive order. Critical elements that are present and affected are further discussed below.

TABLE 2. CRITICAL ELEMENTS OF THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT AND OTHER IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

Critical Elements of the Human Environment: The following elements of the human environment are subject to objectives specified in treaty, statute, regulation, or executive order and must be considered in all environmental assessments			Other Important Elements of the Human Environment: The elements of the environment listed below are not included on the “critical elements” list, but are important to consider in assessing all impacts of the proposals.		
Elements	Not Affected	Affected	Elements	Not Affected	Affected
Air Quality	X		Paleontological Resources	X	
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	X		Indian Trust Resources	X	
Cultural Resources	X		Wildlife		X
Environmental Justice (EO 12989)	X		Forest Resources	X	
Farm Lands (prime or unique)	X		Recreation Use, Existing and Potential	X	
Floodplains		X	Existing and Potential Land Uses	X	
Invasive, Non-native Species	X		Soils		X
Migratory Birds		X	Fisheries		X
Native American Religious Concerns	X		Availability of Access/Need to Reserve Access	X	
Threatened/Endangered Plants; Sensitive Plants	X		Vegetation types, communities; vegetative permits and sales; Rangeland resources	X	
Threatened/Endangered Fish; Sensitive Fish	X		Wild Horse and Burro Designated Herd Management Areas	X	
Threatened/Endangered Animals; Sensitive Animals	X		Visual Resources	X	
Wastes, Hazardous or Solid	X		Economic & Social Values		X
Water Quality – Surface		X	Mineral Resources	X	
Wetlands/Riparian Zones		X			
Wilderness	X				
Wild & Scenic Rivers	X				
Tribal Treaty Rights	X				

General Setting

Most of the 33 allotments comprise BLM, private, state and/or other federal land parcels (See Maps 1-4). The BLM public land portions of these allotments tend to be relatively isolated in mountainous topography with moderate to steep slopes that are grazed concurrently with the adjacent private, state and/or other federal lands. BLM parcels in 15 of the allotments have no legal public access. The BLM has limited administrative access as described in the term and condition of the permit/lease. All of the subject allotments contain riparian areas on BLM public lands.

The allotments range in size between 30 acres and 4,028 acres; median allotment size is about 430 acres (Table 1). Public lands comprise about 19% in 25 of the allotments, while the remaining eight allotments are 100 % public lands (Table 1). Furthermore, the subject allotments comprise about 3.8 % of the total public lands in the PFO planning area (~ 613,800 BLM acres) and less than 0.4 % of the greater PFO planning area, regardless of ownership or land status (~ 5,142,100 acres). Riparian areas managed by the BLM make up relatively small proportions of the total riparian areas in the subject allotments; i.e., about 27 percent of the 1,266 riparian acres (338 acres BLM; 928 acres other) and about 18 percent of the 466 riparian stream miles (83 miles BLM; 383 miles other).

Animal Unit Months (AUMs) allocated to BLM parcels on these allotments comprise an average about 16 % of the subject allotments' AUMs (BLM = 3,235 AUMs, other = 17,231 AUMs), about 4.4 % of all BLM AUMs in the PFO, and 0.5 % of the greater PFO planning area's AUMs.

Affected Resources/Values

Table 3, on page 11, lists the subject allotments and which of the Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health (1-8) are being met and reasons, when known, for not meeting standards.

- Standard 2 (Riparian/Wetland) – Standard 2 is not being met in the following allotments due to livestock management practices: Cedar Creek, Chesterfield Range, Cottonwood Creek-2, Crow Creek-2, Dairy Hollow, Dairy Ridge, Fish Haven-2, Harer Point-2, Henry Creek-3, High Country, Horse Creek-1, Indian Creek, Meadow Creek, North Creek, Paris Canyon, Thatcher Hill-2 and Willow Creek County Line.
- Standard 3 (Stream Channel & Flood Plain) - Standard 3 is not being met in the following allotments due to livestock management practices: Chesterfield Range, Crow Creek-2, Dairy Hollow, Dairy Ridge, Fish Haven-2, Harer Point-2, Henry Creek-3, High Country, Horse Creek-1, Indian Creek, Meadow Creek, North Creek, Paris Canyon, Thatcher Hill-2 and Willow Creek County Line.
- Standard 7 (Water Quality) - Standard 7 is not being met in the Meadow Creek and North Creek allotments due to livestock management practices.

Table 3. IDAHO STANDARDS FOR RANGELAND HEALTH BY ALLOTMENT. Meeting Standard (MS), NMS (Not Meeting Standard). NMS-2: Making significant progress towards meeting the standard; NMS-3: Current livestock grazing management practices are not significant factors; NMS-4: Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors; NMS-5: Cause not determined; NA: Not Applicable

		IDAHO STANDARDS FOR RANGELAND HEALTH							
Allotment Name	Allotment Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Watershed	Riparian	Stream Channel & Flood Plain	Native Plants	Seeding	Exotic Plants	Water Quality	Threatened & Endangered Species
BURTON CREEK-2	4194	MS	MS	MS	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
CEDAR CREEK	4382	MS	NMS-4	NMS-5	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
CHESTERFIELD RANGE	14069	MS	NMS-4	NMS-4	MS	NA	NA	NMS-5	MS
CHESTERFIELD RESERVOIR	4345	MS	NMS-5	NA	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
COLD WATER ISOLATED	5329	MS	MS	MS	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
COTTONWOOD CREEK-2	14128	MS	NMS-4	NMS-5	MS	NA	NA	MS	NA
CROW CREEK-2	14015	MS	NMS-4	NMS-4	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
CUSICK CREEK	4177	MS	NMS-3	NMS-3	MS	NA	NA	MS	NA
DAIRY HOLLOW	4407	MS	NMS-4	NMS-4	NMS-5	NA	NA	MS	NA
DAIRY RIDGE	4305	MS	NMS-4	NMS-4	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
FISH HAVEN-2	14125	MS	NMS-4	NMS-4	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
GRAYS LAKE OUTLET	3344	MS	MS	MS	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
HARER POINT-2	4354	MS	NMS-4	NMS-4	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
HENRY CREEK-3	4403	MS	NMS-4	NMS-4	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
HIGH COUNTRY	4423	MS	NMS-4	NMS-4	NMS-5	NA	NA	MS	MS
HORSE CREEK-1	4045	MS	NMS-4	NMS-4	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
INDIAN CREEK	4232	MS	NMS-4	NMS-4	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
JONES BASIN-1	4422	MS	NMS-3	NMS-3	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
LANDER TRAIL	4236	MS	MS	MS	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
LITTLE BLACKFOOT RIVER	14319	MS	NMS-5	NMS-5	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
MEADOW CREEK	4136	MS	NMS-4	NMS-4	MS	NA	NA	NMS-4	MS
MINER CREEK	4413	MS	MS	MS	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
NORTH CREEK	14089	MS	NMS-4	NMS-4	MS	NA	NA	NMS-4	NA
PARIS CANYON	14087	MS	NMS-4	NMS-4	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
ROCKY PEAK	4412	MS	NMS-5	NMS-3	MS	NA	NA	NMS-3	MS
STOCK VALLEY HILLS	4206	MS	NMS-5	NMS-5	NMS-5	NA	NA	NMS-5	MS
SURNGE CANYON-2	4379	MS	NMS-5	NMS-5	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
THATCHER HILL-2	14060	MS	NMS-4	NMS-4	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
TOPONCE CREEK	6093	MS	MS	MS	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
TRAIL CREEK-1	4419	MS	MS	MS	MS	NA	NA	MS	NA
WILLOW CREEK COUNTY LINE	3802	MS	NMS-4	NMS-4	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
WOLVERINE CANYON	14094	MS	MS	MS	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS
YAGO CREEK	6079	MS	MS	MS	MS	NA	NA	MS	MS

Watersheds (Standard 1) and Vegetation (Standard 4)

Watershed conditions are closely linked to the condition of vegetation. A healthy vegetation cover, appropriate for the soil-plant association / ecological site, ensures that watersheds are healthy and resilient to the natural range of climatic variability, years of heavy thunderstorms or heavy snow pack and drought, as well as to multiple uses; i.e., the amount and distribution of ground cover and litter are supporting proper hydrologic function, energy flow, nutrient cycling, health, diverse native animal habitats, and maintenance of native plant communities. Evidence of accelerated erosion is minimal for these healthy soil types and landforms.

