

Appendix 1
Hubbard Vineyard Allotment Environmental Assessment
Proposed Project Procedures
Common to All Range Improvement Projects

The following Proposed Project Procedures would apply to all proposed range improvement projects:

General

1. As range improvement projects are planned, conservation measures from the 1999 *Nevada Bird Conservation Plan* and the 2005 *Nevada Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy* as recommended by NDOW will be incorporated, when appropriate.
2. All trash and excess debris will be removed from the public lands and disposed of at an approved solid waste disposal site within 10 days of construction completion.
3. Ensure that vehicles entering and exiting project site are clean of any noxious weed plant parts and that they stay on existing and established roads to the site.
4. Baseline surveys will be conducted for special status species (plant and animal) prior to project implementation. Projects will be designed to avoid special status species and monitoring will be conducted to determine if indirect activities associated with projects are causing impacts.
5. Habitats of less mobile species tied to specific geographic areas (a particular spring, a burrow complex, a unique and locally rare patch of habitat) will be avoided. Examples would include burrow complexes used by burrowing owls or pygmy rabbits, a riparian area important for Columbian spotted frogs, etc.
6. A raptor and migratory bird nesting survey (using current approved US Fish and Wildlife Service protocol) will be required for projects that are proposed to be constructed between March-July. Should nests be found, construction will be postponed until completion of nesting and until after a second survey is completed to ensure no later nesting attempts have been initiated and/or are ongoing.
7. All equipment oil and hydraulic leaks will be repaired before use. Any leaks developed during use will be repaired immediately. If leaks into the soil are possible, drip pans will be used to prevent soil contamination.
8. During fueling operations the operator will insure no fuel spillage occurs. Care should be taken to insure all fuel tank caps, hoses, and spillage is minimized to prevent soil contamination. Should a spill occur, it will be reported to the BLM Hazardous Materials Specialist immediately for proper action.
9. All soil disturbances will be monitored for the establishment of noxious weeds. Treat invasive and noxious weeds in a manner that is most appropriate to the weed species and degree of infestation. Treatment will be in accordance with the procedures outlined by *the*

Programmatic Environmental Assessment of Integrated Weed Management on Bureau of Land Management Lands (BLM 1999; BLM/EK/PL-98/008).

10. Disturbed areas will be treated, where such action is necessary and practical, to replace ground cover and prevent erosion.
11. BLM will obtain all necessary permits prior to construction to comply with state and federal laws.
12. Avoid surface disturbing activities when soils are wet on soils that are most susceptible to compaction (sandy loam, loam, and sandy clay loam textures).
13. Construction of all projects will be in accordance with the appropriate BLM handbooks or technical references to the maximum extent possible.

Cultural Resources

1. A Nevada BLM Cultural Resources Inventory Needs Assessment form will be completed for any grazing-related proposed action or ground-disturbing project maintenance within the allotment that might affect cultural resources.
2. If an inventory is found to be necessary, the BLM will conduct inventories (or see that inventories are conducted), evaluate National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility of any recorded cultural resources, evaluate effects, and devise and complete appropriate mitigation measures prior to initiating earth disturbing activities for any of the proposed range improvement projects. These mitigating measures will be in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act as guided by the 36 CFR §800 regulations, the BLM 8100 Manual, the State Protocol Agreement between the Nevada BLM and the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office and the Nevada BLM's Cultural Resources Inventory General Guidelines, 4th edition.
3. Native American consultation will be undertaken by the BLM for individual range improvement projects should information pertinent to the allotment be recorded during ethnographic studies currently in process for nearby projects, or otherwise become available.
4. Project redesign to avoid adverse effects to cultural resources eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (hereafter "historic properties") will be the preferred option. Should redesign be infeasible or if adverse impacts cannot be effectively avoided, other options such as data recovery at historic properties eligible under Criterion D of the National Register of Historic Places will be considered. If none of the mitigation options prove satisfactory, the range improvement in question will not be constructed.
5. Both direct effects of project installation and indirect effects of livestock grazing (e.g. increased trampling on historic properties in previously "under utilized" areas) will be considered during Section 106 compliance for range improvements that might modify livestock use patterns.
6. If historic properties are found to be impacted by livestock or as a result of grazing or grazing management, the BLM and Permittee will work together to devise measures to eliminate the

impact or lessen it to the point where it no longer affects the qualities that make the property eligible for the National Register.

