



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Shoshone Field Office
400 West F Street
Shoshone, Idaho 83352-5284
(208) 732-7200



In Reply Refer To:
4100 (IDT030) P
91013
CERTIFIED-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

October 9, 2015

James Grant
1934 East 400 South
Hazelton, ID 83335

**Proposed Decision for the Camp III Allotment
Livestock Grazing Permit Renewal
Environmental Assessment No. DOI-BLM-ID-T030-2015-0007-EA**

Dear Mr. Grant:

Introduction

This Proposed Decision modifies and renews the grazing permit issued to you for livestock grazing use in Camp III Allotment (91013) for a period of ten years. The decision modifies the current grazing use through the incorporation of the Fundamentals of Rangeland Health and Standards and Guidelines for Grazing Administration (43 CFR 4180). Specifically, the renewed permit includes an adjustment in the season of use. Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-ID-T030-2015-0007-EA analyzed the environmental effects of this action.

Background

In 2005 and 2006, a field assessment, including data collection, was conducted on Camp III Allotment to determine whether the allotment was meeting the Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health. The findings of the field assessment were documented in a Rangeland Health Assessment for Camp III Allotment which was mailed to you, state agencies, and interested publics on September 28, 2012. A comment was received from the current permit holder in regard to the Rangeland Health Assessment for Camp III Allotment.

The Shoshone Field Manager has made a formal determination that the Camp III Allotment is meeting all applicable Rangeland Health Standards and livestock grazing is in conformance with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.

Standard 1 (Watersheds), Standard 5 (Seedings), and Standard 8 (Threatened and Endangered Plants and Animals) are meeting the standard for Rangeland Health.

Standard 2 (Riparian Areas and Wetlands), Standard 3 (Stream Channel/Floodplain), Standard 4 (Native Plant Communities), Standard 6 (Exotic Plant Communities, Other than Seedings), and Standard 7 (Water Quality) do not apply to the Camp III Allotment.

A Determination Document is not required to be completed if all applicable land health standards are being met.

Proposed Action

This decision represents my selection of the Proposed Action as described in the Environmental Assessment No. BLM-ID-T030-2015-0007-EA in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and issuance of a grazing decision as outlined in 43 CFR 4160.1. This decision, described below is hereby incorporated into your grazing permit for the Camp III Allotment.

Under this Proposed Action, the BLM Field Manager would continue to authorize livestock grazing in the Camp III Allotment following the Fundamentals of Rangeland Health [43 CFR 4180.1(2005)] to continue meeting Rangeland Health Standards in the future. The grazing permit would be issued for the current active AUM preference of 38 AUMs which is the level currently authorized and a season of use beginning November 16 and ending December 15. This permit would be issued for a term of ten years in accordance with the authorization of livestock grazing in the Camp III Allotment as shown in Table 1 on the next page.

TABLE 1: Proposed Grazing Permit Authorization

Permittee	Livestock Type	Number of Livestock	Season of Use	% PL	Active AUMs	Suspended AUMs	Total AUMs
James Grant	Cattle	61	November 16 to December 15	61	38	3	41
<p>Other Terms and Conditions: Grazing will be made in accordance with the Camp III Allotment Permit Renewal EA #DOI-BLM-ID-T030-2015-0007-EA and the Field Manager’s Final Decision for the Camp III Allotment.</p> <p>The allotment shown on this permit shall meet the requirements as described in 43 CFR Subpart 4180 – Fundamentals of Rangeland Health and Standards and Guidelines for Grazing Administration.</p> <p>The allotment shown on this permit shall meet the requirements set forth in the September 2015 Approved Resource Management Plan Amendments for the Great Basin Region, Including the Greater Sage-Grouse Sub-Regions.</p> <p>Livestock use outside of the dates shown above would be limited to no more than two weeks (14 days) on either side of the permitted dates, providing that active AUMs are not exceeded.</p> <p>The maximum livestock numbers allowed would be limited to no more than 10% above the number shown above, i.e., the livestock number cannot exceed 67 head. Any number of livestock grazed above the number permitted would require a shorter season of use in order to stay within the authorized 38 AUMs.</p>							

Management Flexibility under the Proposed Action

Flexibility would be allowed for annual changes in management because of circumstances due to nature, such as drought, unusually wet years, or wildfire. Flexibility would be limited to modifying the season of use dates by no more than two weeks (14 days) on either side of the permitted dates and/or modifying livestock numbers, providing that AUMs are not exceeded. Flexibility in livestock numbers would be limited to no more than 10% of the number of livestock allowed on the term grazing permit, i.e., the total number of head in the allotment cannot exceed 67 head. Also, the number of days would be adjusted to ensure AUMs utilized are not exceeded. Any change in permit management must be approved in advance by the authorized officer. Any livestock use outside of the terms and conditions of the permit that have not been approved by the Authorized Officer will be in violation of the grazing permit issued to James Grant and a trespass may be warranted.