Native upland plant communities in the subject allotments consist primarily of sagebrush/grass associations in the valleys and juniper/sagebrush/grass associations in the foothills and mountains. Characteristic species include: bluebunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria spicatum* = *Agropyron spicatum*), Indian ricegrass (*Achnatherum hymenoides* = *Oryzopsis hymenoides*), needlegrass (*Stipa* spp.), bluegrass (*Poa* spp.), Idaho fescue (*Festuca idahoensis*), sand dropseed (*Sporobolus* spp.), prairie junegrass (*Koeleria cristata*), big sagebrush subspecies (*Artemisia tridentata* subspecies *tridentata*, *vayseyana*, *wyomingensis*), antelope bitterbrush (*Purshia tridentata*) and Utah juniper (*Juniperus osteosperma*). At higher elevations, Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) stands are found on north and east facing slopes, with aspen communities (*Populus tremuloides*) often occurring in seeps, canyon bottoms and in other moist areas. Various shrub species like mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus montanus*), serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*), and chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*) may occur locally at higher elevations. Common upland plants are listed in Table 4.

Table 4. Plants that commonly occur within the 33 allotments.		
Grasses	Forbs	Shrubs & Trees
Basin wildrye	American vetch	Antelope bitterbrush
Bluebunch wheatgrass	Arrowleaf balsamroot	Basin big sagebrush
Big bluegrass	Aspen peavine	Chokecherry
Bottlebrush squirreltail	Aster species	Douglas-fir
Bulbous oniongrass	Biscuitroot	Green rabbitbrush
Canby bluegrass	Bluebell	Horsebrush
Cheatgrass brome	Buckwheat species	Maple species
Columbia needlegrass	Cinquefoil	Mountain big sagebrush
Dryland sedge	Cutleaf balsamroot	Mountain mahogany
Idaho fescue	Eriogonum	Oregon grape
Kentucky bluegrass	Fleabane	Rocky Mountain maple
Letterman needlegrass	Groundsel species	Serviceberry
Mat muhly	Helianthella	Shrubby cinquefoil
Mountain brome	Longleaf phlox	Silver sagebrush
Nevada bluegrass	Lupine species	Snowberry species
Prairie junegrass	Mountain agoseris	Threetip sagebrush
Sandberg bluegrass	Mulesear	Woods' rose
Slender wheatgrass	Mullein	Wyoming big sagebrush
Spike fescue	Pussytoes	
Streambank wheatgrass	Sneezeweed	
Threadleaf sedge	Sticky geranium	
Timber oatgrass	Tapertip hawksbeard	
Western wheatgrass	Western valerian	
	Western yarrow	
	White stoneseed	

The majority of upland range sites on the allotments occur in the 11” to 16” precipitation zones with sagebrush-grass communities dominated by mountain big sagebrush or Wyoming big

sagebrush with an understory of bluebunch wheatgrass, Nevada or Sandberg bluegrass, needlegrasses, arrowleaf balsamroot and other species. The majority of the allotments are in late seral, good condition or in mid seral, fair condition (Table 5, page 14).

Invasive species such as bulbous bluegrass, cheatgrass, dyers woad, henbane, houndstongue, knapweed and various thistles occur in the allotments. There are no known concentrated infestations, however, except for some riparian areas that are dominated by Kentucky bluegrass. The PFO has an on-going chemical spraying program to control noxious/invasive weeds.

Standard 1 (Watersheds) was determined as being met where ecological condition of the allotment is predominately mid to late seral condition and/or meeting or making significant progress towards meeting PFC. **Standard 4 (Native Plant Communities)** was determined as being met where Standard 1 is being met and/or where watersheds are comprised of productive and diverse native plant species whose vigor and reproduction are adequate to respond to favorable climatic events, where noxious and invasive weeds are not increasing, and where there is adequate litter and standing biomass for site protection and decomposition unless information specific to an allotment indicated otherwise.

Riparian Areas and Wetlands (Standard 2)

Riparian areas and wetlands are adjacent to permanent water sources (e.g., rivers, streams, springs, lakes and reservoirs) and are typically dominated by cottonwoods, alder, aspen, willows, sedges, rushes and grasses; key riparian plants exclude forbs and shrubs. Healthy riparian areas provide important ecosystem services that include water storage, aquifer recharge, sediment trapping, filtering of chemical and organic wastes, streambank building and maintenance, energy dissipation of floodwaters and primary production (Ehrhart and Hansen, 1998). Healthy riparian areas exhibit elevated soil saturation zones, increased subsurface storage, plants that provide shade, stabilize streambanks and filter sediments, higher summer streamflows and cooler water that provide quality habitat for fish and other aquatic organisms. In addition, riparian areas are highly productive wildlife foraging areas that provide thermal- and escape cover.

In the subject allotments, riparian areas managed by the BLM make up about 27 percent of the 1,266 riparian acres (338 acres BLM; 928 acres other) and about 18 percent of the 466 riparian stream miles (83 miles BLM; 383 miles other). Table 5 lists miles of BLM streams and acres of riparian areas evaluated, riparian health ratings and seral conditions and trends of the upland areas for the allotments.

Riparian areas in Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) exhibit physical properties and processes that function at a state of resiliency that permits the riparian system to withstand a 25 to 30 year high stream flow event; ten allotments contain riparian areas that are in PFC (Table 5). Riparian areas in Functional-at-Risk (FAR) are functional but some existing soil, water, or vegetation attribute makes them susceptible to degradation; eight allotments contain areas that are FAR. Riparian areas that are Non-Functioning (NF) are not providing adequate vegetation cover (e.g., stubble height), bank stability, or woody structure to dissipate stream energy associated with high stream flows; 15 allotments contain areas that are Non-functional (NF).

Table 5. Allotments and indicators of stream, riparian, and upland condition and trend. See footnote below for interpretation of terms.

Allotment Name / Number	Miles of Stream / Riparian Acres	Riparian Health ⁴	Riparian Condition ¹	Riparian Trend ¹	Meeting ISRH for Riparian?	Upland Seral Condition ^{1,5}	Upland Trend ^{1,5}	Meeting ISRH for Upland?
BURTON CREEK-2 / 04194	0.5 ¹ / 1.44	PFC	Good	Stable	- YES -	Late - Mid	Static	- YES -
CEDAR CREEK / 04382	0.2 ² / 2.00	FAR	Good	Stable	NO	Late - Early	Static	- YES -
CHESTERFIELD RANGE / 14069 *	0.49 ² / 0.24	FAR	Poor	Down	NO	Late - Early	Static	- YES -
CHESTERFIELD RESERVOIR / 04345	1.2 ² / 39.27	NF	--	--	NO	Mid	Static	- YES -
COLD WATER ISOLATED / 05329	0.25 ³ / 2.17	PFC	--	--	- YES -	Mid	Static	- YES -
COTTONWOOD CREEK-2 / 14128	2.6 ¹ / 2.83	NF	Good	Stable	NO	Late - Mid	Static	- YES -
CROW CREEK-2 / 14015	0.15 ¹ / 0.43	NF	Fair	Stable	NO	Late - Mid	Static	- YES -
CUSICK CREEK / 04177	0.8 ³ / 0.58	NF	--	--	NO	Mid	Static	- YES -
DAIRY HOLLOW / 04407	0.5 ¹ / 0.51	NF	Fair	Stable	NO	Late	Static	- YES -
DAIRY RIDGE / 04305	0.7 ² / 0.54	NF	Poor	Down	NO	Late - Mid	Static	- YES -
FISH HAVEN-2 / 14125	0.83 ¹ / 6.04	FAR	Good	Stable	NO	Late - Mid	Static	- YES -
GRAYS LAKE OUTLET / 03344	0.4 ³ / 0.72	PFC	Good	Stable	NO	Late - Mid	ND	- YES -
HARER POINT-2 / 04354	0.5 ³ / 1.44	FAR	--	--	NO	Late - Mid	Static	- YES -
HENRY CREEK-3 / 04403	0.5 ³ / 0.87	NF	--	--	NO	Late - Mid	Static	- YES -
HIGH COUNTRY / 04423	1.5 ¹ / 3.49	NF	Fair	Down	NO	Late - Mid	ND	- YES -
HORSE CREEK-1 / 04045	1.0 ^{1,3} / 2.89	NF	Poor	Down	NO	Late - Mid	Static	- YES -
INDIAN CREEK / 04232	0.54 ¹ / 0.98	NF	Poor	Stable	NO	Late - Mid	Static	- YES -
JONES BASIN-1 / 04422	0.2 ³ / 0.17	NF	--	--	NO	Late	ND	- YES -
LANDER TRAIL / 04236	0.33 ¹ / 3.20	PFC	Fair	Down	- YES -	Late - Mid	Up-Static	- YES -
LITTLE BLACKFOOT RIVER / 14319	0.55 ² / 2.42	PFC	--	--	NO	Late	Static	- YES -
MEADOW CREEK / 04136 *	0.45 ² / 1.20	NF	Fair	Stable	NO	Late	Static	- YES -
MINER CREEK / 04413 *	0.43 ² / 1.30	PFC	--	--	- YES -	Mid	Static	- YES -
NORTH CREEK / 14089 *	1.0 ² / 6.06	FAR	Good	Stable	NO	Late - Mid	Up	- YES -
PARIS CANYON / 14087	0.1 ³ / 2.89	NF	--	--	NO	Late - Mid	Static	- YES -
ROCKY PEAK / 04412 *	0.52 ² / 0.38	NF	Fair	Stable	NO	Late - Mid	Static-Down	- YES -
STOCK VALLEY HILLS / 04206 *	2.28 ² / 5.64	FAR	Good	Stable	NO	Late - Mid	Up-Static	- YES -
SURNGE CANYON-2 / 04379	0.25 ² / 0.12	NF	--	--	NO	Late - Mid	Static	- YES -
THATCHER HILL-2 / 14060	3.9 ² / 17.10	FAR	Good	Stable	NO	Late - Mid	Static	- YES -
TOPONCE CREEK / 06093	0.3 ³ / 2.17	PFC	--	--	- YES -	Late	Up	- YES -
TRAIL CREEK-1 / 04419	0.05 ³ / 0.29	PFC	--	--	- YES -	Late - Mid	Static	- YES -
WILLOW CK COUNTY LINE / 03802	0.1 ³ / 0.29	NF	--	--	NO	Late - Mid	Static	- YES -
WOLVERINE CANYON / 14094 *	1.3 ¹ / 3.64	PFC	Good	Stable	- YES -	Late - Mid	Static	- YES -
YAGO CREEK / 06079 *	0.73 ² / 0.44	PFC	--	--	- YES -	Mid	Static	- YES -

