

Standard 3: Ecological Processes

Standard Met

Standard Not Met X

Standard Not Present

Livestock not a significant factor X

Livestock a significant factor

Causal factors for not achieving this standard:

Site disturbances of many decades ago, such as overgrazing, fire, and reseeding resulted in drastic changes in plant communities, so this standard can no longer be met by simple grazing management. Current livestock grazing is not a significant factor in failure to achieve this standard.

Standard 4: Water Quality

Standard Met

Standard Not Met X

Standard Not Present

Livestock not a significant factor

Livestock a significant factor X

Causal factors for not achieving this standard:

These factors are the same as for Standard 2 above. In addition, Alder Creek shows signs of historic mining and dredging.

Standard 5: Native, T&E, and Locally Important Species

Standard Met

Standard Not Met X

Standard Not Present

Livestock not a significant factor X

Livestock a significant factor

Causal factors for not achieving this standard:

These factors are the same as for Standard 3 above.

Grazing of the Seeding Pasture is in conformance with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in Oregon and Washington, with the following exceptions:

1. The intensity of grazing use along Woods Gulch riparian zones does not provide for establishment of adequate cover and plant community structure to promote streambank stability, debris and sediment capture, floodwater energy dissipation, or to restore water quality.
2. Because this pasture is grazed in the spring every year, in April, May, sometimes into June, plants are regularly grazed during critical growth periods, and this does not promote plant vigor, reproduction and productivity. However, there is a tradeoff against riparian zones if the pasture is grazed later in the year. If the major upland grasses (crested wheatgrass, bulbous bluegrass, and cheatgrass) are no longer lush and green, if the reservoir has dried up (it normally holds water only in spring), and if the heat causes cattle to stay close to water, then riparian zones will receive more severe impacts from grazing. Fall use in this pasture has proved unacceptable due to willow utilization and conflicts with other landowners (irrigated private meadows providing great attraction to the cattle on the dry BLM land).

Recommendations:

1. Cut junipers along Woods Gulch, dropping some of them in the channel to trap sediments and rebuild the channel. They would also serve to protect banks from cattle trampling and protect newly-establishing riparian plants from cattle grazing. Continue juniper-cutting in the drainage north of Woods Gulch, the goal being juniper control in the southwest quarter of the pasture.
2. Ensure that the east boundary of the pasture, the private land fence which crosses Alder Creek, receives needed maintenance/reconstruction to keep cattle out of Alder Creek during times not authorized.

3. Hold grazing use to only one month in the spring (normally April 16 to May 15, if turnout is not delayed), except for trailing through in the fall. The goal would be to allow some plant recovery during the latter part of the growing period each year.
4. Do not attempt more reseeding of the low seral condition range in this pasture due to the high cost and the difficult terrain.

Pasture: EAST

Acres Public: 3364

Field Writeup Labels: Durkee #17-#26

Standard 1: Watershed Function - Uplands

<u>Standard Met</u> <u> X </u>	<u>Standard Not Met</u>	<u>Standard Not Present</u>
	<u>Livestock not a significant factor</u>	
	<u>Livestock a significant factor</u>	

Standard 2: Watershed Function – Riparian/Wetland Areas

<u>Standard Met</u> <u> X </u>	<u>Standard Not Met</u>	<u>Standard Not Present</u>
	<u>Livestock not a significant factor</u>	
	<u>Livestock a significant factor</u>	

Standard 3: Ecological Processes

<u>Standard Met</u> <u> X </u>	<u>Standard Not Met</u>	<u>Standard Not Present</u>
	<u>Livestock not a significant factor</u>	
	<u>Livestock a significant factor</u>	

Standard 4: Water Quality

<u>Standard Met</u> _____	<u>Standard Not Met</u> <u> X </u>	<u>Standard Not Present</u> _____
	<u>Livestock not a significant factor</u> <u> X </u>	
	<u>Livestock a significant factor</u> _____	

Causal factors for not achieving this standard:

- Limited water flow in this drainage.
- Livestock ponds higher up in the drainage and the old cat trail constructed to build them.
- Heavy juniper invasions throughout the drainage and watershed.
- Grazing is light along the McElroy Canyon riparian zone, mostly from cattle just trailing through, and most of the stream has dense brush cover or steep, rocky sides that restrict livestock use. Any grazing use at all within McElroy Canyon probably adversely affects water quality to some extent, but currently the intensity of grazing is not a significant factor

Standard 5: Native, T&E, and Locally Important Species

<u>Standard Met</u> <u> X </u>	<u>Standard Not Met</u> _____	<u>Standard Not Present</u> _____
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Livestock not a significant factor

Livestock a significant factor

Grazing of the East Pasture is in conformance with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in Oregon and Washington, with the following exceptions:

1. Because of the mid-elevation location of this pasture, it is normally grazed in mid-season after cattle have left the spring turnout pasture (lowest elevation) and before they reach the summer pasture (highest elevation). Also, many of the water developments in this pasture dry up by mid-spring. Grazing use later in the season is limited to very few water sources, so it is more difficult to achieve good cattle distribution when grazed late. These facts explain why this pasture has been grazed in the spring almost every year, in late May, June and early July. As a result, plants are regularly grazed during critical growth periods, and this does not promote plant vigor, reproduction and productivity.
2. Another conflict with the guidelines is the intensity and duration of the grazing use in the flatter areas near water, especially Rocky Flat Well. Practices that would improve cattle distribution are not being employed to the full extent possible.

