

ATTACHMENT 2

QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN COMPLETING EVALUATION PROCESS

1) What criteria do I use to set priorities for completing evaluations?

H-4180-1 Chapter III stresses that the highest priority areas are to be the focus of BLM's management, including monitoring and evaluations. Use the evaluation priorities you established in accordance with Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 98-91 and Manual Handbook H-4180-1 and any revisions you have made.

2) Do I need to finish an evaluation before renewing an expired grazing permit?

No. However, as stated in Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 2003-071, the information from an evaluation can be used to inform the NEPA analysis. If a permit is processed and issued and a later evaluation indicates that standards are not met, the ID team will need to complete a determination of the causal factors as directed in this IM and adjust management and the grazing permit as appropriate.

3) Do I need to evaluate all land health standards at the same time?

While it is more effective and efficient to complete an assessment and evaluation of all standards for the selected area, there are times when there will not be enough information to ascertain whether a particular standard (e.g., water quality) is met or not. In this case, you may decide to collect additional data using TR 1734-6 or by establishing monitoring to collect additional data for that specific standard and complete an evaluation report for the standards for which you can ascertain achievement or non-achievement. Supplement the evaluation report when the additional data allows you to ascertain whether the previously unevaluated standard is achieved.

4) When do I involve the public in the evaluation process?

Interested publics, including tribes where appropriate, and permittees should be encouraged to be involved in the evaluation process. H-4180-1 at Chapter VI discusses developing a public participation plan. While the publics are not expected to interpret and analyze the information, they should be provided an opportunity to review the draft or preliminary conclusions of the Evaluation Report.