



June 2018

FACTS

AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

NORTHWEST GRAZING

Healthy range, healthy livestock

CASH COWS

Grazing fees and public land

RANGELAND CHECK-UPS

Long-term, sustainable planning

The Bureau of Land Management Oregon & Washington

Livestock Grazing in the Northwest

The BLM manages 14 million acres of rangeland in Oregon and Washington

Fact:

BLM spent \$800,000 in 2017 for range improvements.

The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for administering nearly 14 million acres of rangeland in Oregon and Washington. Nationally, the BLM manages livestock grazing on 155 million acres of public land.

The BLM is committed to strong relationships with the ranching communities in the Pacific Northwest and works closely with permittees to ensure public rangelands remain healthy, productive landscapes. This translates to over \$151 million in economic contribution throughout Oregon and Washington.

Under its multiple-use and sustained yield mandates, the BLM manages public rangelands for various uses and values, including livestock grazing, recreational

opportunities, healthy watersheds, and wildlife habitat.

Much of this 14 million acres of rangeland in Oregon and Washington is grazed by livestock under a system of permits and leases, in which ranchers pay grazing fees for the use of public land.

In Oregon and Washington, the BLM administers 1,596 10-year permits and leases held by ranchers who graze their livestock (mostly cattle and sheep) on 2,003 allotments. The BLM Vale District is the largest grazing district and has the greatest number of allotments.

It is a BLM priority to renew expiring grazing permits and leases, as they help promote job creation and support working landscapes in Oregon and Washington.

Grazing Fees 101

Managing forage for 18,000 grazing permits

Fact:

The AUM applies to public land in 16 Western states.

Fact:

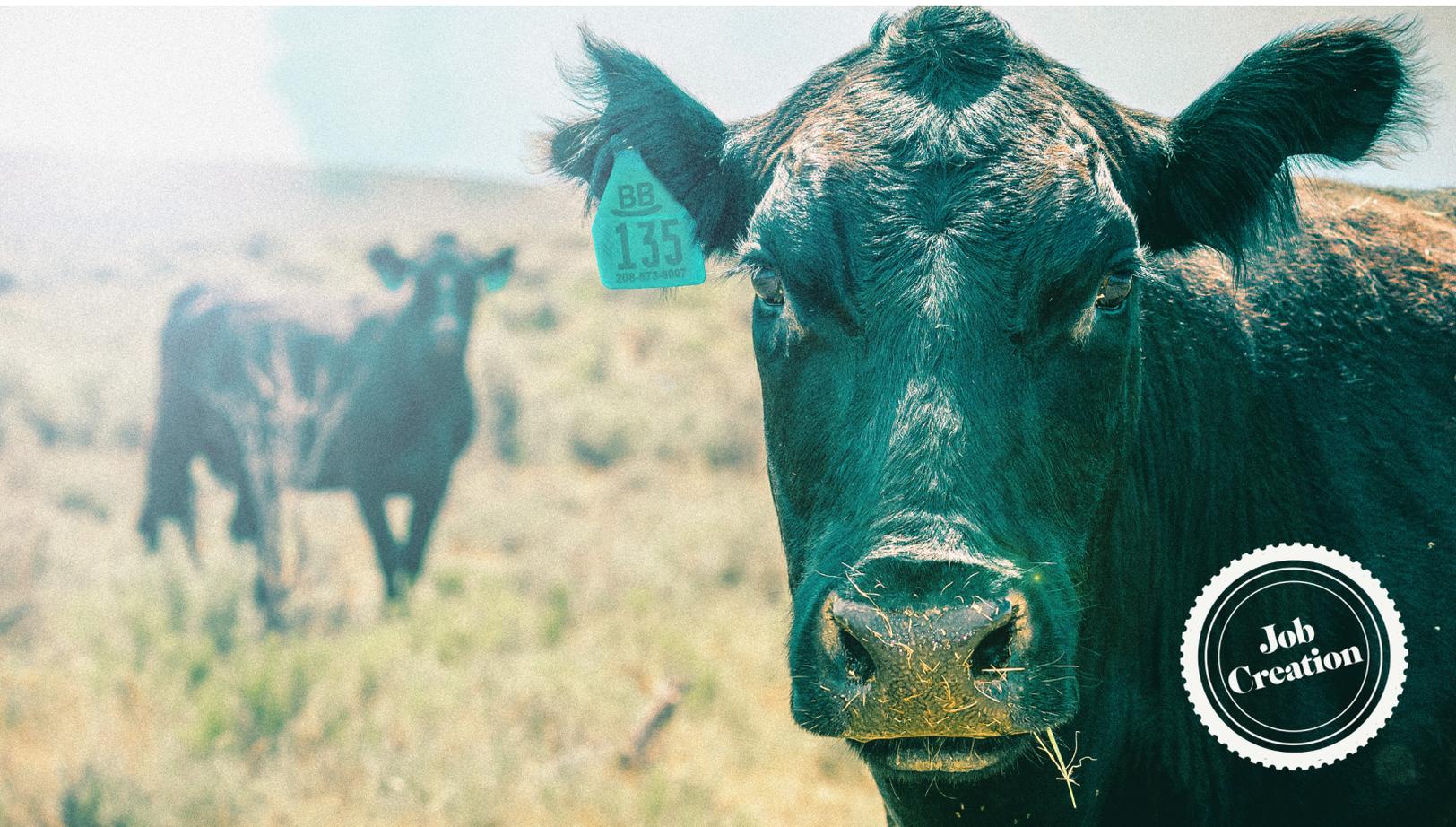
Any U.S. citizen or business can apply for a grazing permit.