Recommendations:

1. This pasture can be periodically used just for a short time in the spring, on the way to the highest pasture, and then grazed in the fall after plants have completed seed production. The spring use could be confined just to trailing through, or it could be limited to one or two weeks. This should be done in one out of every three years as required by the 1971 allotment management plan. The goal is to promote plant vigor, reproduction, and productivity.
2. Another trend study should be established at the location where the Durkee #24 rangeland health assessment was completed, on the ridge above the Upper McElroy Waterhole.
3. Some degree of juniper control is needed to maintain ecological balance of the native communities and to improve the watershed. This pasture should be first priority of the two upper pastures for juniper control and for resting from grazing for two growing seasons following any prescribed burning.
4. Actions to reduce the concentrations of cattle around Rocky Flat Well should be taken, and these could include:
 - a. Realigning the fence near this well (moving the fence one-half mile to the west would result in better distribution of cattle, as would shifting the fence slightly to the west near Upper McElroy Waterhole).
 - b. Requiring repair or maintenance of alternative water sources, especially Rizor Waterhole/Spring. Fortunately, Durkee Guzzler was repaired by the permittees after the 2003 grazing season and should improve the situation somewhat, but bringing back Rizor Waterhole/Spring or a substitute is essential to maintaining the current amount of use in this pasture. One possible substitute would be to redo the pipeline off the Durkee Guzzler.
 - c. Requiring additional riding to distribute cattle
5. Utilization monitoring should focus on the key management areas within the livestock use areas, and permittees should understand that exceeding utilization limits on these areas will end up causing a reduction in use.

Pasture: WEST

Acres Public: 3683

Field Writeup Labels: Durkee #1-#16

Standard 1: Watershed Function - Uplands

Standard Met X

Standard Not Met _____

Standard Not Present _____

Livestock not a significant factor

Livestock a significant factor

Standard 2: Watershed Function – Riparian/Wetland Areas

Standard Met X

Standard Not Met _____

Standard Not Present _____

Livestock not a significant factor _____

Livestock a significant factor _____

Standard 3: Ecological Processes

Standard Met X

Standard Not Met _____

Standard Not Present _____

Livestock not a significant factor _____

Livestock a significant factor _____

Standard 4: Water Quality

Standard Met _____

Standard Not Met _____

Standard Not Present X

Livestock not a significant factor _____

Livestock a significant factor _____

Standard 5: Native, T&E, and Locally Important Species

Standard Met X

Standard Not Met _____

Standard Not Present _____

Livestock not a significant factor _____

Livestock a significant factor _____

Grazing of the West Pasture is in conformance with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in Oregon and Washington.

Recommendations:

1. Some degree of juniper control is needed to maintain ecological balance of the native communities and to improve the watershed. Any prescribed burning needs to be followed by two growing seasons of rest.
2. Grazing should be deferred until seed-ripe of bluebunch wheatgrass in at least one (and preferably two) out of every three years, as required by the 1971 allotment management plan.
3. Utilization monitoring should focus on the key management areas within the livestock use areas, and permittees should understand that exceeding utilization limits on these areas will end up causing a reduction in use.

Authorized Officer concurrence with findings _____

Date _____

DETERMINATION & RECOMMENDATIONS

Achieving Standards for Rangeland Health and Conforming with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management

Resource Area: BAKER

GMA: BURNT RIVER #2

Grazing Allotment Name/Number: SOUTH BRIDGEPORT #11301

Public Land (acres): 17,125

Assessment Participants (Name & Discipline or Interest):

_____	Greg Miller	Wildlife Biologist
_____	Jackie Dougan	Fisheries Biologist
_____	Zona Irby	Biological Technician
_____	Todd Kuck	Hydrologist
_____	Gary Guymon	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Cindi Burton	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Craig Martell	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Sue Badgley	Rangeland Technician

Standard 1: Watershed Function - Uplands

Standard Met X Standard Not Met _____ Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor X

Standard 2: Watershed Function – Riparian/Wetland Areas

Standard Met _____ Standard Not Met CLARKS CREEK Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor X
Standard Not Met COTTONWOOD CREEK
Livestock not a significant factor X
Standard Not Met PINE CREEK
Livestock not a significant factor X
Standard Not Met CAMPBELL GULCH
Livestock a significant factor X
Standard Not Met MILLER GULCH
Livestock a significant factor X
Standard Not Met MULLEN GULCH
Livestock a significant factor X
Standard Not Met WEST FORK MULLEN GULCH
Livestock a significant factor X

Causal factors for not achieving this standard on these Riparian Areas:

- ! Active head and down cutting of stream channel.
- ! Bank trampling by livestock.
- ! Utilization by livestock.
- ! Stream temperature is above average.
- ! Stand removing fire in the upland watershed left it in poor condition.
- ! Historic mining and dredging.

Standard 3: Ecological Processes

Standard Met X Standard Not Met _____ Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor _____
Livestock a significant factor _____

Causal factors affecting this standard:

- ! Other resource problems (wildlife, recreation, etc).
- ! Juniper and sagebrush has invaded upland sites due to the lack of fire.
- ! Forest health issues have limited production and vigor of perennial species.

Standard 4: Water Quality

Standard Met X Standard Not Met _____ Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor _____
Livestock a significant factor _____

Causal factors for not achieving this standard:

These factors are the same as Standard 2 above.

