

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN  
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hill

Activity

Range Management

Overlay Reference

Step 1 No. 1 Step 3

Page 1 of 2

DEMPSEY ALLOTMENT (0414)

RECOMMENDATION

RM 2.1

Determine carrying capacity for National Resource Lands and private and state lands offered for exchange of use license, and adjust stocking rates accordingly.

RATIONALE

The URA indicates that adequate forage is not available to satisfy the present Class I demand (see 1605.44A2c(5)(a)). Present policy provides that "Initial stocking rates... must not exceed the existing livestock grazing capacity...". (WO Instruction Memo 75-407).

Idaho's 5-year goals are to bring livestock use in line with existing grazing capacity for those areas in less than satisfactory condition as a result of excessive livestock use.

It is anticipated that the present forage production capacities can be interpolated from Soil & Vegetative data to be gathered during the summer of 1975 and succeeding years.

Multiple-Use Analysis

URA indicated stocking rates may be in excess of the carrying capacity. This recommendation could result in reduction of grazing use and would, therefore, have an adverse economic impact on the livestock operations. With proper management and/or land treatment part of this impact may be mitigated over the long-term.

This recommendation does not conflict with any other activity recommendations.

Supporting recommendations include the following: watershed, W 1.2, 1.3, 3.2, 5.2; wildlife, WL 1.1, 2.1, 8.2, 8.3, 12.1, 13.3; recreation, R 2.1, 3.2; range management, RM 1 & 2.2 (0414).

Multiple-Use Recommendations

Accept the recommendations as stated above.

Reasons

1. The stocking rates must be reasonably close to the carrying capacity to implement a rotation grazing system that will improve range condition.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN  
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hill

Activity

~~Range Management~~  
Overlay Reference

Step 1 No. 1 Step 3

Page 2 of 2

Reasons (cont)

2. Herbaceous vegetative cover left on site will reduce erosion and improve water quality.
3. Competition for forage with all wildlife species will be reduced and minimum cover requirements will be left for wildlife.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN  
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hill

Activity

Range Management

Overlay Reference

Step 1 No. 1 Step 3

DEMPSEY ALLOTMENT (0414)

Page 1 of 3

RECREATION

RATIONALE

RM 1 & 2.2

Continue existing AMP and grazing system.

The present grazing system is designed to provide for the physiological requirements of this native key forage species. Approximately 260 additional AUMs can be produced annually within a 15- 20 year period with proper management.

Adjust grazing use so that no more than 50 percent of the Class I demand and exchange of use are utilized during the critical spring growing season.

Presently 2/3 of the Class I demand is used during the critical spring growing season which overloads the forage producing capacity of the vegetation during that time. Shifting some spring use to fall use would increase the opportunity for seed tromp requirements.

Improve and provide additional access in the allotment to facilitate use supervision and livestock movement.

Multiple-Use Analysis

Adjusting grazing to balance spring and post-seed ripe use would result in a shift from the present spring use of about 2/3 to 1/2 of the total demand. This adjustment would most likely result in reduced use in the allotment, and would, therefore, have an adverse economic impact on the range users. A long-term beneficial input would occur, however, because the recommendations favor increased forage production. This recommendation also conflicts with wildlife, WL 2.1 which identifies a need to utilize no more than 40 percent of the current growth on important shrubs on critical deer winter ranges. This shifts spring use to fall when utilization of browse by livestock is normally higher.

Wildlife, WL 1.1, 8.2, 12.1, and watershed, W 1.3 identifies the need to retain between 40- 50 percent of the herbaceous vegetation produced each year on each pasture. This conflicts with the existing grazing system because utilization on some pastures would likely exceed 60 percent.

Wildlife, WL 6.2 and 9.1; watershed, W 3.3, identify the need to exclude livestock grazing from wet meadows, springs, and streams. This would reduce the availability of high quality forage and restrict access to water for livestock.

Lands, L 3.1A proposes disposal of Class I and II irrigable lands in the allotment if they meet the appropriate classification criteria for agricultural use. Such

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN  
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)	Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hill
Activity	Range Management
Overlay Reference	Step 1 No. 1 Step 3

Page 2 of 3

Multiple-Use Analysis (cont)

action would result in loss of appreciable tracts of important spring range in the allotment. Minerals, M 1.2 proposes to lease the potential geothermal resources in the allotment. Should an economic source of geothermal energy be found and developed, livestock grazing would be restricted because development would require about 1/3 of the leased area.

The recommendation conflicts to a minor degree with the following activity recommendations: wildlife, WL 1.4, 2.1, 2.4, 8.1, 13.1; recreation, R 1.1, 2.1, and should be addressed at the time the AMP is implemented to insure all resource values are given proper consideration.

Supporting recommendations include the following: wildlife, WL 6.3, 8.3, 9.2, 12.2, 13.3; watershed, W 1.2, 3.2, 5.2; recreation, R 1.1, 2.1, 3.2, 13.1.

Multiple-Use Recommendations

Reasons

Modify the recommendation as follows:

1. Continue existing AMP and grazing system. Refer to Rationale.
2. Do not allow adjustment of spring grazing use to fall grazing use. This adjustment could cause economic hardship on the allottees and cause additional stress on the critical deer winter range by increasing use on important browse species utilized and depended on by deer.
3. Do not exceed 60 percent utilization of herbaceous vegetation in any pasture where grazing occurs. Adequate herbaceous vegetation should be left to provide adequate forage and cover for all wildlife, including deer, elk, and upland game birds, and to provide litter to protect the soil from the erosive forces of nature.  
  
