

BENNETT HILLS-TIMMERMAN HILLS MFPTIMMERMAN HILLS UNIT

General Coordination Guidelines for Brush Control Projects:

1. Sagebrush eradication methods to be considered are spraying, burning, chaining, beating, and other (new methods that may be developed).
2. Brush control projects will be considered only after a detailed allotment management plan or grazing system has been developed and implemented.
3. Project layout and methods of control used will be such that the projects will blend into the natural environment as much as possible.
4. No attempt will be made to attain 100% brush kill on any given area. Brush is considered to be a desirable part of the vegetative makeup of any given block of land. In most of the areas to be treated about 15-20% of the vegetative cover in brush would be desirable.
5. Forbs composition at the desired level of 20-25% is the accepted Wildlife Recommendations for the entire area. This goal puts additional constraints on spraying of sagebrush with chemicals which also reduce forbs. It may be that some reduction could be accepted for the short term, if long term benefits in forb production could be attained. Another possible mitigating measure might be to aerial seed some forbs following a sagebrush spray project.

Specific Guidelines for Brush Control Projects as Depicted on the MFP Step II Range Management Overlay

See the Range Management MFP Step II Overlay for the Identified Brush Control Areas. The areas are separated in types, as follows:

1. General Guidelines: These areas are those lands to which the above general guidelines are the only constraints identified at this time.
2. Antelope Summer: General guidelines apply to these areas plus the identified need to leave some 2 to 4 acre patches of brush for antelope fawning, (WL 5.1 and 5.2).
3. Deer Winter Range: Coordinate brush control work with the Wildlife Biologist to insure that adequate winter deer forage and cover are maintained.
4. Sage Grouse Habitat (2-Mile Radius of Strutting Grounds)
Projects within the 2-mile radius of strutting grounds will be planned for selective control in a manner that will not adversely impact present and future nesting sage grouse populations.

5. Critical Deer Winter Range: No sagebrush control will be allowed on National Resource Lands within the critical deer winter ranges.
6. Sage Grouse Wintering Areas: These areas can only be considered for treatment after adequate consideration and planning has been given to the present and future wintering sage grouse populations found in each specific area.
7. Potential Land Disposal Areas: These lands have been identified as being potentially irrigable and no brush control projects will be planned in these areas until further investigation as to whether or not these lands meet the classification criteria for disposal.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)	Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hills
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Overlay Reference	Step 1 No.1 Step 3

TIMMERMAN HILLS SHEEP ALLOTMENT 0605

RECOMMENDATION

RM 2.7

By land exchange acquire all State Land within the allotment. Also by land exchange acquire private lands which have not gone into agricultural use.

RATIONALE

The acquisition of State lands would facilitate management. Management of the National Resource Lands would be complicated if the State section were to go into private ownership. The implementation of grazing system and administration of National Resource Lands would be enhanced if these lands were acquired.

MULTIPLE USE ANALYSIS

Acquiring the State lands and private lands in this allotment by land exchange would block up the National Resource Lands and eliminate conflicts with proposed projects in the area such as brush control, fences, water developments, roads, trails, etc.

There is the problem of identifying National Resource Lands that would meet both the State's and the Bureau's requirements to consummate such an exchange program.

MULTIPLE USE RECOMMENDATION

Consider these lands for acquisition in any future land consolidation program entered into between the State of Idaho, private land owners, and the Bureau.

REASON

It is not known at this time if or when the State Dept. of Public Lands and the Bureau would try to work together on this type of land consolidation program. Because of this unknown the recommendation was moderated. Private landowners may or may not be interested in such a program.

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LAVA ALLOTMENT 0606

RECOMMENDATION

RATIONALE

RM 1, 2.1

Implement a grazing system by developing an AMP with the following grazing formula:

This grazing formula is considered to be of good design to improve range conditions and improve production in quality and quantity of livestock forage. An estimated increase of 400 AUMs could be produced within 20 years over the present estimated carrying capacity. (See T.H., URA, RM. Step 4, pages 22 and 23.)

