2012

End of Year Livestock Grazing Report

Malheur National Forest

Blue Mountain Ranger District
Emigrant Creek Ranger District
Prairie City Ranger District

October 17, 2013

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Glossary

Actual Use: A report of the actual livestock grazing use certified to be accurate by the permittee or lessee. Actual use may be expressed in terms of animal unit months or animal months.

Allotment: an area of land designated and managed for grazing of livestock. Such an area may include intermingled private, State, or other Federal lands used for grazing in conjunction with the public lands.

Alternate Rotation (Stocking): The repeated grazing and resting of forage using two paddocks in succession.

Animal Unit (AU): considered to be one mature cow of approximately 1,000 pounds, either dry or with calf up to 6 months of age, or their equivalent, based on a standardized amount of forage consumed.

Animal Unit Month: is the amount of forage needed by an "animal unit" (AU) grazing for one month. The quantity of forage needed is based on the cow's metabolic weight. It is assumed that such a cow nursing her calf will consume 26 pounds of dry matter (DM) of forage per day (20 lbs. for the cow and 6 lbs. for the calf).

Authorized Use: Use specified on the annual Bill(s) for Collection and verified by permittee's payment of fees.

Available Woody Species: The height to which large herbivores, e.g., cattle, sheep, horses, deer, elk, and moose, can graze on wood plant species. The taller the animal, the higher they can browse.

Bank Alteration: Streambank disturbance caused by animals (e.g., elk, moose, deer, cattle, sheep, goats, and horses) walking along the streambanks or the margins of the stream. The animals' weight can cause a shearing that results in a breakdown of the streambank and subsequent widening of the stream channel. Streambank alteration also exposes bare soil, increasing the risk of erosion of the streambank. Animals walking in the channel margins may increase the amount of soil exposed to the erosive effects of water by breaking or cutting through the vegetation and exposing roots and/or soil. Excessive trampling causes soil compaction, resulting in decreased vegetative cover, less vigorous root systems, and more exposure of the soil surface to erosion.

Browse: The part of shrubs, half shrubs, woody vines, and trees available for animal consumption.

Continuous Use (Grazing): The grazing of a specific pasture by livestock throughout a year or for that part of the year during which grazing is feasible. The term is not necessarily synonymous with yearlong grazing, since seasonal grazing may be involved. A preferred term is continuous stocking.

Critical Habitat: any geographical area designated as critical habitat in CFR part 226.

Deferred Rotation: Any grazing system, which provides for a systematic rotation of the deferment among pastures

Designated Monitoring Area (DMA): For the purposes of this report DMA refers to a permanently marked segment of stream that has been selected for monitoring and agreed to by a monitoring team that is intergraded with at least a range person, fisheries, and hydrologist. It refers to the specific sampling location that extends at least 110 m along the stream or is agreed to for site specific habitat monitoring.

Early Season Use: Is referred to as late April/early-May to early/mid-July. Obviously, the exact dates which each of these periods encompasses depend on geography, topography, weather conditions, and range condition.

Excess Use (livestock): Any livestock owned by the holder of a National Forest System (NFS) grazing permit, but grazing on NFS lands in greater numbers, or at times or places other than permitted in Part 1 of the Grazing Permit or authorized on the annual Bill for Collection.

Exclosure: An area fenced to exclude animals.

Incidental Take: Take of listed fish or wildlife species that results from, but is not the purpose of, carrying out an otherwise lawful activity conducted by the Federal action agency or applicant. [50 CFR 402.02]

Interdisciplinary Team (IDT): Forest Service resource specialists that represent potentially affected areas of a proposed action and can analyze the risks and benefits to resources and uses on the Forest.

Large Woody Debris: Tree, log, rootwad, or engineered logjam that is large enough to dissipate stream energy associated with high flows, capture bedload, stabilize streambanks, influence channel characteristics, and otherwise support aquatic habitat function, given the slope and bankfull channel width of the stream in or near which the wood occurs.

Late Season Use: Is referred to as mid/late-September to late December/early-January. Obviously, the exact dates which each of these periods encompasses depend on geography, topography, weather conditions, and range condition.

Likely to Adversely Affect: Listed resources are likely to be exposed to the action or its environmental consequences and will respond in a negative manner to the exposure.

Listed species: Any species of fish, wildlife, or plant which has been determined to be endangered or threatened under section 4 of the Federal Endangered Species Act.

Mid-Season Use: Is referred to as early/mid-July to mid/late September. Obviously, the exact dates which each of these periods encompasses depend on geography, topography, weather conditions, and range condition.

Monitoring Site: Locations selected for monitoring.

Most Sensitive Riparian Areas (MSRA): The MNF has identified stream reaches of high quality steelhead spawning and rearing critical habitat called Most Sensitive Riparian Areas (MSRAs). The MSRA are areas that that are the most accessible and sensitive to livestock impacts within streams containing steelhead CH

Multiple Indicator Monitoring (MIM): A system of measurement protocols designed to integrate annual grazing use indicators with long-term stream channel trend indicators to evaluate the effects of livestock grazing management on stream channel recovery.

No Effect: No impacts, positive or negative, to listed or proposed resources. Generally, this means no listed resources will be exposed to action and its environmental consequences. Concurrence from the Service is not required.

Not Likely to Adversely Affect: All effects are beneficial, insignificant, or discountable. Beneficial effects have contemporaneous positive effects without any adverse effects to the species or habitat. Insignificant effects relate to the size of the impact and include those effects that are undetectable, not measurable, or cannot be evaluated. Discountable effects are those extremely unlikely to occur. These determinations require written concurrence from the Service.

Not Measured: Indicator was not measured at the site.

Not Present: Greenline hydrophytic species that are not present at the site.

PACFISH/INFISH: An inter-agency ecosystem management approach for maintaining and restoring healthy, functioning watersheds, riparian areas, and aquatic habitats within the range of Pacific anadromous and inland fish on Federal lands managed by the USDI-Bureau of Land Management and the USDA-Forest Service.

PIBO: Pacfish/Infish Biological Opinion Effectiveness Monitoring Program (PIBO) is a monitoring program to determine whether the aquatic conservation strategies within PACFISH and INFISH, or revised land management plans, are effective in maintaining or restoring the structure and function of riparian and aquatic systems.

Pasture: A grazing area enclosed and separated from other areas by fencing or other barriers; the management unit for grazing land.

Permitted Livestock: Livestock presently being grazed under a permit or that were grazed under a permit during the preceding season, including their offspring retained for herd replacement.

Permitted Use: The number of animals, period of use, and location of use specified in Part 1 of the Grazing Permit (see also definition for authorized use).

Redd: A nest of fish eggs consisting of gravel, typically formed by digging motion performed by an adult female salmon.

Rest Rotation: A grazing management scheme in which rest periods for individual pastures, paddocks or grazing units, generally for the full growing season, are incorporated into a grazing rotation.

Riparian Habitat Conservation Area (RHCA): Portions of watersheds where riparian-dependent resources receive primary emphasis, and management activities are subject to specific standards and guidelines. RHCAs include traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent headwater streams, and other areas where proper ecological functioning is crucial to maintenance of the stream's water, sediment, woody debris, and nutrient delivery systems.

Riparian Area: Geographically delineable areas with distinctive resource values and characteristics that are comprised of the aquatic and riparian ecosystems. Riparian areas may be associated with lakes, reservoirs, estuaries, potholes, springs, bogs, wet meadows, muskegs, and ephemeral, intermittent, or perennial streams.

Riparian Pasture: Riparian pastures are designed to protect riparian values. They may be smaller areas of rangeland containing both upland and riparian vegetation that are managed together as a unit to achieve riparian objectives, or they may be streamside pastures containing only riparian vegetation.

Stubble Height: A measure of the residual height of key herbaceous vegetation species remaining after grazing.

Suspension: Temporarily withholding of the grazing permit privilege, in whole or in part.

Take: To harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. [ESA 3 (19)]

Unauthorized Use (livestock): Any cattle, sheep, goat, hog, or equine not defined as a wild free-roaming horse or burro by 36 CFR 222.20(b)(13), which is not authorized by permit (or Bill for Collection) to be upon the land on which the livestock is located and which is not related to use authorized by a grazing permit (livestock owned by other than a National Forest grazing permit holder). Noncommercial pack and saddle stock used by recreationists, travelers, other forest visitors for occasional trips, as well as livestock to be trailed over an established driveway when there is no overnights stop on Forest Service administered land do not fall under this definition.

Upland: Any area that does not qualify as a wetland because the associated hydrologic regime is not sufficiently wet to elicit development of vegetation, soils, and/or hydrologic characteristics associated with wetlands. Such areas occurring in floodplains are more appropriately termed "nonwetlands."

Unavailable: Shrubs, and trees that have most (over 50%) of their actively growing stems over (5 feet) tall for cattle grazing. This should be adjusted if the question to be answered involved other herbivores.

Validation of Permit: The issuance of the Bill for Collection; payment of fees, and placing 90 percent of permitted livestock on the permitted area the first grazing season after the permit is issued.

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

AUM: Animal Month Unit
BA: Bank Alteration
BiOp: Biological Opinion
BLM: Bureau of Land Management
BMRD: Blue Mountain Ranger District
BuT: Bull Trout
CFR: Code of Federal Regulations
CH: Critical Habitat
DMA: Designated Monitoring Area
ECRD: Emigrant Creek Ranger District
EM: Effectiveness Monitoring
EOY: End of Year
ESA: Endangered Species Act
FAR: Functioning at Risk
FLPMA: Federal Land Policy and Management Act
FSH: Forest Service Handbook
FSR: Forest Service Road
GIS: Geographical Information System
GL: Greenline
HUC: Hydrologic Unit Code
IC: Interior Columbia
IDT: Interdisciplinary Team
IM: Implementation Monitoring
PIBO: PACFISH/INFISH Biological Opinion
RHCA: Riparian Habitat Conservation Area
RMS: Rangeland Management Specialist
SA: Streambank Alteration
SFJDR: South Fork John Day River
SH: Stubble Height
SRMS: Supervisory Rangeland Management Specialist
StH: Steelhead
U: Unoccupied
UA: Unavailable
UJDR: Upper John Day River
USFWS: United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WB: Woody Browse
WH: Wildhorse
JDR: John Day River
LAA: Likely to Adversely Affect
LOC: Letter of Concurrence
LWD: Large Woody Debris
MCR: Middle Columbia River
MFJDR: Middle Fork John Day River
MIM: Multiple Indicator Monitoring
MNF: Malheur National Forest
MR: Malheur River
MSRA: Most Sensitive Riparian Area
NP: Not Present
NE: No Effect
NFJDR: North Fork John Day River
NFMR: North Fork Malheur River
NM: Not Measured
NMFS: National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency
NLAA: Not Likely to Adversely Affect
ODFW: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
PCRD: Prairie City Ranger District
PFC: Properly Functioning Condition
PF: Properly Functioning

Introduction

Along with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as regulatory agencies under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Forest Service emphasizes monitoring of riparian vegetation conditions and stream channel morphology. This emphasis enables the Forest Service to manage a productive livestock grazing program, as directed by Congress through the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, while ensuring that grazing activities will not result in unacceptable impacts to ESA listed species or their habitat. Additionally, the Malheur National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) requires additional monitoring of forage utilization in riparian and upland areas. This report reflects both types of monitoring.

This report documents the Malheur National Forest compliance with the terms and conditions of the NMFS's Endangered Species Act Biological Opinion and Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Essential Fish Habitat Response and the USFWS Biological Opinion (Steelhead, *Oncorynchus mykiss*) and Concurrence for the proposed 2012-2016 livestock management (Bull Trout, *Salvelinus confleuntus*). Both biological opinions require that each allotment be monitored annually for implementation and provide and end-of-year report to by March 1, of each year. The end-of-year report provides an overview of the proposed action and actual management; displays implementation monitoring data collected during the field season, discusses unauthorized use and fence maintenance issues; a reviews management and compliance successes and failures; documents spawning surveys and redd monitoring; and any future management recommendations.

Section I: Blue Mountain Ranger District

2012 Results and Summary

A summarization of the 2012 findings follows:

The Blue Mountain Ranger District has a total of 27 allotments that require consultation with the regulatory agencies:

1 allotment(s) are vacant:

- Blue Mountain

1 allotment(s) were in Non-Use in 2012:

- Deer Creek

25 allotments were authorized for grazing in 2012.

- 27 Allotments require consultation with NMFS for MCR steelhead.
    - 21 Allotments have effect determinations of Likely to Adversely Affect (LAA). NMFS issued a Biological Opinion on April 2, 2012.
        - Dark Canyon, Fawn Springs, Hanscomb, Dixie, Fields Peak, Roundtop, John Day, Beech Creek, Mt Vernon, Murderers Creek, Blue Mountain Upper Middle Fork, Lower Middle Fork, Long Creek, Fox, Camp Creek (LC), Slide Creek, York On/Off, Donaldson, Deer Creek, Indian Ridge
        - 20 Allotments met the Biological Opinion bank alteration standard
        - 1 Allotments exceeded the Biological Opinion bank alteration standard
            - Murderers Creek – 1 Pasture: Blue Ridge Pasture
    - 6 Allotments have effect determinations of Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA). NMFS issued a Letter of Concurrence (LOC) on April 2, 2012.
        - Seneca, Deadhorse, McClellan, Williams, Bear, Hamilton
        - 6 Allotments met the LOC bank alteration standard
        - 0 Allotments exceeded the LOC bank alteration standard
- 5 Allotments require consultation with USFWS for bull trout.
    - 3 Allotments have effect determinations of LAA. USFWS issued a Biological Opinion on July 5, 2012.
        - Blue Mountain, Upper Middle Fork, Lower Middle Fork
        - 3 Allotments met the Biological Opinion bank alteration standard
        - 0 Allotments exceeded the Biological Opinion bank alteration standard
    - 2 Allotments have effect determinations of NLAA. USFWS issued a Letter of Concurrence (LOC) on July 5, 2012.
        - Camp Creek, Bear
        - 2 Allotments met the LOC bank alteration standard
        - 0 Allotments exceeded the LOC bank alteration standard

Upper John Day River Sub-Basin Allotments

1. Dark Canyon Allotment

The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description:

The Dark Canyon allotment is located south of the town of John Day on National Forest System Lands, mostly within T. 15, and 16 S, R. 32 and 33 E. The allotment encompasses approximately 31,854 acres and is divided into 7 pastures: Canyon Creek, Dark Canyon, North Rock Springs, South Rock Springs, CH, Wickiup, and 15 Road.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01846	194	1297	06/15-10/30*

*The turn-on date is corrected. The Bi-Op states that 06/01 is the permitted on date.

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Canyon Creek	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
Dark Canyon	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
North Rock Springs	6/15-7/28	90	6/01-7/10	65
15 Road	Gather (Overnight)	90	Gather	65
Wickiup	7/29-8/18	90	7/11-7/31	65
South Rock Springs	8/19-9/30	90	8/01-10/15	65
CH	10/1-1/15	90	Gather	65

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Canyon Creek	10/16	In-season	Canyon Creek – within standards. No livestock use.
15 Road	7/16	In-Season	Approximately 25 pair in pasture, Canyon Creek within standards.

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Dark Canyon	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
15 Road	4”	6-7”	50%	UA	15%	3-8%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Canyon Creek	45%	Rested
15 Road	45%	35%
Dark Canyon	45%	Rested
North Rock Springs	45%	26%

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
South Rock Springs	45%	22%
Wickiup	45%	39%
CH	45%	46%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011
None

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The permittee took partial nonuse in 2012 and grazed the North Rock Springs, Wickiup, and South Rock Springs pastures; while the 15 Road and CH pastures were used for gathering. The Dark Canyon and Canyon Creek pastures were both rested this year. By the time cattle were moved into the Wickiup pasture, the upland water sources were dry. Cattle sought water and tested the Wickiup/15 Road pasture division fence and ended up on Canyon Creek in the 15 Road pasture. Although cattle used the 15 Road pasture more than what was planned, it was not used excessively and the permittee acted quickly to remove cattle from the 15 Road pasture and made improvements to the fence to prevent cattle from getting onto Canyon Creek in the 15 Road pasture. The permittee chose to move into the South Rock Springs pasture earlier when water in the Wickiup pasture dried up. As cattle grazed the South Rock Springs pasture, gates to the CH pasture were left open during archery season. As a result the permittee was only allowed to overnight the cattle in the CH gather pasture as they exited the allotment rather than grazing 7 to 14 days as scheduled. The permittee worked on maintaining many water developments in the pastures that were grazed this year. Only 12% of critical habitat and 29% of MSRA was grazed.

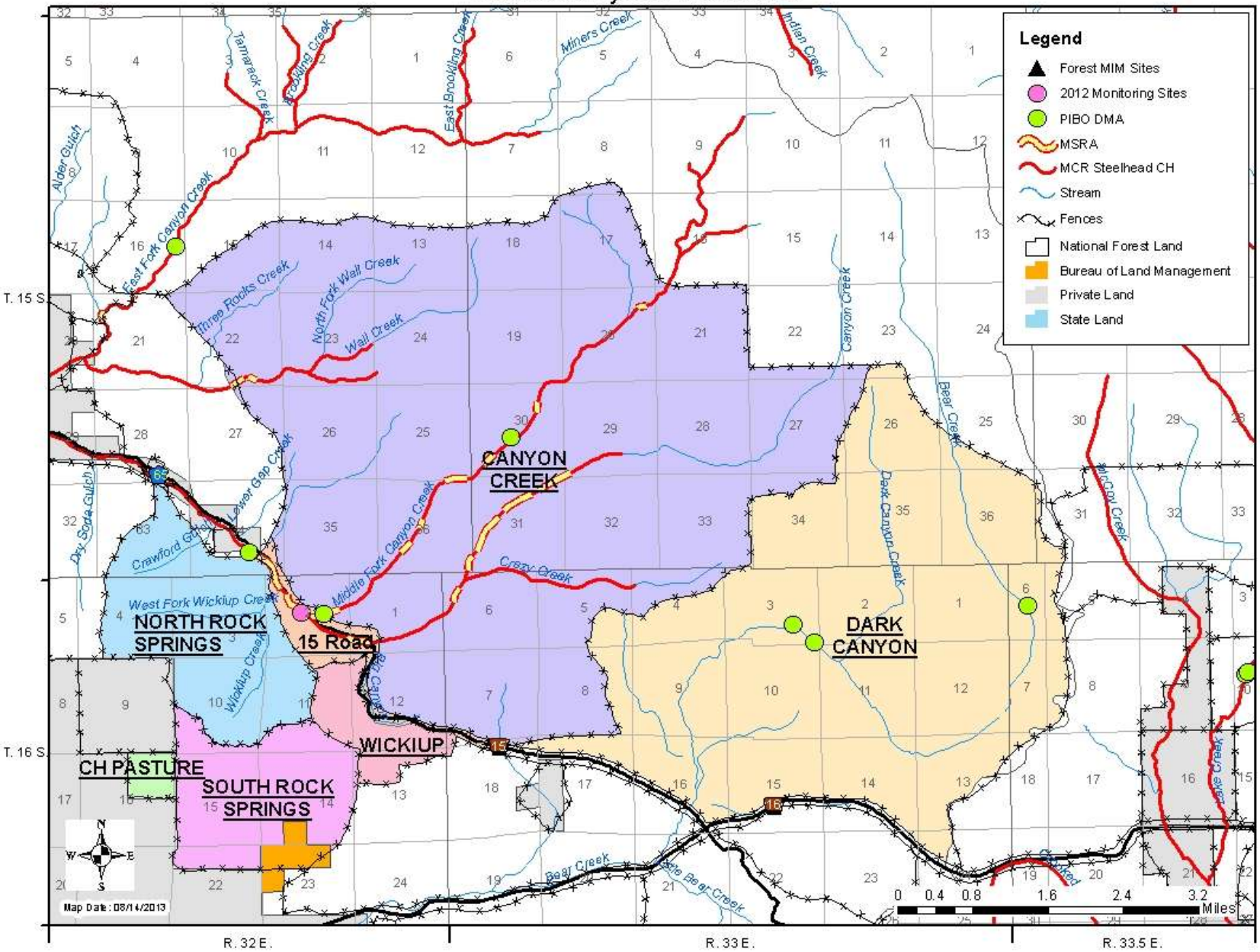
The Parish Cabin fire burned approximately 6,400 acres in late August/early September in primarily the Dark Canyon pasture. A total of 8.5 miles of fence burned (between 2 allotments) and 9 water developments are within the fire perimeter in the Dark Canyon pasture. These range improvements will be rebuilt and/or maintained to standard prior to the next grazing season after rest for recovery from the fire.

End of season monitoring was conducted on October 4th on Canyon Creek in the 15 Road pasture. The IDT concluded that completing a MIM transect would not be necessary. The greenline is composed primarily of mature alder and dogwood and mesic grass species. A lot of rock bed load was present as well. The IDT estimated (ocular) bank alteration to be approximately 3-8%. There was one small bank capable of having bank alterations where a patch of sedges was growing; there would have only been 1 or 2 plots on this bank. These sedges were about 6-7 inches in height. All other bank alterations along Canyon Creek were concentrated at infrequent crossings along the stream. The IDT concurred that all standards were met. The mature alder and dogwood were out of browse range. The IDT determined that the banks will continue to undercut, adjusting to the flow of Canyon Creek.

Management Recommendations For 2013

The permittee will continue to build up his herd to the permitted numbers while taking into account a reduction in annual authorized numbers for resource protection as the Dark Canyon pasture recovers from the Parish Cabin fire. Two herds will graze over the entire Dark Canyon allotment. One herd with the majority of the authorized numbers will graze the Wickiup, South Rock Springs, and North Rock Springs pastures; using the 15 Road and CH pastures for gathering. The Wickiup pasture will be first in the rotation in order to utilize the available upland water sources early. A smaller herd will graze the Canyon Creek pasture. The small portion of the Canyon Creek/Dark Canyon let-down division fence that burned will be reconstructed prior to turn out. Upland and off-site water sources will be maintained to standard and functioning before cattle are turned out into the Canyon Creek pasture. Cattle will start in the Chamber Springs area, move through Canyon Creek and Middle Fork Canyon Creek to access the Table Mountain area. From Table Mountain, the herd will join the larger herd in the North Rock Springs pasture at the end of the season. The Dark Canyon pasture will be rested for resource protection due to the Parish Cabin fire and recovery work.

Dark Canyon Allotment



2. Fawn Springs Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description

The Fawn Springs allotment is located south of the town of John Day on National Forest System Lands, mostly within T 15 S, R 31 and 32 E. The allotment encompasses approximately 6,614 acres and is divided into 5 pastures: Lake, Alder, Fawn Springs, G-4, and L-8.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01706	107	636	06/01 – 10/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Lake	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
G-4	06/11-07/02	214	07/10-10/15	200
Alder	07/03-07/21	214	07/16-07/25	200
Fawn	07/22-08/10	214	07/26-08/10	200
L-8	08/11-08/17	214	Gather	200

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Lake	None	None	None - RESTED

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Lake	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Lake	45%	Rested
L-8	45%	19%
G-4	45%	13%
Alder	45%	24%
Fawn	45%	19%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

Continue with the current grazing strategy and implement a rest-rotation beginning in 2012 with the Lake pasture being rested – COMPLETED.

Range personnel will inspect the boundary fence between Fawn Spring and Dark Canyon – COMPLETED.

Turn-out would be delayed until the fence is maintained to standards. Both the Lake and Canyon Creek pastures were to be rested; fence maintenance has been DELAYED due to resting the two pastures.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

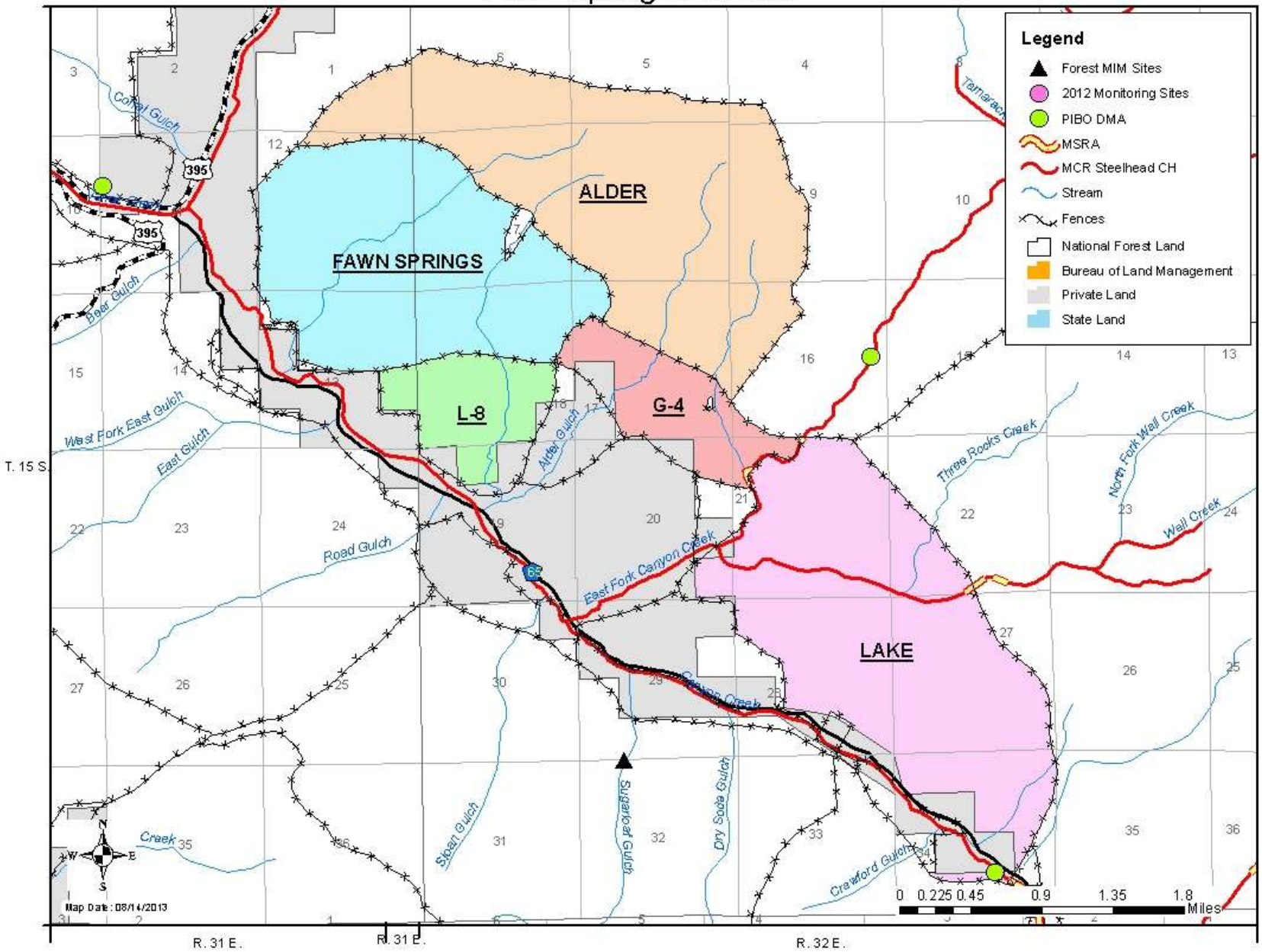
The Alder, Fawn, G-4, and L-8 pastures were grazed this year and the Lake pasture was rested. All critical habitat is located in the Lake pasture. The permit manager and Forest Service range staff rode through the Lake pasture and inspected the Lake/Canyon Creek let-down division fence. The fence was not let down the prior year and it needs maintained. The Lake/Canyon Creek let-down division fence maintenance will be delayed until the Canyon Creek pasture of the Dark Canyon allotment is grazed.

The permit manager turned cattle out onto the Fawn Spring allotment much later than planned and grazed for a shorter duration than authorized. The allotment showed overall light utilization. There were no reports of unauthorized or excess use in the Lake pasture.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Look into the possibility of resting the Alder pasture as the Lake pasture will be incorporated into the rotation. The Lake/Canyon Creek let-down division fence must be up and maintained prior to 2013 turn-out.

Fawn Spring Allotment



3. Hanscomb Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description

The Hanscomb allotment is located southwest of the town of John Day, northeast of Bear Valley mostly within T 14 and 15 S and R 30 E. The allotment includes approximately 9,102 acres and is divided into 4 pastures: Laycock, Upper Geary, Geary, and Allen/Morris.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01845	121	719	06/01 – 10/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Laycock	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Allen/Morris	06/24-07/01	200	Gather	95
Geary Creek	06/24-07/01	200	Gather	95
Upper Geary	08/01-09/15	200	07/12-08/01	95

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Laycock	None	None	None - RESTED

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Laycock	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	20%	Rested

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Laycock	45%	Rested
Allen/Morris	45%	27%
Geary Creek	45%	12%
Upper Geary	45%	30%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

Conduct range readiness inspection to insure no carry-over impacts from 2011 – NOT COMPLETED due to pasture being rested in 2011 or 2012.

Continue with current management and continue to move towards a rest-rotation grazing strategy – IN PROGRESS.

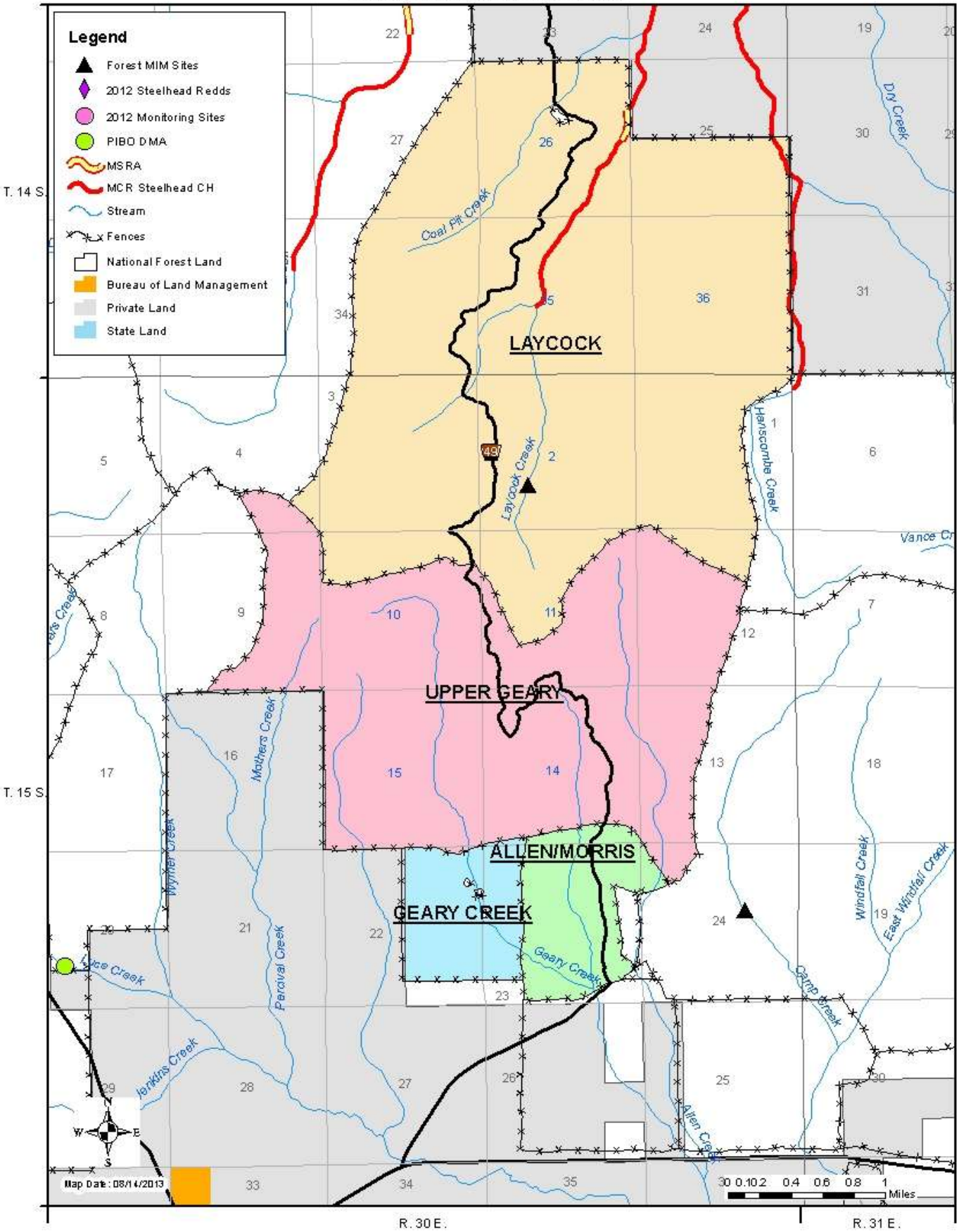
Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

Range readiness was not completed in the Laycock pasture. This pasture was not grazed in 2011 or 2012. The Hanscomb allotment was grazed separate from the Seneca, Deadhorse, and Fields Peak allotments. The Geary Creek, Upper Geary, and Allen/Morris pastures were grazed this year while the Laycock pasture was rested. All of the critical habitat is in the Laycock pasture. There was no excess or unauthorized use reported in the Laycock pasture.

Management Recommendations For 2013

The Forest Service range personnel and the permittee will seek out upland water sources to develop in the Upper Geary pasture; as well as make sure all existing water developments are maintained. If this allotment is run in conjunction with the Seneca, Deadhorse, and/or Fields Peak allotments; a rest-rotation system will be established that meets the needs of the Forest Service and the permittee.

Hanscomb Allotment



4. Dixie Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description

The Dixie allotment is located northeast of the town of John Day on National Forest System Lands, mostly within T. 11, and 12 S, R. 33, and 34 E. The allotment encompasses approximately 26,874 acres of which only 16,824 are managed by the Forest Service. The allotment is divided into 2 pastures: Standard Creek and Bear Creek.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01823	173	1028	06/01-10/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Standard Creek (BLM)	06/01-10/15	50	06/05-10/15	48
Standard Creek (Dads Creek)	06/01-10/15	80	06/06-10/15	91
Bear Creek	07/01-10/15	43	07/25-10/15	50

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Bear Creek	7/17	Mid-Season	Dixie Creek: no livestock use, Bear Creek, Hall Creek – all within standards
Bear Creek	7/25	In-Season	Dixie Creek: no livestock use, Bear Creek, Hall Creek – all within standards
Bear Creek	8/7	Mid-Season	Dixie Meadows – within standards
Bear Creek	8/9	Mid-Season	Dixie Creek, Bear Creek, Hall Creek – all within standards
Bear Creek	8/14	In-Season	Dixie Creek, Bear Creek, Hall Creek – all within standards
Bear Creek	8/23	Mid-Season	Dixie Creek – within standards
Bear Creek	8/24	Mid-Season	Bear Creek, Hall Creek – all within standards
Bear Creek	8/30	In-Season	Dixie Creek, Bear Creek, Hall Creek – all within standards
Bear Creek	9/5	In-Season	Dixie Creek – within standards; Camp Creek – no livestock seen in area
Bear Creek	9/12	Mid-Season	Dixie Creek, Bear Creek, Hall Creek – all within standards
Bear Creek	9/20	In-Season	Dixie Creek, Hall Creek – all within standards; Camp Creek – no livestock seen in area
Bear Creek	9/25	In-Season	Hall Creek – within standards
Standard Creek	6/21	Mid-Season	Standard Creek – No current utilization/livestock sign – within standards
Standard Creek	8/1	Mid-Season	Standard Creek – Very light utilization, small about of current year livestock sign – within standards

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Bear Creek	6”	7”	40%	28%	15%	11%
Standard Creek	4” or 6”	NM	40% or 50%	NM	20%	NM

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Bear Creek	45%	22%
Standard Creek	45%	17%

Spawning Surveys

The Standard Creek pasture was grazed during the spawning season; Standard Creek was not selected for the random 20% sample.

Recommendations from 2011

Conduct range readiness inspection to insure there were no carry-over impacts – COMPLETED Dixie Meadows was checked for range readiness on May 17, 2012. Dixie Meadows was not ready to be grazed at this time. No carry-over impacts from the previous grazing season were seen.

Implement a rest-rotation grazing system for the 2012 season – NOT COMPLETED – After discussions with the permittee, this turned out to be unfeasible due to the permittee’s BLM permit and private land lease. See more below in the Summary of 2012 Grazing Season.

Work with the permittee to identify and schedule clearing of stock trails – IN PROGRESS

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The proposed action of the Biological Assessment stated that a rest-rotation grazing strategy would be implemented. After numerous meetings with the permittee in the spring, this turned out to be unfeasible due the fact the permittee has a BLM permit within the Standard Creek pasture and leases private property within the Bear Creek pasture every year. This change was discussed with the District Ranger, District Fisheries Biologist and presented to Level I in July. As a result of these discussions the bank alteration standard was decreased from 20% (as consulted on with a rest-rotation grazing strategy) to 15% and no further changes needed to be made.

The permittee split his herd and grazed one in the Standard Creek pasture and the other in the Bear Creek pasture. These herds were initially turned out on BLM and private lands and then drifted up onto the Forest. All the critical habitat and MSRA within the Dixie allotment was grazed.

An electric fence was set up on the East Fork of Camp Creek in the Bear Creek pasture around a small area that cattle have concentrated at in past years. This electric fence was vandalized and removed from the fence posts a couple times throughout the season and was not as effective as it was expected to be. Cattle use was reported by the Forest Fisheries biologist in mid-September

to be high and standards were estimated to be exceeded on the East Fork Camp Creek near the Dixie/Long Creek allotment boundary. From this point on, the permittee checked the East Fork of Camp Creek for cattle and moved them out of the area. This is not the most sensitive riparian complex in the Bear Creek pasture, and a monitoring site would not be suitable here because it does not meet the requirements for establishing a MIM transect. The current monitoring site in the Bear Creek pasture is on Dixie Creek, within MSRA. The critical habitat of the East Fork of Camp Creek is too close to the fence and it is in the corner of the allotment where fence lines don't follow the natural topography. The fence lines at this corner follow sections lines and force cattle to fall downhill to the East Fork Camp Creek, rather than following the topography of the land. (The electric fence may be expanded to include more of the East Fork of Camp Creek next year.)

Cattle from the Dixie allotment were seen on in the Grub Creek pasture of the Roundtop allotment. Forest Service personnel checked the boundary fence between the Roundtop allotment and the Dixie allotment. Numerous gates were discovered on the fence that led man-made, non-Forest System roads through the fence; and these gates had been opened. The permittee was notified on every sighting. The cattle were moved back onto the Dixie allotment and the fence was checked by both the Roundtop and Dixie permittees.

The Forest Service and permittee worked with the local Soil and Water Conservation District to fund and construct a fence along Highway 26 to prevent cattle from getting onto the highway. Due to high fire danger and logging in the Dads Creek area, construction of the fence along Highway 26 did not begin until November 2012; and will be completed in the spring of 2013.

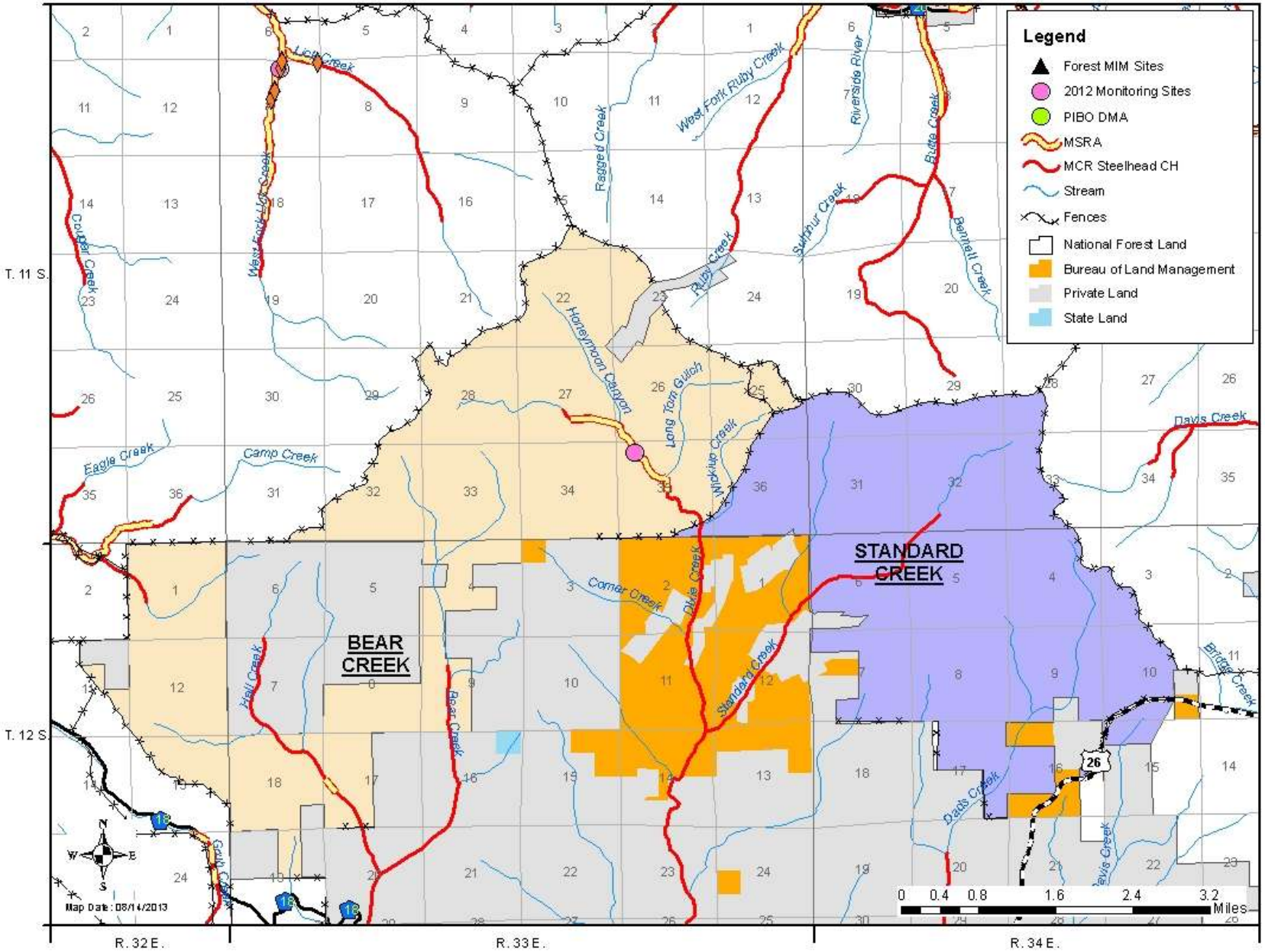
Two mid-season inspections of Standard Creek were completed. On June 21st, range personnel inspected the lower half of the critical habitat in Standard Creek on the Forest; and on August 1st, the upper half of critical habitat was inspected. Standard Creek is well covered by mature alder, dogwood and willows. There are no open meadows along the creek and the Standard Creek drainage walls are very steep and heavily timbered. During the first trip into Standard Creek, there was no utilization, cattle, or current year cattle sign. During the second inspection of Standard Creek no livestock were found, but a small amount of current year cattle sign and very light utilization were found in some areas along Standard Creek. Based on the amount of cow sign seen and the light utilization, there could not have been more than a couple pair in the area. No significant streambank impacts were identified. There were a couple stream crossings that lightly impacted that immediate area. These crossings were small in width, no more than 3 feet wide along the streambank. After an IDT team discussion of the range personnel findings of Standard Creek, it was concluded that monitoring would not be necessary this year; but an IDT visit to Standard Creek in the near future is still necessary to validate the findings of range personnel.

Dixie Creek was monitored on October 29, at the Dixie Meadows MIM site in the Bear Creek pasture. The majority of the bank alterations were concentrated at a few crossing within the transect. These crossing were localized to a few openings along the stream. The rest of the streambank was covered by Lodgepole pine and mature (out of browse range) alder and willow. The IDT noted a lot of Lodgepole pine encroachment into the meadow; all the way up to the streambank. Some of this Lodgepole pine could be thinned and fell across Dixie Creek.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Three upland water sites were identified for development; two in the Bear Creek pasture and one in the Standard Creek pasture. Complete NEPA to develop these springs to keep cattle high in the uplands. Work with permittee to identify and schedule clearing of stock trails; this includes clearing a trail into the upper end of Standard Creek. Completion of the Highway boundary fences is expected by turn-out 2013. Establish the area to set up an effective electric fence on the East Fork of Camp Creek. Ensure the Roundtop/Dixie allotment boundary fence is maintained to standard and gates checked often.

Dixie Allotment



5. Roundtop Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description

The Roundtop allotment is located north of the town of John Day on National Forest System Lands, mostly within T 10 and 12 S, R 32 E. The allotment encompasses approximately 13,707 acres and is divided into 6 pastures: Beech Creek, Tinker Creek, Short-n-Dirty, Four Corners, Grub, and Tode.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
0604010004*	200	1059	6/01 – 9/30

*Permit has been updated since the Bi-Op. There is a new permit ID due to a permit waiver.