Standard 5: Native, T&E, and Locally Important Species

Standard Met X Standard Not Met _____ Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor _____
Livestock a significant factor _____

Grazing is in conformance with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in Oregon and Washington:

Recommendations:

1. Make sure that all range projects are maintain on a yearly basis to help follow the current grazing system and to keep livestock where they belong.
2. Implement utilization levels as follows: 50% on uplands, 45% on riparian herbaceous plants and 30% on riparian shrub component.
3. Adjust current grazing season or livestock numbers where needed to allow for implementation of the above utilization standards.
4. Drop trees where needed along the riparian areas to help excluded livestock.
5. Restore ecosites that exhibit poor plant diversity and plant vigor to help move towards DRFC (desired range future condition). This can be accomplished by removal or control of these species, like annuals, shrubs, junipers and other forest species.
6. Continue to monitor grazing changes to make sure we are moving towards desired vegetative conditions.

Prepared by _____

Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist concurrence _____

Authorized Officer's concurrence with findings _____

Date _____

DETERMINATION & RECOMMENDATIONS

Achieving Standards for Rangeland Health and Conforming with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management

Resource Area: BAKER

GMA: BURNT RIVER #2

Grazing Allotment Name/Number: NORTH BRIDGEPORT #11302

Public Land (acres): 10,814

Assessment Participants (Name & Discipline or Interest):

_____ Greg Miller Wildlife Biologist
_____ Jackie Dougan Fisheries Biologist
_____ Zona Irby Biological Technician
_____ Todd Kuck Hydrologist
_____ Gary Guymon Rangeland Management Specialists
_____ Cindi Burton Rangeland Management Specialists
_____ Craig Martell Rangeland Management Specialists
_____ Sue Badgley Rangeland Technican

Standard 1: Watershed Function - Uplands

Standard Met X Standard Not Met _____ Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor X
Livestock a significant factor _____

Standard 2: Watershed Function – Riparian/Wetland Areas

Standard Met Standard Not Met DARK CANYON Standard Not Present _____
Livestock a significant factor X
Standard Not Met DEER CREEK
Livestock not a significant factor X

Causal factors for not achieving this standard on Dark Canyon:

- ! Active head and down cutting of stream channel.
- ! Bank trampling by livestock.
- ! Utilization by livestock.
- ! Stream temperature is above average.
- ! Stand removing fire in the upland watershed left it in poor condition.
- ! Historic mining and dredging.

Causal factors for not achieving this standard on Dark Canyon:

- ! Stream temperature does not meet state standards.
- ! Stand removing fire in the upland watershed left it in poor condition.

Standard 3: Ecological Processes

Standard Met _____ Standard Not Met X Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor X
Livestock a significant factor _____

Causal factors for not achieving this standard:

- ! Other resource problems (wildlife, recreation, etc).
- ! Juniper and sagebrush has invaded upland sites due to the lack of fire.
- ! Forest health issues have limited production and vigor of perennial species.
- ! Historical grazing resulted in declines in plant communities.

Standard 4: Water Quality

Standard Met _____ Standard Not Met DARK CANYON Standard Not Present _____
Livestock a significant factor X
Standard Not Met DEER CREEK
Livestock not a significant factor X

Causal factors for not achieving this standard:

These factors are the same as Standard 2 above.

Standard 5: Native, T&E, and Locally Important Species

Standard Met X Standard Not Met _____ Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor _____
Livestock a significant factor _____

Grazing is in conformance with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in Oregon and Washington, with the following exceptions:

Deer Creek and Dark Canyon pastures are used early every spring because they are at a lower elevation and are ready earlier than the other four pastures. The intensity of grazing use along Dark Canyon riparian zones does not promote stream bank stability, debris and sediment capture, floodwater energy dissipation, or to restore water quality. Use in the rest of the pasture is limited due to very steep slopes. Most of the livestock use in Deer Creek is limited, due to the installation of a temporary electric fence on both sides of the creek. The upper timber area is a little gentler and has more water sources available for livestock to improve distribution problems. Monitoring has shown that livestock continue to get back in these pastures when they are not authorized.

Recommendations:

1. Make sure that all range projects are maintain on a yearly basis to help follow the current grazing system and to keep livestock where they belong.
2. Implement utilization levels as follows: 45% on riparian herbaceous plants and 30% on riparian shrub component.
3. Adjust current grazing season or livestock numbers where needed to allow for implementation of the above utilization standards.
4. Drop trees where needed along the riparian areas to help excluded livestock.
5. Restore ecosites that exhibit poor plant diversity and plant vigor to help move towards DRFC (desired range future condition). This can be accomplished by removal or control of these species, like annuals, shrubs, junipers and other forest species.
6. Replace the temporary Deer Creek exclosure fence with a permanent fence.
7. Continue to monitor.

Prepared by _____

Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist concurrence _____

Authorized Officer concurrence with findings _____

Date _____

DETERMINATION & RECOMMENDATIONS

Achieving Standards for Rangeland Health and Conforming with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management

Resource Area: Baker

GMA: Burnt River

Grazing Allotment Name/Number: Cave Creek #1003

Public Land (acres): 4842

Streams on Public Lands (miles): 3.9

Assessment Participants (Name & Discipline or Interest):

Clair Button Botanist _____

Jackie Dougan Fisheries Biologist _____

Todd Kuck Hydrologist _____

Greg Miller Wildlife Biologist _____

Craig Martell Range Management Specialist _____

Standard 1: Watershed Function - Uplands

Standard Met X

Standard Not Met _____

Standard Not Present _____

Livestock not a significant factor _____

Livestock a significant factor _____

East Pasture:

Although the standard is met for this pasture overall, the areas around Cave Creek Spring and upper Sinker Creek are heavily overgrazed and show impaired watershed function. Better distribution of cattle would help. Cattle need to be pushed more toward Horse Spring Pipeline, and spring developments such as Sinker Creek Spring #1, Baxter Spring #2, and Bob West Spring need maintenance to help keep cattle properly distributed.