¹ Pocatello Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (1988) ² Ecological Solutions Group LLC Data Base (1994-2004) at: www.ecologicalsolutionsgroup.com ³ Estimated from GIS coverages, Bureau of Land Management ⁴ PFC = Proper Functioning Condition, FAR = Functioning At Risk, NF = Nonfunctional ⁵ L = Late Seral, M = Mid Seral, E = Early Seral, ND = no data * These eight allotments contain 303-D listed streams

Standard 2 (Riparian Areas & Wetlands) was determined as being met where riparian vegetation is controlling erosion, stabilizing streambanks, shading water areas, filtering sediment, aiding in floodplain development, dissipating energy, delaying flood water, and increasing ground water appropriate to site potential and/or when PFC was being achieved. Livestock were considered a contributing factor for not meeting Standard 2 on allotments where riparian areas are accessible to livestock and grazing takes place during summer when livestock are highly likely to congregate in riparian areas.

Stream Channels, Floodplains (Standard 3) and Water Quality (Standard 7)

The condition of stream channels, floodplains and water quality are closely linked to the condition of riparian and wetland areas. Healthy riparian areas have stable streambanks that protect stream channels, intercept precipitation and broad floodplains that impede overland flow, trap sediments and help to dissipate the energy of storm water events. There are eight Idaho Section 303(d) listed streams in the subject allotments in which water quality (Standard 7) is impaired (Table 5).

Standard 3 (Stream Channels & Floodplains) was determined as being met where riparian vegetation is controlling erosion, stabilizing streambanks, shading water, filtering sediment, aiding in floodplain development, dissipating energy, delaying flood water, and increasing ground water appropriate to site potential and/or when PFC was being achieved. The determination for Standard 3 was generally tied to Standard 2's determination and/or where streams have access to their floodplains, sediment deposition in the floodplain is evident, there is little evidence of soil compaction on the floodplain, streambanks are within an appropriate range of stability according to site potential and noxious and invasive weeds are not increasing, unless information specific to an allotment indicated otherwise. Livestock were considered a contributing factor for not meeting Standards 3 on allotments where riparian areas are accessible to livestock and grazing takes place during summer when livestock are highly likely to congregate in riparian areas.

Standard 7 (Water Quality) was determined as being met where riparian conditions indicate PFC or FAR in an upward trend making progress towards meeting PFC. Eight allotments have 303(d) listed streams with impaired water quality: Chesterfield Range, Meadow Creek, Miner Creek, North Creek, Rocky Peak, Stock Valley Hills, Wolverine Canyon and Yago Creek (Table 5).

Special Status Species, Threatened & Endangered Plants and Animals (Standard 8)

Special Status Animals include wildlife species that are listed as Threatened and Endangered, Candidates for listing, Experimental (Non-essential) populations and BLM sensitive species. No special status species of animals are known to occur or exist on the public lands in the subject allotments.

Special Status Plants include wildlife species that are listed as Threatened and Endangered, Candidates for listing and BLM sensitive species. The only known occurrence of a BLM sensitive species on the subject allotments is Alderleaf mountain mahogany, which occurs on an

exposed ridge, inaccessible to livestock, in the Yago Creek allotment. No other special status species of plants are known to exist on the subject allotments.

Wildlife

Wildlife habitat management in the PFO focuses on maintaining and improving food, water, and cover for over 100 species of mammals, 214 species of birds, 32 species of fish, 13 species of reptiles, and 5 species of amphibians; some of the bird species are subject to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and amendments. Some of the allotment provide important habitat for deer, elk and sage grouse (Table 6). Different species have different habitat requirements, whereby good habitat conditions for one species may not meet adequate habitat conditions for another species. To maintain diverse, viable, and abundant populations of wildlife, a mosaic of biologically and structurally diverse habitat types is necessary. Riparian zones are important habitats for wildlife that provide water and high structural diversity. Common wildlife habitats are sagebrush/grass, mountain brush, aspen, Douglas-fir, juniper/mountain mahogany, maple, with a few marshlands and riparian areas. Data regarding the abundance and distribution of nongame species, fur-bearers, and predators are limited.

Allotment	Big Game	Sage Grouse	Allotment	Big Game	Sage Grouse
Cedar Creek	D, E		Jones Basin-1	D, E	K, I
Chesterfield Range	E	K, I	Lander Trail	E	
Chesterfield Reservoir		K	Meadow Creek		K
Cottonwood Creek-20	D, E		Miner Creek		K, I
Cold Water Isolated	D		North Creek	E	K
Crow Creek-2	D, E		Paris Canyon	D, E	K, I
Dairy Hollow	D, E	K, S	Rocky Peak	D, E	
Dairy Ridge	D	K, S	Stock Valley Hills	D, E	
Fish Haven-2	D, E	K, I	Surnge Canyon-2	E	K, S
Harer Point-2	D	K, S	Toponce Creek-2	E	
Henry Creek-3	D, E		Trail Creek-1		K, I
High Country	D, E	K, I	Willow Creek County Line	E	
Horse Creek-1	E	K, I	Wolverine Canyon	D, E	
Indian Creek	D	K, S	Yago Creek	D	

Soils

Soils in the allotments are comprised of three main soil groups: soils of slopes and rock debris (colluvium), soils dominated by water carried materials (alluvium) and soils composed of wind blown materials (loess). Colluvial soils are shallow residual soils and soils of side slopes associated with steeper upland slopes. Loess soils have eroded from steeper slopes onto gentle valley slopes and the leeward side of hills and mountains. These soils may be subject to extreme erosion. Wind erosion on the allotments is minor but since most allotments tend to be located on steep slopes, they are in a moderate or a high erodibility group, and are susceptible to water erosion.

Socio-Economics

The subject allotments occupy portions of seven southeastern Idaho counties: Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Caribou, Cassia, Franklin, and Power. Local economies benefit from activities on BLM public lands, including visitor expenditures, and the processing and harvesting of natural resources (e.g., timber, minerals, and forage). In addition, the BLM collects revenues from issuing various permits for grazing use, timber harvesting, mining as well as recreation and other commercial activities; a portion of these revenues is redirected back to the state. Investments are made in the management of land and resources, land acquisition, range improvements, construction and access, central hazardous materials fund, and wildfire preparedness and operations. Recreation is most highly valued for scenery, being with friends, and experiencing nature in quiet and solitude, which can provide a sense of discovery, relief from every day stresses and being physically active.

