

Prineville District  
**Land Use Plan Conformance and  
Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)**  
Review and Approval

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**A. Background**

**Name of Proposed Action:** Grazing Lease Renewal, Hammel E.W. Allotment (7533)

**DNA Number:** DOI-BLM-OR-P060-2009-0061-DNA

**Location of Proposed Action:** 12 miles east of Dufur, Oregon (see attached map)

**Allotment Summary:** 1,577 acres of public land; 120 AUMs (120 active, 0 suspended); season of use from April 1 to August 15 for upland pastures and April 1 to May 1 for riparian pastures.

**Purpose of and Need for Action:** This action is part of the required NEPA process to renew a grazing lease. The current lessee's grazing authorization in the Hammel E.W. Allotment is due to expire on February 28, 2010.

**Description of the Proposed Action:** The proposed action is to issue a grazing lease for the Hammel E.W. Allotment for a term of ten years in accordance with 43 CFR 4130.2(d), "*The term of grazing permits or leases authorizing livestock grazing on the public lands and other lands under the administration of the Bureau of Land Management shall be 10 years...*" All current terms and conditions, AUMs, and season of use will remain unchanged.

**B. Land Use Plan Conformance**

Land Use Plans: Two Rivers Resource Management Plan (RMP), June 1986 and the Lower Deschutes River Management Plan, February 1993.

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable plans because it is specifically provided for in the following land use plan decisions: Two Rivers RMP, Record of Decision, Rangeland Program Summary, June 1986, page 10, "*Maintain current livestock grazing levels...*", and page 44, "*Allotment Number 7533, Selective Management Category 'Maintain'*". Lower Deschutes River Management Plan, Record of Decision, February 1993, page 32, "*The period of livestock use within the planning area will generally be between November 1 and May 1, unless there is a site specific rationale for an exception, such as use in a non-riparian pasture.*"

**C. Applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document and related documents to the Proposed Action**

The following NEPA documents and related documents cover the proposed action:

EISs: *Two Rivers Resource Management Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) dated 1985 and the Lower Deschutes River Management Plan DEIS dated January 1991.*

## **D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria**

**1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?**

Yes, the proposed action is essentially the same as those addressed for continued livestock grazing in the Two Rivers DEIS on pages ix, 12, 14 – 15, 64, and 119. In addition, it was addressed in the Lower Deschutes DEIS pages 40 – 43, 50 – 52, 184 – 187, and 443. The allotment has remained in the same location and the resource conditions are very similar to what was analyzed in the two documents.

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

Yes, the alternatives in the Two Rivers DEIS ranged from emphasis of commodity production to emphasis of natural values, which included the elimination of livestock grazing; refer to page ix, pages 14 – 15 and pages 58 – 64. The Lower Deschutes River Management Plan DEIS described a range of alternatives concerning livestock grazing on pages 37 – 38, 94, and 167 – 194. The range of alternatives in both documents appears to be appropriate given the current issues.

**3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, and updated lists of BLM sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that all new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?**

Yes, the existing analysis in the Two Rivers DEIS and Lower Deschutes River Management Plan DEIS remains valid. In addition, a Standards and Guides (S&Gs) evaluation and assessment were completed in 2000 and all standards were met. The Assessment Determination recommended a continuation of the current grazing management.

BLM has made a determination of “No Effect” for this allotment because livestock do not have access to fish bearing streams on the public lands.

**4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?**

Yes, the same effects that would result from the proposed action were analyzed in the Two Rivers DEIS, pages 58 – 72 and the Lower Deschutes River Management Plan DEIS, pages 167 – 268.

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

Yes, the list of “interested publics” is updated on a regular basis and many of the individuals and organizations on the current “interested publics” list are the same as those on the mailing list for the listed planning and NEPA documents. A final copy of this DNA and the subsequent Proposed Decision would

be posted on the Prineville District's internet page for public review. A printed copy of these documents would be available on request.

**E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff Consulted**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Resource Represented</u>
Lyle Andrews	Rangeland Management Specialist	Range
Cassandra Hummel	Natural Resource Specialist	Wildlife
Jim Eisner	Fisheries Biologist	Fisheries
Terry Holtzapple	Archeologist	Cultural Resources
JoAnne Armson	Natural Resource Specialist	Botany, Special Status Plants
Anna Smith	Hydrologist	Hydrology
Jennifer Moffitt	Natural Resource Specialist	Soils
Tom Mottl	Recreation Planner	W & S Rivers/Recreation
Teal Purrington	Planning and Environmental Coordinator	NEPA Compliance
Michelle McSwain	Assistant Field Manager	Management

Note: Refer to the listed EIS/EA for a complete list of the team members participating in the preparation of the original environmental analysis or planning documents.