West Pasture:

Although the standard is met for this pasture overall, the trend plot shows reduced litter cover. There is a need to manage grazing so more herbage is produced and left behind for litter cover and soil protection.

Standard 2: Watershed Function – Riparian/Wetland Areas

Standard Met _____ Standard Not Met X Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor _____
Livestock a significant factor X

Causal factors for not achieving this standard in East Pasture:

Cattle trailing and trampling along Sinker Creek created deficient bank cover, bank instability, and erosion. Deep, unconsolidated channel material along lower Sinker Creek and mining aftereffects on the channel, as well as heavy juniper cover in the watershed are non-livestock factors.

Causal factors for not achieving this standard in West Pasture:

Historic placer mining had devastating consequences to these stream systems and set these streams back to a point where they will be long time recovering even without livestock impacts. But the livestock staying on the creeks, repeatedly grazing off the vegetation, trailing, and trampling are holding back recovery, especially aspen and cottonwood regeneration.

Standard 3: Ecological Processes

Standard Met X Standard Not Met _____ Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor _____
Livestock a significant factor _____

East Pasture:

Although the standard is met in the pasture overall, there are signs of declining trend, resulting from periodic overuse of Idaho fescue. The historically heavily overgrazed area between Cave Creek Spring and upper Sinker Creek (see Writeup #8) is one spot where ecological processes are functioning below potential, and there is substantial juniper invasion. Brush has returned to the area of the 1983 sagebrush spray, with the only remaining visible effect of the spray being a higher percentage of rabbitbrush; it was not successful in improving plant composition in the long term.

West Pasture:

Again, although the standard is met overall in the pasture, there are signs of declining trend, resulting from periodic overuse of Idaho fescue. Juniper encroachments are significant, especially along Reagan Creek and tributaries.

Standard 4: Water Quality

Standard Met _____ Standard Not Met X Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor _____
Livestock a significant factor X

Causal factors for not achieving this standard in East Pasture:

Heavy livestock grazing impacts along the nonfunctional segments of upper Sinker Creek are possibly the chief reason for not meeting the standard. It is important to note that there is not much flow to this creek; it is ephemeral for much of its length, and it makes a very negligible contribution to water quality of the Burnt River, where it flows into.

Causal factors for not achieving this standard in West Pasture:

Major channel disturbances caused by historic mining, livestock and wildlife grazing along riparian zones, and heavy grazing of private lands higher in the watershed.

Standard 5: Native, T&E, and Locally Important Species

Standard Met X

Standard Not Met

Standard Not Present

Livestock not a significant factor

Livestock a significant factor

East Pasture and West Pasture:

Most upland sites have shrub cover for suitable sage grouse habitat during brood rearing and winter. However, many sites lack the structure under the sage brush canopy for nesting habitat. Because of the elevation of the sites, these sites are probably covered in snow during early nesting season. Therefore nesting habitat is not a critical issue. Connectivity from lek locations to the north with lek locations to the south is the most critical issue for the Burnt River area, relative to sage grouse. Current conditions of the most of the uplands shows habitat cover consistent with habitat needs for brood rearing or dispersing sage grouse. Continued grazing management to allow recovery of the understory herbs and grasses will enhance habitat for dispersing, wintering, and brood rearing sage grouse.

Recommendations:

1. Vegetation treatments
 - a. In West Pasture, cut juniper along creeks and fall them into the creeks to catch sediment and to discourage livestock from grazing in the creeks. Also remove juniper from aspen stands. Plant aspen and willow cuttings and plant sedge and rush seeds along selected stretches of creek.
 - b. In East Pasture, cut juniper in the drainage at Cave Creek Spring and in upper Sinker Creek. Also treat the areas around upper Sinker Creek which have numerous young juniper plants on the uplands (burn or cut).
2. Better cattle distribution and control
 - a. In both pastures, require maintenance of spring developments before grazing can occur. This is already listed on the grazing authorization as one of the terms and conditions. At least develop a schedule for spring maintenance in 2005, focusing first on springs that do not require heavy equipment work.
 - b. Require more frequent riding to push cattle to Horse Spring Pipeline and Baxter Spring (East Pasture) and Cave Creek Guzzler (West Pasture).
 - c. Encourage allotment boundary fences to be maintained or reconstructed as necessary to prevent unauthorized use. The biggest problem is with the private land fences on the south side of the allotment.
3. Make changes to grazing plan
 - a. Eliminate fall use in the West Pasture to allow regrowth of riparian vegetation in summer and fall, and to allow aspens and cottonwoods to put on some growth without being browsed.
 - b. Allow recovery in the East Pasture by removing livestock at strategic times to allow plants to regrow and set seed. Early use can be allowed in alternate years as long as cattle are removed early to allow complete regrowth of key grass species. In other years, do not allow any grazing until after seed ripe.
4. Monitor the new grazing plan to adjust numbers if necessary to keep utilization moderate in both pastures. Check utilization at the two key area trend plots in the East Pasture every fall, starting no later than two to three weeks before the scheduled off-date, and require cattle to go home whenever the average utilization exceeds moderate. Another alternative to consider in the future that would also adjust numbers would be to encourage the building of a fence to separate the exchange-of-use land from the allotment.

