

Standards of Public Land Health Evaluation of 64003 MESA Allotment [01/11/2008]

The Roswell Field Office conducted Rangeland Health Assessments at 5 study sites within allotment #64003, Mesa. These assessments evaluated Soil/Site Stability, Hydrologic Function and Biotic Integrity indicators within the vicinity of each study site. Existing monitoring data and Ecological Site Descriptions were incorporated into and in support of this field assessment. A summary of each assessment is attached and shown in the following table.

Study Area or Assessment Area	UPLAND			BIOTIC			RIPARIAN		
	Meets	Monitor an Indicator	Does Not Meet	Meets	Monitor an Indicator	Does Not Meet	Meets	Monitor an Indicator	Does Not Meet
64003-15 MILE-F158	X	*		X			N/A		
64003-HORSE-F159	X			X			N/A		
64003-NORTH-F161	X			X			N/A		
64003-OLA TANK-F162	X			X			N/A		
64003-WELLS-F160	X			X			N/A		

Twenty-two (22) indicators for Rangeland Health were evaluated for public land on Mesa, allotment #64003. Ten of these assessed soil site stability, 11 hydrologic function and 13 biotic integrity. These qualitative assessments in conjunction with quantitative information gathered from previous data collected on 5 trend plot locations within this allotment were utilized to make rangeland health determinations. Quantitative evaluations are performed by the Roswell Field Office, which include some or all of the following: ground and vegetative cover and composition, production, frequency and ecological condition. These collections which were initiated in the late 1970's/early 1980's, are scheduled and conducted approximately every 5 years.

Currently this authorization is for 512 Animal Units @52% public land use for a total of 3,195 AUM's (Animal Unit Months). Cattle and horses are the class of livestock authorized. Livestock grazing rotation at evaluation indicates 4 of the 5 pastures on this allotment are currently deferred. Field evaluations verify Ola Tanks Pasture is the only one with livestock. Moderate use by cattle was observed here. The big cross country El Paso Natural Gas pipeline traverses through this allotment. Wells Pasture is most impacted by this disturbance.

North (909 ac/368 ha) and Wells (4,377 ac/1,772 ha) Pastures are CP-3 Loamy sites on a Deama-Darvey-Rock (DDC) outcrop soil association, moderately rolling on ridges, knolls and alluvial side slopes in plateaus in the northwestern parts of survey area. Slope is 1-15% between 4,400 ft/1,333 m and 5,000 ft/1,515 m elevation. Deama and Darvey soil are deep and well-drained and formed in residuum and calcareous alluvium respectively, derived dominantly from limestone. Rock outcrop on exposed areas of unweathered limestone and supports very little vegetation. Nearly all indicators assessed for these two pastures exhibited normal range of variability with few exceptions. Scatterings of mesquite (*Prosopis glandulosa*) and cholla (*Opuntia imbricata*) were observed. Due to non-grazing, fuel loads are up as grasses are becoming stagnant with some decadence. An Rx burn would remove most of this material and rejuvenate this particular portion of the watershed. Regardless, vegetative ground cover is high and adequate for site protection. Deer observed in this area along with pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*) are utilizing the forb and browse components. Sinkholes are present as well.

Ola Tanks Pasture (4,677 ac/1,893 ha) located up against highway 285 just west of Mesa rest stop, is in the Salt Creek 100K. This pasture was presently being used by cattle at a Moderate rate. Soil is a Darvey (DaA) loam on 0-2% slope, deep and well-drained on alluvial side slopes and fans and valley floors in the northwestern parts of survey area. This soil formed in calcareous alluvium derived dominantly from limestone. Some sinkholes were observed north of this study site. The usual array of grasses were observed for a loamy site; burrograss (*Scleropogon brevifolius*), tobosa (*Pleuraphis mutica*), muhly's (*Muhlenbergia* spp.), sideoats (*Bouteloua gracilis*), and threeawn (*Aristida* spp.). Shrubs are cholla, yucca (*Yucca* spp.) and snakeweed (*Gutierrezia sarothrae*). The majority of indicators assessed fell well within normal range of variability from ecological reference areas and established parameters. Wildlife concerns here are minimal with habitat and population indicators rating Slight to Moderate.