It is not anticipated that this restriction will seriously impact grazing since livestock gains normally begin to decline after 60 percent of the forage has been utilized.
4. Protect wet meadows, springs, and streams from intensive livestock use which normally occurs as follows:  
Springs: Coordinate protection with wildlife needs. Where significant wildlife values are identified, fence spring source area to exclude livestock Livestock congregating on spring source areas denude vegetation essential to sage grouse broods and other wildlife species.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN  
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hill

Activity

Range Management

Overlay Reference

Step 1 No. 1 Step 3

Multiple-Use Recommendations (cont)

Reasons (cont)

Page 3 of 3

and make water available to livestock outside the enclosure.

Wet Meadows: Fence wet meadows to exclude livestock only where it is demonstrated after one or two grazing cycles that significant wildlife habitat is being destroyed by livestock grazing.

Streams: Fence streams and reservoirs where major critical waterfowl nesting areas are identified. Provide water gaps no farther than 1/2 mile apart, when possible.

5. Allow disposal of lands within Class I and II irrigation potential classification.

6. Allow mineral leasing.

Support Needs:

Accept the recommendations as stated above. Acquire easement on private lands.

It is anticipated that damage caused by livestock grazing will be mitigated by implementation of a proper grazing system.

Grazing livestock utilize and destroy riparian vegetation needed for waterfowl nesting habitat.

Livestock grazing is the primary resource affected with all other resources affected to a minor degree. Conversion of this area to agriculture would provide greater economic stability to the locale than presently produced by the existing resource use.

Restriction of livestock grazing by geothermal development is improbable, but if it occurs it should be allowed because of the greater value generated to the local and regional economy by mineral development.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN  
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hill

Activity

Range Management

Overlay Reference

Step 1 No. 1 Step 3

DEMPSEY ALLOTMENT (0414)

Page 1 of 2

RECOMMENDATION

RATIONALE

RM 1 & 2.3

Remove competing brush species on approximately 375 acres and remove brush and seed approximately 1460 acres of National Resource Land to release and establish desirable perennial forage species.

These treatments, combined with management, are needed to meet the objectives within a reasonable timeframe of 10- 15 years. Approximately 200 additional AUMs will be produced annually from the treatment.

Multiple-Use Analysis

The recommendation would result in an increase in forage production. The increase would partially offset expected losses of allowable grazing use resulting from the adjustments recommended in Range Management, RM 2.1 (0414) (adjust stocking rate to grazing capacity). Thus a positive economic impact would occur. Where wildlife values are involved, the Idaho Fish & Game Dept. will be consulted in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between that agency and the Bureau.

This recommendation is in conflict with the recreation, R 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 14.6, 14.15 and minerals, M 1.2, which would restrict or constrain layout and method of land treatments as recommended. The recreation conflicts involve the visual impacts of land treatment, and the effect the recommended treatments would have on archaeological sites. The minerals conflict involves the restriction on land treatments which would occur should development of geothermal resources take place.

The recommendation conflicts with wildlife, WL 2.2, 7.1, which would prohibit any land treatment on critical deer and sage grouse wintering areas. This would reduce the potential livestock forage obtainable through implementation of the recommended treatments. Lands, L 3.1A could also prohibit any land treatment because it proposes disposal of land for agricultural purposes providing the classification criteria is met.

The recommendation conflicts to a minor degree with the following activity recommendations: wildlife, WL 2.8, 9.2, 11.1; and recreation, R 1.1, 2.1. These conflicting proposals will be addressed prior to implementation of land treatments to insure all resource values involved are adequately considered.

Supporting activity recommendations include the following: Wildlife, WL 1.2, 1.3, 6.1, 12.2, 13.3; watershed, W 1.4, 1.5, 3.2, 5.2; recreation, R 2.1, 3.2, 13.1.

Multiple-Use Recommendations

Reasons

Modify the recommendations as follows:

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN  
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)

Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hills  
Activity

Range Management

Overlay Reference

Step No. 1 Step 3

Multiple-Use Recommendations (cont)

1. Allow no brush treatment in the allotment on areas identified as critical deer winter range. Sage grouse winter range, and areas potentially valuable for agriculture (see no control area, Step II overlay #2)

2. Coordinate land treatment proposal in the allotment where critical deer winter range, sage grouse range, and lands potentially valuable for agriculture have not been identified to assure all multiple-use conflicts are mitigated prior to project implementation. Criteria to be used in mitigating conflicts are found in Appendix I (MFP Step II). See Step II overlay for coordinated control areas.

3. Allow leasing of minerals (geothermal resources) on all lands with no constraints on land treatment projects.

4. Prohibit land treatment projects on known archaeological sites.

Reasons (cont)

Page 2 of 2

Modified to provide for critical deer winter range (WL 2.2) and sage grouse winter range (WL 7.1) values, and potential land disposal (L 3:1A). The value of these combined resources is considered to be higher than the need for additional forage at the present time.

On-site information is not adequate to identify specific conflicts and resulting impacts at this time. This requires that no projects be started until on-site inspections can be made and impacts of the project on the multiple-use values are determined and mitigated.

Projects which alter the vegetation have long-term impacts and must be coordinated so as not to destroy other resource values.

Present information is insufficient to determine impacts of geothermal development on land treatment. Any mineral development at this time appears to be improbable.

Bureau policy requires protection of cultural resources.