

**Allotment Evaluation (AE)  
For  
Two-Eighty-Five (#587)**

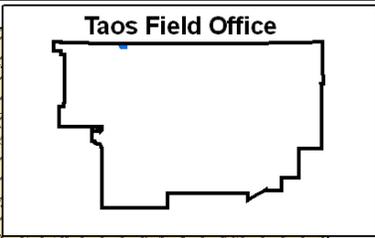
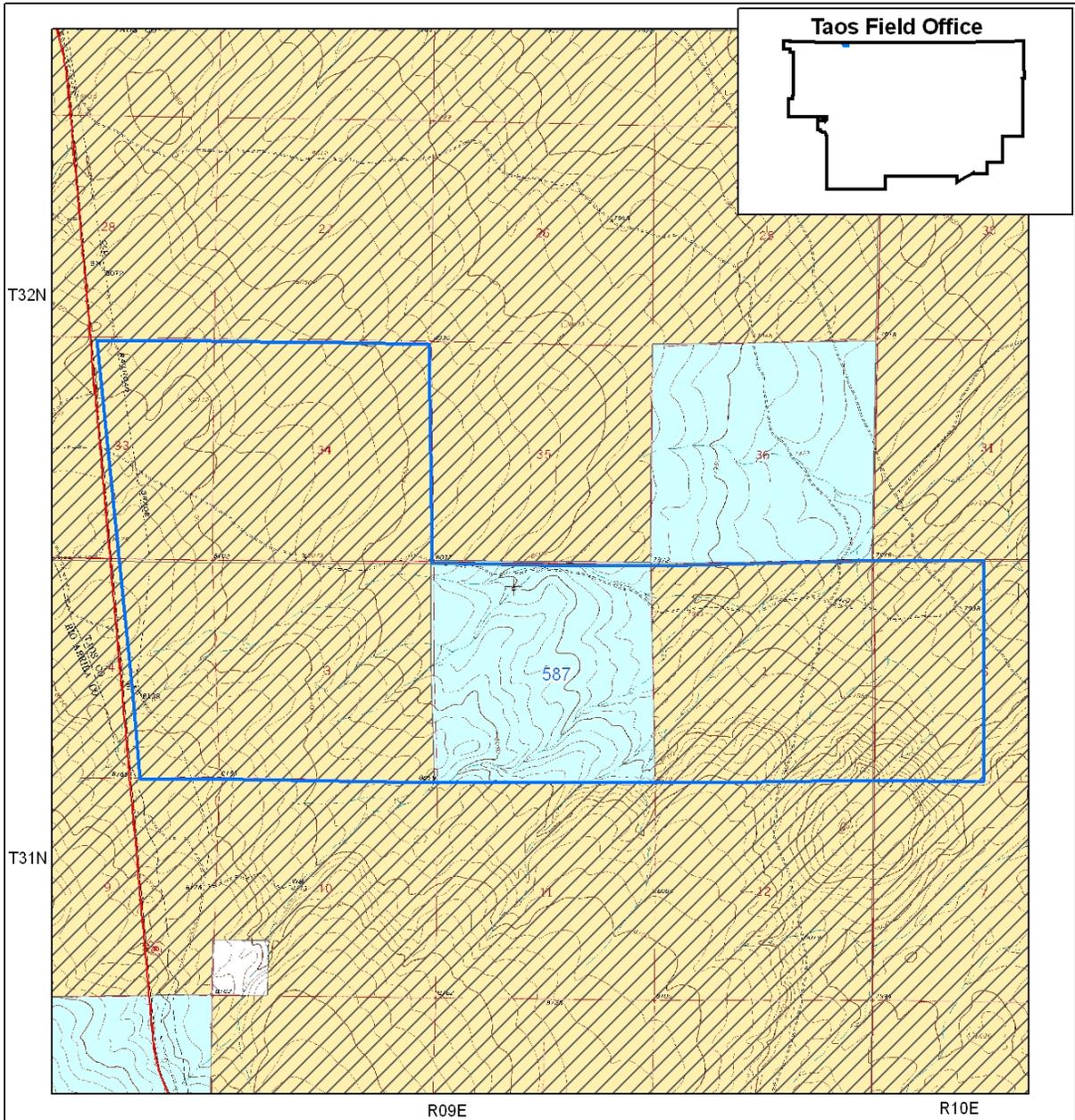
Permittee		<u>Authorization Number</u> 3001227		
Livestock Use	Preference AUMs	<u>Allotment</u> 00587	<u>Active</u> 383	<u>Suspended</u> 0
	Period of Use	<u>Allotment</u> Two-Eighty-Five	<u>Kind</u> 53 Cattle	<u>Season of Use</u> 10/10 – 12/15
	Kind of Livestock	Cow Calf		
	Percent Public Land	AUMs are authorized at 83% public land		
Allotment Profile	Physical Description	<p>Allotment 587 is located approximately 16 miles north of Tres Piedras, in Taos County, New Mexico. Elevation on this allotment is roughly 8,350 to 8,500 feet. Landforms on the allotment include uplands.</p> <p>Four soil types are identified within the BLM land of this allotment. They include:</p> <p>Luhon-Travelers complex, 3 to 7 percent slopes. These soils consist of loams, with rooting depths between 20 to 60 inches. Parent material of residuum of basalt and eolian sediments comprise these soils. Average annual precipitation in this area ranges from 10 to 12 inches. Vegetation is characterized by western wheat, Indian ricegrass, and winter fat.</p> <p>Rock outcrop-Raton complex, moderately steep. These soils consist of stony silt loams, with rooting depths up to 20 inches. Parent material of basalt residuum and mixed eolian sediment comprise these soils. Average annual precipitation in this complex ranges from 14 to 16 inches. Vegetation is characterized by pinyon, juniper, muttongrass, Arizona fescue and western wheat.</p> <p>Shawa clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes. This soil consists of clay loams with rooting depths over 60 inches. Parent materials of alluvium</p>		

