

Posted: _____

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Kremmling Field Office
P.O. Box 68
Kremmling, CO 80459**

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-120-2009-0016-EA

PROJECT NAME: Renewal of Livestock Grazing Permit # 051819 for W Diamond Ranch (Alan Wheatley) on allotments 07569 (Wheatley A), 07586 (Wheatley B), and 07588 (Wheatley D).

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Kremmling Field Office (KFO) administered land includes all or part of the following:

Allotment 07569 (Wheatley A)
T.2N., R.80W., Sec. 3, 9-11, 15, 16, 20-22

Allotment 07586 (Wheatley B)
T.2N., R.80W., Sec. 10

Allotment 07588 (Wheatley D)
T.3N., R.80W., Sec. 3, 4
T.4N., R.80W., Sec. 21-23, 26-28, 33-35

APPLICANT: W Diamond Ranch

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE ACTION:

W Diamond Ranch's livestock grazing permit # 051819 that authorizes grazing on allotments 07569 (Wheatley A), 07586 (Wheatley B) and 07588 (Wheatley D) expires on February 28, 2009. W Diamond Ranch has applied for renewal of this permit. The permit is subject to renewal at the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior for a period of up to 10 years. Renewal of this permit would allow the W Diamond Ranch to continue grazing on their allotments for 10 years beginning on March 1, 2009.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES:

Background/Introduction/Issues and Concerns:

Allotment 07588 (Wheatley D) was assessed for compliance with the Standards for Public Land Health in Colorado (Standards) during the 1999 permit renewal process. An interdisciplinary (ID) team from the Kremmling Field Office determined that 90 acres of a meadow by Rabbit Ears Creek in the allotment were not meeting Standard # 3 (upland vegetation and wildlife) due to historic livestock grazing practices. A rotation grazing system was implemented where in odd number years the livestock would start in the north pasture and move south as the grazing season progressed. In even numbered years, the cattle would start in the south pasture and move north as the grazing season progressed. The rate of movement would depend on forage levels. This allotment was reassessed by the ID team on July 13, 2006. The ID team determined that the allotment is now in compliance with the Standards. The meadow by Rabbit Ears Creek that failed Standard # 3 during the 1999 assessment was found to have greatly improved, but that there is still room for improvement. The ID team recommended continued monitoring to ensure the meadow continues to improve.

Allotment 07569 (Wheatley A) was assessed for compliance with the Standards on August 19, 1998. The ID team determined that 760 acres in the allotment was not in compliance with Standard # 3 (upland vegetation and wildlife) and 300 acres were not in compliance with Standard # 1 (soils) and Standard # 5 (water quality) due to historic livestock grazing practices. A deferred rotation grazing system (Attachment 1) was implemented at that time as the appropriate action to bring the allotment into compliance with the Standards. The allotment was reassessed on July 13, 2006, as part of the 2009 permit renewal process to determine the success of the appropriate action and the current conditions of the allotment. The ID team determined the entire allotment is now in compliance with all of the Standards.

Allotment 07586 is a small “C” category allotment that has not been assessed for compliance with the Standards. However, the allotment was monitored in 2008. No issues or concerns are associated with this allotment.

Proposed Action: The Proposed Action would renew livestock grazing permit # 051819 with the standard terms and conditions (Attachment 2) and continue the grazing systems implemented during the 1999 permit renewal process. The allotments are now in compliance with the Standards and continuation of these grazing systems should keep the allotments in compliance with the Standards. No changes would be made to the number or kind of livestock, season of use, or authorized livestock grazing preference in each of the allotments.

The renewed livestock grazing permit # 051819 would authorize livestock grazing to the following extent:

Allotment	Livestock Number	Kind	Season of Use	Percent Public Land	AUMs
07569 (Wheatley A)	180	Cattle	05/16 – 06/19	100	207
07586 (Wheatley B)	12	Cattle	05/16 – 07/15	50	12

07588 (Wheatley D)	200 Cattle	07/01 – 10/15	50	352
--------------------	------------	---------------	----	-----

