

Determination

I have determined that Standards 1, 4, 7, and 8 of the applicable Standards for Rangeland Health are not being met in the Morgan allotment, while Standards 2, 3, and 5 are being met. Standards 5 and 6 are not applicable to this allotment. Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors in not meeting Standards 1, 7, and 8, whereas current livestock management practices are not significant factors for not meeting Standard 4. Livestock management practices do not conform with the applicable Livestock Grazing Management Guidelines 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10 11, and 12.



Field Manager
Owyhee Field Office

8/22/13
Date

2. Combination Creek Allotment Evaluation Findings and Determination

Evaluation Findings and Determination

Standard 1 (Watersheds)

Watersheds provide for the proper infiltration, retention, and release of water appropriate to soil type, vegetation, climate, and landform to provide for proper nutrient cycling, hydrologic cycling and energy flow.

Standard

- Standard does not apply
- Meeting the Standard
- Not meeting the Standard: Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors
- Not Meeting the Standard; Making significant progress toward
- Not Meeting the Standard; Current livestock grazing management practices are not significant factors

Guidelines

- Conforms with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management
- Does not conform with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management; Guideline No(s).

Rationale for Evaluation Finding and Determination

The Combination Creek allotment is not meeting Standard 1 due to past livestock grazing management practices. The reduction in soil and hydrologic function is associated with soil surface loss and degradation that continues to be displayed due to the presence of water erosion

Determination

I have determined that Standards 1, 2, 3, and 8 of the applicable Standards for Rangeland Health are not being met in the Combination Creek allotment, while Standard 4 is being met. Standards 5, 6, and 7 are not applicable to this allotment. Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors in not meeting Standards 1, 2, 3, and 8. Livestock management practices do not conform with the applicable Livestock Grazing Management Guidelines 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, and 12.



Field Manager
Owyhee Field Office

8/22/13
Date

3. Boulder Allotment Evaluation Findings and Determination

Evaluation Findings and Determination

Standard 1 (Watersheds)

Watersheds provide for the proper infiltration, retention, and release of water appropriate to soil type, vegetation, climate, and landform to provide for proper nutrient cycling, hydrologic cycling and energy flow.

Standard

- Standard does not apply
- Meeting the Standard
- Not meeting the Standard: Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors
- Not Meeting the Standard; Making significant progress toward
- Not Meeting the Standard; Current livestock grazing management practices are not significant factors

Guidelines

- Conforms with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management
- Does not conform with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management; Guideline No(s).
1, 3, 4, 8

Rationale for Evaluation Finding and Determination

Current and historic livestock grazing management practices are significant causal factors for not meeting upland watershed Standard 1 in pastures 1, 2, and 3 of the Boulder Creek allotment. The reduction in soil and hydrologic function is associated with physical soil disturbance and an altered plant community composition and distribution from decreased relative abundance of large, deep-rooted native perennial bunchgrasses.

Determination

I have determined that Standards 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8 of the applicable Standards for Rangeland Health are not being met in the Boulder allotment, while Standards 5 and 6 are not applicable to this allotment. Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors in not meeting Standards 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8, while livestock is not the causal factor for not meeting Standard 7. Livestock management practices do not conform with the applicable Livestock Grazing Management Guidelines 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, and 12.



Field Manager
Owyhee Field Office

8/22/13
Date

4. South Mountain Individual Allotment Evaluation Findings and Determination

Evaluation Findings and Determination

Standard 1 (Watersheds)

Watersheds provide for the proper infiltration, retention, and release of water appropriate to soil type, vegetation, climate, and landform to provide for proper nutrient cycling, hydrologic cycling and energy flow.

Standard

- Standard does not apply
- Meeting the Standard
- Not meeting the Standard: Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors
- Not Meeting the Standard; Making significant progress toward
- Not Meeting the Standard; Current livestock grazing management practices are not significant factors

Guidelines

- Conforms with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management
- Does not conform with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management; Guideline No(s). 1, 3, 4, 8

Rationale for Evaluation Finding and Determination

Current and past livestock grazing management practices are significant causal factors for not meeting upland watershed Standard 1 in pastures 1 and 2 of the South Mountain Individual

This allotment is within the distribution of the Columbia spotted frog. Evaluation of Standards 2 and 3 identified streams and springs that are not properly functioning due to historic and current grazing practices (see Standards 2 and 3). Spotted frogs are usually found along vigorous grassy/sedge margins of streams, lakes, ponds, springs, and marshes not far from sources of quiet permanent water. They migrate along these vegetation corridors between habitats used for spring breeding, summer foraging, and winter hibernation. Because streams and springs are not functioning properly, this allotment is not providing adequate aquatic conditions to sustain viable populations of spotted frogs and therefore is not meeting Standard 8 due to historic and current grazing practices.

2013 Supplement to the South Mountain Individual Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines Assessment – Field Manager's Decision

Determination

I have determined that Standards 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8 of the applicable Standards for Rangeland Health are not being met in the South Mountain Individual allotment, while Standards 5 and 6 are not applicable to this allotment. Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors in not meeting Standards 1, 2, 3, and 8, while livestock is not the causal factor for not meeting Standards 4 and 7. Livestock management practices do not conform with the applicable Livestock Grazing Management Guidelines 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, and 12.



8/22/13
Date

Field Manager
Owyhee Field Office

5. Bachelor Flat FFR Allotment Evaluation Findings and Determination

2013 Supplement to the Bachelor Flat FFR Allotment Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines Assessment

Evaluation Findings and Determination

Standard 1 (Watersheds)

Watersheds provide for the proper infiltration, retention, and release of water appropriate to soil type, vegetation, climate, and landform to provide for proper nutrient cycling, hydrologic cycling and energy flow.

