

2012 ANNUAL GRAZING PLAN
ANTELOPE SPRINGS ALLOTMENT #1096
Antelope Springs Ranch

As a result of a Memorandum Decision and Order by Chief Judge Winmill dated July 22, 2011, the Antelope Springs (#1096) Allotment is managed under the Interim Grazing Management Plan (IGMP) (dated August 2011) until the 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 5,965 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.

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 schedule by pasture. Numbers of livestock and move dates may vary during the season. Departures from the schedule shown in Table 1 must be discussed between the permittee and the 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 schedule outlined in Table 1 is 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 (3/1/2012 – 2/28/2013) Grazing Schedule

Allotment	Pasture/(Utilization Guideline)	Number of Livestock	Approximate Season of Use/Notes	
Antelope Springs	1. The Point* (40%)	600C	03/01/2012 – 03/10/2012	
		300C	03/11/2012 – 03/15/2012	
		60C	12/31/2012 – 02/28/2013	
				Through management of water and salt/supplements, the native vegetation community in the north and eastern portions of the pasture will be managed to not exceed 30% utilization. No livestock grazing is scheduled in this pasture between March 15 and June 20 to allow for priority of breeding, nesting, and brood rearing sage-grouse.
	2. Secret Cabin (50%)	300C	03/11/2012 – 03/15/2012	
		600C	03/16/2012 – 04/10/2012	
		300C	04/11/2012 – 04/15/2012	
	3. Salmon Falls* (40%)	60C	11/23/2012 – 12/30/2012	
		600C	01/01/2013 – 02/28/2013	
			Through management of water and salt/supplements, the native vegetation community in the northeastern portion of the pasture will be managed to not exceed 30% utilization. No livestock grazing is scheduled in this pasture between March 1 and June 20 to allow for priority of breeding, nesting, and brood rearing sage-grouse.	

Table 1. 2012 (3/1/2012 – 2/28/2013) Grazing Schedule

Allotment	Pasture/(Utilization Guideline)	Number of Livestock	Approximate Season of Use/Notes
	4. Cedar Creek Crossing* (40%)	60C 300C 600C	03/01/2012 – 03/31/2012 04/11/2012 – 04/15/2012 04/16/2012 – 06/05/2012 The trough in section 10 within this pasture will remain off from March 1 through May 1 to benefit breeding sage grouse.
	5. Salmon Falls 2* (35%)	60C 600C	10/01/2012 – 11/22/2012 11/30/2012 – 12/31/2012 No livestock grazing is scheduled in this pasture between March 1 and June 20 to allow for priority of breeding, nesting, and brood rearing sage-grouse.
	6. West of Ranch* (40%)	60C	04/01/2012 – 06/05/2012 Only the trough in section 10 will be utilized between March 1 and June 5. The troughs in sections 9 and 27 will remain off from March 1 through June 5 to allow for priority of breeding, nesting, and brood rearing sage-grouse.
	6. A. Riparian* (35%)	600C 600C	06/06/2012 – 06/10/2012 11/27/2012 – 11/27/2012 No livestock grazing is scheduled in this pasture between March 1 and June 6 to allow for priority of breeding, nesting, and brood rearing sage-grouse.
	7. South of Road* (35%)	600C 300C 600C	06/10/2012 – 06/20/2012 06/21/2012 – 06/25/2012 11/16/2012 – 11/26/2012 No livestock grazing is scheduled in this pasture between March 1 and June 10 to allow for priority of breeding, nesting, and brood rearing sage-grouse. Also, no livestock grazing is scheduled in this pasture from December 1 through May 1 which will allow for priority of wintering mule deer and antelope. <i>Guerry Inc. is scheduled to move sheep through this pasture on approximately May 27. See Guerry Inc. 2012 AGP.</i>

Table 1. 2012 (3/1/2012 – 2/28/2013) Grazing Schedule

Allotment	Pasture/(Utilization Guideline)	Number of Livestock	Approximate Season of Use/Notes
	8. Monument Springs* (30%)	300C 600C 300C 300C 600C	06/20/2012 – 06/25/2012 06/26/2012 – 07/25/2012 07/26/2012 – 08/01/2012 10/16/2012 – 11/01/2012 11/02/2012 – 11/15/2012 No livestock grazing is scheduled from March 1 to June 20 which will allow for priority of breeding, nesting, and brood rearing sage-grouse. The enclosure around Mud Flat Pond will remain closed until September 1 to benefit sage-grouse summer habitat. Also, no livestock grazing is scheduled from November 1 through May 1 which will allow for priority of wintering mule deer and antelope. Additionally, no grazing by cattle is scheduled from May 1 to June 20 which will allow for priority of mule deer and antelope fawning and elk calving. <i>Guerry Inc. is scheduled to graze sheep in this pasture from approximately May 28 to June 4. See Guerry Inc. 2012 AGP.</i>
	9. Beaver Meadows (35%)	300C 600C 300C	07/26/2012 – 08/01/2012 08/02/2012 – 10/15/2012 10/16/2012 – 11/01/2012 No livestock grazing is scheduled from March 1 to June 20 to allow for priority of nesting and brood rearing sage-grouse. Also, no livestock grazing is scheduled from November 1 through May 1 which will allow for priority of wintering mule deer and antelope. Additionally, no grazing by cattle is scheduled from May 1 to June 30 which will allow for priority of mule deer and antelope fawning and elk calving. <i>Guerry Inc. is scheduled to graze sheep in this pasture from approximately June 5 to June 12. See Guerry Inc. 2012 AGP.</i>
*Identified by the IDT to be a priority pasture for sage-grouse. This classification may be revised by the IDT 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.

Agreement

This agreement will be signed by the permittee(s) and the Jarbidge Field Manager prior to turnout on the Antelope Springs Allotment.

 for Antelope Springs Ranch
Antelope Springs Ranch Date
2-28-12

 2/28/12
Jarbidge Field Manager Date