Historically, ranching has played a role in the way-of-life and economy in southeastern Idaho. Because of the mixed patterns of land ownership in southeastern Idaho, public and private land uses are often intertwined and decisions made in the management of public lands can impact livestock operators.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

This section analyses the reasonably foreseeable, direct and indirect effects of Alternatives A, B and C on allotments in the 17 affected allotments where the ISRH are not being met due to livestock grazing management. Where standards are not being met appropriate management actions, which are described below, would be taken on the ground to meet or make significant progress towards meeting the standards, in conformance with modified *terms and conditions* and/or the *annual indicator criteria* stipulated in the grazing permit/lease. The environmental consequences of modifying the grazing permits and leases are analyzed for Direct/Indirect Effects and Cumulative Effects, below. Where allotments are meeting or making significant progress towards meeting ISRH, adjustment to livestock numbers and/or grazing management would not facilitate or make progress towards meeting ISRH. Standards 5 (Seedings) and 6 (Exotic Plants) are not applicable to any of the subject allotments and were not analyzed.

Under Alternative B, the *terms and conditions* would reduce livestock impacts to riparian areas by directing livestock management to accomplish the following:

1. Must move towards or meet Standards 2, 3 or 7 or PFC in the subject allotments.
2. Restrict riparian grazing to the cool season. Grazing during the cool season (i.e., before June 15th or in the fall) will reduce livestock impacts to riparian areas since livestock are less likely to congregate near streams during cooler periods, which in turn, will reduce the frequency and intensity of grazing during this period. Grazing before June 15th, generally restricts defoliation to the most productive period in the grasses annual cycle when leaf replacement is most rapid and grasses can best recover from grazing. Grasses are most vulnerable to grazing during culm elongation and flowering, which occurs

somewhat later than the rapid growth phase. Grazing during fall restricts livestock impacts to a period when plants are most tolerant to grazing (e.g., after plants have flowered, set seed and are dormant) and when riparian soils are relatively dry and relatively impervious to hoof damage.

3. In allotments where grazing occurs during the growing season after June 15th, riparian areas would be rested from grazing for two consecutive grazing seasons out of three grazing seasons.

Annual Indicator Criteria are short-term indicators with assigned values. Stubble height, streambank alteration/trampling and riparian and upland utilization are examples of annual indicators. Annual indicators are selected and assigned a numeric value by an ID team and are considered as a starting point for improved grazing management (Clary and Leininger [2000]), Cowley [(2002)]. The literature is clear that these annual indicators need to be validated and adjusted as necessary to ensure that they are effective. The numeric criteria listed below were selected by the ID team as a starting point based on recommendations in the literature. For riparian areas, Clary and Leininger (2000) suggest a 4" median stubble height, Winward (2000) suggests 50% woody use, and Cowley (2002) suggests 20% bank alteration for most streams.

Under Alternative B, the **annual indicator criteria** would reduce livestock impacts to riparian areas by these actions:

1. Removal of livestock, such that sufficient residual vegetation remains so that riparian condition is improved or maintained at PFC. A 4" median stubble height on grasses and 50% utilization on woody species would be lower limits for permissible livestock use.
2. Removal of livestock, which retains to bank stability or improves bank stability. A 20% alteration of streambanks would be the upper limit for permissible livestock use.
3. Removal of livestock, which shortens the time that livestock spend in riparian areas. A reduction in the time that livestock spend in riparian areas will reduce the frequency of grazing on individual plants. Infrequently grazed plants are better able to replace their photosynthetic leaf area and replenish root reserves than frequently grazed plants. Use herding or riding to move livestock out of riparian areas. Daily riding and herding is a technique for controlling livestock use of riparian areas. Herding livestock to upland areas with adequate feed will improve the uniformity of grazing use across an allotment and lessen impacts in riparian areas. If livestock are driven to upland water developments, they are less likely or slower to return to riparian areas.
4. Placement of salt, mineral/protein blocks no closer than ¼ mile to riparian areas.

Under Alternative C, public land riparian areas in the 17 affected allotments would be closed to grazing; this would eliminate adverse effects to these areas.

DIRECT AND INDIRECT EFFECTS

Alternatives B and C would improve riparian health more than Alternative A since standing biomass in riparian areas would be expected to increase while physical impacts would decrease under both alternatives. Under Alternative B, implementation of management techniques like herding, shortened season of use or restricting grazing to cooler seasons would reduce livestock impacts in riparian areas. Under Alternative C, closure would eliminate livestock impacts to riparian areas and be the quickest means of restoring riparian health.

Watersheds (Standard 1) and Vegetation (Native Plants, Standard 4)

All of the subject allotments are meeting Standard 1 (Watersheds) and all but three allotments are meeting Standard 4 (Native Plant Communities) (Table 3, above); the cause for not meeting Standard 4 in these three allotments was not determined. Under Alternatives A, B and C, there would be no change to the current upland condition described in the affected environment.

Riparian Areas and Wetlands (Standard 2)

Livestock affect riparian functions to varying degrees, depending upon their concentration (density), residence time and season of use. Livestock remove and consume plants and trample plants and soil. Livestock may also cause soil compaction of moist/wet soils. Livestock can be managed to minimize their negative impacts on riparian vegetation by using a variety of techniques that include grazing riparian areas for shorter periods, grazing in cooler seasons, using riding and herding to move livestock out of riparian areas and placing salt, mineral/protein blocks away from riparian areas.

Current livestock grazing management practices are factors in not meeting Standard 2 in the following allotments: Cedar Creek, Chesterfield Range, Cottonwood Creek-2, Crow Creek-2, Dairy Hollow, Dairy Ridge, Fish Haven-2, Harer Point-2, Henry Creek-3, High Country, Horse Creek-1, Indian Creek, Meadow Creek, North Creek, Paris Canyon, Thatcher Hill-2 and Willow Creek County Line (Table 3, above).

Under Alternative A, the terms, conditions and grazing management objectives of the current grazing permits would not change. Riparian conditions would be expected to remain the same or further degrade under Alternative A.

Alternative B would improve riparian conditions by changing livestock use to cooler and/or shorter periods of use and moving livestock out of riparian areas by means of herding and placement of salt and mineral/protein blocks. Alternative B would improve riparian conditions more so than Alternative A, but not as rapidly as Alternative C.

Alternative C would improve riparian conditions by eliminating livestock impacts. Elimination of livestock would permit unrestricted increases in plant cover and ground mulch, better capture and retention of precipitation, reduced runoff and sedimentation, increased soil stability and better resistance to flood waters. Alternative C would have the greatest and fastest effect on improving riparian conditions compared to Alternatives A or B.

Stream Channel, Floodplains (Standard 3) and Water Quality (Standard 7)

Current livestock grazing management are factors in not meeting Standard 3 in the Chesterfield Range, Crow Creek-2, Dairy Hollow, Dairy Ridge, Fish Haven-2, Harer Point-2, Henry Creek-3, High Country, Horse Creek-1, Indian Creek, Meadow Creek, North Creek, Paris Canyon, Thatcher Hill-2 and Willow Creek County Line allotments (Table 3, above).

Under Alternative A, there would be no change to stream channel and floodplain conditions. Stream channel and floodplain conditions would be expected to remain the same or further degrade under Alternative A.

Alternative B would improve stream channel, floodplain and water quality by reducing livestock impacts more than Alternative A but would not be as effective as Alternative C in meeting or making significant progress towards meeting Standard 3.

Under Alternative C, stream channel and floodplain conditions would improve faster than under Alternatives A and B in meeting or making significant progress towards meeting Standards 3.

All allotments are meeting Standard 7 except the five allotments with 303(d) listed streams; i.e., Chesterfield Range, Meadow Creek, North Creek, Rocky Peak and the Stock Valley Hills allotments (Table 3, above). Current livestock grazing management practices are factors in not meeting water quality standards in three of these allotments: Chesterfield Range, Meadow Creek and North Creek. The low proportion of BLM control and the highly fragmented ownership / land status patterns within the allotments, however, makes meaningful protection and/or improvement of water quality on the BLM stretches difficult, especially where nonpoint-sources (runoff) and point-sources originate on neighboring, non-BLM lands.

Under Alternative C, water quality would improve faster and meet or make significant progress towards meeting Standard 7 than either Alternative A or B. Water quality would be expected to remain impaired under Alternative A. Alternative B would improve water quality more than Alternative A, but not as much as Alternative C. Since factors other than livestock are responsible for not meeting Standard 7 in the Rocky Peak and Stock Valley Hills allotments, Alternative A would have no effect on water quality; both Alternatives B and C, on the other hand, would improve water quality but not enough to move towards meeting Standard 7.