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Short-n-Dirty	07/16-09/30	99	07/16-07/20	200
4 Corners	07/16-09/30	99	07/20-07/26	200
Tinker Creek	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Grub	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Beech Creek	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Tode	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Tinker Creek, Grub, and Beech Creek	6/19	In Season	Allotment is Rested
Tinker Creek, Grub, and Beech Creek	6/25	In Season	Allotment is Rested
Tinker Creek, Grub, and Beech Creek	7/2	In Season	Allotment is Rested
Tinker Creek, Grub, and Beech Creek	7/10	In Season	Allotment is Rested
Tinker Creek, Grub, and Beech Creek	7/31	In Season	Allotment is Rested
Tinker Creek, Grub, and Beech Creek	8/8	In Season	Allotment is Rested
Tinker Creek, Grub, and Beech Creek	8/16	In Season	Allotment is Rested
Tinker Creek, Grub, and Beech Creek	9/8	In Season	Allotment is Rested
Tinker Creek, Grub, and Beech Creek	9/19	In Season	Allotment is Rested
Tinker Creek, Grub, and Beech Creek	9/27	End of Season	Allotment is Rested
Tinker Creek, Grub, and Beech Creek	10/23	In Season	Allotment is Rested
Tinker Creek, Grub,	10/30	In Season	Allotment is Rested

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
and Beech Creek			

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Tinker Creek	4” or 6”	Rested	40 or 50	Rested	15%	Rested
Grub	4” or 6”	Rested	40 or 50	Rested	15%	Rested
Beech Creek	4” or 6”	Rested	40 or 50	Rested	15%	Rested

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Tinker Creek	45%	Rested
Grub	45%	Rested
Beech Creek	45%	Rested
4 Corners	45%	15%
Short-n-Dirty	45%	15%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

The permittee must graze in 2012, exhausted personal preference no-use. – COMPLETED

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

In 2012 the permit for the Roundtop allotment was waived to a new permittee due to the sale of the permitted cattle. The transfer took place early in the season and as a result, the grazing rotation on the allotment was altered to facilitate the transfer.

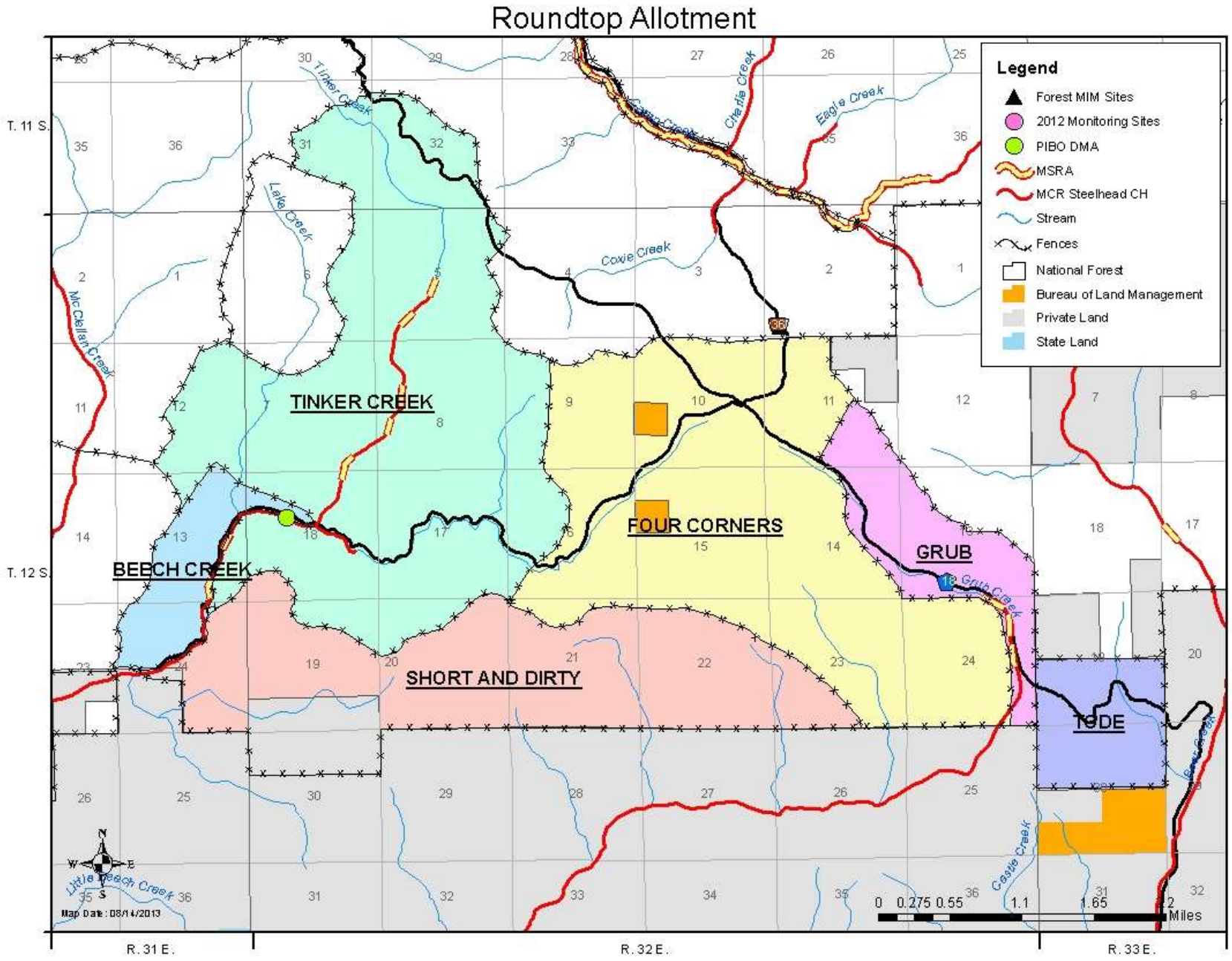
The Short-n-Dirty and 4 Corners pastures were grazed while the Tinker Creek, Grub Creek, and Beech Creek pastures were rested. All critical habitat is located in the rested pastures. Cattle from the Dixie allotment were observed in the Grub Creek pasture of the Roundtop allotment. Forest Service personnel checked the boundary fence between the Roundtop allotment and the Dixie allotment and found numerous open gates that led man-made, non-Forest System roads through the fence. The permittee was notified after every sighting of excess use livestock and the cattle were moved back onto the Dixie allotment. Additionally the fence was checked by both the Roundtop and Dixie permittees to ensure it was functioning properly. No measurable impacts were observed from this excess use.

The IDT concurred that no livestock use had occurred on the streams within the Short-n-Dirty and 4 Corners pastures; as a result riparian monitoring was not conducted.

Approximately 80% of the existing water developments on the allotment were maintained.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Incorporate the pastures that were rested in 2012 into the 2013 grazing rotation, as needed, or allow for the option to rest these pastures for a consecutive year. Additional recommendations include paying close attention to and quickly remedying any livestock in pastures or areas not scheduled for use.


Roundtop Allotment
Legend
Forest MIM Sites
2012 Monitoring Sites
PIBO DMA
MSRA
MCR Steelhead CH
Stream
Fences
National Forest
Bureau of Land Management
Private Land
State Land
TINKER CREEK
BEECH CREEK
FOUR CORNERS
GRUB
SHORT AND DIRTY
TODE
Tinker Creek
Lake Creek
Coxie Creek
Charlie Creek
Eagle Creek
Mc Clellan Creek
Little Beech Creek
Castle Creek
T. 11 S.
T. 12 S.
R. 31 E.
R. 32 E.
R. 33 E.
0 0.275 0.55 1.1 1.65 2
Miles
Map Date: 08/14/2013

6. John Day Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description

The John Day allotment is located between bordering highway North 395, Keeney Meadows, Magone Lake, and County Road 32. The allotment is approximately 18,621 acres with the majority of the allotment in Townships 11 and 12 Range 31. The John Day allotment has five pastures: Upper Ennis Creek; Lower Ennis Creek; Upper McClellan, Lower McClellan and Thompson.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01786	177	1052	06/11-10/25

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Lower Ennis	06/11-10/25	177	10/09-10/24	177
Upper McClellan			Rested	Rested
Lower McClellan			Rested	Rested
Thompson			06/27-07/16	177
Ennis Creek			07/16-10/09	177

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Lower Ennis	7/16	In-Season	No livestock use – Compliance check, scheduled for October use
Lower Ennis	7/24	In Season	No livestock use – Compliance check, scheduled for October use
Lower Ennis	8/1	In Season	No livestock use – Compliance check, scheduled for October use
Lower Ennis	8/15	In Season	No livestock use – Compliance check, scheduled for October use
Lower Ennis	8/28	In -Season	No livestock use – Compliance check, scheduled for October use
Lower Ennis	9/11	In-Season	No livestock use – Compliance check, scheduled for October use
Lower Ennis	9/25	In-Season	No livestock use – Compliance check, scheduled for October use
Lower Ennis	10/9	In-Season	No livestock use – Livestock being turned into pasture today
Lower Ennis	10/24	In-Season	Livestock out of pasture, No visible use on CH streams
Upper McClellan	6/27	In-Season	No livestock use – Compliance check
Upper McClellan	7/16	In-Season	No livestock use – Compliance check
Upper McClellan	7/24	In Season	No livestock use – Compliance check
Upper McClellan	9/11	In-Season	No livestock use – Compliance check
Lower McClellan	6/27	In-Season	No livestock use – Compliance check

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Lower McClellan	7/16	In-Season	No livestock use – Compliance check
Lower McClellan	7/24	In Season	No livestock use – Compliance check
Lower McClellan	9/11	In-Season	No livestock use – Compliance check

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Lower Ennis	4”	9”	50%	32%	15%	2%
Upper McClellan	4” or 6”	Rested	40 or 50	Rested	20%	Rested
Lower McClellan	4” or 6”	Rested	40 or 50	Rested	15%	Rested

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Upper Ennis	45%	40%
Lower Ennis	45%	15%
Upper McClellan	45%	Rested
Lower McClellan	45%	Rested
Thompson	45%	35%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

Authorize grazing in the Lower and Upper McClellan pastures consistent with the AUMs grazed in 2011 – COMPLETED.

The Upper Ennis pasture will be used to standards before moving to the Lower Ennis pasture, giving the Lower Ennis pasture, and critical habitat an extended period of rest – COMPLETED

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

In 2012 the Upper Ennis pasture was used to standards before moving to the Lower Ennis pasture and as a result the Lower and Upper McClellan pastures which were authorized to be grazed were rested.

The remaining section of the pasture division fence on the John Day allotment was completed. This fence divided the Lower Ennis pasture into two pastures, now referred to as the Lower Ennis and Thompson pastures. The Thompson pasture does not contain critical habitat, while the Lower Ennis pasture does. This change will improve management by adding an upland pasture that can be grazed at any time during the season while also creating the ability for a more variable rotation across the allotment. The Upper McClellan and Lower McClellan pastures were authorized for grazing however, conditions on other pastures allowed for Upper McClellan and Lower McClellan to be rested; this is 33% of the total acres of the allotment. The grazed

pastures contain 63% (5.69 miles) of steelhead critical habitat and 42% (1.08 miles) of the MSRA and were grazed for approximately 15 days.

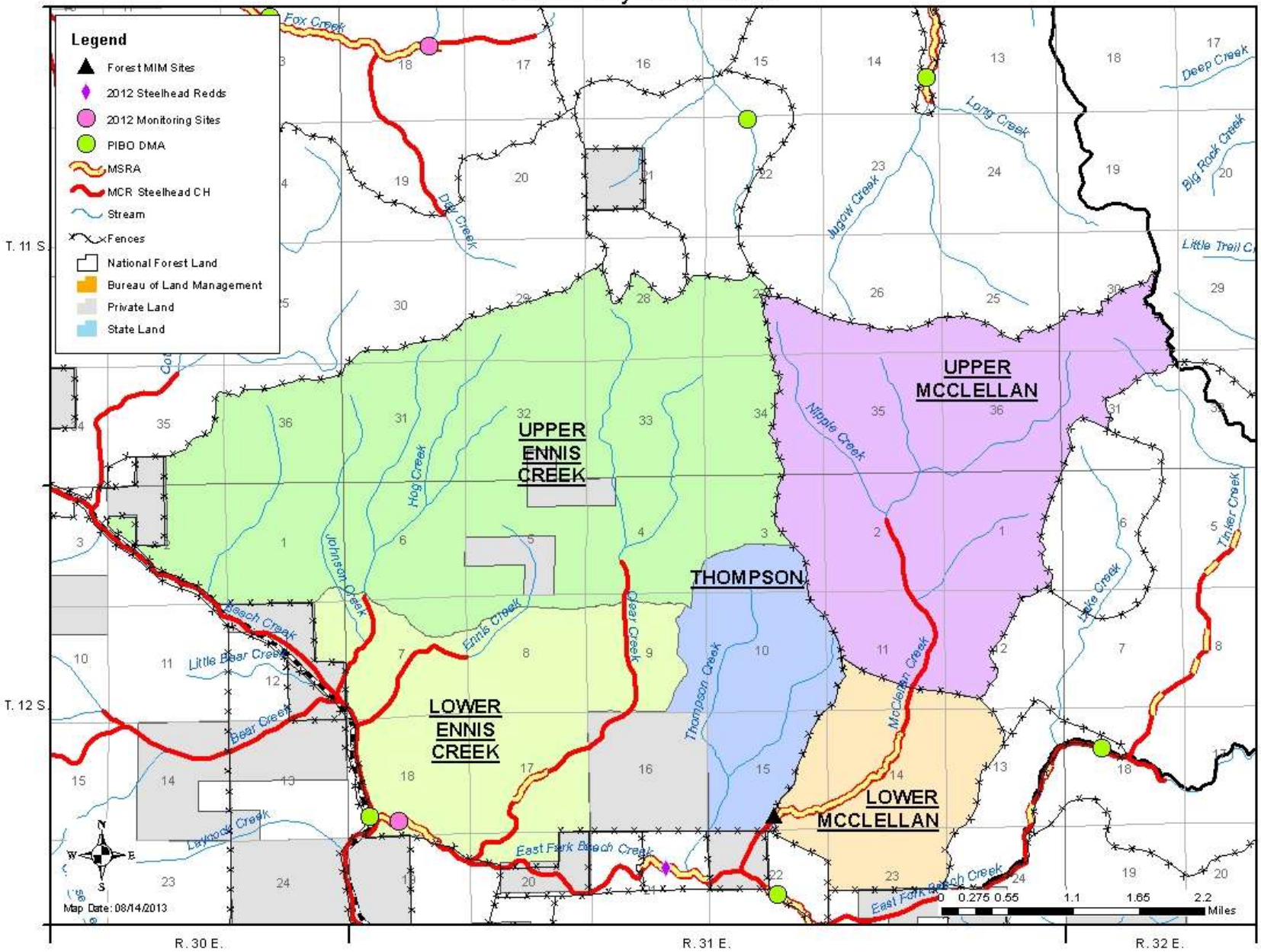
The IDT conducted end of season monitoring on October 29th on the longest section of MSRA in the Lower Ennis pasture, which is located on the East Fork of Beech Creek. The IDT concluded that the MSRA on the East Fork of Beech Creek is nearly impenetrable to bank alteration impacts from livestock due large substrate. Woody browse is recommended as a more suitable indicator for livestock grazing on this stream.

The proposed schedule was for the permitted livestock, 177c/c, to graze for the permitted season, rotating between pastures in the following order: Upper Ennis, Upper McClellan, Lower McClellan, and Lower Ennis. No specific dates were set for when to move between pastures, only that movements would occur according to standards being met. The Thompson pasture was completed before livestock entered the allotment which changed the proposed grazing schedule and allowed for a more efficient use of the upland pastures while resting the pastures with critical habitat.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Continue to use a deferred rotation schedule with the option for rest of one or more pastures if utilization of grazed pastures remains within standards.

John Day Allotment



7. Beech Creek Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description

The Beech Creek On-Off Allotment has four pastures: Beef; Patterson; Timber and Grouse Creek.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01786	35	304	05/15-11/30

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Beef	05/15-11/30	35	06/22-06/27	35
Timber	05/15-11/30	35	08/04-09/03	35
Patterson	05/15-11/30	35	10/23-11/30	35
Grouse Creek	05/15-11/30	35	10/12-11/30	35

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Beef	6/27	Mid-Season	No sign of livestock access to potential redd
Beef	7/11	Mid-Season	Livestock out of pasture
Beef	7/24	Mid-Season	No Livestock, BA <10%

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Beef	4”	10”	50%	44%	15%	3%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Beef	45%	25%
Timber	45%	30%
Grouse Creek	45%	0%
Paterson	45%	25%

Spawning Surveys

(For more information please see Appendix B – Letter to Dr. Kratz – NMFS)

Pasture	Grazed	Date	# Redds Observed	Stream	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA	Mitigation
Beef	Yes	05/08	1	East Fork Beach Creek	BMRD	All w/in Beef Pasture	Yes	Delay turn-out until June 22

Measures to minimize future risk of redd trampling that the BMRD intends to implement:

- Ground-truth reaches identified as MSRA to adequately minimize potential for redd trampling.
- Revisions to MSRA maps from 2012 spawning surveys and range monitoring will be completed, documented and delivered along with the annual end of year report. Ground-truthing and revision will continue throughout the remainder of the consultation period.
- Include reaches with stock driveways or water gaps in the list of stream reaches considered for spawning surveys.
- Initiate IDT redd trampling mitigation effectiveness monitoring within the first week of turnout, as needed until the end of the spawning/incubation period, and conduct final effectiveness assessment as near the end of the spawning/incubation period as possible.
- Adapt extent, location, and operational timing of electric fencing.
- Use two-strand electric fencing to protect redds where IDT members are concerned with the potential for livestock/redd interaction.
- Flag and GPS-mark location of redds to enhance ability to relocate them.
- Implement measures to link hoof action observed with likelihood of trampling.

East Fork Beech Creek

June 27th allotment inspection – Stiner notes that water has receded and the location of the redd is above the water line and vegetation is growing in the gravel adjacent to the redd.

This redd was not visited during the July 3rd mitigation effectiveness assessment.

Recommendations from 2011

Continue with current management.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

In 2012 the current and typical management of this allotment occurred. The duration of grazing in the Beef pasture which contains critical habitat was modified as explained below.

A potential redd on the East Fork of Beech Creek delayed turn-out into the Beef pasture. Livestock entered the pasture on June 22nd, after the potential redd was no longer submerged in the stream due to seasonal flow rate changes on the stream. Livestock stayed in the pasture with the redd for 5 days and no sign of livestock /redd interaction was observed.

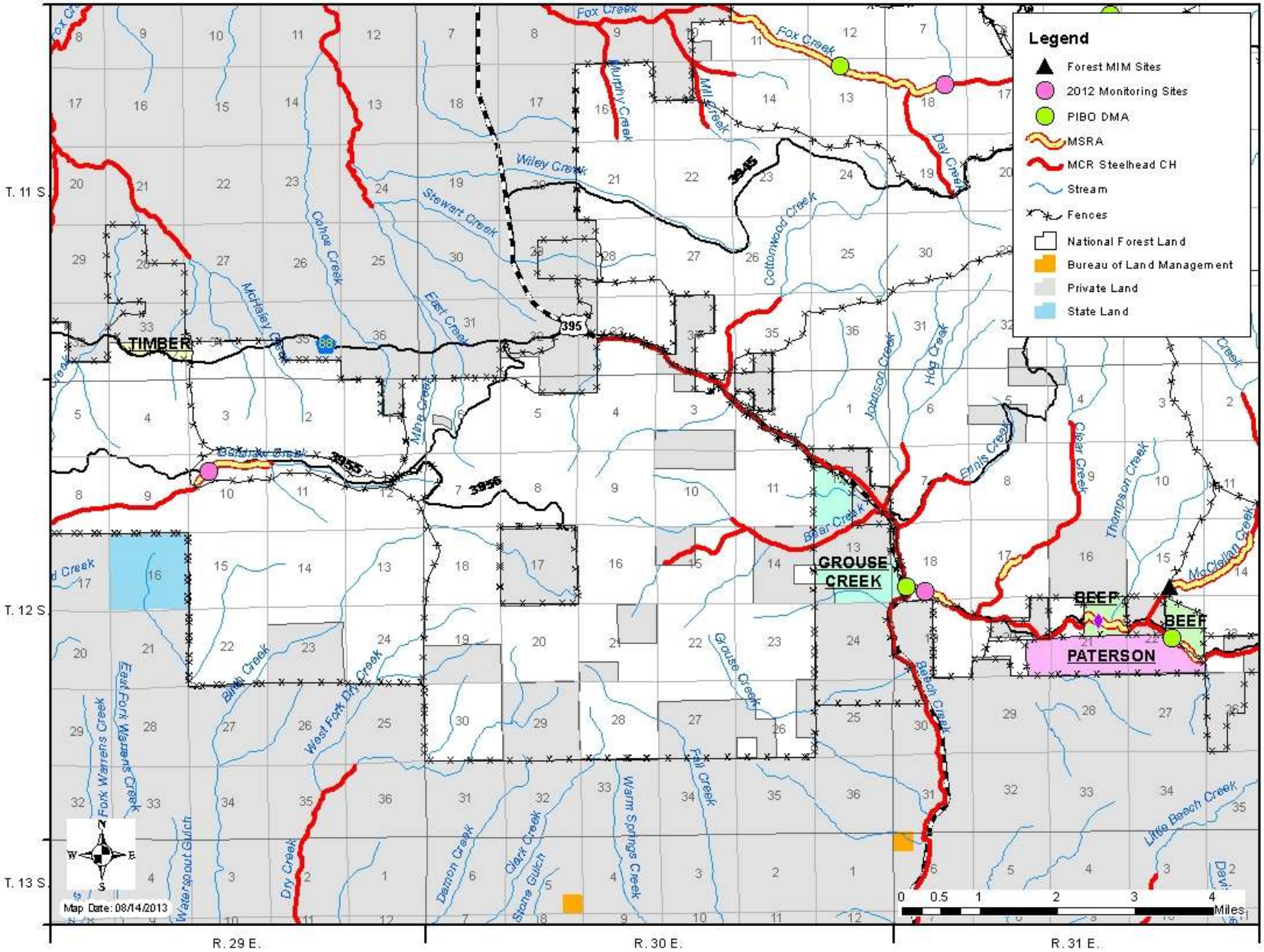
The IDT conducted end of season monitoring at the PIBO monitoring location on the East Fork of Beech Creek. They observed several new beaver dams in the stream within the monitoring transect, in addition to several existing beaver dams that have been vegetated with hydric woody species. The IDT also observed that the woody browse by wildlife (browse above 5 feet high) within the transect was heavy to severe. However, woody browse within the livestock browse range was within the allowable use standard.

With the exception of a water gap in the Paterson pasture, all critical habitat in this allotment is in the Beef pasture. Additionally, all of the critical habitat in this allotment is considered MSRA and was grazed.

Management Recommendations For 2013

The current management of this allotment is for it to be used concurrently with the adjacent private land. Recommendations for this allotment are to continue to utilize a deferred rotation grazing system.

Beech Allotment



8. Mt. Vernon Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description

The Mt Vernon allotment is located on the south edge of Fox Valley with the majority of the allotment in Township 12, Ranges 28, 29, and 30 for a total size of approximately 31,000 acres. The Mt. Vernon allotment has six pastures: Belshaw Creek; Belshaw Riparian; Belshaw Meadows; Bear Creek, Birch, and Cohoe.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01786	50	252	06/11-10/05
01787	269	1366	06/11-10/05

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Bear Creek	06/11-10/05	319	06/14-08/24	50
			06/12-08/24	259
Cohoe			07/24-09/10	309
Belshaw Creek			09/10-10/05	50
Birch			09/10-10/05[1]	259
Belshaw Riparian	Gather		Gather	181
Belshaw Meadow				

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Belshaw Creek	6/13	In-Season	No Livestock / sign located
Belshaw Creek	9/25	In-Season	Very limited access to the stream for cattle. No cattle seen
Belshaw Creek	10/9	Mid-Season	Cattle have not accessed the stream
Belshaw Riparian	6/13	In-Season	No Livestock / sign located
Bear Creek	6/13	In-Season	No Livestock / sign located
Bear Creek	6/27	In-Season	No livestock access to CH streams
Bear Creek	7/11	Mid-Season	CH Streams dry, No sign of livestock access
Bear Creek	7/23	In-Season	Cattle moving out of pasture, Use evident along roads
Bear Creek	7/24	In-Season	Cattle moving out of pasture, Use evident along roads
Bear Creek	8/16	In-Season	CH Streams dry,30% upland utilization, 30% Woody Browse, No livestock

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Belshaw Creek	4” or 6”	NP	40% or	UA	20%	0% (ocular)

[1] Started gathering 10/03.

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
			50%			
Belshaw Riparian	4”	8”	50%	34%	15%	15%
Bear Creek		NP	50%	50%	20%	0%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Belshaw Creek	45%	5%
Belshaw Riparian	45%	20%
Bear Creek	45%	20%
Belshaw Meadows	45%	10%
Cohoe	45%	25%
Birch	45%	30%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

None.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The season began with both permittees turning-out into the Bear Creek pasture which was grazed for approximately 40 days. Cattle were then moved from Bear Creek to the Cohoe pasture where the permittees divided their cattle and one permittee’s cattle went to the Belshaw pasture (50 c/c), while the other permittee’s cattle went to the Birch pasture (259 c/c). This change in rotation allowed for the Belshaw pasture to be grazed with much less intensity than in prior years. As such the utilization recorded was very low, measured at 5%.

The Birch pasture was created after the grazing season in 2011 with 2012 being the first year it existed.

The IDT determined that the critical habitat on Belshaw creek consists of a thick Alder/Thimbleberry plant community. Access to this in the stream in the Belshaw pasture is very limited with the exception of one 20+/- foot section at the boundary of the Belshaw Riparian pasture. Due to the existing plant community and shade due to topography, the streambank vegetation consists of moss, lichens, and mesic grass; in combination with the limited access the IDT determined that this stream did not require monitoring.

The IDT determined that bank trampling not be an issue on Beech Creek in the Bear Creek pasture at this time but that it may be an appropriate indicator once deposition and streambank building begins to occur. The substrate of the stream is too large to show bank alterations; as such no bank alteration was measured. Additionally, given the dry nature of the stream there was no hydric vegetation, as such no stubble height was measured. The IDT’s recommendation for this reach is:

- Monitor woody browse use as the indicator of active livestock management.
- Stratify the riparian complex from 100 meters downstream of the upper fence to the next riparian complex and randomly pick a location for the key area.
- Identify a project to add large woody debris to the reach at desirable levels.
- As the system recovers and sediment becomes processed in the channel and on the floodplain, additional indicators may become appropriate for monitoring. For example, bank alteration, width/depth and greenline vegetative composition may become more important as stream channel recovers.

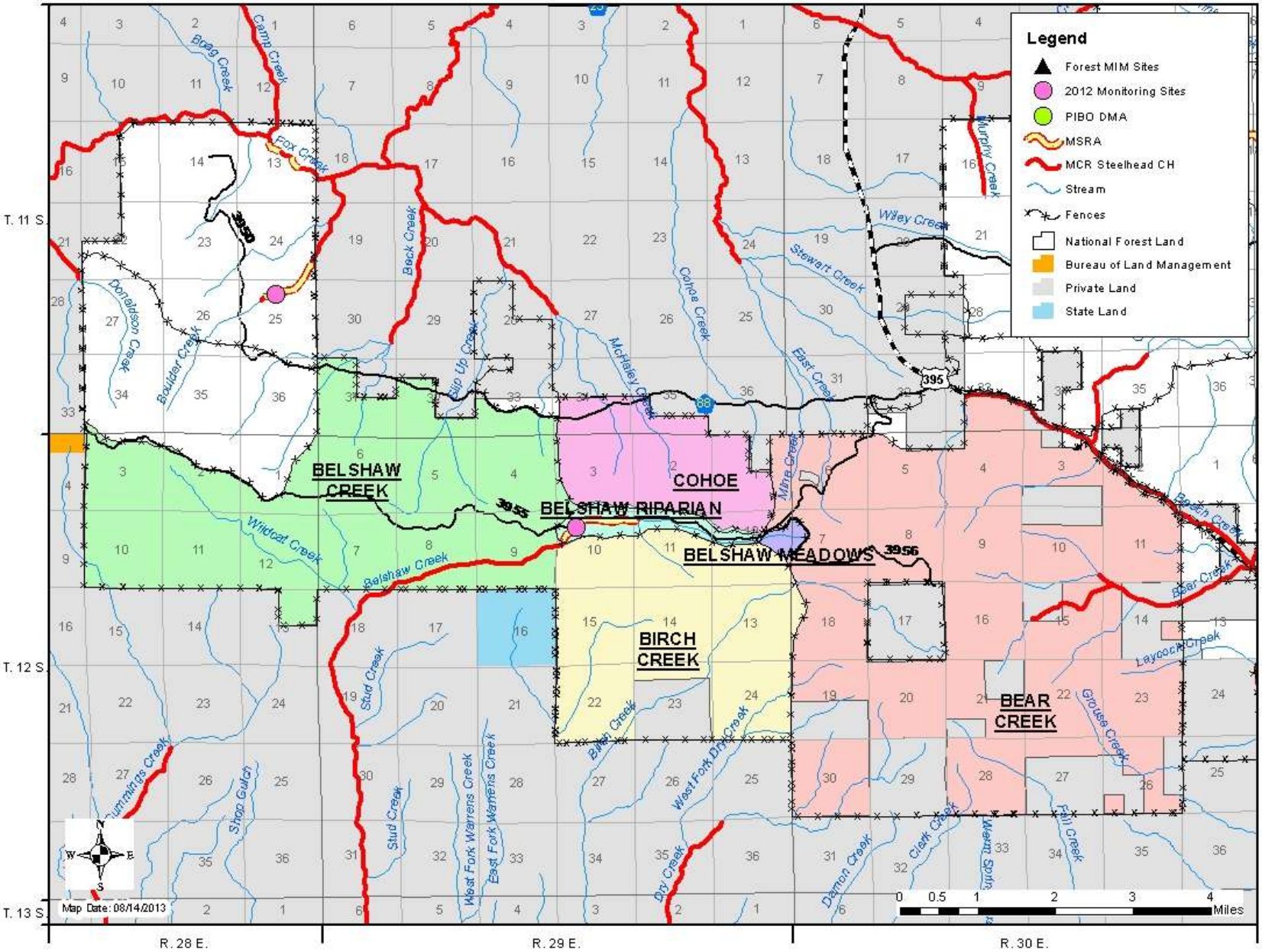
The Biological Assessment and the Biological Opinion for the Mt. Vernon allotment states that there is 2.4 miles of MSRA in the Belshaw Riparian pasture. This is incorrect. According to GIS there is 1.1 miles of MSRA in Belshaw Riparian pasture.

The proposed schedule was for the permitted livestock, 319c/c, to graze for the permitted season by following the rotation of: Bear Creek to Cohoe to Belshaw to Birch then home with the Belshaw Riparian and Belshaw Meadows pastures being used in accordance with the BiOp. No specific dates were set for when to move between pastures, only that movements would occur according to standards being met. When livestock were moved out of the Cohoe pasture the rotation was changed and is reflected in the 2012 Authorized and Actual Use table above..

Management Recommendations For 2013

Direct additional attention towards the woody browse use along Beech Creek in the Bear Creek pasture where livestock have access to the stream. The IDT should stratify the reach and randomly determine a long term monitoring location.

Mt. Vernon Allotment



9. Seneca Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is NLAA.

Description

The Seneca allotment is located south of the town of John Day on the north edge of Bear Valley mostly within Township 15, Ranges 30 and 31E. The allotment encompasses approximately 10,166 acres and is divided into 4 pastures: Vance Creek, Camp Creek, Camp Creek Management, and Koehler.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01845	170	1018	06/11-10/30

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Vance Creek	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Camp Creek	06/15-10/15	120	08/20-09/30	110
Camp Management	10/16-10/30	120	09/04-09/18	110
Koehler	Gather	120	Gather	110

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Vance Creek	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	20%	Rested

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Vance Creek	45%	Rested
Camp Creek	45%	22%
Camp Management	45%	37%
Koehler	45%	22%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

None.

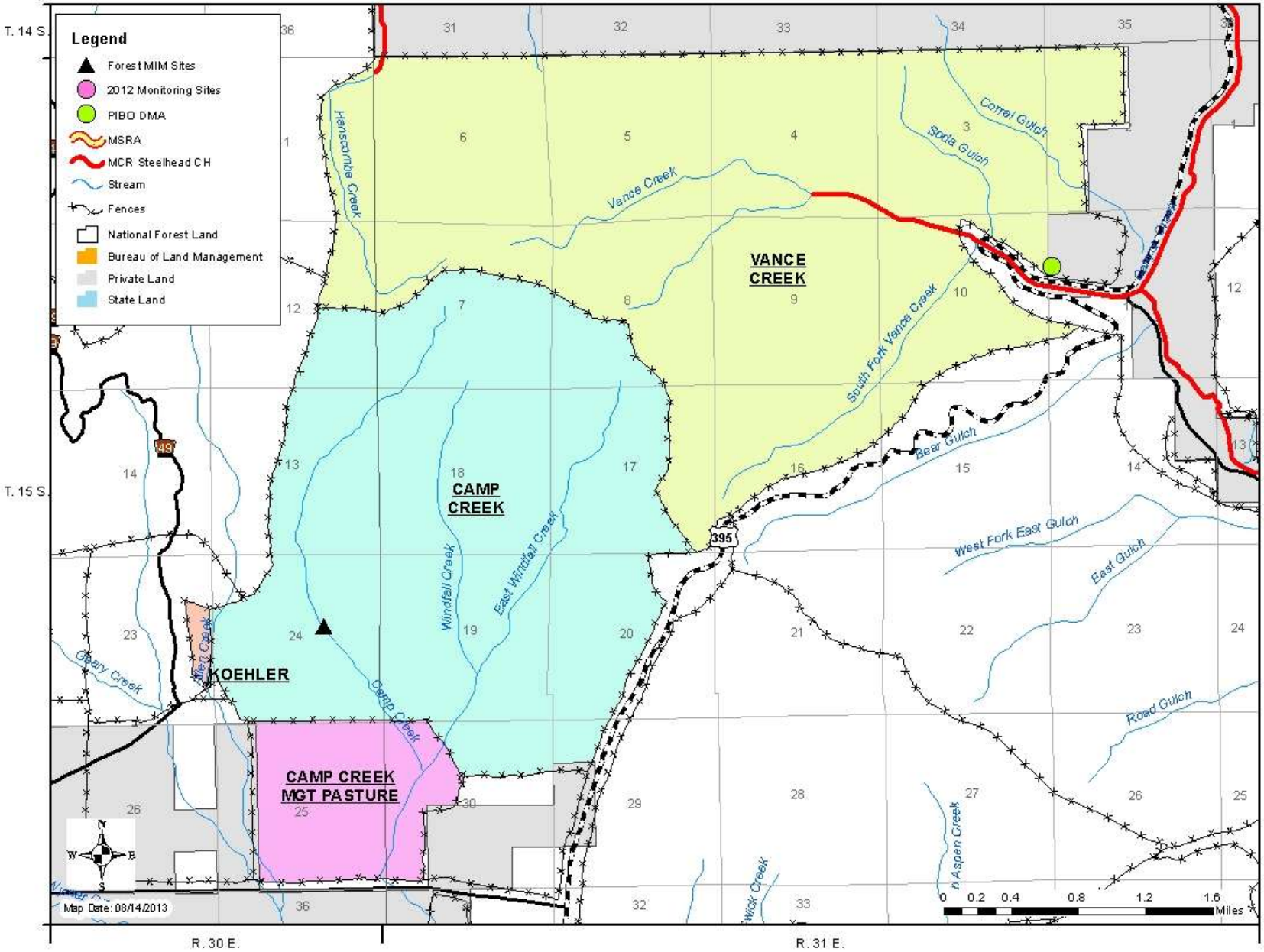
Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The Seneca allotment was grazed separate from the Hanscomb, Deadhorse, and Fields Peak allotments. The Camp Creek, Camp Management, and Koehler pastures were grazed; while the Vance Creek pasture was rested. All critical habitat is located in the Vance Creek pasture. There was no excess or unauthorized used reported in the Vance Creek pasture.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Include the Vance Creek pasture in the 2013 grazing strategy. The Forest Service range personnel and the permittee will seek out upland water sources to develop in the Camp Creek and Vance Creek pastures. If this allotment is run in conjunction with the Hanscomb, Deadhorse, and/or Fields Peak allotments; a rest-rotation system will be established that meets the needs of the Forest Service and the permittee. Utilize electric fencing on Camp Creek in the Camp Creek pasture to aid in better cattle distribution.

Seneca Allotment



10. Deadhorse Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is NLAA.

Description

The Deadhorse allotment is located southwest of the town of John Day mostly within T 14 and 15 S, and R 29 and 30 E. The allotment includes approximately 15,527 acres and is divided into 4 pastures: North, Riley, Riley Meadows, and Percival.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01845	175	1040	06/01-10/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
North	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Riley	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Riley Creek Meadow	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Percival	07/22-07/31	200	08/23-09/15	95

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
North	None	None	None - RESTED

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
North	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	20%	Rested

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
North	45%	Rested
Riley	45%	Rested
Percival	45%	32%
Riley Creek Meadow	45%	Rested

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

Conduct range readiness inspection to insure no carry-over impacts from 2011 – NOT COMPLETED due to pastures with critical steelhead habitat being rested in 2011 and 2012.

Continue with current management and continue moving toward a rest-rotation grazing strategy – IN PROGRESS

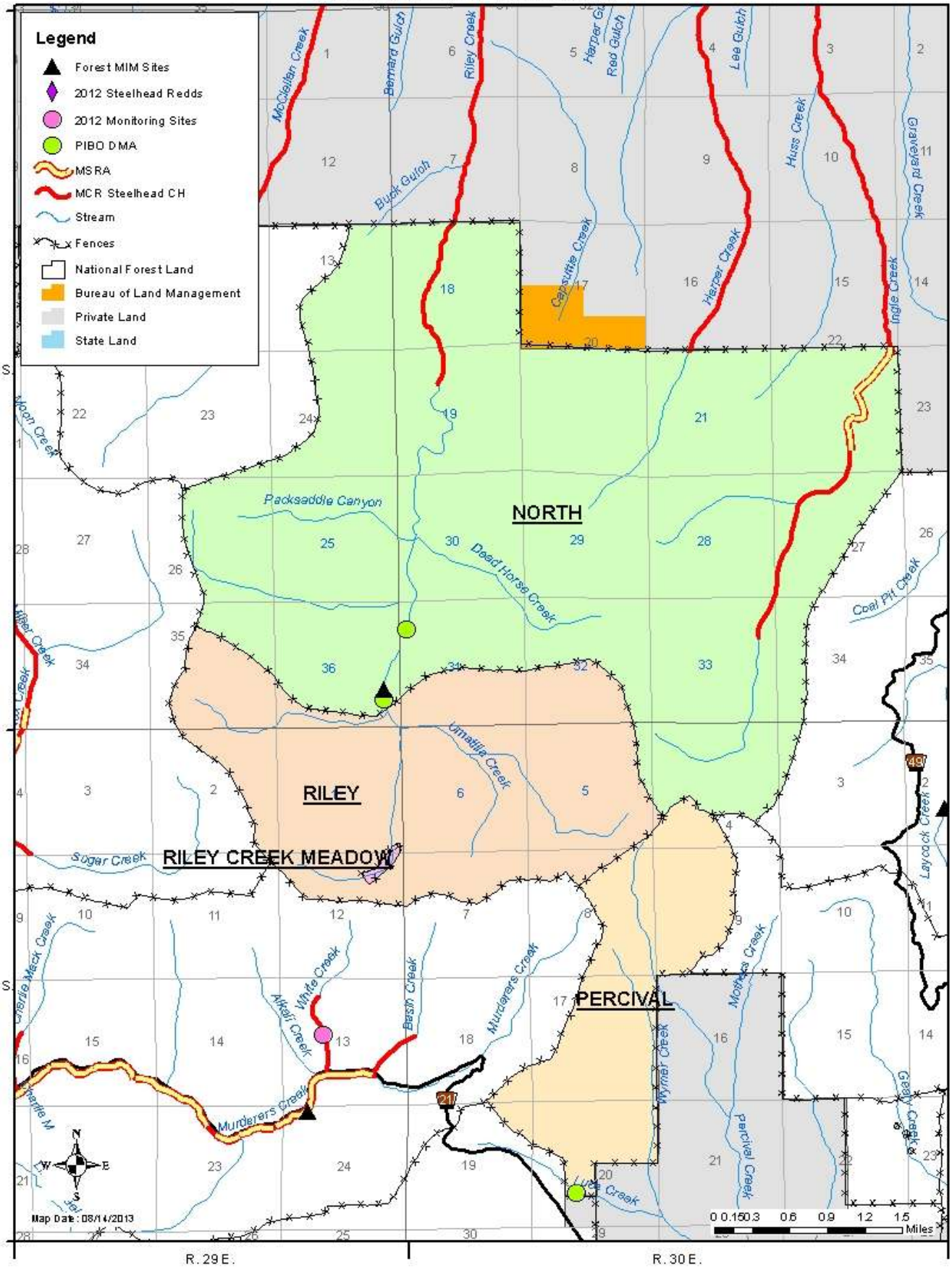
Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

Range readiness was not completed in the North pasture. This pasture was not grazed in 2011 or 2012. The pastures of the Deadhorse allotment and Fields Peak allotment were run as a single allotment. After the North Murderers Creek pasture of the Fields Peak allotment was grazed, cattle then were moved into the Percival pasture for the remainder of the season. The Percival pasture was the only pasture of the Deadhorse allotment grazed this year. None of the critical habitat within the Deadhorse allotment was grazed this year. There was no excess or unauthorized use was reported in the rested pastures.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Work with the permittee to establish a schedule for maintenance of all the fences and water developments starting with the Riley Creek pasture. Including the Riley and Riley Creek Meadow pastures in the grazing strategy in the near future. If this allotment is run in conjunction with the Seneca, Deadhorse, and/or Hanscomb allotments; a rest-rotation system will be established that meets the needs of the Forest Service and the permittee.

Deadhorse Allotment



11. McClellan Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is NLAA.

Description

The McClellan allotment is located southwest of the town of Mt. Vernon on NFS lands within T. 14 S, R. 29 E. The allotment encompasses approximately 1,900 acres of NFS lands and consists of one pasture: McClellan.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01812	65	129	09/01-10/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
McClellan	09/01-10/15	65	09/01-10/15*	65

*7 pair left on the allotment and gathered by 10/22.

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
McClellan	45%	10%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

Continue with current management.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

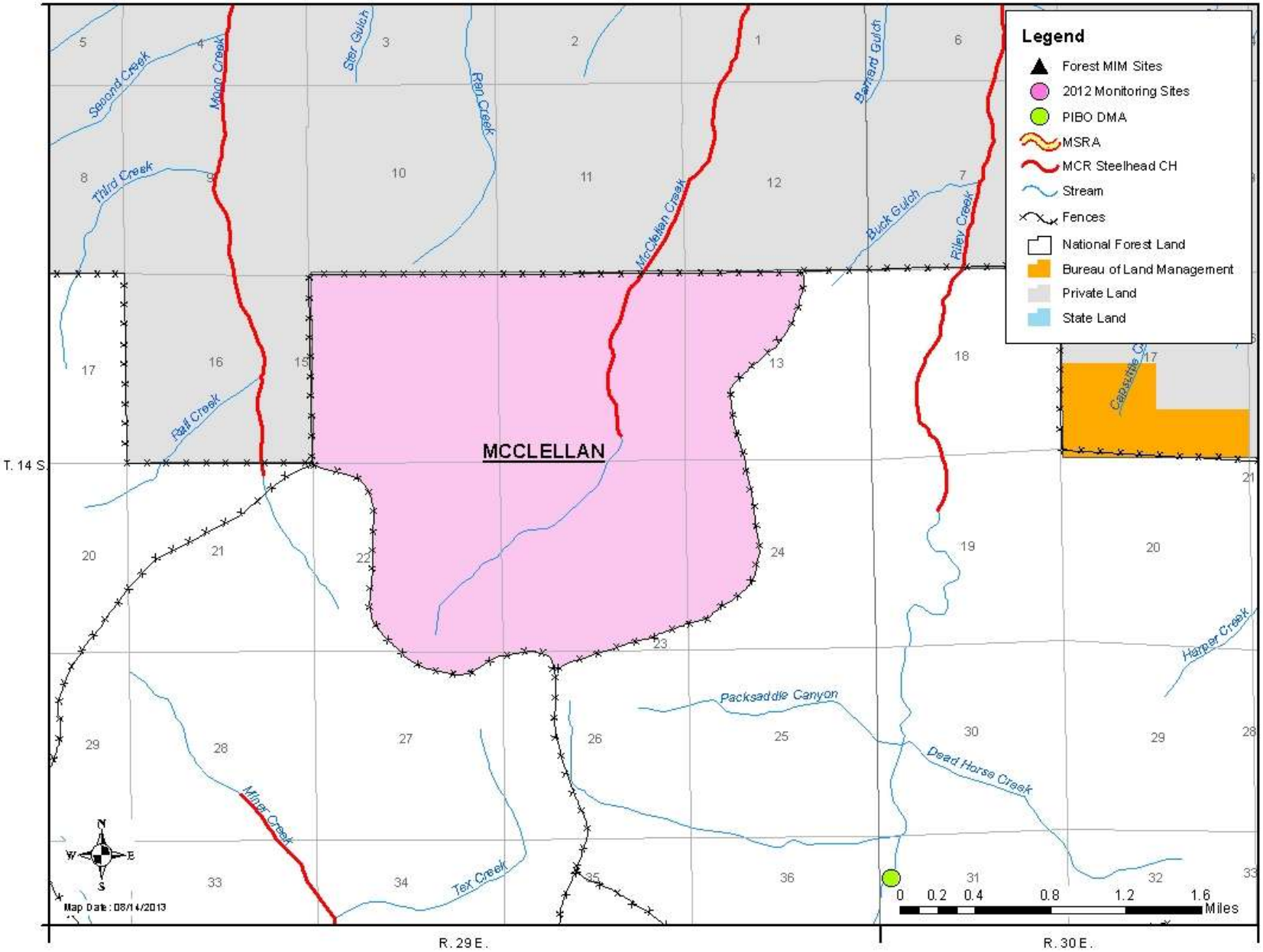
The McClellan allotment was grazed as planned and upland utilization standards were met. One spring was developed on the west side of the allotment. Range personnel and the permittee inspected the west side of the allotment and McClellan Creek on November 1st. Once cattle are trailed onto the McClellan allotment, access to the creek is limited. There is no forage along the creek for cattle to utilize. Utilization occurs on the mountain side on upland grass species and cattle seek water from upland spring sources. McClellan Creek is intermittently covered by mature shrubs (out of browse range) and downfall. The entire McClellan Creek drainage is very steep and the drainage walls are heavily timbered down to the creek bottom. The permittee has 2 more upland, off-site water sources to develop on the east site of the allotment. Riparian monitoring was not conducted because there is no hydophytic species (sedges-like plants or woody shrubs) on the streambank.

