

APPENDIX 8

DECISIONS FROM PREVIOUS PLANNING DOCUMENTS

This appendix describes planning decisions related to livestock grazing and rangeland management that were made in previous Roswell Resource Area land use plans. These decisions were carried forward in the Roswell RMP as standard practices.

DECISIONS CARRIED FORWARD

1. All allotments will be classified as suitable for grazing by cattle, sheep, goats, and/or horses. Any change in the kind of livestock authorized which would dramatically alter historical grazing use patterns will require an environmental assessment (EA). (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

2. All allotments will be classified as suitable for yearlong grazing unless future activity plans specify a need to change the season of use. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

3. Develop Allotment Management Plans (AMPs) for allotments where intensive management appears feasible. Grazing schedules incorporated in AMP's should be designed to achieve upward trend and fair or better condition in 6 to 8 years and maximum sustained carrying capacity in 15 to 20 years. (East Chaves Framework Plan, initially)

Priority for implementation of these AMP's will be determined by Allotment Categorization Process (I, M, C).

4. Individual grazing programs will be developed in consultation and cooperation with affected parties and will identify needed projects and developments. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

5. CMPs (now termed AMPs) will be written and fully implemented, and an EA covering each AMP will be prepared. The plans will be monitored and evaluated

following implementation so that periodic adjustments, if necessary, can be made on those plans not meeting multiple use objectives. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

6. Successful grazing programs already implemented by permittees and in use on ranches may be documented and incorporated into a plan. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

7. Documented grazing programs and/or cooperative management plans (CMPs) will be implemented on "I" category allotments. Specific programs and plan will be applied to individual allotments on a priority basis beginning with those allotments with the highest potential for improvement. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

8. Revise AMP's that have been implemented and are not showing improvement. Revise or develop grazing schedules designed to achieve an improving trend and fair or better condition in 6 to 8 years and maximum sustained carrying capacity in 15 to 20 years.

Allotment Plan Revisions are handled under the Bureau Manuals, under a multiple use concept. Grazing programs will include deferred, rotation, high-intensity-short duration systems, and other specific grazing systems which combine proper grazing use with scheduled rest periods. (West Roswell EIS.)

9. The following allotments do not require prescribed grazing management by BLM. Proper grazing use through the efforts of the

rancher and the Soil Conservation Service should be encouraged for these allotments.

"C" CATEGORY ALLOTMENTS

5001, 5002, 5003, 5004, 5006, 5008, 5009, 5011, 5013, 5014, 5015, 5016, 5017, 5022, 5023, 5026, 5027, 5030, 5031, 5033, 5035, 5039 (SHERMAN CATTLE), 5039 (RED TANK CORP.), 5042, 5045, 5052, 5054, 5056, 5059, 5060, 5061, 5064, 5070, 5071, 5081, 5093 (East Chaves Management Framework Plan, initially)

10. Range improvements needed to implement grazing systems or other management plans will be designed during specific management plan development. Site-specific impacts from projects will be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment (EA). (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

11. Vegetation treatments will be designed during specific allotment management plan development. If additional vegetation treatments are identified after the implementation of the allotment management plan, they will be assessed through the EA process prior to implementation of the project. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

12. Implementation of rangeland improvement projects will be in accordance with the Final Rangeland Improvement Policy (Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 83-27). In allocating rangeland improvement funds, BLM procedures for evaluating, ranking, and budgeting range improvements will be applied. Appropriated funds available for investment in rangeland improvements will be allocated as follows:

a. First, to the maintenance of improvements that continue to serve a valid purpose or objective and for which the BLM has maintenance responsibility.

b. Second, for the design, construction and maintenance of new

rangeland improvements that conform with a specific development plan for the area. Such plans may be Cooperative Management Plans (CMPs) -now Allotment Management Plans (AMPs), Habitat Management Plans (HMPs), Herd Management Plans (HMAPs) or other plans providing a rational decision-making framework for meeting multiple-use management objectives.

c. Additional range improvements will be evaluated and implemented when the need is identified. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

13. Selection of specific areas for range improvements will be evaluated to ensure that highly erosive areas are avoided and to ensure workability of the project. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

14. Where soils and vegetation are disturbed, reclamation measures will be taken, if applicable. These measures include returning the land to as near its natural form as possible and reseeding with mixtures of native grasses, legumes, and forbs to prevent erosion. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

15. Provisions should be made for planning revegetation of land to a level which is suitable for livestock production on land simultaneous with or upon abandonment of a site. Mining areas, oil and gas roads and pads, mineral sites should be protected either through stipulations or by Bureau action prior to disturbance. (East Chaves Management Framework Plan)

16. Site specific EAs and burn plans will be developed for any prescribed burns. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

17. Conduct selective salt cedar control to prevent loss of four-wing saltbush and cottonwood trees. (East Chaves Management Framework Plan)

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18. All application rates of herbicides will be determined based on individual range sites and the condition at the time of application. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

19. Only federally registered pesticides would be used on public lands except as authorized by Section 24. C., Public Law 92-516, the Federal Environmental Pesticide Control Act of 1972. Section 24.C. provides for state registration of certain pesticides for local needs within the state. Any pesticide proposal planned under a state registration would include a copy of the state label.

Application of herbicides will conform to BLM Manual 9220 and State of new Mexico and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) standards. Herbicides proposed for use will be authorized by the USEPA, the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA), and the Department of Interior (DOI), and must be registered by the USEPA and NMDA. NMDA restricted use regulations will be consulted prior to any herbicide application. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision...this decision has been re-worded in the Vegetation Treatment on BLM Lands EIS and that wording precedes this paragraph.)