Horse Pasture, encompasses an acreage of (623/252 hectares), also has a Deama-Darvey-Rock gravelly loam soil association and ungrazed for at least 2 years. This CP-3 Shallow ecological site is an excellent Rx burn candidate to remove stagnant and decadent grass material, as the fuel load is heavy. This site is associated with a dump site and the access road is not well used off Iris Rd. southeast. A skunk (*Mephitis* spp.) was observed residing in the dump site. Burrowing activity by rodents is quite evident here also. Snakeweed and cholla are both scattered indicating invasives are Moderate. Annual production is estimated at 60-70% of potential and is Moderate as well. Biomass is primarily litter and standing dead vegetation. Ground cover is adequate for site protection until favorable precipitation conditions return. Wildlife habitat is only at 50-60% of potential with reduced forb and browse production. Ungulate populations fluctuate from pasture to pasture depending upon forage availability. Moderate departure can be ascertained for habitat and populations from this field investigation.

15 Mile Pasture encompasses (2,060 acres/834 hectares) on shallow limestone also a Deama-Darvey-Rock soil phase. This site is situated at the head of 15 Mile Arroyo where a two-track meets the draw. As a result severe gullying is taking place and sediment loss is occurring. Some evidence of past livestock was observed. Pronghorn were observed and mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) sign was obvious. Most indicators here rated Moderate for soil, biotic and hydrological attributes. Water flow patterns are longer than expected and connected especially at the mouth of the draw. Plants appeared elevated and pedestaled with some root exposure.

Bare ground was estimated at 50-60% which is substantially higher than expected. A combination of cow trails, drainages and roads has lead to erosional potential greater than expected. Gravel and rock on soil surfaces indicate some horizon loss and/or degradation with reduced organic matter in this substratum. Litter amount falls within the bottom range expected for the ESD and contributes to lesser amounts of mulch for soil protection. Functional/structural groups are Moderately reduced with bare patches forming larger than desired mosaic patterns of broken vegetation. Current dry conditions have undoubtedly impacted this allotment and surrounding areas. Wildlife habitat is fair to good and populations of pronghorn and mule deer are not at potential. Recovery potential is good here however as coulees and ravines provide suitable cover for other species, not only those key ungulates.

It is the professional opinion of the Assessment Team, public land within allotment #64003 Mesa meets Upland and Biotic Standards. There are no Riparian issues present therefore this standard was not addressed. See site notes, comments and recommendations for further information regarding this assessment.

Recommendations: Recommend an Rx burn for those pastures where the fuel load is high and potential for range rejuvenation is good. Horse, North and Wells Pastures, which have been deferred for some time now, are those sites where burns would only aid in returning the range to a healthy and vigorous condition.

Current rotation is adequate and waters are strategically placed with electric fences for separating and dividing particularly Ola Tanks Pasture. 15 Mile Pasture could use some road maintenance and turnout construction at the nick point of the drainage and two-track.

RFOs Upland and Biotic Standard Assessment Summary Worksheet			
SITE 64003-15 MILE-F158			
Legal Land Desc	SENE 6 0050S 0210E Meridian 23	Acreage	2060
Ecosite	070CY102NM SHALLOW LIMESTONE	Photo Taken	Y
Watershed	13060005040 FIFTEEN MILE		
Observers	NAVARRO/ARNOLD	Observation Date	03/12/2008
County Soil Survey	NM644 CHAVES NORTH	Soil Var/Taxad	
Soil Map Unit	DDC	Soil Taxon Name	DEAMA
Texture Class	NM644 GR-L	Soil Phase	DEAMA- DARVEY-ROC
Texture Modifier	NM644 GRAVELLY LOAM		
Observed Avg Annual Precipitation		Observed Avg Growing Season Precipitation	

NOAA Annual Precipitation	9.83	NOAA Growing Season Precipitation	7.66
NOAA Avg Annual Precipitation	9.49	NOAA Avg Growing Season Precipitation	7.58
Disturbances and Animal Use:	Gullying is evident here especially at the mouth of draw. Active erosion is taking place here with elevated and missing plants. Headcuts are present. No livestock observed at the moment.		