On October 23rd, the Blue Mountain Ranger District Range Staff met with Level 1 to discuss a discrepancy between the McClellan allotment Biological Assessment and the Letter of Concurrence (LOC). Stubble height, browse use, and streambank alteration was not in the Biological Assessment to be consulted on; but this monitoring was present in the LOC. The Level 1 team decided the District Ranger was to make the call as to whether or not the riparian monitoring was to occur as described in the LOC. The District Ranger concluded that upland monitoring was the only monitoring necessary.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Continue with current management and complete the NEPA required to develop 2 springs.

McClellan Allotment



12. Williams Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is NLAA.

Description

The Williams allotment is located southeast of the town of John Day on NFS lands within T. 51 S, R. 32 E. The allotment encompasses approximately 294 acres of NFS lands and is divided into six pastures: Jack; Cow; Sloan; Rhinehart; Moss; and Pat George.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01806	3	24	05/15-11/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Jack	5/15-11/15	3	Not Provided	Not Provided
Cow			Not Provided	Not Provided
Rhinehart			Not Provided	Not Provided

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Jack	45%	Not Measured
Cow	45%	Not Measured
Rhinehart	45%	Not Measured

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011:

None.

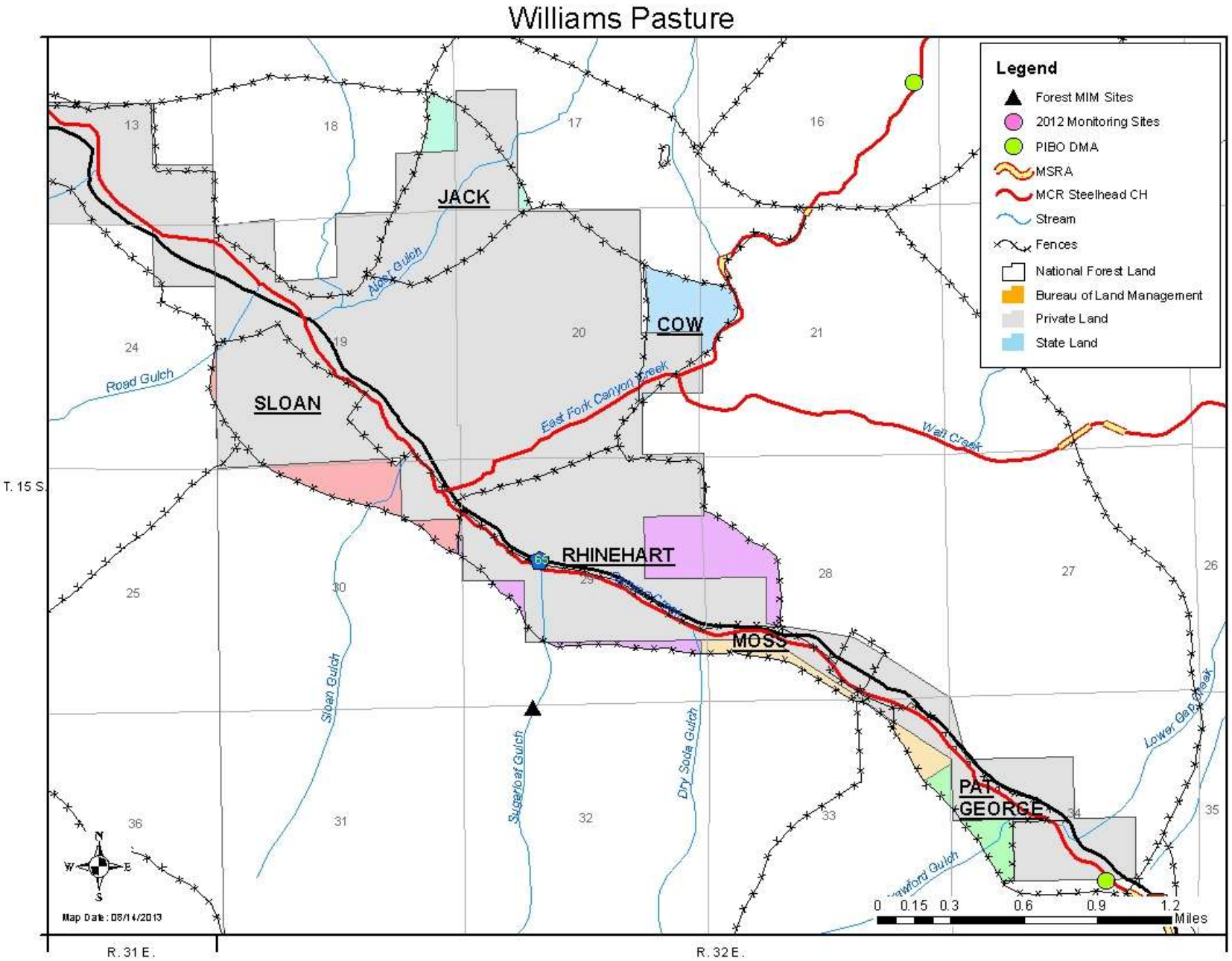
Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The Williams On/Off allotment contains very little National Forest System lands (less than 25%). Conducting monitoring on these areas would not be representative of the allotment, therefore it was not monitored. Approximately 0.32 mile of critical habitat is within the Williams allotment. The East Fork of Canyon Creek serves as the unfenced eastern boundary of the Cow pasture of the Williams allotment, separating it from the Lake pasture of the Fawn Springs allotment. This section of critical habitat of the East Fork of Canyon Creek is partially confined by near vertical canyon walls comprised of columnar granite, but still accessible to livestock.

On October 23rd, the Blue Mountain Ranger District Range Staff met with Level 1 to discuss a discrepancy between the Williams allotment Biological Assessment and the Letter of Concurrence. Stubble height, browse use, and streambank alteration was not in the Biological Assessment to be consulted on; but this monitoring was present in the LOC. The Level 1 team decided the District Ranger was to make the call as to whether or not the riparian monitoring was to occur as described in the LOC. The District Ranger concluded that riparian monitoring would not be necessary.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Management recommendations are to continue with current management.


Williams Pasture
Legend
Forest MIM Sites
2012 Monitoring Sites
PIBO DMA
MSRA
MCR Steelhead CH
Stream
Fences
National Forest Land
Bureau of Land Management
Private Land
State Land
JACK
COW
SLOAN
RHINEHART
MOSS
PAT GEORGE
Road Gulch
East Fork Canyon Creek
Wall Creek
Sloan Gulch
Sugarloaf Gulch
Dry Soda Gulch
Lower Gap Creek
Crawford Gulch
T. 15 S.
R. 31 E.
R. 32 E.
Map Date: 08/14/2013
0 0.15 0.3 0.6 0.9 1.2 Miles

South Fork John Day River Sub-Basin Allotments

1. Fields Peak Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description

The Fields Peak allotment is located southeast of the town of John Day mostly within T 14 and 15 S and R 28, 29, and 30 E. The allotment includes approximately 30,718 acres and is divided into 5 pastures: Fields Creek, Tex Creek, Miners Creek, North Murderers Creek, and Murderers Creek.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01845	240	1437	06/15-10/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Fields Creek	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Tex Creek	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Miners Creek	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
North Murderers Creek	07/01-07/21	200	07/13-08/23	75
Murderers Creek	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Fields Creek	7/11	In-Season	No livestock seen on Fields Creek; pasture rested
Fields Creek	7/24	In-Season	No livestock seen on Fields Creek; pasture rested
Fields Creek	8/09	In-Season	No livestock seen on Fields Creek; pasture rested
Fields Creek	10/03	In-Season	No livestock seen on Fields Creek; pasture rested
Fields Creek	11/06	In-Season	No livestock seen on Fields Creek; pasture rested
Tex Creek	8/09	In-Season	Tex Creek is dry; no livestock use – within standards
Miners Creek	None	None	None
North Murderers Creek	7/24	Mid-Season	Critical Habitat on Charlie Mack Creek is dry and no livestock utilization; light utilization in White Creek; no livestock use in Basin Creek – all within standards
North Murderers Creek	8/09	In-Season	White Creek and Basin Creek – all within standards
North Murderers Creek	8/23	In-Season	White Creek and Basin Creek – all within standards

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Murderers Creek	7/24	In-Season	No cattle use – Murderers Creek within standards
Murderers Creek	7/30	In-Season	No cattle use – Murderers Creek within standards
Murderers Creek	8/09	In-Season	3 cows on Murderers Creek just over pasture division fence – within standards
Murderers Creek	8/23	In-Season	Murderers Creek within standards

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Fields Creek	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
Tex Creek	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
Miners Creek	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
North Murderers Creek	4”	5”	50%	44%	20%	11%
Murderers Creek	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Fields Creek	45%	Rested
Tex Creek	45%	Rested
Miners Creek	45%	Rested
North Murderers Creek	45%	39%
Murderers Creek	45%	Rested

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

Conduct range readiness inspection to insure there were no carry-over impacts from 2011 – COMPLETED – The North Murderers Creek pasture was check for range readiness on June 19, 2012. The grasses are well over 6 inches with mature seed heads and the soil is firm. This pasture is ready to be grazed; cattle will be turned on July 1. No carry-over impacts were seen from the previous grazing season along White Creek, Charlie Mack Creek, and Basin Creek. No steelhead were seen in the creeks. The lower half mile of Charlie Mack Creek was dry.

Continue to move toward a rest-rotation grazing strategy – IN PROGRESS.

Continue to with current management.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

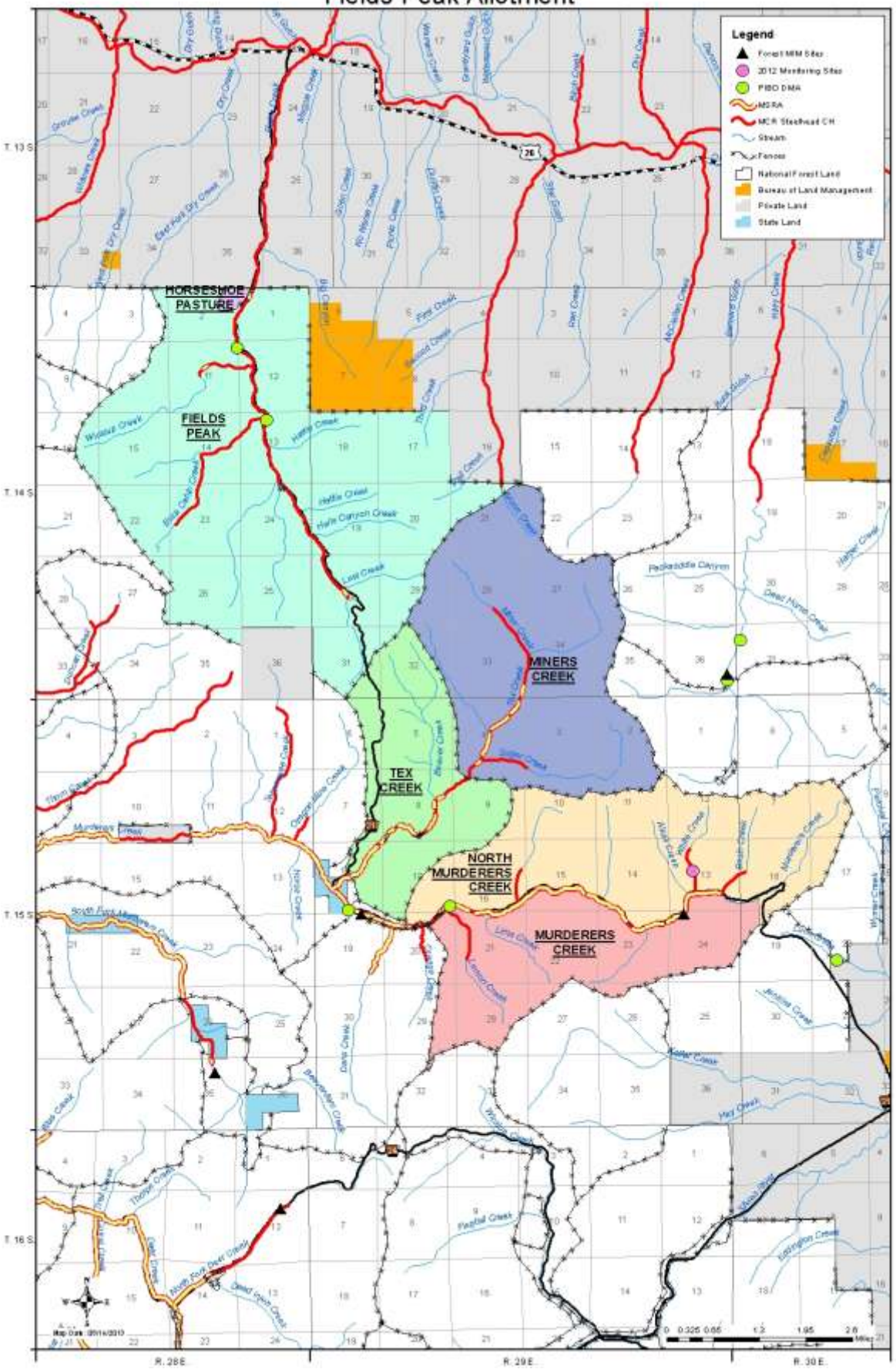
The Fields Peak allotment was grazed in conjunction with one pasture from the Deadhorse allotment. Cattle grazed the North Murderers Creek pasture; while all other pastures were rested. The North Murderers Creek pasture contains 7% of the critical habitat within the Fields Peak allotment. An electric fence was set up on Murderers Creek above critical habitat in the North Murderers Creek pasture. This electric fence was vandalized twice throughout the season and set back up both times, but it still served its purpose and decreased cattle concentration at this area. The majority of cattle use is on the east side of the pasture. Upland water sites are lacking in this pasture and this really limits the potential of cattle distribution. Charlie Mack Creek was dry prior to turn out; and White Creek and Basin Creek were intermittent by end of the grazing season. A couple pair of the permitted cattle was seen on Murderers Creek in the Murderers Creek pasture while the North Murderers Creek pasture was grazed; the permittee removed the cattle promptly. There were no reports of excess or unauthorized use in the Fields Creek, Tex Creek, and Miners Creek pastures.

End of season monitoring was conducted on October 1st. The IDT walked the entire critical habitat in White Creek and Basin Creek. The IDT concluded that a full MIM would not be appropriate because there is no channel intermittently up White Creek and there is no water at some sites along the stream; a half-MIM was completed. The IDT chose a site far enough up the mouth of the stream and away from the fence where cattle use was present. This site was out of the "B" complex that comprises the lower end of White Creek. The IDT found it hard to grasp the critical steelhead habitat characteristics of White Creek. There are no spawning gravels and there is very little water at this time for rearing. The IDT talked about using this pasture at different times of the year; June one year then later at the end of the season on the next year. The stream potential at the monitoring site was to see a narrower channel and more sedges growing into the channel. The IDT found evidence of historic log skidding down the Basin Creek drainage. There were no hydrophytic plants growing along the dry channel of Basin Creek. The IDT concluded monitoring would not be representative on Basin Creek because the critical habitat was dry and there were no hydrophytic species present.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Forest Service range personnel and the permittee will seek upland water sources to develop in the North Murderers Creek pasture. Old records indicate more upland, off-site water developments exist and as the permittee continues to grow familiar with this allotment, these water developments will be found and maintained to standard. If this allotment is run in conjunction with the Hanscomb, Deadhorse, and/or Seneca allotments; a rest-rotation system will be established that meets the needs of the Forest Service and the permittee. Utilize electric fencing again on Murderers Creek and Alkali Creek in the North Murderers Creek pasture and frequently check its condition throughout the season of use in this pasture.

Fields Peak Allotment



2. Murderers Creek Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description

The Murderers Creek Allotment is located southwest of the town of John Day on National Forest System Lands, mostly within T 14, 15, 16 S, and R 27 and 28 E. The Allotment encompasses approximately 64,649 acres and is divided into 15 pastures: Frenchy Butte, Deer Creek, John Young Meadow, Redrocks, Martin Corrals, Dans Creek, Oregon Mine, Timber Mountain, Blue Ridge, Horse Mountain, Antelope Spring, South Fork Murderers Creek Gather Pasture, Murderers Creek Gather Pasture, Tex Creek Gather Pasture and John Young Meadow Cow Camp Pasture.

Grazing System: The Murderers Creek Allotment will continue to be managed under three permits grazing three separate herd areas:

- The North Herd is authorized to graze the Red Rocks, Oregon Mine, Martin Corrals, Dans Creek, Tex Creek Gather, and Murderers Creek Gather pastures
- The Middle Herd is authorized to graze Timber Mountain, Blue Ridge, Antelope Spring, Horse Mountain, and South Fork Murderers Creek Gather
- The South Herd is authorized to graze the Frenchy Butte, Deer Creek, Watershed, John Young Meadow, and John Young Cow Camp pastures.

Permit ID*	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
Lazy H	175	1162	5/16 – 10/15
0604010002	200	260	06/01-06/30
	300	929	07/01-10/15
0604010001	400	1857	07/01-10/15
	4 horses	26	05/15-10/30

*Permit information is incorrect in the BiOp. Table 1 of the BiOp (pg 5) displays incorrect information for these permits.

Pre-Season Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Result
Timber Mountain	6/21	Formal monitoring not conducted, no sign of current year wild horse use anywhere within the critical habitat in the pasture
Murderers Creek Gather	9/12	No WH use observed at the upper road crossing, purpose of inspection was to document any impacts before cattle were driven through. Murderers Creek is mainly dry
Red Rocks	None	RESTED
Deer Creek	6/21	Light use, consistent with WH use patterns, not approaching standards
Deer Creek	7/3	PIBO DMA BA = 4%; Forest MIM DMA not measured at request of Loren Stout, ocular inspection by Range staff and Hydrology Tech did not observe any evidence of WH use.
Frenchy Butte	6/21	Light use, consistent with WH use patterns, not approaching standards
Frenchy Butte	7/3	BA = 2%
John Young	6/21	Light use, consistent with WH use patterns, not approaching

Pasture	Date	Result
Meadow		standards
John Young Meadow	7/3	BA = 7%
Blue Ridge	6/21	Light use, consistent with WH use patterns, not approaching standards
Blue Ridge	7/30	Ocular BA estimate of 8% on Bark Cabin, recommend using electric fence on upper end of critical habitat, as it is the only open and accessible piece. Blue Creek no measurable BA.
Blue Ridge	8/2	Conducted formal measurement on Bark Cabin, BA = 11%
Dans Creek	6/21	Light use, consistent with WH use patterns, not approaching standards
Dans Creek	9/12	No WH use observed at the lower road crossing, purpose of inspection was to document any impacts before cattle were driven through.
Oregon Mine	6/21	No use observed
Martin Corrals	None	RESTED
Tex Creek Gather	None	RESTED
South Fork Murderers Creek Gather	None	RESTED

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Timber Mountain	07/01-08/01	150	7/1-7/30	150
Antelope Spring	08/02-08/30	150	8/2-8/25	150
Blue Ridge	08/02-08/30	150	8/2-8/25	150
Horse Mountain	09/01-09/20	150	8/25-9/15	150
Murderers Creek Gather	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Red Rocks	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Deer Creek	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Frenchy Butte	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
John Young Meadow	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
John Young Meadow Cow Camp	Gather	Gather	Gather	Gather
Dans Creek	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Oregon Mine	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Martin Corrals	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Tex Creek Gather	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
South Fork Murderers Creek Gather	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Timber Mountain	7/24	Mid-Season	No impacts to critical habitat due to stable nature of Crazy Creek but concentrated use along terrace where accessible.
Timber Mountain	8/2	Post- Graze	No impacts to critical habitat, IDT determined not necessary to conduct MIM monitoring
Murderers Creek Gather	9/13	RESTED	Compliance Check, No Livestock
Red Rocks	None	RESTED	
Deer Creek	8/16	RESTED	Compliance Check, No Livestock
Frenchy Butte	8/16	RESTED	Compliance Check, No livestock
John Young Meadow	9/7	RESTED	Compliance Check, No Livestock
John Young Meadow	9/12	RESTED	Compliance Check, No Livestock
John Young Meadow	9/13	RESTED	Compliance Check, No Livestock
Blue Ridge	8/7	In-Season	Electric fence up on Bark Cabin, Blue Creek no livestock sign observed
Blue Ridge	8/9	In-Season	No change from last visit.
Blue Ridge	8/12	Mid-Season	Concentrated use occurring below SF Holding Pasture
Blue Ridge	8/16	In-Season	Cattle began moving into Horse Mountain Pasture, conditions unchanged in Blue Creek
Blue Ridge	8/29	In-Season	On 5 pair located in the south east portion of pasture, off critical habitat
Dans Creek	9/13	RESTED	Compliance Check, No Livestock
Oregon Mine	8/16	RESTED	Compliance Check, No Livestock
Martin Corrals	None	RESTED	
Tex Creek Gather	None	RESTED	
South Fork Murderers Creek Gather	None	RESTED	

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Timber Mountain[2]	4”	NP	50%	UA	20%	0-1%
Murderers Creek Gather	4” or 6	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
Red Rocks	4” or 6	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
Deer Creek	4” or 6	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested

[2] See Summary below

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Frenchy Butte	4” or 6	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
John Young Meadow	4” or 6	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
Blue Ridge	6”	4”[3]	40%	NP	15%	29%
Dans Creek	4” or 6	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
Oregon Mine	4” or 6	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
Martin Corrals	4” or 6	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
Tex Creek Gather	4” or 6	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
South Fork Murderers Creek Gather	4” or 6	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Horse Mountain	45%	48%
Antelope Spring	45%	50%
Timber Mountain	45%	30%
Murderers Creek Gather	45%	Rested
Red Rocks	45%	Rested
Deer Creek	45%	Rested
Frenchy Butte	45%	Rested
John Young Meadow	45%	Rested
John Young Meadow Cow Camp	45%	23%
Blue Ridge	45%	52%
Dans Creek	45%	Rested
Oregon Mine	45%	Rested
Martin Corrals	45%	Rested
Tex Creek Gather	45%	Rested
South Fork Murderers Creek Gather	45%	Rested

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

Continue with current management.

[3] See summary below regarding Swordleaf Sedge

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The Lazy H and 0604010001 permittees elected to take personal preference non-use for the 2012 grazing season. The remaining permittee was authorized to graze at approximately 45% of the permitted use, however due to dry conditions and lack of available water cattle were removed from the allotment 3 weeks early. The Timber Mountain, Blue Ridge, and Horse Mountain pastures were grazed with John Young Meadow Cow Camp being used to aid gather and removal of cattle from the allotment. These pastures contain 9% of the total critical habitat and only 3% of the MSRA. All MSRA grazed in 2012 is located in the Blue Ridge pasture. Numerous spring locations were identified in the Horse Mountain pasture for development. Additional waters are needed in this pasture as a result of the exclosure fence along the South Fork of Murderers Creek. Bark Cabin Creek in the Blue Ridge pastures was chosen as the location for pre-season monitoring as it displayed the highest level of impact with the pasture.

Pre-season monitoring determined that electric fencing was needed on Bark Cabin Creek as bank alteration was approaching 10% prior to livestock entering the pasture.

End of season monitoring was conducted on September 25th. The IDT inspected the entire length of MSRA on Blue Creek within the Blue Ridge pasture and located an appropriate location to conduct end of season monitoring. The chosen location was the only reach that contained flowing water. The remainder of Blue Creek within the Blue Ridge pasture tends to go dry early in the season and does not support hydric species. The IDT concluded that the site is in early seral condition, plants exhibit low vigor, hydric composition is extremely low and that stubble height is not a good indicator of use. The primary sedge available for measurement is Swordleaf Sedge. This sedge is typically short in stature and does not grow more than 4-6” in height. The greenline is mainly composed of non-hydric blue grass and wheat grass species. Utilization of these plants along the greenline is approximately was estimated at 70-75%. The IDT recommend the building of an exclosure around Blue Creek and repairing the water development that is located just outside the RHCA. The following is a list of management objectives identified by the team:

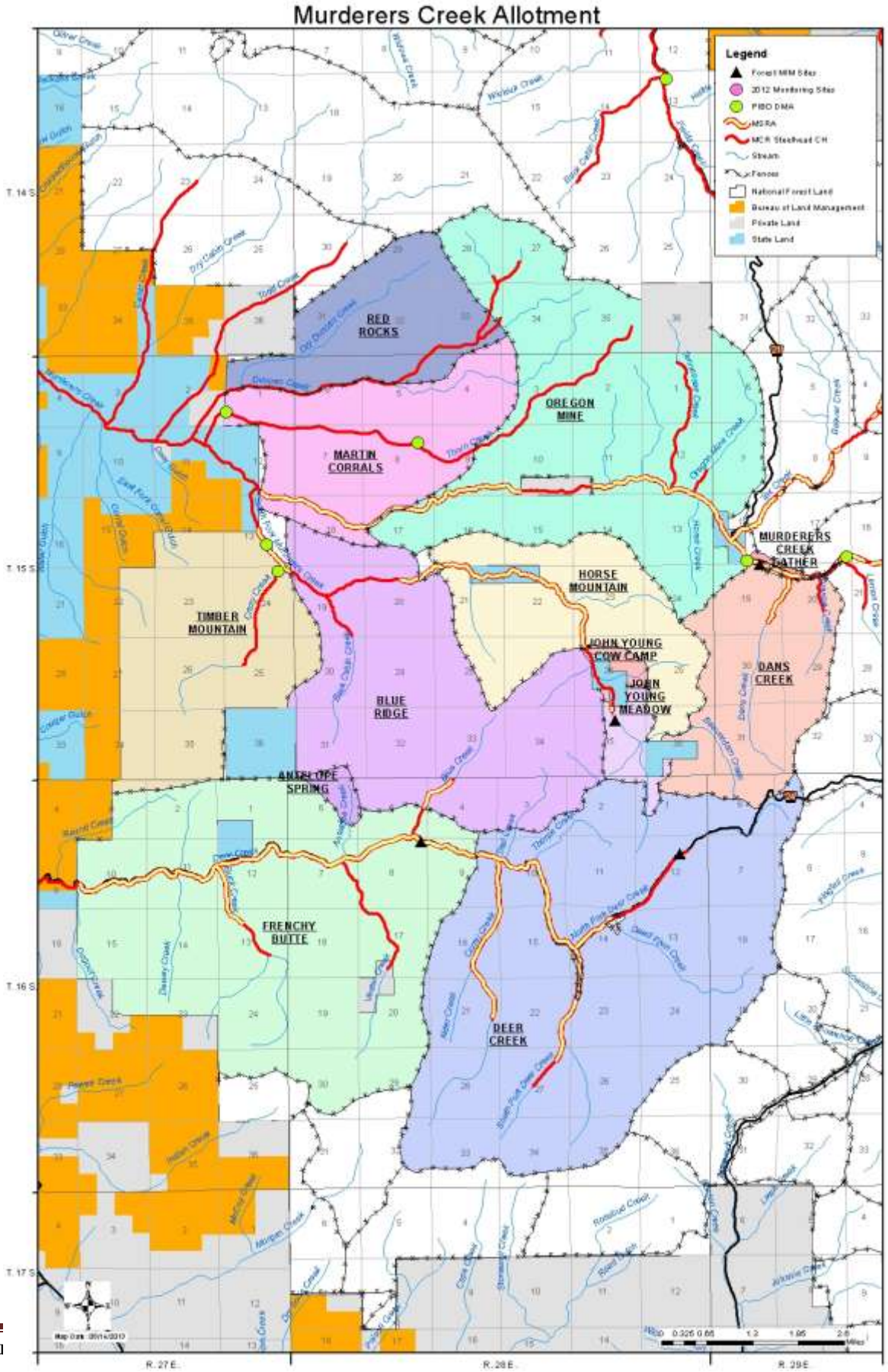
- Improve composition and diversity of hydric vegetation
- Narrow Greenline-to-Greenline Width
- Increase baseflow
- Decrease substrate

The IDT also visited Bark Cabin Creek and South Fork Murderers Creek in the Blue Ridge pasture. The IDT determined that South Fork Murderers Creek was not an appropriate location to conduct monitoring due to the proximity of the pasture fence, the abrupt change in stream type just below the fence, and the lack of a defined greenline. It was noted that as a result of the pasture fence livestock were concentrated in the immediate area. A transect was run to measure bank alteration which was measured at 23%, however the team was concerned that the pattern of use was too concentrated and determined that the site was not appropriate. At Bark Cabin Creek the team concluded that the entire upper end of the stream should be fenced, not just the area that was included in the electric fencing to promote recovery.

On August 2 the IDT hiked into Crazy Creek in the Timber Mountain pasture to conduct post-grazing monitoring. The IDT concluded that Crazy Creek is inherently stable and not capable of supporting sedge/rush plant communities. Crazy Creek is armored with rock and boulder with a dense, mature alder overstory. The IDT determined that monitoring of stubble height, woody browse, and bank alteration was unnecessary due to the stream type and that photo point monitoring would be sufficient. As a result of this inspection end of season monitoring was not conducted.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Implementing fencing on Blue Creek and Bark Cabin Creek and to explore options for juniper felling in Patty Pie drainage along with new spring developments in the Timber Mountain pasture.


Murderers Creek Allotment
Legend
Forest MIM Sites
2012 Monitoring Sites
PIBO DMA
MCR Steelhead CH
Stream
Fences
National Forest Land
Bureau of Land Management
Private Land
State Land
RED ROCKS
OREGON MINE
MARTIN CORRALS
MURDERERS CREEK GATHER
HORSE MOUNTAIN
TIMBER MOUNTAIN
JOHN YOUNG COW CAMP
JOHN YOUNG MEADOW
DANS CREEK
BLUE RIDGE
ANTELOPE SPRING
FRENCHY BUTTE
DEER CREEK
T. 14 S.
T. 15 S.
T. 16 S.
T. 17 S.
R. 27 E.
R. 28 E.
R. 29 E.

Middle Fork John Day River Sub-Basin Allotments

1. Blue Mountain Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS and USFWS is LAA.

Description

The Blue Mountain allotment is located northeast of the town of John Day on National Forest System Lands, mostly within T 10, 11 and 12 S, R 35, 35.5 and 36 E. The allotment encompasses approximately 22,708 acres and is divided into 5 pastures: Crawford Creek, Idaho Creek, East Summit, West Summit, and Squaw.

This allotment is currently vacant.

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Crawford Creek	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant
West Summit	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant
Idaho Creek	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant
East Summit	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant
Squaw	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Crawford Creek	4” or 6	Vacant	40% or 50%	Vacant	15%	Vacant
West Summit						
Idaho Creek						
East Summit						
Squaw						

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Crawford Creek	45%	Vacant
West Summit		
Idaho Creek		
East Summit		
Squaw		

Spawning Surveys

The Blue Mountain allotment is currently VACANT. Grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

None.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

Several instances of unauthorized use by livestock from private land fenced within the allotment and excess use by cattle from the adjacent Wallowa-Whitman NF were observed on the allotment. The owners were notified and the livestock were removed promptly. No monitoring was conducted.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Management recommendations are to continue to work with Wallowa-Whitman range staff to transfer fence maintenance responsibilities to the Wallowa-Whitman permittees until a permit is re-issued for the Blue Mountain allotment.

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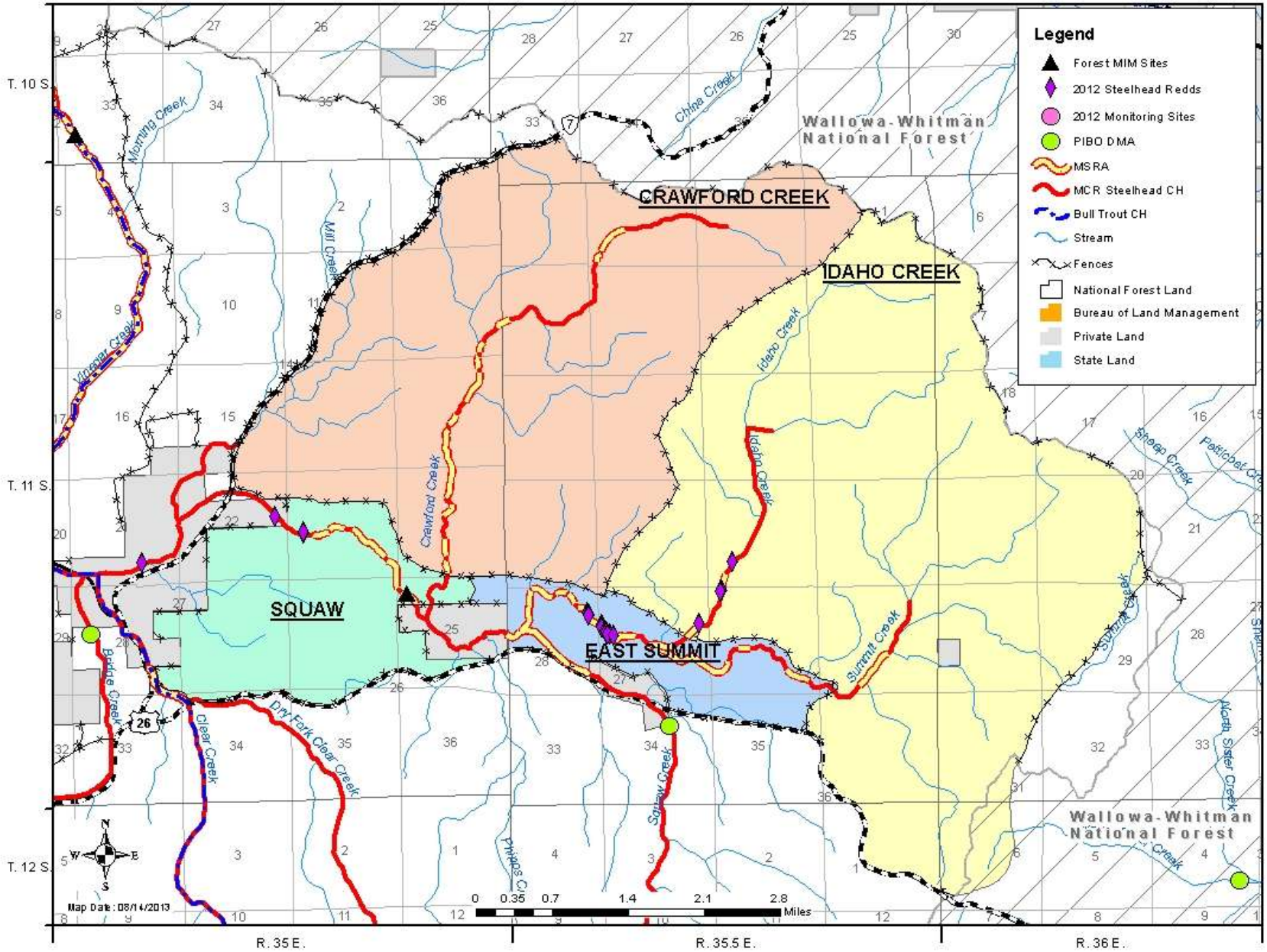
Blue Mountain Allotment



2. Upper Middle Fork Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS and USFWS is LAA.

Description

The Upper Middle Fork allotment is located mostly within T. 10 S and 11 S, R. 34 and 35 E. The allotment includes approximately 54,580 acres of National Forest System (NFS) lands. The Upper Middle Fork allotment has ten pastures: Austin; Butte; Caribou; Deerhorn; Lower Vinegar; River; Tailings; Shop and Upper Vinegar.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01807	485	2883	06/01-10/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Caribou	07/01-10/15	125	07/10-10/10	125
Upper Vinegar	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Lower Vinegar	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Deerhorn	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Butte	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Shop	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Tailings	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Austin	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Caribou	7/10	In-Season	Livestock entered allotment today
Caribou	7/25	In-Season	Very little sign of cattle, No cattle sign near CH streams
Caribou	7/31	In-Season	No livestock seen, No cattle on CH streams
Caribou	8/14	Mid-Season	Very little sign of cattle access to CH stream s
Caribou	8/30	In-Season	No livestock near CH streams
Caribou	9/12	In-Season	No sign of livestock on CH streams
Caribou	9/12	Mid-Season	Limited low utilization of CH streams
Upper/Lower Vinegar	8/15	In-Season	Trespass livestock located, W-W Range Specialist notified
Upper/Lower Vinegar	8/23	In-Season	Trespass livestock located, W-W Range Specialist notified
Upper/Lower Vinegar	8/27	In-Season	Trespass livestock located, W-W Range Specialist notified
Upper/Lower Vinegar	9/5	In-Season	Trespass livestock located, W-W Range Specialist notified

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Caribou	4”	10”	50%	21%	15%	2%
Upper Vinegar	6”	Rested	40%	Rested	20%	Rested
Lower Vinegar[4]	6”	Rested	40%	Rested	15%	Rested
Deerhorn	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
Butte	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Caribou	45%	25%
Upper Vinegar	45%	Rested
Lower Vinegar	45%	Rested
Deerhorn	45%	Rested
Butte	45%	Rested
Shop	45%	Rested
Tailings	45%	Rested
Austin	45%	Rested

Spawning Surveys

MCR Steelhead Spawning Surveys:

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Bull Trout Spawning Surveys:

Spawning surveys were conducted in the Butte pasture, however grazing did not occur within the pasture. Survey(s) included all reaches designated by USFWS as spawning critical habitat as MSRA has not been designated for bull trout.

Pasture	Grazed	Date	# Redds Observed	Stream	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA	Mitigation
Butte	No	9-17	0	Butte Creek	BMRD	Lower Reach County Road 20 to FSR 2050-035 crossing		None Necessary
Butte	No	9-17	0	Butte Creek	BMRD	Upper Reach FSR 2050-035 to and beyond end of bull trout distribution		None Necessary
Butte	No	10-2	0	Butte Creek	BMRD	Lower Reach (Majority of reach surveyed)		None Necessary

[4] Forest DMA

Recommendations from 2011

Implement a rest-rotation grazing system as outlined in 2011 Biological Assessment. – Will implement when Tin Cup Riparian pasture fence is completed.

Continue working with Wallowa-Whitman range staff to resolve excess use problems on the Upper Vinegar pasture. – COMPLETED

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The management recommendations from 2011 regarding implementing a rest rotation were not implemented due to the Tincup Riparian fence not being completed.

The management recommendations from 2011 regarding our continued work with the Wallowa-Whitman range staff to resolve excess use problems on the Upper Vinegar pasture is discussed below.

The Caribou pasture was the only pasture grazed of the Upper Middle Fork allotment grazed in 2012. This pasture was grazed with 25% of the permitted numbers for approximately 90days.

The Caribou pasture contains 17% of the steelhead critical habitat and 6% of the MSRA of the entire Upper Middle Fork allotment. The remaining critical habitat and MSRA was rested.

On September 6th the Malheur Forests' Fisheries Biologist, Hydrologist, and Hydrology Technician went to Vinegar Creek to monitor the excess use that occurred by cattle from the Wallowa/Whitman National Forest. They visited the PiBo integrator site as well as the Forest DMA. At the PIBO integrator site, it was the consensus of the group that the Bank Alteration was less than 15 %, Stubble height was greater than 6" and woody browse was less than 30%. They then traveled up to the Forest DMA were it was clear there had been concentrated use along the stream corridor. Although there were still cows in the pasture they went ahead and monitored, utilizing the implementation portion of the MIM protocol, collecting measurements on; Bank Alteration, Stubble Height and Woody Browse. Results of the monitoring are as follows: Bank Alteration 21%, Stubble Height 7", and Woody Browse 35%.

The permittee rested all pastures containing bull trout critical habitat.

The Tincup spring was constructed in 2012 and the fence to create the Tincup pasture is expected to occur in 2013.

Livestock from the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest were observed several times on the Upper Middle Fork allotment in greater numbers than the past years in the Upper Vinegar and Lower Vinegar pasture. After several conversations with the Range Specialist and permittee from the Wallowa-Whitman, the livestock were removed from the Malheur National Forest. In the spring of 2012 the permittee from the Wallowa-Whitman whose livestock were on the Malheur received a notice of non-compliance for use of the Upper Middle Fork allotment. This letter included the additional actions that the Wallowa-Whitman plans to take if the problem of excess use and trespass continues to occur.

Monitoring in the Caribou pasture was done on critical habitat on Little Boulder Creek. Little Boulder Creek generally splits the Caribou pasture into two parts, east and west. The monitoring site was located within a ½ mile reach of stream that livestock use to move between the east and west portions of the Caribou pasture. In 2012 this reach was considered to contain the heaviest use within Little Boulder Creek.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Increase livestock numbers on this allotment to the permitted numbers, identify other reaches of streams in the allotment to monitor and work with the Wallowa-Whitman range staff to ensure the boundary fence is completed prior to June 2013. Inspections would occur with the Wallowa-Whitman range staff prior to June 1. If not completed, Wallowa-Whitman delays their turn-out. Additionally, the District would work with the permittee to maintain Upper Vinegar/Lower Vinegar fence line and the Austin pasture fence lines.

The following is a letter from the Wallowa Whitman National Forest in regards to livestock from that forest entering the Malheur National Forest:

File Code: 2230
Date: April 17, 2012

Mr. John Belveal and Ms. Waynette Morin
32864 Whitney Rd.
Hereford, OR 97884

Dear Mr. Belveal and Ms. Morin:

On February 28, 2012, you met with Joshua White and Ray Lovisone to discuss the annual operation of the Snow Creek Allotment. Enclosed is a copy of your 2012 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI).

It is imperative that you adhere to the instructions contained in your AOI. This includes: following the authorized use, meeting utilization standards, completing required maintenance, and following the special grazing instructions.

One issue that requires your attention is excess use of livestock occurring outside the boundaries of the Snow Creek Allotment. In accordance with the Range Management Handbook (FSH 2209.13.16.2 section 13) excess use occurs when livestock owned by the holder of a National Forest System grazing permit are grazing on National Forest System lands in greater numbers, at times, or in places other than permitted in the grazing permit or authorized on the annual Bill For Collection, including any modifications made by the authorized officer.

Inspections have documented occurrences of livestock use, with your brand, grazing on the Malheur National Forest. The Malheur National Forest lies outside of the area authorized for you to use for grazing. These inspections indicate that this excess use has occurred for at least the last three years, and I am issuing this letter as a notice of non-compliance against your grazing permit (see grazing permit part 2, section 8(e)). This issue must be remedied and we have decided that a new fence section must be built along the western boundary of the Snow Creek Allotment. The Forest Service will provide the needed materials for this fence but require that you provide the labor for construction. The Forest Service must complete an environmental analysis prior to the start of work on this improvement, so the fence will be scheduled for completion prior to livestock turn out of the first grazing season after completion of the analysis. Failure to complete the required actions to solve this issue will lead to a suspension of 25% of your livestock numbers for two years, plus you will be billed for the excess use at the unauthorized use rate. In the meantime, we must do everything feasible to stop livestock movement into the unauthorized areas.

Please contact Joshua White 541-523-1940 or Randy Estes 541-523-1942 at least five days prior to placing livestock on the allotment, to ensure that the grazing fees have been paid, the rangeland is ready to be grazed, and required maintenance is complete. Further, we ask that you complete the range improvement inventory and actual use report as discussed at your meeting. Please return the completed forms by December 1, 2012 to:

Whitman Ranger District
ATTN: Joshua White
PO Box 907
Baker City, OR 97814

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Joshua or Randy at the numbers listed above.

