

DIFFERENCES AMONG ALTERNATIVES: LIVESTOCK FORAGE AND GRAZING

No Action Alternative	Alternative I	Alternative II	Alternative III	Alternative IV	Alternative V
Livestock Forage					
<p>Continue allocating approximately 200,000 animal unit months (AUMs) for livestock.</p> <p>As the plan is implemented, between 160,000 and 260,000 AUMs could be issued for livestock depending on implementation of treatments described in the <i>Upland Vegetation</i> section.</p>	<p>Allocate vegetation production to livestock as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25-35% of native perennial grass production • 30-40% of non-native perennial grass production • 20-30% of annual grass production • 8-11% of shrub and forb production 	<p>Allocate vegetation production to livestock as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40-50% of native perennial grass production • 50-60% of non-native perennial grass production • 70-80% of annual grass production • 12-16% of shrub and forb production 	<p>Allocate vegetation production to livestock as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35-45% of native perennial grass production • 40-50% of non-native perennial grass production • 40-50% of annual grass production • 11-14% of shrub and forb production 	<p>Allocate vegetation production to livestock as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15-25% of native perennial grass production • 20-30% of non-native perennial grass production • 0% of annual grass production • 0% of shrub and forb production 	<p>Allocate vegetation production to livestock as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10-20% of native perennial grass production • 10-20% of non-native perennial grass production • 0% of annual grass production • 0% of shrub and forb production
Forage and Grazing Management Practices					
<p><i>No goal stated.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Objective LG-NA-O- 1. Design and establish grazing management practices to meet fisheries, riparian, and water quality needs. ➤ Objective LG-NA-O- 2. Establish livestock grazing systems and practices that recognize the physiological requirements of forbs and shrubs. 	<p>Goal LG-I-G- 1. Provide for livestock grazing through application of proper grazing management to enhance and sustain existing and historic uses and to improve habitat for big game and sage-grouse.</p> <p>Objective LG-I-O- 1. In native plant communities excluding Sandberg/non-native areas, manage livestock grazing to help maintain and improve native plant species diversity and abundance, focusing on plant reproductive and physiological needs.</p>	<p>Goal LG-II-G- 1. Provide for livestock grazing through application of proper grazing management to maintain or improve the condition of forage resources while maintaining native plant communities and habitat for sage-grouse.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Objective LG-II-O- 1. Same as Alternative I. 	<p>Goal LG-III-G- 1. Provide for livestock grazing through application of proper grazing management to reduce wildland fire size and intensity while maintaining habitat for sage-grouse.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Objective LG-III-O- 1. In native plant communities including the Sandberg/non-native areas, manage livestock grazing to help maintain and improve native plant species diversity and abundance, focusing on plant reproductive and 	<p>Goal LG-IV-G- 1. Provide for livestock grazing through application of proper grazing management to support restoration of the resiliency of ecosystem structure and function and to reduce fragmentation of habitat for sage-grouse and other native species.</p> <p>Objective LG-IV-O- 1. Same as Alternative III.</p>	<p>Goal LG-V-G- 1. Provide for livestock grazing through application of proper grazing management to move vegetation toward historic plant communities that provide habitat for sage-grouse and other special status species.</p> <p>Objective LG-V-O- 1. Same as Alternative III.</p>

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	<p>➤ Objective LG-I-O- 2. In non-native perennial communities including Sandberg/non-native areas, manage livestock grazing to maintain and improve perennial plant species diversity and abundance, taking into account sage-grouse and big game habitat needs.</p>	<p>➤ Objective LG-II-O- 2. In non-native perennial communities including Sandberg/non-native areas, manage livestock grazing to sustain the perennial forage base and allow for other commercial uses.</p>	<p>physiological needs.</p> <p>➤ Objective LG-III-O- 2. Manage livestock grazing to reduce fuels in non-native perennial communities.</p>	<p>➤ Objective LG-IV-O- 2. In non-native perennial communities, manage livestock grazing to achieve restoration objectives outlined in the <i>Upland Vegetation</i> section.</p>	<p>➤ Objective LG-V-O- 2. In non-native perennial communities, manage livestock grazing to maintain and improve shrub cover for sage-grouse.</p>
<p><i>No similar objective.</i></p>	<p>➤ Objective LG-CA-O- 1. Manage livestock grazing in annual communities to achieve objectives in the <i>Upland Vegetation</i> and <i>Wildland Fire Ecology and Management</i> sections.</p>				
<p>Allocate 1,414,000 acres as available for livestock grazing and 51,000 acres as not available for livestock grazing.</p>	<p>Allocate 1,381,000 acres as available for livestock grazing and 84,000 acres as not available for livestock grazing.</p>	<p>Allocate 1,406,000 acres as available for livestock grazing and 59,000 acres as not available for livestock grazing.</p>	<p>Allocate 1,404,000 acres as available for livestock grazing and 61,000 acres as not available for livestock grazing.</p>	<p>Allocate 1,320,000 acres in Alternative IV-A and 1,352,000 acres in Alt IV-B as available for livestock grazing and 145,000 acres in Alternative IV-A and 113,000 acres in Alternative IV-B as not available for livestock grazing.</p>	<p>Allocate 1,156,000 acres as available for livestock grazing and 309,000 acres as not available for livestock grazing.</p>
<p>All areas not available to livestock grazing in this alternative are common to all alternatives.</p>	<p>Areas not available to livestock grazing in addition to those common to all alternatives include portions of the Middle Snake ACEC, Wildlife Tracts, reference areas, and areas open to cross-country motorized vehicle use.</p>	<p>Areas not available to livestock grazing in addition to those common to all alternatives include Wildlife Tracts and reference areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative II.</p>	<p>Areas not available to livestock grazing in addition to those common to all alternatives include bull trout streams, the Inside Desert ACEC, Wildlife Tracts, and reference areas.</p>	<p>Areas not available to livestock grazing in addition to those common to all alternatives include bull trout and redband trout streams; the Middle Snake, Sand Point, and Lower Bruneau Canyon ACECs; the Browns Bench/China Mountain area, Wildlife Tracts, and reference areas.</p>