5. Investigate opportunities to fence the spring source and side spring at Cave Creek Spring to protect the water source.
6. In all actions, use whatever procedures are necessary to improve the condition of bighorn sheep habitat and potential sage grouse habitat to the point where these species no longer warrant special status recognition.

Guidelines for Grazing Management

Grazing is in conformance with Guidelines for Grazing Management in Oregon and Washington, with two exceptions:

- 1) In riparian areas, the current grazing use has not provided adequate cover and plant community structure to promote streambank stability, debris and sediment capture, floodwater dissipation, and water quality.
- 2) Cattle distribution in both pastures, but especially the East Pasture, has resulted in excessive concentrations at certain areas and exceeding proper use in those areas. This is partly due to spring developments not being maintained, and cattle concentrating at just a few water sources and flat areas.

Authorized Officer concurrence with findings _____

Date _____

DETERMINATION & RECOMMENDATIONS

Achieving Standards for Rangeland Health and Conforming with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management

Resource Area: Baker

GMA: Burnt River

Grazing Allotment Name/Number/Pastures: South Bridgeport #11301/03

Public Land (acres): 3,845

Streams on Public Lands (miles): 2.0

Assessment Participants (Name & Discipline or Interest):

_____	Greg Miller	Wildlife Biologist
_____	Jackie Dougan	Fisheries Biologist
_____	Zona Irby	Biological Technician
_____	Todd Kuck	Hydrologist
_____	Gary Guymon	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Cindi Burton	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Craig Martell	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Sue Badgley	Rangeland Technician

Standard 1: Watershed Function - Uplands

Standard Met X

Standard Not Met _____

Standard Not Present _____

Livestock not a significant factor _____

Livestock a significant factor _____

Rooster Comb:

This pasture has a good component of the key species identified for the soil sites and the ecosystem is intact. Most soil sites exhibit good infiltration and permeability rates. When you combine the soil structure with the cover of plant species and litter component, the moisture storage and stability is good. All the indicators are showing the watershed is functioning properly.

Standard 2: Watershed Function – Riparian/Wetland Areas

Standard Met _____ Standard Not Met X Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor _____
Livestock a significant factor X

Causal factors for not achieving this standard in Rooster Comb Pasture:

Livestock use in the riparian areas indicates that utilization levels are exceeding 50% in the Cave creek and East fork of Cave creek. Some trailing and trampling is occurring, but the riparian species components are still present. Historic placer mining and current mining has contributed to the downgrade and inhibited recovery of one of these riparian systems. It will take a long period of time to improve conditions even without livestock impacts. Continued over use by livestock would continue to hinder this recovery process. Heavy juniper cover and increase in the sage brush in the watershed is a non-livestock factor.

Standard 3: Ecological Processes

Standard Met _____ Standard Not Met X Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor _____
Livestock a significant factor _____

Rooster Comb Pasture:

This standard is being met even though there has been historical over grazing. Change in livestock numbers and grazing time has benefited the upland areas. Evidence of a healthy, productive and diverse plant communities are supported by a working ecological process of nutrient cycling, energy flow and the hydrologic cycle. The pasture has evidence of a substantial increase in juniper and sagebrush, which could eventually, could reduce the ecological process. Sagebrush was sprayed in 1969 in some areas and is back to the pre spray years, along with an increase in the rabbit brush component.

Standard 4: Water Quality

Standard Met X Standard Not Met _____ Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor _____
Livestock a significant factor _____

Rooster Comb Pasture:

Evidence and assessment information indicates surface water and groundwater quality is not influenced by agency actions and generally this watershed complies with State Water quality standards and is not having a negative effect on the Burnt River that has been listed as a 303d stream. Some minor affects may occur with current mining operations.

Standard 5: Native, T&E, and Locally Important Species

Standard Met X Standard Not Met _____ Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor _____
Livestock a significant factor _____

Rooster Comb Pasture:

Assessment information determined no negative impacts and that habitats support healthy, productive and diverse populations and communities of nature plants and animals appropriate to soil, climate and landform. Several noxious weeds sites have been identified in this pasture. Special Status Species Management (California bighorn sheep and Sage-grouse are present) means the use of all methods and procedures necessary to improve the condition of special status species and their habitats to a point where their special status recognition is no longer warranted.

Recommendations:

1. Make changes to grazing plan:
 - a. Adjust grazing system, livestock numbers and time to meet utilization standards on riparian areas.

2. Better livestock distribution:
 - a. Require maintenance of spring and reservoir developments. Require more frequent riding to keep livestock scattered out better. Pasture fence to make upper Cave creek a separate use area. Inventory pasture for possible new water developments and fencing to achieve resource goals. Build small enclosure around Rooster comb spring area for protection.

3. Juniper/sagebrush treatments:
 - a. Burn or cut either species to enhance other native species within the ecosystem and use juniper where needed in the stream channel to enhance riparian areas and reduce use by livestock.

4. Monitor the grazing changes to see if utilization standards are being met or if the carrying capacity will need to be adjusted to keep utilization at a moderate level.

