Determination of Public Land (Rangeland) Health for 64005 - THE Y

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 the 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 The Y allotment, #64005 meets the Standards of Rangeland Health. There are no public land Riparian areas on this allotment, therefore this standard was not addressed.

/s/ Jerry Dutchover .
Assistant Field Manager

08/10/2012 .
Date

Standards of Public Land Health
Evaluation of 64005 - THE Y Allotment
[07/16/2012]

The Roswell Field Office conducted rangeland health assessments at 1 study site within 64005 - THE Y. The assessments looked at the Soil/Site Stability, Hydrologic Function and Biotic Integrity indicators within the vicinity of each study site. Existing monitoring data was incorporated into and in support of the field assessment. The 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
64005-IDSU-A151	X			X			N/A		

Twenty-two (22) indicators for Rangeland Health were evaluated for public land on The Y, allotment #64005. Ten of these assess soil site stability, 11 hydrologic function and 13 biotic integrity. These qualitative assessments in conjunction with quantitative information gathered from previous data collected on 1 study location 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 were initiated in the late 1970's/early 1980's, are scheduled and conducted approximately every 5 to 10 years..

This allotment is a "C" (Custodial) category allotment and contains a total of 633 acres of public land scattered among private land. The study within this allotment is located on a Loamy CP-2 ecological site. A majority of the indicators were rated as either "None to Slight" or "Slight to Moderate" departure from the ecological description. Three of the indicators were rated as "Moderate": Bare Ground, Annual Production and Reproductive Capability of Perennial Plants. All of these indicators were rated as such due to the ongoing drought. Given adequate precipitation, each of these indicators should improve.

Recommendations: As a majority of the indicators fall in the "None to Slight or Slight to Moderate" category, this allotment is rated as "Meeting" the standard for Rangeland Health. Continue the rangeland monitoring studies to insure proper stock rates are maintained, and that perennial grasscover and good plant composition remains.

RFOs Upland and Biotic Standard Assessment Summary Worksheet			
SITE 64005-IDSU-A151			
Legal Land Desc	NWNW 18 0040S 0230E Meridian 23	Acreage	633
Ecosite	070BY052NM LOAMY CP-2	Photo Taken	Y
Watershed	13060003160 HUGGINS		
Observers	PIERCE, BRAUND, BURKHARDT	Observation Date	07/16/2012
County Soil Survey	NM644 CHAVES NORTH	Soil Var/Taxad	
Soil Map Unit	HRB	Soil Taxon Name	HOLLOMEX
Texture Class	NM644 L	Soil Phase	HOLLOMEX-MILNER-REEVES
Texture Modifier	NM644 MOIST LOAMS		
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

		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:						
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:	drought conditions					
B	Invasive Plants				X	
Comments:						
B	Reproductive Capability of Perennial Plants			X		
Comments:	drought conditions					
S	Physical/Chemical/Biological Crusts					X

Comments:						
B	Wildlife Habitat					X
Comments:						
B	Wildlife Populations					X
Comments:						
B	Special Status Species Habitat					
Comments:	NA					
B	Special Status Species Populations					
Comments:	NA					

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	1	4	5
H	Hydrologic	0	0	1	5	5
B	Biotic	0	0	2	3	6

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	1	9
Hydrologic		0	1	10
Biotic		0	2	9

Site Notes: