

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

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

Note: This Worksheet is to be completed consistent with the policies stated in the Instruction Memorandum entitled, "Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Adequacy" transmitting this Worksheet and the "Guidelines for using the DNA Worksheet," located at the end of the Worksheet.

A. Describe the Proposed Action

The proposed action is to reissue a 3-year grazing lease to Steve and Melissa Hess for two small parcels (approximately 185 acres total) of BLM administered land called the Brenda Allotment (0810). The lease is being reissued in accordance with the grazing regulations at 43 CFR 4110.1, §4110.2-1(d) and (e), §4130.2, and §4130.3. These lands are located approximately 15-18 miles NE of Klamath Falls, Oregon and to the northeast of Swan Lake Rim. The BLM administered lands are in two widely separated parcels and intermingled within a vastly larger tract of private land (see attached map).

The current grazing lease expires on 5/1/00. The recognized base properties for the BLM grazing lease are owned by Jeld Wen, Inc. and leased to the Hess's under a continuing - and expected to continue - series of 3 year base property leases. The term of the renewed lease is 5/1/2000 through 5/1/2003; 3 years as required by §4130.2(d)(3) of the current grazing regulations and as specified on the Jeld Wen grazing lease. However, this DNA will cover 2 more potential lease renewals (i.e. through 5/1/2009) unless information indicates that the grazing management should be altered (e.g. via a Rangeland Health Standards Assessment to be discussed later) or future policy dictates a different approach.

The parameters of the renewed grazing lease will be the same as the previous lease and as follows:

<u>ALLOTMENT</u>	<u>LIVESTOCK</u>	<u>GRAZING PERIOD</u>	<u>AUMs</u>
Brenda (0810)	12 cattle	5/16 - 6/30	18 AUMs

B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance

LUP Name*: *Klamath Falls R.A. Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (KFRA RMP/EIS dated September 1994)*

Date Approved: *June 1995 via the Klamath Falls Resource Area Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan and Rangeland Program Summary (KFRA ROD/RMP/RPS)*

* List applicable LUPs (e.g., Resource Management Plans and activity, project, management, or program plans, or applicable amendments thereto)

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

The KFRA ROD/RMP/RPS states on page 62 to “Provide for livestock grazing in an environmentally sensitive manner, consistent with other objectives and land use allocations. Resolve resource conflicts and concerns and **ensure that livestock grazing use is consistent with the objectives and direction found in Appendix H (Grazing Management)**” (emphasis added). Also later on that same page is the following: “Provide for initial levels of livestock grazing within the parameters outlined, by allotment, in Appendix H.”

The KFRA ROD/RMP/RPS - Appendix H - lists the grazing parameters for the Brenda allotment on page H-18. The parameters for the proposed action (lease renewal) are the same as that listed in the KFRA ROD/RMP/RPS except that LUP proposed a somewhat longer season of use of 5/1 to 6/30. The lease dates of 5/16 to 6/30 lies within the listed dates, and thus is consistent with that plan.

(NOTE: The majority of the BLM lands in this allotment (1115 acres out of 1300 acres) were transferred to Jeld-Wen ownership in 1996-97, reducing the BLM acreage in this allotment, and thus the grazing lease, by over 85%. The KFRA ROD/RMP/RPS will be officially “maintained” in the near future to reflect the reduction in acres and AUMs.)

The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for (in the below referenced sections), because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decisions (objectives, terms, and conditions):

NA - the action is specifically provided for in the LUP.

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:

Klamath Falls R.A. Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (KFRA RMP/EIS dated September 1994) approved via the June 1995 *Klamath Falls Resource Area Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan and Rangeland Program Summary* (KFRA ROD/RMP/RPS). This is the overall land use plan (LUP) for the Klamath Falls Resource Area.

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 additional.

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?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

The proposed action (lease renewal) is consistent with and essentially the same as the grazing management identified in the KFRA RMP/EIS Preferred Alternative - called the "Proposed Resource Management Plan" or PRMP. Specifics by allotment are found in Appendix L, with the Brenda allotment on page L-18. The preferred alternative was affirmed and implemented by the KFRA ROD/RMP/RPS, where the allotment specific information is found in Appendix H - pages noted previously. Environmental impacts of grazing, for all alternatives, are found in Chapter 4 - "Environmental Consequences" (4-1 through 4-143) - of the KFRA RMP/EIS. Since the proposed action (lease renewal grazing parameters) and Brenda allotment were specifically analyzed in the plan, the answer to this NEPA adequacy question must be yes.

