

## **APPENDIX 8. 2006 SLICKSPOT PEPPERGRASS CONSERVATION AGREEMENT (CA)**

### **CONSERVATION AGREEMENT**

**U.S. Bureau of Land Management – Idaho State Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service –  
Snake River Fish and Wildlife Office**

#### **Idaho Bureau of Land Management Existing Land Use Plans Consultation**

#### **I. INTRODUCTION**

In August 2006, the Idaho State Office Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Snake River Fish and Wildlife Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) entered into a Consultation Agreement to provide for effective and efficient Endangered Species Act (ESA) section 7 conference for slickspot peppergrass on the existing Idaho BLM land use plans (LUPs) and a subset of ongoing actions. This most recent Consultation Agreement is in addition to the agreement signed in December of 2003, covering existing BLM LUPs for other listed and candidate species. The Consultation Agreement was tiered to and built on responsibilities and commitments for each agency as outlined in the following:

1. *The National Memorandum of Understanding, Endangered Species Act, Section 7 Programmatic Consultations and Coordination among Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Fish and Wildlife Service of August 2000;* and,
2. *The Interagency Agreement for Streamlining Section 7 Consultation in the Pacific Northwest,* signed by the regional executives May 31, 1995.

The LUPs provide guidance and direction for managing BLM land. They ensure that public land is managed in accordance with the intent of Congress as stated in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.). Resource management planning is used by the BLM to allocate resources and select appropriate uses for public land. There are three LUPs and numerous ongoing actions that are addressed under the scope of this Conservation Agreement.

#### **II. OBJECTIVE AND INTENT**

This Conservation Agreement is intended to promote the conservation of slickspot peppergrass, a species proposed for listing which has not yet undergone conference at the LUP level or for ongoing actions. The conservation measures outlined in the associated Biological Assessment (BA) describe desired recovery and conservation objectives with corresponding implementation actions. These replace or create guidance within the LUPs regarding programmatic management



direction for slickspot peppergrass. It is the intent of BLM and USFWS that specific conservation measures will be fully implemented and that this Conservation Agreement will remain in effect and binding on both parties until such time as new LUPs or amendments are prepared with completed section 7 compliance as appropriate, and Records of Decision signed. At that time, programmatic management direction for slickspot peppergrass will be included in the new or revised LUP or amendment, and this Conservation Agreement, or portions thereof in the case of programmatic amendments, will no longer apply to the planning area. While a high priority for BLM, both the BLM and USFWS recognize that funding constraints may affect the ability to implement specific conservation measures as planned. Where funding is lacking, BLM and USFWS will cooperate to set priorities and adjust dates for accomplishment. In addition, minor modifications to conservation measures may be necessary as the conference process progresses. Any modification must be agreed to by the BLM and the USFWS, and shall not materially alter the meaning or intent of a conservation measure as stated at the time of signature of this agreement.

### III. PARTIES TO THE CONSERVATION AGREEMENT

U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Idaho; and  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Snake River Fish and Wildlife Office

### IV. AUTHORITY FOR CONSERVATION AGREEMENTS

The commitments and actions in this Conservation Agreement are within existing authorities of the signatory agencies. The primary authority for the USFWS and BLM to enter into this Conservation Agreement derives from the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

The primary purpose of the ESA is to provide a means whereby ecosystems upon which endangered and threatened species depend may be conserved. Section 7(a) directs Federal agencies to utilize their authorities (e.g., FLPMA) in furtherance of the purposes of this Act by carrying out programs for the conservation of endangered species and threatened species. Further, under Section 7(b), each Federal agency is expected to, in consultation and with the assistance of the USFWS, ensure that any action authorized, funded or carried out by the agency is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species.

Section 3 of the ESA includes the following definition for conservation as is intended under this Conservation Agreement:

The terms "conserve," "conserving," and "conservation" mean to use and the use of all methods and procedures which are necessary to bring any endangered species or threatened species to the point at which the measures provided pursuant to this Act are no longer necessary. Such methods and procedures include, but are not limited to, all activities associated with scientific resources management such as research, census, law enforcement, habitat acquisition and maintenance, propagation, live trapping, and transplantation, and, in the extraordinary case where population pressures within a given ecosystem cannot be otherwise relieved, may include regulated taking.



Additional authorities for the USFWS derive from the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended; and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as amended.

In addition to the ESA, FLPMA (43 U.S.C. 1701 et. seq) provides the BLM with the authorities required for this Conservation Agreement:

The public lands be managed in a manner that will protect the quality of scientific, scenic, historical, ecological, environmental, air and atmospheric, water resource, and archeological values; that, where appropriate, will preserve and protect certain public lands in their natural condition; that will provide food and habitat for fish and wildlife and domestic animals; and that will provide for outdoor recreation and human occupancy and use.

BLM Special Status Species Management Manual 6840 provides specific policy guidance as it pertains to the ESA, FLPMA and this Conservation Agreement. For listed species, the policy states the following:

1. The BLM shall conserve listed species and the ecosystems upon which they depend and shall use existing authority in furtherance of the purposes of the ESA. Specifically the BLM shall:
  - a. Determine, to the extent practicable, the occurrence, distribution, population dynamics and habitat condition of all listed species on lands administered by BLM, and evaluate the significance of lands administered by BLM in the conservation of those species.
  - b. Develop and implement management plans and programs that will conserve listed species and their habitats.
  - c. Monitor and evaluate ongoing management activities to ensure conservation objectives for listed species are being met.
  - d. Ensure that all activities affecting the populations and habitats of listed species are designed to be consistent with recovery needs and objectives.
  - e. Implement mandatory terms and conditions and reasonable and prudent alternatives as outlined in final biological opinions.
  - f. Implement conservation recommendations included in biological opinions if they are consistent with BLM land use planning and policy and they are technologically and economically feasible.
2. Ensure that all actions authorized, funded, or carried out by the BLM are in compliance with the ESA. To accomplish this, the BLM shall:
  - a. Evaluate all proposed actions to determine if individuals or populations of listed species or their habitat may be affected.



- b. Initiate consultation with the USFWS, including preparation of biological assessments, as appropriate, for those actions that may affect listed species or their habitats.
  - c. Until the consultation proceedings are completed and a final biological opinion has been issued, BLM shall not carry out any action that would cause an irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources such that it would foreclose the formulation or implementation of any reasonable and prudent alternative measure that might avoid jeopardy to listed species and/or prevent the adverse modification of critical habitat.
  - d. Ensure that BLM actions will not reduce the likelihood of survival and recovery of any listed species.
3. Cooperate with the USFWS in planning and providing for the recovery of listed species. To accomplish this, the BLM shall:
- a. Ensure that decisions, standards and guidelines, and best management practices in resource management plans and site-specific plans prepared for lands covered by previously approved recovery plans are consistent with meeting recovery plan objectives and terms and conditions of applicable biological opinions.
4. Retain in Federal ownership all habitat essential for the survival and recovery of any listed species, including habitat that was used historically, that has retained its potential to sustain listed species, and is deemed to be essential to their survival.

