

Worksheet
Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)
U.S Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management

A. Background

BLM Office: Prineville District NEPA Log #: DOI-BLM-OR-P040-2010-0011-DNA

Project/Lease/Serial/Case File #: 3605053

Applicant: Susie Hermreck

Location: approximately 4.5 miles west of Paulina, Oregon

Proposed Action Title/Type: Grazing Permit Renewal

Description of the Proposed Action and any applicable mitigation measures:

Renew a grazing permit for ten years. All other terms and conditions will remain the same.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: *Brothers/La Pine Resource Management Plan (RMP) (ROD): July 1989.*

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable plan because it is specifically provided for in the following land use plan decisions:

Brothers/La Pine RMP/ ROD, 1989- Allocate 211 AUMs of forage to the Cave Allotment (p. 76). Livestock grazing specific to this allotment is addressed on pages 74 through 86 of this RMP.

C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and related documents that cover the proposed action

The following NEPA documents (EA, DEIS, FEIS) cover the proposed action:

Brothers/La Pine Final Environmental Impact Statement, 1988

Brothers/La Pine Draft EIS, October 1987

Brothers Grazing Management Program Draft Environmental Impact Statement, 1982

The following other documentation is relevant to the proposed action (e.g., biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, and monitoring report):

Cave Allotment Evaluation, June 8, 1988

Standards and Guides of Rangeland Health, 12.18.09

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, this action has already been analyzed under the existing NEPA documents and is within the same location as before. Grazing was analyzed throughout the Brothers Grazing Management EIS; specific alternatives are discussed on pages 10-14. Grazing is specifically addressed on pages 86 and 87 of the Brothers LaPine RMP, and pages 14-17 of the Brothers Grazing Management Program EIS.

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

Yes. Alternatives are displayed on pages 10 through 14 of the Draft EIS, 1982, and ranged from optimizing livestock to the elimination of livestock grazing. This range appears to be appropriate, given the current issues. It also discusses the various grazing management systems.

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, 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?

The existing analysis of the Brothers/La Pine FEIS is still valid. Standards and Guides were complete in 2009 and that analysis is available for review at the Prineville BLM. Current livestock grazing is not a contributing factor to any failing standards. Standard two is the only standard not being met and it is due to the wild horses and trespass cows that do not belong to the permittee. Thirty-eighty horses have been captured so far and we will attempt to continue bringing the Herd Management Area (HMA) numbers down until we have reached the target amount which is 15-25.

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)?

The effects of grazing was adequately addressed in the DEIS, 1982. It considered continuing vs. discontinuing grazing in many allotments and described the effects of allotment closures on forage availability, the local economy, BLM management costs, permittee costs, and other factors (pages 52 through 75). The effects of livestock grazing on soil, vegetation, and ecological processes were likewise included. These effects have not substantially changed.

5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequately 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 planning and NEPA documents listed on page 1. A final copy of this DNA and the subsequent Proposed Decision will be posted on the Prineville District’s internet page for public review. A printed copy of these documents will be available on request.

E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff consulted

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Resource/Agency represented</u>
Rick Demmer	Natural Resource Technician	Wildlife
Jeff Moss	Natural Resource Specialist	Fisheries
Cari Taylor	Rangeland Mgmt Specialist	Range
Berry Phelps	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Recreation
John Zancanella	Archeologist	Cultural Resources
JoAnne Armson	Natural Resource Technician	Botany, Special Status Plants
Anna Smith	Hydrologist	Hydrology
Teal Purrington	Planning and Enviro. Coord.	NEPA Compliance

Note: Refer to the EA/EIS 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/ Jennifer Eberlein 12/31/09
 Jennifer Eberlein, Central Oregon Resource Area Manager Date

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: Cari Taylor, Rangeland Management Specialist, Prineville Field Office, 3050 NE 3rd Street, Prineville, OR 97754, telephone (541)416.6790, cari_taylor@or.blm.gov.

Cave Allotment