Rangeland Monitoring under the Proposed Action

Monitoring studies would be conducted during the term of the grazing permit in accordance with guidance provided by the Idaho State Office Instruction Memorandum IM ID-2008-022, Monitoring Strategies for Rangelands. Monitoring studies during the term of the permit could include but would not be limited to: nested plot frequency, upland utilization, browse utilization, photo plots, and cover point data collection.

Actual use, which is the actual amount of livestock grazing that has occurred in a given season, including the number of livestock and beginning date and ending date of grazing use on the allotment, would be collected annually.

Rationale

Based upon the review of the context and intensity factors and the environmental analyses conducted, I have determined that the actions analyzed for the Camp III Allotment Livestock Grazing Permit Renewal Environmental Assessment No. DOI-BLM-ID-T030-2015-0007-EA is not a major federal action and that its implementation will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, I have determined that an Environmental Impact Statement need not be prepared for this project.

An Environmental Assessment for the Camp III Allotment Livestock Grazing Permit Renewal was prepared describing the Proposed Action and two Alternatives for livestock grazing management in the allotment. This decision modifies the existing grazing permit in the Camp III Allotment and incorporates the Fundamentals of Rangeland Health and Standards and Guidelines for Grazing Administration (43 CFR 4180).

Due Process

Any applicant, permittee, lessee or other interested public may protest a proposed decision under Sec. 43 CFR 4160.1 and 4160.2, in person or in writing to the Shoshone Field Manager, Twin Falls District, 400 West F Street, Shoshone, ID 83352 within 15 days after receipt of such decision. The protest, if filed, should clearly and concisely state the reason(s) as to why the proposed decision is in error.

In accordance with 43 CFR 4160.3 (a), in the absence of a protest, the proposed decision will become the final decision of the authorized officer without further notice unless otherwise provided in the proposed decision.

In accordance with 43 CFR 4160.3 (b) upon a timely filing of a protest, after a review of protests received and other information pertinent to the case, the authorized officer shall issue a final decision.

Any applicant, permittee, lessee or other person whose interest is adversely affected by the final decision may file an appeal in accordance with 43 CFR 4.470 through 4.480. The appeal must be filed within 30 days following receipt of the final decision, or within 30 days after the date the proposed decision becomes final as provided in 43CFR 4160.3(a). The appeal may be accompanied by a petition for a stay of the decision in accordance with 43 CFR 4.471 and 4.479, pending final determination on appeal. The appeal and petition for a stay must be filed in the

office of the authorized officer, as noted above. The person/party must also serve a copy of the appeal by certified mail to the Office of the Solicitor, 960 Broadway Avenue, Suite 400, Boise, ID 83706 and any persons named [43 CFR 4.421(h)] in the *Copies sent to:* section of this decision.

The appeal shall state the reasons, clearly and concisely, why the appellant thinks the final decision is in error and otherwise complies with the provisions of 43 CFR 4.470.

Should you wish to file a petition for a stay, see 43 CFR 4.471 (a) and (b). In accordance with 43 CFR 4.471(c), a petition for a stay must show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

- (1) The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied.
- (2) The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits.
- (3) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and
- (4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

If you have any questions, please contact either Clare Josaitis, Rangeland Management Specialist, at (208) 732-7257 or myself at (208)732-7200.

Sincerely,

/s/ Codie Martin

Codie Martin
Field Manager

Enclosures: Environmental Assessment No. BLM-ID-T030-2015-0007-EA

Copies sent to:

James Grant, 1934 East 400 South, Hazelton, ID 83335
Audubon Society, Prairie Falcon Chapter, Attn: Julie Randall, 3952 North
3600 East, Kimberly, ID 83341
Blaine County Commissioners, 206 1st Ave S Ste 300, Hailey, ID 83333
Committee for the High Desert, P.O. Box 2863, Boise, ID 83701
ICL Public Lands Office, P.O. Box 844, Boise, ID 83701
Idaho Chapter Wild Sheep Foundation, c/o Jim Jeffress, P.O. Box 8224, Boise,
ID 83707-2224
Idaho Department of Fish and Game, 319 S 417 E, Suite 1, Hwy 93 Business
Park, Jerome, ID 83338
Idaho State Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Industries,

Attn: Celia R. Gould, Director, 2270 Penitentiary Road, PO Box 790,
Boise, ID 83701-0790

Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, P.O. Box 306, Fort Hall, ID 83203

Western Watersheds Project, P.O. Box 1770, Hailey, ID 83333

Wildlands Defense, c/o Katie Fite, P.O. Box 125, Boise, ID 83701

Paul McClain, 619 Elm Circle, Gooding, ID 83330-1863

Prunty, Jim, Natural Resources Specialist, 1241 Starfire, Twin Falls, ID 83301

David Skinner, P.O. Box 664, Fairfield, ID, 83327

Mel Quale, Quale Electronics, 1730 Kimberly Rd, Twin Falls, ID 83301