For species that are candidates for listing, the policy states the following:

1. In coordination with USFWS, determine, to the extent practicable, the distribution, population dynamics, current threats, abundance, and habitat needs for candidate species occurring on lands administered by the BLM; evaluate the significance of lands administered by the BLM or actions undertaken by the BLM in maintaining and restoring those species.
2. For candidate species where lands administered by the BLM or BLM authorized actions have a significant effect on their status, manage the habitat to conserve the species by:
  - a. Ensuring candidate species are appropriately considered in land use plans (BLM 1610 Planning Manual and Handbook, Appendix C).
  - b. Developing, cooperating with, and implementing range-wide or site-specific management plans, conservation strategies, and assessments for candidate species that include specific habitat and population management objectives designed for conservation, as well as management strategies necessary to meet those objectives.
  - c. Ensuring that BLM activities affecting the habitat of candidate species are carried out in a manner that is consistent with the objectives for managing those species.



- d. Monitoring populations and habitats of candidate species to determine whether management objectives are being met.
3. Request technical assistance from the USFWS and other qualified sources, on any planned action that may contribute to the need to list a candidate species as threatened or endangered.

## VI. CONSERVATION MEASURES

Conservation measures were developed for each LUP program and sub-program covered by this Conservation Agreement. They are discussed specifically for each Planning Area in the associated Biological Assessment. Each conservation measure describes a goal or general action and includes one or more specific BLM actions required to implement it. Responsibilities for implementing the actions are indicated, along with time frames for implementation. Most of the conservation measures will be implemented as standard operating actions conducted during day-to-day management activities. A few of the conservation measures have time-sensitive implementation actions with specific agreed-to completion goals. Conservation measures of particular implementation concern are briefly discussed in three parts below. In addition, LUP conservation measure guidance and direction will be applied to ongoing actions. However, as site-specific information will be available for the ongoing actions, additional conservation measures may be considered.

### Part 1: Programmatic Planning

Programmatic planning conservation measures include those that are needed for consultation at all planning levels including future LUPs, ongoing activities and proposed projects. Under the scope of this Conservation Agreement, BLM will have the following goals for BLM public lands:

- A prioritized schedule for completing Stage 1 surveys (identification of the presence of slickspots) will be developed by February of 2007. As per the schedule, prioritized Stage 1 surveys will be completed within five years. Complete Stage 1 surveys for all potential slickspot peppergrass habitat will be completed within 10 years.
- Permanent ecological reference areas will be established in selected slickspot peppergrass element occurrences by 2008.
- BLM will use Idaho Conservation Data Center (CDC) and other data to identify, record, and map known populations and suitable habitats and cooperate with other agencies to accomplish regular monitoring and assist in documenting whether the species is using identified habitats and what type of use is occurring.
- For species and habitat on BLM land, BLM will maintain or cooperate with USFWS and the CDC to maintain a spatial database of species habitat information for BLM land.



## Part 2: Projects / Activity Plans – Planning and Implementation

### A. Ongoing Actions

This category includes all activities currently ongoing and permitted on BLM land. These include actions that have gone through the agency planning process and have a documented agency decision (decision memorandum, decision notice, or record of decision). BLM will generally implement the following conservation measures:

- Complete section 7 conference for all ongoing activities containing all or a portion of polygons defined as “occupied slickspot peppergrass habitat” concurrent with the conference effort for existing LUPs. In addition, review all other ongoing activities that may affect slickspot peppergrass as indicated by survey results, and initiate section 7 compliance activities within six months, as needed.
- Review each Fire Management Plan (FMP) to determine if slickspot peppergrass is adequately addressed. We recognize that Idaho FMPs are not decision documents but rather guidance documents with no section 7 compliance expectations.
- Adaptively manage all ongoing activities as described in the associated Biological Assessment, and adjust the action as appropriate to ensure management objectives for slickspot peppergrass are met.

### B. Proposed Actions

This category includes all new proposed projects or activities as well as all renewal actions. BLM will implement the following conservation measures:

- Project-level inventories will be completed as appropriate during project planning if inventory information is not available or adequate to determine if impacts to the species or habitat may occur. If direct or indirect negative impacts to the species or its habitat are anticipated as a result of new BLM actions, the activity will be modified to avoid or minimize anticipated negative impacts. BLM will complete all necessary section 7 compliance for new activities that may affect this species and its habitat.
- The BLM State Office will develop policy guidance by February of 2007 concerning slickspot peppergrass project-level inventory and assessment protocols where this guidance is lacking.
- Adaptively manage all ongoing activities as described in the associated Biological Assessment, and adjust the action as appropriate to ensure management objectives for slickspot peppergrass are met.



### **Part 3: Monitoring**

Conservation measures for slickspot peppergrass include a provision to implement adaptive management as needed to achieve conservation objectives. At the project level, this will be accomplished by conducting site-specific implementation and effectiveness monitoring to track progress toward achieving the conservation measures. BLM and USFWS Level 1 Teams will meet annually to review the implementation and effectiveness monitoring results for projects of concern, determine if current management actions are on a trajectory toward meeting management goals within the established time frames, and modify management actions as needed if progress toward goals is inadequate. Implementation of the programmatic and ongoing actions conservation measures will be monitored through the reporting and monitoring requirements of this Conservation Agreement (Section VII).

### **VII. CONSERVATION AGREEMENT MONITORING AND REPORTING**

The agencies agree to a joint, annual review in October each year to document progress in implementing this Conservation Agreement. Level 1 Teams will report in writing to the BLM State Office no later than September 30 of each year on progress and accomplishments related to this Conservation Agreement. A statewide report will be written by the State Office BLM program leaders and USFWS supervisors in coordination with Level 1 and 2 Teams. This annual report will summarize findings and be provided to the State Director and Field Office Supervisors no later than October 31 of each year.

This review could lead to the modification and exceptions discussed in Part VIII below. These modifications or exceptions will be formalized within the scope of this Conservation Agreement no later than December 31 of each year. This review may also identify funding adjustments in the Idaho BLM Annual Work Plans in order to meet the terms of this Conservation Agreement. Management actions and/or funding to implement the conservation measures may be adjusted in an effort to ensure that management objectives are met in accordance with the schedule in Section VI, Part 1 of this Conservation Agreement and in the BA. Additional funding may be required as well.

### **VIII. AMENDMENTS, EXCEPTIONS, AND DURATION OF AGREEMENT**

Exceptions or amendments to this agreement may be jointly agreed to by the signatories on a case-by-case basis, where such changes would better provide for protection and conservation of species, where conflicts must be resolved between species, where priorities need to be adjusted due to funding constraints, or when new, relevant scientific information becomes available. Such exceptions or amendments shall be agreed to by modification. All modifications within the scope of this agreement shall be made by issuance of a modification executed by all parties prior to any changes being performed.

This agreement shall be considered fully executed when all signatories have signed. The agreement shall expire on December 31, 2010, at which time it will be reviewed for renewal or expiration.