Sincerely,

JEFF TOMAC
District Ranger

cc: Kerry A. Sherman

Enclosure

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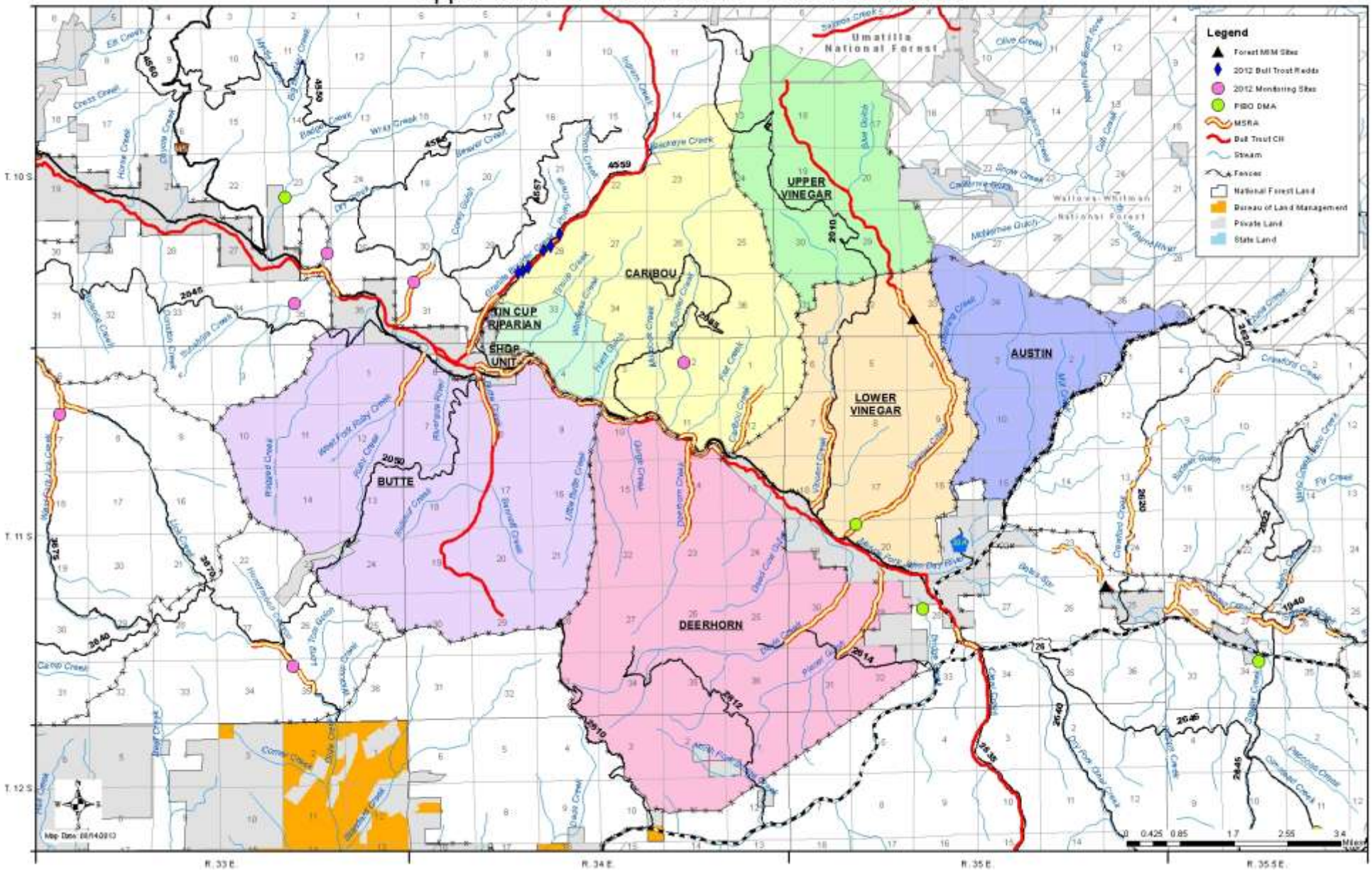
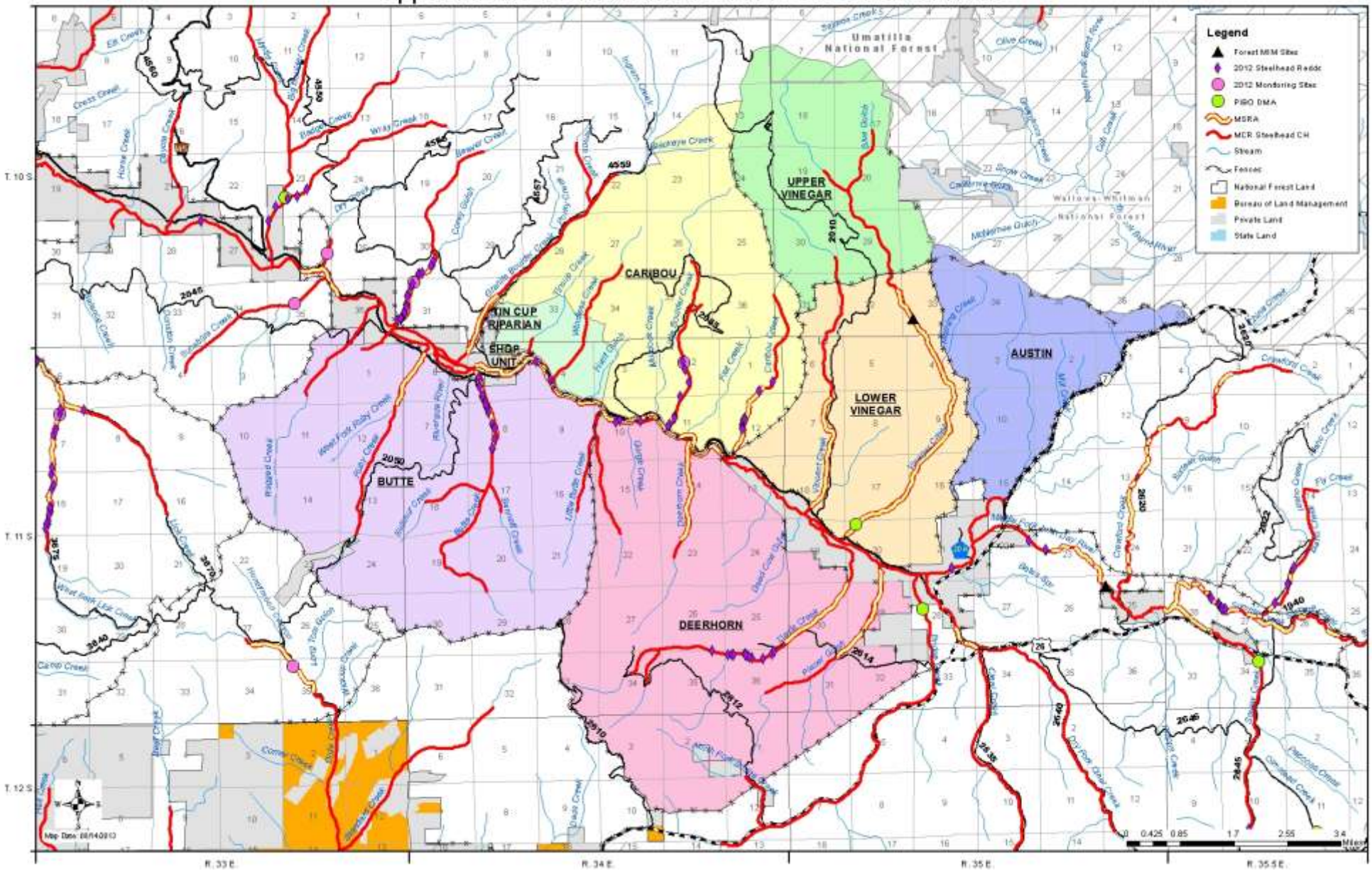
Upper Middle Fork Allotment - Bull Trout Habitat



Upper Middle Fork Allotment - MCR Steelhead Habitat



3. Lower Middle Fork Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS and USFWS is LAA.

Description

The Lower Middle Fork allotment is located mostly within T. 10 S and 9 S, R. 33 and 34 E. The allotment includes approximately 58,644 acres of NFS lands. The Lower Middle Fork allotment has eight pastures: Balance; Chicken House; Granite Boulder; Granite Boulder Exclosure; Mosquito Riparian; Pizer; Sunshine and Susanville.

The Lower Middle Fork Allotment consists of six main pastures. Cattle will continue to be managed in three herds.

- Permit 01807 grazes the Susanville pasture
- Permit 01825 grazes the Chickenhouse and Pizer pastures
- Permit 01728A grazes the Sunshine, Balance, and Granite Boulder pastures

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01807	209	1387	06/01-10/31
01825	190	1262	06/01-10/15
01728A	150	997	06/01-10/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Pizer	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Susanville	06/01-10/31	209	06/01-10/31	209
Granite Boulder	07/24-10/10	125	07/27-10/10	125
Balance	06/01-10/31	90	07/24-09/01	90
Sunshine		90	08/27-10/25	90
Chickenhouse	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Granite Boulder Exclosure	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Pizer	6/7	In-Season	No livestock use -RESTED
Pizer	7/25	In-Season	No livestock use -RESTED
Pizer	8/14	In-Season	No livestock use -RESTED
Pizer	8/30	In-Season	No livestock use -RESTED
Susanville	6/7	In-Season	Livestock well distributed
Susanville	6/12	In-Season	Very low use
Susanville	6/19	Mid-Season	<10% BA, very light Woody Browse
Susanville	7/10	In-Season	Moderate use, within standards
Susanville	7/25	In-Season	Very low use on CH streams being grazed
Susanville	7/31	Mid-Season	No cattle on streams not yet scheduled to be grazed, or on prior used streams
Susanville	8/14	In-Season	Light utilization throughout
Susanville	8/30	In-Season	Use evident at crossing and low BA

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Susanville	9/19	Mid-Season	BA ~ 5% on Mosquito Creek
Granite Boulder	6/7	In-Season	No livestock or sign
Granite Boulder	6/10	In-Season	No livestock use or sign
Granite Boulder	7/25	In-Season	Very light livestock use
Granite Boulder	7/31	Mid-Season	Very low BA, Very light Woody Browse
Granite Boulder	8/14	In-Season	Very low BA, Very light Woody Browse
Granite Boulder	8/30	Mid-Season	Beaver Creek - BA <10%, Browse – Light. No cattle near Granite Boulder Creek
Granite Boulder	9/12	In-Season	No livestock near Granite Boulder Creek
Granite Boulder	9/19	Mid-Season	No livestock near Granite Boulder Creek
Sunshine	6/19	In-Season	No livestock use -RESTED
Sunshine	7/25	In-Season	No livestock use -RESTED
Sunshine	7/31	In-Season	No livestock use -RESTED
Sunshine	8/14	In-Season	No livestock use -RESTED
Sunshine	8/30	In-Season	No livestock use -RESTED
Sunshine	9/19	In-Season	No livestock use -RESTED
Sunshine	10/10	In Season	Use is within standards

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Pizer	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
Susanville	4”	19”	50%	32%	15%	0%
Granite Boulder	4”	5”	50%	45%	15%	9%
Sunshine	4”	13”	40%	62%[5]	15%	1%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Pizer	45%	Rested
Susanville	45%	28%
Granite Boulder	45%	20%
Sunshine	45%	15%
Balance	45%	30%
Chickenhouse	45%	Rested

[5] See Summary for details

Spawning Surveys

(For more information please see Appendix B – Letter to Dr. Kratz – NMFS)

MCR Steelhead Spawning Survey:

Pasture	Grazed	Date	# Redds Observed	Stream	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA	Mitigation
Pizer	No	05-22	0	Pizer Creek	BMRD	Confluence w/ Big Creek	No	None. Not likely spawning or rearing habitat, no re-survey done.
Pizer	No	05/09	2	Big Creek	ODFW	FSR 4560 crossing upstream	Yes	Turn livestock out into upper elevation reaches
Pizer	No	05/23	1	Big Creek	ODFW		Yes	Turn livestock out into upper elevation reaches
Pizer	No	05/21	1	Big Creek	BMRD	Remaining mile of MSRA	Yes	Turn livestock out into upper elevation reaches. Recommend adjusting MSRA
Pizer	No	05/21	0	Swamp Gulch	BMRD	All areas of MSRA	Yes	None. Recommend removing MSRA
Pizer	No	5-22	0	Deadwood Creek	BMRD	Confluence w/ Big Creek	Yes	None. high flows limited visibility; recommend adjusting MSRA upstream of end point.
Susanville	No	05/01	10	Beaver Creek	ODFW	Confluence w/Middle Fork John Day River to FSR 4550 crossing	Yes	Delay turnout to after June 30
Susanville	No	05/22	0	Big Boulder Creek	BMRD	FS boundary upstream 2 miles (roughly half of reach,	No	None – high lows and limited visibility.

Pasture	Grazed	Date	# Redds Observed	Stream	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA	Mitigation
						reach is 3.98 miles)		

Measures to minimize future risk of redd trampling that the BMRD intends to implement:

- Ground-truth reaches identified as MSRA to adequately minimize potential for redd trampling.
- Revisions to MSRA maps from 2012 spawning surveys and range monitoring will be completed, documented and delivered along with the annual end of year report. Ground-truthing and revision will continue throughout the remainder of the consultation period.
- Include reaches with stock driveways or water gaps in the list of stream reaches considered for spawning surveys.
- Conduct spawning surveys prior to peak flows on Deadwood Creek, Big Boulder Creek, and Beaver Creek in the Lower Middle Fork Allotment.
- Initiate IDT redd trampling mitigation effectiveness monitoring within the first week of turnout, as needed until the end of the spawning/incubation period, and conduct final effectiveness assessment as near the end of the spawning/incubation period as possible.
- Adapt extent, location, and operational timing of electric fencing.
- Use two-strand electric fencing to protect redds where IDT members are concerned with the potential for livestock/redd interaction.
- Flag and GPS-mark location of redds to enhance ability to relocate them.
- Implement measures to link hoof action observed with likelihood of trampling.

The permittee has not turned cattle out in the Pizer pasture, which contains Pizer Cr, Big Cr, Swamp Gulch, and Deadwood Cr. BMRD does not expect cattle to be in this pasture in 2012.

Big Creek

July 3rd site visit – No evidence of livestock activity was observed in the vicinity of the lowest redd located by ODFW. The remaining 3 redds located further upstream were assumed to have similar potential for livestock activity and therefore not visited. Permittee has not turned cattle into the Pizer pasture as of 7/24/2012.

Swamp Gulch

Surveys documented that the reach likely does not fit MSRA and recommended no resurvey. MSRA as described in BA mistakenly included private land, thus less than 0.4 miles actually surveyed. Permittee has not turned cattle into the Pizer pasture as of 7/24/2012.

Deadwood Creek

Permittee has not turned cattle into the Pizer pasture as of 7/24/2012.

Bull Trout Spawning Survey:

Spawning surveys were conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season. Survey(s) included all reaches designated by USFWS as spawning critical habitat as MSRA has not been designated for bull trout.

Granite Boulder Creek:
Lower reach exhibits braided channel making surveys difficult. 10/1 survey only observed 2 of the 4 redds identified on 9/18. GPS data confirmed redds observed between the two visits overlapped and that 2 additional redds were located on 10/1 for a total of 6 redds.

Pasture	Grazed	Date	# Redds Observed	Stream	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA	Mitigation
Granite Boulder	Yes	09/18	4	Granite Boulder Creek	BMRD	Lower reach		Livestock sign observed, notified range personnel, permittee checked the area periodically to ensure cattle were not hanging in the area.
Granite Boulder	Yes	09/18	0	Granite Boulder Creek	BMRD	Upper reach		Livestock sign observed, notified range personnel, permittee checked the area periodically to ensure cattle were not hanging in the area.
Granite Boulder	Yes	10/01	2	Granite Boulder Creek	BMRD % USFWS	Lower reach		Livestock sign observed, notified range personnel, permittee continued to check and ensured that no cattle remained in the pasture

Recommendations from 2011

Authorize grazing for all 3 permits. A gradual re-introduction of grazing is recommended for the S/S and Colvin Ranch Permits over the next 3 years, due to the lack of knowledge in grazing the Pizer/Chickenhouse and Balance, Sunshine, and Granite Boulder pastures by both the FS and permittees. COMPLETED – however only 2 permits grazed in 2012

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

Livestock grazing on the Lower Middle Fork allotment was authorized for all three permits in 2012. As per the management recommendations from 2011, a gradual re-introduction of grazing was implemented. Although grazing was authorized for all permits one permittee elected to not turn-out. This resulted in the Pizer and Chickenhouse pastures being rested and only 50% of the total permitted numbers grazing.

The Granite Boulder pasture of the Lower Middle Fork allotment was used by livestock from the Upper Middle Fork allotment. This use was approved prior to the grazing season for several reasons: First, it enabled the permittee (who has a permit for both allotments) to better control when livestock were in proximately to bull trout critical habitat. Second, it avoided trailing livestock across the Middle Fork of the John Day River to access this pasture, which is how the pasture has been used in the past and is much more difficult. Finally, it was in line with the 2011 management recommendations that suggested implementing a gradual re-introduction of livestock, by authorizing less than the permitted cattle numbers into the Granite Boulder pasture during 2012. To accomplish this, the livestock from the opposite side of the John Day River on the Lower Middle Fork allotment, that were initially intended to use the Granite boulder pasture, were authorized to use the Butte Creek pasture of the Upper Middle Fork allotment instead. However, the Butte Creek pasture ended up not needing to be used.

The contract for the Mosquito Creek and Tincup fences was sign in October of 2012 with a scheduled competition date of October 2013.

The Pizer pasture which was rested from permitted livestock use in 2012 received unauthorized use from the adjacent private lands. Evidence of livestock use was noted in Deadwood Creek which contains critical habitat for both steelhead and bull trout. Monitoring was not conducted as impacts did not appear to be approaching the endpoint standards. Site inspections will be conducted during steelhead spawning surveys in 2013. No cattle were seen and this should not occur in 2013 since the pasture will be grazed by permitted cattle. The Pizer pasture contains 70% of the bull trout critical habitat, 34% of the steelhead critical habitat, and 80% of the MSRA.

End of season monitoring was conducted on Sunshine Creek in the Sunshine pasture, at the PIBO and Forest DMA. The IDT agreed to several important features of the stream:

- The stream is heavily armored with angular substrate.
- The stream flow is ephemeral, the lack of perennial water and fine sediments greatly limits the presence of hydrophytic species.
- Bank alterations are not controlling the stability of this stream.
- The monitoring location monitored in 2012 represents the majority of the stream in this pasture.

*The sample size of woody species on Sunshine Creek was n=5. With this few of samples our 95% confidence interval for woody species use is 30.85 to 93.85. Given that the other indicators met standards it is assumed that the woody species browse percentage is a result of the limited sample size. The IDT did not determine that there needed to be an increase in woody species along the reach or that this reach should be dominated by woody species. The IDT only determined that the sample size number of woody species was low and thus the confidence interval would be skewed for woody species browse.

End of season monitoring was conducted in critical habitat on Dry Creek in the Susanville pasture. This location is approximately ¼ mile below the site measured in previous years. The change of location is to better represent the impacts to critical habitat and steelhead. This stream has been an area of concern in the past, and again in 2012, due to its gradual sloping topography and easy accessibility. This stream was grazed in June for approximately 3 weeks by 209 pairs. The livestock were then removed from the stream and did not return throughout the season.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Maintain the current grazing strategy in the Susanville pasture, authorize grazing on the Pizer and Chickenhouse pastures, and increase the number of authorized livestock grazing the Balance and Sunshine pastures to the permitted levels.

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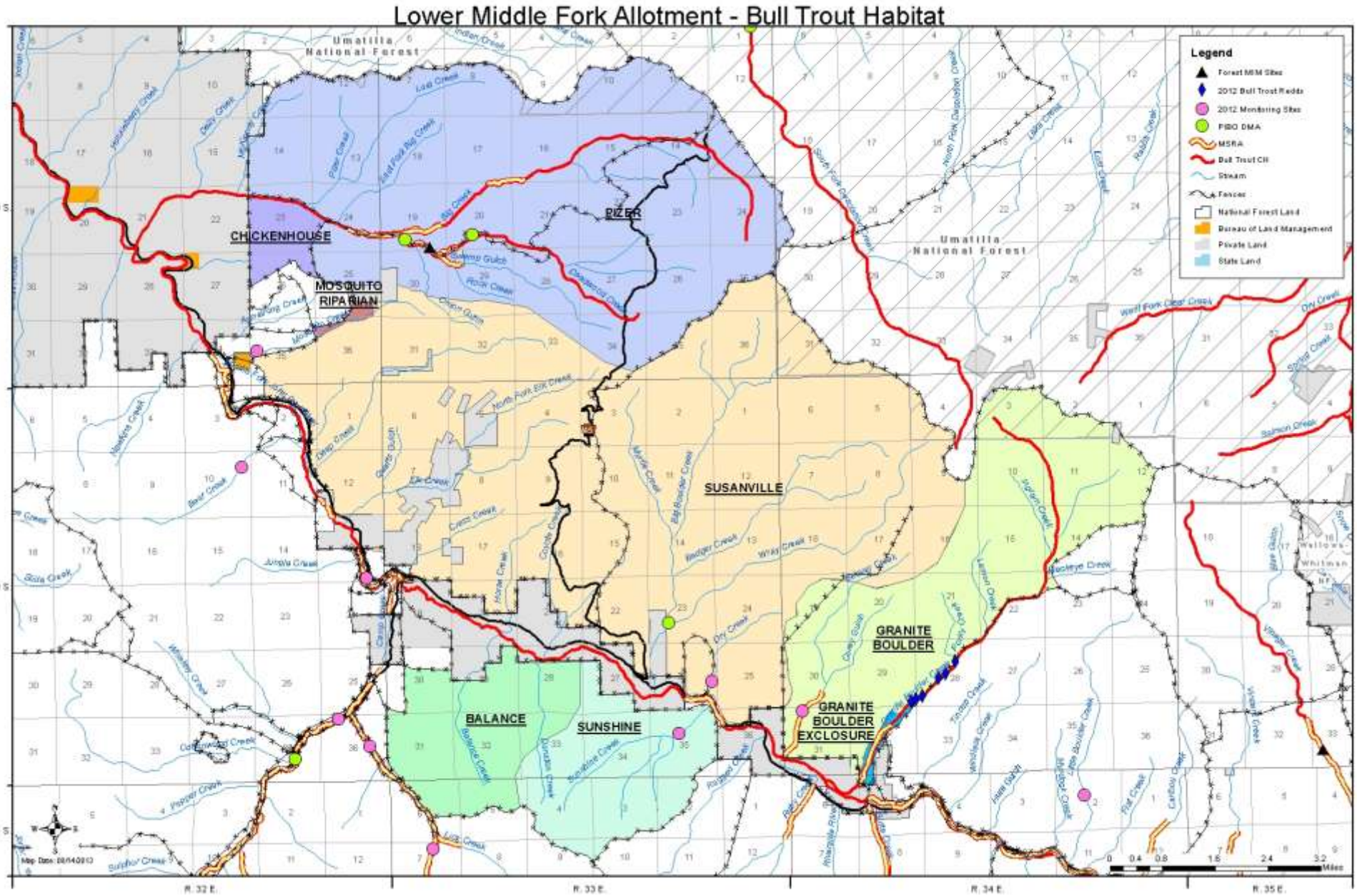
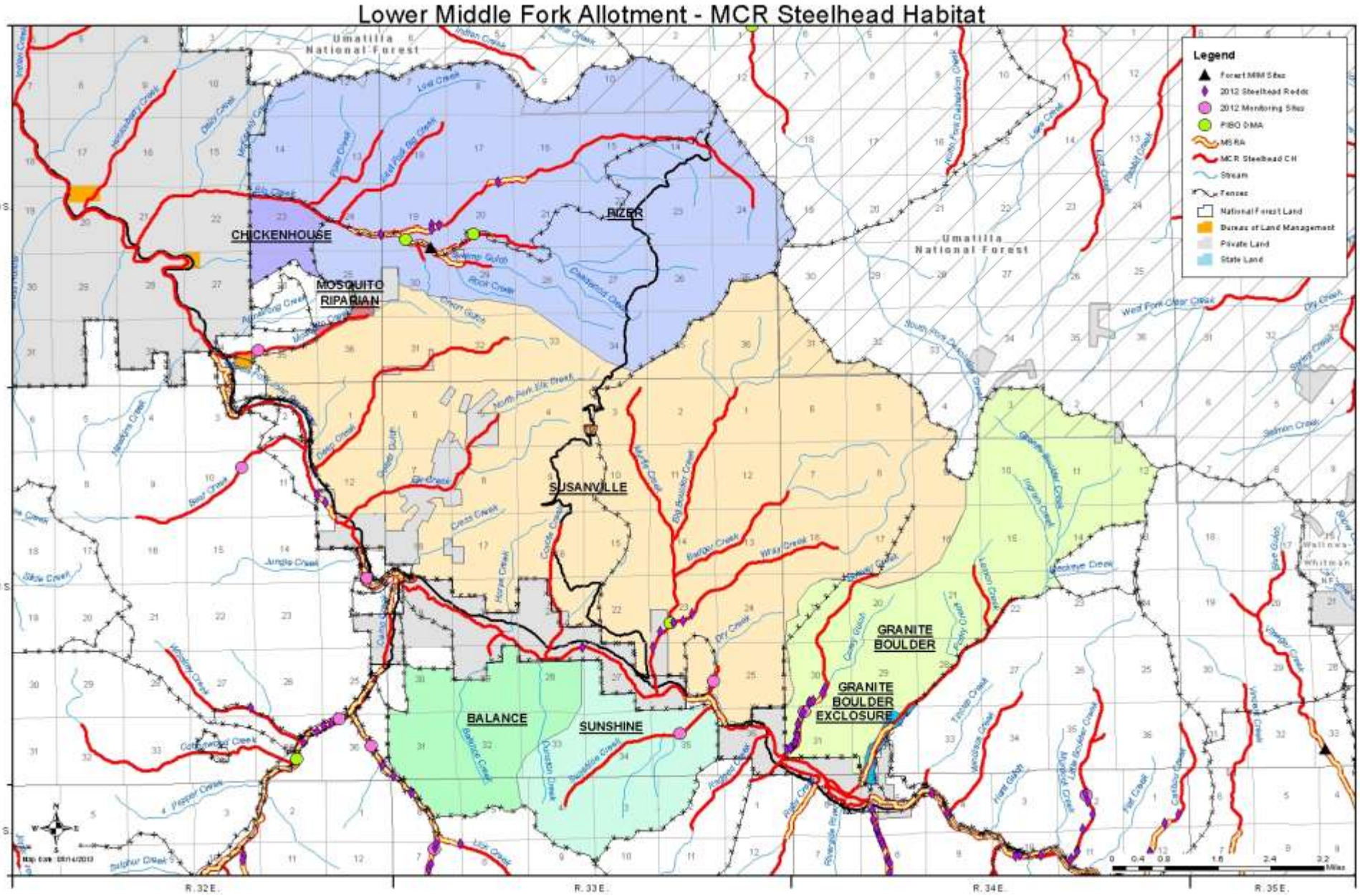

Lower Middle Fork Allotment - Bull Trout Habitat
Legend
Forest MIM Sites
2012 Bull Trout Redds
2012 Monitoring Sites
PIBO DMA
MSRA
Bull Trout CH
Stream
Fences
National Forest Land
Bureau of Land Management
Private Land
State Land
Umatilla National Forest
CHICKENHOUSE
MOSQUITO RIPARIAN
RIZER
SUSANVILLE
GRANITE BOULDER
GRANITE BOULDER EXCLOSURE
BALANCE
SUNSHINE
T. 9 S.
T. 10 S.
T. 11 S.
R. 32 E.
R. 33 E.
R. 34 E.
R. 35 E.


Lower Middle Fork Allotment - MCR Steelhead Habitat
Legend
Forest MIM Sites
2012 Steelhead Redds
2012 Monitoring Sites
PIBO DMA
MS RA
MCR Steelhead CH
Stream
Fences
National Forest Land
Bureau of Land Management
Private Land
State Land
Umatilla National Forest
CHICKENHOUSE
MOSQUITO RIPARIAN
RIZER
SUSANVILLE
BALANCE
SUNSHINE
GRANITE BOULDER
GRANITE BOULDER EXCLOSURE
T. 9 S.
T. 10 S.
T. 11 S.
R. 32 E.
R. 33 E.
R. 34 E.
R. 35 E.

4. Long Creek Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description

The Long Creek allotment is located north of the town of John Day on National Forest System Lands, mostly within T. 11, and 12 S, R. 31, 32, and 33 E. The allotment encompasses approximately 49,000 acres and is divided into 10 pastures: Flat Camp, Flat Camp Cow Camp, Ladd, Lick Creek, Lick Creek Riparian, Hiyu, Flood Meadows, Keeney Meadow, Coxie Creek, and Camp Creek Riparian.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01718A	219	1302	06/01-10/15
01790	361	2146	06/01-10/15
01857	306	1819	06/01-10/15
01831	81	482	06/01-10/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Flat Camp	07/01-10/25	661	09/09-10/01	661
Lick Creek	06/11-10/25	661	06/11-07/01	661
Hiyu	07/01-10/25	661	07/01-09/09	661
Camp Creek Riparian	Gather	Gather	Gather	Gather
Lick Creek Riparian	Gather	Gather	Gather	Gather
Flood Meadows	Gather	Gather	Gather	Gather
Keeney Meadow	07/01-10/25	661	07/01-09/09	661

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Flat Camp	9/19	Mid-Season	BA<10%, Woody Browse -Light
Lick Creek	5/30	In-Season	Electric fence built (West Fork Lick)
Lick Creek	6/5	In-Season	Cattle entering allotment
Lick Creek	6/6	In-Season	Cattle entering allotment
Lick Creek	6/7	In-Season	Cattle located in Lick Creek, outside electric fence
Lick Creek	6/13	In-Season	Electric fences built (Camp Creek) Additional riders added to allotment
Lick Creek	6/19	Mid-Season	Electric fences checked no cattle on Redds or CH streams
Lick Creek	6/25	In Season	Fences tested , no livestock on redds/Ch
Lick Creek	7/1	In Season	Livestock near CH streams moved to Hiyu
Lick Creek	7/2	In-Season	Inspected Redds for cattle access.
Lick Creek	7/10	In-Season	Livestock out of Lick Creek pasture
Lick Creek	7/31	In-Season	No livestock in pasture
Lick Creek	9/8	In-Season	No livestock in pasture, BA near 10%
Lick Creek	9/19	In-Season	No livestock in pasture

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Hiyu	7/31	In-Season	No livestock use on Ch streams
Hiyu	8/16	In-Season	Light – moderate use with <5%BA.
Hiyu	9/19	In-Season	No livestock in pasture
Camp Creek Riparian	9/19	In-Season	No livestock in pasture
Camp Creek Riparian	10/23	In-Season	End of season monitoring
Flood Meadows	5/24	In-Season	Range Readiness
Flood Meadows	7/31	In-Season	No livestock in pasture
Flood Meadows	9/19	In-Season	No livestock in pasture
Ladd Pasture	9/19	In-Season	No livestock in pasture

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Flat Camp	6”	7”	40%	40%	15%	8%
Lick Creek	4”	5”	50%	44%	15%	14%
Hiyu	4”	7”	50%	53%	15%	13%
Camp Creek Riparian	4”	15”	50%	38%	15%	0%
Lick Creek Riparian	4”	11”	50%	30%	15%	2%
Flood Meadows	6”	14”	40%	NP	15%	6%
Ladd Pasture	4”	9”	50%	41%	15%	9%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Flat Camp	45%	15%
Lick Creek	45%	20%
Hiyu	45%	20%
Camp Creek Riparian	45%	15%
Lick Creek Riparian	45%	10%
Flood Meadows	45%	15%
Keeney Meadow	45%	40%
Coxie	45%	15%

Spawning Surveys

(For more information please see Appendix B – Letter to Dr. Kratz – NMFS)

Pasture	Grazed	Date	# Redds Observed	Stream	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA	Mitigation
Lick Creek Riparian	No	05-01	7	Lick Creek	ODFW	Confluence w/Camp Creek upstream to W.F. Lick Creek	Yes	Lick Creek Riparian will not be used until June 30
Lick Creek	Yes	05-17	1	Lick Creek	BMRD	Confluence w/W.F. Lick Creek upstream 0.5 miles	Yes	None-robust vegetation making livestock access unlikely
Lick Creek	Yes	05-07	8	West Fork Lick Creek	ODFW	FSR3674-514 crossing upstream 1.5 miles	Yes	Riding and use of off-site water
Lick Creek	Yes	05/07-05/30	4	West Fork Lick Creek			Yes	Riding and use of off-site water
Lick Creek	Yes	05-18	5	West Fork Lick Creek	BMRD	Confluence w/ Lick Creek upstream to FSR3675-514	Yes	Use electric fence from 514 downstream 0.75 miles
Lick Creek	Yes	05-17	2	Cougar Creek	BMRD	Confluence w/ Camp Creek	Yes	Riding and use of off-site water
Lick Creek	Yes	up to May 7	7	Camp Creek	ODFW	All w/in pasture	Yes/No 3 Redds within MSRA	Riding and use of off-site waters. Recommend adjusting MSRA. Electric fence installed 6/13

Measures to minimize future risk of redd trampling that the BMRD intends to implement:

Lick Creek Pasture – Long Creek Allotment

- The Lick Creek pasture will not be grazed prior to June 30 for 2 years
- Permittee requirement to maintain all off-site water sources within the Lick Creek Pasture before next scheduled pre-June 30 turnout into the pasture. It should be emphasized that all three streams where redd trampling may have occurred are within the Lick Creek Pasture of the Long Creek Allotment, and this measure is expected to reduce the need for livestock to water within riparian areas of the pasture.
- Electric fence will be used on all MSRAs with identified redds

- Electric fence will be 2-strand (only 1 was used in 2012) and will be installed prior to turn-out.
- Initiate IDT redd trampling mitigation effectiveness monitoring within the first week of turnout, as needed until the end of the spawning/incubation period, and conduct final effectiveness assessment as near the end of the spawning/incubation period as possible

Lick Creek

June 6th allotment inspection – Cattle reach Lick Creek pasture

June 11th allotment inspection – BMRD Rangeland Management Specialist Nick Stiner found cattle had dropped into the Lick Creek drainage; he met the rider in the vicinity of Lick Creek and instructed him to move cattle back into the uplands.

June 13th allotment inspection – Following the inspection Stiner contacts the permittee by phone to ensure that the livestock do not impact the redds identified in the Long Creek allotment.

July 1st allotment inspection – Stiner contacts riders, they inform him that they have begun gather and will start moving out of the Lick pasture. Any livestock that fall into the bottom mile of the streams are being moved to the next pasture.

July 2nd site visit – The single redd located upstream of the Lick/West Fork Lick Creek confluence was observed by Stiner and Allen Taylor (BMRD Fisheries Biologist) to have no evidence of recent livestock activity, validating that mitigation was effective for this redd.

July 3rd site visit [by Jeff Shinn (BMRD Acting District Ranger), Allen Taylor, and Steve Namitz (MNF Fisheries Program Manager)] – A water gap on Lick Creek for the Lick Creek pasture showed evidence of recent livestock activity. This water gap was not addressed in the Long Creek Allotment Biological Assessment, and occurs in an area previously described to be completely contained by the Lick Creek Riparian Pasture. The water gap is approximately 300' in length. No redds are in the vicinity of the water gap, and so there was no possibility of redd trampling within the water gap.

West Fork Lick Creek

May 30th allotment inspection – Electric fence installed on West Fork Lick Creek

June 4th allotment inspection –Stiner meets with permittee and rider while they are unloading cattle; Stiner discusses the presence of redds in the Lick Creek pasture with rider, the rider states that he is confident they can keep cattle out of West Fork Lick Creek and Cougar Creek until after July 1. Stiner reminds him that he still needs to check and ensure the electric fence is working properly.

June 6th allotment inspection – Cattle reach Lick Creek pasture

June 11th allotment inspection –Stiner found cattle had dropped into the Lick Creek drainage and have been pushing hard on the electric fence on West Fork Lick Creek; he met the rider in the vicinity of Lick Creek and instructed him to move cattle back into the uplands.

June 13th allotment inspection – Following the inspection Stiner contacts the permittee by phone to ensure that the livestock do not impact the redds identified in the Long Creek allotment. The permittee informs Stiner that an additional rider will camp at the fork of West Fork Lick Creek and Lick Creek. This rider will patrol the MSRA hourly beginning 6/18, and another rider will be on Cougar creek several times/day.

June 14th site visit – Namitz observed evidence of livestock activity within the electric fence in the vicinity of redds.

June 18th site visit - Taylor confirmed evidence of livestock activity within the electric fence in the vicinity of surveyed redds.

June 19th allotment inspection - Stiner meets with rider on West Fork Lick Creek, rider informs him that a tree fell on the electric fence and 4 cows got into the fenced area, he removed them promptly and has repaired the fence. Stiner inspected the creek and could not locate where cattle had accessed stream.

June 25th allotment inspection – Stiner inspects electric fence and confirms that it is working properly; he meets with rider on West Fork Lick Creek, rider informs Stiner that after the first couple of days they have only seen a couple cows coming down to the road, maybe once a day. None have breached the fence.

July 1st allotment inspection – Stiner contacts riders, they inform him that they have begun gather and will start moving out of the Lick pasture. Any livestock that are found in the bottom mile of the streams are being moved to the next pasture.

On July 3rd site visit (Shinn, Taylor, Namitz) – Observed livestock activity within the electric fence in the vicinity of all 5 redds located by BMRD staff, including trailing along and across the stream. Multiple fry were observed in vicinity of redds. Based on the quantity, location, and pattern of hoof prints adjacent to redds, site visit team determined there was the potential for trampling of at least one redd to have occurred and that, therefore, additional mitigation measures should be implemented in the future, as measures employed for 2012 appeared to not be adequately effective. Shinn, Taylor and Namitz also observed the four redds furthest downstream located by ODFW; the lowest 3 had no evidence of livestock use, and the next redd upstream showed low use but evidence of livestock crossing the stream in the vicinity of the redd. Redds located further upstream were assumed to have had similar potential for trampling and not visited July 3rd.

Cougar Creek

June 4th allotment inspection –Nick Stiner meets with permittee and rider while they are unloading cattle; Stiner discusses the presence of redds in the Lick Creek pasture with rider, the rider is confident they can keep cattle out of West Fork Lick Creek and Cougar Creek until after July 1.

June 6th allotment inspection – Cattle reach Lick Creek pasture

June 13th allotment inspection – Following the inspection Stiner contacts the permittee by phone to ensure that the livestock do not impact the redds identified in the Long Creek allotment. The permittee informs Stiner that an additional rider will camp at the fork of West Fork Lick Creek and Lick Creek. This rider will patrol the MSRA hourly beginning 6/18, and another rider will be on Cougar creek several times/day.

June 18th site visit – BMRD staff observed evidence of cattle activity, including hoof prints in the vicinity of redds.

June 19th allotment inspection - Stiner meets with rider on Cougar Creek, only a few cows had accessed the stream and she pushed them out on the road.

June 25th allotment inspection – Stiner meets with rider on Cougar Creek, rider states they have been successful at keeping cattle off the stream.

July 1st allotment inspection – Stiner contacts riders, they inform him that they have begun gather and will start moving out of the Lick pasture. Any livestock that fall into the bottom mile of the streams are being moved to the next pasture.

July 2nd site visit – Nick Stiner and Allen Taylor observed and collected evidence of livestock activity in the vicinity of redds, including trailing across and along the stream, as well as a potential hoof print within the stream substrate adjacent to the lowest redd.

July 3rd site visit (Shinn, Taylor, Namitz) – Evidence of livestock activity was observed to have occurred within the vicinity of the 2 redds observed by BMRD staff, including trailing across and along the stream. Hoof prints within the stream substrate adjacent to the lowest redd were observed. Fry were observed at both redds. Based on the quantity, location, and pattern of hoof prints adjacent to redds, site visit team concludes that there was the potential for trampling to have occurred, and that additional mitigation in the future is appropriate.

Camp Creek

June 6th allotment inspection – Cattle reach Lick Creek pasture.

June 13th allotment inspection – Stiner installs electric fences around redds located within the MSRA to provide additional protection.

June 19th allotment inspection – Electric fences functioning properly and intact.

June 25th allotment inspection – Electric fences functioning properly and intact

July 1st allotment inspection – Stiner contacts riders, they inform him that they have begun gather and will start moving out of the Lick pasture. Any livestock the fall in to the bottom mile of the streams is being moved to the next pasture.

July 2nd allotment inspection/site visit – Stiner removes electric fencing from MSRA on Camp Creek. No livestock sign was observed in the vicinity of the 3 redds located within the MSRA.

July 3rd site visit (Shinn, Taylor, Namitz) – Evidence of livestock activity was observed to have occurred within the vicinity of the 5 lowest redds, including trailing along and across the stream. Dozens of fry were observed. Redds further upstream were assumed to have had similar potential for trampling and were not visited July 3. Observers discussed that based on the quantity, location, and pattern of hoof prints adjacent to redds, there was the potential for trampling to have occurred, and that additional mitigation in the future is appropriate.

<u>Recommendations from 2011</u>

Increase the AUMs from the 2011 use level to permitted numbers and authorize grazing in pastures that have been rested. – COMPLETED

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The management recommendations from 2011 of an increase in the AUMs from the 2011 use levels, to the permitted levels, and to authorize grazing in pastures that have been rested, were implemented in 2012.

Grazing on the Long Creek allotment in 2012 consisted of 60% of the permitted AUM's authorized to graze. Lick Creek was the first pasture in the rotation. Livestock were turned out at several different upland locations over the course of several days. As a result the livestock were dispersed into smaller bunches across the pasture. It should be noted that the extent of MSRA on Cougar Creek is inaccurately reported in the Biological Assessment as 2.6 miles, and is actually 0.7 miles.

Two weeks after livestock entered the Lick Creek pasture two full time riders were hired in addition to the existing riders already working on the allotment. The additional riders were added by the permittees to enhance the management of the pasture and increase protection of steelhead redds within the pasture. One rider camped at the bottom of the West Fork of Lick Creek and the other camped at the bottom of Cougar Creek. These two riders patrolled the critical habitat of both these streams hourly and removed any livestock near the streams. These riders worked until approximately the end of July.

Electric fencing was constructed on the most accessible reach of the West Fork of Lick Creek and around identified steelhead redds on Camp Creek. The electric fences on the West Fork of Lick Creek were breeched two times, however no redds were positively identified as being trampled on any of the streams.

On July 1st the electric fences were removed and the riders began gathering cattle and moving them to the next scheduled pasture. Specifically, any livestock that were grazing in the lower one mile of any of the critical habitat streams were moved to the next pasture.

"On September 6th the Malheur Forests' Fisheries Biologist, Hydrologist, and Hydrology Technician went to Upper Camp (Long Creek allotment) and East Fork Camp (Dixie allotment). Although no measurements were taken it appeared that upper camp was either at and or potentially exceeding standards for bank alteration. There appeared to still be a few head on the creek. We also observed two pair in the exclosure just upstream from Eagle Creek." On October 22nd the district IDT visited Upper Camp for end of season monitoring and concurred that its level of use was the same as the other critical habitat streams in pasture (Lick Creek). The results of this monitoring can be found in the Riparian Monitoring table above. Additionally, for clarification, the 'exclosure' referred to above is part of the Camp Creek riparian pastures and has authorized grazing within it and is thus not an 'exclosure'.

On September 6th the Malheur Forests' Fisheries Biologist, Hydrologist, and Hydrology Technician went to the PIBO DMA in Flood Meadows pasture, "livestock use was low but there was approximately 60 head that looked to have just been turned in and were loafing along the stream. This area is defiantly an area to keep an eye on." On October 30th the district IDT conducted end of season monitoring at this location and the results of their monitoring can be found in the Riparian Monitoring table above.

All critical habitat including all MSRA in the Long Creek allotment was grazed.

Upland ponds across the allotment were maintained using an excavator at the end of the grazing season. Approximately 95% of the existing ponds were maintained with the remaining 5% either

currently functioning or difficult to access. The ponds maintained are primarily located on ridge tops or side slopes and are outside of riparian areas. With the exception of 5 gravel pit ponds, all of the ponds are fed by a spring source that is either adjacent to or a direct feed into the pond. The water storage capacity added by the maintenance of these existing ponds is expected to be extremely beneficial for both livestock management and to the numerous wildlife species which use these ponds regularly.

This year the fence and water development maintenance responsibilities for the allotment were distributed to each permittee based on the percentage of permitted use. Each permittee was given a map displaying their maintenance responsibilities and a copy of the map was placed in the permit and allotment files.

The proposed schedule was for 661c/c to graze the permitted season, rotating between pastures in the following order: Lick Creek, Hiyu/Keeney Meadows, and then Flat Camp. No specific dates were set for when to move between pastures only that movements would occur according to standards being met and that livestock would stay in the Lick Creek pasture until the first of July.

The IDT monitored all pastures containing critical steelhead habitat. Monitoring was conducted within the MSRA reaches. The MSRA on the Long Creek allotment are the heaviest used areas throughout the pastures.

The IDT and permittees met on the allotment on October 23rd to conduct end of season monitoring. The first site monitored was the 2nd lowest Camp Creek Riparian pasture near the PIBO integrator (518-06-I). This Camp Creek Riparian pasture is the heaviest and most commonly used of the riparian pastures for several reasons. It is close proximately to Flat Camp Cow Camp(where the rider lives), it borders all three large pastures of the allotment (Lick Creek, Hiyu, and Flat Camp), and if the livestock happen to break out of this pasture and head up stream or downstream they are still in the Long Creek allotment and in a Camp Riparian pasture. Given that this pasture and site represented a large portion of Camp Creek the IDT concluded it to be the best location for end of season monitoring. The team observed several features of this reach:

- The thick vegetation and large substrate greatly limited the potential for bank alterations.
- The hydric vegetation is vigorous.
- The channel is actively narrowing with sedge and hardwood encroachment into the stream channel.

The IDT monitored the MSRA on Lick Creek in the riparian pasture between the two PIBO integrator sites 518-09-I and 518-10-I. This is the same location that Forest Service personnel have been monitoring since 2008. The banks are susceptible to alteration however very little was observed. The team agreed that this site represented use throughout the Lick Riparian pasture and would be the site used for reporting purposes.

The IDT monitored the MSRA on the West Fork Lick Creek in the Lick Creek pasture. The team agreed that this stream is in very poor condition due to past activities and will not likely recover, regardless of grazing, without an input of large wood and sediment for the wood to trap. Un-grazed sedges at the site were measured with a stubble height of 4 inches however; the majority of the greenline was composed of forbs (buttercup) or grass (Poa spp.).