Special Status Plants and Animals (Standard 8)

Alternatives A, B and C would have no effect on Special Status Plants and Animals in these allotments.

Wildlife

There is often overlap in habitats and/or forage preferences between wildlife and livestock within the allotments. When vegetation is healthy, productive and diverse, it can meet the needs of both wildlife and livestock. Grazing management practices under Alternatives B and C would provide periodic rest or deferment in riparian areas during critical plant growth stages to allow

sufficient regrowth to achieve and maintain healthy, properly functioning conditions, including good plant vigor, plant reproduction and adequate vegetation cover. This would improve the quality of wildlife habitat.

Under Alternatives B and C, increases in riparian health would provide higher quality habitat, better cover (e.g., thermal-, escape- and nesting) and improved foraging than under Alternative A. Alternative A would maintain the existing management and have no effect on wildlife habitat. Alternative B would benefit wildlife that utilize riparian areas more than Alternative A by reducing livestock impacts and promoting plant growth, reproduction, cover and structural diversity but not as much as Alternative C. Alternative C would have the greatest benefits to wildlife that utilize riparian areas, including migratory birds, by completely eliminating livestock impacts in riparian areas that are not meeting standards.

Soils

Where streambanks are degraded or channelization has occurred, Alternative B and C would reduce impacts to soils, including less soil compaction as well as decreased soil erosion and sedimentation. Alternative B and C would also improve water quality along impaired stretches. Improvement would be faster under Alternative C than Alternative B. Alternative A would maintain the existing management and would not change current soil conditions.

Socio-Economics

Alternative B would require more intensive management than Alternative A; this would include more riding, frequently changing salting locations and constant monitoring the location of livestock. This would likely require an economic investment by the permittee/lessee. Alternative C would close some riparian areas to livestock grazing; this factor and the need in some allotments to develop fencing and/or water on upland sites on private lands or not being able to use a portion of the upland area within the allotment would have a greater negative impact on permittee/lessee than Alternatives A or B. Alternative A would maintain the existing management and have no effect on the socio-economic situation.

CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

Cumulative effects are the incremental effects of actions, considered with other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions. Actions on the BLM portions of the 33 allotments would have cumulative effects on the lands of other jurisdictions, both within and adjacent to the BLM public lands. The allotments contain BLM public lands (~ 23,287 acres), which make up less than 0.5 % of the greater PFO planning area, across all jurisdictions. The allotments contain about 83 total stream miles and 338 riparian acres of public lands, which are relatively small proportions of the total stream miles and riparian acres in the greater PFO planning area, regardless of land ownership or legal jurisdiction. Actions in the subject allotments may have cumulative effects of across the greater PFO planning area (~ 5,142,100 acres) regardless of land status or administrative jurisdiction.

Table 7. Meeting Standards 2, 3 and 7. Miles of stream and acres of riparian areas on BLM public lands and Other jurisdictions (e.g., private, Forest Service, etc.) that are meeting standards (MS) or not meeting standards (NMS). NMS-2: No allotments were rated in this category; NMS-3: Current livestock grazing management practices are not significant factors; NMS-4: Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors; NMS-5: Cause not determined.

		Standard 2		Standard 3		Standard 7	
		miles	acres	miles	acres	miles	acres
MS	BLM	19	46	19	46	65	157
	Other	6	15	6	15	85	207
NMS-3	BLM	0.3	1	1	2	1	1
	Other	7	16	9	21	2	6
NMS-4	BLM	50	122	41	100	9	22
	Other	359	870	343	831	172	417
NMS-5	BLM	13	31	14	35	8	20
	Other	11	27	25	61	123	299
<i>Totals¹ =</i>		465	1,128	458	1,111	465	1,129

¹ Totals may not equally sum among standards due to rounding error or where standard is not applicable for a particular allotment (Standard 3).

Table 7 lists the miles of stream and acres of riparian areas that are administered by the BLM and Other jurisdictions (e.g., Private, State, Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, etc.) in the 33 allotments. Across all jurisdictions, there are about 466 miles of streams and 1,266 acres of riparian areas; BLM public stream miles and BLM public riparian acres make up about 18 % and 27 % of these totals, respectively. Alternative B would improve the stream segments and riparian areas associated with the shaded row in Table 7; these stream miles and riparian acres involve 17 allotments for Standard 2, 15 allotments for Standard 3 and two allotments for Standard 7.

At present, about 19 miles of public streams are meeting or making significant progress towards meeting Standards 2 and 3 (Table 7); about 63 miles of public streams (14 % of total stream miles) are not meeting either standard. About 65 miles of public streams are meeting or making significant progress towards meeting Standard 7 (Table 7); 18 miles of public streams (4 % of total stream miles) are not.

Livestock grazing is the factor for not meeting standard (NMS-4, Table 7) on about 50 public stream miles (11 % of total stream miles) for Standard 2, on about 41 public stream miles (9 % of total stream miles) for Standard 3 and on about 9 public stream miles (2 % of total stream miles) for Standard 7. Alternative B would improve riparian conditions these stream-reaches.

In Table 7, under NMS-4, the 50 public stream miles not meeting Standard 2 are associated with 359 other stream miles, the 41 public stream miles not meeting Standard 3 are associated with 343 other stream miles, and the 9 public stream miles not meeting Standard 7 are associated with 172 other stream miles.

Under the Proposed Action (Alternative B), and assuming that the Other stream reaches associated with BLM stream reaches (Table 7) receive the same management as BLM stream

reaches, potential improvement in riparian conditions could occur on about 409 stream miles (Standard 2), about 384 stream miles (Standard 3) and 181 stream miles (Standard 7). Of the stream reaches not meeting standards due to livestock grazing in the 33 allotments, Alternative B would improve conditions on about 88 % (Standard 2), 82 % (Standard 3) and 39 % (Standard 7) miles, regardless of jurisdiction. Potential improvement in riparian condition would occur on about 992 acres of riparian areas (78 %) in the affected allotments.

Alternatives B and C would effect the management of 18 livestock operations and improve the condition of about 50 miles or 122 acres of BLM riparian areas. Under Alternative B, increased riding, reduced warm-season grazing or shortening period of use would improve the riparian condition but it would require more intensive, periodic management to limit livestock use in riparian areas. Improvement would be expected to proceed more rapidly under Alternative C than under Alternative B. Alternative C, however, could be the most expensive alternative to implement if it means fencing off riparian areas and developing water offsite, in upland sites.

Riparian management would remain unaffected in the remaining 16 allotments and 14 livestock operations. There would be no differences among Alternatives A, B or C in changes to riparian condition or grazing management in these allotments or operations.

There are no known projects that have been proposed by Tribal, Federal, State or private entities in the planning area that would affect any of the resources, values or uses in the allotments during the ten-year duration of the grazing permit renewals.

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

Tribal Governments, Agencies and Persons Consulted

Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
Idaho Conservation League
Idaho Department of Lands
Idaho Department of Fish & Game
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Upper Snake River Districts Resource Advisory Committee
USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service
Western Watersheds Projects
Permittees/Lessees

List of Preparers

Jim Bowmer, Forester
Cleve Davis, Botanist/NEPA Coordinator
Sarah Heide, Fire/Fuels Specialist
Mike Jorgensen, Rangeland Management Specialist
James Kumm, Wildlife Biologist
Amy Lapp, Archaeologist
Becky Lazdauskas, Realty Specialist
Eric Limbach, Rangeland Management Specialist
Blaine Newman, Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist
Bill Stout, Geologist/Minerals
Matt Rendace, Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist

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APPENDIX I

INSTRUCTIONS FOR INITIAL ALLOTMENT and PERMIT/LEASE REVIEW and RANGELAND HEALTH ASSESSMENT

This form documents the initial review and scoping for each allotment and is the initial “hard look” at grazing management in the allotment. Prior to completing this form, managers must assemble an interdisciplinary (ID) team with subject matter experts and go through a scoping process commensurate with the known issues and concerns in the allotment. The ID team gathers resource and use information from permittees, other state and Federal agencies, local governments, and the public (i.e., sportsman’s groups, interested publics), aerial photography, topographic maps, soil surveys, etc. The team will assemble and analyze all data applicable to livestock grazing in the allotment, documenting their findings on this form.