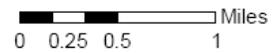
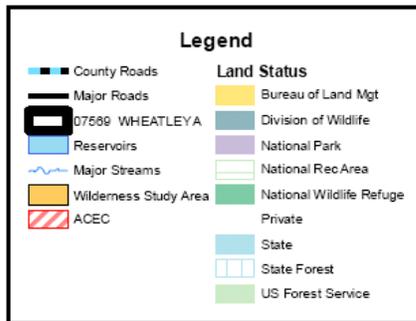
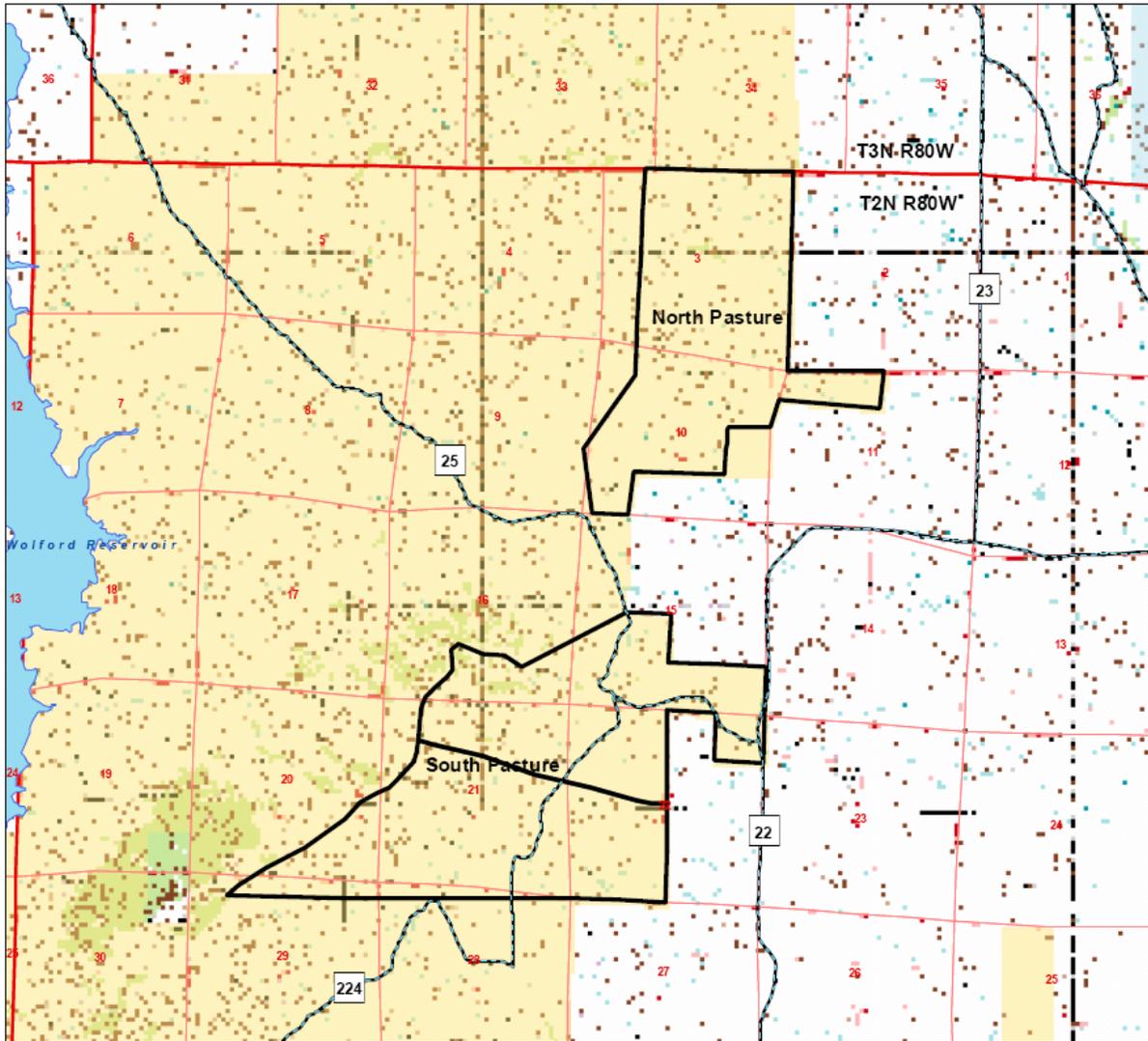
The total authorized grazing preference for Allotment 07569 is 208 AUMs, for Allotment 07586 is 12 AUMs and for Allotment 07588 is 350 AUMs.

Design Features of the Proposed Action:

- The permittee would be responsible for notifying the BLM of all county listed noxious weeds which result from their livestock grazing operations.
- The BLM would be responsible for implementing control measures, which would include partnership with the Grand County Weed Abatement Program.
- No motorized or mechanized travel is permitted within the Troublesome Wilderness Study Area year round. Any rutting of soil or damage to vegetation found by such modes of travel by the permittee or authorized sub-leases would have reclamation completed by the permittee.
- Continue monitoring allotment for unnecessary or undue degradation. If unnecessary and undue degradation is found within the WSA boundary due to grazing, implement reductions in authorized use or other actions necessary to ensure non-impairment of the WSA’s suitability for preservation as wilderness. Attachment 3 is a map of the Troublesome Emergency Road and Area Closure.
- Permitting of motorized travel for fence maintenance within the Wolford Mountain Travel Management Area and Troublesome Temporary Road and Area Closure. Attachment 4 is a map of the Wolford Mountain Area Designated Travel Routes. Permittee would travel only along fencelines for this purpose with no cross country travel. In the event a fenceline is also a landownership boundary, all motorized travel would occur on the non-BLM side of the fence.
- Permit case-by-case motorized cross-country travel within the Wolford Mountain Travel Management Area and Troublesome Temporary Road and Area Closure for instances of retrieving injured animals or other emergencies. All instances should be approved by the authorizing officer beforehand when possible. In the case of an emergency, any motorized cross-country travel would be reported to the BLM immediately. Any permitted or emergency cross-country travel will be evaluated for resource damage. Any rutting of soil or damage to vegetation found to be excessive and establishing a new route would have reclamation completed by the permittee.
- No motorized travel is permitted within the Wolford Mountain Travel Management Area during the winter seasonal closure between December 15 and April 15 with the exception of designated open routes for snowmobiles when there is a minimum of 12 inches of snow. Attachment 5 is a map of the Wolford Mountain Area Winger Travel Restrictions.
- Specific restrictions and exemptions of the Wolford Travel Management Plan and Troublesome Temporary Road and Area Closure would be part of the Terms and Conditions of the grazing permit.