5. Make sure miners are following a plan of operation.

Authorized Officer concurrence with findings _____

Date _____

DETERMINATION & RECOMMENDATIONS

Achieving Standards for Rangeland Health and Conforming with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management

Resource Area: Baker

GMA: Burnt River

Grazing Allotment Name/Number/Pastures: South Bridgeport #11301/05

Public Land (acres): 1,120

Streams on Public Lands (miles): 1.0

Assessment Participants (Name & Discipline or Interest):

_____	Greg Miller	Wildlife Biologist
_____	Jackie Dougan	Fisheries Biologist
_____	Zona Irby	Biological Technician
_____	Todd Kuck	Hydrologist
_____	Gary Guymon	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Cindi Burton	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Craig Martell	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Sue Badgley	Rangeland Technician

Standard 1: Watershed Function - Uplands

Standard Met X

Standard Not Met _____

Standard Not Present _____

Livestock not a significant factor _____

Livestock a significant factor _____

Marble Creek:

This pasture has a good component of the key species identified for the soil sites and the ecosystem is intact except for a small portion in the south end along the road. Livestock grazing has been adjusted (livestock numbers and grazing time) to help with improvement of key species. Most soil sites exhibit good infiltration and permeability rates. When you combine the soil structure with the cover of plant species and litter component, the moisture storage and stability is good. All the indicators are showing the watershed is functioning properly.

Standard 2: Watershed Function – Riparian/Wetland Areas

Standard Met _____

Standard Not Met _____

Standard Not Present X

Livestock not a significant factor _____

Livestock a significant factor _____

Causal factors for not achieving this standard in Marble Creek Pasture:

Heavy juniper cover and increase in the sagebrush component in the watershed is a non-livestock factor.

Standard 3: Ecological Processes

Standard Met X Standard Not Met ____ Standard Not Present ____
Livestock not a significant factor ____
Livestock a significant factor ____

Marble Creek Pasture:

This standard is being met even though there has been historical over grazing. Change in livestock numbers and grazing time has benefited the upland areas. Evidence of a healthy, productive and diverse plant communities are supported by a working ecological process of nutrient cycling, energy flow and the hydrologic cycle. The pasture has evidence of a substantial increase in juniper and sagebrush, which could eventually, could reduce the ecological process. Noxious weed sites have been identified along the Burnt River road and some mining sites along the road.

Standard 4: Water Quality

Standard Met ____ Standard Not Met ____ Standard Not Present X
Livestock not a significant factor ____
Livestock a significant factor ____

Marble Creek Pasture not applicable.

Some minor affects may occur with current mining operations.

Standard 5: Native, T&E, and Locally Important Species

Standard Met X Standard Not Met ____ Standard Not Present ____
Livestock not a significant factor ____
Livestock a significant factor ____

Marble Creek Pasture:

Assessment information determined no negative impacts and that habitats support healthy, productive and diverse populations and communities of nature plants and animals appropriate to soil, climate and landform. Several noxious weeds sites have been identified in this pasture. Special Status Species Management (California bighorn sheep and Sage-grouse are present) means the use of all methods and procedures necessary to improve the condition of special status species and their habitats to a point where their special status recognition is no longer warranted.

Recommendations:

1. Continue current changes to the grazing plan:
 - a. Adjust grazing system, livestock numbers and time to meet utilization standards on upland areas.

2. Better livestock distribution:
 - a. Require maintenance of spring and reservoir developments. Require more frequent riding to keep livestock scattered out better. Inventory pasture for possible new water developments and fencing to achieve resource goals.

3. Juniper/sagebrush treatments:
 - a. Burn or cut either species to enhance other native species within the ecosystem and reseed areas to enhance recovery of upland areas.

4. Monitor the grazing changes to see if utilization standards are being met or if the carrying capacity will need to be adjusted to keep utilization at a moderate level.

Authorized Officer concurrence with findings _____

Date _____

DETERMINATION & RECOMMENDATIONS

Achieving Standards for Rangeland Health and Conforming with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management

Resource Area: Baker

GMA: Burnt River

Grazing Allotment Name/Number/Pastures: South Bridgeport #11301/02

Public Land (acres): 3,150

Streams on Public Lands (miles): N/A

Assessment Participants (Name & Discipline or Interest):

_____	Greg Miller	Wildlife Biologist
_____	Jackie Dougan	Fisheries Biologist
_____	Zona Irby	Biological Technician
_____	Todd Kuck	Hydrologist
_____	Gary Guymon	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Cindi Burton	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Craig Martell	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Sue Badgley	Rangeland Technician

Standard 1: Watershed Function - Uplands

Standard Met X

Standard Not Met _____

Standard Not Present _____

Livestock not a significant factor _____

Livestock a significant factor _____

Gravelly Cove:

This pasture has a good component of the key species identified for the soil sites and the ecosystem is intact. Most soil sites exhibit good infiltration and permeability rates. When you combine the soil structure with the cover of plant species and litter component, the moisture storage and stability is good. All the indicators are showing the watershed is functioning properly.

Standard 2: Watershed Function – Riparian/Wetland Areas

Standard Met _____

Standard Not Met _____

Standard Not Present X

Livestock not a significant factor _____

Livestock a significant factor _____

Gravelly Cove:

This pasture has several drainages that may have the potential to develop a riparian system. This would require a juniper treatment to allow the riparian areas to be recharged.

Standard 3: Ecological Processes

Standard Met X Standard Not Met ____ Standard Not Present ____
Livestock not a significant factor ____
Livestock a significant factor ____

Gravelly Cove Pasture:

This standard is being met in most of the pasture even though there has been historical over grazing. Change in livestock numbers and grazing time has benefited the upland areas. Evidence of a healthy, productive and diverse plant communities are supported by a working ecological process of nutrient cycling, energy flow and the hydrologic cycle, except in the Clay South soil type was is located in the south portion and which is a minor component of the whole pasture. The pasture has evidence of a substantial increase in juniper and sagebrush, which could eventually, could reduce the ecological process. Documented increase in the rabbit brush component.