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Develop grazing systems to maintain condition in MUA 4. Develop grazing management systems on fair condition range in MUA 11 to improve to good or better condition. Additional grazing systems would be implemented elsewhere.	<p>Implement adaptive management using grazing use indicators to meet resource and special designation area objectives as feasible and following BLM policy</p> <p>Grazing permit renewal following the Record of Decision (ROD) would follow the process outlined in Appendix L. Allotment-specific decisions for livestock grazing management, including grazing use indicators and grazing use criteria, and adjustments to an allotment's Selective Management Category would be made at that time.</p> <p>Implement drought management guidelines during periods of drought to maintain or achieve long-term resource productivity (Appendix F).</p> <p>Manage livestock grazing to follow BLM guidelines for managing sage-grouse habitat (e.g., 2006 <i>Conservation Plan for the Greater Sage-grouse in Idaho</i>, Owyhee County and Jarbidge Local Working Group Sage-grouse Plans).</p>				
Livestock season of use would be adjusted in Multiple Use Areas (MUAs) 10, 15, and 16, if necessary, to resolve any conflicts on mule deer, pronghorn and bighorn sheep ranges. These adjustments would entail the reduction in spring or fall livestock grazing use from a specific period(s) of a grazing year.	<p>Livestock grazing may be allowed in big game winter range in native shrubland communities during the winter.</p> <p>Adjust livestock grazing in the Bruneau-Jarbidge ACEC so seasons of use would not overlap bighorn sheep breeding and winter periods in pastures that contain bighorn sheep habitat.</p>	No date restrictions on livestock grazing in winter range would be made.	<p>Livestock grazing may be allowed in big game winter range in native shrubland communities during the winter.</p> <p>Adjust livestock grazing south of Sheep Creek so seasons of use would not overlap bighorn sheep breeding and winter periods in pastures that contain bighorn sheep habitat.</p>	<p>Livestock grazing may be allowed in big game winter range in native shrubland communities during the winter.</p> <p>Adjust livestock grazing so seasons of use would not overlap bighorn sheep breeding and winter periods in pastures that contain bighorn sheep habitat.</p>	<p>Livestock grazing would not be allowed in big game winter range during the winter.</p> <p>Adjust livestock grazing so seasons of use would not overlap bighorn sheep breeding and winter periods in pastures that contain bighorn sheep habitat.</p>
Temporary Non-Renewable Authorizations (TNR) would be allowed.	TNR would be allowed except in pastures containing WSA, the riparian pasture in the Sand Point ACEC, pastures with >50% big game winter range, or pastures with >50% native communities.	TNR would be allowed except in pastures containing areas within a WSA boundary.	Same as Alternative I.	TNR would be allowed except in pastures containing WSA, the riparian pasture in the Sand Point ACEC, pastures with >50% big game winter range, or pastures with >25% native communities.	TNR would not be issued.

Range Infrastructure

➤ Objective LG-NA-O- 3. Design range infrastructure to achieve objectives in the	➤ Objective LG-I-O- 3. Manage range infrastructure at levels	Objective LG-II-O- 3. Manage range infrastructure at levels	Objective LG-III-O- 3. Manage range infrastructure at levels	Objective LG-IV-O- 3. Manage range infrastructure at levels	➤ Objective LG-V-O- 3. Same as Alternative
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<p><i>Vegetation Communities, Fish and Wildlife, and Livestock Grazing</i> objectives.</p>	<p>appropriate to the amount of livestock use to provide for efficient management of livestock grazing allotments, consistent with resource objectives.</p>	<p>appropriate to the amount of livestock use to provide for efficient management of livestock grazing allotments.</p>	<p>appropriate to the amount of livestock use to provide for efficient management of livestock grazing allotments and support fire suppression efforts.</p>	<p>appropriate to the amount of livestock use to provide for efficient management of livestock grazing allotments and support resource objectives.</p>	<p>IV.</p>
<p>Install or construct new infrastructure as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 161 miles of pipelines • 3 reservoirs, wells, or springs • 26 miles of fences 	<p>Consider installing or constructing new range infrastructure on a case-by-case basis where they would help meet resource objectives.</p>	<p>Consider installing or constructing new range infrastructure on a case-by-case basis to promote livestock distribution or meet resource objectives.</p>	<p>Consider installing or constructing new range infrastructure on a case-by-case basis where they would help meet resource objectives or to aid in fire suppression.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative I.</p>	<p>Consider installing or constructing new range infrastructure on a case-by-case basis where they would help meet resource objectives. New pipelines and spring developments would not be authorized.</p>
<p>Design new spring developments and modify selected existing spring developments to protect wetted areas.</p>	<p>Minimize disturbance at developed springs by using existing routes for access, redesigning the spring development, or limiting maintenance or reconstruction activities to areas disturbed during previous construction or to areas outside the wetland. Modify selected existing spring developments to improve wetland areas by protecting the spring source and ensuring adequate water to support spring hydrology and associated riparian vegetation. New spring developments must avoid or minimize ground disturbance, protect the spring source, and ensure adequate water to maintain the wetland. Other mitigation may be required to minimize impacts to cultural and natural resources and tribal rights, interests, and values.</p>				