Part 2. Attributes and Indicators

		Departure from Ecological Site Description/Ecological Reference Areas				
Attribute	Indicators	Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight
S H	Rills				X	
Comments:						
S H	Water Flow Patterns			X		
Comments:		Longer than expected along road and mouth of draw.				
S H	Pedestals and/or Terracettes			X		
Comments:		Elevation of plants is at the mouth of draw.				
S H	Bare Ground			X		
Comments:		current estimate is 50%.				
S H	Gullies			X		
Comments:		mostly associated with roads, cow trails and along mouth of drainage				
S	Wind-scoured, Blowouts, and/or Deposition Areas					X
Comments:						
H	Litter Movement					X
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Resistance to Erosion				X	
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Loss or Degradation			X		
Comments:		some horizon loss				
H	Plant Community Composition and Distribution Relative to Infiltration and Runoff				X	

Comments:						
S H B	Compaction Layer				X	
Comments:						
B	Functional/Structural Groups			X		
Comments:	Some plant groups missing with the composition moderately compromised.					
B	Plant Mortality/Decadence				X	
Comments:						
H B	Litter Amount				X	
Comments:	10% is the current estimate.					
B	Annual Production			X		
Comments:	400-500 lbs/ac or kg/ha is the current estimate.					
B	Invasive Plants				X	
Comments:	catclaw, mesquite and cholla less than scattered					
B	Reproductive Capability of Perennial Plants				X	
Comments:						
S	Physical/Chemical/Biological Crusts				X	
Comments:	weak physical crust					
B	Wildlife Habitat				X	
Comments:	good for mule deer and pronghorn					
B	Wildlife Populations				X	
Comments:	burrowing activity by rodents					
B	Special Status Species Habitat					X
Comments:	n/a					
B	Special Status Species Populations					X
Comments:	n/a					

Part 3. Summary

A. Indicator Summary - Each of the indicators are associated with one or more of the attributes below. An indicator is placed in a category (columns) above and summed for each of the Standard Attributes.

Standard Attribute		Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight
S	Soil	0	0	5	4	1

H	Hydrologic	0	0	5	5	1
B	Biotic	0	0	3	8	2

B. Attribute Summary. In this table, the Extreme and Extreme to Moderate columns in the table above are merged for the *Does not Meet* column, Moderate becomes *May Need More Info*, and Slight to Moderate and None to Slight merge to form the *Meets* columns. Values from the table are summarized below. Space is provided for rationale of the determination. This space should most certainly be used when the determination by the ID team conflicts with the summarized values. Provide the sources of information that lead to the determination. X out the appropriate box for each attribute to denote final agreed upon determination by the ID team.

Attribute	Rationale	Does Not Meet	May Need More Info	Meets
Soil		0	5	5
Hydrologic		0	5	6
Biotic	Biotics are marginal but remain stable.	0	3	10

Site Notes: This site is marginal for soil and biotic attributes. Located next to ranch road, gullying off the mouth of the drainage is of concern. Sediment loss should be curtailed at the point of bed erosion, where vegetation is not even stabilizing the banks. Rock and gravel cover is higher than expected especially along the mouth of the draw. Pronghorn were observed along with mule deer.

Catclaw, mesquite and cholla are less than scattered here.