Treatment	4/16	7/20	9/30
A	GRAZE		
B	REST	GRAZE	
C	R E S T		

Multiple-Use Analysis

The following recommendations lend support to this recommendation for a minimum grazing system design: WL 5.1, WL 6.1, WL 6.4, WL 8.2, WL 8.3, WL 12.1; R 3.2; W 1.2, W 1.3.

These recommendations relate the following constraints on the development of the grazing system and establish guidelines for allowable livestock grazing within that system.

1. Insure that no more than 60 percent of the herbaceous vegetation is utilized by livestock in any pasture and implement a grazing system to establish and maintain a diverse vegetation composition of 20-25 percent forbs, 55-60 percent grasses, and 15-20 percent shrubs.
2. Establish livestock grazing systems that will enhance the reproduction and forage availability of forbs.
3. Meet the physiological needs of herbaceous vegetation so that it will prosper and increase to the greatest ground cover the soils are capable of supporting.

While these recommendations do affect the design of the grazing system and location of improvements, they can be worked with this recommendation for a grazing system.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

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Step 1 No. 1 Step 3

Multiple-Use Analysis

Implement the grazing system as shown in the above recommendation and allow for inclusion of items 1 through 3 in the Multiple-Use Analysis in the grazing system design and application.

Reasons

It is necessary that intensive livestock management be implemented to improve range and watershed conditions.

T.H.

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Step 1 No. 1 Step 3

LAVA ALLOTMENT 0606

RECOMMENDATION

RATIONALE

RM 1,2.2

Establish stocking rates on National Resource Lands within this allotment in accordance with carrying capacity information as interpolated from soils and vegetative data to be gathered during the summer of 1976 and succeeding years.

The present carrying capacity of this allotment has been estimated to be 25 Ac/AUM (see T.H., URA, RM, Step 4, p 2) while the active qualifications obligate the National Resource Lands at 8.6 Ac/AUM. W.O. Inst. Memo No. 75-407 states "Initial stocking rates are of utmost importance and must not exceed the existing livestock grazing capacity of the allotment". (See also T.H., URA, RM, Step 4, p 21.)

MULTIPLE USE ANALYSIS

This recommendation is supported by recommendations made in the Watershed, Recreation and Wildlife Activities (WL 6.4, WL 8.2, WL 8.3, WL 12.1, R 3.2, W 1.2, W 2.3). If the above estimated carrying capacities for this allotment are near correct, then there would be a high economic impact on the users through a reduction in active AUMs if this recommendation is implemented.

MULTIPLE USE RECOMMENDATIONS

REASONS

This recommendation should be accepted to determine proper carrying capacity for this allotment.

T.H.

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LAVA ALLOTMENT 0606

RECOMMENDATION

RATIONALE

RM 2.3

Obtain information to present carrying capacity on all state and private lands offered for exchange of use.

Stocking rates should be based on present carrying capacity as stated in W.O. Inst. Memo 74-397, "stocking rates for exchange of use agreements and percent use authorizations must be based on forage inventories. Exchange of use agreements that would work to the detriment of the district program should be rejected." The Bureau's range survey for this unit has been lost and there is no current record for this allotment. The State Dept. of Public Lands has recently resurveyed most of their lands and the BLM may recognize the state's new carrying capacity on state lands offered for exchange of use. The present carrying capacity for all lands offered is at 9.4 Ac/AUM.

MULTIPLE USE ANALYSIS

The carrying capacity data on these state and private lands needs to be updated so that the exchange-of-use licenses can be based on current information. There is no conflict with other resources on obtaining this data. If the carrying capacity of these lands in AUMs are adjusted downward, it would have an economic impact on the people controlling these lands. They would have to accept the new carrying capacities or fence these lands out of the allotment.

MULTIPLE USE RECOMMENDATIONS

REASONS

Accept the recommendations as stated above and adjust the exchange-of-use licenses accordingly.