Upon completion of the analysis, the ID team and field manager will decide if: 1) The information is sufficient to make a determination; 2) The livestock grazing on the allotment can be managed by BLM; 3) The available information is adequate for determining compliance with the ISRH; or 4) The existing data is not adequate for determining compliance and additional field data will be required. Do not automatically do field Rangeland Health Assessments (RHA) for every allotment. In some cases there will be enough data for determining whether or not we are meeting or are moving toward meeting Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health (ISRH) and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.

Lines 1 through 3—Identify the allotment and permittee(s).

Lines 4 through 7—Describe the land ownership, configuration, and Land Use Plan (LUP) disposal decisions.

Line 8—Identify LUP decisions affecting the disposition of the public land within the allotment. Other land use decisions affecting the management of public land within the allotment should be identified in Line 13. Review all activities listed in number 10 to ensure that all applicable LUP decisions have been listed.

Lines 9—Administrative access associated with a grazing permit/lease is restricted to BLM access for administering public land within the allotment.

Line 10—*Legal access* means that the public land within the allotment is joined on at least one side by public land that has a legal point of access such as a public road or trail. Parcels joined only at corners are not considered to have legal access.

Line 11—Public land physically isolated includes such instances where parcels of public land along a public road are fenced in with private land. This land has legal public access, but is not practical to manage by BLM.

Line 12—BLM policy states that allotments will be categorized using livestock grazing management categories, maintenance (M), improvement (I), and custodial (C). Effort and documentation for allotments in the “C” category should be kept to a minimum. Since much of the categorization was completed several years ago, resource values and issues should be reviewed by the ID team.

Line 13—Provide a list of LUP decisions applicable to the allotment.

Line 14—Technical specialists describe resource values and conditions and determine if the available data is sufficient for analyzing those values and conditions, both now and in the future.

Please note: Deciding whether the allotment meets ISRH is done in the Evaluation/Determination. For example, all the information that is presently available that involves Standard 1 (watershed) is brought forward and discussed by the ID Team. This is done for each of the applicable standards and guidelines, as well as for the listed activities or any other activity that is not listed but is applicable to this allotment.

Complete a review of Guidelines for Livestock Grazing for current information on livestock grazing management.

The final portion of the review in Line 14 is a review of the applicable portion of the LUP for the allotment. Identify resource goals and issues applicable to the public land.

Once you are done going over all this accumulation of data and information, briefly fill out the appropriate box under Line 14, making sure the important issues, problems or no problems are clearly stated in the comment field. Make sure to keep the information and data handy for the RHA/E, if applicable. ***(Note: For major allotments this is not an RHA, rather it helps determine if adequate information exists for conducting an RHA/E and to make determinations. However, with proper documentation this may well be the RHA.)***

Line 15—Many grazing allotments in Idaho consist of isolated tracks of public land fenced in by private land, which has either no legal access for the general public or administrative-only or no access available to BLM. Many of these allotments are difficult to manage and resource interests on them are minimal.

After completing the review, the ID team will recommend one of four options to the field manager. The first two choices (1 and 2) are for those allotments with either isolated tracts or a very low percentage of public land for which we have limited information. The information that we do have should indicate no known issues, or that BLM has a very limited ability to manage it. Option 3 is for public land that has physical characteristics that severely limits livestock. These areas should not have a grazing permit or lease. The choices 4 and 5 are for allotments on which we have the ability to manage grazing, and in most cases are not small allotments of isolated tracts or low-percentage federal range. They tend to be allotments with larger blocks of public land in selective management categories “M” and “I”.

The ID team review participants are listed with their technical expertise. The team leader signs and dates the report for the ID team.

The field manager reviews the information, analysis and recommendation, and either accepts or rejects the ID team recommendation. If the recommendation is rejected by field manager, an appropriate option is selected. A rationale is then prepared to support the decision.

(APPENDIX B)
INITIAL
ALLOTMENT and PERMIT/LEASE REVIEW
and
RANGELAND HEALTH ASSESSMENT

Field Office: _____ Date: _____

1. Allotment Name/Number: _____
2. Name(s) of Permittee(s)/Preference Code: _____
3. Permit Expiration Date(s): _____
4. Acres of: Public: _____ Private: _____ State: _____ Other: _____
5. Percent public land in the allotment: _____
6. Is public land large contiguous block(s) of public land, isolated parcel(s) or both? _____
7. Is the public land fenced separately from the private land? _____
8. Is any public land within the allotment identified for exchange/disposal in the land use plan?
 _____ Percent of Allotment _____ If yes, two year notification sent? _____
9. Does BLM have administrative access separate from the grazing permit/lease? _____
10. Does public have legal access to the allotment? _____
11. Is the public land physically isolated from the adjoining public land? _____
12. What is the livestock grazing management category? (M, I, or C) _____
13. List all Land Use Plan (LUP) objectives and decisions (consider resource list for No. 14 below for objectives and decisions in the LUP), other grazing decisions, and other NEPA documents pertaining to the allotment:

14. Check the Standards, Guidelines, and Resources that are applicable to this allotment. Following ID Team disclosure of information and data (monitoring data, studies, inventories, etc, information from other agencies, local governments, and the public) and the ensuing discussions, briefly describe in the comment section any issues (with supporting information). This information will be used to determine if existing data is adequate, or if more information is needed to determine compliance with the Idaho Standards and Guidelines for Rangeland Health.

Standard, Guideline, or Resource Issue	Check(if applicable)	Comments
<i>Watershed (Standard 1)</i>		
<i>Riparian Areas, Wetland (Standard 2)</i>		
<i>Stream Channel, Flood Plains (Standard 3)</i>		
<i>Native Plant Communities (Standard 4)</i>		
<i>Seedings (Standard 5)</i>		
<i>Exotic Plant Communities (Standard 6)</i>		
<i>Water Quality (Standard 7)</i>		
<i>Threatened & Endangered Plant & Animals (Standard 8)</i>		
Guidelines (1-20)		
Land Use Plan Review		
<i>Livestock Grazing</i>		
<i>Botanical</i>		
<i>Cultural</i>		
<i>Fire, Fuel</i>		
<i>Fisheries</i>		
<i>Forestry</i>		
<i>Land</i>		
<i>Minerals</i>		
<i>Recreation</i>		
<i>Special Status Species</i>		
<i>Wild Horses</i>		
<i>Wildlife</i>		
<i>Other</i>		

15. Describe BLM’s ability or inability to manage the allotment by considering the following, as applicable: Whether there is legal access; whether % federal land comprises majority of the allotment; whether the public land acreage is small (less than 640 acres) and surrounded by private land (isolated); whether the federal land is fenced separate from the private land; etc.

Based on the information above the following is recommended to the field manager: (check the appropriate category)

1. ____ Review of existing information indicates that there is no livestock grazing or other issue. Available information is adequate to complete the evaluation and determination. (see numbers 5,6,7,8, 11, and 15 above). **This is the RHA. Complete the evaluation/determination form.**

2. ____ Review of available information indicates that grazing or other issues are known to exist. However, the allotment has no or limited potential for management (see numbers 5,6,7,8,11, and 15 above). Available information is adequate to complete the evaluation and determination. **This is the RHA for this allotment. Complete the evaluation/determination form and consider the public land for disposal.**
3. ____ Review of existing information indicates the physical characteristics (e.g., slope, rock, location on the landscape, and lack of livestock forage) of the tract deter livestock grazing use on the public land. **Consider not issuing a new livestock grazing permit or lease. Further documentation is not recommended.**
4. ____ Review of existing information indicates that an issue(s) may or may not exist. The allotment is considered manageable (see #s 5,6,7,8,11, and 15 above). **Available information is adequate to complete the RHA. Complete RHA and the evaluation/determination.**
5. ____ Review of existing information indicates that an issue(s) exists. The allotment is considered manageable (see #s 5,6,7,8,11, and 15 above). More information is needed to determine current conditions. **Gather additional information and data. Complete the RHA and evaluation/determination.**

The persons identified below participated in the NEPA analysis and preparation of this Environmental Assessment:

Name	Discipline or Interest
Jim Bowmer	Forestry
Cleve Davis	Botany
Sarah Heide	Fire / Fuels
Mike Jorgensen	Range Management
James Kumm	Wildlife
Amy Lapp	Archeology / Cultural Resources
Becky Lazdauskas	Lands / Realty
Eric Limbach	Range Management
Blaine Newman	Recreation
Bill Stout	Minerals

Prepared by _____
Team Leader for the ID Team **Date**

Field Manager's Finding and Rationale:

Field Manager's Signature

Date

APPENDIX II

Alternative C – Riparian Closure: Livestock grazing is a factor in not meeting ISRH for Riparian Areas and Wetlands (Standard 2) and Stream Channels and Floodplains (Standard 3) in the following 17 allotments. Riparian areas in these allotments would be closed to grazing by livestock under this alternative. The following would constitute a “Term and Condition” in each grazing permit that closes riparian areas to grazing by livestock under Alternative C.

