



OVERVIEW OF AMERICAN PRAIRIE RESERVE'S PROPOSED ACTION

North Central Montana District Office
 Lewistown, Malta, & Glasgow Field Offices and Upper Missouri River Breaks
 National Monument
 April 2018

The American Prairie Reserve (APR) has acquired base properties that hold grazing privileges to certain allotments on BLM-managed lands. APR has submitted a proposal to the BLM to modify the terms of the permits for some of those allotments. In response to the APR's proposal, as required by the BLM's grazing regulations (43 CFR 4100), the BLM has initiated an environmental review of the proposal in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. This handout summarizes the proposed action as received from APR. Additional information about APR is available on their website: www.americanprairie.org

APR seeks 10-year grazing permits for 18 allotments located within the BLM's Glasgow, Lewistown, and Malta Field Offices and Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument. The permit terms generally include:

- Change in livestock type from cattle to bison¹
- Change in the season of use to year-round grazing
- In general, removal of interior allotment fencing to create one pasture once the type of livestock has been changed to bison, while retaining livestock water sources
- Electrification of perimeter allotment fencing
- Use of best available science to determine bison source; follow the same guidelines as cattle ranchers for disease control, as required by the Montana Department of Livestock

Summary of Acres and AUMs		
Land Status	Acres	AUM
BLM	260,893	31,893 ^a
State of Montana DNRC	29,309	4,440 ^a
APR Deeded	86,426	19,235 ^b
^a AUMs proposed are the current AUMs authorized		
^b AUMs calculated based on NRCS method for below-normal precipitation year		

Fencing in the Project Area		
Fence (miles)	Current	Proposed Action
Total	717.2	453.9
Construct	N/A	35.2
Reconstruct		
Regular fencing ^a	N/A	250.9
Electrify only ^b	N/A	49
Retain	N/A	118.8
Remove	N/A	298.5
^a Does not include electrify only subcategory		
^b This is one subcategory of reconstruction in which: 1) the second from top wire is replaced with high tensile electric wire; 2) wire insulators and solar panels are installed to electrify the fence.		

¹BLM grazing regulations allow for the issuance of permits authorizing grazing by privately owned or controlled indigenous animals, including bison, through a special grazing permit or lease. See 43 CFR sec. 4130.6-4.



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APR Unit Name	BLM Grazing Allotment and/or State Lease*	Total AUMS Under APR's Proposed Action
Beauchamp Creek Unit	05628 Beauchamp Creek State Lease #9743	568 = 47 AUs for 12 months
Burnt Lodge Unit	05667 Burnt Lodge State Lease #8126	1,927 = 161 AUs for 12 months
C.K. Creek Unit	05621 Upper C.K. Creek	158 = 13 AUs for 12 months
Dry Fork Unit	05617 East Dry Fork (Pastures 1 & 3) 05616 French Coulee 05447 Garey Coulee State Leases #8160 and 9650	3,918 = 327 AUs for 12 months
PN Unit	09778 Deadman Coulee 15124 Dog Creek 15125 Judith River 09798 PN 15123 PN Sag 09808 Starve Out Flats State Leases #468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 6938 and 10527	8,798 = 733 AUs for 12 months
Sun Prairie Unit	15634 Box Elder #05654 Telegraph Creek State Lease #4873 (fenced out and no longer being grazed) State Lease #8124 [Note: This unit is currently stock with bison in accordance with existing permit terms.]	4,270 Total = 356 AUs for 12 months
Sun Prairie North Unit	15439 Flat Creek State Lease #8171	2,540 = 212 AUs for 12 months
Timber Creek Unit	04595 Carpenter Creek State Lease #8744	19,529 = 1627 AUs for 12 months
Two Crow Unit	04964 Upper/Lower 79 Trail 15028 Two Crow RR State Leases #6828 and 10292	7,181 Total = 598 AUs for 12 months
White Rock Unit	05445 Upper First Creek 05417 White Rock Coulee State Leases #9361 and 10068	6,679 = 557 AUs for 12 months
Total		55,568 = 4631 AUs for 12 months

* The BLM does not make decisions regarding state leases. Those are listed for information purposes only.