**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
	<p>d) Participate in research essential to conservation of the species.</p> <p>e) Continue to support seed banks in a long-term seed storage facility.</p> <p>f) Support the establishment and maintenance of new populations in slickspot peppergrass habitat. The goal of these activities is to maintain or enhance viable populations.</p> <p>2) Ensure that ongoing Federal actions support or do not preclude species conservation in slickspot peppergrass habitat.</p>	<p>d) BLM will participate in research as funding allows. Areas to focus on include, but are not limited to, the following:</p> <p>i) Elimination and control of invasive species.</p> <p>ii) Pollination, forb restoration, and effects of ground disturbance on the species.</p> <p>iii) Determination of specific limiting factors in terms of habitat needs and characteristics.</p> <p>iv) Population viability analyses.</p> <p>e) As needed, provide funding to a suitable repository to support a seed bank.</p> <p>f) Reintroduce slickspot peppergrass at selected experimental reintroduction or historic sites as funding allows.</p> <p>2) Ongoing BLM authorized activities:</p> <p>a) Based on the results of annual Stage 1 and 2 surveys, review ongoing activities in slickspot peppergrass habitat. The Level 1 Team will conduct these reviews in a manner consistent with streamlining procedures where local section 7 compliance activities with FWS (if necessary) have not yet been completed.</p> <p>b) If reviews indicate that direct or indirect negative impacts to the species or its habitat are occurring as a result of ongoing discretionary BLM actions, the activity will be modified to avoid or minimize anticipated negative impacts and, where feasible, promote species conservation.</p>	<p>d) FO and SO, with FWS (all actions)</p> <p>e) SO, with CDC and FWS</p> <p>f) FO and SO, with CDC and FWS</p> <p>2) FO (all actions)</p>	<p>d) SOA (all actions)</p> <p>e) SOA</p> <p>f) SOA</p> <p>2) SOA, annual review</p>

TABLE 2-X. SLICKSPOT PEPPERGRASS (*LEPIDIUM PAPILLIFERUM*), CONSERVATION MEASURES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS FOR THE JARBIDGE AND FOUR RIVERS FOS



**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
Special Status Animal and Plant Management Note: Common to All Programs	<p>The conservation measures contained throughout this table implement important elements included in the CCA for slickspot peppergrass. The conservation measures reflect BLM's commitment to support species conservation.</p> <p>1) In cooperation with Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) Conservation Data Center (CDC), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Idaho Army National Guard (IDARNG), the U.S. Air Force (USAF), and others:</p> <p>a) Develop and use survey protocols consistent with the FWS Rare Plant Survey Guidelines to conduct Stage 1, 2, and 3 surveys (see Flowchart 2-1 at the end of this table for the general survey process).</p> <p>b) Cooperate to refine slickspot peppergrass potential habitat maps (Stage 1 survey, Flowchart 2-1), and to identify and map slickspot peppergrass occurrences (Stage 2 survey, Flowchart 2-1).</p>	<p>The implementation actions reflect BLM's commitment to support species conservation and meet ESA objectives. Actions apply to BLM lands and activities only. Habitat terms used throughout this document are defined in <b>Appendix C: Species-Specific Habitat Definitions</b>.</p> <p>1) Following actions to be completed in cooperation with others:</p> <p>a) Apply current survey methods, and assure that inventories are done at the appropriate time of the year by qualified botanists, or by persons who are under the guidance of botanists. Develop more specific survey protocols with reporting standards for slickspot peppergrass.</p> <p>b) Surveys, mapping, and data management (refer to Flowchart 2-1, at the end of this table):</p> <p>i) Cooperate with CDC and FWS to record, refine, and map all habitat features including potential habitat, slickspot peppergrass habitat, non-habitat, occupied habitat, and element occurrences (EOs), for BLM lands (see Appendix C, <i>Definitions</i>, and Appendix D, <i>Soil Series Descriptions</i>). Use current GIS standards for mapping and database management. In cooperation with CDC, maintain a spatial database of species population and habitat information for BLM lands.</p> <p>ii) BLM will continue to conduct Stage 1 and 2 surveys, report survey information to the CDC, and incorporate the information into the adaptive management strategy.</p>	<p>1) As stated below:</p> <p>a) BLM State Office (SO), BLM Field Office (FO), FWS, and CDC</p> <p>b) FO, with CDC and FWS</p> <p>i) FO</p> <p>ii) FO</p>	<p>1) As stated below:</p> <p>a) SO Due Date (DD) for protocol = February 1, 2007</p> <p>b) Standard operating action (SOA)</p> <p>i) Update map annually</p> <p>ii) SOA, annually</p>

TABLE 2-X. SLICKSPOT PEPPERGRASS (*LEPIDIUM PAPILLIFERUM*): CONSERVATION MEASURES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS FOR THE JARBIDGE AND FOUR RIVERS FOs



**Slickspot pepperglass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
	<p>c) Cooperate in regular monitoring of slickspot pepperglass population trends and land health conditions on BLM lands, and follow current monitoring protocols. Land health conditions include forb diversity to support pollinators and habitat for slickspot pepperglass.</p>	<p>iii) BLM's intent will be to conduct Stage 1 surveys (slickspot survey) for at least 50,000 acres of the potential habitat annually with a goal of completing Stage 1 surveys for all potential habitat within 10 years. BLM will work collaboratively with FWS to prioritize surveys during the first 5 years to areas that have a high likelihood of species occurrence, or that are needed for BLM project purposes. BLM will also target at least 15,000 acres of Stage 2 surveys (slickspot pepperglass plant surveys) that can be done concurrently with the Stage 1 surveys. The amount of habitat to be surveyed each year will be based on available annual funding. Stage 3 plant surveys will be conducted as necessary and desired.</p> <p>iv) Prioritize Stage 2 surveys to address slickspot habitat with a high likelihood of species occurrence. Surveys should be scheduled to complement other program needs. Coordinate annually with FWS as Stage 1 surveys are completed to schedule the Stage 2 surveys.</p> <p>c) Follow the Habitat Integrity and Population (HIP) monitoring protocol or other accepted methodology. BLM will cooperate with others to conduct annual monitoring within all EOs on BLM lands to assess the effectiveness of the conservation measures as part of the adaptive management strategy.</p> <p>i) Establish permanent ecological reference areas (ERAs) in selected EOs to evaluate land health conditions associated with slickspot pepperglass.</p> <p>ii) Use data from the ERAs to assist in completing land health assessments. This information will be used to evaluate permitted management actions and to design restoration projects for slickspot pepperglass.</p>	<p>iii) Level 1 Team develops schedule; FO completes Stage 1 surveys</p> <p>iv) Level 1 Team develops schedule; FO completes Stage 2 surveys</p> <p>c) FO</p> <p>i) FO, with SO, FWS, and CDC</p> <p>ii) FO</p>	<p>iii) Develop schedule for conducting priority Stage 1 surveys by February 1, 2007. Complete all Stage 1 surveys by 2017.</p> <p>iv) Develop Stage 2 survey schedules annually, beginning in 2007.</p> <p>c) SOA</p> <p>i) FO DD = 2008</p> <p>ii) SOA</p>

