



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

No approved hazardous waste disposal sites exist in the resource area.

LANDS AND REALTY MANAGEMENT

LAND TENURE ADJUSTMENT

Within the planning area, BLM administers the surface and mineral estates on 709,000 acres, and the mineral estate only on 145,000 acres. The distribution of public lands throughout DMRA is depicted on the land status map found in Map Packet #1 in the back of this document.

The lands identified for disposal through sale, encompassing up to approximately 24,000 acres, are outlined in Appendix 3.

LAND USE AUTHORIZATIONS

There are currently 333 land use authorizations within DMRA encompassing a total of 14,855 acres. The majority of these are roads, oil and gas pipelines, water pipelines and facilities, and transmission lines.

The presence of existing major facilities and steep grades significantly limit the physical dimensions of the Jesse Ewing Canyon corridor. It is expected that this corridor could support a maximum of three new major facilities prior to reaching its carrying capacity and eventual closure.

Future demands for electricity to supply populations on the Wasatch Front in Utah and southern California are presently being appraised (personal communications, Deseret Generation and Transmission Cooperative, 1991). Transmission line routes may cross DMRA following existing transmission rights-of-way. There has been some informal interest by industry for a route crossing the proposed Nine Mile Canyon ACEC. Such a proposed line, if formalized, would be evaluated under a site-specific analysis.

WITHDRAWALS

Approximately 57 percent of the resource area (406,200 acres) is segregated from disposal actions and 54 percent (389,200 acres) is segregated from mining claim location. Existing withdrawals and BLM administered lands, excluding those established for other federal agencies, are listed on Table 3-7. Also identified, to the extent possible, is the segregative effect of each withdrawal and the acreage covered.

OTHER MANAGEMENT INDICATOR SPECIES

The Vernal District has selected the following additional MISs to act as biological indicators of environmental quality and change: burrowing owls, prairie falcons, common flicker, mountain bluebird, green-tailed towhee, loggerhead shrike, Vesper sparrow, warbling vireo, song sparrow, rufous-sided towhee, plain titmouse, woodhouse toad, leopard frog, and macroinvertebrates. However, little or no data is available on their habitat requirements. Therefore no habitat management objectives have been developed.

OTHER NON-GAME MAMMALS, BIRDS, REPTILES, AND AMPHIBIANS

The resource area provides habitat for over 51 species of shrews, bats, squirrels, moles, and mice. A minimum of 173 species of non-game birds reside throughout the resource area. At least 7 species of amphibians and 21 species of reptiles also reside in the DMRA. Nussbaum, et al. (1983), has correlated the abundance and diversity of amphibians to the availability of stable, undisturbed riparian habitat. This study further documented the need by amphibians for cool, clear water and dead and down woody debris which helps to maintain moisture levels as important factors in maintaining amphibian life. Reproductive rates of most of these nongame species are high, enabling rapid population expansion, assuming habitat conditions are readily available. No intensive studies have been completed to identify crucial habitat for most of these species.

**TABLE 3-7:
WITHDRAWALS AND CLASSIFICATION ON BLM ADMINISTERED LANDS**

WITHDRAWAL TYPE/ SERIAL NUMBER	ACREAGE	SEGREGATIVE EFFECT	RECOMMENDATION
<u>Reclamation</u> U-011167 U-026185 U-1361 U-18619 U-42905 U-42919	957.45 80.30 220.00 70.00 80.00 6,160.67	Public Land & Mining Laws Public Land & Mining Laws	
<u>Public Water Reserves</u> U-41597 (#107) U-41628 (#107) U-41659 (#107) U-41660 (#107) U-52455 (#107) U-63972 (#107) (U-0144914) U-63973 (#107) U-63974 (#107) (U-0143422) U-63975 (#16) (U-41551C) U-41556 (#152) U-0141805 (#107)	40.00 40.00 171.26 200.00 960.21 182.18 80.00 280.00 263.23 40.00	Public Land Laws and Nonmetalliferous Mining Location " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	
<u>Water/Power (Powersite Classifications)</u> U-42950 (#42) U-42951 (#107) U-42984 (CL #93) U-42995 (#411) U-42948	3,347.40 48.00 9,217.67 277.15 750.02	Public Land Laws Public Land Laws Public Land Laws Public Land Laws Public Land Laws	
<u>Watershed Protection Withdrawal</u> U-42874	750.02	Public Land Laws, Mining Laws and the Mineral Leasing Laws	
<u>Recreation/Administrative Site Classifications</u> U-5338 U-060709 U-041339	307.00 111.75 40.00	Public Land Laws Public Land Laws	
<u>National Science Foundation</u> U-11462	2,312.21	Public Land Laws, Mining and Mineral Leasing Laws	1984/Continue
<u>Oil Shale</u> U-2036 & U-49399	400,000.00	Public Land & Mining Laws	Terminate