Standard 4: Water Quality

Standard Met ____ Standard Not Met ____ Standard Not Present X
Livestock not a significant factor ____
Livestock a significant factor ____

Gravelly Cove Pasture:

N/A. Some minor affects may occur with current mining operations.

Standard 5: Native, T&E, and Locally Important Species

Standard Met X Standard Not Met ____ Standard Not Present ____
Livestock not a significant factor ____
Livestock a significant factor ____

Gravelly Cove Pasture:

Assessment information determined no negative impacts and that habitats support healthy, productive and diverse populations and communities of nature plants and animals appropriate to soil, climate and landform. Special Status Species Management (California bighorn sheep and Sage-grouse are present) means the use of all methods and procedures necessary to improve the condition of special status species and their habitats to a point where their special status recognition is no longer warranted.

Recommendations:

1. Continue current changes to the grazing plan:
 - a. Adjust grazing system, livestock numbers and time to meet utilization standards on upland areas where needed.
2. Better livestock distribution:
 - a. Require maintenance of spring and reservoir developments. Require more frequent riding to keep livestock scattered out better. Inventory pasture for possible new water developments and fencing to achieve resource goals.
3. Juniper/sagebrush treatments:
 - a. Burn or cut either species to enhance other native species within the ecosystem and use juniper where needed in the stream channel to enhance riparian areas and reduce use by livestock.
4. Monitor the grazing changes to see if utilization standards are being met or if the carrying capacity will need to be adjusted to keep utilization at a moderate level.
5. Follow up on Campbell rehab project to make sure project is successfully completed.

Authorized Officer concurrence with findings _____

Date _____

DETERMINATION & RECOMMENDATIONS

Achieving Standards for Rangeland Health and Conforming with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management

Resource Area: Baker

GMA: Burnt River

Grazing Allotment Name/Number/Pastures: South Bridgeport #11301/01

Public Land (acres): 5,950

Streams on Public Lands (miles): 5.75

Assessment Participants (Name & Discipline or Interest):

_____	Greg Miller	Wildlife Biologist
_____	Jackie Dougan	Fisheries Biologist
_____	Zona Irby	Biological Technician
_____	Todd Kuck	Hydrologist
_____	Gary Guymon	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Cindi Burton	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Craig Martell	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Sue Badgley	Rangeland Technician

Standard 1: Watershed Function - Uplands

Standard Met X

Standard Not Met ____
Livestock not a significant factor ____
Livestock a significant factor ____

Standard Not Present ____

Burnt River:

This pasture has a good component of the key species identified for the soil sites and the ecosystem is intact. Most soil sites exhibit good infiltration and permeability rates. When you combine the soil structure with the cover of plant species and litter component, the moisture storage and stability is good. All the indicators are showing the watershed is functioning properly.

Standard 2: Watershed Function – Riparian/Wetland Areas

Standard Met _____ Standard Not Met X Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor _____
Livestock a significant factor X

Causal factors for not achieving this standard in Burnt River Pasture:

Livestock use in the riparian areas indicates that utilization levels are exceeding 50%. Some trailing and trampling is occurring, but the riparian species components are still present. Historic placer mining and current mining has contributed to the downgrade and inhibited recovery of these riparian systems. It will take a long period of time to improve conditions even without livestock impacts. Continued over use by livestock would continue to hinder this recovery process. Better livestock distribution would help. Heavy juniper cover in the watershed is a non-livestock factor.

Standard 3: Ecological Processes

Standard Met X Standard Not Met _____ Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor _____
Livestock a significant factor _____

Burnt River Pasture:

This standard is being met even though there has been historical over grazing and historical mining. Change in livestock numbers and grazing time has benefited the upland areas. Evidence of a healthy, productive and diverse plant communities are supported by a working ecological process of nutrient cycling, energy flow and the hydrologic cycle. The pasture has evidence of a substantial increase in juniper and sagebrush, which could eventually, could reduce the ecological process. Sagebrush was sprayed in 1969 in some areas and is back to the pre spray years, along with an increase in the rabbit brush component. Photographs were taken of most sites.

Standard 4: Water Quality

Standard Met X Standard Not Met _____ Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor _____
Livestock a significant factor _____

Burnt River Pasture:

Evidence and assessment information indicates surface water and groundwater quality is not influenced by agency actions and generally this watershed complies with State Water quality standards and is not having a negative effect on the Burnt River that has been listed as a 303d stream, even though utilization levels are sometimes over 50%. Some future minor affects may occur with current mining operations.

Standard 5: Native, T&E, and Locally Important Species

Standard Met _____ Standard Not Met _____ Standard Not Present _____
Livestock not a significant factor _____
Livestock a significant factor _____

Burnt River Pasture:

Assessment information determined no negative impacts and that habitats support healthy, productive and diverse populations and communities of nature plants and animals appropriate to soil, climate and landform. The only deviation would be those species that are present in a higher percentage than is normal for the ecosites, like (juniper, sagebrush and rabbit brush). Several noxious weeds sites have been identified in this pasture. Special Status Species Management (California bighorn sheep and Sage-grouse are present) means the use of all methods and procedures necessary to improve the condition of special status species and their habitats to a point where their special status recognition is no longer warranted.