**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
	<p><b>3)</b> Ensure that new Federal actions support or do not preclude species conservation in slickspot peppergrass habitat.</p> <p><b>4)</b> Implement adaptive management as needed to achieve conservation objectives.</p>	<p><b>c)</b> Where needed, complete section 7 compliance, if needed, for ongoing activities that may affect this species and its habitat. Following the annual review of Stage 1 and 2 surveys outlined in <b>(2)(a)</b> above, initiate section 7 compliance activities for ongoing actions within 6 months, as appropriate.</p> <p><b>d)</b> Where slickspot peppergrass habitat exists, BLM will conserve remaining stands of sagebrush and native vegetation in making activity plan and project level decisions.</p> <p><b>3)</b> New proposed BLM authorized activities:</p> <p><b>a)</b> Consistent with streamlining procedures, BLM will require project-level inventories for any project in slickspot peppergrass habitat and in potential habitat during project planning if inventory information is not available or adequate. BLM will use the protocols developed in <b>(1)(a)</b>.</p> <p><b>b)</b> If direct or indirect negative impacts to the species or its habitat are anticipated as a result of new BLM actions, the activity will be modified to avoid or minimize negative impacts and, where feasible, promote species conservation.</p> <p><b>c)</b> Where needed, complete section 7 compliance (if needed) for new activities that may affect this species and its habitat.</p> <p><b>d)</b> Where slickspot peppergrass habitat exists, BLM will conserve remaining stands of sagebrush and native vegetation in making activity plan and project level decisions.</p> <p><b>4)</b> Conduct site-specific implementation and effectiveness monitoring of management actions. Adjust management as needed to ensure that management objectives are met. See additional details within other programs.</p>	<p><b>3)</b> As listed below:</p> <p><b>a)</b> FO and FWS</p> <p><b>b)</b> FO</p> <p><b>c)</b> FO and FWS</p> <p><b>d)</b> FO</p> <p><b>4)</b> FO, with FWS.</p>	<p><b>3)</b> See below:</p> <p><b>a)</b> SOA</p> <p><b>b)</b> SOA</p> <p><b>c)</b> SOA</p> <p><b>d)</b> SOA</p> <p><b>4)</b> SOA</p>





**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
	<p>5) Support programs to conserve and enhance slickspot peppergrass on non-Federal lands.</p> <p>6) Include language in all land use authorizations to require rehabilitation of slickspot peppergrass habitat in case of trespass or permit violations, if damage occurs.</p>	<p>5) Take advantage of opportunities to support conservation of slickspot peppergrass through easements, cooperative management efforts, and other programs.</p> <p>6) As a part of management authorizations, require rehabilitation to native vegetation in slickspot peppergrass habitat if trespass or permit violation occurs and the habitat is damaged. If ecological site conditions preclude the use of native species, use non-invasive, non-native plant species for rehabilitation in trespass or permit violation situations.</p>	<p>5) FO</p> <p>6) FO</p>	<p>5) SOA</p> <p>6) SOA</p>
Air Resources	None	None	None	None
Soil and Water Resources: Riparian/Wetland Areas (includes weed management)	None	None	None	None
Upland Vegetation Management: Rangelands (includes weed management)	<p>1) Activities within the <b>Upland Vegetation Management: Rangelands (includes weed management)</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation. As a part of promoting conservation, the goals are to promote habitat conservation, to avoid negative impacts, or to minimize impacts if avoidance is not possible.</p>	<p>1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.</p>	1) SO and FO	1) SOA

TABLE 2-X. SLICKSPOT PEPPERGRASS (*LEPIDIUM PAPILLIFERUM*): CONSERVATION MEASURES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS FOR THE JARBIDGE AND FOUR RIVERS FOs

**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
	<p><b>2)</b> Although non-chemical methods will be the preferred approach in occupied habitat, when appropriate, projects involving the application of pesticides (including herbicides, fungicides, and other related chemicals) in slickspot peppergrass habitat and potential habitat that may affect the species will be analyzed at the project level and designed such that pesticide applications will support conservation and minimize risks of exposure.</p> <p><b>3)</b> Where needed and feasible, coordinate with adjacent land owners and local governments regarding control of invasive plants in upland areas through cooperative weed management programs. One of BLM's priorities within the cooperative weed management program is the protection of special status plants on BLM lands.</p> <p><b>4)</b> BLM will promote diversity, richness, and health of native plant communities to support pollinators and habitat for slickspot peppergrass.</p>	<p><b>2)</b> Site-specific stipulations will be developed locally using these criteria:</p> <p><i>a)</i> Evaluate the benefits and risks of vegetation treatment including the following: application methods; pesticides, carriers, and surfactants used; needed treatment buffers; and use of non-chemical weed control (for example, bio-controls, hand pulling).</p> <p><i>b)</i> Apply appropriate spatial and temporal buffers to avoid species' exposure to harmful chemicals.</p> <p><i>c)</i> Explore opportunities to eradicate competing non-native invasive plants in occupied habitat where slickspots are being invaded by such plants.</p> <p><i>d)</i> Implement appropriate revegetation and weed control measures to reduce the risks of non-native invasive plant infestations following ground/soil disturbing actions in slickspot peppergrass habitat.</p> <p><i>e)</i> BLM will provide USDA APHIS with the location of slickspot peppergrass habitat. Mormon cricket, grasshopper, or other insect control in slickspot peppergrass habitat will only include those methods that minimize impacts to the plant's pollinators.</p> <p><b>3)</b> Take advantage of coordination opportunities as they arise.</p> <p><b>4)</b> BLM will focus slickspot peppergrass habitat conservation and restoration efforts in or adjacent to occupied habitat to encourage connectivity among populations through the following measures:</p>	<p><b>2)</b> FO, with FWS (all actions)</p> <p><b>3)</b> FO</p> <p><b>4)</b> FO, with FWS</p>	<p><b>2)</b> SOA</p> <p><b>3)</b> SOA</p> <p><b>4)</b> SOA</p>



**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
		<p>a) Where slickspot peppergrass habitat exists, BLM will conserve remaining stands of sagebrush and native vegetation in making activity plan and project level decisions.</p> <p>b) Vegetation treatment projects undertaken in slickspot peppergrass habitat will be compatible with species habitat restoration objectives, as described in item <u>d</u>) below.</p> <p>c) BLM will select and implement specific projects to restore slickspot peppergrass habitat in degraded areas as funding allows, such as planting shrubs and forbs and controlling weeds, within and adjacent to occupied habitat. Apply methods described in item <u>d</u>) below.</p> <p>d) When conducting vegetation treatment projects, BLM will use seeding techniques that minimize soil disturbance such as no-till drills and rangeland drills equipped with depth bands, use native plant materials and seed during restoration activities, and select native forbs that benefit slickspot peppergrass insect pollinators.</p>		
Forest and Woodland Management (includes weed management)	None	None	None	None
Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Management	1) Activities within the <b>Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Management</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.	1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.	1) SO and FO	1) SOA