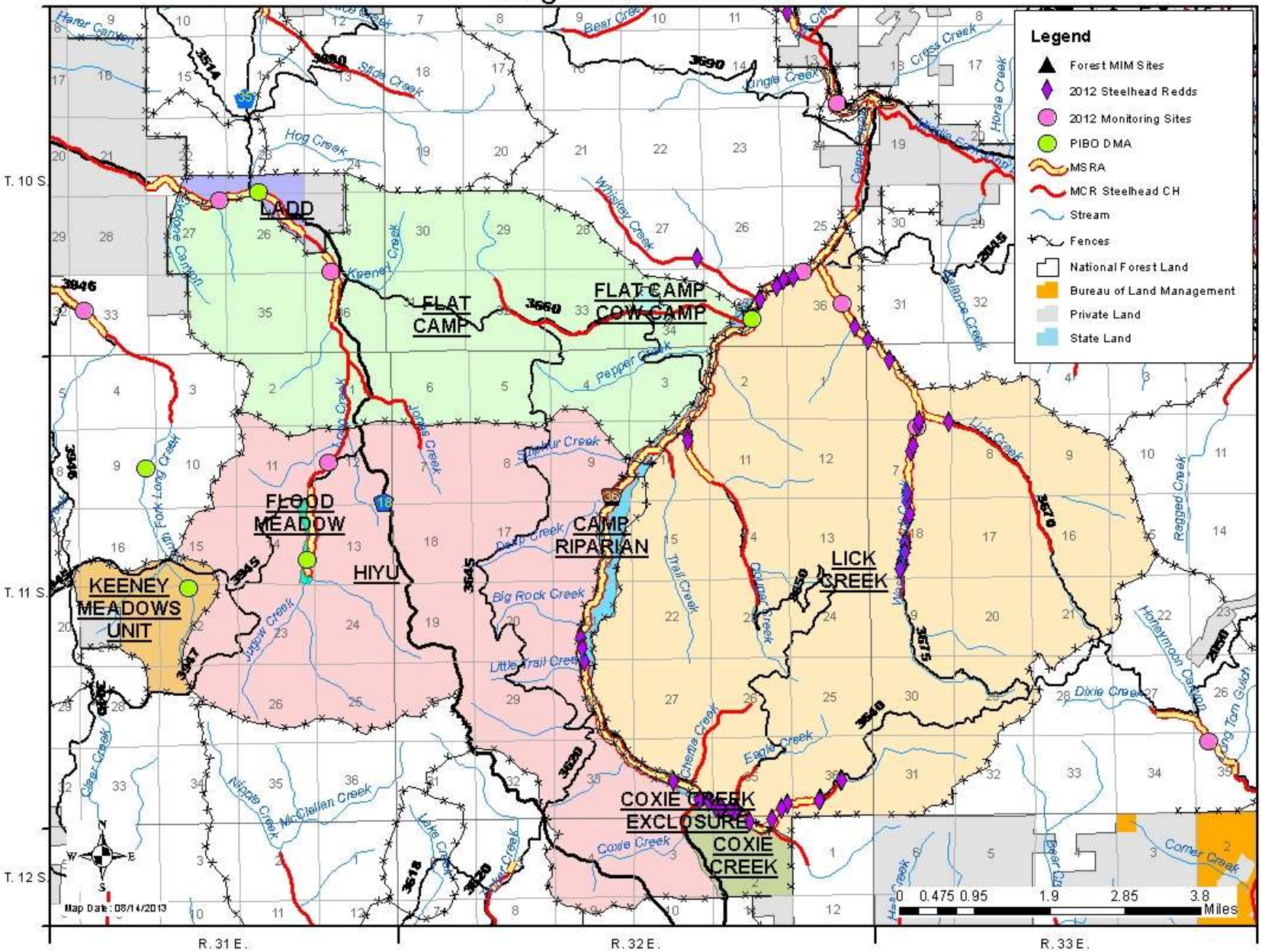
The team also went to Cougar Creek, North Fork Camp Creek/Camp Creek and Lick Creek within the Lick Creek pasture. They determined that results from the West Fork Lick Creek were representative of the Lick Creek pasture.

The IDT monitored the MSRA on Long Creek in the Flat Camp pasture near the old Keeney Work Station. This motoring location is different from previous years, which was located on Keeney Creek in the Flat Camp pasture. The change of locations was made to ensure that monitoring was being conducted where it would be representative of livestock use within critical habitat.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Increase the number of full time riders for the duration of the grazing season and increase the AUMs from the 2012 use levels toward the permitted AUMs.

Long Creek Allotment



5. Camp Creek Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA and USFWS is NLAA.

Description

The Camp Creek allotment is located northeast of the town of John Day on National Forest System Lands, mostly within T 10 S, R 32 and 33 E. The allotment encompasses approximately 600 acres and is divided into 7 pastures: Lower Camp Creek, Middle Camp Creek, North, Road, Gibbs, Campground, and Upper Camp.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01783	50	330	06/01-10/30

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Middle Camp	06/01-06/15	50	50	06/01 – 06/11
North	06/16-06/30	50	50	06/12 – 06/22
Middle Camp			50	06/23 – 06/26
Lower Camp	07/01-07/21	50	50	06/27-7/15
Gibbs	07/22-08/31	50	50	
Lower Camp/Gibbs				
Road	09/01-09/30	50	50	07/16 – 08/15
Middle Camp				
Upper Camp	10/01-10/30	50	50	08/06 – 09/25
Middle Camp			15	09/26 – 10/18

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Lower Camp	7/10	Mid-Season	13% bank alteration

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Lower Camp	4”	10”	50%	37%	15%	3%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Lower Camp	45%	14%
Middle Camp	45%	35%
North	45%	19%
Road	45%	37%
Upper Camp	45%	17%
Gibbs	45%	25%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011:

Conduct range readiness inspection to insure no carry-over impacts from 2011 – COMPLETED – The Lower Camp pasture was check for range readiness on May 18, 2012. The grass leaves are well over 6 inches in length and have mature seed heads, but the soil is still moist and subject to compaction. Cattle are not scheduled to graze this pasture until July 1. No carry-over impacts from the previous grazing season were seen on the Middle Fork John Day River.

Locate new few locations in the Upper Camp pasture – COMPLETED. The Blue Mountain IDT agreed to not construct a fence along the 36 Road and Camp Creek in the Camp Ground pasture at this time and instead add an additional upland pasture to the Camp Creek allotment. A portion of the Lower Middle Fork allotment was fenced and is now grazed in conjunction with the Upper pasture.

Continue with current management.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

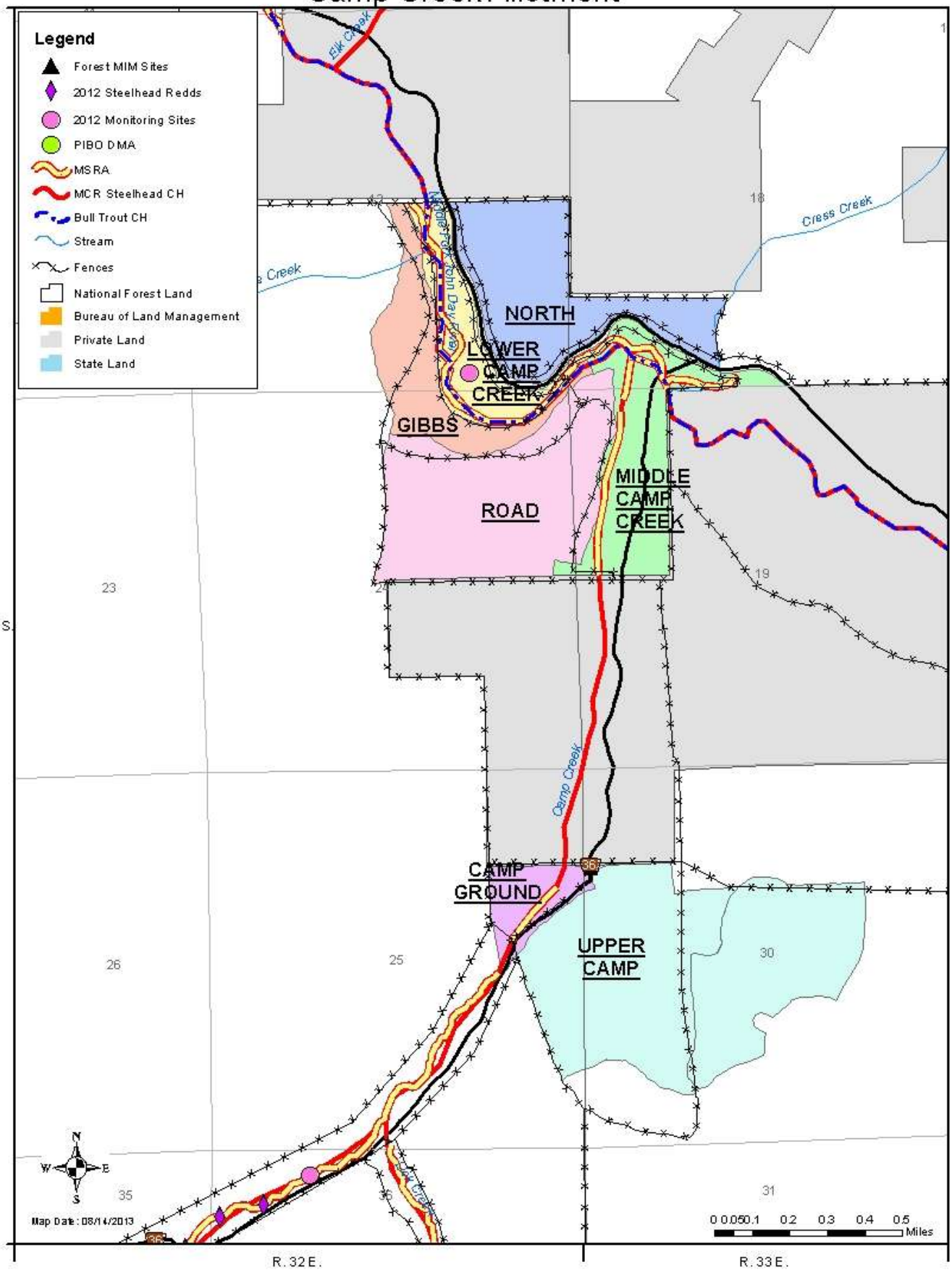
Permanent fencing along Camp Creek and the Middle Fork John Day River was completed. Electric fencing was used to maximize utilization of all available forage in the Middle Camp pasture. The fence constructed to expand the Upper Camp pasture was completed as well. The only critical habitat and MSRA available to be grazed was the Middle Fork John Day River in the Lower Camp pasture. This pasture was authorized for grazing. Excess use by cattle from adjacent allotments onto the Lower Camp and Middle pastures as well as unauthorized use from cattle coming off adjacent private land on to the Middle Camp pasture occurred throughout the season. A mid-season check was completed after excess cattle were reported in the Lower Camp pasture; 13% bank alteration was measured on the Middle Fork John Day River and the permittee was instructed clear the pasture 12 days earlier than planned. The permittee moved the cattle onto the next pasture in the schedule rotation within 72 hours of the notification.

The Middle Fork John Day River in the Lower Camp pasture was monitored by the IDT on September 17th. The IDT walked the entire river in the Lower Camp pasture to determine if the current monitoring location was adequate. Fence lines, rock dams, and braided channels made it challenging to pick another monitoring site; therefore the location that has been monitored in the past was monitored again. The river had dropped and exposed a lot more of the gravel/rock banks. These banks were under water when cattle were in this pasture in early July. Browse on small willow seedlings on these banks was moderate to high. This browse is not attributed to the permitted cattle, since these banks were under water and the willows were unavailable during the period of authorized use. Although bank alteration was measured at 13% in July, the end of season monitoring resulted in bank alteration of 3%. This variation in bank alteration measurements is due to the regrowth of the hydrophytic species on the greenline. There were very few bank alterations recorded at the end of the season; while many more bank alteration were recorded in July when the greenline species exhibited a shorter stubble height. As mentioned above, the water line had dropped from July to September, resulting in the greenline data taken at a different location along the river.

Management Recommendation For 2013

Graze the Lower Camp pasture as early as possible. If the forage is utilized early when it is the most palatable, utilization on the willows would likely decline. If this pasture is grazed early, the river would be too high to cross, therefore eliminating the concern of redd trampling. Also continuing to put up an electric fence in the Middle Camp pasture to make as much forage available to utilize, include a water gap on the Middle Fork John Day River to get more utilization on the north end of the Middle Camp pasture and reconstruction of the water gaps on the new Camp Creek exclosure fence prior to turn out 2013. Check the allotment often for excess or unauthorized cattle. As these pastures that are adjacent to private land (Middle Camp and Lower Camp) are grazed early, the potential for unauthorized use should decrease with the forage grazed.

Camp Creek Allotment



6. Slide Creek Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description

The Slide Creek allotment is located approximately 20-miles northeast of John Day. It is loosely defined by the forest boundary to the west, County Road 20 along the Middle Fork to the northeast, Camp Creek & Gibbs Creek to the east, and the ridge between Slide Creek and Keeney Creek to the south. The approximate legal location is Townships 9 and 10 S., Ranges 31 and 32 E. The allotment includes approximately 25,256 acres of NFS lands. The Slide Creek allotment has nine pastures: Camp Riparian; East; Hog; Sale Area; Slide Holding; Slide Riparian; West; Whiskey Flats and Whiskey Riparian.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01790	546	3246	06/01-10/15
01856	61	363	
01744A	170	1011	

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
West	06/01-10/15	777	08/09-09/05	777
Slide Riparian	Drive Thru	777	Drive Thru	777
Camp Creek Riparian	Gather	777	Gather	777
East	06/01-10/15	777	06/04-08/06	777
Hog	06/01-10/15	777	09/05-10/15	777
Sale Area	06/01-10/15	777	09/05-10/15	777
Whiskey Riparian	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Slide Holding	Gather	777	Gather	777
Whiskey Flat	Gather	Gather	Gather	Gather

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
West	7/31	In-Season	No cattle in pasture this season
West	8/16	Mid-Season	CH has very limited access, No BA on CH
West	8/23	In-Season	No cattle use on CH stream
West	9/19	In-Season	No livestock seen. No change in stream utilization
Slide Riparian	9/19	In-Season	Cattle crossing occurred, no cattle in pasture
Camp Creek Riparian	7/31	In-Season	No cattle in pasture this season
East	6/4	In-Season	Cattle entering allotment
East	6/7	In-Season	Livestock in Whiskey drainage
East	6/12	In-Season	CH stream s checked and unused by livestock
East	6/19	Mid-Season	No cattle use on CH streams
East	7/2	In-Season	CH BA <10% Woody Browse is light
East	7/19	Mid-Season	CH meeting standards, livestock out in approx. 2 weeks

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
East	7/31	In-Season	BA <10% Woody Browse is light
East	8/16	In-Season	No livestock in pasture
East	9/19	In-Season	No livestock in pasture

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
West	6”	NP	40%	NP	20%	NP
Slide Riparian	6”	8”	40%	37%	15%	8%
Camp Creek Riparian	4”	12”	50%	30%	15%	0%
East	4”	4”	50%	43%	20%	20%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
West	45%	15%
Slide Riparian	45%	25%
Camp Creek Riparian	45%	15%
East	45%	40%
Hog	45%	20%
Sale Area	45%	25%
Whiskey Riparian	45%	Rested
Slide Holding	45%	10%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

A change in rotation would occur in 2012 (as it does every year), the Slide Creek and Whiskey Creek riparian pastures would again be rested from livestock use and the Hog pasture would be grazed in rotation with the other pastures of the allotment – COMPLETED

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The management recommendations from 2011 were implemented in 2012 grazing season.

Several water developments, which were non-functional, were maintained in the East and Sale pastures.

The use of the Hog pasture, which is typically used for gathering only, was changed to be used as a pasture to hold problem livestock that were hanging close to the new fence along Slide Creek. This increased the effectiveness of the permittee in keeping cattle away from the Slide Riparian pasture which avoids any fence breach potential into the riparian pasture.

On September 6th the Malheur Forests' Fisheries Biologist, Hydrologist, and Hydrology Technician went to Slide Creek to the Forest DMA. Livestock use was low at the DMA and there appeared to be a few head still in the Slide creek riparian pasture. One thing that was noticed within the DMA was a sediment plume. They followed it up not far above the DMA to a category 2 stream which was contributing a fair amount of flow to Slide Creek for the time of year. They then hiked up the tributary (which was turbid) out of the riparian pasture into the Sale Area pasture. They noted the stream channel and several springs as has having high livestock impacts. On October 16th the district IDT conducted end of season monitoring at this location. The data is displayed in the Riparian Monitoring table above.

In 2012, 23% of the critical steelhead habitat was rested and 15% of the MSRA was rested.

The IDT monitored Camp Creek in the Camp Holding pasture on October 31st. They determined that, until substantial sediment is trapped by course rocks, vegetation, or large wood; bank alteration is unlikely, except at isolated locations. This DMA is accessible by livestock, it is the most sensitive riparian complex in the pasture, and it is not impervious to disturbance. This DMA will respond to management and is in a livestock concentration area and is considered a critical DMA. The team determined that the 2011 log weir removal and large wood placement restoration project, which removed log weirs from the creek and added large wood throughout several reaches in lower Camp Creek, created areas of bare ground along the stream that making bank alteration and stubble height monitoring inappropriate for this site. The team determined that Woody Species browse is the appropriate indicator to monitor livestock use, until the bare ground areas become re-vegetated.

The IDT monitored Bear Creek in the East pasture on October 31st. Much of this stream is steep, dark, and jack-strawn with fallen trees and has active mineral extraction on most of the accessible reaches. The IDT concluded that any impacts to the stream banks from livestock will be dwarfed by the effects of the historic hydraulic mining and the gullying and widening of the channel, and agreed that bank alteration monitoring is an important tool to track ongoing recovery. The accumulation of fines (sediment) is indicative that the damage caused by hydraulic mining is beginning to repair, as fines continue to deposit bank alteration will become a more important indicator of recovery as larger particles deposit and the channel re-forms.

The IDT concluded that Slide Creek in the West pasture did not need to be monitored. Livestock accessibility to this stream in this pasture is limited; the streambank lacks vegetation due to shading, is hydraulically controlled by the large wood component, and contains a large substrate, thereby making it inherently stable and not susceptible to livestock impacts. The IDT determined that unless natural processes de-stabilize the stream or create conditions that are more susceptible to livestock impacts, end of season inspections with without formal monitoring are recommended.

<u>Management Recommendations For 2013</u>

Continue with current management.

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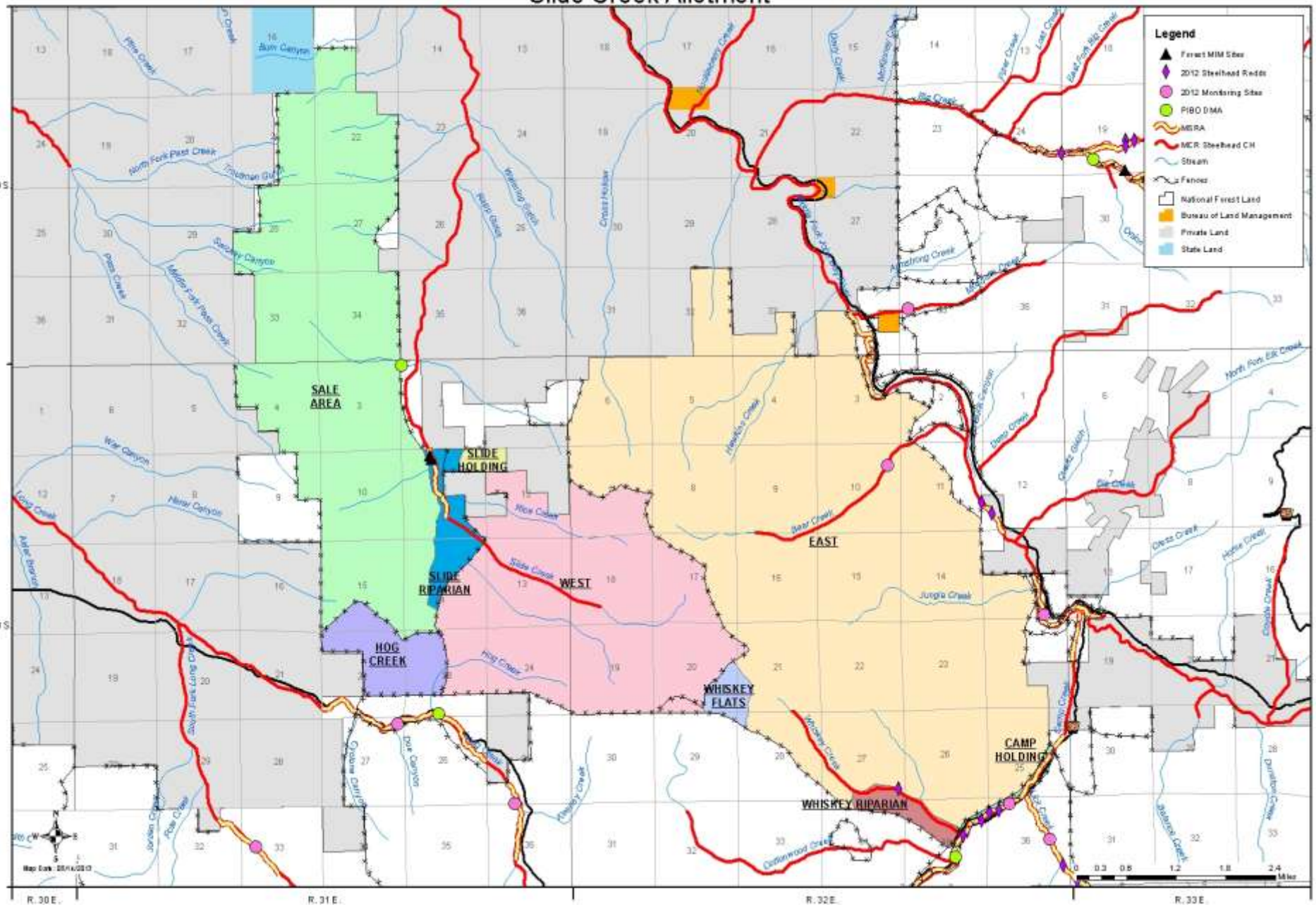
Slide Creek Allotment



7. York Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is NLAA.

Description

The York On/Off allotment is located northeast of the town of John Day, within T 10 S, R 31 E. The allotment encompasses approximately 780 acres and is divided into 3 pastures: Slide, York Riparian, and East

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01760	12	79	06/01-10/31

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Slide	06/01-10/30	12	06/01-10/01	12
East		12	08/01-08/31	12
York Riparian	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Slide	11/8	In-Season	Stream was rested in 2012

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
York Riparian	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Slide	45%	30%
East	45%	20%
York Riparian	45%	Rested

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

Continue with current management.

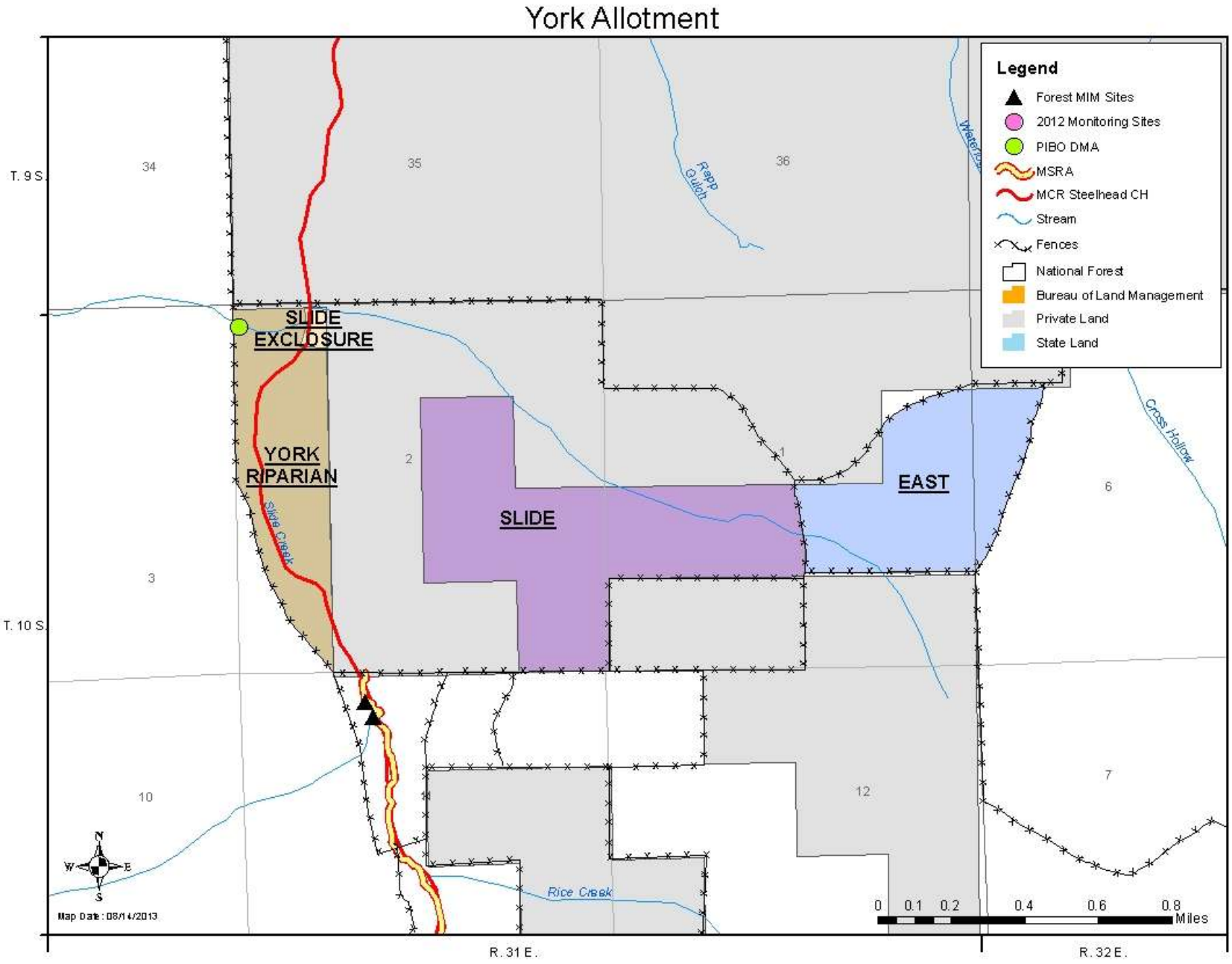
Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The management recommendation from 2011 was implemented in the 2012 grazing season.

A fence on the private and Forest Service boundary was constructed which excludes Slide Creek from the Slide pasture and in turn rested the entire critical habitat within the allotment. This fence is planned to be in place for the foreseeable future. The new pasture created is now referred to as the York riparian pasture. The entire critical habitat on the allotment was rested in 2012.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Continue with current management.


York Allotment
Legend
Forest MIM Sites
2012 Monitoring Sites
PIBO DMA
MSRA
MCR Steelhead CH
Stream
Fences
National Forest
Bureau of Land Management
Private Land
State Land
SLIDE EXCLOSURE
YORK RIPARIAN
SLIDE
EAST
Slide Creek
Rice Creek
Cross Hollow
Repp Gulch
T. 9 S.
T. 10 S.
R. 31 E.
R. 32 E.
34
35
36
2
1
6
3
10
12
7
N
S
E
W
Map Date : 08/14/2013
0 0.1 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 Miles

8. Bear Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is NLAA and USFWS is NLAA.

Description

The Bear allotment is located northeast of the town of John Day on National Forest System Lands, within T. 9 and 10 S, R. 32 E. The allotment encompasses approximately 1,532 acres and is divided into 9 pastures: A, B, B1, Bird, C1, C2, D, E/F, G, and H.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01807	84	499	06/01-10/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Pasture D	06/01-10/15	84	06/19-06/26	84
Pasture A		84	06/27-07/27	84
Pasture B		84	06/27-07/27	84
Pasture B1		84	06/27-07/27	84
Pasture E & F		84	07/28-08/06	84
Pasture G		84	08/07-10/15	84
Pasture H		84	08/07-10/15	84
Pasture C1	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Pasture C2	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Bird	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
C1	7/31	In-Season	No sign of livestock use
C2	7/31	In-Season	No sign of livestock use
E/F	7/31	In-Season	Minimal use on CH
E/F	8/14	Mid-Season	Livestock out of pasture, BA <10%
E/F	8/9	In-Season	End of season monitoring

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Monitored	Standard	Monitored
C1	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
C2	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested
E/F	4”	NP	50%	17%	20%	6%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Pasture A	45%	25%
Pasture B	45%	25%
Pasture B1	45%	25%
Bird	45%	Rested
Pasture C1	45%	Rested
Pasture C2	45%	Rested
Pasture D	45%	25%
Pasture E & F	45%	25%
Pasture G	45%	25%
Pasture H	45%	25%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

Utilize electric fence in the C1 pasture to allow grazing without disturbing the new river channel. – Pasture was not grazed in 2012.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The management recommendations from 2011 were not implemented due to the C1 and C2 pastures being rested in 2012.

The C1 and C2 pastures of the Bear allotment, which contain the Middle Fork John Day River restoration project, were rested. It is expected that these pastures will remain in rest until the river restoration work is compete.

In 2013 there is a fence maintenance project planned for this allotment that will decrease the chance of livestock entering this allotment from the surrounding private land and/or other allotments. This project is in response to unauthorized use issues that have been brought to the attention of the range staff. Incidental sightings of livestock within the project area were reported to the Range staff throughout the season; however positive identification was never confirmed.

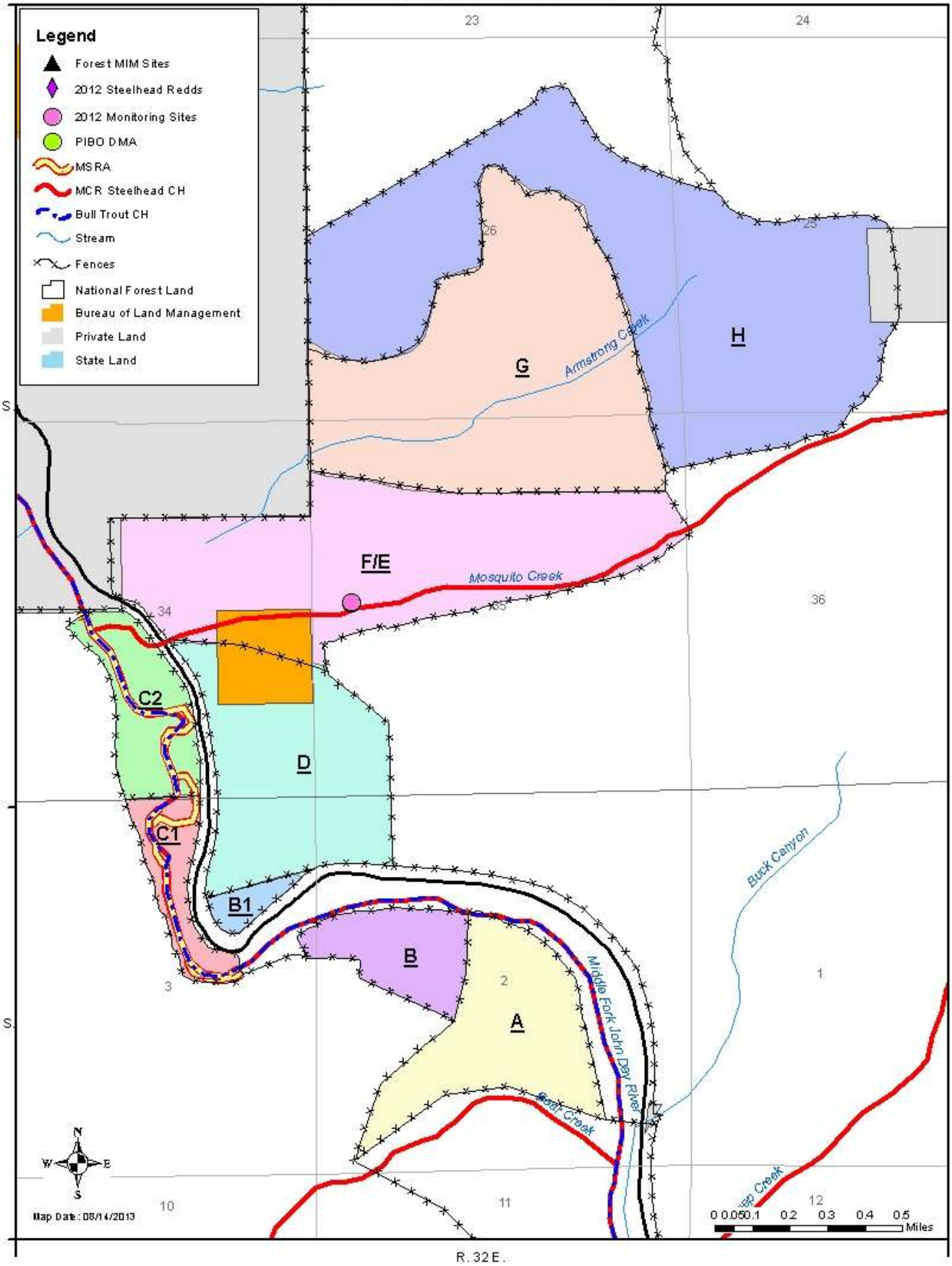
The C1 and C2 pastures which contain 45% of the critical habitat were rested. The remaining 55% of the critical habitat on the allotment was grazed.

The IDT monitored Mosquito Creek, the remaining grazed critical habitat, in the E/F pasture and determined that one side of the stream had trailing while the other side had none. Additionally, the team agreed that the stream lacks vegetation due to shade and is thus sensitive to cattle disturbance specifically on the un-vegetated side.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Identify and take corrective action if unauthorized or excess use occurs in the C1 and C2 pastures.

Bear Creek Allotment



North Fork John Day River Sub-Basin Allotments

1. Fox Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description

The Fox allotment is located northwest of the town of John Day on National Forest System Lands, mostly within T. 11 S, R. 29, and 30 E. The allotment encompasses approximately 26,085 acres and is divided into 4 pastures: Upper Fox; Lower Fox; South Fork and Wiley Creek.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01784	95	462	06/11-09/30
01716A*	125	608	
01717A	73	355	

*Permit ID 01723A waived to Permit 01716A. This is a change to the Biological Assessment and BiOp.

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Upper Fox	06/11-09/30	125	06/11-08/28	125
Lower Fox		168	09/04-10/13	12
Wiley		168	06/28-08/29	168
South Fork		293	08/29-10/12	168

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Upper Fox	6/11	In-Season	Cattle enter allotment, Very little access to CH
Upper Fox	6/18	In-Season	No livestock use on CH
Upper Fox	7/11	Mid-Season	Cattle off pasture
Upper Fox	7/23	In-Season	CH streams not running
Upper Fox	7/31	In-Season	CH streams not running, no livestock use on CH streams
Upper Fox	8/13	In-Season	No livestock use on CH stream
Upper Fox	8/15	In-Season	Cattle off pasture, No cattle impacts to CH stream
Upper Fox	8/22	Mid-Season	Cattle off pasture, No cattle impacts to CH stream
Upper Fox	8/28	In-Season	Cattle off pasture, No cattle impacts to CH stream
Upper Fox	9/6	In-Season	No livestock in pasture
Lower Fox	7/30	In-Season	No livestock use in pasture
Lower Fox	9/6	In-Season	BA at meadow <5%
Lower Fox	9/19	Mid-Season	Very little sign of cattle in pasture
Wiley	6/11	In-Season	Cattle entering allotment. Electric fence around CH

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Wiley	6/18	In-Season	Fence hot no livestock use on CH
Wiley	7/11	Mid-season	Fence hot, no livestock use on CH
Wiley	7/12	In-Season	Fence cold, minimal livestock use on CH
Wiley	7/23	In-Season	CH streams not running
Wiley	7/30	Mid-Season	Fence cold, BA <5% on CH streams. CH streams not running
Wiley	7/31	In-Season	Electric fence on CH stream vandalized.
Wiley	8/13	In-Season	Fence hot, BA very low on CH streams
Wiley	8/15	In-Season	CH streams have BA <5%
Wiley	8/22	Mid-Season	Fence hot, CH stream within standards
Wiley	8/28	In-Season	Cattle moving to South Fork pasture
Wiley	9/6	In-Season	No livestock in pasture
South Fork	7/31	In-Season	No livestock use in pasture
South Fork	9/6	In-Season	Very little sign of cattle in pasture
South Fork	9/19	Mid-Season	Very little sign of cattle in pasture

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Upper Fox	6”	NP	40%	NP	20%	0%
Lower Fox	4”	7”	50%	50%	15%	13%
Wiley	6”	NP	40%	40%	20%	0%
South Fork	6”	4”[6]	40%	44%	15%	2%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Upper Fox	45%	40%
Lower Fox	45%	20%
Wiley	45%	40%
South Fork	45%	20%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

Authorize grazing on the Lower Fox pasture with a limited number of livestock for a short season – COMPLETED

[6] A total of 8 hydrophytic species were identified on the 120 meters of streambank within the monitoring transect on the South Fork of Long Creek in the South Fork pasture.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The 2011 management recommendation to authorize grazing on the Lower Fox pasture with a limited number of livestock for a short season was implemented in the 2012 grazing season. The results of the end of season monitoring in that pasture are located in the riparian monitoring table above.

Livestock grazing on the Fox allotment consisted of two separate herds grazing different pastures of the allotment. Herd 1 entered the allotment later than permitted and rotated from the Wiley to the South Fork, and Lower Fox pastures. Due to favorable range conditions and late turnout this herd was given a 15 day extension of the grazing season. This extension allowed for the permitted/authorized AUM's to be used before the livestock returned home and did not increase the total AUM's used on the allotment past the permitted amount.

Herd 2 started on the allotment later than permitted in the Upper Fox pasture. This herd remained in the Upper Fox pasture for approximately60 days before returning home. This herd did not reenter the allotment for the remained of the grazing season and did not rotate between pastures.

All of the critical steelhead habitat and all of the MSRA was grazed by livestock.

The IDT inspected the critical habitat on Smith and Dunning creek in the Upper Fox pasture. They concluded that Smith Creek consists of a thick alder and thimbleberry plant community with a Grand fir over story growing on the channel edge and a boulder stream substrate. Cattle access the stream at isolated locations for water then return to the uplands for forage. The riparian area does not contain sedge/rush plant community types due to the limited amount of sunlight that it receives and lack of water in the stream. The IDT concluded that the critical habitat on Dunning Creek consists of an alder and dogwood community with a Grand fir over story growing on the channel edge and a boulder stream substrate. The valley opens in isolated locations for adequate stream side vegetation but it is limited to upland grass species due to the lack of water in the stream. Neither of these streams has locations for conducting MIM monitoring and due to their large substrate will not show signs of cattle impacts in the form of bank alterations. The team agreed that the appropriate monitoring of these streams would be on an every other year basis to assess the long term trend of the streams health.

The IDT inspected the critical habitat on Cottonwood Creek in the Wiley pasture and determined the bank alteration was not a concern on Cottonwood Creek at this time but may be an appropriate indicator once deposition and streambank building begins to occur. The primary concerns regarding riparian functionality included:

Riparian shrubby vegetation - Woody browse on alders, willows and dogwoods; and the lack of adequate density. Woody browse use was estimated (ocular) at 40%.

Large wood debris - Large wood in the system would function to provide energy dissipation and increase gravel deposition. The addition of LWD would provide opportunities for bank building, channel narrowing, increase in fish habitat complexity, and riparian hardwood seedling generation. Gravels observed were only present where LWD was anchored. The IDT suggested that these materials are being transported throughout this reach rather than being deposited.

Channel morphology – The channel form is both braided and over widened indicating a lack of lateral channel stability. The channel appears to be adjusting too frequently across the valley floor and it is not in balance with the cutting on outside meanders and deposition on the inside of

meanders. The large cobble substrate and lack of perennial water suggest that the headwaters geologic materials result in flashy flood events. The additional energy available in this system may be leading to accelerated scouring on point bars and may inhibit germination and survivability of riparian shrubby vegetation.

Cottonwoods – There appears to be an old age class of cottonwood present with limited recruitment of younger age classes. Conifers appear to be out-competing the cottonwood.

The IDT recommended monitoring woody browse use as the indicator of active livestock management. Continue to monitor at the Key Area visited. Identify a project to add LWD to the reach at desirable levels. As the system recovers and sediment becomes processed in the channel and on the floodplain, additional indicators may become appropriate for monitoring. For example, bank alteration, width/depth and greenline vegetative composition may become more important as stream channel recovers. Identify species composition at MW1271 and MW1272 (see next paragraph) for reference of vegetative potential.

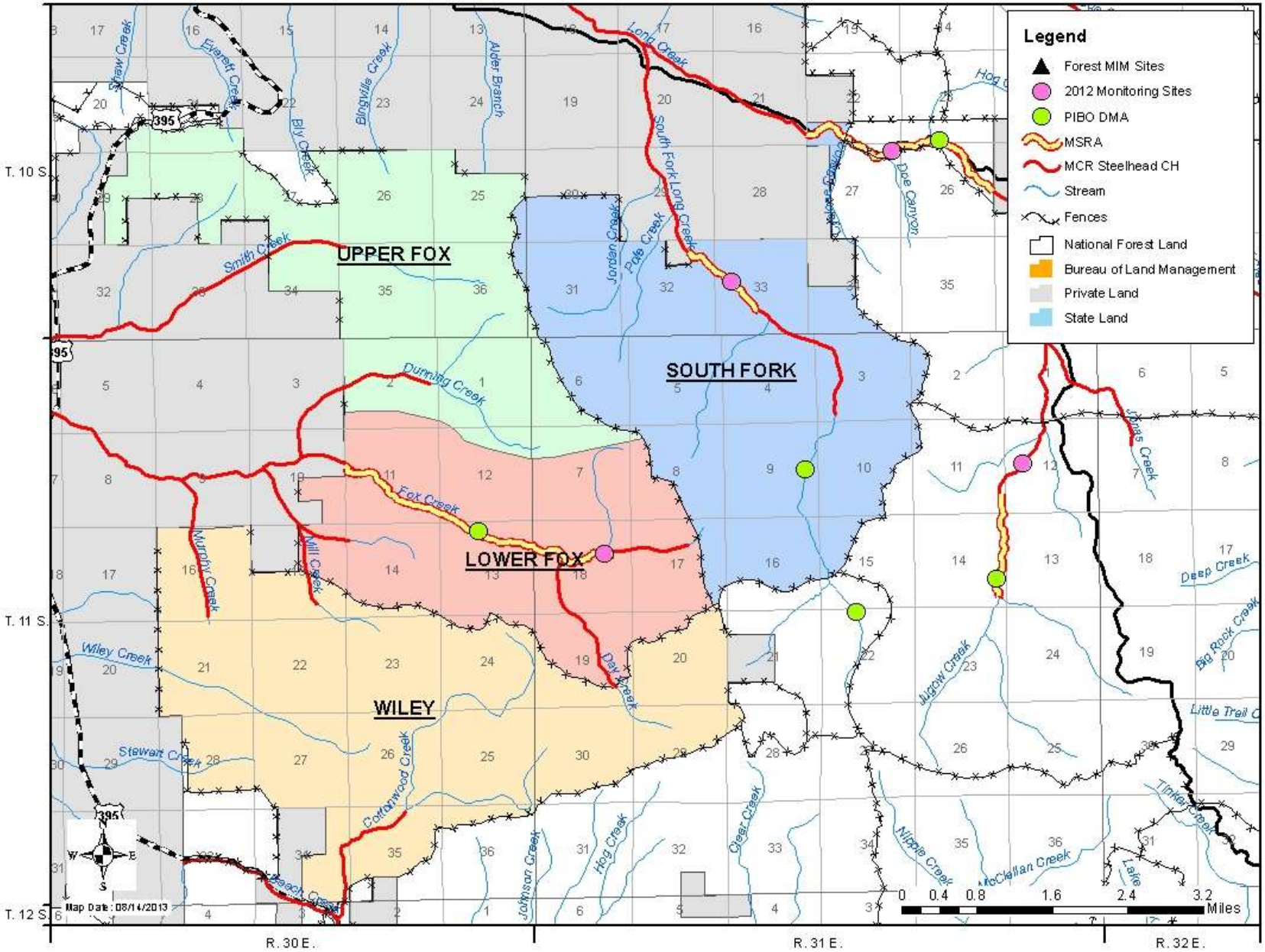
The IDT drove up to where the water becomes perennial in Cottonwood Creek. At this point the valley bottom narrows and the riparian woody vegetation is at or near potential. We observed a rather stark fence line contrast at the bottom of the pasture. The reach downstream had more riparian woody vegetation than upstream. Two Riparian Ecology Plots were observed in the denser woody vegetation with identifiers of MW127 – MW1271 and MW1272. This suggests that this area is likely in a mid or late ecological condition.

The IDT conducted MIM monitoring on the MSRA of the South Fork of Long Creek in South Fork pasture. The IDT concluded the stream is nearly impervious to bank alteration, due to the large substrate size, and that woody browse is the best indicator for livestock grazing impacts to this stream.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Authorize grazing to begin in the South Fork pasture by at least 1/3 of the permitted numbers. This should decrease the woody browse impacts on the South Fork of Long Creek and allow for approximately 300 days of rest for the second pasture in the rotation.

Fox Allotment



2. Donaldson Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description

The Donaldson allotment is located at the Southwest end of Fox Valley on National Forest System Lands, mostly within T. 11, and 12 S, R. 28, and 29 E. The allotment encompasses approximately 8,000 acres. The allotment is divided into 2 pastures: Glide and Hinton, each approximately 4,000 acres in size.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01717A	100	599	06/15-10/30

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Glade	06/01-10/30	100	06/01-08/01	100
Hinton		100	08/01-10/30	100

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Glade	6/14	In-Season	CH stream (Boulder Creek) not running
Glade	6/25	In-Season	Very light cattle use near CH
Glade	7/12	Mid-Season	Within standards. CH stream dry
Glade	7/30	In-Season	BA 10% , Boulder Creek CH is dry
Glade	8/9	In-Season	Cattle off pasture
Glade	8/19	In-Season	No cattle in pasture. No impacts to CH on Fox Creek

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Glade	4”	4”	50%	NP	15%	12%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Glade	45%	35%
Hinton	45%	25%

Spawning Surveys

(For more information please see Appendix B – Letter to Dr. Kratz – NMFS)

The IDT conducted a spawning survey on May 15th, 2012 of the entire critical habitat (including the MSRA) on Boulder Creek in the Donaldson Allotment. The IDT did not observe any redds in the stream and determined that less than 10% of the stream contained adequate spawning gravels. The stream substrate characteristic was mostly boulder and bedrock. The stream

temperature ranged from 54°F at the top to 51°F at the bottom of the reach with an average depth of 1 to 5 inches and 1 to 3 feet in width. We observed several in-stream stock ponds and one stock pond out of the stream but still in the drainage. The 'in drainage' stock pond was approximately 70 ft. from Boulder Creek and was filled with a combination of snowpack and an undefined channel through saturated soils. Three redband trout were observed in the lowest in-stream stock pond and were approximately 4-6 inches in length. This stock pond has been maintained within five years and is only marginally functioning with approximately 1-2 feet of water and will likely go dry early in the season.

