

Table 2.1.8 Proposed RMP and Alternatives – Livestock and Grazing Management					
PROPOSED RMP	Alternative A (Draft RMP/EIS Preferred Alternative)	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D Current Management (No Action)	Alternative E
<b>LIVESTOCK AND GRAZING MANAGEMENT — MAP FIGURES 7–11</b>					
<b>GOALS AND OBJECTIVES</b>					
Achieve appropriate utilization of the range by livestock and wildlife through management prescriptions and administrative adjustments.					
<b>MANAGEMENT COMMON TO THE PROPOSED RMP AND ALL ALTERNATIVES</b>					
<b>CRITERIA FOR CHANGING CLASS OF LIVESTOCK</b>					
Requests from permittees to convert class of livestock would be handled as follows:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On crucial deer winter ranges, cattle are preferred.</li> <li>In areas where fencing would be required, conversion would be contingent upon signed fence agreement and fences would be in place prior to issuance of permit to graze. The applicant(s) requesting the conversion would be responsible to fund the fencing and cattle guards/gates and to construct and maintain fences. (Consistent with Vernal District Grazing Advisory Board and Vernal BLM joint Rangeland Improvement (RI) Policy dated 12/08/1992).</li> <li>In areas where grazing would be along paved routes, evaluate and determine the need for fencing. Applicants would be required to fence the road if it is determined necessary to protect human and livestock health and safety.</li> <li>Areas with riverine/lotic systems may require additional management actions such as, but not limited to, fencing of streams.</li> <li>Prior to the authorization of any livestock conversions in WSAs, the impacts from any necessary rangeland improvements projects would be assessed. Conversions in WSAs would be made in compliance with H-8550-1 Interim Management Plan (IMP) Chapter 3 Guidelines for Specific Activities -D. The IMP is to direct activities within the WSAs until such time as Congress acts on the WSA designations.</li> </ul>					
<b>GRAZING IN RIVER CORRIDORS</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As opportunities arise, such as voluntary relinquishment, consider changes to livestock use to assure management objectives are met.</li> <li>Where livestock conflicts with other uses of the river, mitigate through management or other actions.</li> <li>Identify criteria for acceptable levels of livestock grazing use along river bottoms. (See Riparian section.)</li> <li>If grazing is causing resource degradation, to the extent that rangeland health standards are not being met and progress is not being made, monitoring data show that livestock grazing is the most significant factor, and all other options have been exhausted, close those riparian areas that do not satisfactorily respond to changes in management.</li> </ul>					
<b>RELINQUISHMENT OF PREFERENCE</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Voluntary relinquishments of grazing permits and preference, in whole or in part, by a permittee in writing to the BLM will be handled on a case-by-case basis. The BLM will not recognize as valid, relinquishments which are conditional on specific BLM actions and the BLM will not be bound by them. Relinquished permits and the associated preference will remain available for application by qualified applicants after the BLM considers if such action would meet rangeland health standards and is compatible with achieving LUP goals and objectives. Prior to re-issuance of the relinquished permit, the terms and conditions may be modified to meet LUP goals and objectives and/or site-specific resource objectives.</li> <li>However, upon relinquishment, the BLM may determine through a site-specific evaluation and associated NEPA analysis, that the public lands involved are better used for other purposes. Grazing may then be discontinued on the allotment through an amendment to the existing LUP or a new LUP effort. Any decision issued concerning discontinuance of livestock grazing is not permanent and may be reconsidered and changed through future LUP amendments and updates.</li> </ul>					
<b>SEASONS OF USE</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prior to approving changes in permitted seasons of use, the following would be mandatory:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compliance with the standards for range management (see Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management for BLM Lands in Utah, May 1997).</li> <li>Preparation, signature, and implementation of a monitoring plan.</li> <li>Signature of permittee accepting the grazing management practices determined necessary by the Authorized Officer to approve the change.</li> <li>Agreement by permittee to management practices that provide for the physiological requirements of desired plants.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Requests from a permittee to change seasons of use would be a priority if all of the following criteria were met:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changes enhance or meet resource objectives contained in the Vernal RMP.</li> <li>Allotment(s) are scheduled for assessment the same year a request is made.</li> <li>Funding for the assessment is voluntarily provided by sources other than the BLM.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Develop management plans and/or grazing agreements for livestock allotments to allow flexibility in grazing management, which may include consolidation of allotments, change in seasons of use, and reduction and/or consolidation of grazing allotments and pastures (Map Figures 7–11). Until all wild horses have been removed, livestock permittees with allotments within Herd Management Areas would be required to have a current health certificate, including documentation of annual vaccinations for infectious diseases for all horses, mules, or burros used in their grazing operation.</li> </ul>					
Lands acquired by acquisition of properties in the Nine Mile Acquired Area would not be grazed to enhance riparian and watershed values.	Same as the Proposed RMP.	Livestock grazing would be allowed in the Nine Mile Acquired Area if such use is controlled, of short duration, and would not detract from recreation and/or riparian values along the river.	Same as the Proposed RMP.	Unspecified in the current management plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lands acquired by acquisition of properties in the Nine Mile area would not be grazed to enhance riparian and watershed values.</li> <li>Changes in class of livestock would not be allowed in non–WSA lands with wilderness characteristics if fencing or other structural</li> </ul>