		<p>on playa bottoms comprise this soil. Average annual precipitation in this complex ranges from 10 to 12 inches. Vegetation is characterized by blue grama, western wheat and fourwing saltbush.</p> <p>Stunner-Travelers association, gently sloping. These soils consist of stony loams, with rooting depths between 20 and over 60 inches. Parent material of mixed alluvium, residuum of basalt and eolian sediment comprises this soil. Average annual precipitation in this area ranges from 10 to 12 inches. Vegetation is characterized by western wheat, blue grama, threeawn and winter fat.</p> <p>Vegetation observed during time of review included blue grama, rabbitbrush, prickly pear, snakeweed, squirreltail, winter fat, galleta, fourwing saltbush and western wheat.</p>																						
	Land Status Acreage	<table border="0"> <tr> <td><u>BLM</u></td> <td><u>State</u></td> <td><u>Private</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2,718</td> <td>640</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </table>	<u>BLM</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Private</u>	2,718	640	0																
<u>BLM</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Private</u>																						
2,718	640	0																						
	Management Objectives	The allotment is under an 'Improve' ('I') management category. 'I' category allotments are managed to achieve satisfactory ecological condition.																						
	Key Forage Species	blue grama, western wheat, needle and thread, Indian ricegrass, Arizona fescue and winterfat																						
	Grazing System	Unknown																						
Management Evaluation	Actual Use	<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>AUMs</u></th> <th><u>Year</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>240</td><td>2006</td></tr> <tr><td>240</td><td>2005</td></tr> <tr><td>240</td><td>2004</td></tr> <tr><td>244</td><td>2003</td></tr> <tr><td>295</td><td>2002</td></tr> <tr><td>265</td><td>2001</td></tr> <tr><td>227</td><td>2000</td></tr> <tr><td>265</td><td>1999</td></tr> <tr><td>247</td><td>1998</td></tr> <tr><td>148</td><td>1997</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Actual use has not been routinely submitted for this allotment. Use has been assessed from paid bills and information available within the operator file.</p>	<u>AUMs</u>	<u>Year</u>	240	2006	240	2005	240	2004	244	2003	295	2002	265	2001	227	2000	265	1999	247	1998	148	1997
<u>AUMs</u>	<u>Year</u>																							
240	2006																							
240	2005																							
240	2004																							
244	2003																							
295	2002																							
265	2001																							
227	2000																							
265	1999																							
247	1998																							
148	1997																							
	Utilization	Due to the lack of staff, utilization surveys have not been conducted.																						
	Climate	The past water year (Oct. 1, 2006 – Sept. 30,																						

