

Attachment 1:

RMP Appendix 14; Biological Opinion – Appendix I; Pages 15- 17

Blowout Penstemon Conservation Measures – BO Conservation Measures

Revise RMP conservation measure #1 to match Wyoming statewide BO conservation measure

Change to: Conservation measures 3 and 4 will be added to grazing permit/lease renewals or Allotment Management Plans in allotments with known blowout penstemon populations. All Allotment Management Plans are a required conformance measure within their respective grazing permit/lease.

Revise RMP conservation measure #1A to match Wyoming statewide BO conservation measure #3

Change to: Place mineral supplements, or new water sources (permanent or temporary), for livestock, wild horses, or wildlife at least 1.0 mile from known blowout penstemon populations. Do not place supplemental feed for livestock, wildlife, or wild horses within 1.0 mile of known blowout penstemon populations. Straw for other feed must be certified weed-free. These restrictions are intended to keep free-ranging livestock away from blowout penstemon populations and subsequent grazing on the blowout penstemon plants. Surveys for blowout penstemon will be conducted in potential blowout penstemon habitat prior to the authorization of range improvement projects.

Revise RMP conservation measure #1B to match Wyoming statewide BO conservation measure #4

The BLM will not late livestock grazing permits/leases in any allotment with pastures containing blowout penstemon populations without coordinating adjustments with the USFWS.

Revise RMP conservation measure #2 to match Wyoming statewide BO conservation measure #5

Introduction of biological controls for noxious and invasive plant species will be prohibited in known and potential blowout penstemon habitat until the impact of the control agent has been fully evaluated and determined not to adversely affect the plant population. The BLM will monitor biological control vectors.

Revise RMP conservation measure #3 to match Wyoming statewide BO conservation measure #6

Herbicide treatment (aerial, vehicle, and ground) will be prohibited within 0.5 mile of occupied blowout penstemon habitats (see Standard Operation Procedures from National Vegetation Treatment Record of Decision appendix B) as is consistent with conservation measures detailed in the National Programmatic

Vegetation Treatment EIS (BLM 2007a,b). For insecticide treatments, no aerial application of malathion or carbaryl will occur within 3.0 miles of occupied habitats; only carbaryl bran bait or diflubenzuron combined with Reduced Agent Area Treatment (RAATs) methodology would be used within the 3-mile buffer; and no application of carbaryl bran bait would be applied within 0.25 mile buffer of occupied blowout penstemon habitats.

- a. Where pests (weeds, insects, fungal) have the potential to degrade area ecological health and threaten blowout penstemon population viability, through coordination with the USFWS ground applications of pesticides will be allowed within occupied habitat.
- b. The BLM will work with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), the USFWS, and county weed and pest agencies to select pesticides and methods of application that will most effectively manage the infestation and least affect the blowout penstemon.

Revise RMP conservation measure #4 to match Wyoming statewide BO conservation measure #7

Only through coordination with the USFWS will re-vegetation projects be authorized within 0.25 mile of occupied blowout penstemon habitat.

Revise RMP conservation measure #5 to match Wyoming statewide BO conservation measure #8

Limit the use of off-highway vehicles (OHVs) to designated roads and trails within 1.0 mile of known blowout penstemon populations, with the exception of authorized necessary tasks. No OHV competitive events will be allowed within 1.0 mile of known blowout penstemon populations. Roads near blowout penstemon plants that are not required for routine operations or maintenance of developed projects, or lead to abandoned projects will be reclaimed as directed by the BLM and in coordination with the USFWS.

The BLM will limit the use of OHVs to existing roads and trails within 1.0 mile of known blowout penstemon populations, the only exceptions to this measure are for the performance of authorized necessary tasks specifically related to firefighting, hazardous material cleanup, existing ROW maintenance and inspection, and fence maintenance associated with livestock and grazing management activities.

Revise RMP conservation measure #7 and delete conservation measure #6 to match Wyoming statewide BO conservation measure #9

The BLM will prohibit BLM-authorized surface disturbing activities on Federal oil and gas leases and/or BLM-managed surface estate within 0.25 mile of known blowout penstemon populations.

Revise RMP conservation measure #9 to match Wyoming statewide BO conservation measure #11

Prior to any land tenure adjustments in known blowout penstemon habitat, the BLM will conduct surveys to assess habitat boundaries and those areas with occupied habitat will remain in Federal ownership. Further, the BLM will engage in opportunities for land acquisition to conserve Endangered Species Act listed plant species through purchase, donation, land exchange, conservation easement, or other means to prevent habitat loss (BLM 2008b). Only through coordination with the USFWS are BLM-administered public lands that contain occupied habitat for blowout penstemon to be exchanged or sold (BLM 2008b).

Revise RMP conservation measure #10 to match Wyoming statewide BO conservation measure #12

All new proposed ROW project locations (power lines, pipelines, roads, renewable energy, etc) would not be allowed within 0.25 miles from any known occupied blowout penstemon habitat to minimize disturbances. If the avoidance of adverse effects is not possible, the BLM will re-initiate consultation with the USFWS.

- a. Wind energy developments will not be authorized within 1.0 mile of occupied blowout penstemon habitat to minimize potential impacts associated with wind turbines. If projects are proposed within 1.0 mile of occupied habitat the BLM will re-initiate consultation with the USFWS.

Revise RMP conservation measure #11 to match Wyoming statewide BO conservation measure #13

Proposed projects not addressed in other conservation measures will be prohibited within 0.25 mile from any known occupied blowout penstemon populations to minimize surface disturbance and adverse effects within occupied habitat. If the avoidance of adverse effects is not possible, the BLM will re-initiate consultation with the USFWS.

Add RMP conservation measure #12 to match Wyoming statewide BO conservation measure #14

The BLM will conduct ongoing surveys to inventory and monitor existing blowout penstemon populations. Photo-interpretation of aerial maps combined with on-the-ground surveys will be conducted in those Field Offices identified as having potential habitat. These actions will assist in determining the range of blowout penstemon in Wyoming and aid the USFWS in compiling species distribution lists.

Add RMP conservation measure #13 to match Wyoming statewide BO conservation measure #15

A database of all surveyed, inventoried, and /or monitored blowout penstemon sites will be maintained by the BLM in conjunction with the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database (WYNDD).

Add RMP conservation measure #14 to match Wyoming statewide BO conservation measure #16

BLM will provide educational materials to authorized permittees in blowout penstemon habitat, including, but not limited to, ROW and livestock permittees (regarding practices for minimizing potential for impacts related to fence and ROW maintenance). BLM efforts (i.e. phone calls or other direct communication) will be taken to ensure all authorized permittees (e.g. grazing permittees and/or ROW permittees) have received the educational materials and to ensure there are no questions regarding the importance of avoiding impacts to blowout penstemon habitats or individual plants.