If the offered lands are overstocked it puts additional grazing pressure on NRLs.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

Form 1600-21 (April 1975)

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MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)	Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hill
Activity	Range Management
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LAVA ALLOTMENT 0606

RECOMMENDATION

RM 1,2.4

Treat 15,820 acres of brush to release the forage species. This could be accomplished with a combination of spraying and burning.

RATIONALE

This treatment is needed to improve the quality and quantity of forage for the present active qualification. This treatment will produce an additional 300 AUMs of forage over the estimated present carrying capacity, which combined with management will produce an additional 1,400 AUMs. The 300 AUMs would be realized in 6 to 8 years after treatment. (See also T.H., URA, RM, Step 4, p 2.)

Should be 100 AUMs ←

MULTIPLE USE ANALYSIS

This recommendation for 15,820 acres is reduced and the remaining areas are supported and/or constrained by other accepted resource activity recommendations to point that total acres of brush control are unknown at this time. See the Range Management Step II Overlay for location of and type of constraints on brush control projects within this allotment. See also the General and Specific Guidelines for Brush Control that are contained in Appendix II of this section.

MULTIPLE USE RECOMMENDATION

Selectively control sagebrush to increase livestock forage, improve watershed conditions, within the accepted guidelines (RM Appendix II) for sagebrush control.

REASONS

The Wildlife, Watershed, and Range Management programs can be enhanced by doing selective sagebrush control projects.

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LAVA ALLOTMENT 0606

RECOMMENDATION

RATIONALE

RM 2.5

Develop dependable water in order to provide for proper utilization and distribution.

There needs to be additional water developed to facilitate the implementation of an intensive grazing system. It is known there is a lack of water on the allotment. Plans for these additional waters will be developed with the development of the AMP and as needed for the implementation and operation of the grazing system. Any waters to be developed should be for season long use to facilitate livestock manipulation within the proposed grazing system for the duration of the grazing season.

MULTIPLE USE ANALYSIS

The recommendation conflicts with WL-6.2 which recommends to exclude livestock from spring and wet-meadow areas. This conflict should be mitigated by fencing out identified spring areas on a project by project basis after developing the water and piping it to a trough for livestock use. The wet-meadows should be identified as to the specific site needs after intensive livestock management has been implemented to see if this need can be satisfied through the manipulation of livestock within the grazing system.

The development of dependable water supports the recommendation to implement an intensive grazing system on this allotment and benefits would accrue to both livestock and wildlife.

MULTIPLE USE RECOMMENDATIONS

REASONS

Develop dependable water as indicated in the AMP and correlate the project design to mitigate as much as possible with wildlife needs.

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LAVA ALLOTMENT 0606

RECOMMENDATION

RM 2.6

Construct fences to allow for implementation of the proposed grazing system.

RATIONALE

Presently most of the exterior boundary of the allotment is fenced. There may be some areas on the exterior that need fencing. About 7 to 8 miles of interior fences will be needed to implement a grazing system. Plans for these fences will be developed with the writing of the AMP.

MULTIPLE USE ANALYSIS

All fences proposed and existing have conflicts with some of the recreation (R-8.2) and wildlife (WL-5.3) activity recommendations, but are also recognized as a necessary evil to accomplish livestock manipulation to implement intensive livestock management which will help to accomplish many of the range management, watershed, wildlife, and recreation activity recommendations.

All new fences should be constructed to specifications presented in the 1737 Fencing Manual. The fences should be located so as to blend in with the natural environment as much as possible. Gates and/or cattleguards should be located on roads and trails and/or at least every mile in gentle terrain and at least every one-half mile in rough terrain to accommodate the public use of the National Resource Lands.

MULTIPLE USE RECOMMENDATIONS

Construct new fences and relocate or use existing fences to allow for implementation of the proposed grazing system. Specifications for fence construction will be in accordance with the above analysis.

REASONS

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RECOMMENDATION-ANALYSIS-DECISION

Name (MFP)	Bennett Hills-Timmerman Hills
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LAVA ALLOTMENT 0606

RECOMMENDATION

RM 1,2,8

Aerial seed to establish live-stock forage species on 10,000 acres of the allotment.

