

Grazing Management

Grazing management addresses livestock and wild horses and burros. Livestock grazing is the most widespread type of land use across Greater Sage-Grouse habitat in the Great Basin. Improper livestock grazing may affect vegetation communities that are important to the sage-grouse lifecycle. Fencing constructed to manage livestock grazing can cause direct mortality to sage-grouse and fragmentation of habitat. The effects of livestock grazing on sage-grouse habitat depend upon the grazing management system, stocking levels, season of use, and utilization levels.

Issue: What measures will the BLM and Forest Service put in place to manage grazing to meet Greater Sage-Grouse habitat requirements?

Management Actions					
Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D	Alternative E	Alternative F
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain current management from 21 BLM and 8 Forest Service LUPs. - No change in permitted AUMs. - Manage livestock to meet Standards and Guidelines for Rangeland Health or the Forest Service equivalent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain PPMA and PGMA (10,969,800 acres) as open for all classes of livestock grazing. - Manage livestock grazing to meet Standards and Guidelines for Rangeland Health and in accordance with science based GRSG habitat guidelines. - Make changes to livestock grazing to comply with GRSG habitat guidelines. - Prioritize completion of rangeland health assessments (or the Forest Service equivalent) and processing grazing permits in PPMA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Within allotments that overlap PPMA (11,009,900 acres), close allotments to grazing and eliminate permitted Animal Unit Months (AUMs). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain PPMA, PMMA, and PGMA (11,180,900 acres) as open for all classes of livestock grazing. - Within grazing allotments containing GRSG habitat, incorporate grazing management measures designed to meet GRSG habitat objectives through AMPs, grazing permit renewal or permit modification processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain CHZ, IHZ, and GHZ (10,940,600 acres) as open for all classes of livestock grazing. - Prioritize allotments for permit renewal and review where GRSG populations are declining. - Adjust grazing permits during the renewal process to include measures to achieve desired habitat conditions if livestock grazing is found to be limiting the achievement of the habitat characteristics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Same as Alternative B. In addition, reduce authorized grazing by 25 % within occupied GRSG habitat.

Idaho and Southwestern Montana
Greater Sage-Grouse Draft LUPA/EIS