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**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
	<p>2) Manage facilities installed for wildlife to promote maintenance of slickspot peppergrass habitat.</p> <p>3) Restore wildlife habitat while promoting slickspot peppergrass conservation.</p>	<p>2) For review of ongoing actions, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item (2). For new actions, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item (3). As appropriate to avoid or minimize negative impacts, modify existing and avoid placement of new wildlife facilities in occupied habitat.</p> <p>3) Any restoration efforts for wildlife within slickspot peppergrass habitat will be compatible with the species' habitat requirements.</p>	<p>2) FO</p> <p>3) FO</p>	<p>2) SOA</p> <p>3) SOA</p>
Fish and Aquatic Habitat Management	None	None	None	None
Livestock Grazing Management: Permits and Leases	<p>1) Activities within the <b>Livestock Grazing Management: Permits And Leases</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.</p> <p>2) Manage livestock grazing and trailing to conserve suitable habitat conditions for slickspot peppergrass while implementing rangeland health standards and guidelines (S&amp;Gs). Apply the <b>Grazing Adaptive Management Implementation Flowchart (Figure 2-2)</b>, located at the end of this conservation measures table, to adjust livestock use as appropriate.</p>	<p>1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.</p> <p>2) Permit or lease renewal actions and annual authorizations:</p> <p>a) For review of ongoing actions, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item (2).</p> <p>b) Schedule surveys in slickspot peppergrass habitat as needed for S&amp;G assessments associated with permit and lease renewals. Use survey procedures and flowchart (Figure 2-1) referenced in <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section 1(b).</p> <p>c) For new actions, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item (3).</p>	<p>1) SO and FO</p> <p>2) FO (all actions)</p>	<p>1) SOA</p> <p>2) SOA (all actions)</p>





**Slickspot pepperglass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
	<p>4) Provide adequate rest from livestock use for areas treated after major disturbances in slickspot pepperglass habitat. Major disturbances include fire, fire rehabilitation, or other soil-disturbing occurrences.</p> <p>5) BLM will work cooperatively with the livestock permittees to promote slickspot pepperglass conservation.</p>	<p>Management and where practical the efforts may be combined. BLM staff will conduct inspections as determined by the schedule.</p> <p>a) BLM range staff will conduct pre-season range readiness checks for soil moisture conditions in allotments with occupied habitat.</p> <p>b) BLM will conduct post-use monitoring for trampling in slickspots within EOs (could be done in conjunction with utilization compliance checks).</p> <p>c) <del>b)</del> Monitoring results will be documented in a standard format (to be developed by BLM) in the grazing allotment files. Copies will be provided to the FWS as completed.</p> <p>d) Apply <b>Grazing Adaptive Management Implementation Flowchart</b> as outlined in Figure 2-2, located at the end of this conservation measures table.</p> <p>4) Protect treated areas by using temporary livestock closures or other measures. The length of rest will be determined by achieving certain goals associated with plant establishment outlined in the restoration, fire rehabilitation, or other plan.</p> <p>5) BLM will train permittees on slickspot pepperglass habitat and plant recognition. BLM will also work with permittees to use the CDC rare plant observation form to report survey information in a standard format.</p>	<p>a) FO</p> <p>b) SO and FWS, with FO input</p> <p>4) FO</p> <p>5) FO</p>	<p>a) SOA</p> <p>b) DD for developing format: February 1, 2007</p> <p>4) SOA</p> <p>5) SOA</p>
Livestock Grazing Management: Livestock Management Facilities	<p>1) Activities within the <b>Livestock Grazing Management: Livestock Management Facilities</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.</p>	<p>1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.</p>	<p>1) SO and FO</p>	<p>1) SOA</p>



**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
	<p>2) Manage livestock facilities to promote slickspot peppergrass conservation while implementing rangeland health S&amp;Gs.</p>	<p>2) For review of ongoing actions, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item (2). For new actions, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item (3). As appropriate to avoid or minimize negative impacts, modify existing and avoid placement of new livestock facilities in occupied habitat areas.</p> <p>a) Within pastures, place water facilities to support slickspot peppergrass conservation:</p> <p>i) Existing water troughs (includes troughs that are tied into pipelines, as well as both permanent and movable troughs to which water is delivered throughout the grazing season) will be moved at least 1/2 mile from EOs, when feasible. Where troughs cannot be moved (for example, because of topographical constraints, additional disturbance, or impacts to sensitive species), management will be adjusted to mitigate the impacts during the periods of critical concern for slickspot peppergrass (such as when soils are saturated and subject to trampling impacts). Management adjustments could include shutting the water off seasonally, changing pasture boundary fences, or other appropriate measures.</p> <p>ii) New water troughs (not including existing water troughs moved in (2)(a)(i), above) will be placed at least 1 mile from EOs. A deviation from this standard may be developed on a case-by-case basis through collaboration with the FWS. New water troughs will be placed so that cattle are drawn away from the EO and avoid trailing through an EO en route to a water source.</p> <p>iii) Temporary water troughs (short-term, emergency, or single-season use) will be located at least 1 mile from EOs. A deviation to this standard may be developed on a case-by-case basis through collaboration with the FWS. New water troughs will be placed so that cattle are drawn away from the EO and avoid trailing through an EO en route to a water source.</p>	<p>2) FO (all actions)</p>	<p>2) SOA (all actions)</p>

TABLE 2-X. SLICKSPOT PEPPERGRASS (*LEPIDIUM PAPILLIFERUM*); CONSERVATION MEASURES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS FOR THE JARBIDGE AND FOUR RIVERS FOS





**Slickspot pepperglass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
		b) Placement of new livestock infrastructure will be compatible with slickspot pepperglass habitat conservation. Avoid placement of new fences within EOs.		
Wild Horse Management	<p>1) Activities within the <b>Wild Horse Management</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.</p> <p>2) If the range of wild horses and slickspot pepperglass occupied habitat overlaps now or in the future, protect these areas from wild horses by including applicable conservation measures in herd management plans.</p>	<p>1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.</p> <p>2) Manage wild horse herd size to minimize conflicts with slickspot pepperglass. Limit trampling in occupied habitat by implementing appropriate range management practices, such as fencing and water trough placement.</p>	<p>1) SO and FO</p> <p>2) FO</p>	<p>1) SOA</p> <p>2) SOA</p>
Recreation Management	<p>1) Activities within the <b>Recreation Management</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.</p> <p>2) Developed facilities (paved campgrounds, vault toilets, interpretive kiosks, etc.): Manage existing and new recreation facilities to promote conservation of species habitat.</p>	<p>1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.</p> <p>2) Management of existing and new facilities:</p> <p>a) For review of existing facilities, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item (2). As appropriate to avoid or minimize negative impacts, modify existing facilities.</p> <p>b) For new facilities, or for expansion of uses at existing facilities, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item (3). In addition, avoid development of new recreation facilities or expansion of existing facilities in slickspot pepperglass habitat if negative impacts are anticipated.</p>	<p>1) SO and FO</p> <p>2) FO (all actions)</p>	<p>1) SOA</p> <p>2) SOA (all actions)</p>