RATIONALE

This treatment is needed to improve the quality and quantity of forage for the present active qualification. This treatment will produce an additional 700 AUMs of forage over the estimated present carrying capacity. This treatment combined with management, is needed to meet the objectives within a reasonable time frame of 10-15 years.

MULTIPLE USE ANALYSIS

This recommendation should be modified to include the proposed seeding project, a combination of forbs and grass species to improve the vegetative composition for both livestock and wildlife (See WL-3.1, 5.1, 8.3 & 9.2). The Watershed Recommendation W-1.5 also supports this recommendation.

MULTIPLE USE RECOMMENDATION

Aerial seed a combination of forbs and grass species. Total number of acres to be seeded will be determined during project layout.

Alternative:

Do not seed. Manage for improved range and watershed conditions by a grazing system only.

REASON

Aerial seeding of forage species are needed to improve range and watershed conditions within a reasonable time frame. Wildlife habitat would also be improved by seeding both forbs and grasses. This seeding project would increase the present estimated carrying capacity and reduce the negative impact on the licensees in the amount of reduction that might be needed to reach proper stocking rates on the National Resource Lands.

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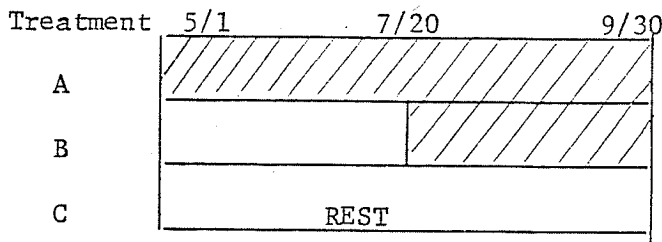
CANAL ALLOTMENT 0607

RECOMMENDATION

RATIONALE

RM 1, 2.1

Implement a grazing system by developing an AMP with the following grazing formula.



The implementation of this grazing system will improve range conditions, and the quality and quantity of livestock forage. The livestock forage is expected to increase by 26 AUMs with this grazing system within 12 years. (See T.H., URA, RM, Step 4, p. 25 and 26).

MULTIPLE-USE ANALYSIS

Analysis of the other resource activities Step 1 Recommendations reveal intensive livestock management is needed. The following recommendations lend support to this recommendation for a minimum grazing system desitn: WL 6.4, WL 8.2, WL 8.3, WL 12.1, R 2.1, R 3.2, W 1.2, & W 1.3. These recommendations relate the following constraints on the development of the grazing system and establish guidelines for allowable livestock grazing within that system.

1. Insure that no more than 60 percent of the herbaceous vegetation is utilized by livestock in any pasture and implement a grazing system to establish and maintain a diverse vegetation composition of 20 - 25 percent forbs, 55 - 60 percent grasses, and 15 - 20 percent shrubs.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

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CANAL ALLOTMENT 0607

MULTIPLE-USE ANALYSIS
(Continued)

2. Establish livestock grazing systems that will enhance the reproduction and forage availability of forbs.
3. Meet the physiological needs of herbaceous vegetation so that it will prosper and increase to the greatest ground cover the soils are capable of supporting.

While these recommendations do affect the design of the grazing system and location of improvements they can be worked with this recommendation for a grazing system.

This allotment falls with the area that is tentatively identified as Class II land (L 3.1A) that is potentially valuable for agriculture. If they are in fact suitable for agriculture then disposal to private ownership is recommended. If this is the case then no grazing system or AMP should be developed for this allotment.

Multiple-Use Recommendations

Reason

Accept the above recommendation only if further investigation reveals that these lands are not chiefly valuable for agricultural development.

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CANAL ALLOTMENT 0607

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RECOMMENDATIONRATIONALE

RM 1, 2.2

Treat 560 acres of brush to release the forage species. This could be accomplished either by spraying or burning.

This treatment is needed to improve the quality and quantity of forage for the present active qualification. This treatment will produce an additional 30 AUMs of forage over the estimated present carrying capacity, which combined with management will produce an additional 56 AUMs. The 30 AUMs would be realized in 6 to 8 years after treatment. (See also Timmerman Hills URA, RM, Step 4, p. 2).