Source: BLM Utah Withdrawal Files

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

Livestock grazing on BLM-managed public land is authorized under Section 3 of the Taylor Grazing Act of 1934. Livestock grazing is allowed on approximately 705,550 acres of federal surface lands in DMRA, including Bureau of Reclamation withdrawals. Federal acres closed to livestock grazing total approximately 3,450 acres (less than 1 percent of the resource area). Of the areas

closed to livestock grazing, about 2,950 acres are scattered isolated tracts and 500 acres are concentrated along the Green River Scenic Corridor in Browns Park.

Formal adjudication of livestock grazing privileges completed during 1958-1967 resulted in significant reductions. Within the resource area, a total of 50,299 Animal Unit Months (AUMs) are currently authorized livestock preference: 34,090 AUMs for cattle, 16,088 for sheep, and 120 for horses. Presently there are 14,387

AUMs in nonuse as suspended preference. Average use over a six-year period is 38,916 AUMs.

Currently there are 97 grazing permittees and 108 allotments (see the oversized allotment map in Map Packet #2). Twenty (20) allotments are covered under allotment management plans (AMPs). There are 88 cattle allotments, 16 sheep allotments, and 4 dual-use allotments. Appendix 8 provides comprehensive livestock information on an allotment basis for the resource area.

Livestock grazing occurs year-round. The lower elevations primarily in the shadscale and sagebrush vegetation zones are utilized during the fall, winter and spring seasons. The higher elevations of mostly mountain sagebrush communities are used during the summer months.

Each DMRA grazing allotment has been placed into one of three "selective management" categories to establish priorities for management. The criteria used in placing an allotment into a category included rangeland condition, present and potential resource production, resource use conflicts, and the opportunity for economic returns from public investments. The three categories used and the objective for each category are shown in Table 3-8. Refer to Appendix 8 for allotment-specific information regarding current management categorization.

**TABLE 3-8:
SELECTIVE MANAGEMENT**

Category	Objective	No. of Allotments
Improve	Improve current unsatisfactory resource conditions	39
Maintain	Maintain current satisfactory resource conditions	38
Custodial	Manage custodially, while protecting existing resource values	31

Source: DMRA files

A number of rangeland projects have been constructed to improve the effectiveness of livestock grazing. Allotment boundaries are generally defined by fences, except where natural barriers effectively control livestock. Some allotments managed under AMPs are further divided by interior fences to pastures, which control livestock movement within the allotment. Table 3-9 provides a summary of rangeland projects on DMRA, through 1989.

Within the resource area, livestock water is scarce. Most perennial streams, large reliable springs, and seeps are in private ownership. Ephemeral drainages, mostly held in

public ownership, only run water for short periods during spring runoff or following storm events. Therefore, numerous springs and reservoirs have been developed to provide water for livestock and wildlife.

**TABLE 3-9:
RANGELAND PROJECTS, THROUGH 1990**

Project Type	Units
Management Facilities	73 ea
Vegetation/Land Treatments	33,900 acres
Fence (incl. Enclosures)	321 miles
Water Developments	445 ea

Source: DMRA Files

Several vegetation treatments have been undertaken to change the composition of the plant community. These treatments have involved prescribed burning, chainings, plowing and reseeding. Range improvements have been funded by BLM, other cooperative government agencies, and grazing permittees.



WILD HORSES

Approximately 200 acres within DMRA are included within the Range Creek Herd Management Area (Herd No. UT641). The habitat is planned, managed, and administered by the Price River Resource Area, Moab District, Utah. Current management goals are a herd size of approximately 40 horses, requiring about 490 AUMs.

On a prorated basis, DMRA provides forage for about 10 percent of the herd, or about 49 AUMs. Monitoring data from the Price River Resource Area indicate the herd unit within DMRA has not received any wild horse use over the past 10 years.