The IDT determined that it is questionable as to the need of future surveys since the stream will likely be dry before livestock enter the allotment, and given the limited amount of adequate spawning gravels.

The IDT conducted spawning surveys on Fox/Cottonwood Creek in the Glade pasture on May 16th, 2012. One live steelhead and two dead steelhead were observed. The stream had limited access by livestock and was classified as having a stream substrate characteristic of bedrock and boulder with no spawning gravels found. The IDT concluded that the stream does not fit the MSRA classification due to its steep slope, lack of spawning potential, lack of stream side vegetation due to bedrock substrate and large substrate that could not show bank alteration or change in stability due to livestock.

Pasture	Grazed	Date	# Redds Observed	Stream	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA	Mitigation
Glade	Y	05/15	0	Boulder Creek	BMRD	FS boundary upstream to 0.2 miles past upper extent of MCR steelhead CH.	Yes	None. 3 *Oncorhynchus mykiss* observed. Recommend no re-survey due to insufficient water depth to pass adult steelhead by the end of May.
Glade	Y	05/16	0	Fox Creek	BMRD	All MCR steelhead CH W/in pasture	No	None. Reach not likely MSRA, recommend no re-survey.
Glade	Y	05/16	0	Cottonwood Creek	BMRD	All MCR steelhead CH W/in pasture	Yes	None. Reach not likely MSRA, recommend no re-survey. Live and dead steelhead observed.
Glade	Y	05/16	0	Camp Creek	BMRD	All MCR steelhead CH W/in pasture	No	None. Reach not likely MSRA, recommend no re-survey.

Measures to minimize future risk of redd trampling that the BMRD intends to implement:

- Ground-truth reaches identified as MSRA to adequately minimize potential for redd trampling.
- Revisions to MSRA maps from 2012 spawning surveys and range monitoring will be completed, documented and delivered along with the annual end of year report. Ground-truthing and revision will continue throughout the remainder of the consultation period.
- Include reaches with stock driveways or water gaps in the list of stream reaches considered for spawning surveys.
- Conduct future spawning surveys at least 15 days prior to 2012 survey date on Boulder Creek in the Donaldson Allotment.
- Initiate IDT redd trampling mitigation effectiveness monitoring within the first week of turnout, as needed until the end of the spawning/incubation period, and conduct final effectiveness assessment as near the end of the spawning/incubation period as possible.
- Adapt extent, location, and operational timing of electric fencing.
- Use two-strand electric fencing to protect redds where IDT members are concerned with the potential for livestock/redd interaction.
- Flag and GPS-mark location of redds to enhance ability to relocate them.
- Implement measures to link hoof action observed with likelihood of trampling.

Recommendations from 2011

Continue with current management.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

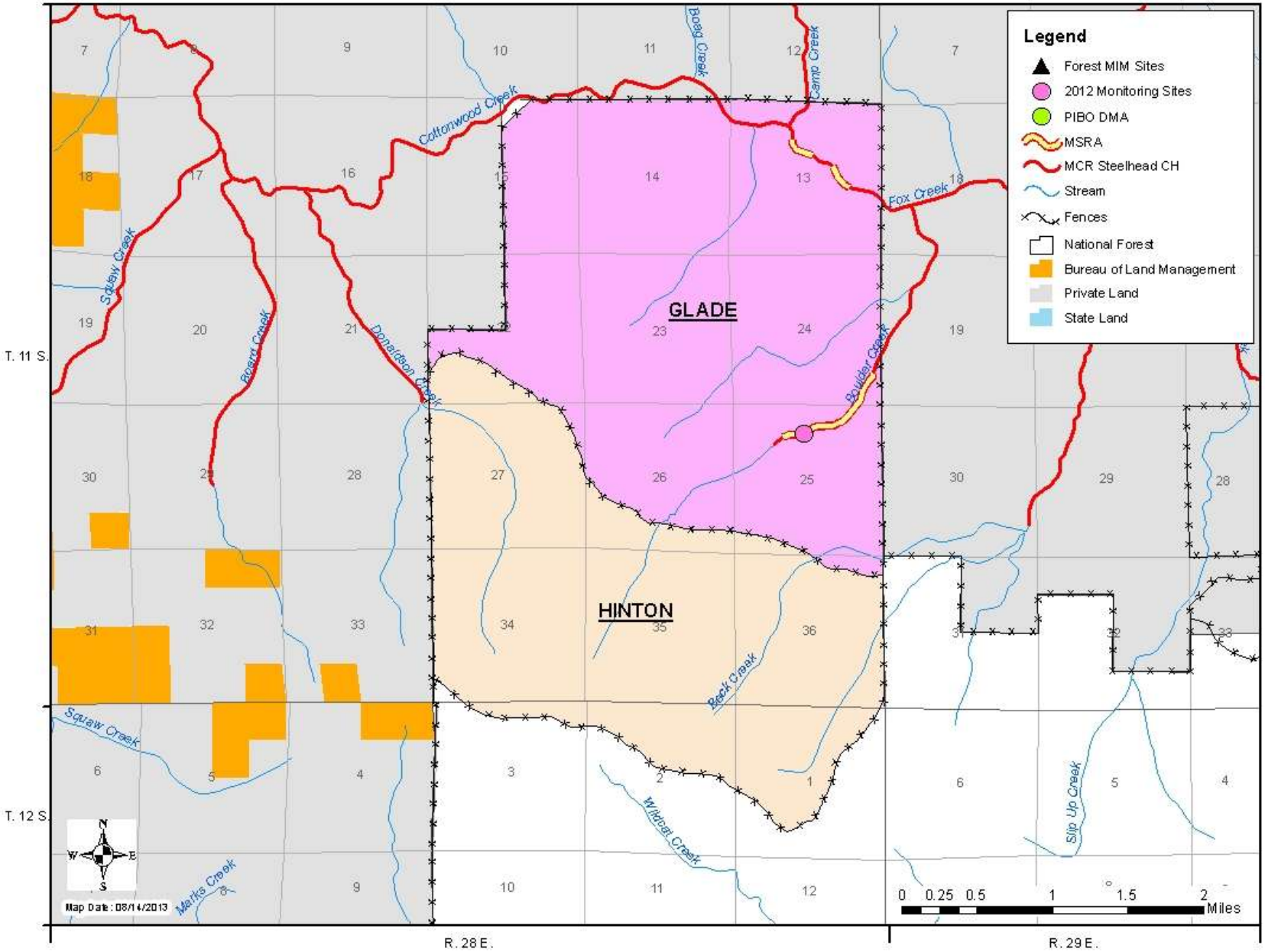
The Donaldson allotment was grazed according to the terms and conditions of the grazing permit and was consistent with prior years use.

End of season monitoring on Boulder Creek was conducted on October 29th. The IDT concluded that the stream is an eroded ephemeral draw that has seeps within the channel. This stream lacks sufficient large wood to trap sediment that is moving through the system. Where soil has accumulated, livestock tracks and hydrophytic species are present. Specifically, in the total 240 meters of streambank monitored, 9 plots contained hydrophytic species with an un-grazed height measured at 5 inches. The stream has several in channel ponds that the IDT visited and proposed that they are increasing the water holding capacity of the stream. Additionally the IDT proposed that the ponds are increasing infiltration, locally, into the sub soil and possibly supporting stream flow lower in the valley. The IDT recommended revisiting these ponds during 2013 end of season monitoring.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Continue with current management. The IDT recommended revisiting the Donaldson ponds during 2013 end of season monitoring.

Donaldson Allotment



3. Deer Creek Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description

The Deer Creek allotment is located southwest of the town of Hamilton on National Forest System Lands, mostly within T 10S, and R. 28, R. 29 E. The allotment encompasses approximately 2,100 acres and consists of one pasture. Private land borders to the north, west, and south; and 800 acres of private land in the middle of the allotment.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01717A	88	371	06/11-09/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Deer Creek	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
Deer Creek	6/29	In-Season	Allotment is rested in 2012

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Deer Creek	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Deer Creek	45%	Rested

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

Continue with current management.

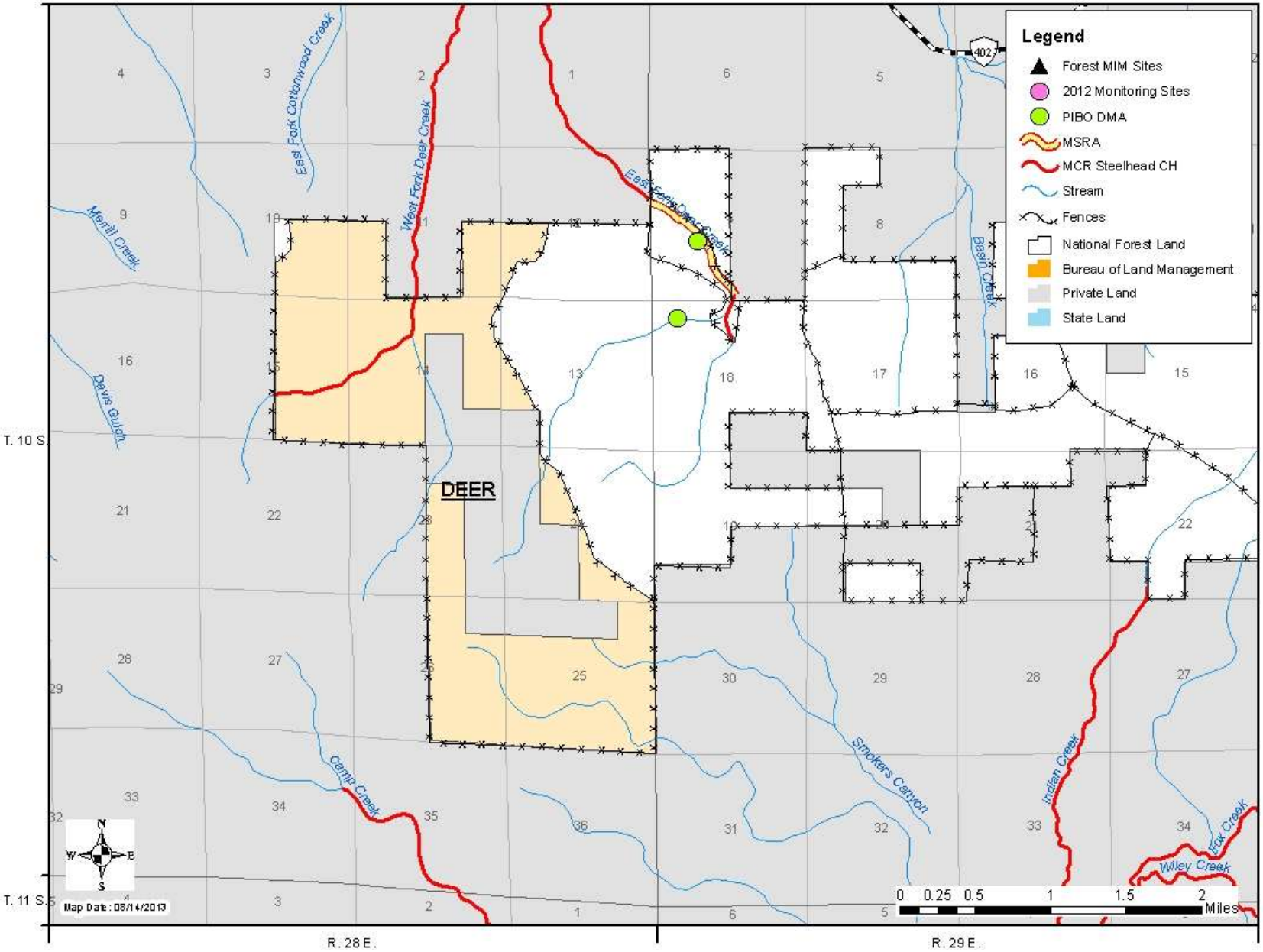
Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The Deer Creek allotment is rested every even year. In 2012 the Deer Creek allotment was rested.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Management recommendations are to continue with current management.

Deer Allotment



4. Indian Ridge Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is LAA.

Description

The Indian Ridge allotment is located 3 miles northwest of the town Fox, Oregon on National Forest Lands, mostly within T. 9 and 10 S, and R. 29 and 30 E. Private land is located on the North and South sides of the allotment and elevations range from 4,500 to 5,000 ft. The allotment encompasses approximately 4,000 acres and contains five pastures: West, East, Boothill, Ridge, and Highway.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01829	94	396	06/11-09/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Highway	06/11 – 09/15	12	07/11 – 09/16	12
East	06/11 – 08/15	24	07/11 – 08/14	24
East			08/15 – 09/15	13
West	08/16 – 09/15	24	08/15 – 09/15	11
Boothill	06/11 – 08/15	58	06/19 – 07/31	58
Ridge	08/16 – 09/15	58	08/01 – 09/15	56

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Highway	45%	25%
West	45%	23%
East	45%	30%
Ridge	45%	20%
Boothill	45%	27%

Spawning Surveys

Grazing occurred in the East pasture during the spawning season; Indian Creek is not designated as critical habitat on National Forest System lands and it was not selected for the 20% random survey.

Recommendations from 2011

Continue with current management.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

All pastures of the Indian Ridge allotment were grazed this year and all grazing utilization standards were met. The dry summer and constant excess cattle from the Hamilton/King allotment and unauthorized cattle from private land resulted in the permittee beginning to gather the allotment earlier than planned. The new fence was completed that modified the pasture boundaries of the Boothill, East, and Ridge pastures. Timing and access to Indian Creek within

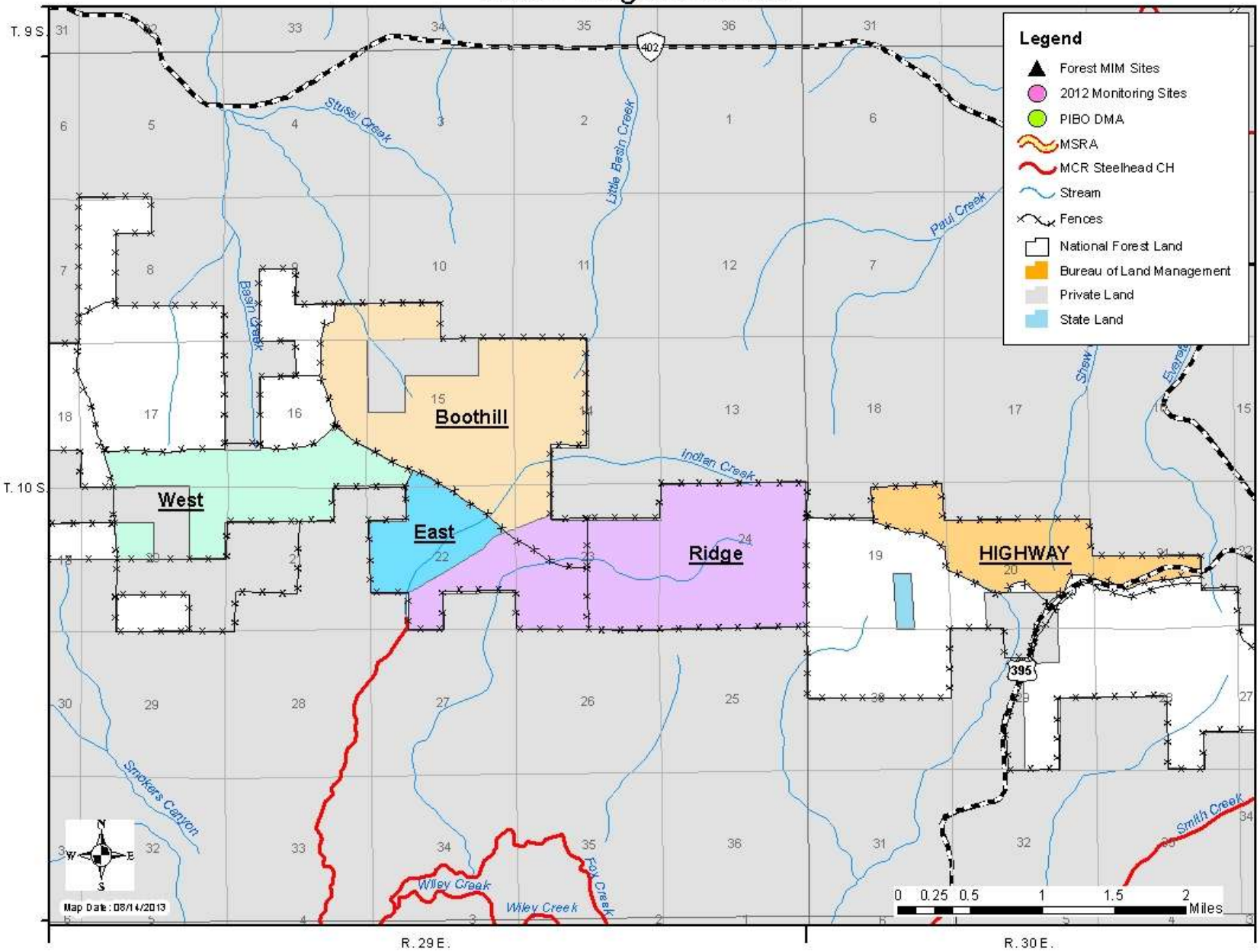
the redesigned East pasture will now be better managed with the completion of this fence. Two spring developments, one in the Highway pasture and one in the Ridge pasture were completed this year as well.

The IDT and permittee visited Indian Creek in the East pasture together on September 17th. The IDT and permittee talked about the new fence that had been recently constructed and how it will control the cattle use on Indian Creek.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Incorporate the newly formed pastures into next year's strategy and to keep in mind the water flow of Indian Creek when doing so. If the East pasture is grazed, it will be grazed early. Make sure Hamilton/King and Indian Ridge division fences are maintained to standard prior to turn out.

Indian Ridge Allotment



5. Hamilton Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is NLAA.

Description

The Hamilton allotment is located northwest of the town of John Day on National Forest System Lands, mostly within T. 10 S, R. 28, and 29 E. The allotment is approximately 3,048 acres in size and is divided into 3 pastures: West; Northeast and East Fork Riparian.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01831	95	400	06/11-09/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
East Fork Riparian	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
West	06/11-08/15	95	06/11-08/22	95
Northeast	08/15-09/15	95	08/15-09/15	80
Northeast II	06/11-07/31	36	06/11-07/15	36

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	In-Season/ Mid-Season	Result
East Fork Riparian	7/18	Mid-Season	East Fork Deer Creek no livestock use – within standards
East Fork Riparian	8/08	In-Season	Unauthorized cattle found – within standards
East Fork Riparian	8/22	In-Season	East Fork Deer Creek no livestock in pasture – within standards
East Fork Riparian	8/28	In-Season	East Fork Deer Creek no livestock in pasture – within standards

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
East Fork Riparian	4” or 6”	Rested	40% or 50%	Rested	15%	Rested

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
East Fork Riparian	45%	Rested
West	45%	33%
Northeast	45%	45%
Northeast II	45%	45%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

Ensure the permittee maintains the upland ponds on the flats where the majority of the livestock use is being focused – NOT COMPLETED. See more below in Summary of 2012 Grazing Season.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

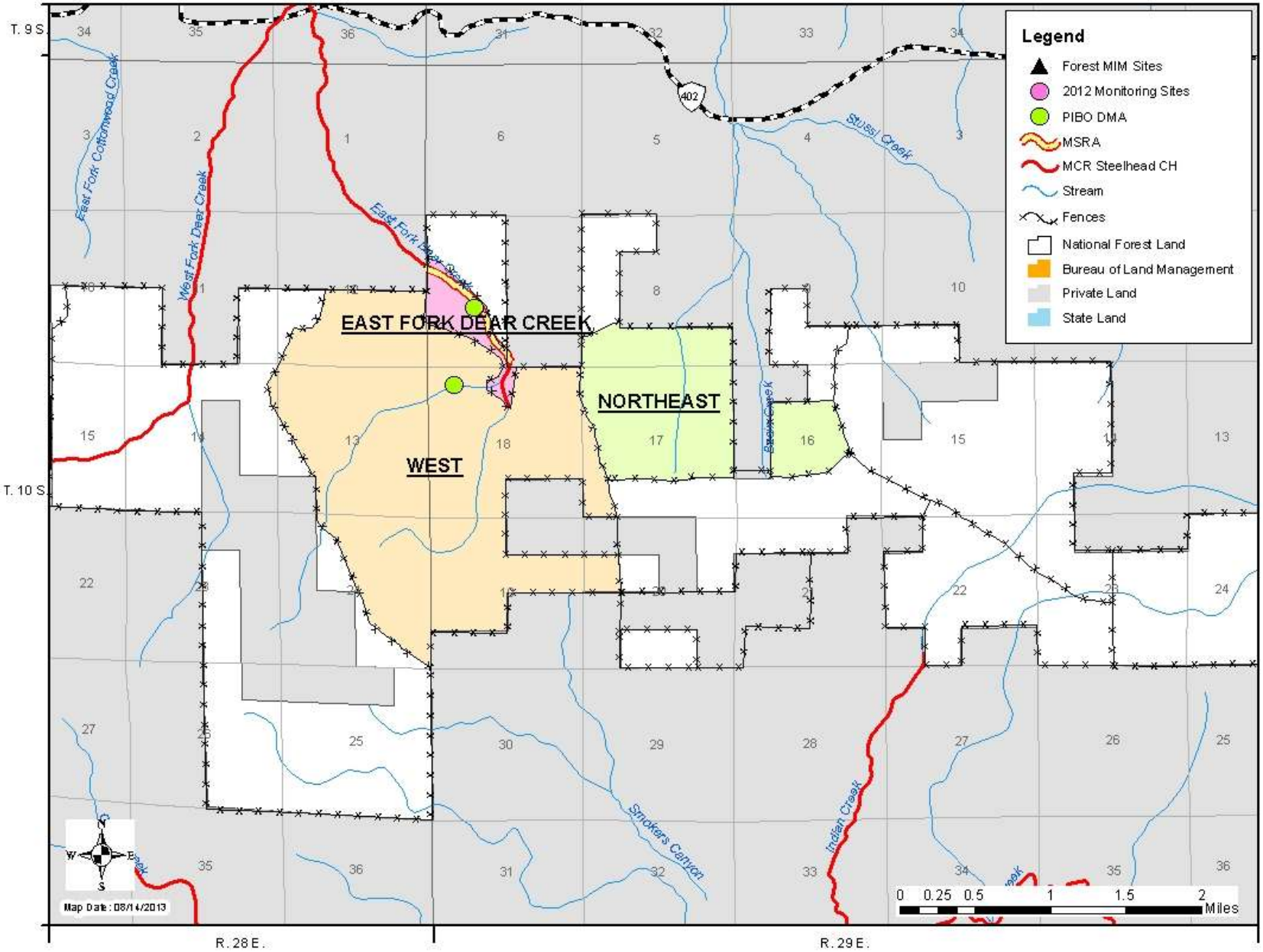
Hamilton was grazed in conjunction with one pasture from the King On/Off allotment. Most of the private land that was fenced in with National Forest System lands is now fenced out and this has split the Northeast pasture. These two pastures will be referred to as the Northeast and Northeast II pastures. The East Fork Deer Riparian pasture was not authorized for grazing. A total of 4 pastures were scheduled to be grazed in this rotation. An additional 31 pair was authorized to graze due to an extra pasture from the King On/Off allotment being included in the rotation. This addition 31 pair resulted in an additional 130 AUMs onto the 400 AUMs that were consulted on. Authorization of the additional 31 pair did not impact the critical habitat as no authorized grazing occurred in pastures containing critical habitat.

Ninety-five pair grazed the West and Northeast pastures, while 36 pair grazed the Northeast II and Basin pastures. At the annual spring meeting, the Forest Service and permittees discussed cleaning 2 ponds on Table Rock in the West pasture and 1 pond west of County Road 9 in the Northeast pasture. The ponds were not cleaned and cattle were unevenly distributed throughout these pastures, as result drainages of the East Fork of Deer Creek and Basin Creek received heavy use. Many attempts were made to work with the permittee to resolve this distribution issue, but the permittee made no attempt to work with Forest Service until they were asked to completely clear out of the West pasture. The permittee was given a 72 hour notice to remove livestock from the West pasture and move into the next pasture in the rotation and the permittee complied with this notice. The permittee had already started moving cattle out of the West pasture a week before the 72 hour notice was given, but not all the cattle were moved at once and a few of the same cattle kept getting back into the West pasture. If the ponds are not cleaned and cattle are not moved throughout the pastures and kept out of the East Fork Deer and Basin Creek drainages in the future a Notice of Non-compliance will be issued to the permittee. Unauthorized cattle from adjacent private land entered the East Fork Deer Riparian and the West pastures. The owner promptly removed the cattle when the Forest Service requested. The unauthorized cattle had little impact to the East Fork of Deer Creek and the upland utilization.

Management Recommendations For 2013

Ensure the permittee maintains the upland ponds on the flats in the West and Northeast pastures prior to 2013 turn-out and to work with the permittee to resolve distribution issues once the ponds are cleaned. The permittee will not be authorized to graze more than the permitted livestock. All fences must be maintained to standard; all allotment boundary fences will be inspected prior to turn–out 2013.

Hamilton Allotment



Section II: Emigrant Creek Ranger District

Upper Malheur River Watershed

1. Central Malheur Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from USFWS was NLAA/NLAA.

Description:

The Central Malheur Allotment is located approximately 30 miles northeast of the town of Burns on National Forest System Lands, within T. 17, and 18 S, R 331/2 and 34 E. The allotment includes approximately 10,733 acres of NFS lands. One square section (320 acres of state land and 320 acres of private land) are adjacent to NFS lands at the southeast corner of the allotment. Management of these lands has not been waived to the Forest Service. The Central Malheur Allotment is divided into 3 main pastures and 4 relatively small fenced meadow pastures. Approximately 6.52 miles of bull trout critical habitat is located in the Malheur River on the eastern boundary of the allotment. No spawning or summer rearing habitat for fluvial bull trout is present, however migratory and winter rearing habitat is. Livestock permitted to graze on the Central Malheur allotment cannot access the Malheur River due to steep natural features and drift fences constructed on the canyon rim. Livestock use in the Malheur River canyon is not authorized (or allowed to occur) in annual grazing plans for the Central Malheur allotment.

Community Allotment: Central Malheur is considered a "community allotment" which is grazed by two permittees and administered by Emigrant Creek Ranger District.

Term Grazing Permits

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01765	163	863	06/01 - 09/30
01851	34	180	06/01 - 09/30

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Johnson's Corner	06/1 - 06/20	33	06/01 - 06/20	33
South Pasture	06/01 - 7/15	163	06/12 - 06/20	161
		197	06/21 - 07/15	194
		163	07/16 - 07/21	161
North Pasture	07/16 - 09/30	33	07/16 - 07/21	33
		197	07/22 - 09/23	194
		33	09/24 - 09/30	33

Bull Trout Habitat Use and Locations of Critical Habitat in Central Malheur Allotment

Pasture	Stream	Migration /Winter	Summer Rearing	Spawning	Designated Critical Habitat
Central Malheur	Malheur River	BuT	n/a	n/a	6.52 miles

Riparian Monitoring – November 5, 2012

Key Area or Pasture	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
South Pasture	≥ 6”	≥ 6”	≤ 30%	≤ 30%	≤ 10%	≤ 10%
Hog Flat Spring Area	≥ 6”	5”	≤ 30%	≤ 30%	≤ 10%	≤ 10%
North Pasture	≥ 6”	≥ 6”	≤ 30%	≤ 30%	≤ 10%	≤ 10%
Miller Flat Enclosure	≥ 6”	>10”	≤ 30%	≤ 30%	≤ 10%	< 5%
Hog Flat Enclosure	≥ 6”	7	≤ 30%	≤ 30%	≤ 10%	≤ 10%

Upland Monitoring – November 5, 2012

Key Area or Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
South Pasture (Fescue Flat C&T)	≤ 45%	≤ 10%
Hog Flat Spring Area	≤ 45%	≤ 45%
North Pasture (C&T B-7)	≥ 6”	> 10”
Miller Flat Enclosure (C&T 2)	≥ 6”	> 10”
Hog Flat Enclosure	≥ 6”	6”

Annual forage utilization monitoring in 2012 was conducted at the end of the grazing season at established Condition and Trend (C&T) plots where possible. The Johnson’s Corner pasture was not monitored in 2012. A full Range NEPA Analysis is planned for 2013-14.

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted because grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season (no spawning or summer rearing habitat for fluvial bull trout is present).

Recommendations from 2011

There were no recommendations from 2011.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

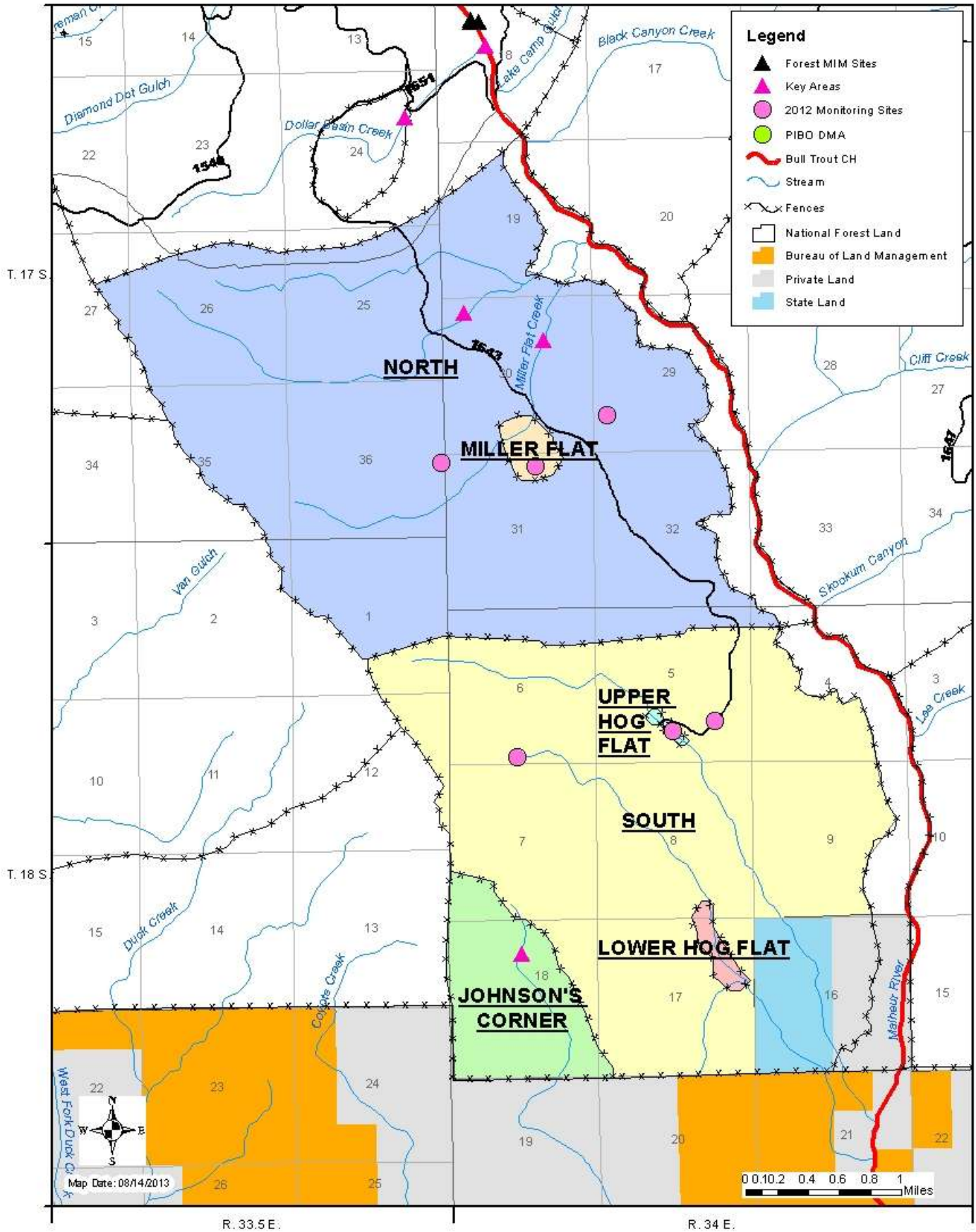
On September 9, 2012, Bill Wall, Prairie City District Fish Biologist, walked the Malheur River Trail (322) from the trailhead downstream for 2.0 miles within the Bluebucket and Central Malheur Allotments. His inspection revealed no evidence of livestock -or large ungulate use or damage to the riparian area or stream.

The management for 2012 was in compliance with the Letter of Authorization for this allotment as well as in compliance with all Forest Plan Standards as amended.

Management Recommendations For 2013

There are no proposed changes for the 2013 grazing season. Additional monitoring sites may be established in Miller Flat and Wade Creek drainages to better assess downstream effects to the Malheur River.

Central Malheur Allotment



Section III: Prairie City Ranger District

2012 Results and Summary

A summarization of 2012 findings follows:

The Prairie City Ranger District has a total of 18 allotments:

- 14 active allotments required informal and formal consultation with NMFS and USFWS in 2012.
  - Deardorff, Hot Springs, Rail Creek and Indian Creek allotments were consulted on with NMFS and NLAA was determined. April 2, 2012, a Letter of Concurrence was issued. All 4 allotments met the prescribed end-point indicators.
  - Bluebucket, Deardorff, Dollar Basin, Hot Springs, Rail Creek, Flag Prairie, Logan Valley, McCoy Creek, North Fork, Ott, Spring Creek, Star Glade and Summit Prairie allotments were consulted on with USFWS and NLAA, LAA were determined. September 6, 2012, Letters of Concurrence and Biological Opinion were issued.
    - Bluebucket, Deardorff, Flag Prairie, Hot Springs, Indian Creek, Logan Valley, McCoy Creek, Rail Creek, Spring Creek, Star Glade and Summit Prairie allotments met the prescribed end-point indicators.
    - Dollar Basin, North Fork and Ott allotments all had at least one pasture that exceeded one end-point indicator.
      - Dollar Basin Allotment: The bank alteration, stubble height, and woody browse standards were not meet in the Dollar pasture.
      - North Fork Allotment: The bank alteration standard was not met in the South River pasture.
      - Ott allotment: The bank alteration standard was not met in the Ott Meadows pasture.

Designated Monitoring Areas Assessment

End of season monitoring has been prioritized based upon grazed pastures and the presence of MSRA and critical habitat. Pastures containing MSRA are given Priority 1 in the scheduling of end of season monitoring. Pastures that do not contain a MSRA but contain bull trout spawning and rearing critical habitat are Priority 2 for scheduling. (See Appendix A.) All grazed pastures with critical habitat were monitored at the end of the season, except one. One grazed monitoring site in critical habitat was not monitored: Spring Creek Allotment, Bucktrough/Mahogany Pasture, North Fork Malheur River.

During the 2012 grazing season the District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team reviewed 30 pastures and determined the appropriate monitoring to be conducted on these pastures and field verified if habitat occurred.

The various endpoint indicators directed in the USFWS Biological Opinion (9/6/12) were not implemented during the 2012 grazing season on the Prairie City Ranger District as letters of instructions and annual operating plans had already been issued. Implementation of the revised endpoint indicators will occur during the 2013 grazing season.

Upper John Day River Sub-Basin Allotments

1. Deardorff Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is NLAA and from USFWS is LAA/NLAA.

Description

The one-pasture Deardorff Allotment is composed of approximately 11,926 acres (11,105 under the National Forest system ownership, and 821 acres of private land). The allotment contains approximately 8 miles of occupied bull trout CH on North Fork Deardorff, South Fork Deardorff and Deardorff Creeks. However 1 mile of the occupied bull trout CH is located on private land that is not waived to the Forest Service for administration. The Deardorff Allotment contains approximately 5 miles of occupied steelhead CH, mostly in Deardorff Creek. Currently the following habitat areas and seasonal activities have been identified for listed fish species in the allotment.

Bull Trout and Steelhead Habitat Use and Locations of Critical Habitat

Pasture	Stream	Migration /Winter	Summer Rearing	Spawning	Designated Critical Habitat
Deardorff	Deardorff Creek	BuT, StH	BuT, StH	BuT, StH	BuT: 8 miles StH: 5 miles

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01839	100c/c	482	6/10-9/30

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Deardorff	06/10 – 09/30	75c/c	06/27 – 08/28	5 c/c
Deardorff	06/10 – 09/30	75c/c	06/27 – 08/29	1 c/c
Deardorff	06/10 – 09/30	75c/c	06/27 – 09/03	2 c/c
Deardorff	06/10 – 09/30	75c/c	06/27 – 09/05	4 c/c
Deardorff	06/10 – 09/30	75c/c	06/27 – 09/09	11 c/c
Deardorff	06/10 – 09/30	75c/c	06/27 – 09/13	11 c/c
Deardorff	06/10 – 09/30	75c/c	06/27 – 09/16	6 c/c
Deardorff	06/10 – 09/30	75c/c	06/27 – 09/25	6 c/c
Deardorff	06/10 – 09/30	75c/c	06/27 – 10/03	7 c/c
Deardorff	06/10 – 09/30	75c/c	06/27 – 10/20	2 c/c

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	Key Area	Results	Comments
Deardorff	06-18	Deardorff Creek and FS Road 13	None Found	Inspected completed corral prior to turn out
Deardorff	06-26	Deardorff Creek and FS Road 13	None Found	Checked Forest Service Road 13
Deardorff	06-27	Deardorff	None Found	Checked Forest Service Road 13

Pasture	Date	Key Area	Results	Comments
		Creek and FS Road 13		
Deardorff	06-28	Deardorff Creek and FS Road 13	None Found	Checked Forest Service Road 13
Deardorff	06-29	Deardorff Creek and FS Road 13	None Found	Checked Forest Service Road 13
Deardorff	08-07	Deardorff Creek and FS Road 13	None Found	IDT did a site visit
Deardorff	08-23	Deardorff Creek and FS Road 13	8 pair on rd	Permittee notified
Deardorff	08-27	Deardorff Creek and FS Road 13	None Found	Spawning surveys
Deardorff	08-29	Deardorff Creek and FS Road 13	None Found	Checked Forest Service Road 13
Deardorff	09-11	Deardorff Creek and FS Road 13	6 pair on rd	Checked Forest Service Road 13
Deardorff	09-18	Deardorff Creek and FS Road 13	1 pair on rd	Checked Forest Service Road 13
Deardorff	10-11	Deardorff Creek and FS Road 13	None Found	Checked Forest Service Road 13
Deardorff	10-23	Deardorff Creek and FS Road 13	None Found	Checked Forest Service Road 13

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Deardorff	08/29	Deardorff Creek	6”	14”	Light to Moderate Hedging	0%	20%	10%
Deardorff	10/11	Deardorff Creek (above rd. 13)	6”	None Present	Light to Moderate Hedging	30%	20%	10%
Deardorff	10/11	Beaver Dam	6”	6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	30%	20%	10%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
		Standard	Measured
Deardorff	08-29	45%	0%
Deardorff	10-11	45%	35%

Spawning Surveys

Livestock use the Deardorff Allotment during the bulltrout spawning period. Deardorff Creek and North Fork Deardorff Creek were surveyed for bull trout from the Forest boundary up to approximately0.5 river miles above FS road 13 on both creeks. The Deardorff Corral was surveyed multiple times beginning about mid-August. No redds were observed.

Pasture	Grazed	Date	# Redds Observed	Stream	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	Mitigation
Deardorff	Yes	08/27	0	Deardorff Creek	Bill Wall	0.05 miles from Bogue Gulch to Little Baldy	None needed
Deardorff	Yes	10/01	0	North Fork Deardorff Creek	Bill Wall	0.73 miles Above culvert	None needed

Recommendations from 2011

There were no recommendations from 2011.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team assessed monitoring sites for the Deardorff Allotment on August 7, 2012. They identified that the area does not met the MIMs protocol for establishment of a formal MIMs DMA. At Deardorff Creek above the 13 road (DC1) there was a lack of hydrophytic herbaceous vegetation, measuring bank alteration from livestock was not appropriate due to the substrate size and steep gradient of the step pool channel morphology. They recommended browse be the measurement at this site. This site will remain a photo monitoring site. On the North Fork Deardorff Creek (DC2) the plant community consisted of a dense conifer overstory with a large cobble substrate. This site was dropped as a monitoring site. On Deardorff Creek at the Beaver Dam (DC3) site there was a lack of hydrophytic herbaceous vegetation along the greenline with a hardwood conifer overstory, and cobble substrate. This site will also be monitored as a photo point. On the Deardorff Creek Key Area (DC4) there was also a lack of hydrophytic herbaceous vegetation, conifer overstory, and cobble substrate. This are will be monitored as a photo point. The areas main monitoring will be on upland benches adjacent to the channel.

The current Biological Assesment for the Deardorff Allotment states “After August 15th cattle that reach FS road 13 will be placed back at the top of the allotment in the uplands. When those animals reach the 13 road a second time these animals are removed from the allotment to prevent access into spawning habitat.” This strategy was implemented in 2012, as displayed in the previous actual use table.

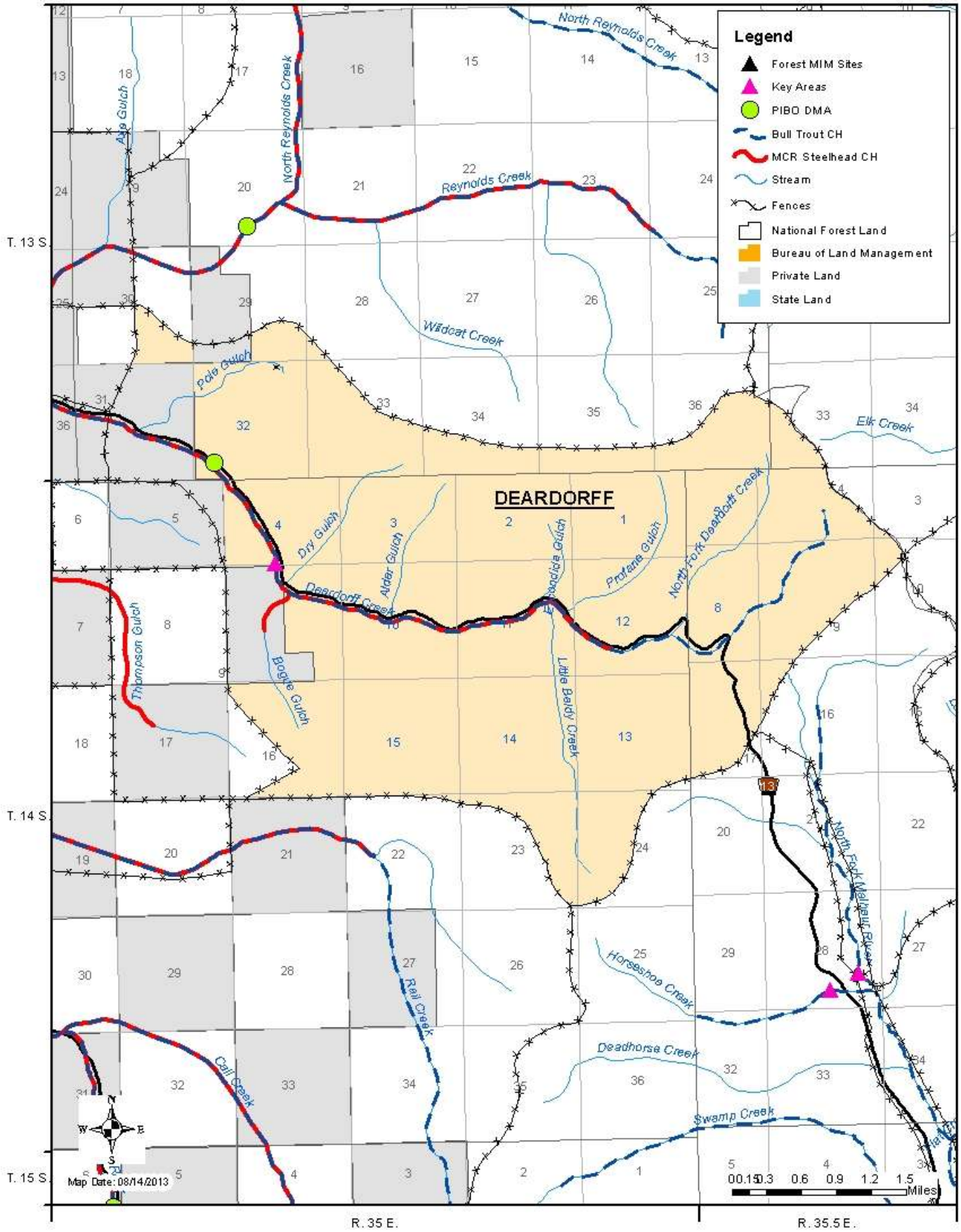
This season an additional wing (fence) was added to the corral on Deardorff Creek. The wing was designed to keep livestock off the creek to ensure no livestock/redd interaction occurred. The wing was completed prior to livestock being tuned onto the allotment in 2012. The corral is necessary to remove livestock from the Deardorff RHCA in a timely manner. Livestock use in the corral is small numbers of livestock for periods of time less than 12 hours, with no overnight stays.

Inspections and photo documentation determined the management for 2012 was in compliance with the AOI for this allotment as well as in compliance with all Forest Plan Standards as amended.

Management Recommendations For 2013

There are no proposed changes for the 2013 grazing season.