RFOs Upland and Biotic Standard Assessment Summary Worksheet

SITE 64003-HORSE-F159

Legal Land Desc	SWNE 35 0040S 0210E Meridian 23	Acreage	623
Ecosite	070CY113NM SHALLOW CP-3	Photo Taken	Y
Watershed	13060003200 FIVE MILE		
Observers	NAVARRO/BURGER/DREPS	Observation Date	01/15/2008
County Soil Survey	NM644 CHAVES NORTH	Soil Var/Taxad	
Soil Map Unit	DDC	Soil Taxon Name	DEAMA
Texture Class	NM644 GR-L	Soil Phase	DEAMA-DARVEY-ROC
Texture Modifier	NM644 GRAVELLY LOAM		
Observed Avg Annual Precipitation		Observed Avg Growing Season Precipitation	
NOAA Annual Precipitation	9.83	NOAA Growing Season Precipitation	7.66

NOAA Avg Annual Precipitation	9.49	NOAA Avg Growing Season Precipitation	7.58
Disturbances and Animal Use:	No livestock use was observed. Site is adjacent to an old trash site in an old sinkhole. Skunk was observed here.		

Part 2. Attributes and Indicators

		Departure from Ecological Site Description/Ecological Reference Areas				
Attribute	Indicators	Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight
S H	Rills					X
Comments:						
S H	Water Flow Patterns					X
Comments:						
S H	Pedestals and/or Terracettes				X	
Comments:						
S H	Bare Ground					X
Comments:		Current estimate for bare ground is 40%.				
S H	Gullies					X
Comments:						
S	Wind-scoured, Blowouts, and/or Deposition Areas					X
Comments:						
H	Litter Movement				X	
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Resistance to Erosion					X
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Loss or Degradation				X	
Comments:						
H	Plant Community Composition and Distribution Relative to Infiltration and Runoff					X
Comments:						
S H B	Compaction Layer					X
Comments:						
B	Functional/Structural Groups				X	

Comments:						
B	Plant Mortality/Decadence				X	
Comments:						
H B	Litter Amount				X	
Comments:	No real problems with litter except that residual grass cover is high due to non-use for at least 2 years.					
B	Annual Production			X		
Comments:	70% of potential exists; lots of previous year's growth present with current growth.					
B	Invasive Plants			X		
Comments:	Snakeweed is scattered throughout.					
B	Reproductive Capability of Perennial Plants				X	
Comments:	The amount of decadence may be a limiting factor.					
S	Physical/Chemical/Biological Crusts				X	
Comments:	Physical and biological crusts are evident but broken in continuity.					
B	Wildlife Habitat			X		
Comments:	No forbs present-pronghorn is moderate.					
B	Wildlife Populations			X		
Comments:	skunk at dump seen					
B	Special Status Species Habitat					X
Comments:	N/A					
B	Special Status Species Populations					X
Comments:	N/A					

Part 3. Summary

A. Indicator Summary - Each of the indicators are associated with one or more of the attributes below. An indicator is placed in a category (columns) above and summed for each of the Standard Attributes.

Standard Attribute		Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight
S	Soil	0	0	0	3	7
H	Hydrologic	0	0	0	4	7
B	Biotic	0	0	4	5	4

B. Attribute Summary. In this table, the Extreme and Extreme to Moderate columns in the table

above are merged for the *Does not Meet* column, Moderate becomes *May Need More Info*, and Slight to Moderate and None to Slight merge to form the *Meets* columns. Values from the table are summarized below. Space is provided for rationale of the determination. This space should most certainly be used when the determination by the ID team conflicts with the summarized values. Provide the sources of information that lead to the determination. X out the appropriate box for each attribute to denote final agreed upon determination by the ID team.

Attribute	Rationale	Does Not Meet	May Need More Info	Meets
Soil		0	0	10
Hydrologic		0	0	11
Biotic		0	4	9

Site Notes: No livestock observed here, but the grass species diversity was plentiful. This study area is associated with a dump site and the road is not well used. No cage was found. Burrowing activity by rodents was everywhere. A heavy fuel load indicated lack of livestock use along with previous years' precipitation.