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					improvements are necessary or if the conversion would result in significant resource conflicts or impacts.
<b>SEASONS OF USE</b>					
<b>PHENOLOGY</b> Livestock grazing would be allowed under the discretion of the VFO in Area 1.	Same as the Proposed RMP.	<b>BILLED USE</b> Livestock grazing would be allowed under the discretion of the VFO in Area 1.	<b>ADJUDICATED</b> Livestock grazing could be allowed under the discretion of the VFO in Area 1.	<b>PERMITTED</b> Livestock grazing would be allowed under the discretion of the VFO in Area 1.	<b>ADJUDICATED</b> Same as Alternative C.
* Livestock grazing would be allowed from 6/1 through 10/31 in Area 2 or 5/1 with a deferment.  <small>*This is an implementation-level decision that cannot be protested under the planning regulations. Please see the cover letter for further information.</small>	Same as the Proposed RMP.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 5/19 through 10/7 in Area 2.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 6/15 through 8/31 in Area 2.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 5/19 through 10/7 in Area 2.	Same as Alternative C.
* Livestock grazing would be allowed from 5/1 through 12/31 in Area 3.  <small>*This is an implementation-level decision that cannot be protested under the planning regulations. Please see the cover letter for further information.</small>	Same as the Proposed RMP.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 5/31 through 11/1 in Area 3.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 6/15 through 8/31 in Area 3.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 6/3 through 10/6 in Area 3.	Same as Alternative C.
* Livestock grazing would be allowed from 5/1 through 6/1 in Area 4.  <small>*This is an implementation-level decision that cannot be protested under the planning regulations. Please see the cover letter for further information.</small>	Same as the Proposed RMP.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 4/25 through 5/26 and 11/1 through 12/31 in Area 4.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 10/1 through 3/1 (fall/winter) in Area 4.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 6/1 through 10/31 in Area 4.	Same as Alternative C.
* Livestock grazing would be allowed from 5/1 through 6/1 and 10/1 through 2/28 in Area 5.  <small>*This is an implementation-level decision that cannot be protested under the planning regulations. Please see the cover letter for further information.</small>	Same as the Proposed RMP.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 4/10 through 5/26 and 10/1 through 1/30 in Area 5.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 10/1 through 3/1 (fall/winter) in Area 5.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 4/3 through 6/15 and 10/31 through 1/30 in Area 5.	Same as Alternative C.
* Livestock grazing would be allowed from 10/1 through 4/1 or 5/1 with deferment in Area 6.  <small>*This is an implementation-level decision that cannot be protested under the planning regulations. Please see the cover letter for further information.</small>	Same as the Proposed RMP.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 10/26 through 5/8 in Area 6.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 10/1 through 3/1 (fall/winter) in Area 6.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 3/10 through 4/24 and 6/23 through 8/30 and 10/21 through 2/28 in Area 6.	Same as Alternative C.
* Livestock grazing would be allowed from 4/1 through 5/31 and/or 9/1 through 10/31 in Area 7.	Same as the Proposed RMP.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 5/20 through 12/1 in Area 7.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 10/1 through 11/30 (fall) in Area 7.	Livestock grazing would be allowed from 5/26 through 10/20 in Area 7.	Same as Alternative C.

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