MULTIPLE-USE ANALYSIS

This recommendation should be dropped if further investigation of the Lands Activity Recommendation (L 3-1A) to dispose of these lands for agricultural development reveals that these lands meet the criteria for disposal. If they do not meet the criteria for disposal then this recommendation for treatment of 560 acres of brush control work is reduced and the remaining areas are supported and/or constrained by other accepted resource activity recommendations to the point that total acres for brush control are unknown at this time. See the Range Management Step II Overlay for locations of and types of constraints

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

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MULTIPLE-USE ANALYSIS
(Continued)

on brush control projects within this allotment. See also the General and Specific Guideline for Brush Control that is contained in Appendix II of this section.

Multiple-Use Recommendation

Reasons

Brush control should only be considered if this land does not meet the proposed disposal criteria. Then selective control of sagebrush to increase livestock forage and improve watershed conditions within the accepted guidelines could be done.

The Wildlife, Watershed, and Range Management program can be enhanced by doing selective sagebrush control projects.

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Overlay Reference	
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KIME ALLOTMENT 0608

RECOMMENDATION

RATIONALE

RM 1, 2.1
Implement a grazing system by develop-
ing an AMP with the following grazing
formula:

The implementation of this grazing system
will improve range conditions and the qual-
ity and quantity of livestock forage. The
livestock forage is expected to increase
under this type of management by 39 AUMs
over the present estimated carrying capa-
city. (See T.H., URA, RM, Step 4, pages
2, 27 and 28.)

Treatment	5/1	7/20	9/30
A	G R A Z E		
B	R E S T	G R A Z E	
C	R E S T		

Multiple-Use Analysis

The following recommendations made by other resource activity specialists lend sup-
port to this recommendation for an intensive grazing system for all allotments:
WL 6.1, 6.4, 8.3, 12.1; R 2.1, 3.2; W 1.2, 13.

These recommendations relate the following constraints on the development of the
grazing system and establish guidelines for allowable livestock grazing within that
system.

1. Insure that no more than 60 percent of the herbaceous vegetation is
utilized by livestock in any pasture and implement a grazing system
to establish and maintain a diverse vegetation composition of 20 - 25
percent forbs, 50 - 60 percent grasses, and 15 - 20 percent shrubs.
2. Establish livestock grazing systems that will enhance the reproduction
and forage availability of forbs.
3. Meet the physiological needs of herbaceous vegetation so that it will
prosper and increase to the greatest ground cover the soils are capable
of supporting.

There is also a recommendation to combine this allotment with the Hill City Branch
Allotment and then develop one grazing system for both allotments.

T.H.

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Multiple-Use Recommendation

Implement the above grazing system by either fencing a one pasture treatment, or combining with the Hill City Branch Allotment

Reason

No final decision as to just how the system is to be applied to the allotment has been made. This will be worked out with the licensees.

Note: Attach additional sheets, if needed

(Instructions on reverse)

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KIME ALLOTMENT 0608

RECOMMENDATION

RM 1, 2.2

Establish stocking rates on National Resource Lands within this allotment in accordance with carrying capacity as interpolated from soils and vegetation data to be gathered during the summer of 1976 and succeeding years.

RATIONALE

The present carrying capacity for this allotment has been estimated at 11 Ac/AUM, (see T.H., URA, RM, Step 4, page 2) while the active qualifications obligate the National Resource Lands at 5.2 Ac/AUM. W. O. Inst. Memo No. 75-407 states "initial stocking rates are of the utmost importance and must not exceed the existing livestock grazing capacity of the allotment".

Multiple-Use Analysis

This recommendation is supported by recommendations made in the Watershed, Recreation and Wildlife activities. If the above estimated carrying capacities for this allotment are near correct, then there would be a high economic impact on the users through a reduction in active AUMs if this recommendation is implemented.

Multiple Use Recommendations

This recommendation should be accepted to determine proper carrying capacity for this allotment.

Reasons