Cedar Creek (#04382): The riparian areas are closed in T1S R38E Sec29 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T1S R38E Sec9 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T1S R38E Sec9 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T1S R38E Sec15 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T1S R38E Sec15 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T1S R38E Sec19 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T1S R38E Sec30 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T1S R38E Sec30 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T1S R38E Sec30 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T1S R38E Sec29 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T1S R38E Sec29 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T1S R38E Sec29 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T1S R38E Sec29 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ and T1S R38E Sec29 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

Chesterfield Range (#14069): The riparian areas are closed in T6S R40E Sec30 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T6S R40E Sec30 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T6S R39E Sec12 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T6S R39E Sec12 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T6S R39E Sec13 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T5S R39E Sec4 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T5S R39E Sec9 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T5S R39E Sec9 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T5S R39E Sec9 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T5S R39E Sec27 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, and T5S R39E Sec34 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

Cottonwood Creek-2 (#14128): The riparian areas are closed in T12S R40E Sec20 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec30 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec30 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec30 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec29 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NWE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec29 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SWE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec29 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec29 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec29 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec29 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec29 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec28 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec28 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec28 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec33 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec33 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ and T12S R40E Sec33 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

Crow Creek-2 (#14015): The riparian areas are closed in T9S R46S Sec11 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ and T9S R46S Sec11 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

Dairy Hollow (#04407): The riparian areas are closed in T16S R46E Sec6 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T16S R46E Sec6 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T16S R46E Sec7 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T16S R46E Sec7 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T16S R46E Sec7 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T16S R46E Sec8 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ and T16S R46E Sec8 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

Dairy Ridge (#04305): The riparian areas are closed in T15S R45E Sec22 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ and T15S R45E Sec22 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

Fish Haven-2 (#14125): The riparian areas are closed in T16S R43E Sec16 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ and T16S R43E Sec16 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

Harer Point-2 (#04354): The riparian areas are closed in T14S R45E Sec28 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T14S R45E Sec28 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ and T14S R45E Sec22 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

Henry Creek-3 (#04403): The riparian areas are closed in T1S R39E Sec4 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T1S R39E Sec4 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ and T1S R39E Sec5 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

High Country (#04423): The riparian areas are closed in T2S R38E Sec14 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ through T2S R38E Sec14 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T2S R38E Sec12 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T2S R38E Sec12 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T2S R38E Sec2 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T2S R38E Sec2 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T2S R38E Sec2 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T2S R38E Sec11 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T2S R38E Sec11 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T2S R38E Sec13 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T2S R38E Sec13 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ and T2S R38E Sec13 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

Horse Creek-1 (#04045): The riparian areas are closed in T7S R46E Sec20 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, continuing through T7S R46E Sec21 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T7S R46E Sec21 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ and T7S R46E Sec21 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

Indian Creek (#04232): The riparian areas are closed in T15S R45E Sec30 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T15S R45E Sec30 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ and T15S R45E Sec20 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

Meadow Creek (#04136): The riparian areas are closed in T4S R42E Sec31 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T4S R42E Sec31 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T4S R42E Sec31 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ and T4S R42E Sec30 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

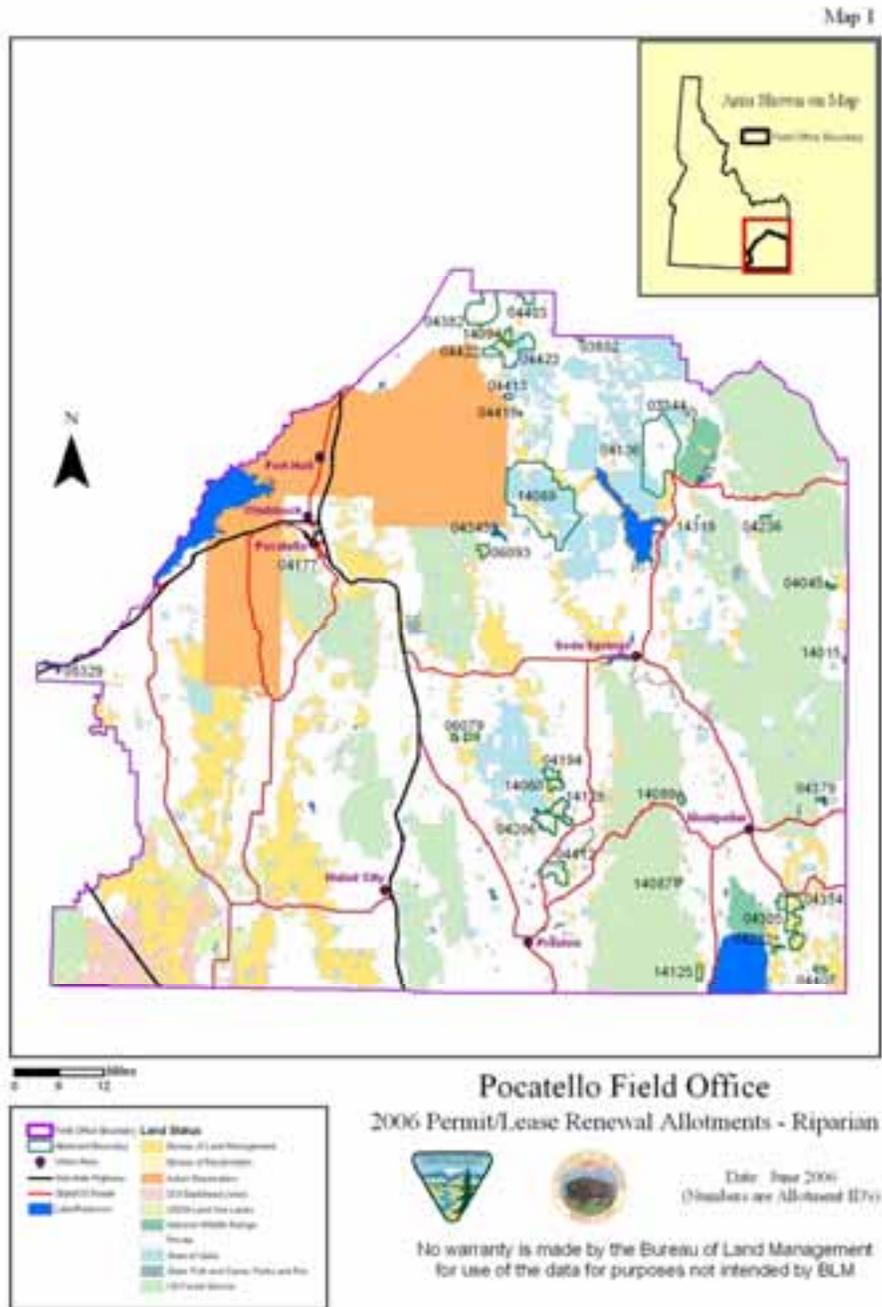
North Creek (#14089): The riparian areas are closed in T12S R43E Sec18 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ and T12S R43E Sec18 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

Paris Canyon (#14087): The riparian areas are closed in T14S R42E Sec12 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ and T14S R42E Sec12 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