Deardorff Allotment



2. Hot Springs Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is NLAA and from USFWS is LAA/NLAA.

Description

The Hot Springs Allotment is composed of approximately 4,600 acres with 2,900 being National Forest system lands and 1,670 of private ownership. The allotment is made up of four grazing pastures. There is approximately 2 miles of occupied bull trout critical habitat and 2 miles of occupied steelhead critical habitat within the allotment. An Environmental Analysis was completed on the Allotment in 2007.

Bull Trout and Steelhead Habitat Use and Locations of Critical Habitat

Pasture	Stream	Migration /Winter	Summer Rearing	Spawning	Designated Critical Habitat
Gillette-Thompson	Thompson Gulch	StH	StH	StH	.86 miles
Hot Springs	Rail Creek	BuT,StH	BuT,StH	BuT,StH	1.34 miles

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01868	24 cow/calf pair 28 cow/calf pair	253	5/20-6/30 6/5 – 10/4
01868	75 yearlings	253	7/55-10/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Allen (on/off)	06/1-07/10	24 c/c	06/06-07/09	23 c/c (on), 1 bull (off)
RL (on/off)	05/20-10/15	35 c/c	06/21-09/12	10 c/c (on), 20 c/c (off), 1 bull (off)
Gullette/Thompson (on/off)	06/16-08/30	35 c/c	06/18-08/20	25 c/c (on), 1 bull (off)
Hot Springs (on/off)	07/15-10/15	75 yrlgs	07/27-10/14	46 yrlgs (on), 14 yrls (off), 2 bulls (off)

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Gillette-Thompson	07/17	Thompson Gulch	IDT conducted a site visit					
Gillette-Thompson	09/11	Thompson Gulch	6”	16+”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	0%
Hot Springs	07/17	Rail Creek	IDT conducted a site visit					
Hot Springs	09/11	Rail Creek	6”	None Present	Light to Moderate	10%	20%	0%

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
					Hedging			
Hot Springs	10/18	Rail Creek	6”	None Present	Light to Moderate Hedging	0%	20%	0%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
	Standard	Measured
Allen	50%	20%
RL	45%	15%
Gillette-Thompson	45%	0%
Gillette-Thompson	45%	0%
Hot Springs	45%	0%
Hot Springs	45%	20%
Hot Springs	45%	30%

Monitoring Conducted by Permittee

Pasture	Date	Upland Stubble	Riparian Stubble Height
Allen	10/18	6.5”	No hydrophytic species present
RL	10/18	10”	No hydrophytic species present
Gillette-Thompson	10/18	10”	No hydrophytic species present
Hot Springs	10/18	8”	8.47” (Kentucky bluegrass)

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

There were no recommendations from 2011.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team assessed the area on July 17 and identified that the area does not met the MIMs protocol for establishment of a formal DMA. At Thompson Gulch (GT1) the site was determined to be too small to be an official MIMs site. It contained a conifer overstory, with hydrophytic herbaceous vegetation only present at seep sites with very good riparian sedges. The team felt alteration was not an issue for livestock due to the lack of water and the cobble substrate in the channel. There was no browse present at the site which will

be monitored as a photo point. Rail Creek (HS1) has a conifer overstory with Grand Fir over taking alder, a steep Rosgen B channel type with a cobble substrate. The area will be monitored as a photo point with measurements being taken in the upland benches adjacent to the channel. The photo point will show changes in the vegetation within this area.

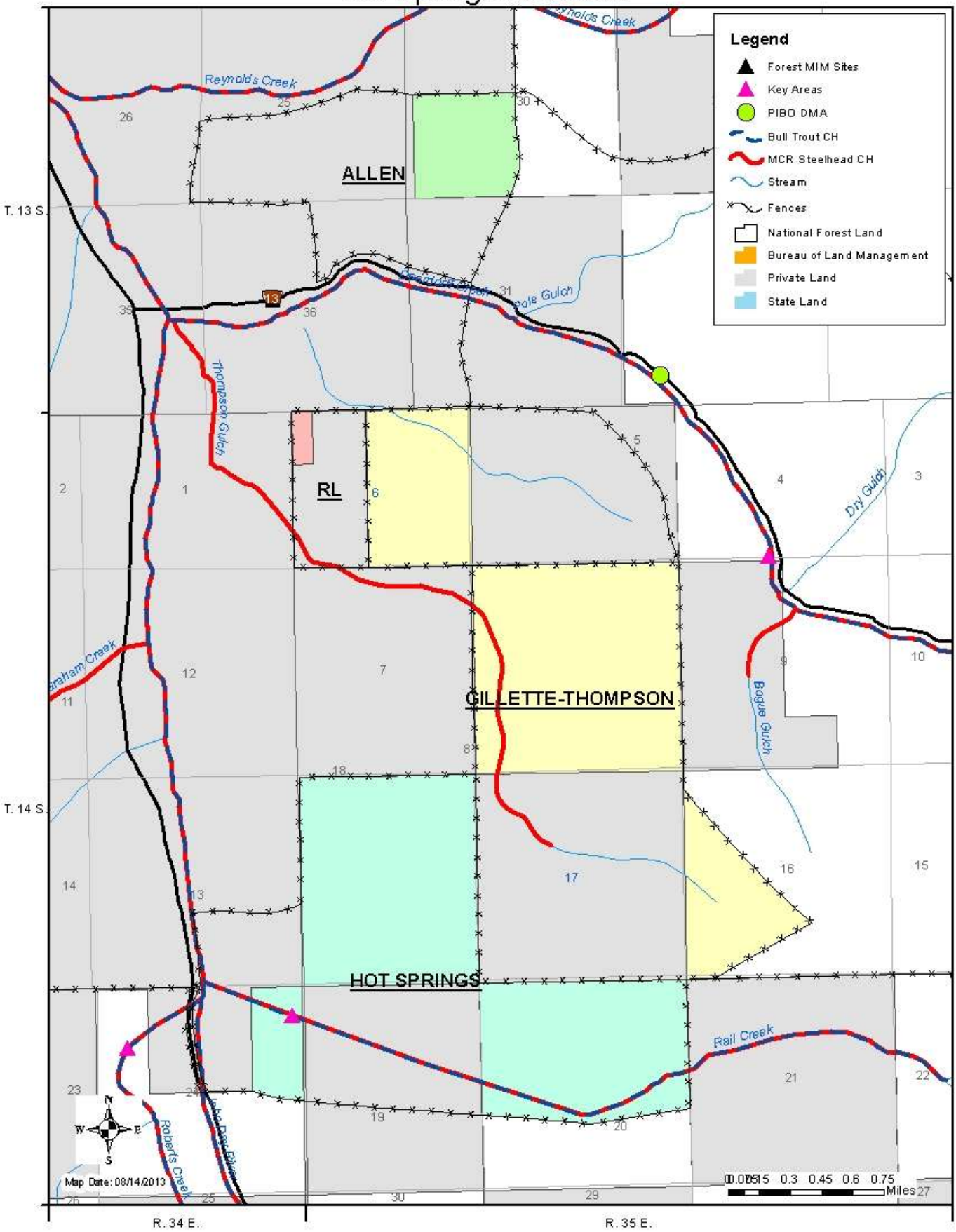
The management for 2012 was in compliance with the AOI for this allotment as well as in compliance with all Forest Plan Standards as amended.

There is no history of over utilization on this allotment. The permittee has always met standards and has always been within Forest Plan Standards for forage and shrub utilization.

Management Recommendations For 2013

There are no proposed changes for the 2013 grazing season.

Hot Springs Allotment



3. Indian Creek Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is NLAA and from USFWS is NE.

Description

The Indian Creek Allotment is a one pasture allotment comprised of approximately 1,290 acres. All MCR steelhead and Columbia River Bull trout spawning habitat is located below the Forest boundary on private land. Approximately 1 mile of steelhead critical habitat is present in Overholt Creek. However, an impassable perched culvert downstream of the allotment boundary prevents upstream access by steelhead into the allotment. The allotment has a previous NE determination and has not been consulted upon (Biological Evaluation, MNF, 3/25/07). An Environmental Analysis was completed on the Allotment in 2007.

Steelhead Habitat Use and Locations of Critical Habitat

Pasture	Stream	Migration /Winter	Summer Rearing	Spawning	Designated Critical Habitat
Indian Creek	Overholt Creek				StH:1miles

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01834	75	198	8/1-9/30

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Indian	07/02-9/30	50 c/c		

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Indian	08/07	Overholt Creek	IDT conducted a site visit					
Indian	09/25	Upper Overholt	6”	6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	10%	20%	4%
Indian	10/10	Lower Overholt	6”	None Present	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	4%
Indian	10/10	Upper Overholt	6”	None Present	Light to Moderate Hedging	30”	20%	7%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
		Standard	Measured
Indian	08-07	45%	0%
Indian	09-27	45%	25%
Indian	10-10	45%	35%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

There were no recommendations from 2011.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

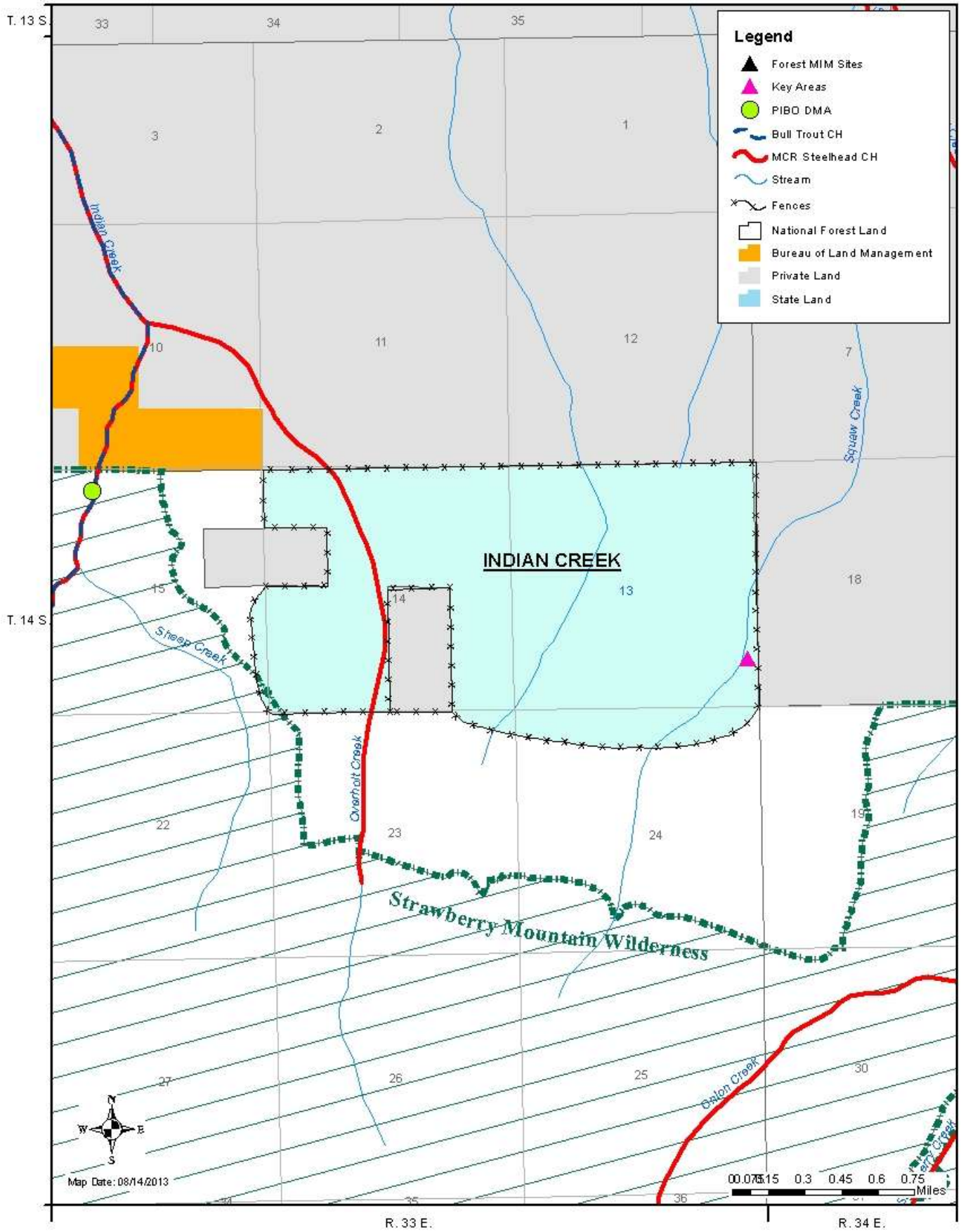
The management for 2012 was in compliance with the AOI for this allotment as well as in compliance with all Forest Plan Standards as amended.

The District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team assessed the area on August 7 and determined the area does not meet the MIMs protocol for establishment of a formal DMA. Two sites were examined on Overholt Creek; one site above the culvert and one site below the culvert. The first site is Lower Overholt Creek (IC1) which had a lack of hydrophytic herbaceous vegetation, a conifer overstory in a Rosgen B channel with step pools and an incised channel with a lack of hardwoods. The site will be monitored as a photo point. Upper Overholt Creek (IC2) has a lack of hydrophytic herbaceous vegetation with a Rosgen B channel with step pools. There is a hardwood plant community and alteration is not a concern. This site will be monitored as a photo point with measurements being taken in the upland benches adjacent to the channel. The photo point will show changes in the vegetation.

Management Recommendations For 2013

There are no proposed changes for the 2013 grazing season.

Indian Creek Allotment



4. Rail Creek Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from NMFS is NLAA and from USFWS is LAA/NLAA.

Description

The one-pasture Rail Creek Allotment is composed of approximately 27,332 acres with 17,569 under the National Forest System, and 9,763 acres of private holdings. Like the Hot Springs Allotment, Rail Creek is also part of the upper John Day River Valley known as the "checkerboard" lands, due to mixed ownership of federal and private lands. The private land is owned by three main entities, and most of it is not fenced. The Rail Creek Allotment is composed of one large pasture with multiple owners. An Environmental Analysis was completed on the Allotment in 2007.

The allotment contains approximately 20.9 miles of occupied bull trout CH however 9.64 miles of the occupied CH is located on private land that is not waived to the Forest Service for administration. The allotment also includes approximately 7.7 miles of potentially occupied steelhead habitat on the mainstem Call Creek, Rail Creek, Roberts Creek and the John Day River.

Bull Trout and Steelhead Use and Locations of Critical Habitat

Pasture	Stream	Migration /Winter	Summer Rearing	Spawning	Designated Critical Habitat
Rail Creek	Call Creek	BuT, StH	BuT, StH	BuT, StH	BuT: 3.80 mile StH: 2.11 miles
Rail Creek	Rail Creek	BuT, StH	BuT, StH	BuT, StH	BuT: 4.59 mile StH: 0.29 miles
Rail Creek	Roberts Creek	BuT, StH	BuT, StH	BuT, StH	BuT: 5.21 mile StH: 1.91 miles
Rail Creek	John Day River	BuT, StH	BuT, StH	BuT, StH	BuT: 7.30 mile StH: 3.43 miles

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01868	50	134	8/1-9/30

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Rail	08/01-9/30	50 c/c	08/05-09/30	50 c/c 2 bulls

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	Key Area	Results	Comments
Rail	09/06	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River	Livestock found	Permittee notified, removal requested
Rail	09/07	County Road	Livestock	Cattle relocated back to Summit Prairie

Pasture	Date	Key Area	Results	Comments
		62 and Upper John Day River	removed	Allotment
Rail	09/13	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River	Livestock removed	Cattle relocated back to Summit Prairie Allotment
Rail	09/14	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River	Reports of cattle	Permittee out removing cattle to relocate back to Summit Prairie Allotment
Rail	09/16	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River	Livestock removed	Cattle relocated back to Summit Prairie Allotment
Rail	09/17	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River	Reported findings to Permittees	Fence inspection conducted. Salt blacks located that were attracting cattle to wrong side of fence.
Rail	09/17	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River	Spawning surveys	No redds identified but livestock sign was noted.
Rail	09/18	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River	Livestock found	Permittee notified.
Rail	09/18	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River	Repairs completed	Rail Creek permittee repaired their section of fence, talked to hunter that placed salt bock at his tree stand that was attracting livestock to wrong side of fence.
Rail	09/19	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River	Livestock found	Permittee notified.
Rail	09/20	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River	Livestock found	Permittee notified
Rail	09/21	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River		Livestock removed from Rail Creek Allotment (taken home).
Rail	09/22	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River	Livestock found	Permittee notified
Rail	09/23	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River		Livestock removed from Rail Creek Allotment

Pasture	Date	Key Area	Results	Comments
Rail	09/24	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River		Summit Prairie permittee began taking livestock found near Rail Creek Allotment boundary home (1 month prior to schedule off date).
Rail	09/24	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River	Spawning surveys	No spawning behavior or redds found in section near Little Meadows. Two redds observed in the upper most western tributary w/no livestock or evidence of livestock found. Two redds were observed on private property.
Rail	09/26	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River	Livestock found	Livestock removed while permittee was out in area where cattle were found.
Rail	10/01	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River	Livestock found	Permittee notified
Rail	10/02	County Road 62 and Upper John Day River		Cattle removed from Rail Creek Allotment.

Excess Use Monitoring and Remedy

Excess use occurred during the 2012 grazing season in the headwaters of the John Day River during the bull trout spawning period. The boundary fence between the Rail Creek Allotment and the Summit Prairie Allotment was not maintained at a level to keep adjacent livestock from entering the Rail Creek Allotment. There was insufficient knowledge in regards to the condition of the fence by both the permittees and the Forest Service. This resulted in spending too much time unsuccessfully moving excess livestock out of the Rail Creek Allotment.

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Rail	07/07	Roberts Creek	IDT conducted a site visit					
Rail	09/07	Roberts Creek	6”	None Present	Light to Moderate Hedging	0%	20%	0%
Rail	09/11	Roberts Creek	6”	None Present	Light to Moderate Hedging	0%	20%	0%
Rail	10/01	Roberts Creek	6”	None Present	Light to Moderate Hedging	10%	20%	5%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
		Standard	Measured
Rail	07/17	45%	0%
Rail	09/07	45%	0%
Rail	09/11	45%	0%
Rail	10/01	45%	10%

Monitoring Conducted by Permittee

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Percent Utilization	Riparian Stubble Height
Rail	10/18	Little Meadow	Not Collected	11”

Spawning Surveys

In response to the excess use spawning surveys were conducted on September 17, September 21 and October 4, which covered all Forest land considered to be fish bearing including all designated bull trout critical habitat within the Rail Creek Allotment from Little Meadows to the upper fish bearing reaches. Surveyor was Bill Wall, District Fish Biologist for all dates, with Steve Namitz the Forest Fish Biologist assisting on September 17. Based on the survey results the potential for direct effect to bull trout spawning or eggs can be discounted. Survey results are below in table.

Pasture	Grazed	Date	# Redds Observed	Stream	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	Mitigation
Rail	Excess Use	09/17	0	John Day River	Bill Wall	1 mile	None needed
Rail	Excess Use	09/21	0	Roberts Creek	Bill Wall	.14 miles	None needed
Rail	Excess Use	09/21	2	John Day River	Steve Namitz	Private Land	None needed
Rail	Excess Use	10/04	0	John Day River	Bill Wall	2 miles	None needed

Recommendations from 2011:

There were no recommendations from 2011.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season:

Inspections and photo documentation determined the permittee’s management for 2012 was in compliance with the AOI for this allotment as well as in compliance with all Forest Plan Standards as amended.

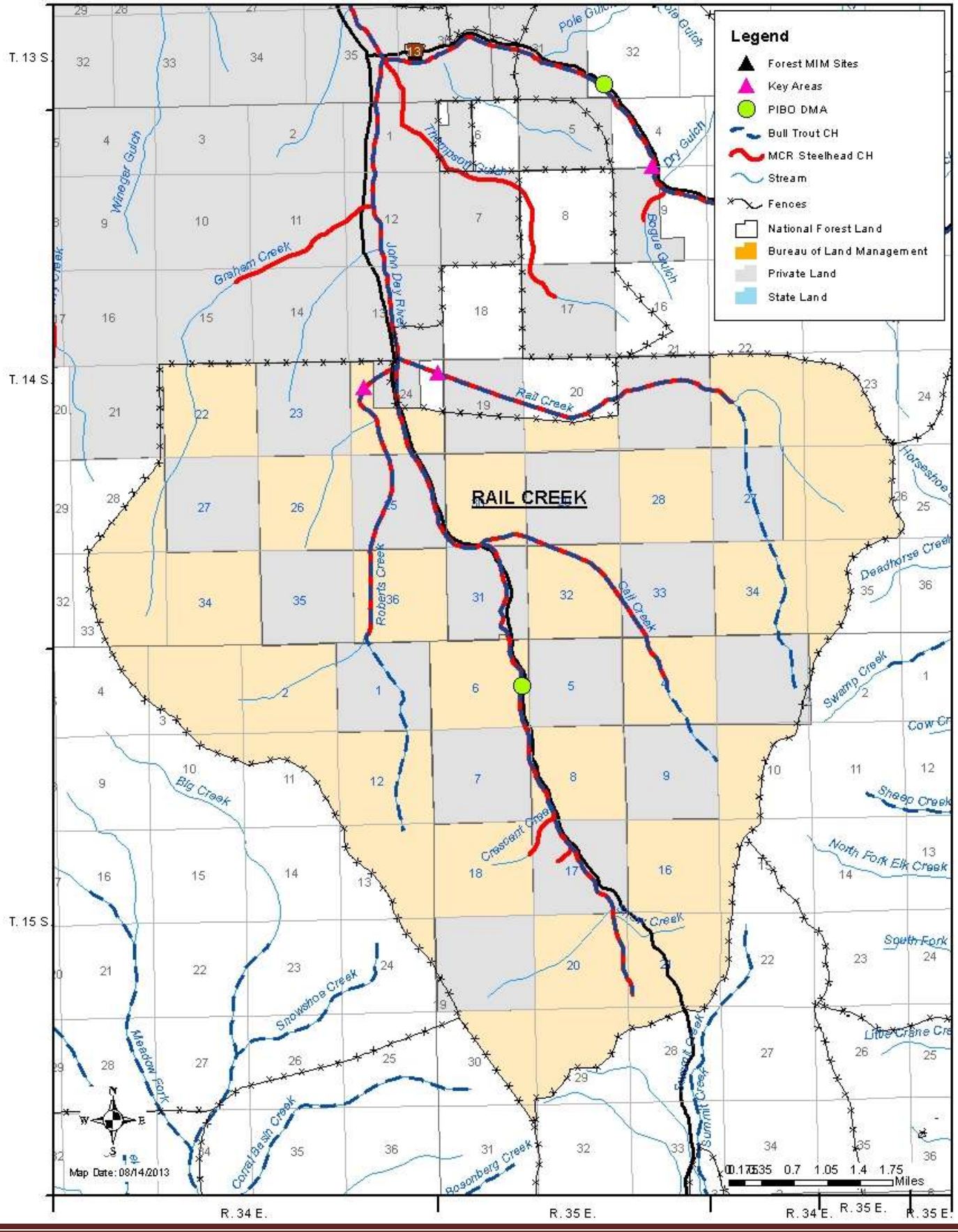
This allotment only has livestock placed on it from Roberts Creek north to the private land the area is monitored with a long term photo point site for the last 10 years. This site shows that the stream channel has not changed over time.

The District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team assessed the area on July 17 and identified that the area does not meet the MIMs protocol for establishment of a formal DMA. On Robert Creek (RC1) there was a lack of hydrophytic herbaceous vegetation, hardwoods with conifer overstory on a Rosgen B channel with cobble and step pools. This site will be monitored as a photo point with measurements being taken in the upland benches adjacent to the channel.

Management Recommendations For 2013

As a result of the excess use Forest personnel will inspect the Summit Prairie/Rail Creek allotment's fence to assure the fence is up and will effectively function as a barrier to prevent excess use from the Summit Prairie Allotment. Forest Service personnel will diligently inspect for and report any unauthorized within the John Day River RHCA. If appropriate management actions are not taken by the permittee, a Notice of Non-Compliance will be issued. If present during the bull trout spawning window spawning surveys will be conducted and appropriate protection measures will be implemented.

Rail Creek Allotment



Malheur River Sub-Basin Allotments

1. Bluebucket Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from USFWS is NLAA/NLAA.

Description

The Bluebucket Allotment is 22,951 acres in size, with approximately 4 miles of occupied bull trout habitat on the Malheur River, which is the eastern boundary of the allotment. No spawning or summer rearing habitat is present in the Malheur River where it flows through the Bluebucket allotment. However, migratory and winter rearing habitat for fluvial bull trout is present. Livestock have limited access to the Malheur River due to natural features of this allotment. Drift fences further limit livestock access across natural access points to the River. Due to these factors, no grazing by livestock occurs along the Malheur River. No spawning or summer rearing habitat for bull trout is present in tributaries on the allotment. There are no anadromous fisheries within the Bluebucket Allotment.

Bull Trout Use and Locations of Critical Habitat

Pasture	Stream	Migration /Winter	Summer Rearing	Spawning	Designated Critical Habitat
Cougar	Malheur River	BuT			1.0 miles
Lake Camp	Malheur River	BuT			1.5 miles
Rock Springs	Malheur River	BuT			1.5 miles

Community Allotment

The Bluebucket Allotment is a community allotment which has pastures divided between two permittees (Dunten ranch and Hussey Ranch) and will be discussed separately below.

Dunten Ranch

The Dunten Ranch (Permit # 01819) is currently authorized to graze the following pastures; Cow Camp, South Horse, Patchen Park, and Lake Camp Pastures.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01819	50	256	6/1-9/30

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Cow Camp (South Horse)	06/1-07/01	25 c/c	07/10-07/20	39 c/c, 2 bull
Patchen Park	06/22-07/01	25 c/c	06/06-07/20	8 c/c, 1 bull
			06/30-07-20	39 c/c, 2 bulls
Lake Camp	07/02-09/30	50 c/c	07/21-09-19	44 c/c, 3 bulls
			07/21-09-20	2 c/c
			07/21-10/20	1 cos

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
		Standard	Measured
Patchen Park	08-15	50%	35%
Cow Camp	08-15	50%	35%
Lake Camp	09-18	45%	20%
Lake Camp	10-01	45%	25%

Monitoring Conducted by Permittee

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Percent Utilization
Patchen Park	09-20		6” or 30%
Cow Camp	09-20		
Lake Camp	09-20	Between exclosure @ Lake Camp	5”
Lake Camp	09-20	Dry Meadows	8.33”
Lake Camp	09-20	Upper portion of Lake Camp (uplands)	7.5”

Spawning Survey

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

There were no recommendations from 2011.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The management for 2012 was in compliance with the Letter of Authorization for this portion of the allotment as well as in compliance with all Forest Plan Standards as amended.

Management Recommendations For 2013

There are no proposed changes for the 2013 grazing season.

Hussey Ranch

Jeff and Sherri Hussey (Permit # 01879) are currently authorized to graze the following pastures; Teepee, Rock Springs, Jones Springs, Cougar and Dry Meadow Pastures.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01879	330	1747	6/1-9/30

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Cougar	06/08-06/29	120 c/c	07/10-07/20	84 c/c
Cougar	06/08-06/29	120 c/c	06/09-07/02	34 c/c
Cougar	06/08-06/29	120 c/c	06/09-07/15	2 c/c
Cougar Riparian	Rested	Rested	Rested	Rested
Dry Meadows	06/30-09/10	120 c/c	07/01-08/25	84 c/c
Dry Meadows	06/30-09/10	120 c/c	07/03-08/25	34 c/c
Dry Meadows	06/30-09/10	120 c/c	07/16-08/25	2 c/c
Teepee	06/25-07/15	210 c/c	06/27-07/15	94 c/c
Teepee	06/25-07/15	210 c/c	06/27-07/20	54 c/c
Teepee	06/25-07/15	210 c/c	06/27-07/25	41 c/c
Teepee	06/25-07/15	210 c/c	06/27-07/27	16 c/c
Rock Springs	07/16-09/10	210 c/c	07/16-08/25	10 c/c
Rock Springs	07/16-09/10	210 c/c	07/16-08/28	84 c/c
Rock Springs	07/16-09/10	210 c/c	07/16-08/28	54 c/c
Rock Springs	07/16-09/10	210 c/c	07/26-08/28	41 c/c
Rock Springs	07/16-09/10	210 c/c	07/28-08/28	8 c/c
Rock Springs	07/16-09/10	210 c/c	07/28-08/30	8 c/c
Jones Spring	08/27-09/10	20-30 c/c	08/25-08/26	184 c/c
Jones Spring	08/27-09/10	20-30 c/c	08/28-08/29	132 c/c
Jones Spring	08/27-09/10	20-30 c/c	08/30-09/03	8 c/c

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	Key Area	Results	Comments
Cougar Riparian	08/18	Cougar Creek	No livestock found	12” stubble on sword leaf rush

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Teepee	07/02	Non-Use						
Teepee	08/15	Teepee Creek	4”	5”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	10%
Teepee	08/15	Upper Bluebucket	4”	5”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	0%
Teepee	08/15	Lower Bluebucket	4”	7+”	Light to Moderate Hedging	30%	20%	4%
Teepee	09/30	Bluebucket Creek (PIBO DMA)	4”	7.4”	Light to Moderate Hedging	13%	20%	6%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
		Standard	Measured
Cougar	07/02	35%	25%
Cougar	08/15	35%	35%
Dry Meadows	08/15	35%	25%
Dry Meadows	09/18	35%	35%
Rock Springs	08/15	45%	35%
Rock Springs	09/18	45%	35%
Jones Spring	09/18	45%	20%
Teepee	07/02	45%	0%
Teepee	08/15	45%	25%

Monitoring Conducted by Permittee

Pasture	Monitoring Location	Percent Utilization	Riparian Stubble Height
Teepee	Jones Creek	Not Monitored	7”
Teepee	Upper Bluebucket Creek	Not Monitored	13”

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

The Cougar Riparian Pasture will continue to be in nonuse for resource protection until the Environmental Analysis is conducted on this allotment.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The management for 2012 was in compliance with the Letter of Authorization for this portion of the allotment as well as in compliance with all Forest Plan Standards as amended. The Cougar Riparian Pasture was rested in 2012 as planned (see Actual Use Table). There are three established MIMs sites within the Bluebucket Allotment; two on Cougar Creek and one on Bluebucket Creek. Implementation monitoring was conducted on the Bluebucket Creek site. No new USFS Multiple Indicator Monitoring sites were established during the 2012 grazing season.

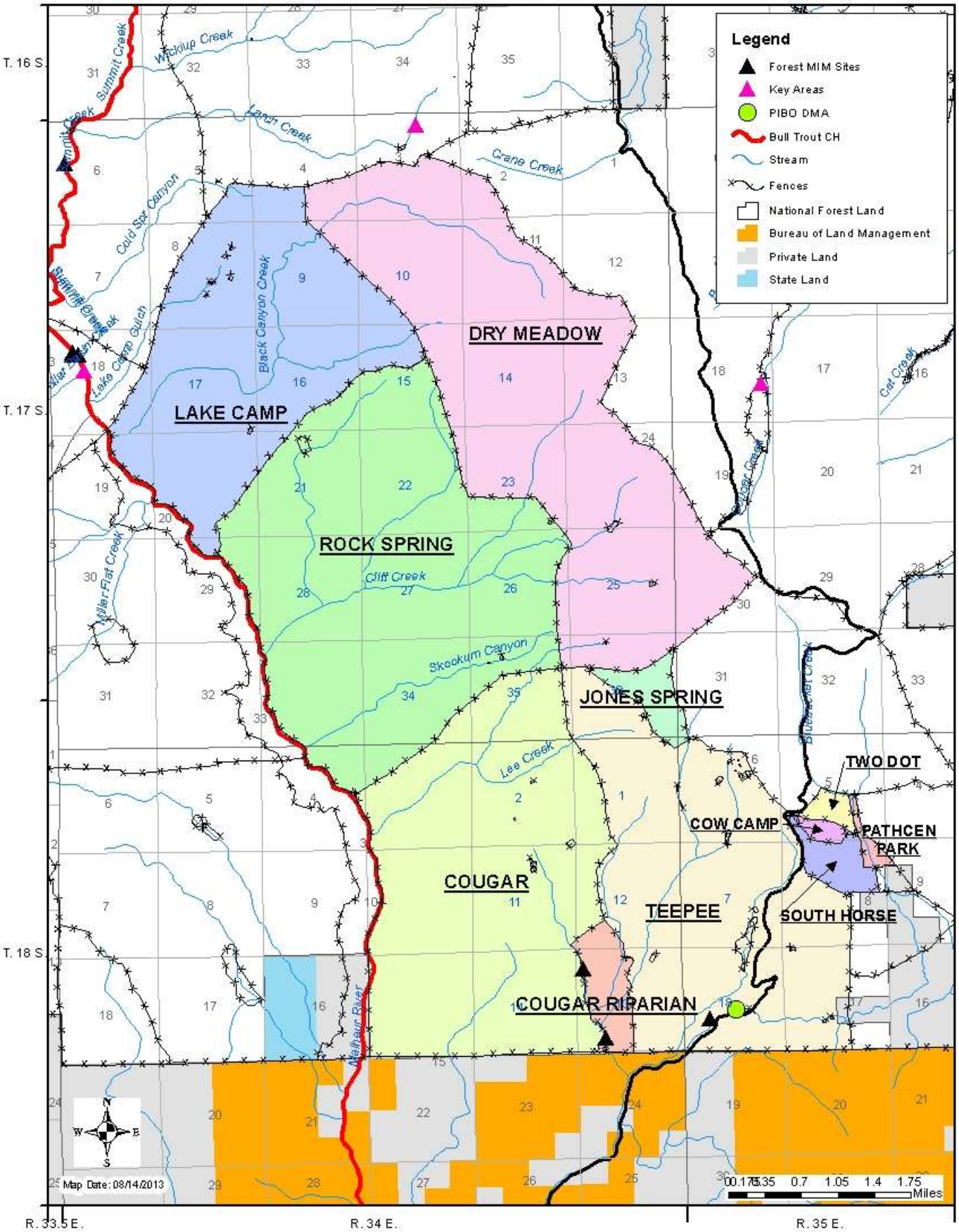
On September 9, 2012, Bill Wall, District Fish Biologist, walked the Malheur River Trail (303) from the trailhead downstream for 2.0 miles within the Bluebucket Allotment. There was no evidence of livestock or any evidence of large ungulate use or damage to the riparian area or stream. Access from the hill slopes is difficult.

On November 17, 2011, an interdisciplinary team from Emigrant Creek Ranger District walked the River Corridor and found that the allotment fence crossing the Malheur River just below the Malheur Ford (Dollar Basin Allotment) appears to be stopping livestock movement down the river to adjoining allotment (Bluebucket and Central Malheur Allotments). There was no evidence of livestock grazing on vegetation, or contributing to bank alteration. This also seemed to be true for the east side of the river (on Bluebucket Allotment) with our limited views from 100-200 feet away.

Management Recommendations For 2013

There are no proposed changes for the 2013 grazing season.

Bluebucket Allotment



2. Dollar Basin/Star Glade Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from USFWS is LAA/NLAA for Dollar Basin and NLAA/NLAA for Star Glade allotments.

Description

The Dollar Basin/Star Glade allotments are 18,164 gross acres in size (17,435 acres of NFS lands, and 729 private acres). The Dollar Basin Allotment has 6 main pastures. The Star Glade On/Off Allotment has 2 pastures. One pasture in the Star Glade Allotment is totally Forest Service land and the other is private land with two small portions of Forest Service uplands intermixed.

There are approximately 8 miles of occupied or potential bull trout habitat on Dollar Basin and Star Glade Allotments with no bull trout spawning habitat present. The table below shows current habitat distribution and seasonal use. In the Dollar Basin Allotment, the Dollar (Malheur River), North Starvation (Crooked Creek) and Merit (Crooked Creek) pastures have stream segments utilized for migration and overwintering habitat. The South Star Glade (Malheur River) Pasture is identified as migration and overwintering habitat. There are no anadromous fisheries within these allotments.

Bull Trout Habitat Use and Locations of Critical Habitat

Pasture	Stream	Migration /Winter	Summer Rearing	Spawning	Designated Critical Habitat
Dollar	Summit Creek				.14 miles (U)
Dollar	Malheur River	BuT			3.6 miles
South Star Glade	Malheur River	BuT			1.4 miles
North Starvation	Crooked Creek	BuT			.9 miles (U)
Merit	Crooked Creek	BuT			6.7 miles (U)
Rocking Chair	McCoy Creek	McCoy Creek does not lie within the boundary of this pasture and is located on private lands			.35 miles (U)

During the 2012 grazing season the District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team reviewed the Rocking Chair pasture for the area identified as critical habitat and discovered that it was an old irrigation ditch that was not in use. McCoy Creek is corridor fenced on the adjacent private land approximately 0.2 miles away from the old ditch line. The team agreed that this pasture did not have critical habitat located on it and it was a mapping error.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01824	180	1520	6/10-10/10

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
South Star Glade	06/10-07/10	50 yrlgs	07/15-07/24	50 yrlgs
Dollar Basin	06/10-06/20	166 c/c	06/22-07/02	54 c/c, 4 bulls

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Dollar	06/21-07/31	166 c/c	07/03-08/15	54 c/c, 4 bulls
			07/10-08/15	58 c/c, 4 bulls
Rocking Chair	07/10-09/02	50 c/c	No use due to Parish Cabin	
Merit	07/11-09/22	50 yrlgs	Pasture was not used	
Merit	08/01-09/22	166 c/c	08/16-09/15	116 c/c
Merit	09/03-09/22	50 c/c	Pasture was not used	
South Starvation	07/11-08/11	50 yrlgs	09/16-09/19	58 c/c
North Starvation	09/23-10/10	20-30 pair	06/22-09/19	58 c/c

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	Key Area	Results	Comments
South Star Glade	07-26	Malheur River	No livestock found	None
Dollar	08-20	Malheur River	No livestock found	None

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
South Star Glade	07/23	Malheur River	4”	7”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	15%
South Star Glade	08/30	Malheur River	4”	6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	30%	20%	6%
South Star Glade	09/20	Malheur River	IDT conducted a site visit and agreed with August 30 findings.					
Dollar	08/08	Malheur River	4”	5”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Monitored	20%	12%
Dollar	08/30	Malheur River	4”	5”	Light to Moderate Hedging	50%	20%	7%
Dollar	09/20	Malheur River	IDT conducted a site visit					
Dollar	11/06	Malheur River	4”	3.3”	Light to Moderate Hedging	70%	20%	22%
Merit	09/19	Upper Crooked Creek (log weirs)	6”	5”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	15%	11%
Merit	10/03	Upper Crooked Creek (log weirs)	6”	6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	15%	19%[1]
North Starvation	10/03	Crooked Creek	6”	7”	Light to Moderate	Not Present	15%	15%

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
					Hedging			

[1.] Team agreed that this was not an appropriate site to monitor alteration.

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
		Standard	Measured
Starvation	10-06	50%	10%
Dollar Basin	07-03	50%	10%
Rocking Chair	08-15	45% Use	0%
Rocking Chair	10-03	IDT did a site visit	
South Star Glade	07-23	45%	0%
South Star Glade	08-30	45%	35%
South Star Glade	09-20	Team agreed with the monitoring numbers previously collected on August 30.	
Dollar	08-08	45%	0%
Dollar	08-30	45%	35%
Dollar	09-20	IDT conducted a site visit	
Dollar	11-06	45%	35%
Merit	09-19	45%	0%
Merit	10-03	45%	0%
North Starvation	10-03	45%	0%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

There were no recommendations from 2011.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The 2012 allotment monitoring was conducted as scheduled. An additional check was done on South Star Glade and Dollar pastures for unauthorized use after the scheduled use period. The fence to be completed within the Dollar pasture along the Malheur River was not completed and there was more use that occurred along the lower portion of the river corridor then was anticipated.

Merit Pasture

The District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team assessed the area on October 3 and determined that measuring bank alteration within the log weir section of Crooked Creek (M 1) did not met the MIMS protocol and starting with the 2013 grazing season this site will only be monitored for stubble height and browse.

Rocking Chair Pasture

The District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team assessed the area on October 3, to review Critical Bull Trout Habitat that was identified within this pasture. However on review of the area on the ground we found that the areas identified as critical habitat was a ditch that comes from the private land onto a corner of the pasture. However the ditch line is not used and McCoy Creek is located on private land and is corridor fenced. The IDT identified that this was a mapping error and needed to be fixed on the forest layer map for bull trout critical habitat.

South Star Glade Pasture

The District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team assessed the area on September 20 and determined that the areas still met the monitoring results that were collected on August 30.

Dollar Pasture

The District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team assessed the area on September 20 and agreed as a group the endpoint indicators had been exceeded. . End of season monitoring measured 3.3 inches of stubble height on key species. The group reviewed historical information to better understand the effects to the riparian condition from this one time exceedance.

The historical information that was reviewed will be shared. The potential channel type for this reach is a Rosgen B3 or B4 (cobble or gravel) with moderately confined to confined valley form. This suggests that the channel type is controlled by the geology of the basalt canyon. The vegetative potential type for this channel type is mixed conifer plant association on the toe slopes with alder-willow/sedge-rush community type and small sedge-rush stringer communities along the stream banks. Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) inventories were done in 2003 and repeated in 2012 and help to provide insight on the existing condition. The bankfull width/depth was observed to be too high, suggesting the channel is overwidened. The riparian zone has the potential to widen in extent both towards the toe slopes and narrow into the stream channel. The alder distribution increased downstream of Tureman Creek, with the lower part of the reach had multiple age classes of alder with some willow. Stabilizing plant cover was estimated at 60% throughout the entire reach. The channel type and stream gradient suggest that at least 70% stabilizing plant cover is needed to be in a properly functioning condition. Thus, it needs a 10% expansion of sedges and rushes to meet this condition. Wood and rock were abundantly observed throughout this reach as functioning to provide bank stability.

A permanent Designated Monitoring Area (DMA) was established within the most sensitive riparian complex in the Dollar Pasture. Full MIM effectiveness monitoring was recorded on 9/27/2011. Because the stubble height was exceeded and vegetative attributes were suggested to not meet PFC condition, the vegetative attributes from the MIM recording will also be presented. Mesic forbs occurred throughout the DMA in the most plots, with a constancy of 80 (i.e. occurs in 65 of 81 plots). The average plant cover across the plots that it occurred in had 39% cover. Next, aquatic sedge had constancy of 47 with cover at 35%. Mesic grasses had constancy of 36 with cover at 35%. Baltic rush had constancy of 35 with cover at 31%. Rock had constancy of

23 with cover at 49%. Nebraska sedge had constancy of 17 with cover at 33%. Alder had constancy of 4 with cover at 87%. This detailed monitoring data for vegetative attributes support the PFC observations for stabilizing plant cover. Mesic forbs and grasses first and third biggest distributions across the DMA. It is assuring to observe that stabilizing plants, aquatic sedge and Baltic rush are 2nd and 4th in distribution.

A review of the previous 6 grazing seasons suggest there have not been any previous exceedances.

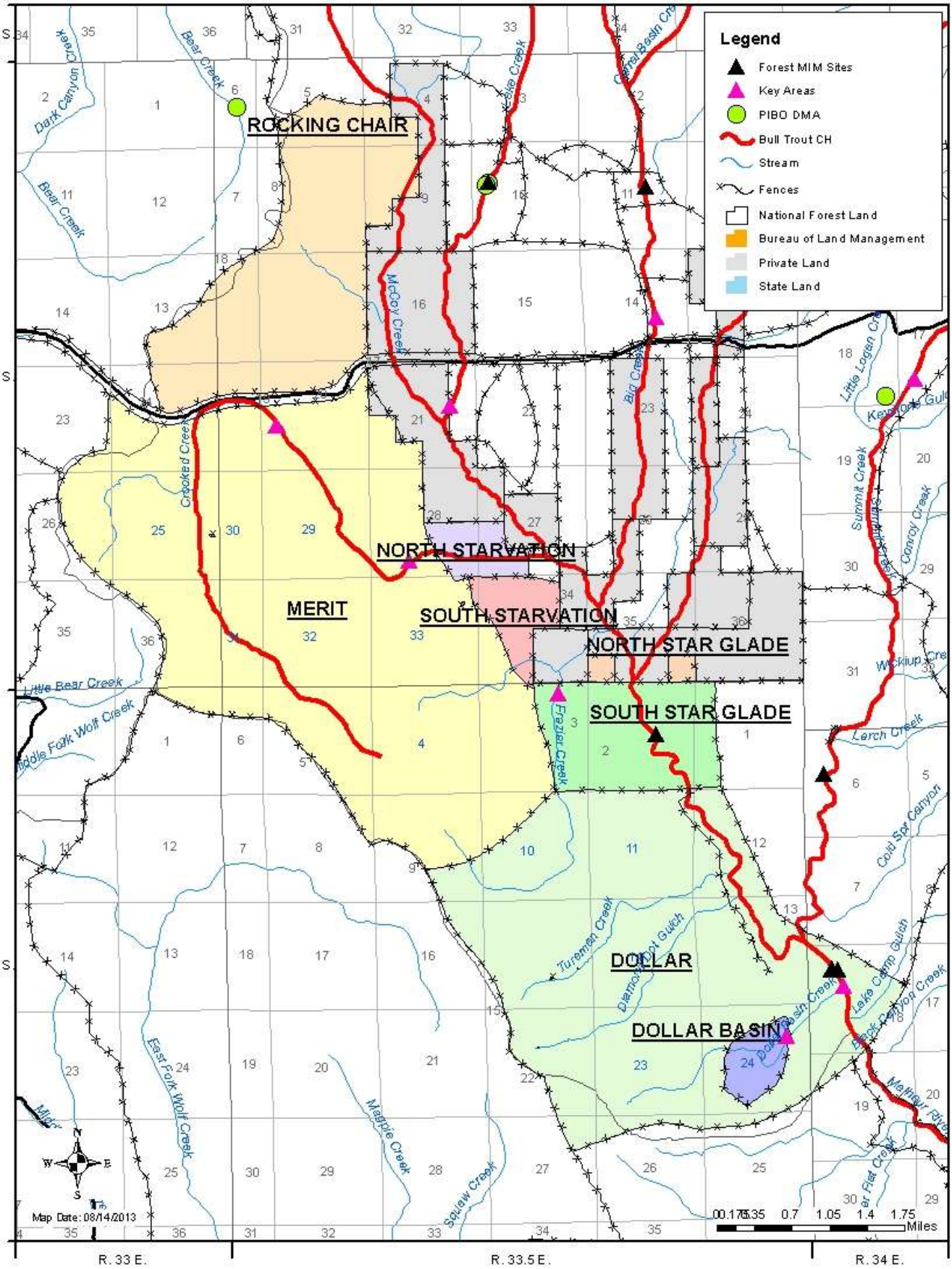
The ID Team discussed the stubble height exceedance in light of this information. Plant vigor will likely be set back from this exceedance with the potential. Also, bank building processes may be affected because of the reduction in residual stubble to not capture as much sediment from spring runoff. Finally, there may be a slower response in the expansion of stabilizing plant cover if utilization rates exceed standards.