As announced in January, the federal grazing fee for 2018 is \$1.41 per AUM for public lands administered by the BLM. The term AUM stands for animal unit month; it's the amount of forage necessary for the sustenance of one cow or the equivalent for a period of one month.

This grazing fee took effect March 1. It applies to nearly 18,000 grazing permits and leases administered by the BLM nationwide.

The formula used for calculating the grazing fee was established by Congress in the 1978 Public Rangelands Improvement Act and has remained in use under a 1986 presidential executive order. Under that order, the grazing fee cannot fall below \$1.35 per AUM, and any increase or decrease cannot exceed 25 percent of the previous year's level.

Fifty percent of the collected grazing fees deposited into the U.S. Treasury are returned to the Range Betterment Fund for on-the-ground range improvement projects. Depending on whether the collected fees are from permits or leases, portions are also returned to the states or counties where the fees were generated. For lease fees, 50 percent is sent to the fund and 50 percent returns to the county. For permit fees, 50 percent is sent to the fund, 37.5 percent is sent to the treasury and 12.5 percent returns to the state or county.



A Healthy Range for All

Using data and treatments to care for the range

The BLM is committed to strong relationships with the ranching communities in Oregon and Washington, and works closely with permittees to ensure public rangelands remain healthy, productive landscapes.

The goal of the BLM rangeland management program is to ensure the health and productivity of public rangelands for the use and enjoyment of current and future generations.

To achieve desired conditions on the public lands, the BLM uses monitoring data to evaluate the rangeland health standards and guidelines. There are many different treatments used to assist in maintaining rangeland health, including prescribed burns, rehabilitation of burned lands, fencing, water developments, weed control and juniper management.

Rangeland health assessments on these lands are used to determine watershed functions, ecological processes, water quality and habitat for all species—including native, threatened and endangered species.

Range improvements are authorized modifications or treatments designed to improve production of forage, change vegetation composition, control patterns of use, provide water, and stabilize soil and water conditions, for example. They are also designed to restore, protect and improve the condition of rangeland ecosystems to benefit livestock, wild horses and burros, and fish and wildlife.



By the Numbers

Your monthly stats, facts and more.



Facts at Your Fingertips
BLM Oregon
1220 SW 3rd
Portland, OR
97227

blm.gov

Cover Photo/Greg Shine

BLM OR/WA:
2,000 livestock
grazing
allotments

BLM OR/WA:
1,600 grazing
permits and
leases

BLM OR/WA:
\$1.41 per AUM
grazing fee