

## **Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy (DNA)**

(DNA-02-02)

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

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### **A. Describe the Proposed Action**

The proposed action is the renewal of a Section 15 grazing lease for the 1281.2 acre Laubacher Lease allotment, #00155 in accordance with 43 CFR 4100.0-8, 4110.1, 4130.2, and 4130.3. The Laubacher Lease allotment is located in Siskiyou County, California in T48N, R3W, Sections 14, 24, and S½, N½, Section 23. The base property for the grazing lease is owned by Pacificorp and currently leased by Robert E. Miller.

The renewed grazing lease will have the same parameters as the expiring lease, use by 32 cattle from 4/15 to 6/14 for a total of 64 AUMs of active and total preference. The term of the renewed lease is 3/01/2001 to 1/09/2003 to correspond with the term of Miller's private land lease with Pacificorp. An Environmental Assessment(EA) that analyzed livestock grazing impacts for 10 years (standard BLM grazing lease term) was completed in 2000. This EA is referenced under **C. NEPA Documents**, below. This DNA and the referenced EA will meet the NEPA requirements for the future renewals of the Pacificorp private land lease and the associated BLM grazing lease for the Laubacher Lease allotment through the year 2010.

### **B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance**

LUP Name: **Redding Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (RMP)**  
Date Approved: **June 1993**

LUP Name: **Redding Livestock Grazing Planning Decisions and Range Program  
Summary (ROD)**  
Date Approved: **May 1984**

LUP Name: **Final Environmental Impact Statement, Redding Proposed Livestock  
Grazing Management (FEIS)**  
Date Approved: **August 1983**

LUP Name: **Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Redding Proposed Livestock  
Grazing Management (DEIS)**  
Date Approved: **March 1983**

**G** The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUPs because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions:

- **RMP, Resource Area-Wide Decisions, Management Guidance, Livestock Grazing,**

page 19, *This program operates under the authority of Section 15 of the Taylor Grazing Act, BLM policies and the Redding Livestock Grazing Management Environmental Impact Statement. This document was approved in 1984 and subsequently implemented to improve or maintain ecological condition for perennial range and maintain or improve forage production on the annual range. Future management of livestock will continue to follow the prescriptions established in this document.*

- **ROD, page 2, RECORD OF DECISION FOR THE REDDING RESOURCE AREA EIS PROPOSED ACTION, Range Management Decision, *The range management decision for the Mediterranean vegetation is the preferred alternative, continuation of the present management system and livestock allocation levels...***
- **ROD, page 2, IDENTIFICATION OF SELECTED EIS ALTERNATIVE, *Alternative D, continuation of the existing situation, is selected as the preferred alternative for implementation...***
- **ROD, TABLE I-PROPOSED ALLOCATION OF FORAGE TO DOMESTIC LIVESTOCK - 1984 GRAZING SEASON**

Lease Name	Acres of Public Land	Acres Suitable	Current Lease AUMs	Livestock Allocation <u>AUMs (1984)</u>
Laubacher	1841	1591	92	92

**C. Identify applicable NEPA documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.**

List by name and date all applicable NEPA documents that cover the proposed action.

Environmental Assessment: OR-014-00-05 (EA)

All documents listed under **B. Land Use Plan Conformance** above.

List by name and date other documentation relevant to the proposed action (e.g., biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, and monitoring report).

None

**D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria**

**1. Is the current proposed action substantially the same action (or is a part of that action) as previously analyzed? Is the current proposed action located at a site specifically analyzed in an existing document?**

The proposed action is a continuance of livestock grazing on the Laubacher allotment. This action was analyzed in the Land Use Planning documents listed under **B. Land Use Plan Conformance** above. Since the analysis in those documents, 560 acres of the BLM land in the allotment has been sold. The AUMs allocated to the allotment have been reduced by the percentage of the total allotment acres that were sold (30%) as follows:

Original BLM acreage-1841 acres	Original AUM allocation-92 AUMs
Current BLM acreage-1281 acres	Current AUM allocation-64 AUMs

The Environmental Assessment (EA) cited under **C. NEPA Adequacy Criteria**, was completed after this change in acreage and AUMs. This decrease in allotment acreage and proportionate decrease in AUMs was not considered a substantial change as the impacts analyzed were essentially the same per unit of land.

In addition, a fencing project completed in 1998 excluded an additional 35-40 acres from livestock grazing impacts. This area was cited at “RMP, KLAMATH MANAGEMENT AREA, II. LAND USE ALLOCATIONS, C. Upper Klamath River, 5. The river corridor is closed to grazing.”. This fencing was analyzed in Environmental Assessment #RE-98-12.