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?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

The proposed action (lease renewal) lies within the range of various alternatives identified and analyzed in the KFRA RMP/EIS (summarized in table S-1 "Comparisons of Allocations and Management by Alternative", pages 18-50; and S-2 "Summary of Environmental Consequences by Alternative", pages 52-53). This array and range of alternatives included the No Action alternative (status quo); five other alternatives (A through E) that covered a span of management from a strong emphasis on commodities production to a strong emphasis on resource protection/preservation; and the PRMP that emphasizes a balanced approach of producing an array of socially valuable products within the concept of ecosystem management. Since this plan is relatively recent (1995), it more than adequately reflects "current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values".

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

Documentation of answer and explanation:

A review was conducted to determine if any new information, studies, and analyses would materially differ from the data in the earlier analysis for this allotment during the RMP/EIS process. Included in these categories, and completed or extended since the date of the ROD/RMP/RPS, are the following:

There is no new information for this allotment since completion of the planning process in 1995.

However, the following information is pertinent to the full addressing of this NEPA adequacy "question":

- Ongoing analyses in the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Plan (ICBEMP) has not indicated any new significant information that would modify the management direction in this allotment.

- Rangeland monitoring studies (or other resource studies) have not been performed on this allotment since it is a very low priority "C" (custodial) category allotment, is very small in size, extremely fragmented and intermingled with a much larger tract of private land, and there have been no indications that the allotment has any critical resource related problems that need monitoring.

- In accordance with 43 CFR 4180 and related policy direction, the Klamath Falls Resource Area is in the process of implementing the *Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management* (S&G's), as developed by the Klamath PAC/RAC. A "Rangeland Health Standards Assessment" is scheduled for completion on the Brenda allotment FY 2004. The assessment will ascertain whether current management is meeting, not meeting, or making significant progress towards meeting, the 5 Standards for Rangeland Health. The assessment will be based on information current at that time. Rangeland (or other) monitoring may be performed on the allotment between now and 2004 if additional information is deemed necessary to adequately assess the area.

To summarize, the existing analysis in the LUP is 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?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

The KFRA RMP/EIS, and subsequent ROD/RMP/RPS, designated domestic livestock grazing as a principle or major use for this allotment under the principle of multiple use on a sustained yield basis in accordance with FLPMA. The development of the Proposed Resource Management Plan in the RMP/EIS, as adjusted or affirmed by the ROD/RMP/RPS, meets NEPA standards for impact analysis. The methodology and analyses employed in the RMP/EIS are still considered valid as this planning effort is relatively recent (ROD - June 1995) and considered up to date procedurally. The plan is also "maintained" regularly to keep it current by incorporating new information, updating for new policies and procedures, and correcting errors as they are found. In addition, all the rangeland monitoring, studies, and survey methods utilized in the resource area prior to and during the planning process continue to be accepted (or required) BLM methods and procedures.

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?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

The proposed action is consistent with the KFRA RMP/EIS, as affirmed or adjusted by the ROD/RMP/RPS. The impacts of livestock grazing were analyzed in most of the major sections of Chapter 4 - Environmental Consequences (pages 4-1 through 4-143) in the RMP/EIS. No new information has come to light since completion of the plan that would indicate that the previously analyzed direct/indirect impacts would be substantially different.

The details of the proposed action were also covered specifically in Appendix H - *Grazing Management and Rangeland Program Summary* (page H-18) of the KFRA ROD/RMP/RPS. During the pre-RMP process in 1990-91, a series of IDT meetings were held to specifically address the formulation of objectives for every allotment in the KFRA. These objectives were based on data collected to that date, as well as professional judgement based on field observations. No allotment specific objectives were listed for this allotment as no resource issues were known to exist. (Since the completion of the plan, most of the allotments BLM administered lands have been transferred to private ownership. It is believed that the livestock use of the area is the same as it was during the RMP process; its just not on BLM administered lands much anymore.)

In summary, it is thought at this time, based on current information and judgement, that this NEPA Adequacy "question" is in the affirmative; that the direct and indirect impacts of reissuing this grazing lease are unchanged from that identified in the LUP and that plan also adequately analyzes the site-specific impacts.

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)?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

The proposed action as analyzed in the PRMP of the KFRA RMP/EIS, as affirmed or adjusted by the ROD/RMP/RPS, would not change analysis of cumulative impacts. Any adverse cumulative impacts are the same as and within the parameters of those identified and accepted in that earlier planning effort for this allotments grazing use, since the proposed action was specifically analyzed in the RMP/EIS. In addition, ongoing analyses in the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Plan (ICBEMP) has not indicated any cumulative impacts beyond those anticipated in the earlier analyses. (In addition, the ICBEMP, due to its regional approach, does not have the specificity of the RMP.)