07569 WHEATLEY A



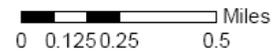
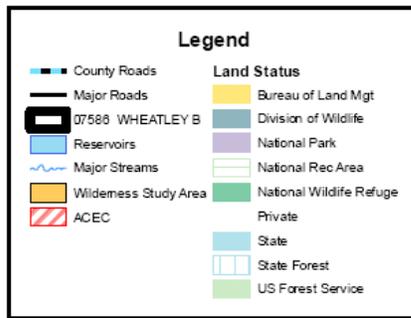
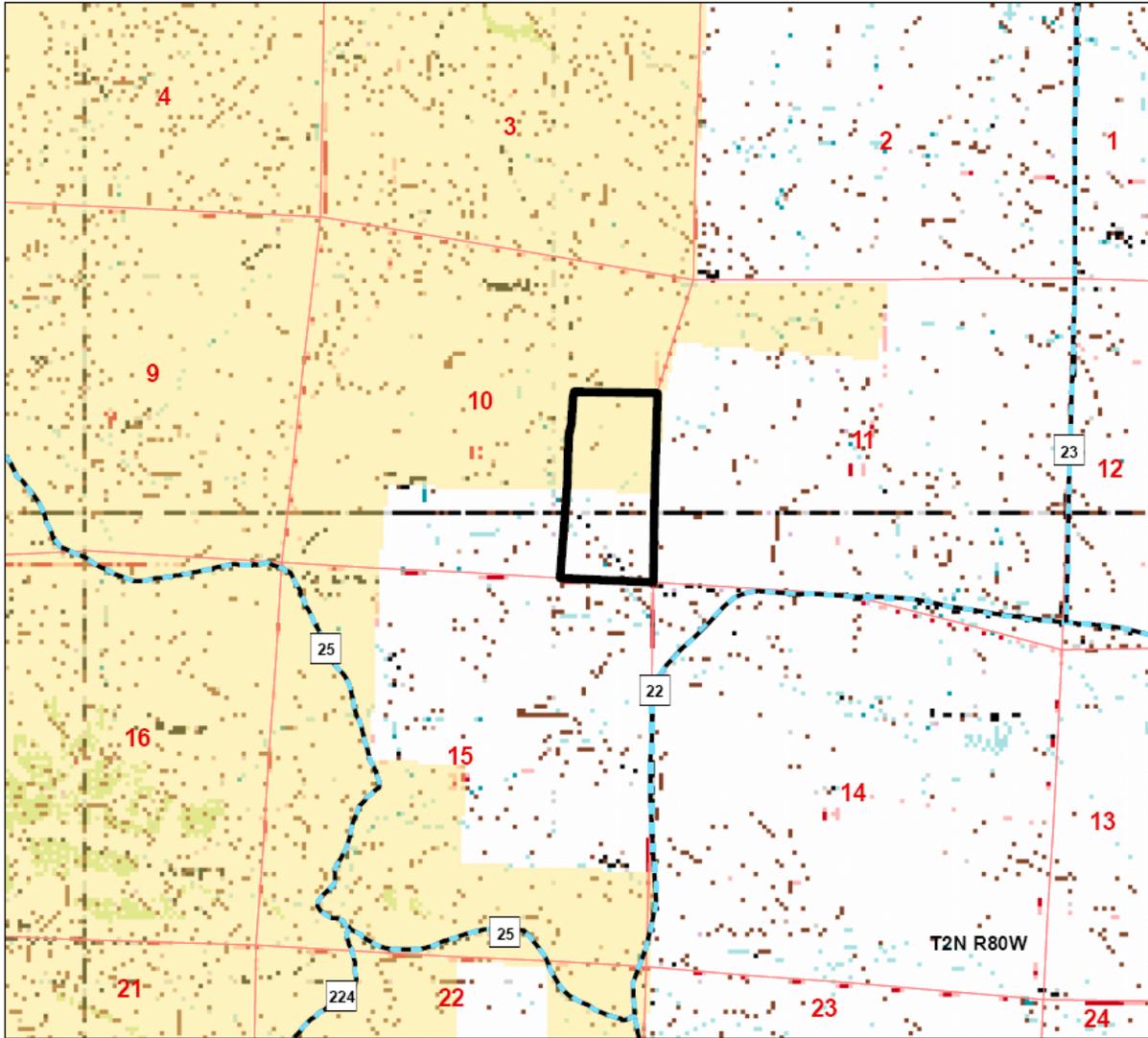
1:47,929

No Warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the Accuracy, Reliability, or Completeness of this Data for Individual Use or Aggregate Use with Other Data.

Maps: Kremmling, Junction Butte Gunsight Pass, Hinman Reservoir BLM, Kremmling FO 10/28/2008