**2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the current proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?**

The current proposed action is essentially the same action that was analyzed in the NEPA documents referenced above under **C. NEPA Adequacy Criteria**.

**3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances?**

A review was conducted to determine if any new information, studies, and analyses were available that would provide data that would materially differ from the data in the earlier analyses performed in the RMP, ROD, FEIS, and DEIS documents noted above. The following was found:

- No rangeland monitoring studies have been performed on this allotment and there have been no indications that the allotment has any resource related problems that need monitoring.
- In accordance with 43 CFR 4180, the Redding Resource Area is in the process of implementing the Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management. A “Rangeland Health Standards Assessment” is scheduled for completion on this allotment before FY2008. This assessment will ascertain whether

the allotment is meeting, not meeting, or making significant progress towards meeting the five Standards for Rangeland Health. Rangeland monitoring may be performed on this allotment in the future if additional information is deemed necessary to adequately assess the allotment.

The existing analyses performed in the LUPs and EA cited in B and C above are still considered valid at this time, including the described/analyzed livestock grazing impacts.

**4. Do the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA document(s) continue to be appropriate for the current proposed action?**

The RMP was approved in 1993 and prepared under the guidance provided by BLM planning regulations issued under the authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) and in conformance with regulations established by the Council on Environmental Quality regarding the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970 (NEPA). This guidance is currently considered appropriate. In addition, the rangeland inventory and monitoring methods used at the time of the RMP development are still currently approved as being appropriate for the analysis of the proposed action. The EA completed in 2000 was also prepared based upon these regulations.

**5. Are the direct and indirect impacts of the current proposed action substantially unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA document(s)? Does the existing NEPA document analyze site-specific impacts related to the current proposed action?**

The currently proposed action is essentially the same action as was analyzed by the existing NEPA documents cited throughout this document. The direct and indirect impacts of livestock grazing on this allotment were analyzed in the DEIS, Chapter 4 - "Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action and Alternatives" and the analysis was affirmed in the FEIS, ROD, and RMP.

Site specific impacts were further analyzed in the EA completed in 2000.

**6. Are the cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the current proposed action substantially unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?**

The cumulative impacts of the proposed action are essentially the same as those analyzed in the NEPA documents cited throughout this document.

**7. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?**

The public involvement associated with the RMP is outlined on pages 6 and 7 of the RMP under PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT. This effort was in conformance with NEPA and FLPMA

and is considered adequate for the proposed action.

The EA completed in 2000 was completed with NEPA required public notification.

**E. Interdisciplinary Analysis:** Identify those team members conducting or participating in the NEPA analysis and preparation of this worksheet.

Prepared by:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
Dana Eckard	Rangeland Management Specialist

Reviewed by:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
Bill Lindsey	Rangeland Management Specialist
Lou Whiteaker	Botanist
Gayle Sitter	Wildlife Biologist
Scott Snedaker	Fisheries Biologist
Mike Turaski	Hydrologist
Barbara Ditman	Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist
Don Hoffheins	NEPA /Planner