RFOs Upland and Biotic Standard Assessment Summary Worksheet

SITE 64003-NORTH-F161

Legal Land Desc	SWNE 36 0040S 0210E Meridian 23	Acreage	909
Ecosite	070CY109NM LOAMY CP-3	Photo Taken	Y
Watershed	13060003200 FIVE MILE		
Observers	NAVARRO/BURGER/DREPS	Observation Date	01/15/2008
County Soil Survey	NM644 CHAVES NORTH	Soil Var/Taxad	
Soil Map Unit	DDC	Soil Taxon Name	DEAMA
Texture Class	NM644 L	Soil Phase	DEAMA-DARVEY-ROC
Texture Modifier	NM644 GRAVELLY LOAM		
Observed Avg Annual Precipitation		Observed Avg Growing Season Precipitation	
NOAA Annual Precipitation	9.83	NOAA Growing Season Precipitation	7.66
NOAA Avg Annual Precipitation	9.49	NOAA Avg Growing Season Precipitation	7.58
Disturbances and Animal Use:	Non-grazed pasture, fence is down in some places on the N/S line leading into this area.		

Part 2. Attributes and Indicators

Attribute	Indicators	Departure from Ecological Site Description/Ecological Reference Areas				
		Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight
S H	Rills					X
Comments:						
S H	Water Flow Patterns					X
Comments:						
S H	Pedestals and/or Terracettes					X
Comments:						
S H	Bare Ground					X
Comments:		10% is the estimate				
S H	Gullies					X
Comments:						
S	Wind-scoured, Blowouts, and/or Deposition Areas					X
Comments:						
H	Litter Movement				X	
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Resistance to Erosion				X	
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Loss or Degradation				X	
Comments:						
H	Plant Community Composition and Distribution Relative to Infiltration and Runoff				X	
Comments:						
S H B	Compaction Layer					X
Comments:						
B	Functional/Structural Groups				X	
Comments:						
B	Plant Mortality/Decadence					X
Comments:						
H B	Litter Amount				X	

Comments:						
B	Annual Production				X	
Comments:	Current years' production is dominant.					
B	Invasive Plants			X		
Comments:	Snakeweed is scattered.					
B	Reproductive Capability of Perennial Plants				X	
Comments:	Plenty of seed heads observed.					
S	Physical/Chemical/Biological Crusts				X	
Comments:						
B	Wildlife Habitat				X	
Comments:	Pronghorn, quail-upland birrds and rodents.					
B	Wildlife Populations				X	
Comments:	More present at the time; tracks found.					
B	Special Status Species Habitat					X
Comments:	N/A					
B	Special Status Species Populations					X
Comments:	N/A					

Part 3. Summary

A. Indicator Summary - Each of the indicators are associated with one or more of the attributes below. An indicator is placed in a category (columns) above and summed for each of the Standard Attributes.

Standard Attribute		Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight
S	Soil	0	0	0	3	7
H	Hydrologic	0	0	0	5	6
B	Biotic	0	0	1	8	4

B. Attribute Summary. In this table, the Extreme and Extreme to Moderate columns in the table above are merged for the *Does not Meet* column, Moderate becomes *May Need More Info*, and Slight to Moderate and None to Slight merge to form the *Meets* columns. Values from the table are summarized below. Space is provided for rationale of the determination. This space should most certainly be used when the determination by the ID team conflicts with the summarized values. Provide the sources of information that lead to the determination. X out the appropriate box for each attribute to denote final agreed upon determination by the ID team.

Attribute	Rationale	Does Not Meet	May Need More Info	Meets
Soil		0	0	10
Hydrologic		0	0	11
Biotic		0	1	12

Site Notes: The cage was smashed; ungrazed pasture on a northerly slope, with a heavy fuel load, Evidence of hunting, sinkhole present but low grama production.