07586 WHEATLEY B



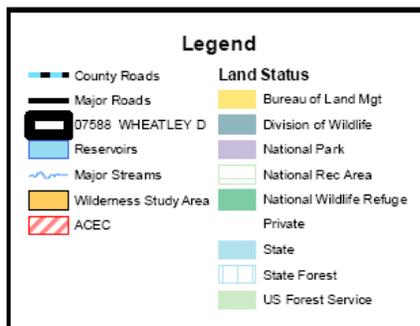
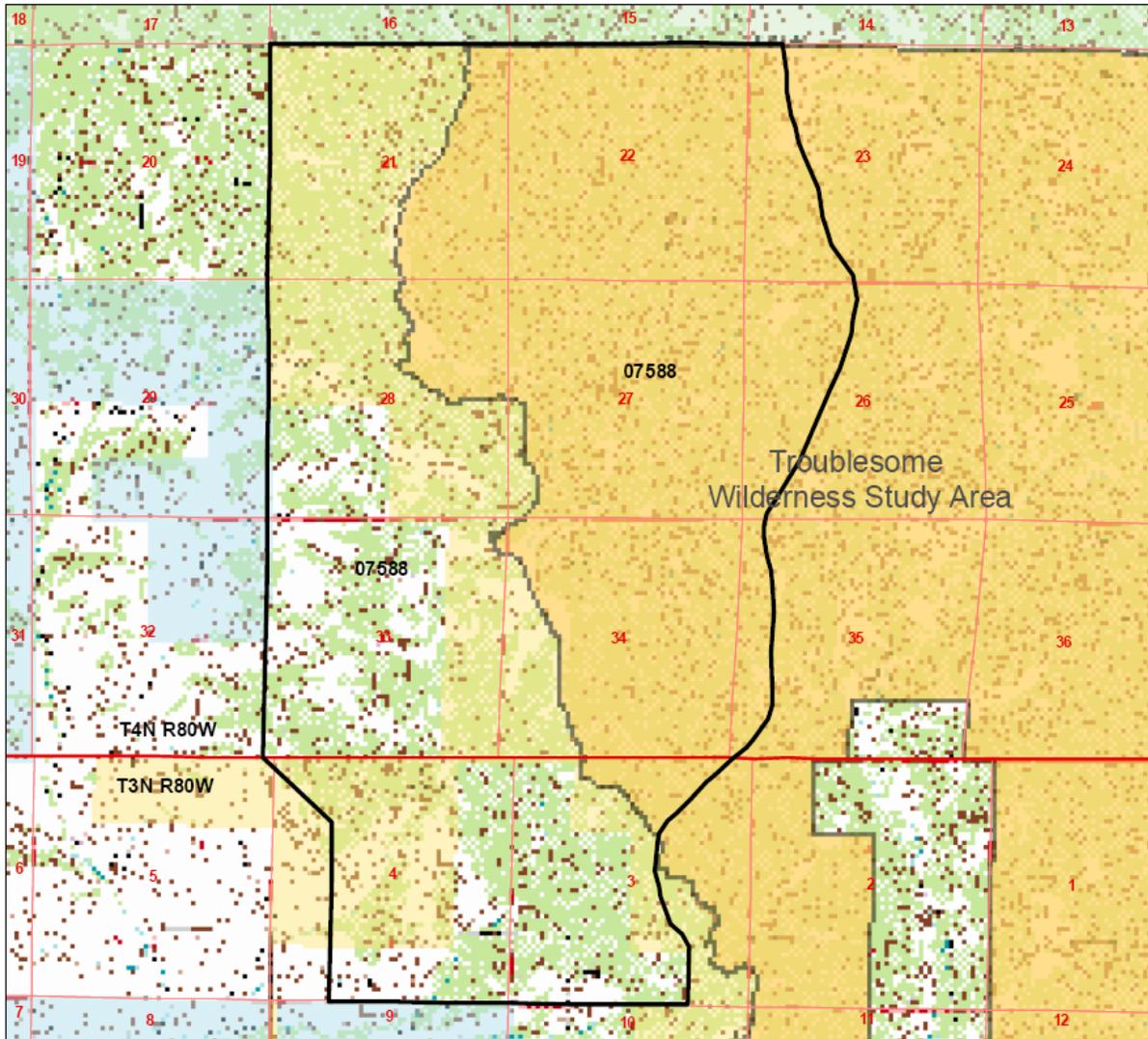
1:24,000

No Warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the Accuracy, Reliability, or Completeness of this Data for Individual Use or Aggregate Use with Other Data.

Maps: Gunsight Pass
BLM, Kremmling FO 10/28/2008



07588 WHEATLEY D



1:38,103

No Warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the Accuracy, Reliability, or Completeness of this Data for Individual Use or Aggregate Use with Other Data.

Maps: Hyanis Peak, Whitely Peak Hinman Reservoir, Gunsight Pass BLM, Kremmling FO 10/28/2008

No Action Alternative: The No Action Alternative is the same as the Proposed Action.

Alternatives Considered But Eliminated From Further Analysis:

No livestock grazing was considered but eliminated from further analysis for the following reasons:

- Livestock grazing with the Kremmling Field Office was fully analyzed and authorized in the RMP/EIS as recorded in the 1984 Approved Plan and Record of Decision. At that time a “No Grazing Alternative” was considered but not selected.
- This alternative is not consistent with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) that stated: “the public lands be managed in a manner which recognizes the Nation’s need for domestic sources of minerals, food, timber, and fiber from public lands.....”
- During public scoping and staff review there were no issues or concerns identified that would support a “No Grazing Alternative.”
- It has been determined that significant progress toward achieving compliance with the Standards for Public Land Health in Colorado would occur with the appropriate livestock grazing guidelines set forth in the Proposed Action.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with the following plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3):

Name of Plan: Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD)

Date Approved: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

Decision Number/Page: Livestock Grazing: pages 6 and 8, as revised.

Decision Language: Objectives of the RMP/ROD include allocation of a base level of livestock forage and maintaining or improving forage production and condition in areas where livestock grazing is a priority or is compatible with the priority. The RMP designated allotments 07569 and 07586 with livestock priority and allotment 07588 with livestock and forest products priorities. Livestock grazing is compatible with these priorities.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT / ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES / MITIGATION MEASURES:

INVASIVE, NON-NATIVE SPECIES

Affected Environment: Past actions such as livestock grazing, motorized travel, recreation, etc. that have caused disturbance to the vegetation and soil have contributed to the invasion and spread of invasive, non-native species (noxious weeds). There are known invasive, non-native species (noxious weeds) growing within the allotments. These species include houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*), bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*), musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*), Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) and black henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*). These species are generally located along roadways, and in high-use areas, such as livestock watering areas. Soil or vegetation disturbing activities provide an avenue for the establishment and expansion of invasive, non-native species. The BLM monitors these known areas to control the spread of these species.

Environmental Consequences: Any type of soil or vegetation disturbance in an area where non-native, invasive species are established promotes their expansion. Although the renewed grazing permit would not change the livestock grazing management, there is the chance for invasion or spread of invasive, non-native species.

The No Action Alternative is the same as the Proposed Action so the environmental consequences would be the same.