**Conclusion**

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

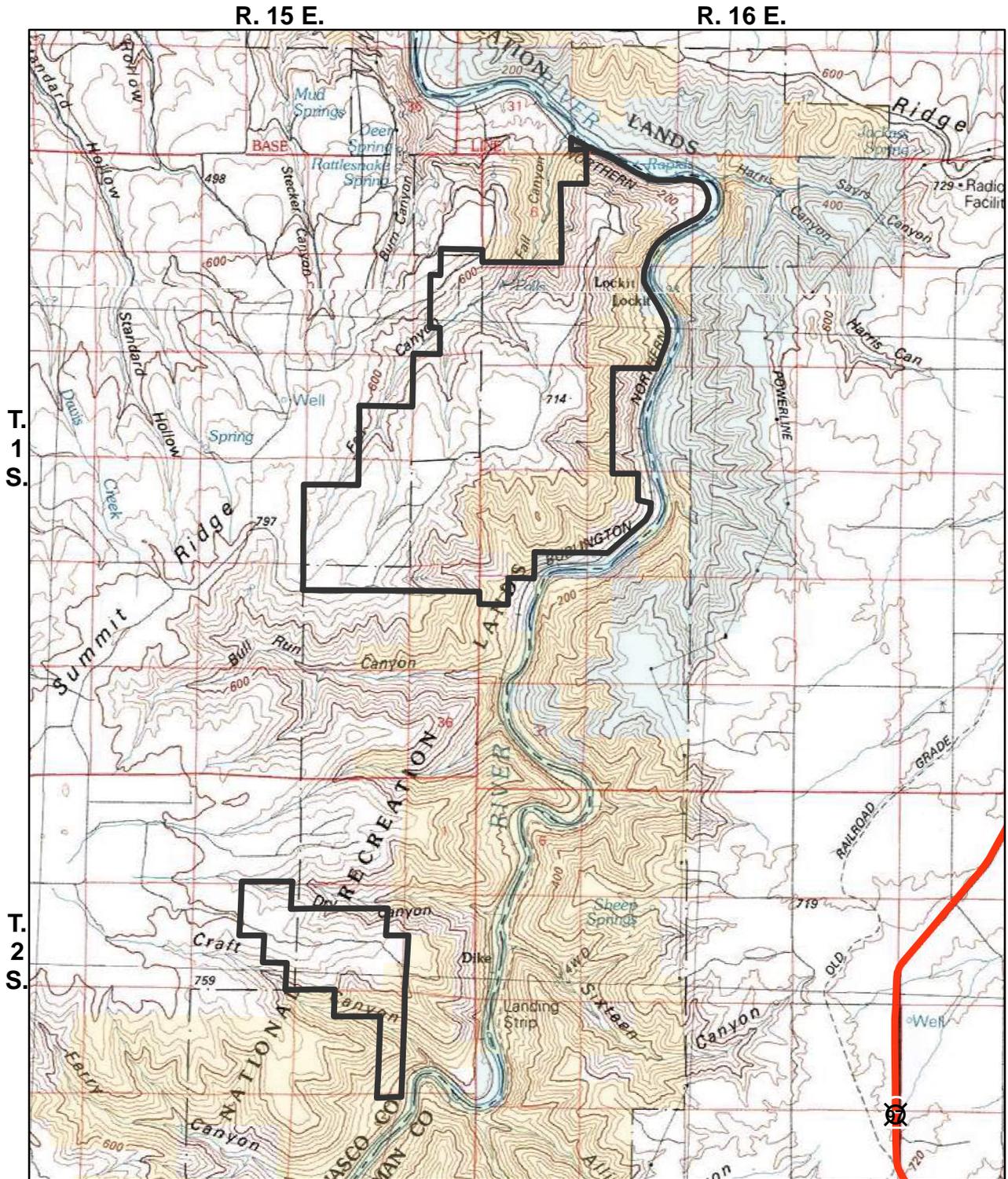
**Signature**

Responsible Official: /S/ Molly Brown 12/01/09  
Molly Brown Date  
Deschutes Resource Area Field Manager

*Note: The signed Conclusion on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program specific regulations.*

**Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this review, contact: Lyle Andrews, Prineville Field Office, 3050 NE 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Prineville, OR 97754, 541-416-6715, Lyle\_W\_Andrews@or.blm.gov.



# Hammel E. W. Allotment 7533

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 Bureau of Land Management  
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Map Created 10/27/2009  
 Map Modifications Pending

MXD: K:\gisusers\l\andrew@gismaps\hammel\_ew\_allot\_map.mxd



Scale: 1:90,000

## Legend

- Allotment Boundary
- BLM
- State
- Private

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