

**01098 North Camas Allotment
DETERMINATION DOCUMENT**

SECTION 1

___ All Standards are met or making significant progress towards meeting and there is conformance with the guidelines. (No Determination is required, review is complete)

X One or more Standards are not being met or there is non-conformance with the guidelines. (An Authorized Officer's Determination is required, complete Section 2)

SECTION 2

1. Documentation of causal factors (*other than livestock grazing*).

2a. Is it more likely than not that existing grazing management practices or levels of grazing use are significant factors in failing to achieve the Standards or conform to the guidelines? (*YES/NO*) Provide rationale.

Yes. The current livestock grazing authorization is for 76 head of cattle from July 1 to August 15, for 115 animal unit months, annually. This grazing schedule occurs during the 'hot season.' Livestock tend to select riparian plant species during this time as upland species are beginning to cure or have cured. At current utilization levels, it appears that riparian species in the wet meadow have been able to recover growth enough to maintain vigor and reproduce, as evidenced by increases in density and distribution of such species. However, annual grasses and Kentucky bluegrass have also increased in the plant community. Scheduled rest and/or deferment of livestock use could promote more rapid improvement to the system resulting in attainment of Standard 2. As a result of hot season use, Sackrider Spring has received high utilization of riparian vegetation, trampling, and soil compaction which has reduced plant vigor and reproduction.

2b. Is there conformance with Idaho Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management? (*YES/NO*) if not list the guidelines that are not in conformance and provide evidence)

No, livestock grazing management practices are not in compliance with the following guidelines:

Guideline 5 - Maintain or promote grazing management practices that provide sufficient residual vegetation to improve, restore, or maintain healthy riparian-wetland functions and structure for energy dissipation, sediment capture, ground water recharge, streambank stability, and wildlife habitat appropriate to site potential.

High levels of utilization were frequently observed in wet meadow and spring areas.

Guideline 6 – The development of springs, seeps, or other projects affecting water and associated resources shall be designed to protect the ecological functions, wildlife habitat, and significant cultural and historical, archeological, and paleontological values associated with the water source.

High levels of disturbance were observed at Sackrider Spring.

Guideline 7 – Apply grazing management practices to maintain, promote, or progress toward appropriate stream channel and streambank morphology and functions. Adverse impacts due to livestock grazing will be addressed.

Areas of downcutting and trampling were observed, but were recovering.

/s/ *Tate Fischer*

May 27, 2014

**Authorized Officer: Tate Fischer
Four Rivers Field Manager**

Date

SUMMARY OF EVALUATION AND DETERMINATION

Check Box 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 (Do not add data or explanatory remarks here.)	STANDARDS								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1) Meeting the Standard	X		N/A	X	N/A	N/A	N/A		
2) Not Meeting the Standard, but making significant progress towards									
3) Not Meeting the Standard, current livestock grazing management practices are not significant factors									
4) Not meeting the Standard, current livestock grazing management practices are a significant factor		X						X	
5) Not meeting the Standard, cause not determined									
Guidelines for Livestock Grazing									
6) Conforms with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management								No	
7) If no, list the guidelines not in conformance: 5, 6, and 7									