Mitigation: None

RANGE MANAGEMENT

Affected Environment: Allotment 07569 was assessed for compliance with the Standards during the 1999 permit renewal process. An ID team from the Kremmling Field Office determined that 760 acres in the South Pasture of the allotment were not in compliance with Standard # 3 (upland vegetation and wildlife) due to historic livestock grazing.

Allotment 07588 (Wheatley D) was assessed also for compliance with the Standards during the 1999 permit renewal process. The ID team determined 90 acres in the allotment were not in compliance with Standard # 3 due to historic livestock grazing.

Allotment 07586 (Wheatley B) is a category "C" custodial allotment. The allotment has not been assessed for compliance with the Standards. However, the allotment was monitored in 2008 and no issues or concerns were identified.

Environmental Consequences: The appropriate action implemented on allotment 07569 (Wheatley A) to bring the allotment into compliance with the Standards is a rotation grazing system. Since the allotment passed Standard # 3 when it was reassessed in 2006, the rotation grazing system will continue to be in effect (Attachment 1). During the current permit renewal there would be no changes to number or kind of livestock, season of use, or amount of authorized livestock grazing preference.

On Allotment 07568 (Wheatley B) there would be no changes to the number or kind of livestock, season of use, or amount of authorized livestock grazing preference.

During the 1999 livestock grazing permit renewal process, Allotment 07588 (Wheatley D) was determined to not be in compliance with Standard # 3 (upland vegetation and wildlife). The appropriate action to bring the allotment into compliance was a rotation grazing system where the livestock would start grazing in the north part of the allotment one year and work their way south and the next year they would start in the south part of the allotment and work their way north. This grazing system was successful and the allotment was determined to be in compliance with Standard # 3 (upland vegetation and wildlife) when it was reassessed for compliance with Standard # 3 in 2006. This rotation grazing would continue in effect with the current permit renewal. Permit # 051919 would be renewed with no changes made to number or kind of livestock, season of use, or amount of authorized livestock grazing preference.

The No Action Alternative is the same as the Proposed Action so the environmental consequences would be the same.

Mitigation: None

VEGETATION (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: Allotment 07569 (Wheatley A) consists mostly of sagebrush steppe vegetation community. The dominant species is big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*) with an understory of perennial cool season grasses and annual and perennial forbs. The grasses include but are not limited to bluegrasses (*Poa* spp), western wheatgrass (*Pascopyrum smithii*), bluebunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria spicata*), pine needlegrass (*Achnatherum pinetorum*), bottlebrush squirreltail, (*Elymus elymoides*), fescues (*Festuca* spp), Indian ricegrass (*Achnatherum hymenoides*), brome (*Bromus* spp), and prairie Junegrass (*Koeleria macrantha*). Common forbs include wild buckwheat (*Eriogonum* spp), lupine (*Lupinus agrenteus*), phlox (*Phlox* spp), Indian paintbrush (*Castilleja* spp), groundsel (*Senecio* spp), penstemons (*Penstemon* spp), pussytoes (*Antennaria* spp), daisies (*Erigeron* spp), fringed sage (*Artemisia frigida*), milkvetch (*Astragalus* spp), and mountain bluebell (*Mertensia lanceolata*). Other shrubs that inhabit the sagebrush steppe include snowberry (*Symphoricarpos oreophilus*), serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*), rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus* spp), broom snakeweed (*Gutierrezia sarothrae*), and antelope bitterbrush (*Purshia tridentata*).

On the north side of Little Wolford Mountain there is a small area of mixed conifer woodland. The forest is an open canopy of Douglas fir with similar understory vegetation as in the sagebrush steppe.

Allotment 07586 (Wheatley B) is a small allotment with only 48 acres of public land. The area is a sagebrush steppe vegetation community very similar to the sagebrush steppe in Allotment 07569 (Wheatley A) and the description for the vegetation would be the same as for Allotment 07569 (Wheatley A).

Allotment 07588 is a high mountain allotment which is mostly lodgepole pine forest that has been heavily infested with mountain pine beetles. There are pockets of spruce/fir forest and some aspen groves. Mountain meadows are interspersed among the forests where most of the

livestock grazing occurs. The meadows are mostly sub-irrigated with a dense vegetation cover of grasses and forbs with a few interspersed shrubs. The grasses and grasslike species include bluegrasses, western wheatgrass, bromes (*Bromus* spp), Thurber fescue (*Festuca thurberi*), timothy (*Phleum prantens*), red top (*Agrostis gigantean*), needlegrasses (*Stipa* spp) and sedges (*Carex* spp). The forbs are numerous and varied and include aster (*Machaeranthera* spp), yarrow (*Achillea lanulosa*), dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*), larkspur (*Delphinium nuttallianum*), Louisiana sagewort (*Artemisia ludoviciana*), peavine (*Lathyrus leucanthus*), salsify (*Tragapogon dubius*), harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*), herbaceous cinquefoil (*Potentilla* spp), penstemons, lupine (*Lupinus* spp), wild buckwheat, Richardson's geranium (*Geranium richardsonii*), buttercup (*Ranunculus* spp), prairie smoke (*Erythrocoma triflora*) and Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvens*). Shrubs are scattered and make up only a small portion of the vegetation. Shrubs include shrubby cinquefoil (*Potentilla* spp), rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus* spp), Wood's rose (*Rosa woodsii*), and big sagebrush.

Environmental Consequences: The Proposed Action would renew livestock grazing permit # 051819 with no changes to the livestock grazing in these allotments. Since a best management practice (BMP) was implemented during the 1999 permit renewal process and the vegetation has improved since then, implementation of the Proposed Action would continue to improve the quality and quantity of the vegetation within the project area.