**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOS**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
	<p><b>3)</b> Dispersed use areas (informal areas, including camping areas and tie-up areas for pack animals): Manage dispersed use sites to promote conservation of species habitat. This includes limiting disturbances to the species resulting from human uses.</p> <p><b>4)</b> Commercial and noncommercial recreation permits, including hunting guides and outfitter camps: issue commercial and noncommercial recreation permits to promote conservation of slickspot peppergrass habitat. This includes management of physical facilities (such as camps), as well as disturbances to slickspot peppergrass habitat resulting from human uses.</p>	<p>c) BLM will educate recreationists on special status species and invasive weeds, focusing on occupied and selected habitat areas. BLM will develop and install educational signage at entry points and key recreational points regarding the biology and conservation of this species and other special status species.</p> <p><b>3)</b> For review of ongoing activities, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item (2). In addition, minimize human activity in and adjacent to occupied habitat if negative impacts are occurring. Close areas, either seasonally or year-round, as needed to protect the species and its habitat.</p> <p><b>4)</b> Issuance and review of existing and new permits:</p> <p>a) For review of existing permits, see Special Status Animal and Plant Management program section item (2). If needed, modify existing permits that negatively impact habitat for this species.</p> <p>b) For new permits, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item (3). Avoid issuing recreation permits in slickspot peppergrass habitat if negative impacts are expected. In particular, avoid permitting new recreation activities in and adjacent to occupied habitat. If a recreation permit is to be issued, apply stipulations to the permit to support or to not preclude species conservation and educate permit holders about species' biology and needs.</p> <p>c) BLM will not authorize organized recreation activities in slickspot peppergrass habitat if negative impacts are anticipated (for example, OHV races, equestrian events, and other events).</p>	<p><b>3)</b> FO</p> <p><b>4)</b> FO (all actions)</p>	<p><b>3)</b> SOA</p> <p><b>4)</b> SOA (all actions)</p>
Recreation Management:	<b>1)</b> Activities within the <b>Recreation Management: Travel Management</b> program	<b>1)</b> Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.	<b>1)</b> SO and FO	<b>1)</b> SOA

TABLE 2-X. SLICKSPOT PEPPERGRASS (*LEPIDIUM PAPILLIFERUM*): CONSERVATION MEASURES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS FOR THE JARBIDGE AND FOUR RIVERS FOS





**Slickspot pepperglass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
Travel Management	<p>will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.</p> <p><b>2)</b> Manage roads, off-highway vehicle (OHV) routes and areas, as well as non-motorized trails, to promote species habitat conservation. This includes management of roads and trails, as well as ground disturbance resulting from human uses.</p> <p><b>3)</b> Perform compliance checks on OHV closures to protect occupied habitat, identify problems as soon as possible, and take immediate corrective measures.</p>	<p><b>2)</b> Review of existing and new roads, OHV routes, and areas and non-motorized trails:</p> <p>a) For existing roads, designated OHV routes and areas, and designated non-motorized trails, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item <b>(2)</b>. Modify roads and routes in and adjacent to slickspot pepperglass habitat if negative impacts are occurring. Implement restrictions to reduce ground disturbance. Seek opportunities to close and revegetate roads, OHV routes, or non-motorized trails and use areas in and adjacent to habitat if negative impacts are occurring.</p> <p>b) For new roads, OHV routes and areas, and non-motorized trails, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item <b>(3)</b>. Avoid creating new roads, trails, routes, and areas if negative impacts are expected in and adjacent to slickspot pepperglass habitat.</p> <p>c) Evaluate off-road vehicle use in occupied habitat, and where needed, limit access or close areas to motorized and mechanical vehicles to promote species conservation.</p> <p><b>3)</b> See <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item <b>(2)</b>.</p>	<p><b>2)</b> FO and SO (all actions)</p> <p><b>3)</b> FO</p> <p>None</p>	<p><b>2)</b> SOA</p> <p><b>3)</b> SOA</p> <p>None</p>
Visual Resource Management	None	None	None	None



**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
Special Designation Area Management	<p>1) Activities within the <b>Special Designation Area Management</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.</p> <p>2) Explore the potential for new designations that would enhance species conservation.</p>	<p>1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.</p> <p>2) Evaluate establishing areas of critical environmental concern (ACECs) for several stronghold populations of slickspot peppergrass during land use plan amendments or revisions.</p>	<p>1) SO and FO</p> <p>2) FO</p>	<p>1) SOA</p> <p>2) SOA</p>
Fire Management: Fire Suppression	<p>1) Activities within the <b>Fire Management: Fire Suppression</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation. Human life and firefighter safety and property take priority over species protection.</p> <p>2) Fire suppression efforts will be conducted, as possible, to protect slickspot peppergrass habitat. Place a high priority on protecting slickspot peppergrass habitat.</p>	<p>1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.</p> <p>2) Fire management activities:</p> <p>a) Fire Management Plans will include Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) that address conservation of slickspot peppergrass.</p> <p>i) BLM will provide adequate fire suppression coverage at all stations to meet management objectives with the intent to suppress 90% of fires to the acreages specified in the fire management plans for slickspot peppergrass. BLM will maintain existing remote fire guard stations easily accessible to occupied habitat (for example, Juniper Butte fire guard station) and explore opportunities to establish additional stations to provide better initial attack and reduced response times for wildfires in slickspot peppergrass habitat</p>	<p>1) SO and FO</p> <p>2) As listed below:</p> <p>a) SO in coordination with Fire Management Office (FMO) and FO</p>	<p>1) SOA</p> <p>2) See below:</p> <p>a) SO DD = 2007</p>

TABLE 2-X. SLICKSPOT PEPPERGRASS (*LEPIDIUM PAPILLIFERUM*): CONSERVATION MEASURES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS FOR THE JARBIDGE AND FOUR RIVERS FOS



**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOS**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
	<p>3) As needed, coordinate with appropriate agency personnel regarding fire suppression activities in or adjacent to slickspot peppergrass habitat.</p>	<p>ii) Apply minimum impact suppression tactics (MIST) in slickspot peppergrass habitat, as appropriate. Consult with resource advisors to determine where MIST tactics should be applied to avoid or minimize negative impacts.</p> <p>iii) Although minimum impact suppression tactics (MIST) are preferred, aggressive fire suppression tactics (e.g., blade lines, back fires, etc. in habitat) may be applied if EOs are threatened.</p> <p>b) Do not locate fire base camps, staging areas, and fueling areas within occupied habitat.</p> <p>3) Ongoing interagency coordination.</p> <p>a) BLM and cooperators will expand on and continue to provide special status plant and habitat awareness training to fire resource advisors, Incident Commanders, Engine Operators, and Fire Operations Supervisors.</p> <p>b) BLM and cooperators will distribute maps and inform fire crews on locations of the EOs to maximize fire protection and to avoid or minimize impacts from fire suppression activities.</p>	<p>b) FMO and Incident Commander for fire</p> <p>3) FMO with support from FO resource advisor</p>	<p>b) SOA</p> <p>3) SOA</p>
<p>Fire Management: Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation</p>	<p>1) Activities within the <b>Fire Management: Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.</p> <p>2) Implement Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (ES&amp;R) activities to consider slickspot peppergrass in and adjacent to</p>	<p>1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.</p> <p>2) The following measures will be applied:</p> <p>a) All wildfires within slickspot peppergrass habitat will be evaluated for</p>	<p>1) SO and FO</p> <p>2) FO (all actions)</p>	<p>1) SOA</p> <p>2) SOA (all actions)</p>

TABLE 2-X. SLICKSPOT PEPPERGRASS (*LEPIDIUM PAPILLIFERUM*): CONSERVATION MEASURES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS FOR THE JARBIDGE AND FOUR RIVERS FOS

