

GREEN MOUNTAIN COMMON ALLOTMENT

Purpose and Need for Action

The Green Mountain Common Allotment (GMCA) is one of the largest livestock grazing allotments in the western United States encompassing over 500,000 acres. Approximately 89% of the acreage is public land, 7% is Wyoming State Land and 4% is in private ownership. The available forage on the BLM administered public lands is provided for livestock (81%), big game species of wildlife (13%) and wild horses (6%).

Important standards for rangeland health are not being met for public lands in the GMCA. The December, 2002 allotment evaluation concluded that the riparian and habitat standards were not being met nor is there significant progress being made towards meeting the standards. Thus, there is a need to implement management actions that will restore the health of the public rangelands. The most immediate need is the riparian zones which are essentially the “green” areas adjacent to streams, springs, seeps and ponds which receive the heaviest grazing.

Approximately 60% of the riparian acreage occurs on the public land. The remaining 40% occurs on State of Wyoming land and private lands. Other important needs for restoration are the habitats necessary to support a good diversity of animals and plants on the public lands.

Restoring the health of the public rangelands will allow for sustaining the productivity of those lands such that they contribute to long-term economic stability.