The No Action Alternative is the same as the Proposed Action so the environmental consequences would be the same.

Mitigation: None

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Wildlife, Aquatic and Wildlife, Terrestrial): Allotment 07588 (Wheatley A) was assessed for compliance with the Standards on June 9, 2006 and Allotment 07588 was assessed on July 13, 2006. An interdisciplinary team (ID) from the Kremmling Field Office determined both of the allotments are in compliance with Standard #3 (upland vegetation and wildlife).

Allotment 07569 (Wheatley B) is a low priority category "C" allotment that has not been assessed for compliance with the Standards. However, the allotment was monitored in 2008 and no issues or concerns were identified.

WILDERNESS

Affected Environment: Allotment 07588 is within the Troublesome Wilderness Study Area (WSA). The Troublesome WSA is recommended by the BLM as non suitable for Wilderness designation. Grazing within the WSA is a grandfathered use and is compatible with the Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review (IMP). All future planned actions in the WSA will be evaluated to ensure compliance with the IMP. Under the IMP, grandfathered uses do not secure grazing use to the same level that existed on October 21, 1976, with the passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA). Section 603(c) of FLPMA provides the mandate to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of the land as it applies to grandfathered uses. Environmental Assessment CO-018-99-17EA proposed action stated that a cooperative agreement with the permittee for maintenance of a drift fence, spring reconstruction and a designated salting area within T.4N., R.80W., sec.21, W1/2 would be

implemented. The FONSI Decision and Rationale identifies the salting area and spring reconstruction within its terms and conditions. It is unknown if these were implemented. The Colorado Environmental Coalition (CEC) has identified additional BLM and US Forest Service administered lands adjoining the WSA as lands CEC recommends for wilderness designation. US Representative Diana DeGette (D-CO) has in the past and as recently as 2007, has introduced Colorado Wilderness Bills into congress which, if passed, would designate the Troublesome WSA and CEC recommended adjoining lands as wilderness. Therefore, it is a possibility that these proposed lands could become wilderness within the 10-year grazing permit timeframe.

Environmental Consequences: The Proposed Action would renew livestock grazing permit # 051819 with no changes to the livestock grazing in allotment 07588. Allotment 07588 was assessed for compliance with the Standards for Public Land Health in Colorado (Standards) during the 1999 permit renewal process. An interdisciplinary (ID) team from the Kremmling Field Office determined that 90 acres of a meadow by Rabbit Ears Creek in the allotment were not meeting Standard # 3 (upland vegetation and wildlife) due to historic livestock grazing practices. A rotation grazing system was implemented and some improvement has been observed. This rotational grazing system would continue in effect with the current permit renewal. Therefore, no declining changes to the vegetation would be anticipated from implementation of the Proposed Action. The ID team recommended continued monitoring to ensure the meadow continues to improve. To ensure the non-impairment to wilderness values is being achieved, the allotment should be monitored more frequently. Motorized and mechanized travel within the Troublesome WSA is not permitted year round. Under both the proposed action and no action alternative motorized and mechanized travel would continue to be restricted year round. If cross country motorized or mechanized travel was to occur within the WSA it could impair the area's suitability for preservation as wilderness until congress acts to release or designate the area as wilderness. The No Action Alternative is the same as the Proposed Action so the environmental consequences would be the same.

The No Action Alternative is the same as the Proposed Action so the environmental consequences would be the same.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY:

Livestock grazing has been an important use of the public lands in the Kremmling Field Office since the introduction of domestic livestock in the 1870s. Presently, the Field Office supports a grazing program on approximately 378,000 acres of BLM-administered public lands. Currently, these public ranges are licensed at a level of approximately 39,726 Animal Unit Months (AUMs) for livestock.

For the purpose of this EA, the general geographic boundary for cumulative impact analysis is Middle Park. The Kremmling Field Office is divided north to south by the Continental Divide. The public lands to the north of the divide are generally referred to as North Park, and those to the south of the divide, Middle Park. In Middle Park, there are approximately 137,179 acres of BLM-administered public lands that are currently being grazed, and 13,070 AUMs that are licensed.

In looking at past actions within the geographic area over the past ten years, there have not been any major changes to the Middle Park allotments. A majority of the allotments have been assessed for standards and the permits modified where needed due to non-compliance with

specific standards or new information that has arrived (i.e. new sage grouse lek). There are not any reasonably foreseeable actions outside of minor range improvement projects that are projected to occur in the Middle Park allotments. However, fast growing residential development is occurring and projected to continue on the east end of Middle Park. This loss of habitat is impacting Greater sage-grouse populations in Middle Park.

The Proposed Action would not change the number of AUMs that have been licensed on the allotment for the past ten years. Thus, there would be minimal cumulative impacts to Greater sage-grouse. In terms of cumulative impacts to cultural resources, grazing may cause substantial ground disturbance and cause cumulative, long term, irreversible adverse effects to historic properties throughout the Kremmling Field Office. However, as part of the BLM permit renewal process, allotments are being assessed and inventoried for cultural resources. If resources are found, and eligible for NRHP, mitigation is implemented. This process is attempting to mitigate any major cumulative impacts to cultural resources in the Kremmling Field Office.

PERSONS / AGENCIES CONSULTED: Alan Wheatley of W Diamond Ranch Starting in January 2007, a scoping process was begun to request information concerning the renewal of grazing permits/leases and to prioritize areas or allotments with issues and concerns. The Kremmling Field Office sent scoping letters, along with land status maps showing the affected allotments to the following groups and agencies: Colorado Division of Wildlife (Steamboat Springs, Walden, Hot Sulphur Springs, Fort Collins); District Board of Grazing Advisors; County Commissioners of Grand and Jackson counties; Stock Growers Association (Middle Park, North Park, Upper Big Laramie River Ranch Assoc.); Northwest Resource Advisory Council, United States Forest Service (Silverthorne, Granby, Walden); US Fish and Wildlife Service (Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge); Tribal Councils (Arapaho, Shoshone, Southern Ute); Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs; Ute Indian Tribe Uintah and Ouray Agency Business Committee; Colorado Environmental Coalition; and Colorado State Land Board (Lane Osborn).