**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
	<p>slickspot peppergrass habitat rehabilitation.</p> <p><b>3) Fire rehabilitation projects involving the application of pesticides in slickspot peppergrass habitat will be analyzed and</b></p>	<p>ES&amp;R treatments, regardless of size.</p> <p>b) As needed, protect disturbed and recovering areas using temporary closures or other measures. BLM will continue to rest areas from land use activities to meet ES&amp;R objectives, defined through the ES&amp;R plans.</p> <p>c) BLM will initiate and complete ES&amp;R efforts for slickspot peppergrass, such as planting shrubs and forbs, within slickspot peppergrass habitat. BLM will implement the following measures during fire ES&amp;R efforts:</p> <p>i) BLM will use seeding techniques that minimize soil disturbance such as no-till drills and rangeland drills equipped with depth bands when ES&amp;R projects have the potential to impact slickspot peppergrass habitat.</p> <p>ii) BLM will use native plant materials and seed during ES&amp;R activities. BLM will include native forbs in seed mixtures that will benefit slickspot peppergrass insect pollinators.</p> <p>iii) If native plant materials and seed are not available, non-invasive, non-native species may be used for stabilization activities in slickspot peppergrass habitat.</p> <p>iv) In areas adjacent to slickspot peppergrass habitat, if natives are not available, non-invasive non-native species are acceptable for stabilization activities. Potentially invasive non-native species such as intermediate wheatgrass and prostrate kochia may be used as a last resort for stabilization activities in areas adjacent to slickspot peppergrass habitat provided the benefits of their use are demonstrated to outweigh the risks to slickspot peppergrass and its habitat.</p> <p><b>3) See Upland Vegetation Management: Rangelands (includes weed management) program section.</b></p>	<p>3) SO and FO</p>	<p>3) SOA</p>

TABLE 2-X. SLICKSPOT PEPPERGRASS (*LEPIDIUM PAPILLIFERUM*) CONSERVATION MEASURES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS FOR THE JARBIDGE AND FOUR RIVERS FOS





**Slickspot pepperglass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
	implemented in accordance with the approach described in the <b>Upland Vegetation Management: Rangelands (includes weed management)</b> program section.			
Fire Management: Wildland Fire Use	1) Wildland fire use projects will not be allowed in slickspot pepperglass habitat.	1) When developing wildland fire use plans, do not allow wildland fire use in slickspot pepperglass habitat.	1) SO and FO	1) SOA
Fire Management: Prescribed Fire	1) Activities within the <b>Fire Management: Prescribed Fire</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.  2) Prescribed fire projects will be designed to conserve and enhance slickspot pepperglass habitat.	1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.  2) Prescribed fire in slickspot pepperglass habitat will only be used as a tool for assisting with species conservation (for example, a burn in preparation to decrease cheatgrass litter before herbicide application, or to clear fencelines of accumulated windblown weeds).	1) SO and FO  2) FO	1) SOA  2) SOA
Fire Management: Non-Fire Fuels Management	1) Activities within the <b>Fire Management: Non-Fire Fuels Management</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.  2) Implement projects involving the application of pesticides in accordance with the approach described in the <b>Upland Vegetation Management: Rangelands (includes weed management)</b> program section.	1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.  2) See <b>Upland Vegetation management: Rangelands (includes weed management)</b> program section.	1) SO and FO  2) FO	1) SOA  2) SOA



**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
	<p>3) Fuels management projects conducted in slickspot peppergrass habitat should have long-term benefits to slickspot peppergrass.</p>	<p>3) Avoid fuels management projects in occupied habitat, unless such projects would enhance species conservation or are necessary for hazardous fuels reduction near the urban interface. Implement protection measures to avoid or minimize negative impacts to the species. In slickspot peppergrass habitat, design native seed mixes that emphasize local stock and will promote species conservation.</p> <p>a) Because of potential negative impacts to slickspot peppergrass habitat from linear fuel breaks, which can act as weed dispersal corridors, the following measures will be applied in or adjacent to slickspot peppergrass habitat:</p> <p>i) BLM will evaluate the effectiveness of existing fuel breaks (location, dry fuel load, and weed composition) in protecting slickspot peppergrass habitat.</p> <p>ii) BLM may create and maintain fuel breaks where frequent fires can threaten slickspot peppergrass habitat. New fuel breaks in slickspot peppergrass habitat will be designed to conserve and enhance species habitat. Where appropriate and where objectives will be met, native vegetation should be emphasized in the creation of new fuel breaks. If native vegetation or seed is not available or if objectives would not be met through their use, fuel breaks may include non-native, non-invasive, species that will not invade slickspots. In areas adjacent to slickspot peppergrass habitat, fuel breaks may include potentially invasive non-native species such as intermediate wheatgrass and prostrate kochia as a last resort if the benefits of their use are demonstrated to outweigh the risks to slickspot peppergrass and its habitat. Apply conservation measure (2) in the <b>Fire Management: Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation</b> program section and conservation measure (4) in the <b>Upland Vegetation Management</b> program.</p> <p>iii) Consider actions to repair or restore fuel breaks so they function as</p>	<p>3) FO (all actions)</p>	<p>3) SOA (all actions)</p>

TABLE 2-X. SLICKSPOT PEPPERGRASS (*LEPIDIUM PAPILLIFERUM*): CONSERVATION MEASURES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS FOR THE JARBIDGE AND FOUR RIVERS FOS



**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
		<p>desired. Apply conservation measure (2) in the <b>Fire Management: Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation</b> program section and conservation measure (4) in the <b>Upland Vegetation Management</b> program.</p> <p><b>b)</b> In addition to the reduction in fuels associated with appropriately managed livestock grazing (see relevant conservation measures from <b>Livestock Grazing Management</b> section of this table), BLM may create fuel breaks using techniques such as mowing or targeted grazing to strategically reduce fuel loads where frequent fires can threaten slickspot peppergrass habitat if the benefit of these actions can be demonstrated to outweigh the risks to slickspot peppergrass and its habitat.</p>		
Fire Management: Community Assistance	<p><b>1)</b> Activities within the <b>Fire Management: Community Assistance</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.</p> <p><b>2)</b> Follow all measures included throughout the Fire Management program sections.</p>	<p><b>1)</b> Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.</p> <p><b>2)</b> See actions within Fire Management program sections. Incorporate into community assistance agreements.</p>	<p><b>1)</b> SO and FO</p> <p><b>2)</b> FO</p>	<p><b>1)</b> SOA</p> <p><b>2)</b> SOA</p>
Lands and Realty Management: Land Tenure Adjustment (land sale, exchanges, withdrawals, etc.)	<p><b>1)</b> Activities within the <b>Lands and Realty Management: Land Tenure Adjustment (land sale, exchanges, withdrawals, etc.)</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.</p> <p><b>2)</b> Where feasible and funding is available,</p>	<p><b>1)</b> Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.</p> <p><b>2)</b> BLM will opportunistically acquire slickspot peppergrass habitat,</p>	<p><b>1)</b> SO and FO</p> <p><b>2)</b> FO</p>	<p><b>1)</b> SOA</p> <p><b>2)</b> SOA</p>