Recommendations:

1. Make changes to grazing plan:
 - a. Adjust grazing system, livestock numbers and time to meet utilization standards on riparian areas.

2. Better livestock distribution:
 - a. Require maintenance of spring and reservoir developments. Require more frequent riding to keep livestock scattered out better. Inventory pasture for possible new water developments and fencing to achieve resource goals.

 - b. Enlarge and maintain Cottonwood spring riparian enclosure to enhance resident Aspen stand.

3. Juniper/sagebrush treatments:
 - a. Burn or cut either species to enhance other native species within the ecosystem and use juniper where needed in the stream channel to enhance riparian areas and reduce use by livestock.

4. Monitor the grazing changes to see if utilization standards are being met or if the carrying capacity will need to be adjusted again to keep utilization at a moderate level.

5. Make sure miners are following a plan of operation.

Authorized Officer concurrence with findings _____

Date _____

DETERMINATION & RECOMMENDATIONS

Achieving Standards for Rangeland Health and Conforming with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management

Resource Area: Baker

GMA: Burnt River

Grazing Allotment Name/Number/Pastures: South Bridgeport #11301/04

Public Land (acres): 3,060

Streams on Public Lands (miles): 7.0

Assessment Participants (Name & Discipline or Interest):

_____	Greg Miller	Wildlife Biologist
_____	Jackie Dougan	Fisheries Biologist
_____	Zona Irby	Biological Technician
_____	Todd Kuck	Hydrologist
_____	Gary Guymon	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Cindi Burton	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Craig Martell	Rangeland Management Specialists
_____	Sue Badgley	Rangeland Technician

Standard 1: Watershed Function - Uplands

Standard Met X

Standard Not Met _____

Standard Not Present _____

Livestock not a significant factor _____

Livestock a significant factor _____

Brush Spray:

This pasture has a good component of the key species identified for the soil sites and the ecosystem is intact. Most soil sites exhibit good infiltration and permeability rates. When you combine the soil structure with the cover of plant species and litter component, the moisture storage and stability is good. All the indicators are showing the watershed is functioning properly.

Standard 2: Watershed Function – Riparian/Wetland Areas

Standard Met X Standard Not Met ____ Standard Not Present ____
Livestock not a significant factor ____
Livestock a significant factor X

Causal factors for not achieving this standard in Brush Spray Pasture:

Livestock use in the riparian areas indicates that the utilization level is only exceeding 50% in only 14% of the riparian area (see appendix 4). With the completion of the riparian enclosure fence on Clarks Creek this should help take care of this situation. Some trailing and trampling is occurring, but the impact is minimal. Impact factors on the FARN in the Pine Creek drainage (6%) is due to past mining. Historic placer mining and current mining has contributed to the downgrade and inhibited recovery of this riparian system. It will take a long period of time to improve conditions even without livestock impacts. Heavy juniper cover and increase in sage brush in the watershed is a non-livestock factor.

Standard 3: Ecological Processes

Standard Met X Standard Not Met ____ Standard Not Present ____
Livestock not a significant factor ____
Livestock a significant factor ____

Brush Spray Pasture:

This standard is being met even though there has been historical over grazing. Change in livestock numbers and grazing time has benefited the upland areas. Evidence of a healthy, productive and diverse plant communities are supported by a working ecological process of nutrient cycling, energy flow and the hydrologic cycle. The pasture has evidence of a substantial increase in juniper and sagebrush, which could eventually, could reduce the ecological process. Sagebrush was sprayed in 1969 in some areas and is back to the pre spray years, along with an increase in the rabbit brush component.

Standard 4: Water Quality

Standard Met X Standard Not Met ____ Standard Not Present ____
Livestock not a significant factor ____
Livestock a significant factor ____

Brush Spray Pasture:

Evidence and assessment information indicates surface water and groundwater quality is not influenced by agency actions and generally this watershed complies with State Water quality standards and is not having a negative effect on the Burnt River that has been listed as a 303d stream (see attachment with water quality information). Some fluctuations may be occurring off of private ground. Some minor affects may occur with current mining operations.

Standard 5: Native, T&E, and Locally Important Species

Standard Met X Standard Not Met ____ Standard Not Present ____
Livestock not a significant factor ____
Livestock a significant factor ____

Brush Spray Pasture:

Assessment information determined no negative impacts and that habitats support healthy, productive and diverse populations and communities of nature plants and animals appropriate to soil, climate and landform. Several noxious weeds sites have been identified in this pasture. Special Status Species Management (California bighorn sheep and Sage-grouse are present) means the use of all methods and procedures necessary to improve the condition of special status species and their habitats to a point where their special status recognition is no longer warranted.

Recommendations:

1. Make changes to grazing plan:
 - a. Adjust grazing system, livestock numbers and time to meet utilization standards on riparian areas.

2. Better livestock distribution:
 - a. Require maintenance of spring and reservoir developments. Require more frequent riding to keep livestock scattered out better. Move salting areas further away from water areas. Inventory pasture for possible new water developments and fencing to achieve resource goals.

3. Juniper/sagebrush treatments:
 - a. Burn or cut either species to enhance other native species within the ecosystem and use juniper where needed in the stream channel to enhance riparian areas and reduce use by livestock.

4. Monitor the grazing changes to see if utilization standards are being met or if the carrying capacity will need to be adjusted to keep utilization at a moderate level.

5. Make sure miners are following a plan of operation.

Authorized Officer concurrence with findings _____

Date _____