RFOs Upland and Biotic Standard Assessment Summary Worksheet

SITE 64003-OLA TANK-F162

Legal Land Desc	SENE 2 0040S 0210E Meridian 23	Acreage	4677
Ecosite	070CY109NM LOAMY CP-3	Photo Taken	Y
Watershed	13060003200 FIVE MILE		
Observers	NAVARRO/BURGER/DREPS	Observation Date	01/15/2008
County Soil Survey	NM644 CHAVES NORTH	Soil Var/Taxad	
Soil Map Unit	DaA	Soil Taxon Name	DARVEY
Texture Class	NM644 L	Soil Phase	DARVEY
Texture Modifier	NM644 LOAM		
Observed Avg Annual Precipitation		Observed Avg Growing Season Precipitation	
NOAA Annual Precipitation	9.83	NOAA Growing Season Precipitation	7.66
NOAA Avg Annual Precipitation	9.49	NOAA Avg Growing Season Precipitation	7.58
Disturbances and Animal Use:	Moderate use by cattle was observed. Roads and cattle trails are evident.		

Part 2. Attributes and Indicators

Attribute	Indicators	Departure from Ecological Site Description/Ecological Reference Areas				
		Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight
S H	Rills					X
Comments:						
S H	Water Flow Patterns				X	
Comments:	Not quite moderate but moving there.					

S H	Pedestals and/or Terracettes			X		
Comments:	In flow patterns, most plants elevated.					
S H	Bare Ground			X		
Comments:	50% is the current estimate					
S H	Gullies					X
Comments:						
S	Wind-scoured, Blowouts, and/or Deposition Areas					X
Comments:						
H	Litter Movement				X	
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Resistance to Erosion				X	
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Loss or Degradation				X	
Comments:						
H	Plant Community Composition and Distribution Relative to Infiltration and Runoff				X	
Comments:						
S H B	Compaction Layer					X
Comments:						
B	Functional/Structural Groups				X	
Comments:						
B	Plant Mortality/Decadence					X
Comments:						
H B	Litter Amount			X		
Comments:	10% is the current estimate					
B	Annual Production				X	
Comments:	70% of potential for normal years					
B	Invasive Plants				X	
Comments:	on disturbed sites;cholla					
B	Reproductive Capability of Perennial Plants				X	
Comments:						
S	Physical/Chemical/Biological				X	

	Crusts					
Comments:	broken in continuity					
B	Wildlife Habitat				X	
Comments:	forbs lacking					
B	Wildlife Populations				X	
Comments:	none present currently; observed last week					
B	Special Status Species Habitat					X
Comments:	N/A					
B	Special Status Species Populations					X
Comments:	N/A					

Part 3. Summary

A. Indicator Summary - Each of the indicators are associated with one or more of the attributes below. An indicator is placed in a category (columns) above and summed for each of the Standard Attributes.

Standard Attribute		Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight
S	Soil	0	0	2	4	4
H	Hydrologic	0	0	3	5	3
B	Biotic	0	0	1	8	4

B. Attribute Summary. In this table, the Extreme and Extreme to Moderate columns in the table above are merged for the *Does not Meet* column, Moderate becomes *May Need More Info*, and Slight to Moderate and None to Slight merge to form the *Meets* columns. Values from the table are summarized below. Space is provided for rationale of the determination. This space should most certainly be used when the determination by the ID team conflicts with the summarized values. Provide the sources of information that lead to the determination. X out the appropriate box for each attribute to denote final agreed upon determination by the ID team.

Attribute	Rationale	Does Not Meet	May Need More Info	Meets
Soil		0	2	8
Hydrologic		0	3	8
Biotic		0	1	12

Site Notes: Moderate use by cattle is evident. This site is adjacent to highway with a gravel storage nearby. Sink holes are also present, The utilization cage was smashed with no rebar found.