7. Maintenance or modifications to existing range improvement projects on public lands is allowed subject to the following criteria:

- a. No new ground disturbance occurs, or;
- b. A cultural resource inventory was previously completed and no cultural resources were found to be present, or;
- c. A BLM archaeologist has determined that an inventory was completed and that no protective mitigation measures were part of the original project approval, or;
- d. The improvement itself (historic road, railroad grade, bridge, trough, windmill, storage tank, etc.) is not a cultural resource.

8. If salt, mineral, or supplement placements are found to be impacting historic properties on public land, then salting locations must be moved $\frac{1}{4}$ mile or to such a location that the site would no longer be affected.

9. All persons participating in the construction, operation, or maintenance of range improvement projects will not disturb, alter, injure or destroy any scientifically important paleontological remains; or any historical or archaeological site, structure, building object or artifact on public lands. Permittee is responsible for ensuring that its employees, contractors, guests, or any others associated with the ranch do not collect artifacts, or damage or vandalize archaeological or historical sites or the artifacts within them. Individuals involved in illegal activities will be subject to penalties under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (16 U.S.C 470ii), the Federal Land Management Policy Act (43 U.S.C 1701), the Native American Graves and Repatriation Act (16 U.S.C. 1170) and other applicable statutes.

10. If human remains/burials or any previously unidentified cultural (archaeological or historical) resources or vertebrate paleontological resources are discovered during BLM authorized, permitted or funded project construction, the permittee or contractor will immediately cease all activities within 300 feet of the discovery, insure that the discovery is appropriately protected and immediately notify the BLM by telephone, followed with written confirmation. Work will not resume and the discovery will be protected until the BLM Authorized Officer issues a notice to proceed. Discoveries of human remains not associated with authorized activities will also be reported to the BLM Authorized Officer.

Special Project Requirements for Fence Projects

1. Fences will be built in accordance with manual H-1741-1. Modifications may be incorporated into the design based on consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) and subsequent recommendations to minimize adverse impacts to wildlife. Let down fences could be constructed in big game crucial ranges and migration corridors where feasible and necessary.

2. The top fence wire will be secured above horizontal braces to minimize perching by predatory birds.

3. If steel pipe corners are used, domed pipe caps will be secured to the top of steel pipes to prevent wildlife entry and to minimize predatory bird perching.
4. Increase the visibility of fences constructed within 1 km (5/8 mile) of seasonal sage grouse ranges by utilizing appropriate measures such as installing wide stays, deflectors and/or white-topped posts. Type or brand of deflectors used will be selected from those that have been previously tested and determined to be effective.
5. For access during construction, minimal blading, grading, or scaling of the fence line will be allowed. Surface disturbance associated with project construction will not exceed a 16-foot corridor along the route of the fenceline. Brush removal, if necessary, will be done by hand or with "brush beater" type equipment that does not uproot brush or otherwise break the ground surface. After the fence is constructed, the BLM will evaluate the need for reseeding disturbed areas to prevent the spread of undesired weed species.
6. Fences will be maintained on an annual basis by the permittee. If fences are not satisfactorily maintained, appropriate action will be taken.

