

**Standards for Rangeland Health
and
Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management
for
Public Lands in Oregon and Washington**

**UPDATE for the
Lynch Allotment #505**

6/10/13

The Lynch Allotment #505 is located approximately 30 miles northeast of Lakeview, Oregon. Land status within the allotment is 180 acres of public land. The allotment is categorized as a C=Custodial and "Fenced Range Federal" (FRF) is used to describe the allotment because it has a high percentage of private land fenced in with public land acres.

The allotment has a total of 20 AUMs of which NJN Flynn Investments LLC utilizes. In 2012, NJN Flynn Investments LLC had 20 active AUMs and applied for 20 AUMs during the period of 5/1-6/15.

The original Rangeland Health Assessment (RHA) for the FRF Flynn Allotment was conducted in 2003. Since the previous RHA a trend plot was established in the allotment and includes an observed apparent trend and general photos. There was no trend plot located within this allotment prior to 2012. No utilization has been previously recorded.

There are no known noxious weeds in this allotment.

Summary of Rangeland Health Assessment for Lynch Allotment (00505)

Standard	Assessment Findings 2003	Current Assessment 2012	Comments
1. Watershed Function – Uplands	Met	Met	Upland soils exhibit infiltration and permeability rates, moisture storage, and stability that are appropriate to soil, climate, and landform. In the 1988 Ecological Site Inventory (ESI) 55 % in the slight condition class and 45% unknown. The 1988 ESI classified 100% in the early seral stage. Current grazing practices are not having a negative effect on the ability of the upland watershed to function.
2. Watershed Function Riparian/ Wetland Areas	NA	NA	There are no riparian areas or wetlands found in this allotment.
3. Ecological Processes	Met	Met	<p>Healthy, productive, and diverse plant and animal population, and communities are appropriate to soil, climate, and landform. There are no visible signs of damage or negative impacts to the existing vegetation or landscape by livestock. This allotment has undergone some kind of disturbance in the past. The lack of forb and grass diversity poses a need for practices that will increase the levels of native grasses and decrease the dominance of cheatgrass.</p> <p>Estimated vegetation cover on the BLM portion of the allotment is big sagebrush and greasewood: 25% of ground cover and appear healthy; cheatgrass: 70% of ground cover. Native grasses are scarce, 1-2% of the vegetation, and are only present at the highest elevations along the rocky rim. These native grasses were observed to be producing fair amounts of seed per plant. Introduced plant species include <i>Bromus tectorum</i>, <i>Halogeton glomeratus</i>, <i>Salsola kali</i>, and <i>Sisymbrium altissimum</i>.</p>
4. Water Quality	NA	NA	This standard is not applicable to the assessment area. There are no perennial streams in this allotment.
5. Native, T/E, and Locally Important Species	Met	Met	<p><u>Native Plant Species:</u> <i>Amsinkia</i> sp., <i>Artemesia tridentata</i>, <i>Atriplex canescens</i>, <i>Atriplex spinosa</i>, <i>Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus</i>, <i>Elymus cinereus</i>, <i>Elymus sparsiflorus</i>, <i>Eriogonum vimineum</i>, <i>Festuca idahoensis</i>, <i>Navarretia</i> sp., <i>Oryzopsis hymenoides</i>, <i>Poa secunda</i>, <i>Sarcobatus vermiculatus</i>, and <i>Stipa comata</i>. Mosses and lichens on plants were also present.</p> <p><u>Wildlife:</u> the deer and pronghorn populations are healthy and increasing in numbers. Coyote predation is thought to be depressing mule deer recruitments, however, deer and pronghorn populations continue to fluctuate at or slightly below ODFW's Management Objective for the units. This allotment provides habitat for numerous small and nongame birds and mammals common to the Great Basin. There are no known sage grouse leks or identified habitat found within these allotments.</p> <p>There are healthy, productive, and diverse plant populations and communities within the allotment.</p>

Guidelines for Livestock Management

Existing grazing management practices or levels of grazing use on the Lynch Allotment are consistent with the Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management (August 12, 1997). The pasture is grazed at an appropriate season coordinated with precipitation, plant growth, and

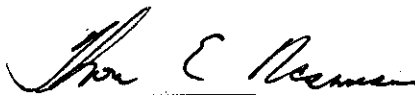
2013 Team Members

Name	Title
Lori Crumley	Rangeland Management Specialist
Vern Stofleth	Wildlife Biologist
Theresa Romasko	Assistant Field Manager
Grace Haskins	Weed Management Specialist
Bill Cannon	Archeologist
Jimmy Leal	Fisheries Biologist
Chris Bishop	Recreation
Todd Forbes	Assistant Field Manager

2013 Determination

Existing grazing management practices of levels of grazing use on the Lynch Allotment promote achievement of significant progress towards the Oregon Standards for Rangeland Health and conform with the Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.

() Existing grazing management practices or levels of grazing use on the Lynch Allotment will require modification or change prior to the next grazing season to promote achievement of the Oregon Standards for Rangeland Health and conform with the Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.



Thomas E. Rasmussen, Field Manager

6/18/13

Date

**Lynch Allotment
Monitoring Summary (2012):**

The allotment has a total of 20 AUMs of which NJN Flynn Investments LLC utilizes. In 2012, NJN Flynn Investments LLC had 20 active AUMs and applied for 20 AUMs during the period of 5/1-6/15. This allotment has minimal to no monitoring data due to a "C" allotment designation. These custodial allotments are primarily grazed in conjunction with private lands. This allotment has no water although all BLM lands are fenced separate and must be grazed in conjunction with the permittees private land where water is available for livestock.

Actual Use and Utilization

	Lynch AUMs	% Utilization
Year		
2012	Non-use	21.5
2011	20	
2010	20	
2009	Non-use	
2008	Non-use	
2007	24	
2006	24	
2005	24	
2004	24	
2003	24	
2002	24	
Average		

Lynch Allotment:

Observed Apparent Trend

FRFLF-01	2012
Vigor	2
Seedlings	1
Surface Litter	4
Pedestals	5
Gullies	5

Trend plot FRFLF-01 was established in 2012. Observed apparent trend and general photos were taken. According to both the observed apparent trend and the general photos, the site is dominated by *Bromus tectorum* with a few *Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus*, *Artemisia tridentata*, and *Sarcobatus vermiculatus*. Unless extensive weed control efforts combined with reseeding of the BLM and private lands occur, this site is likely to stay stable at its current condition due to a lack of native or nonnative perennial grass species. Due to the allotment designation and a high cost associated with the treatment needed to obtain recovery from invasive species, no treatment program will likely be proposed soon.