

**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, 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 OR/WA Standards for Rangeland Health.

<i>Standard, Guideline, or Resource Issue</i>	<i>Check( if applicable)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
<i>Watershed Function - Uplands (Standard 1)</i>		
<i>Watershed Function – Riparian/Wetland Areas (Standard 2)</i>		
<i>Ecological Processes (Standard 3)</i>		
<i>Water Quality (Standard 4)</i>		
<i>Native, T&amp;E, and Locally Important Species (Standard 5)</i>		

<i>Guidelines (1-8)</i>		
<b>Land Use Plan Review</b>		
<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 in one parcel, or 1,280 acres in multiple parcels) and surrounded by private land(isolated); whether the federal land is fenced separate from the private land; etc.

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**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 issues. 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 (through voluntary relinquishment). 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.**

List the names and title of the member of the OR or WA team involved with this review:

Name	Title

Prepared by \_\_\_\_\_  
Team Leader for the ID Team Date

Field Manager's Finding and Rationale:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Field Manager Date

**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 OR/WA Standards for Rangeland Health (SRH); 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 OR/WA SRH 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.

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 may not be 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 OR/WA Rangeland Health Standards is done in the Evaluation/Determination.*** For example, all the information that is presently available that involves Standard 1 (Watershed Function - Uplands) 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. ***(Note: For major allotments this is not an RHA, rather it helps determine if adequate information exists for conducting an RHAE and to make determinations. However, with proper documentation this may well be the RHA.)***

Line 15—Many grazing allotments in Oregon and Washington 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 management capability. 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 “T”.

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.