Special Project Requirements for Water Developments

1. Stockwater troughs will be located to take advantage of topography and vegetation to screen sites from view. Stockwater troughs will be placed so that the height of the top rim will not exceed 20 inches above ground level and maintained at this level or lower level. The overflow outlets will be located downhill from the trough a minimum of 40 feet.
2. A bird and small mammal access ramp/escape ladder (furnished by the BLM or the permittee or designed as part of the stockwater trough itself) will be maintained in each stockwater trough by the permittee.
3. Stockwater troughs and the storage tank will be painted an earthtone color (approved by the BLM) which blends with the surrounding environment.
4. No roads will be constructed, but vehicular use along the pipeline route associated with routine maintenance could occur.
5. If concentrated runoff occurs along vehicle tracks which begin to cause rilling or gulying, water breaks may be installed every 200 feet where slopes are less than ten percent, and every 150 feet on 11-25 percent slopes.
6. Surface disturbance associated with the project construction will not exceed a width of a 16-foot corridor along the route of the pipeline and a 30-foot diameter circle around each trough. All ground disturbance associated with pipeline construction resulting in bare ground may be seeded with a seed mixture approved by BLM to help prevent soil erosion and noxious weed/annual exotic weed establishment.
7. Pipe will be buried at least 18 inches below the ground surface unless otherwise required for engineering or mitigation of cultural resource values.

8. No blading, grading, or scalping of the pipeline route will be allowed. Brush removal, if necessary, will be done by hand or with “brush beater” type equipment which does not uproot brush or otherwise break the ground surface.

Appendix 2
Hubbard Vineyard Allotment Environmental Assessment
Riparian Objectives

Riparian

a. Manage grazing on 1.3 miles of Dry Creek, 5.8 miles of Jakes Creek, and 2.0 miles of Salmon Falls Creek to achieve short and long-term stream/riparian habitat objectives as outlined below:

Dry Creek

Habitat Parameter	Baseline Condition (2001)	Short-term Objective (5 year)	Long-term Objective (10 year)
Riparian Condition Class (% Optimum)	58% (fair)	>60% (good)	>70% (excellent)
Stream Width/Depth Ratio	25.3%	<20%	<15%
Proper Functioning Condition Assessment	1.2 miles NF (2000)	FAR↑ on NF reaches	PFC

Jakes Creek

Habitat Parameter	Baseline Condition (2001)	Short-term Objective (5 year)	Long-term Objective (10 year)
Riparian Condition Class (% Optimum)	61% (good)	>70% (excellent)	Maintain
Stream Width/Depth Ratio	10.5%	Maintain	Maintain
Proper Functioning Condition Assessment	8.2 miles PFC 3.9 miles NF (2000)	FAR↑ on NF reaches	PFC

Salmon Falls Creek

Habitat Parameter	Baseline Condition (2001)	Short-term Objective (5 year)	Long-term Objective (10 year)
Riparian Condition Class (% Optimum)	62% (good)	>70% (excellent)	Maintain
Stream Width/Depth Ratio	36.4%	<30%	<20%
Proper Functioning Condition Assessment	FAR (2000)	Improve	PFC

Additionally, manage grazing on 8.2 miles of Bull Camp Creek and springs and seeps to achieve short and long-term stream/riparian habitat objectives as outlined below:

Bull Camp Creek

Habitat Parameter	Baseline Condition (2001)	Short-term Objective (5 year)	Long-term Objective (10 year)
Riparian Condition Class (% Optimum)	49% (poor)	>60% (good)	>70% (excellent)
Stream Width/Depth Ratio	22.7%	<20%	<15%
Proper Functioning Condition Assessment	5.8 miles NF (2000)	FAR↑ on NF reaches	PFC

Springs and Seeps

Habitat Parameter	Baseline Condition (2003)	Short-term Objective (5 year)	Long-term Objective (10 year)
Proper Functioning Condition Assessment	9.6 acres FAR↑(10 sites) 15.4 acres FAR↓(22 sites) .3 acres NF (3 sites)	Based on potential and capability, 75% of sites are rated PFC or FAR↑	Based on potential and capability, >75% are rated PFC