



Permitted Livestock Grazing on Federal Lands

Marlo Draper, BLM Eric Davis, USFS

Agency Missions

The Mission of the Forest Service is	The Bureau of Land Management's mission is
to sustain the health, diversity, and	to sustain the health, diversity, and
productivity of the nation's forests and	productivity of public lands for the use and
grasslands to meet the needs of present	enjoyment of present and future
and future generations.	generations.

Both agencies have a multiple-use, sustained-yield mandate.

This includes a variety of uses such as: livestock grazing, recreation, timber, watershed, wildlife and fish, and minerals (BLM only).

Livestock Grazing on Federal Lands Authority and Requirements

- Congress provided both agencies the authority to administer, permit and regulate grazing use on federal lands through several laws.
- Per regulation, both agencies require that all livestock grazing use be authorized by a grazing permit (FS & BLM) or lease (BLM).
- Both agencies require that livestock grazing be **managed** in a manner that is consistent with land management plans.

What is a Grazing Permit?

- A revocable license in real property that authorizes livestock (FS)
- A grazing permit specifies grazing preference (BLM)
- No right to graze (except some tribes)
- Includes terms and conditions that must be met by the permittee and are intended to achieve management and resource condition objectives.



How Does the BLM and FS Administer Livestock Grazing?

- Both agencies issue grazing permits that include management requirements.
- Both agencies issue annual grazing authorizations which identify the level of grazing use that is authorized for the respective grazing fee year.
 - Depending on resource conditions, this might be less than "permitted use."
- Both agencies take permit action and/or apply penalties for non-compliance with permit terms and conditions.

What Is Managed Livestock Grazing?

•The intentional management of grazing animals to control the frequency, intensity, timing and duration of plant defoliation to achieve certain objectives.



Permit Administration

- Grazing Permits are usually 10 years
 - Issue new permit to same permittee
 - Transferred based on preference (BLM)/Waived through sale of base property and/or permitted livestock (FS)
 - Find a new permittee when no preference (BLM)/preferred applicant (FS) exists
- Both agencies and the permittee can make adjustments
 - Personal convenience non-use
 - Drought & and other climate reasons
 - Non-compliance

Non-compliance Permit Actions

- •Both agencies are required to act if permit terms and conditions are not followed.
- Permit actions taken depend on the violation. Some examples include:
 - Full or partial suspension of permitted numbers.
 - Full or partial cancellation of permitted numbers.
 - Reduced seasons of use.

FS and BLM Grazing Statistics

Forest Service

Livestock grazing permitted on about 50% of NFS lands (95 mil ac of the 193 mil ac) in 27 states

Approximately 5,200 permittees

Bureau of Land Management

Livestock grazing permitted on about 63% of BLM lands (155 mil ac of the 245 mil ac) in 13 states

Approximately 18,000 permittees







Thank You Questions?

Eric Davis Assistant Director Rangelands and Restoration Forest Service, WO eric.davis2@usda.gov

Marlo Draper Division Chief Forest, Range, and Vegetation Resources Bureau of Land Management, Headquarters mdraper@blm.gov