

EVALUATION AND DETERMINATION
Achieving the OR/WA Standards for Rangeland Health
and
Conformance with the Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management

Field Office: Medford Determination Date: 11/19/2008
 Grazing Allotment Name & Number: Bull Run #10023

Standard 1 Watershed Function – Uplands Standard doesn't apply

1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meeting the Standard	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Meeting the Standard, cause not determined
2 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Meeting the Standard, but making significant progress towards	
3 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Meeting the Standard, current livestock grazing management practices are not significant factors (list important causal agents)	6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conforms with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.
4 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Meeting the Standard, current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors (list important causal agents)	7 <input type="checkbox"/> Does not conform with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management (list Guidelines No(s) in non-conformance)

Rationale: The main soil limitations affecting livestock grazing are erosion, compaction, the depth to bedrock, and the slope. The season of use and number of cattle does not significantly diminish the health and function of the watershed by maintaining adequate vegetative cover, healthy root systems, and soil moisture content that prevents soil compaction. These factors aid in maintaining existing infiltration, percolation, runoff and erosion rates. There was no departure from what would be expected at a loamy shrub scabland ecological site pertaining to the soil site stability.

Standard 2 Watershed Function – Riparian/Wetland Areas Standard doesn't apply

1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meeting the Standard	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Meeting the Standard, cause not determined
2 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Meeting the Standard, but making significant progress towards	
3 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Meeting the Standard, current livestock grazing management practices are not significant factors	6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conforms with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.
4 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Meeting the Standard, current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors	7 <input type="checkbox"/> Does not conform with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management (list Guidelines No(s) in non-conformance)

Rationale: Due to stream diversions and proximity to the Butte Falls Highway, the section of South Fork Reese Creek within the allotment is Functioning-at-Risk with an Upward Trend. Grazing does not appear to negatively influence hydrology. BLM surveys (2008) indicated no active erosion within the allotment.

Standard 3 Ecological Processes Standard doesn't apply

1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meeting the Standard	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Meeting the Standard, cause not determined
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Rationale: In areas of coniferous forest and under the oak canopy we found conditions expected for the sites, which indicate that the energy, nutrient, and hydrologic cycles are balanced. Annual non-native grasses are scattered in patches through out the non-wooded areas within the allotment. Annual grasses reduce habitat quality for wildlife, have shallow root systems and short life cycles and thus have reduced capacity to hold the soil and retain water and nutrients. Annual non-native grassland furthermore often accumulates a layer of thatch where decomposition and nutrient cycling are different than in native bunchgrass plant communities. However, current livestock grazing is not intense enough to contribute to additional conversion of native plant communities to exotic annual grasslands.

Standard 4 Water Quality Standard doesn't apply

1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meeting the Standard	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Meeting the Standard, cause not determined
2 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Meeting the Standard, but making significant progress towards	
3 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Meeting the Standard, current livestock grazing management practices are not significant factors	6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conforms with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.
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Rationale: Within the Bull Run Allotment there are no known listed streams on DEQs 2004/2006 303 (d) list. However, the lower reaches of Reese Creek (stream mile 0-3) are listed for summer dissolved oxygen limitation and E. coli contamination. Grazing on the Bull Run Allotment is not a significant contributing factor to the summer dissolved oxygen limitation and E. coli contamination downstream of the allotment because the livestock are managed in a way that limits access to Reese Creek.

Standard 5 Native, T&E, and Locally Important Species Standard doesn't apply

1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meeting the Standard	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Meeting the Standard, cause not determined
2 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Meeting the Standard, but making significant progress towards	
3 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Meeting the Standard, current livestock grazing management practices are not significant factors	6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conforms with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.
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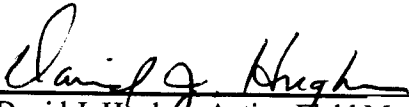
Rationale: The allotment is meeting the Standards and Guidelines for protection of habitat for terrestrial and aquatic wildlife species. Current use levels on this allotment are slight-light therefore; special status species are not likely to be adversely affected by the grazing use. There are no effects to federally listed SONC coho salmon or their critical habitat at the sixth field project level as a result of this action.

The allotment is also meeting the Standards and Guidelines for protection of habitat of special status vascular and non-vascular plant species. The special status species could be negatively impacted if trampled by cows but do not currently appear to be threatened. The allotment is

within the range of one federally endangered plant, *Fritillaria gentneri*; however, no sites have been documented within the allotment.

Field Manager's Determination Rationale:

Because Rangeland Health Standards are being met, or there is adequate rationale that cattle are not the significant factor where standards are not met, I have determined the Rangeland health Assessment (RHA) is being met and livestock grazing conforms with the Oregon/Washington standards for rangeland health.



David J. Hughes, Acting Field Manager

11/19/08
Date