

## 4.7 RANGE RESOURCES

### ***Proposed Action***

#### **Direct Impacts**

The project area spans 15,354 acres of BLM and BOR land; including 3,422 acres of the Rock Springs Grazing Allotment, 1846 acres of the Bass Flat Grazing Allotment, and 161 acres of the Salt Wells Grazing Allotment. Seven of the proposed well sites fall within the Rock Springs Allotment, and one falls within the Bass Flat Grazing Allotment (see Table 4-1).

Impacts on grazing resources would be minimal. The entire lease area would not be developed. After initial construction, the only area that would be unusable for grazing cattle would be the roadway (approximately 3.6 acres) and the well sites (approximately 26 acres).

Loss of grazing would be short-term during construction as revegetation would open up most disturbed areas to grazing. Post construction, approximately 26 acres of the Rock Springs Grazing Allotment and approximately 4 acres of the Bass Flats Grazing Allotment would be permanently unavailable for grazing because roads would have no vegetation and well sites would be paved and fenced. This would result in a total loss of less than one AUM.

**Table 4-1 Grazing Allotment Impacts**

<b>Allotment Name</b>	<b>Total Area of Grazing Allotment (Acres)</b>	<b>Approximate Acres within Lease Area Available for Grazing</b>	<b>Approximate Allotment Acres within Lease Area Lost to Grazing</b>	<b>Approximate AUMs within Lease Area</b>	<b>Approximate AUMs within Lease Area Affected</b>
Bass Flat	46,789	1846	4.31	62.8	0.15
Rock Springs	28,394	3422	26.9	64.3	0.51
Salt Wells	58,611	161	0	4.5	0
<b>Total</b>					<b>0.66</b>

#### **Indirect Impacts Based on a Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenario**

If a power plant were to be developed, a greater area of land would be disturbed for construction and operation of the plant. As a result, a greater amount of grazing would be temporarily lost during construction and permanently lost during operations than under the Proposed Action. Subsequent NEPA analysis would determine the actual impact to range resources.

#### ***No Action Alternative***

Under the No Action Alternative, no construction would take place, and there would be no adverse impacts on range resources in the project area.