Standard

- Standard does not apply
- Meeting the Standard
- Not meeting the Standard: Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors
- Not Meeting the Standard; Making significant progress toward
- Not Meeting the Standard; Current livestock grazing management practices are not significant factors

Guidelines

aquatic conditions to sustain viable populations of redband trout and therefore is not meeting Standard 8 due to mercury pollutants and elevated stream temperatures and not livestock grazing practices.

This allotment is within the distribution of the Columbia spotted frog. Evaluation of Standard 7 identified streams not meeting water quality parameters due to mercury pollutants and elevated stream temperatures (see Standard 7). Spotted frogs are usually found along vigorous grassy/sedge margins of streams, lakes, ponds, springs, and marshes not far from sources of quiet permanent water. They migrate along these vegetation corridors between habitats used for spring breeding, summer foraging, and winter hibernation. Because healthy water quality conditions are not being provided for beneficial uses in the Jordan Creek, this allotment is not providing adequate aquatic conditions to sustain viable populations of spotted frogs and therefore is not meeting Standard 8 due to mercury pollutants and elevated stream temperatures and not livestock grazing practices.

*2013 Supplement to the Bachelor Flat FFR Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines Assessment -
Field Manager's Determination*

Determination

I have determined that Standards 1, 4, 7, and 8 of the applicable Standards for Rangeland Health are not being met in the Bachelor Flat FFR allotment, while Standards 2 and 3 are being met. Standards 5 and 6 are not applicable to this allotment. Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors in not meeting Standard 1 and 8, while livestock is not the causal factor for not meeting Standards 4 and 7. Livestock management practices do not conform with the applicable Livestock Grazing Management Guidelines 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11, and 12.



Field Manager
Owyhee Field Office

8/22/13
Date

6. Boulder Flat Allotment Evaluation Findings and Determination

2013 Supplement to the Boulder Flat Allotment Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines Assessment

Evaluation Findings and Determination

Standard 1 (Watersheds)

Watersheds provide for the proper infiltration, retention, and release of water appropriate to soil type, vegetation, climate, and landform to provide for proper nutrient cycling, hydrologic cycling and energy flow.

Standard

- Standard does not apply
- Meeting the Standard
- Not meeting the Standard; Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors
- Not Meeting the Standard; Making significant progress toward

riparian vegetation composition and distribution to provide the structure and function to support a productive riparian environment. Because Standards 2 and 3 are not being met, this allotment is failing to provide adequate riparian conditions to support viable aquatic and terrestrial species populations and therefore is not meeting Standard 8 due to historic and current grazing practices.

Focal Species

Pastures 1 and 2 showed marginal to unsuitable breeding and upland summer habitat conditions for sage-grouse. The primary cause for not meeting sage-grouse habitat criteria is driven by reduced canopy cover of large, deep-rooted perennial grasses (i.e., bluebunch wheatgrass, Idaho fescue) in the understory, indicating that functional nesting, brood-rearing, escape, and hiding cover values are not being provided in these pastures and therefore are not meeting Standard 8 due to historic and current livestock grazing practices.

Columbia River redband trout are known to occur within the Big Boulder, Jordan, Old Man, and South Mountain Creek systems and have been identified as functioning-at-risk due to historic and current grazing practices (see Standards 2 and 3). Redband trout require intact channels with well-developed riparian communities that stabilize banks to minimize erosion and create undercuts, minimize impacts of flood events and filters sediments, provide shade to reduce water temperatures, and contribute woody debris to create channel structure and regulate seasonal flow. Because these in-stream and near-stream habitat characteristics are not fully represented, this allotment is not providing adequate riparian conditions to sustain viable populations of redband trout and therefore is not meeting Standard 8 due to historic and current grazing practices.

This allotment is within the distribution of the Columbia spotted frog. Evaluation of Standards 2 and 3 identified streams and springs that are not properly functioning or meeting water quality parameters due to historic and current grazing practices (see Standard 2 and 3). Spotted frogs are usually found along vigorous grassy/sedge margins of streams, lakes, ponds, springs, and marshes not far from sources of quiet permanent water. They migrate along these vegetation corridors between habitats used for spring breeding, summer foraging, and winter hibernation. Because streams and springs are not functioning properly, this allotment is not providing adequate aquatic conditions to sustain viable populations of spotted frogs and therefore is not meeting Standard 8 due to historic and current grazing practices.

2013 Supplement to the Boulder Flat Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines Assessment – Field Manager’s Determination

Determination

I have determined that Standards 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8 of the applicable Standards for Rangeland Health are not being met in the Boulder Flat allotment, while Standards 5 and 6 are not applicable to this allotment. Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors in not meeting Standard 1, 2, 3, and 8, while livestock is not the causal factor for not meeting Standards 4 and 7. Livestock management practices do not conform with the applicable Livestock Grazing Management Guidelines 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, and 12.



Field Manager
Owyhee Field Office

8/22/13
Date

habitat characteristics are not fully represented, this allotment is not providing adequate riparian conditions to sustain viable populations of redband trout and therefore is not meeting Standard 8 due to current grazing practices due to historic and current grazing practices.

2013 Supplement to the Walt's Pond FFR Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines Assessment – Field Manager's Determination

Determination

I have determined that Standards 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8 of the applicable Standards for Rangeland Health are not being met in the Walt's Pond FFR allotment, while Standards 5 and 6 are not applicable to this allotment. Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors in not meeting Standard 1, 2, 3, and 8, while livestock is not the causal factor for not meeting Standards 4 and 7. Livestock management practices do not conform with the applicable Livestock Grazing Management Guidelines 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, and 12.



Field Manager
Owyhee Field Office



Date