### **Conclusion**

- Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

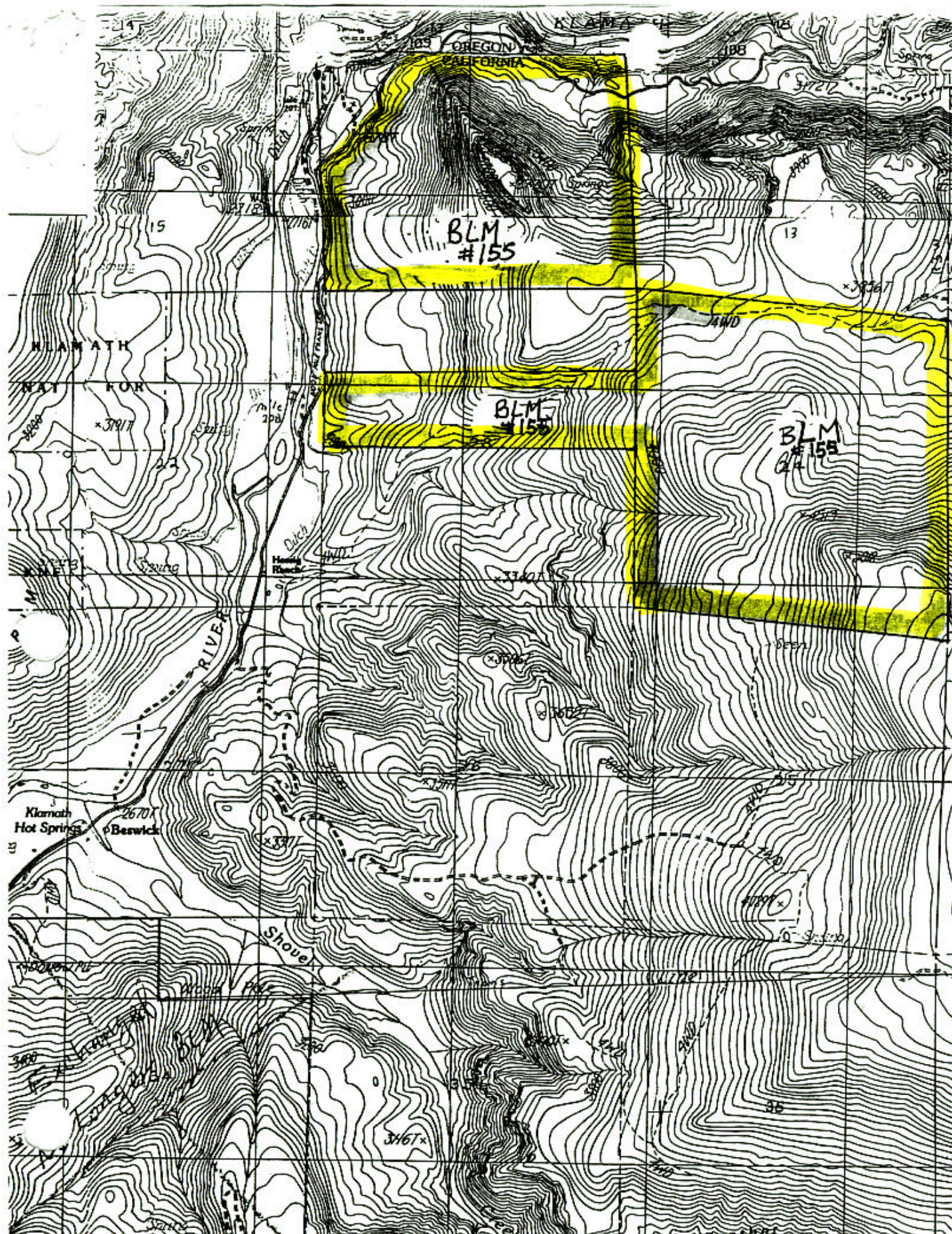
/ Teresa A. Raml /

Manager

April 23, 2002  
Date

Note: The signed Conclusion on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision.







DNA

## Klamath Falls Resource Area Project Proposal Routing Slip for Internal Review

Project Name: Laubacher Lease, #00155, Grazing Permit Date Initiated: 2/22/02

Resource or Staff Responsible	Review Priority	Preliminary Review Date/Initials	Comments Attached/Incorporated	Final Review Date/Initials
Manager: Teri Raml	Last			TR
Branch Chief: Barbara Ditman	Second to Last			3/21/02 B&D
Branch Chief: Larry Frazier	Second to Last			
Branch Chief: Mel Crockett	Second to Last			
Planner/EC: Don Hoffheins	Third from Last	3/15/02 DCH	Incorporated	3/19/02 DCH
Range: Bill Lindsey			NO	2/25
Range: Dana Eckard	author			02E 2/22/02
Wild Horses: Tonya Pinckney	NA			
Fire/Air Quality: Joe Foran	NA			
Silviculture: Bill Johnson	NA			
Timber: Mike Bechdolt	NA			
Botany/ACEC/Sensitive Plants/Noxious Weeds: Lou Whiteaker	✓			AW 3/14/02
Soils: David Lebo				
Cultural: Michelle Durant	✓			TC 2/27
Lands/Realty/Minerals/HazMat: Tom Cottingham	NA			
Recreation/Visuals/Wilderness: Scott Senter	✓	VSS 3/18/02	No comments	VSS 3/18/02
Hydrology/Riparian: Mike Turaski	✓	MRT 2/28/02		MRT 3/18
Wildlife/T&E: Gayle Sitter	✓	SA 3/6/02		GA 3/6/02
Fisheries/T&E: Scott Snedaker	✓	SS 2/28/02	See attached Post-its.	SS 3/18
W&S Rivers: Grant Weidenbach	NA			
Engineering: Brian McCarty				
Clearances/Surveys	Needed	Done/Attached	<p>*This document will not sit on your desk for more than 8 hours I proved that wrong.</p> <p>**Some resource areas may not apply for all projects. If so, just mark "N/A" and date reviewed.</p>	
Cultural				
Botanical	NO	AW 3/14/02		
E, BA & or Consultation	No. GS.	3/6/02		
404 Permit				
R-O-W Permits				