20. All livestock would be removed from treated pastures prior to aerial spraying or ground applications when using foliar spray. Livestock should be removed following first ½ inch of moisture following pellet treatment. Herbicide label requirements will be complied with for grazing of domestic animals after application. Livestock grazing would be deferred for a minimum of two consecutive growing seasons. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision & Vegetation Treatment on BLM Lands EIS)

21. Onsite analysis of areas proposed for inclusion in projected brush control treatments will be made to avoid highly desirable wildlife habitat which would be susceptible to the treatments being considered. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

22. Important wildlife habitat, such as broadleaf tree groves, aquatic and riparian sites, dirt tanks, watering tubs, active raptor nests, and the areas around them would be protected during brush control operations. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

23. Conduct selective control leaving islands of salt cedar for wildlife nesting habitat. (East Chaves Management Framework Plan)

24. Conduct mesquite control to provide an adequate amount of untreated mesquite cover to meet optimum quail habitat needs on those sites occupied by scaled quail. (East Chaves Management Framework Plan)

25. Uprooted mesquite will be left in place to provide wildlife habitat. Uprooted cholla will be stacked and left in place or burned, depending on wildlife or other multiple-use needs. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

26. Big game numbers will be managed by the NMDG&F to meet populations goals and trends. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

27. Allotments within the 1.5 million acre area, known as the Pronghorn Antelope Study Area, will be inventoried for production of fall forbs and analyzed for suitability for pronghorn reintroduction. Once allotments have been determined to be suitable, a cooperative agreement will be developed and implemented through cooperation with NMDG&F and landowners. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

28. New or expanded grazing use and support facilities will be evaluated on a case-by case basis so that impairment of wildlife habitat will be minimized. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

29. Where BLM controls water sources, water will be made available to wildlife when livestock are on and off the allotments or

pastures. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

30. Livestock watering areas will be located to avoid livestock concentration near sensitive wildlife habitat areas. (East Chaves Management Framework Plan)

31. Water should be available for wildlife. It will be the Bureau's responsibility to provide water for wildlife's needs, either by developing additional water sources or facilities, or making arrangements by agreements for the use of existing private water sources and facilities. Consideration will be given to requiring that water be available yearlong for wildlife to future private and federal watering facilities that may be installed on NRL. (East Chaves Management Framework Plan)

32. Escape ramps will be required in all water troughs and open storage tanks. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

33. Areas meeting riparian and wetland habitat criteria will be assessed to determine if protection is needed to provide wildlife habitat. Protection measures will be selected for individual situations to include protective fencing, adjustments in livestock use, and/or establishment of buffer strips, as necessary. Where domestic livestock are excluded from riparian areas, alternate water sources for livestock will be provided. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

34. Inventory and provide techniques for the protection of Threatened or Endangered Vegetative Species as directed by law. (East Chaves Management Framework Plan)

35. A threatened, endangered, State-listed, or proposed-listed species clearance will be conducted by appropriate BLM staff biologist prior to the beginning of any project. If a "may affect" determination is made by the staff biologist, consultation will be undertaken with the USFWS, NMDG&F, or the NMNHP listing the species which may be affected.

The results of the consultation will determine the course of action necessary to avoid adverse effects on listed species. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

36. Before surface-disturbing activities take place, cultural resources will be inventoried and evaluated. All reasonable efforts will be made to avoid adverse impacts on cultural resources. If impacts are unavoidable, BLM will consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to develop mitigating measures. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

37. Prior to the implementation of surface-disturbing activities, paleontological resources will be inventoried and evaluated. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

38. The cultural resource program will properly identify those areas which are sprayed with chemical herbicide so that future excavators of those areas will be informed of the possibility of contamination of radiocarbon samples. This information will then become a part of the antiquities permit issued for the excavation of that site. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

39. Allotments will be monitored to determine the changes in rangeland condition and trend due to changes in grazing management, vegetation treatments, and rangeland improvements. (West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

40. Any livestock adjustments will be based on *monitoring data* (utilization studies, actual use data, precipitation, trend, and condition). (43 CFR 4100 Grazing Administration 4110.3 and West Roswell MFPA/EIS Record of Decision)

41. Develop a program to reduce accidental trespass resulting from other NRL users leaving gates open. This includes:

- a) Installing cattle guards instead of gates where there is a relatively high

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intensity traffic or when problem areas are identified.

coincide with allotment boundaries. (East Chaves Management Framework Plan)

b) Provide signs instructing users to "Please Close Gates" where only occasional traffic is anticipated.

c) Install leverage devices to aid in closing tight wire gates.

(East Chaves Management Framework Plan)

42. Continue to preserve and protect the Mathers Natural Area. (East Chaves Management Framework Plan)

43. Secure legal access by easement acquisition where roads and trails cross private lands leading to allotments. Easement acquisition will be identified later as information is compiled with an inventory of the area's access problems. (East Chaves Management Framework Plan)

44. Disposal of the lands in the following allotments should be encouraged either by sale or as a land exchange base. (East Chaves Management Framework Plan)

Allotment Number	Public Acreage
5002	380
5003	200
5006	160
5035	964
5052	40
5056	360
5061	240
5064	881
5089	400
Parcel #1, T. 7 S., R. 29 E., Sec. 23	<u>40</u>
Total	3665

45. Readjust grazing district boundary to