RFOs Upland and Biotic Standard Assessment Summary Worksheet

SITE 64003-WELLS-F160

Legal Land Desc	SWNW 11 0050S 0210E Meridian 23	Acreage	4377
Ecosite	070CY109NM LOAMY CP-3	Photo Taken	Y
Watershed	13060003200 FIVE MILE		
Observers	NAVARRO/BURGER/DREPS	Observation Date	01/15/2008
County Soil Survey	NM644 CHAVES NORTH	Soil Var/Taxad	
Soil Map Unit	DDC	Soil Taxon Name	DEAMA
Texture Class	NM644 L	Soil Phase	DEAMA- DARVEY-ROC
Texture Modifier	NM644 GRAVELLY LOAM		
Observed Avg Annual Precipitation		Observed Avg Growing Season Precipitation	
NOAA Annual Precipitation		NOAA Growing Season Precipitation	
NOAA Avg Annual Precipitation		NOAA Avg Growing Season Precipitation	
Disturbances and Animal Use:			

Part 2. Attributes and Indicators

Attribute	Indicators	Departure from Ecological Site Description/Ecological Reference Areas				
		Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight
S H	Rills					X
Comments:						
S H	Water Flow Patterns					X
Comments:						
S H	Pedestals and/or Terracettes				X	
Comments:						
S H	Bare Ground					X
Comments:	10% is the current estimate					
S H	Gullies					X
Comments:						

S	Wind-scoured, Blowouts, and/or Deposition Areas					X
Comments:						
H	Litter Movement				X	
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Resistance to Erosion				X	
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Loss or Degradation				X	
Comments:						
H	Plant Community Composition and Distribution Relative to Infiltration and Runoff					X
Comments:						
S H B	Compaction Layer					X
Comments:						
B	Functional/Structural Groups				X	
Comments: gramas absent						
B	Plant Mortality/Decadence					X
Comments:						
H B	Litter Amount				X	
Comments:						
B	Annual Production				X	
Comments:						
B	Invasive Plants			X		
Comments: cholla is scattered						
B	Reproductive Capability of Perennial Plants					X
Comments:						
S	Physical/Chemical/Biological Crusts				X	
Comments:						
B	Wildlife Habitat				X	
Comments:						
B	Wildlife Populations				X	
Comments:						

B	Special Status Species Habitat					X
Comments:	N/A					
B	Special Status Species Populations					X
Comments:	N/A					

Part 3. Summary

A. Indicator Summary - Each of the indicators are associated with one or more of the attributes below. An indicator is placed in a category (columns) above and summed for each of the Standard Attributes.

Standard Attribute		Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight
S	Soil	0	0	0	4	6
H	Hydrologic	0	0	0	5	6
B	Biotic	0	0	1	7	5

B. Attribute Summary. In this table, the Extreme and Extreme to Moderate columns in the table above are merged for the *Does not Meet* column, Moderate becomes *May Need More Info*, and Slight to Moderate and None to Slight merge to form the *Meets* columns. Values from the table are summarized below. Space is provided for rationale of the determination. This space should most certainly be used when the determination by the ID team conflicts with the summarized values. Provide the sources of information that lead to the determination. X out the appropriate box for each attribute to denote final agreed upon determination by the ID team.

Attribute	Rationale	Does Not Meet	May Need More Info	Meets
Soil		0	0	10
Hydrologic		0	0	11
Biotic		0	1	12

Site Notes: No grazing is occurring here and has not for some time now. This site is adjacent to a natural gas pipeline and has a build-up of fuel by grass. The disturbance is minimal with higher than normal production. Deer and pronghorn observed.

Determination of Public Land (Rangeland) Health for 64003 MESA

The Record of Decision (ROD) for the New Mexico Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management (dated January 2001) adopted three Standards for Public Land Health. These are (1) Upland Sites Standard, (2) Biotic Communities, Including

Native, Threatened, Endangered, and Special Status Species Standard and (3) Riparian Sites Standard.

The ROD also established a process for the BLM Field Offices for implementation. Through a public participation process, the Roswell Field Office developed and adopted indicators to use in conjunction with existing monitoring data to assess these standards.

Field assessment worksheets and other available data that evaluate the local indicators were completed for this allotment. Based on these assessments, it is my determination that public land within Mesa, allotment #64003, meets the (1) Upland Sites standard and (2) Biotic Communities, including Native, Threatened, Endangered, and Special Status Species standard. There are no public land Riparian areas on this allotment, therefore this standard was not addressed.

/s/ BRAD PENDLEY
Assistant Field Manager

08/08/2008
Date