TABLE 2-X. SLICKSPOT PEPPERGRASS (*LEPIDIUM PAPILLIFERUM*): CONSERVATION MEASURES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS FOR THE JARBIDGE AND FOUR RIVERS FOS



**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOS**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
	<p>acquire through land exchange or purchase private lands that contain slickspot peppergrass habitat.</p> <p><b>3)</b> Retain occupied slickspot peppergrass habitat in Federal ownership unless such a transfer would result in a net benefit to the species.</p>	<p>particularly occupied habitat, in land exchanges and purchases.</p> <p><b>3)</b> Review each land tenure decision in terms of species habitat. Avoid the loss of occupied habitat from Federal ownership. If property with occupied habitat is being considered for transfer out of Federal ownership, ensure that the action will result in a greater net benefit for this species. BLM will coordinate with FWS as early as possible to discuss methods to assure that the proposed land tenure adjustment benefits the species.</p>	<b>3)</b> FO	<b>3)</b> SOA
Lands and Realty Management: Land Use Permits and Leases	<p><b>1)</b> Activities within the <b>Lands and Realty Management: Land Use Permits and Leases</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the Special Status Animal and Plant Management program section to promote conservation.</p> <p><b>2)</b> Issue new land use permits and leases and review existing permits and leases at renewal to conserve species habitat. This includes management of physical facilities, as well as ground disturbance resulting from human uses.</p>	<p><b>1)</b> Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.</p> <p><b>2)</b> For new authorizations, as well as those being renewed, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item <b>(3)</b>. Avoid issuing new authorizations, or renewing existing authorizations, in or adjacent to slickspot peppergrass habitat if negative impacts are expected. If an authorization is to be issued or re-issued in such areas, apply stipulations to the authorization that support species conservation and that avoid or minimize negative impacts. BLM will require control of invasive non-native or weed species on new, renewing, or amending land use permits and leases in slickspot peppergrass habitat.</p> <p><b>a)</b> Conduct periodic project compliance inspections during implementation of projects involving soil disturbance.</p> <p><b>b)</b> BLM will require that new or renewing permit or lease holders establish at least 50% perennial cover after all ground disturbing activities, unless ecological site conditions preclude that level of cover. If a native species</p>	<p><b>1)</b> SO and FO</p> <p><b>2)</b> FO (all actions)</p>	<p><b>1)</b> SOA</p> <p><b>2)</b> SOA (all actions)</p>

TABLE 2-X. SLICKSPOT PEPPERGRASS (*LEPIDIUM PAPILLIFERUM*); CONSERVATION MEASURES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS FOR THE JARBIDGE AND FOUR RIVERS FOS



**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
		component existed prior to the ground disturbance, then the native species component of the perennial cover should be restored.		
Lands and Realty Management: Rights-of-Way	<p><b>1) Activities within the Lands and Realty Management: Rights-of-Way</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.</p> <p><b>2) Issue new rights-of-way and review existing rights-of-way</b> at renewal to conserve species habitat. This includes management of physical facilities, as well as disturbances to the species resulting from human uses.</p>	<p><b>1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.</p> <p><b>2) For new rights-of-way and renewal of existing rights-of-way, see Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item <b>(3)</b> Avoid issuing new rights-of-way, or renewing rights-of-way, in or adjacent to slickspot peppergrass habitat if negative impacts are expected. In slickspot peppergrass habitat, only issue or re-issue rights-of-way with stipulations to avoid negative impacts to the habitat. BLM will require control of invasive non-native or weed species on new, renewing, or amending right of way authorizations in slickspot peppergrass habitat.</p> <p><b>a) BLM will require that new or renewing permit or lease holders establish at least 50% perennial cover after all ground disturbing activities, unless ecological site conditions preclude that level of cover. If a native species component existed prior to the ground disturbance, then the native species component of the perennial cover should be restored.</b></p>	<p><b>1) SO and FO</b></p> <p><b>2) FO</b></p>	<p><b>1) SOA</b></p> <p><b>2) SOA</b></p>
Mineral Management: Locatable Minerals	<p><b>1) Activities within the Mineral Management: Locatable Minerals</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.</p> <p><b>2) Approve plans of operations or allow notice level operations</b> so as not to preclude species</p>	<p><b>1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.</p> <p><b>2) Approval of plans of operations and notice-level operations:</b></p>	<p><b>1) SO and FO</b></p> <p><b>2) FO (all actions)</b></p>	<p><b>1) SOA</b></p> <p><b>2) SOA</b></p>



**Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
	habitat conservation. This includes management of physical facilities, as well as disturbances to the species resulting from human uses.	<p>a) For review of existing plans of operation and notice-level operations, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item (2). To the extent allowed by law, modify plans of operation or notice-level operations that may have negative impacts on the species or its habitat. For notice-level operations, notify the operator that modifications to proposed activities will be required to avoid negative impacts.</p> <p>b) For new plans of operation and notice-level operations, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item (3). To the extent allowed by law, avoid approving plans of operation or notice-level operations that may have negative impacts on the species or its habitat. For notice-level operations, notify the operator that modifications to proposed activities will be required to avoid negative impacts. If a plan of operations is to be approved in or adjacent to slickspot peppergrass habitat, apply stipulations to support or to not preclude species conservation. A notice will require modification by the operator until BLM determines that it will not result in undue or unnecessary degradation.</p>		
Mineral Management: Saleable and Leasable Minerals	<p>1) Activities within the <b>Mineral Management: Saleable and Leasable Minerals</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.</p> <p>2) Approve development of saleable or leasable minerals so as not to preclude species habitat conservation. This includes management of physical facilities, as well as disturbances to the species resulting from human uses.</p>	<p>1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.</p> <p>2) Approval of saleable and leasable minerals:</p> <p>a) For review of existing mineral leases, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item (2). Modify existing mineral leases if negative impacts are occurring.</p> <p>b) For new sales or leases, see <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section item (3). Avoid development of saleable or leasable minerals in or adjacent to slickspot peppergrass habitat if</p>	<p>1) SO and FO</p> <p>2) FO</p>	<p>1) SOA</p> <p>2) SOA</p>

TABLE 2-X. SLICKSPOT PEPPERGRASS (*LEPIDIUM PAPILLIFERUM*), CONSERVATION MEASURES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS FOR THE JARBIDGE AND FOUR RIVERS FOS





**Slickspot peppergass (*Lepidium papilliferum*): Conservation Measures and Implementation Actions for the Jarbidge and Four Rivers FOs**

LUP Programs Evaluated	Conservation Measures	BLM Implementation Actions	Responsibilities	Time frames
		negative impacts are expected. If a minerals lease or sale is to be issued in or adjacent to habitat, apply stipulations to support or to not preclude species conservation.		
Cultural Management	1) Activities within the <b>Cultural Management</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.	1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.	1) SO and FO	1) SOA
Paleontology	1) Activities within the <b>Paleontology</b> program will implement relevant conservation measures as described in the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section to promote conservation.	1) Apply relevant conservation measures from the <b>Special Status Animal and Plant Management</b> program section at the beginning of this table.	1) SO and FO	1) SOA