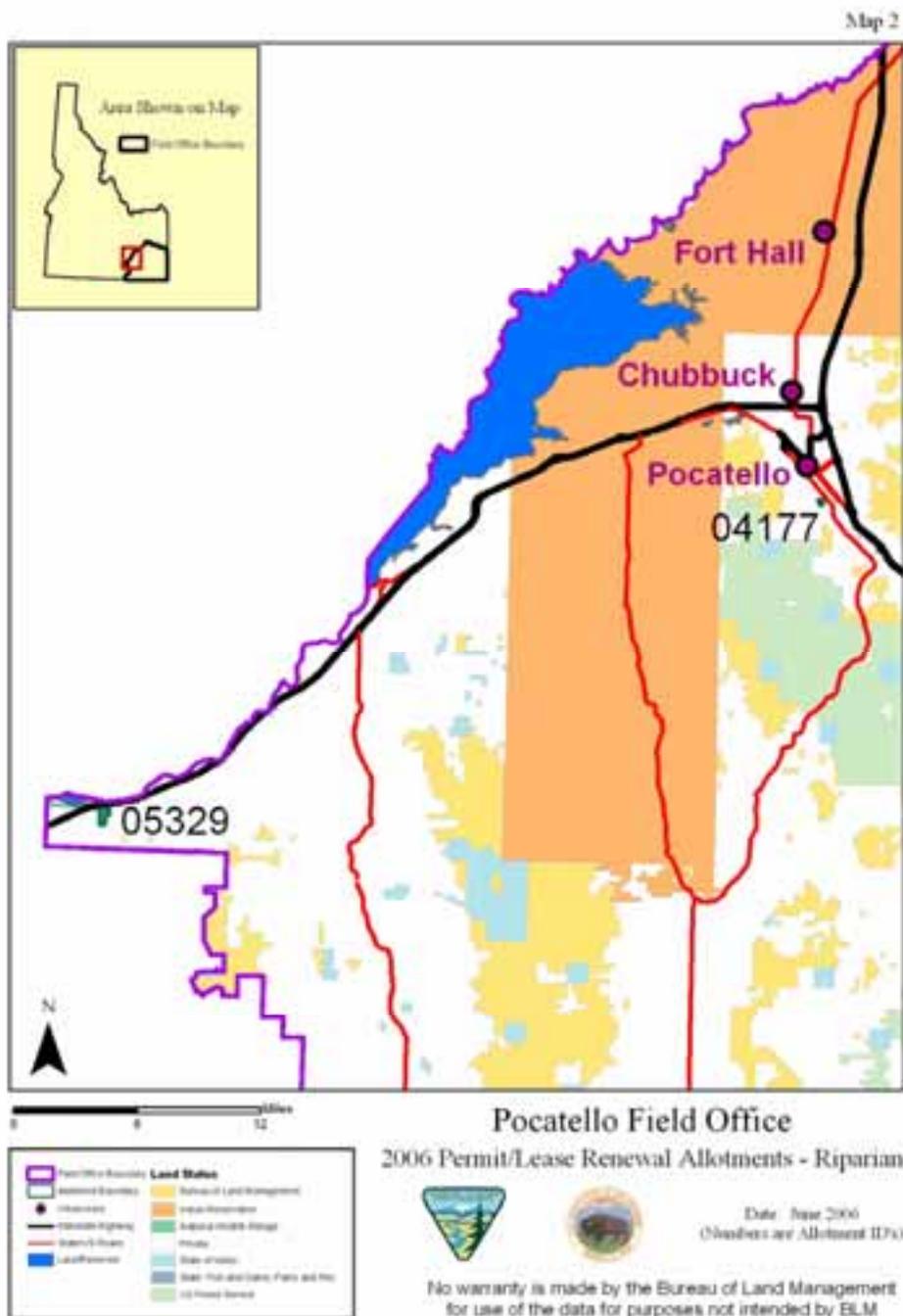
Thatcher Hill-2 (#14060): The riparian areas are closed in T12S R40E Sec6 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec6 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec6 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec6 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec6 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec6 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec6 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, T12S R40E Sec6 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$, and T12S R40E Sec6 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

Willow Creek County Line (#03802): The riparian area is closed in T2S R40E Sec3 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$.

Map 1
Allotment boundaries (outlined in green) and allotment numbers located within the
Pocatello Field Office

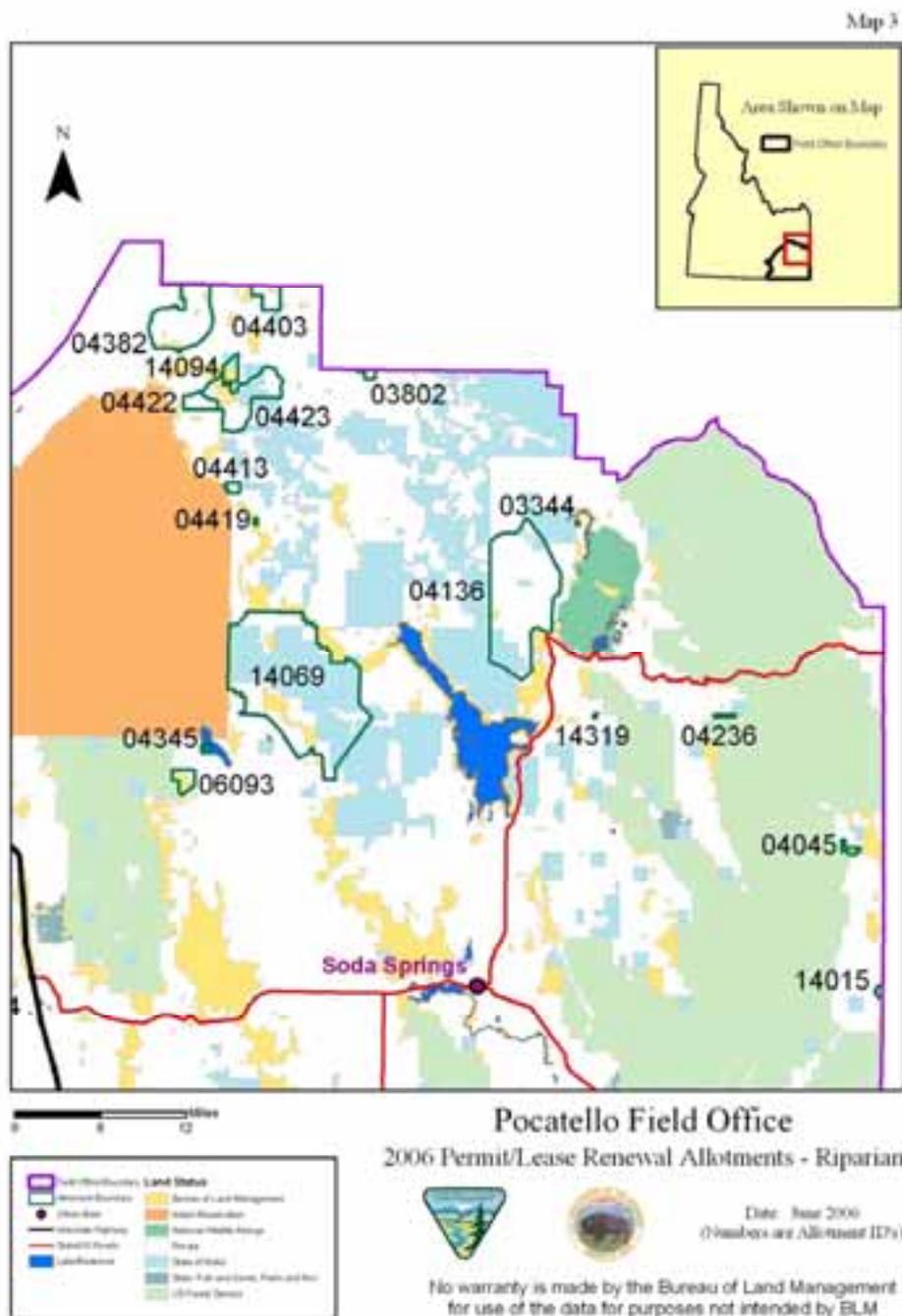


Map 2
Locations of the Cold Water Isolated (05329), Cusick Creek (04177) and Old Tom Mountain (03804) allotments. Houtz Canyon allotment (05316) is not part of this EA.



Map 3

Locations of the Cedar Creek (04382), Henry Creek-3 (04403), Wolverine Canyon (14094), Jones Basin-1 (04422), High Country (04423), Miner Creek (04413), Trail Creek-1 (04419), Grays Lake Outlet (03344), Meadow Creek (04136), Chesterfield Range (14069), Chesterfield Reservoir (04345), Little Blackfoot River (14319), Lander Trail (04236), Horse Creek-1 (04045) and Crow Creek-2 (14015) allotments



Map 4

Location of the Chesterfield Reservoir (04345), Chesterfield Range (14069), Toponce Creek (06093), Little Blackfoot River (14319), Crow Creek-2 (14015), Yago Creek (06079), Burton Creek-2 (04194), Thatcher Hill-2 (14060), Cottonwood Creek-2 (14128), North Creek (14089), Suruge Canyon-2 (04379), Stock Valley Hills (04206), Rocky Peak (04412), Paris Canyon (14087), Harer Point-2 (04354), Dairy Ridge (04305), Fish Haven-2 (14125), Indian Creek (04232) and Dairy Hollow (04407) allotments