The BLM Colorado State Office also mailed outreach letters concerning the renewal of grazing permits/leases to all Congressional offices, State and Federal agencies, and major environmental, conservation, and user group organizations.

In addition, individual letters were sent to the affected permittees/lessees informing them that their permit/lease was up for renewal and requested any information they wanted included in, or taken into consideration during the permit renewal process. A Notice of Public Scoping was posted on the internet at the Colorado BLM homepage, and in Grand and Jackson county newspapers asking for public input on permit/lease renewals and the assessment for compliance with the Standards for Public Land Health in Colorado within the Kremmling Field Office. This notice was followed up with an internet posting of the Kremmling Field Office prioritization of allotments and a determination as to which allotments would be assessed according to the Standards for Public Land Health in Colorado. The proposed permit renewal was also posted on the Kremmling Field Office Internet NEPA register.

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW: See IDT-RRC in Appendix 1.

FONSI

DOI-BLM-CO-120-2009-0016-EA

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the attached environmental assessment, and considering the significance criteria in 40 CFR 1508.27, I have determined that the Proposed Action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. An environmental impact statement is therefore not required.

DECISION RECORD

DECISION:

It is my decision to authorize the Proposed Action as described in the attached EA and renew livestock grazing permit # 051819 to be in effect from March 1, 2009 through February 28, 2019. This decision is contingent on meeting all mitigation measures and monitoring requirements listed below.

RATIONALE:

When a livestock grazing permit expires, it is subject to renewal at the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior for a period of up to ten years. Livestock grazing when properly managed in accordance with good rangeland ecology practices, has been proven to result in improved land health. The public benefits from public lands which are maintained in a healthy condition and are able to produce sustainable resources for a variety of uses.

The livestock producer benefits from a renewed livestock grazing permit/lease to graze forage on BLM managed land. Livestock grazing on BLM managed land is an integral part of the livestock producer's operation, and an important part of local rural economies.

MITIGATION MEASURES: None

COMPLIANCE/MONITORING:

Compliance with the renewed livestock grazing permit and its associated terms and conditions would be accomplished through the Kremmling Field Office Range Management Program. Livestock grazing would be monitored by the range staff and other area personnel, as appropriate, to ensure compliance. The Kremmling Field Office Range Monitoring Plan would be used to schedule periodic utilization checks, collect trend data, and evaluate allotment condition. When activity plans have been developed covering an allotment, monitoring methods and schedules included in them would be applied to the allotment. Changes would be made to the permit, based on monitoring, when changes are determined necessary to protect land health.

To ensure the non-impairment to wilderness values is being achieved, the allotment in the WSA would be monitored more frequently.

NAME OF PREPARER: Richard Johnson

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Susan Cassel

DATE: 4/13/09

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: /s/ Peter McFadden

DATE SIGNED: 4/13/09

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) Rotation Grazing System for Allotment 07569 (Wheatley A)
- 2) Livestock grazing permit # 051819 with Standard Terms and Conditions
- 3) Troublesome Emergency Road and Area Closure Map
- 4) Wolford Mountain Area Designated Travel Routes
- 5) Wolford Mountain Area Winter Travel Restrictions

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 – Interdisciplinary Team Analysis Review Record and Checklist

Appendix 1

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM ANALYSIS REVIEW RECORD AND CHECKLIST:

Project Title: Renewal of Livestock Grazing Permit # 051819 for W Diamond Ranch

Project Leader: Richard Johnson

Date Proposal Received: (Only for external proposals)

Date Submitted for Comment: 12/4/08

Due Date for Comments: 1/31/08

Consultation/Permit Requirements:

Consultation	Date Initiated	Date Completed	Responsible Specialist/ Contractor	Comments
Cultural/Archeological Clearance/SHPO	1/20/2009	1/20/2009	BBW	Past actions have resulted in a cultural resource inventory to determine if those actions would cause potential adverse affects to known and unknown cultural resources sites from livestock grazing, motorized travel, and recreational use. When project undertakings are identified a cultural resource inventory would be conducted to determine if sites are present and their eligibility, project effects, and mitigation requirements if necessary.
Native American	1/20/2009	1/20/2009	BBW	Consultation was completed on the original allotment renewal. Future undertakings would require tribal consultation to identify traditional cultural properties.
T&E Species/FWS	N/A	N/A	MM	
Permits Needed (i.e. Air or Water)	N/A	N/A	PB	

(NP) = Not Present

(NI) = Resource/Use Present but Not Impacted

(PI) = Potentially Impacted and Brought Forward for Analysis.