		<p>2007) the temperature and precipitation has been slightly (+1 to +2 degree Fahrenheit and +3 to +6 inches, respectively) above average. This should provide average or above plant growth.</p> <p>Climate change is a concern not only in New Mexico but globally. “Effects of increasing atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels on plants are predicted to cause dramatic changes in native vegetation. Global climate change may accelerate rates of plant extinction, while ecosystem structure and function may shift. Ecological response to global changes in climate could shift ecosystems (i.e., shrublands replacing grasslands) and have effects, not only to an individual species, but to the ecosystem itself by additions and deletions of vegetation species” (Johnson, H.B., and H.S. Mayeux. 1992. Viewpoint: A view on species additions and deletions and the balance of nature. Journal of Wildlife Management 45:322-333.)</p> <p>We anticipate that our monitoring efforts will help indicate vegetation shifts, allowing for management modifications to address global climate change.</p>
	Trend	<p>Two long term trend plots have been established on this allotment, but due to a lack of staff they have not been read since 1991. A Rangeland Health Matrix was completed on August 6, 2007. The actual survey forms are available within the allotment file. Below is a summation of the information gathered by the survey. Within the Rangeland Health Attributes are three different categories of indicators. The categories include; Soil and Site Stability, Hydrologic Function and Biotic Integrity. The indicators are relative to a departure from expected based on an Ecological Site Description. Standards for each individual category are met when they are rated Proper Functioning Condition or Functioning at Risk-Upward Trend. Not meeting standards are ratings of; Functioning</p>

		<p>at Risk-Static, Functioning at Risk-Downward Trend and Non Functional.</p> <p>Soil and Site Stability Ten of ten indicators were deemed None to Slight. Rating: 100%</p> <p>Hydrologic Function Ten of ten indicators were deemed None to Slight Rating: 100%</p> <p>Biotic Integrity Eight of nine indicators were deemed None to Slight, and one was deemed Slight to Moderate. Rating: 98%</p> <p>Overall Rating: 99%</p> <p>Soils were rated at Proper Functioning Condition, Biotic Flora was rated at Proper Functioning Condition and Biotic Fauna was rated at Proper Functioning Condition.</p> <p>Livestock do not appear to be adversely affecting the functionality of this allotment.</p>
	Wildlife	<p>Seasonal home ranges in the allotment include those for elk, deer, pronghorn, mountain lion, black bear, bobcat, fox, coyote, small mammals, bats, raptors, turkey vulture, songbirds, amphibians, and a variety of insects.</p> <p>Elk, pronghorn and deer are grazers, however there is little dietary overlap between deer and cattle. Best management practices (rotational grazing and enhancement of cool season grasses; fourwing saltbush, Indian ricegrass and winterfat) would ensure that forage production within this area can support both wildlife and livestock on a sustained basis.</p> <p>Critical wildlife areas on the allotment include winter range for elk, pronghorn and</p>

		deer. An important migratory corridor for avian and big-game species also occurs inside the allotment boundaries.
	Threatened and Endangered Species	<p>It is determined that there are no state or federally listed threatened or endangered species likely to be found in the subject allotment. There is no designated critical habitat for any species listed by the USFWS within the allotment.</p> <p>Special status species that are likely to be found on the allotment include prairie dogs, burrowing owl, mountain plover and ferruginous hawk.</p>
Conclusions and Recommendations		The allotment is in good condition, with good vegetative diversity. One problem with this allotment was the lack of western wheat, compared to the suggested amount by the NRCS soil survey. It is recommended that monitoring take place to watch for increases or decreases in the graminoid species.



## Two-Eighty-Five (587)



Legend	
	Allotment Boundary
	Bureau of Land Management
	Private
	State

Produced by the BLM Taos Field Office - GIS on:  
 Wednesday, November 15, 2007  
 No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data, or for purposes not intended by BLM. Spatial information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This information may be updated without notification.

7.5' Topos: Pinebetoso Peaks