

2012 ANNUAL GRAZING PLAN
Juniper Butte Allotment #1119
Brackett Ranches, LTD

As a result of a Memorandum Decision and Order by Chief Judge Winmill dated July 22, 2011, the Juniper Butte (1119) Allotment is managed under the Interim Grazing Management Plan (IGMP) (dated August, 2011) until their grazing permit renewal decision is final. Livestock must also be managed pursuant to an Annual Grazing Plan implemented at the beginning of each grazing year (March 1). The IGMP provides that the Active Use be limited to 2300 Animal Unit Months (AUMs). The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Permittee are responsible for insuring that livestock numbers and time in the allotment do not exceed this AUM number. Exceeding the AUMs specified in the IGMP violates 43 CFR 4140.1 and will result in administrative action, which may include modifications to the next year's annual grazing plan or civil penalties outlined in 43 CFR 4170.1. Formal consultation of the interim measures for conservation of Slickspot Peppergrass under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act was conducted with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and is reflected in the 2010 Biological Opinion for Slickspot Peppergrass (BO).

Actual Grazing Use Report

The permittee will submit a pasture-specific Actual Grazing Use Report **within 15 days** of completion of scheduled grazing within the allotment, or the end of the grazing year, whichever comes first.

Bird Ladders/Escape Ramps

The permittee will ensure that wildlife escape ramps in all troughs and open storage tanks are maintained and in a functioning condition.

Salt/Supplements

Protein blocks, salt blocks, and other authorized supplements used during the grazing period will be placed a minimum of 1/4 mile from existing water sources (unless otherwise directed), sagebrush communities or islands. If this is not possible, they will be placed in previously disturbed areas such as jeep trail intersections, annual grass areas, or in areas where they have previously been used. Containerized liquid supplement tub sites must be preapproved prior to use.

Range Improvements

The permittee is responsible for maintaining range improvements unless otherwise specified in Cooperative Agreements. If heavy equipment is needed for major maintenance (i.e., pipeline replacement, pond maintenance) the permittee must contact the authorized officer prior to conducting work.

Grazing Plan Description

Range conditions can vary from one year to the next, the actual AUMs available for use during the grazing year will be determined through utilization monitoring using thresholds specified in the IGMP. The pastures' grazing use presented here is approximate and may vary slightly with weather conditions, soil conditions, plant phenology, and monitoring data. The BLM may authorize additional time in pastures beyond what is shown in Table 1 if monitoring data indicates adequate forage is available and additional time is consistent with other resource objectives and the IGMP. Additional time in pastures or changes to livestock numbers or use periods in a pasture cannot result in exceeding the AUM's specified for the allotment in the IGMP. Reaching or approaching pasture utilization guidelines in the IGMP will require removal of livestock from the pasture regardless of the dates shown in Table 1.

Table 1 describes the grazing treatments and grazing schedule by pasture. Numbers of livestock and move dates may vary during the season. Departures from the schedule shown in Table 2 must be discussed between the permittee and the BLM permit administrator prior to making any changes on the ground. Based on the recommendation of the Interdisciplinary Team (IDT), the Field Manager has determined the treatments outlined in Table 2 are in compliance with the July 22, 2011 Memorandum Decision and Order.

Livestock movement within allotment boundaries will be accounted for in the grazing schedule. All livestock movement from one pasture to another will require they be "driven" rather than allowed to "drift". Rates of travel will be appropriate to the class of livestock to minimize the time spent.

TABLE 1. 2012 Grazing Schedule

Pasture/(Utilization Guideline)	Number of Livestock	Approximate Season of Use/ Comment
East Well* (30%)	270 C 300 C	6/15/12 – 6/30/12 7/16/12-8/1/12 This pasture has occupied LEPA habitat and is grazed in accordance 2010 BO as well as both the CCA and CA for slickspot peppergrass.
Mosquito Butte* (30%)	460 C 460 C 290 C	4/5/12 – 5/5/12 6/15/12– 6/30/12 7/5/12 – 7/20/12 This pasture has occupied LEPA habitat and is grazed in accordance 2010 BO as well as both the CCA and CA for slickspot peppergrass.
Mosquito Lake* (30%)	300 C 170 C	10/20/12-11/10/12 11/15/12-11/30/12 No livestock grazing is scheduled in this pasture between March 1 and June 20 to allow for priority of breeding,

Pasture/(Utilization Guideline)	Number of Livestock	Approximate Season of Use/ Comment
		nesting, and brood rearing sage-grouse. This pasture has occupied LEPA habitat and is grazed in accordance 2010 BO as well as both the CCA and CA for slickspot peppergrass
Bench (30%)	170 C	4/20/12-6/5/12 This pasture has occupied LEPA habitat and is grazed in accordance 2010 BO as well as both the CCA and CA for slickspot peppergrass
Lower Salls (30%)	120 C	6/12/12 – 7/22/12
Upper Salls (30%)	200 C 80 C 50 C	4/5/12-5/5/12 6/20/12-7/20/12 8/5/12-9/1/12
Upper Clover Riparian	0	Pasture is closed to grazing until Clover Creek reaches PFC.
*Identified by the ID Team to be a priority pasture for sage-grouse. This classification may be revised by the ID Team based on on-the-ground conditions.		

Monitoring

Upland utilization monitoring for the 2012 grazing year is scheduled to be conducted at key areas in each grazed pasture.

MIM monitoring will be performed in the Upper Clover Riparian Pasture at the Designated Monitoring Area (see map).

Agreement

This agreement will be signed by the permittee and the Jarbidge Field Manager prior to turnout on the Juniper Butte Allotment.

 2/12/12
Brackett Ranches, LTD Date

 2/29/12
Jarbidge Field Manager Date