NP NI PI	Discipline/Name	Date Review Comp.	Initials	Review Comments (required for Critical Element NIs, and for elements that require a finding but are not carried forward for analysis.)
CRITICAL ELEMENTS				
NI	Air Quality Belcher	2/25/09	PB	There are no impacts to air quality.
NP	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern Cassel			There are no Areas of Critical Environmental Concern in the proximity of the proposed project area.
NI	Cultural Resources Wyatt	1/20/2009	BBW	Past actions have resulted in a cultural resource inventory to determine if those actions would cause potential adverse affects to known and unknown cultural resources sites from livestock grazing, motorized travel, and recreational use. When project undertakings are identified a cultural resource inventory would be conducted

					to determine if sites are present and their eligibility, project effects, and mitigation requirements if necessary.
NP	Environmental Justice	Cassel	3/5/09	SC	According to the most recent Census Bureau statistics (2000), there are no minority or low income communities within the Kremmling Planning Area.
NP	Farmlands, Prime and Unique	Belcher	2/25/09	PB	There are no farmlands, prime or unique, in the proximity of the proposed project area.
NP	Floodplains	Belcher	2/25/09	PB	The allotments are in the uplands and do not impact floodplains..
NI	Invasive, Non-native Species	Johnson Torma Scott	1-7-09	MS	See Analysis.
NI	Migratory Birds	McGuire	1/21/2009	MM	The allotments are currently in good condition. Since there are no changes proposed to the existing permit, impacts would not occur.
NI	Native American Religious Concerns	Wyatt	1/20/2009	BBW	Consultation was completed for the original allotment renewal. Future undertakings would require tribal consultation to identify traditional cultural properties.
NI	T/E, and Sensitive Species (Finding on Standard 4)	McGuire	1/21/2009	MM	Allotment #7558 is designated as Lynx "Other" habitat. Greater sage-grouse, a BLM sensitive species, occur in all the allotments, except #7558. The allotments are currently in good condition. Since there are no changes proposed to the existing permit, impacts would not occur.
NP	Wastes, Hazardous and Solid	Hodgson	1/7/09	KH	There are no quantities of wastes, hazardous or solid, located on BLM-administered lands in the proposed project area, and there would be no wastes generated as a result of the Proposed Action or No Action alternative.
NI	Water Quality, Surface and Ground (Finding on Standard 5)	Belcher	2/25/09	PB	Implementing the 1999 ROD improved water quality. Proposed Action continues this management, no new impacts.
NI	Wetlands & Riparian Zones (Finding on Standard 2)	Belcher	2/25/09	PB	The 1999 permit renewal improved riparian conditions. Proposed Action is a continuation of this management.
NP	Wild and Scenic Rivers	Cassel	3/5/09	SC	There are no eligible Wild and Scenic River segments in the proposed project area.
PI	Wilderness	Monkouski	3/5/09	JJM	See Analysis.
NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS (A finding must be made for these elements)					
NI	Soils (Finding on Standard 1)	Belcher	2/25/09	PB	The 1999 grazing changes benefitted soil resources. The Proposed Action is a continuation of this management, no new impacts.
PI	Vegetation (Finding on Standard 3)	Johnson Torma Scott	1/14/09	RJ	See Analysis in EA
NI	Wildlife, Aquatic (Finding on Standard 3)	McGuire	1/21/2009	MM	The allotments are currently in good condition. Since there are no changes proposed to the existing permit, impacts would not occur.
NI	Wildlife, Terrestrial (Finding on Standard 3)	McGuire	1/21/2009	MM	The allotments are currently in good condition. Since there are no changes proposed to the existing permit, impacts would not occur.
OTHER NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS					
NI	Access/Transportation	Monkouski	3/3/09	JJM	No change in access under the proposed action.

					No impacts. Allotments 07569 and 07586 are within the Wolford Mountain Travel Management Area. Motorized and mechanized travel is restricted to designated routes with no cross country travel permitted. The permittee is allowed to travel on designated open routes with the corresponding mode of travel and routes designated for administrative use. Cross country travel is only permitted by foot or horseback. No motorized or mechanized travel is permitted during the winter seasonal closure between December 15 and April 15 with the exception of snowmobiles on winter designated routes when there is a minimum of 12 inches of snow. Allotment 07588 is within the Troublesome Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and Troublesome Temporary Road and Area Closure. Motorized and mechanized travel within the Troublesome WSA is not permitted year round. Within the Troublesome Temporary Road and Area Closure Cross country travel is only permitted by foot and horseback or by snowmobile when there is snow present. This temporary closure remains in effect until future travel management designations are completed. Grazing permittees have exemptions as outlined within the design features of the proposed action.
NI	Forest Management	K. Belcher	1/30/2009	KB	No impact to forest resources.
NI	Geology and Minerals	Hodgson	1/7/09	KH	No impacts.
NP	Fire	Wyatt	1/20/2009	BBW	Grazing would reduce light flashy fuels.
NI	Hydrology/Water Rights	Belcher	2/25/09	PB	There are no hydrologic or water right impacts.
NI	Paleontology	Rupp	1/16/2009	FGR	No impacts to fossil resources from renewing permit, or the no action alternative. Proposed ground disturbing projects will be reviewed on a project by project basis to determine the need for paleontological inventory.
NI	Noise	Monkouski	3/3/09	JJM	No Impacts.
PI	Range Management	Johnson Torma Scott	1/14/09	RJ	See analysis in EA
NI	Lands/ Realty Authorizations	Cassel	12/15/08	SC	There are no leases or permits in the location of the proposed action. There are ROW's: COC-0254 & COD-014117 for ditches; COC-08482 & COC-12512 for powerlines and COC-58109 for a telephone line. These ROW's will not be affected by the proposed action or the no action alternative.
NI	Recreation	Monkouski Windsor	3/3/09	JJM	Under the proposed action no impacts would occur to recreational opportunities that include camping, hunting, hiking, horseback riding and watching wildlife.
NI	Socio-Economics	Cassel	4/10/09	SC	Since there would be no change in use, there would be no socio-economic impacts.
NI	Visual Resources	Windsor	3/6/09	AW	The Proposed Action and No Action Alternative would not impact the visual

				resources.
PI	Cumulative Impact Summary	4/10/09	SC	See Analysis
FINAL REVIEW				
	P&E Coordinator			