Management Recommendations For 2013

For the 2013 grazing season livestock grazing is scheduled in the South Star Glade Pasture, after two weeks on the pasture the river will be checked regularly to insure that all standards are met on this pasture while livestock are present. In addition one (1) upland water development is planned for completion in 2013-2014.

The recommendation from the group for the Dollar Pasture was to get the fence finished so the river can be rested for a minimum of five years. This rest should allow a jump start to occur in the expansion of stabilizing plant cover. If the corridor fence is not completed prior to scheduled use, livestock will be placed on Frazier Ridge at Diamond Dot & McArthur Springs. Further, low moisture supplement will be used to keep the livestock away from the river and up on the ridges. Periodic riding of the river will occur to clean out any livestock that have drifted down to the Malheur River. Within season monitoring of the river will be conducted weekly after the end of the third week. In addition, two (2) upland water developments are planned for completion in 2013-2014.

Dollar Basin - Star Glade Allotment



3. Logan Valley Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from USFWS is NLAA/NLAA.

Description

The Logan Valley Allotment is approximately 3,770 acres in size, and is comprised of eleven (11) active pastures. There is about 2.7 miles of occupied bull trout designated CH, and 0.25 miles of unoccupied designated CH in the Logan Valley Allotment. Bull trout spawning habitat is found in Big Creek in the East Lake Creek, North Big Creek, and South Big Creek pastures. There are no anadromous fisheries within this allotment. Currently there are approximately eleven active pastures, with some pastures typically being used early in the grazing season due to availability of late season water and/or bull trout spawning timing restrictions.

Bull Trout Habitat Uses and Locations of Critical Habitat

Pasture	Stream	Migration /Winter	Summer Rearing	Spawning	Designated Critical Habitat
West Lake Creek	Lake Creek	BuT			1.02 miles
East Lake Creek	Big Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	.32 miles
North Big Creek	Big Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	.74 miles
South Big Creek	Big Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	.49 miles
West Bosenberg	Big Creek	BuT	BuT		.13 miles
Corral Holding	Bosenberg Creek	BuT			.12 miles (U)
Lower Field	Bosenberg Creek				.12 miles (U)
East Bosenberg	Bosenberg Creek	Bosenberg Creek does not lie within the boundary of this pasture and is located on private lands			.01 miles

During the 2012 grazing season the District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team reviewed the East Bosenberg pasture for the area identified as critical habitat and discovered that it is an old irrigation ditch and there is an active fish screen placed on the ditch (which is off Bosenberg Creek). The team agreed that this pasture did not have critical habitat located on it and it was a mapping error.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01870	357	1983	6/10-10/15

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Front Field	Non-Use	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lower Field	06/10-06/30	65 c/c		
West Bosenberg	06/10-07/01	65 c/c		
Flat Field/North Fork	06/10-07/10	160 c/c		
West Lake Creek	06/10-07/01	50 c/c		
North Big Creek	07/01-08/12	65 c/c		

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
South Big Creek	07/02-08/12	65 c/c		
East Big Creek	07/02-09/01	50 c/c		
	08/13-09/30	160 c/c		
Big Field	09/02-09/30	50 c/c		
	08/13-09/30	130 c/c		
	09/02-09/30	160 c/c		
East Bosenberg	09/30-10/10	357 cows		
Corral Holding	10/10-10/15	20-40 head		

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Monitored	Standard	Monitored
Lower Field	07/03	Bosenberg ditch area	4”	Not Monitored[7]	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	0%
Lower Field	08/08	Lower Bosenberg Creek	4”	No use along Bosenberg Creek	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	0%
Lower Field	10/03	Lower Bosenberg Creek	4”	7”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	7%
North Fork	10/03	Big Creek	4”	8”	Light to Moderate Hedging	0%	20%	0%
West Lake Creek	07/26	Lake Creek	4”	10”	Light to Moderate Hedging	0%	20%	15%
West Lake Creek	07/31	Lake Creek	4”	10”	Light to Moderate Hedging	0%	20%	17%
West Lake Creek	09/13	Lake Creek	4”	9”	Light to Moderate Hedging	2%	20%	16%
West Lake Creek	10/02	Lake Creek	4”	13”	Light to Moderate Hedging	40%	20%	12%
South Big Creek	07/23	Lower Big Creek	4”	10”	Light to Moderate Hedging	0%	20%	13%
South Big Creek	08/08	Lower Big Creek	4”	6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	0%	20%	19%
South Big Creek	09/13	Lower Big Creek	4”	6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	40%	20%	17%

[7] Ditch lines monitored as upland vegetation

North Big Creek	07/23	Upper Big Creek	4”	10”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Monitored	20%	13%
North Big Creek	09/13	Upper Big Creek	IDT conducted a site visit					
North Big Creek	09/13	Upper Big Creek	4”	9”	Light to Moderate Hedging	0%	20%	8%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
		Standard	Measured
East Lake Creek	09/19	50%	20%
East Lake Creek	10/09	50%	40%
Big Field	09/19	50%	20%
Big Field	10/22	50%	30%
East Bosenberg	10/09	50%	30%
West Bosenberg	07/03	50%	10%
West Bosenberg	08/08	50%	25%
Front	No Use		
Lower Field	07/03	50%	10%
Lower Field	08/08	50%	25%
Lower Field	10/03	50%	Not Monitored
Flat Field	07/03	50%	10%
North Field	08/08	50%	15%
Flat/North Field	10/03	50%	25%
North Big Creek	09/13	IDT did a site visit	
North Big Creek	09/13	50% Use	25%

Spawning Surveys

Although grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season a spawning survey was conducted in conjunction with implementation monitoring on Big Creek. The site is just upstream from the old bridge crossing. No redds were observed.

Pasture	Grazed	Date	# Redds Observed	Stream	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	Mitigation
North Big Creek	Y	09/13	0	Big Creek	Wall, Britt, Hassmiller		None needed

Recommendations from 2011

There were no recommendations from 2011.

Summary for 2012 Grazing Season

The management for 2012 was in compliance with the Letter of Authorization for this allotment as well as in compliance with all Forest Plan Standards as amended. The 2012 allotment monitoring was conducted as scheduled. There are no proposed changes for the 2013 grazing season.

East Bosenberg Pasture

During the 2012 grazing season the District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team reviewed the East Bosenberg pasture identified as critical habitat and discovered that it is an irrigation ditch and there is an active fish screen placed on the ditch (which is off Bosenberg Creek). The team agreed that this pasture did not have critical habitat located on it and it was a mapping error.

North Big Creek Pasture

The District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team assessed the DMA on Big Creek in the North Big Creek pasture on September 13, the team agreed that the area does not meet the stubble height protocol so in the future stubble height will not be used here. Use will be monitored on browse and bank alteration because there is a lack of hydrophytic species insufficient amounts to sample, a conifer overstory with alder in openings in a Rosgen D channel type.

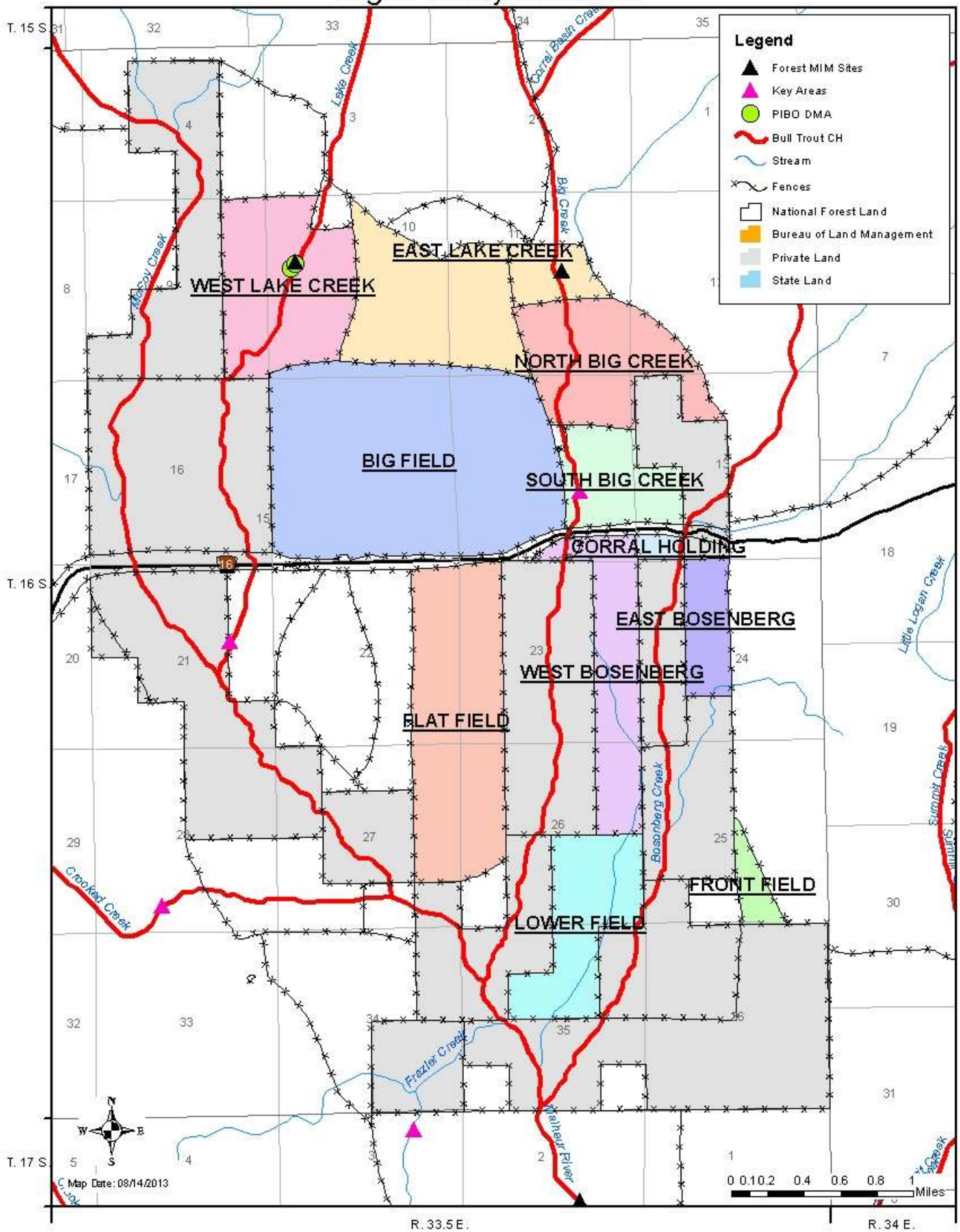
During the 2012 grazing season the east side of Big Creek in the West Bosenberg pasture was fenced and the access point (water gap) was hardened.

This allotment is being analyzed in the Summit/Logan Valley Range NEPA process and consultation with USFWS will be initiated for the project.

Management Recommendations For 2013

During the 2013 season off-site water is planned off of Lake Creek along with corridor fencing Lake Creek within the West Lake Creek pasture. Also off-site water will be developed off of Big Creek to add water to the Big Field, Flat Field, North and South Big Creek pastures in the 2013-2014 season.

Logan Valley Allotment



4. McCoy Creek Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call for this allotment from USFWS is NLAA/LAA.

Description

The allotment is composed of 980 acres. There are 7 pastures with four main pastures used by the permittee and three other pastures that are disconnected from the main allotment that are not currently or planned to be used by the permittee (current analysis with the Summit Logan Project is proposing incorporating these pastures into other adjacent allotments). There is approximately 1 mile of occupied bull trout habitat within the McCoy Allotment. There are no anadromous fisheries within this allotment.

Bull Trout Habitat Uses and Locations of Critical Habitat

Pasture	Stream	Migration /Winter	Summer Rearing	Spawning	Designated Critical Habitat
Cow Camp	Lake Creek	BuT			.51 miles
Starvation	Lake Creek	BuT			.22 miles
Starvation	Crooked Creek	BuT			.16 miles (U)
North Fork	Big Creek	BuT	BuT		.02 miles

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01834	63	421	6/1-10/30

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Cow Camp	06/15-10/15	22 c/c		
Ridge/Dry	06/15-10/15	21 c/c		
Gov't Flat	06/15-10/15	22 c/c		
North Fork	Non-Use. Used with Flat Field of Logan Valley. Results are shown in the Logan Valley Allotment section.			
Starvation	Non-Use	Non-Use		
Lake Creek	Non-Use	Non-Use		

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Starvation	10/03	Lake Creek	4"	8"	Light to Moderate Hedging	Willows cut due to Beaver activity	20%	0"

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
		Standard	Measured

Pasture	Date	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
Cow Camp	09/13	IDT conducted a site visit	
	09/19	50%	35%
Ridge/Dry	09/19	50%	25%
Gov't Flat	09/19	50%	35%
Starvation	10/03	50%	20%
North Fork	10/03	IDT conducted a site visit	

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

There were no recommendations from 2011.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The management for 2012 was in compliance with the Letter of Authorization for this allotment as well as in compliance with all Forest Plan Standards as amended.

Cow Camp Pasture

During the 2012 grazing season the lower water gap area in the southeast corner of the Cow Camp pasture was fenced off and an approximate 20 foot access point (water gap) was developed. Also the first 0.5 miles of the pasture which has the majority of the willows and beaver dams was fenced off.

The District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team assessed Lake Creek in the Cow Camp pasture on September 13 and discussed how to monitor the remaining portion of Lake Creek that is not fenced within the Cow Camp pasture. This portion of the channel goes dry by late June to early July. It was discussed that the water master had clarified that the east side of Lake Creek is the ditch the private land owner to the north has a water right on. It was agreed to photo monitor this approximately 300 foot section both pre and post grazing. The team agreed that this monitoring would begin during the 2013 grazing season.

North Fork Pasture

The District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team assessed Big Creek critical habitat in the North Fork pasture on October 3 and found that the use on the area was well within required standards. The North Fork pasture is used by the Logan Valley Allotment with the Flat Field pasture. During use of this pasture an electric fence is used to keep livestock off of Big Creek and the cattle water off of the main ditch line of Big Creek. The vegetation within the electric fenced area was 8 inches in height and we did not see any affect from this year that would be carried over to next year. We did talk about protection of willows that are present in the area.

This allotment is being analyzed in the Summit Logan Valley Range NEPA process. There is a proposal in one of the alternatives to fence this small section of Big Creek off from the remainder of the North Fork pasture with a small water access point remaining for watering livestock with. Consultation with USFWS will be initiated for the project.

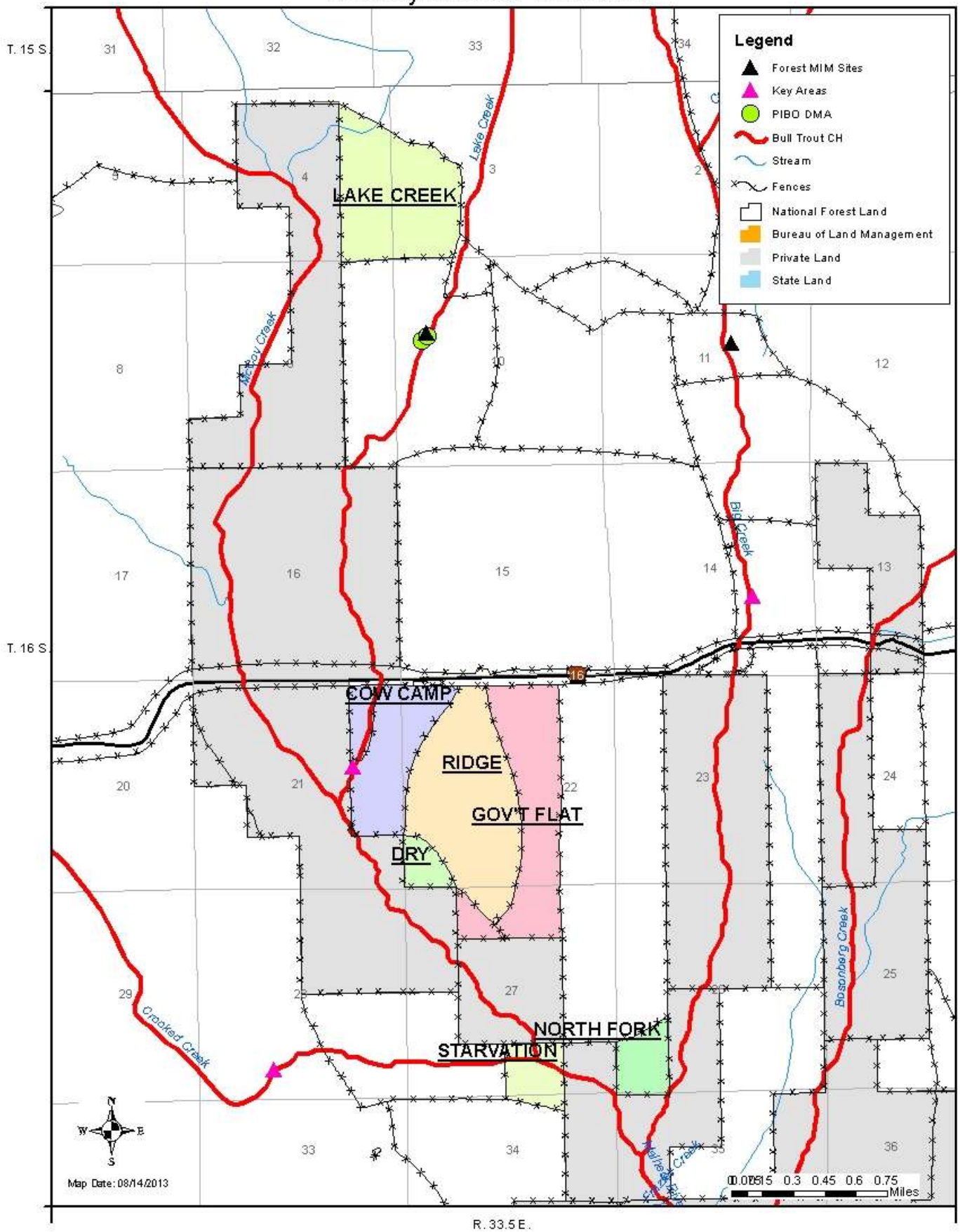
Starvation Pasture

The District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team assessed critical habitat on Lake Creek in the Starvation pasture on October 3 and found that use had occurred from livestock being placed on the pasture from adjacent tribal lands. Representatives from the Burn Paiute Tribe will be contacted to discuss avoiding this situation in the future. The vegetation within the greenline had a stubble height of 8 inches and we did not see any affect from this year that would be carried over to next year. Willows in the area had been cut by beaver so use was hard to assess due to the amount of stems removed from the plants.

Management Recommendations For 2013

There are no proposed changes for the 2013 grazing season.

McCoy Creek Allotment



5. Summit Prairie Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call for the allotment from USFWS is NLAA/LAA.

Description

The Summit Prairie Allotment is composed of 25,325 acres. There are 7 pastures with 4 main pastures and 3 other smaller gathering or holding pastures within the allotment. There is no occupied designated CH and about 12.75 miles of unoccupied bull trout designated CH in the Summit Prairie Allotment. Currently the following habitat areas and seasonal activities have been identified for listed fish species on the allotment.

Bull Trout Habitat Uses and Locations of Critical Habitat

Pasture	Stream	Migration /Winter	Summer Rearing	Spawning	Designated Critical Habitat
Sagehen	Summit Creek	BuT			3.98 miles (U)
Little Logan	Summit Creek	BuT			3.6 miles (U)
Summit Rock	Summit Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	4.2 miles (U)
North Summit	Summit Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	.93 miles (U)
South Summit	Summit Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	.04 miles (U)

Bull trout presence and spawning has not been documented in the Summit Prairie Allotment, however, bull trout spawning surveys have been conducted with trout red counts recorded. There is a healthy population of brook trout in the system. Brook trout and bull trout spawning habitats and timing overlap to the extent that it is virtually impossible to distinguish bull trout redds from brook trout redds. Since no bull trout have been documented in the allotment, redds observed are assumed to be brook trout and not bull trout. There is documentation of historic use by bull trout in these pastures however bull trout have not been detected in these systems since the 1950's-1960's (personal communication with ODFW, John Day).

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01839	260	1556	6/10-10/24

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Sagehen	06/10-07/15	75 c/c	06/22-07/26	29 c/c
			06/24-07/26	36 c/c
			06/25-07/26	31 c/c
Crane Rock	06/10-07/15	125 c/c	06/27-07/28	27 c/c
			07/01-07/28	26 c/c
			07/12-07/28	25 c/c
Little Logan	07/16-08/07	200 c/c	07/26-08/15	105 c/c
			07/26-08/15	65 c/c
Summit Rock	08/08-10/24	225 c/c	08/16-10/04	65 c/c
			08/16-10/11	30 c/c

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
			08/16-10/26	65 c/c
North Summit	10/17-10/24	20-30 c/c		
West Summit				

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Sagehen	07/02	Summit Creek	4”	6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	0%	20%	8%
Sagehen	07/23	Summit Creek	4”	5”	Light to Moderate Hedging	0%	20%	6%
Sagehen	08/30	Summit Creek	4”	6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	10%	20%	1%
Sagehen	09/20	Summit Creek	4”	5”	Light to Moderate Hedging	10%	15%	9%
Crane Rock	08/30	Wickiup Meadow	4”	8”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	16%
Little Logan	08/08	Lower Summit Creek	4”	8”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	9%
Little Logan	08/11	Lower Summit Creek (Lower Site)	4”	6-8”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	15-20%
Little Logan	08/13	Lower Summit Creek (Lower Site)	4”	6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	10%
Little Logan		Upper Summit Creek (Upper Site)	4”	6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	6%
Little Logan	08/30	Upper Summit Creek (Upper Site)	4”	6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	30%	20%	5%
Little Logan	09/20	Upper Summit Creek (Upper Site)	4”	5”	Light to Moderate Hedging	70%	15%	14%
Little Logan	11/06	Lowe Summit Creek	4”	5.4”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	18%
Summit	09/19	West Fork	4”	5”	Light to	3%	20%	20%

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Rock		Summit Creek			Moderate Hedging			
Summit Rock	10/03	Lower Summit Creek (Lower Site)	6”	6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	NP	15%	13%
Summit Rock	10/30	Lower Summit Creek (Lower Site)	6”	7”	Light to Moderate Hedging	70%	15%	9%
West Summit	11/01	West Fork Summit Creek	4”	8”	Light to Moderate Hedging	50%	20%	14%
North Summit	09/13	Summit Creek	IDT conducted a site visit					
North Summit	10/09	Summit Creek	6”	7”	Light to Moderate Hedging	26%	15%	16%
North Summit	10/22	Summit Creek	6”	6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	28%	15%	14%
North Summit	10/30	Summit Creek	6”	7”	Light to Moderate Hedging	48%	15%	15%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
		Standard	Measured
Sagehen	08-30	45%	35%
Crane Rock	08-30	45%	35%
Little Logan	08-30	45%	35%
Little Logan	10-22	50%	25%
West Summit	11-01	50%	45% (uplands)
			20% (fenced area)

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

There were no recommendations from 2011.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

Initial monitoring results indicated the management for 2012 was in compliance with the Letter of Authorization for this allotment as well as in compliance with all Forest Plan Standards as amended.

Excess use occurred during the 2012 grazing season in the headwaters of the John Day River during the bull trout spawning period. The boundary fence between the Rail Creek Allotment and the Summit Prairie Allotment was not maintained at a level to keep adjacent livestock from entering the Rail Creek Allotment. There was insufficient knowledge in regards to the condition of the fence by both the permittees and the Forest Service. This resulted in spending too much time unsuccessfully moving excess livestock out of the Rail Creek Allotment.

North Summit Pasture

The District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team assessed Summit Creek in the North Summit pasture on September 13 to discuss the current and potential use. There was a concern with the current amount of browse, bank alteration and stubble height. The team agreed if the permittee was to use this pasture to gather into as planned it would be checked during that time at a minimum mid-use check and end of use check. The team also discussed the possibility to place stock panels around the willows that are present to allow the willow to express themselves.

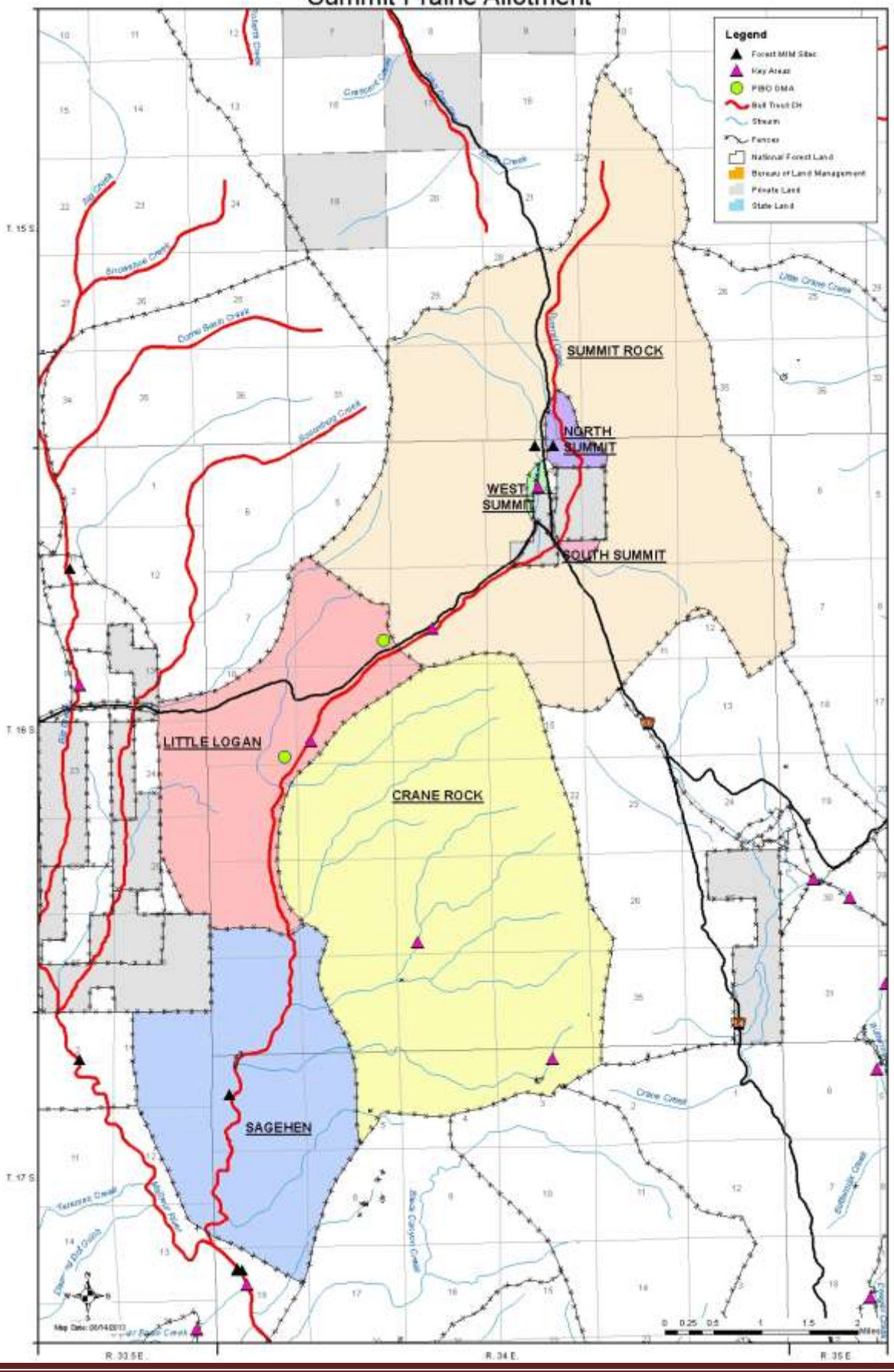
Also during the fall of 2011 a fence was built on the west side of West Fork Summit Creek and during the 2012 grazing season the access point (water gap) was hardened. There was also 1 new pond developed and four ponds clean and resealed in the Sagehen pasture. The Wickiup Springs Buck and Pole fence was rebuilt and a trough was developed off of the spring source which is located in the Crane Rock pasture. Trees were also felled along West Fork Summit Creek within Reach 2 which is located within the Summit Rock pasture.

This allotment is being analyzed in the Summit/Logan Valley Range NEPA process. Consultation with USFWS will be initiated for the project.

Management Recommendations For 2013

As a result of the excess use Forest personnel will inspect the Summit Prairie/Rail Creek allotment's fence to assure the fence is up and will effectively function as a barrier to prevent excess use from the Summit Prairie Allotment. Forest Service personnel will diligently inspect for and report any unauthorized within the John Day River RHCA. Excess livestock presence will trigger appropriate administrative action. If present during the bull trout spawning window spawning surveys will be conducted and appropriate protection measures will be implemented.

Summit Prairie Allotment



North Fork Malheur River Sub-Basin Allotments

1. Flag Prairie Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from USFWS is NLAA/LAA.

Description

The Flag Prairie Allotment is a large allotment (19,250 acres) divided into eight major pastures and seven smaller holding pastures. A private in-holding contains a cow camp (including a cabin, corrals, water sources and other smaller holding pastures) owned and used by one of the permittees, PW Cow Company, in conjunction with the allotment.

In the Flag Prairie Allotment the Mountain, River, Crane Crossing and South pastures have stream segments utilized by bull trout for migration, winter habitat, and summer rearing. Only the Mountain Pasture (Little Crane Creek) is utilized for spawning. Each of the aforementioned pastures contains CH. There are about 18.2 miles of occupied bull trout designated CH, and no unoccupied designated CH in the Flag Prairie Allotment. The table below describes bull trout habitat use and locations of CH by pasture within the Flag Prairie Allotment. There are no anadromous fisheries with this allotment.

Bull trout habitat Use and Locations of Critical Habitat

Pasture	Stream	Migration /Winter	Summer Rearing	Spawning	Designated Critical Habitat
Mountain	Little Crane Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	4.23 miles
Crane Crossing	N.F Malheur River Crane Crossing (Confluence)	BuT	BuT		.71 miles
River	N.F Malheur River	BuT	BuT		5.23 miles
South[8]	N.F Malheur River	BuT	BuT		8.03 miles

Community Allotment

The Flag Prairie Allotment is a community allotment; pastures are divided between two permittees (Three Valley Ranch LLC and PW Cow Company) and will be discussed separately below.

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01751	237	1408	6/1-10/15
01785	380	2470	6/5-10/20

Three Valley Ranch LLC

They are typically authorized use of the River, Bear Creek Riparian, South Bear, Dude Riparian and Sheep Gulch Pastures. The Three Valley Ranch LLC applied for and was granted personal convenience non-use for the 2011 and 2012 grazing seasons.

[8] Livestock access to the North Fork Malheur River adjacent to the South Pasture is severely limited by steep, rocky terrain

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Bear Creek Riparian	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
East Hole	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
River	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
Sheep Gulch	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
South Bear	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Monitored	Standard	Monitored
Bear Creek Riparian	07/30	Non-Use						
Bear Creek Riparian	09/13							
Dude Riparian	09/13	Bear Creek	4”	17”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	5%
River	07/25	Non-Use						
River	08/08							
River	10/02	Cattle found (4 pair Ott permittee, 7 pair Spring Creek permittee)						
River	10/18	North Fork Malheur River	6”	18-20”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	15%	5%
Sheep Gulch	09/13	Bear Creek	6”	12-16”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	15%	6-8%
South Bear	10/11	Bear Creek	4”	12”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Measured	20%	0%

Upland Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
		Standard	Measured
Bear Creek Riparian	07/30	45%	Non-Use
Bear Creek Riparian	09/30	45%	Non-Use
Dude Riparian	09/13	45%	Not Monitored
River	07/25	45%	Non-Use
River	08/08	45%	Non-Use
River	10/02	Cattle found (4 pair Ott permittee, 7 pair Spring Creek permittee)	
River	10/18	45%	Not Monitored
Sheep	09/13	45%	Not Monitored

Pasture	Date	Utilization of Grasses and Non-Hydrophytic Plant Species	
Gulch			
South Bear	10/11	45%	Not Monitored

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

Prescribed endpoint indicators were not met in the following pastures in 2011; Dude and Bear Creek Riparian Pastures, both of which are > 10 miles above designated bull trout critical habitat. Both of these pastures where recommended for and where successfully rested during the 2012 grazing season.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

Monitoring results indicated the management for 2012 was in compliance with the Letter of Authorization for this allotment as well as in compliance with all Forest Plan Standards as amended.

Management Recommendations For 2013

There are no recommended management changes.

PW Cow Company

They have been typically authorized use of the South, Mountain, Flag, Crane Riparian, Crane Holding, Flag Horse, Station Creek, Special Use, East, and River Pastures. For the 2012 grazing season PW Cow Company applied for and was granted non-use for personal convenience.

Flag Prairie Allotment 2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
East Holding	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
Special Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
Horse Pasture	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
South	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
Mountain	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
Crane Riparian	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
Crane Crossing	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
Crane Holding	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
Flag	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
South	10/11	Bear Creek	4”	12”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	0%
Mountain	07/10	Non-Use						
Mountain	10/16							
Mountain	11/02	No livestock found						
Mountain	11/02	Crane Creek	6”	18-20”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Measured	15%	5%
Crane Crossing	10/18	North Fork Malheur River	6”	18-20”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Measured	15%	5%
Crane Riparian	11/02	Non-Use						
	11/08	Crane Creek	4”	6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	11%
Station Creek Enclosure	09/13	Non-Use						

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

There were no recommendations from 2011.

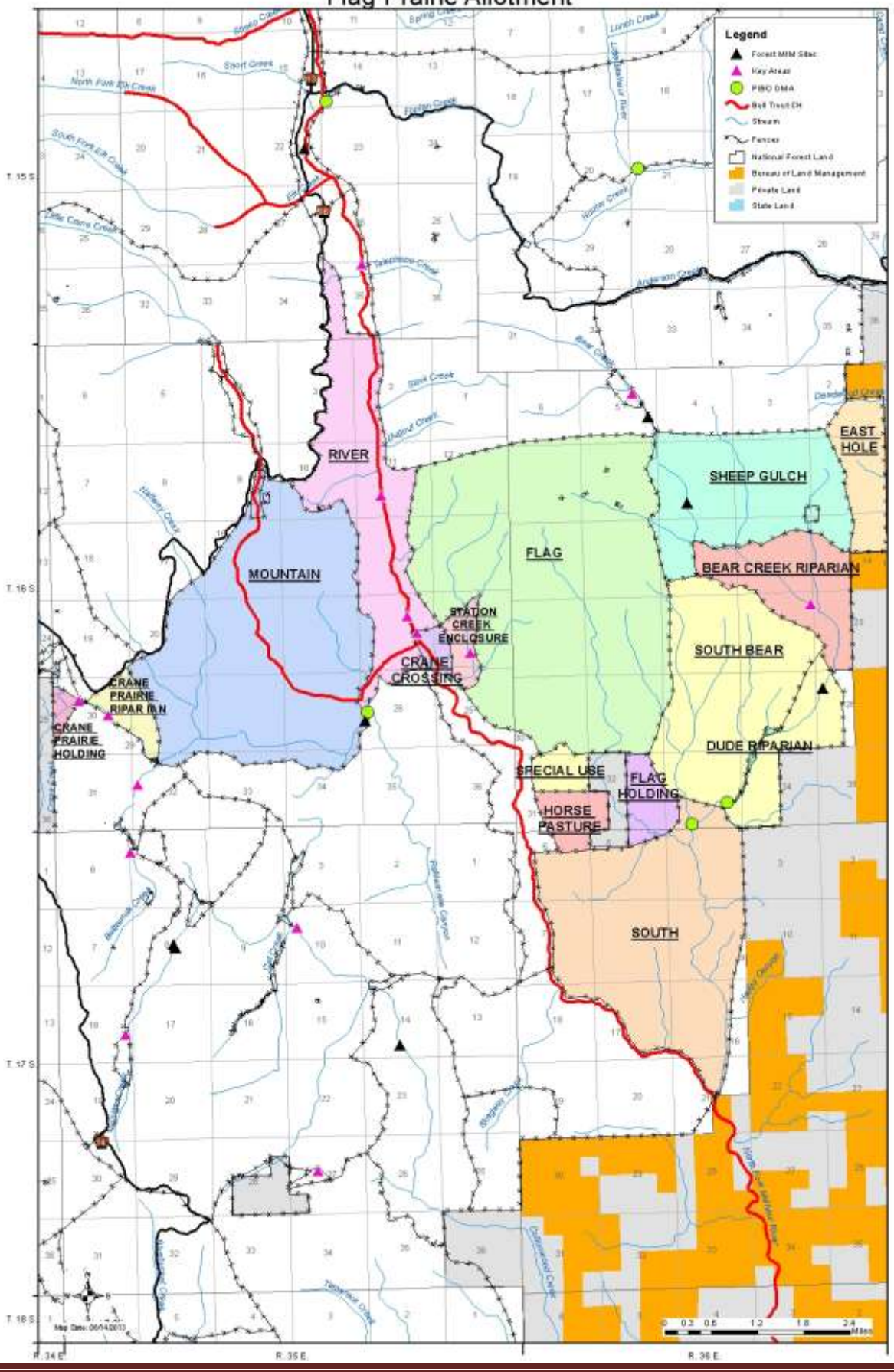
Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The management for 2012 was in compliance with the Letter of Authorization issued to PW Cow Co. for this allotment as well as in compliance with all prescribed endpoint indicators. There is a high potential for a new permittee in 2013.

Management Recommendations For 2013

There are no management changes recommended.

Flag Prairie Allotment



2. North Fork Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call from USFWS is NLAA/NLAA.

Description

The North Fork Allotment is a large allotment consisting of approximately 31,000 acres divided into 7 larger pastures, 2 holding pastures, 2 horse pastures and a cow camp. The allotment crosses sub-basin boundaries and lies within the Upper North Fork Malheur and Little Malheur sub basins. There are approximately 5 miles of occupied bull trout habitat on North Fork allotment. The bull trout in the North Fork Allotment has their primary spawning areas in Elk Creek in the North River pasture. There are no anadromous fisheries within this allotment.

Bull trout habitat Use and Locations of Critical Habitat

Pasture	Stream	Migration /Winter	Summer Rearing	Spawning	Designated Critical Habitat
North River	Elk Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	0.49 miles
	N.F Malheur River	BuT	BuT	BuT	2.23 miles
South River	N.F Malheur River	BuT	BuT		2.0 miles
Mountain[9]	Fopian Creek	BuT	BuT		

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01864	450 c/c	2421	6/18-10/17
	8 horses		

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
South River	08/08-10/15	200 yrlgs	08/08-09/18	200 yrlgs
Squaw Creek	Non-Use	Non-Use		
North River				
Anderson Riparian				
Anderson				
Mountain				
Bear Meadows				

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
Squaw Creek	10/11	Squaw Creek	4”	18”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	15%
Anderson Riparian	10/11	Little Malheur River	4”	12”			20%	0%
North River	07/25	Non-Use						

[9] Suspected use in this pasture in Fopian Creek but no verifiable observations of bull trout have been documented in several decades

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
North River	08/08	Non-Use						
North River	09/12	Non-Use						
South River	07/25	Non-Use						
South River	08/28	North Fork Malheur River	6”	Not Monitored	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Monitored	15%	Not Monitored
South River	09/27	North Fork Malheur River	6”	7”	Light to Moderate Hedging		15%	29%
Bear Meadows	09/13	Bear Creek (lower portion)	4”	14”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	7%

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

In 2011 incidence of excess use and failure to follow instructions (lack of control of livestock) were documented. Administrative action was taken; 25% cancellation in the permitted season of use. This cancellation was not upheld at the higher level upon appeal. The permitted season of use remains the same.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

The South River Pasture exceeded bank alteration endpoint indicator during the 2012 grazing season. This exceedance was a result of the permittee not removing his livestock in a timely fashion, as requested. For the 2012 grazing season the South River Pasture was scheduled for use from August 8 to October 15. Midseason monitoring was conducted on August 28, which anticipated 2 more weeks before nearing endpoint indicators. Another ocular midseason check was conducted on September 11th and determined it was time to leave the pasture. The permittee was notified and although the permittee could gather this pasture in a day it took over a week to remove the livestock. The key area monitoring site is located on the North Fork Malheur River in the lower portion of the pasture, adjacent to a big meadow. This portion of the pasture (south end) generally receives the most use. The further up the river, the less the use.

No administrative action was taken, nor was a follow up letter written, as the permittee has waived his term grazing permit back to the Forest naming a preference applicant.

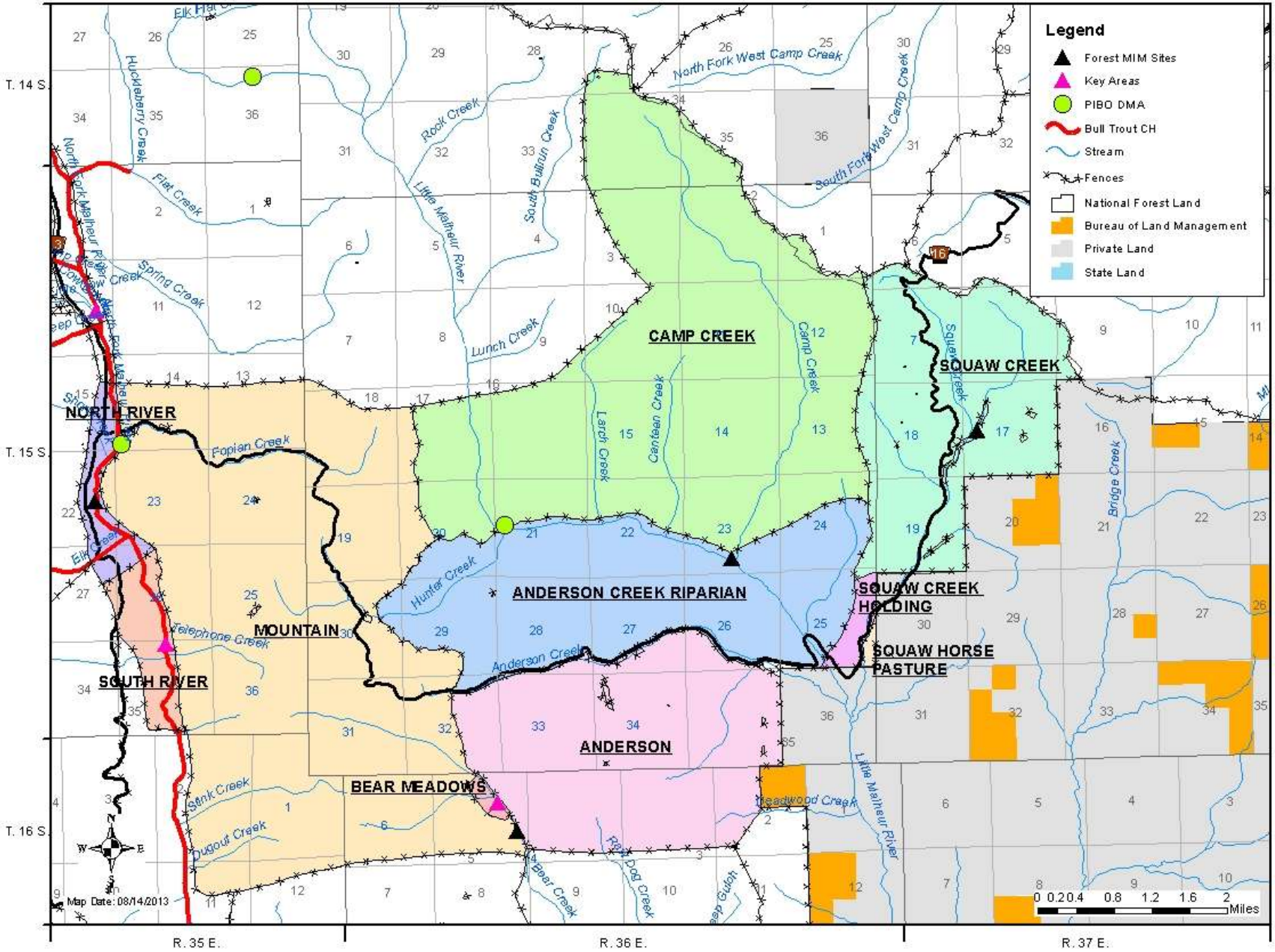
No new USFS Multiple Indicator Monitoring sites were established during the 2012 grazing season however implementation monitoring (end of season use) was conducted at previously established DMA sites on the North Fork Malheur, Bear Creek and the Little Malheur River.

Management Recommendations For 2013

The District Interdisciplinary Monitoring Team agreed there is a need for effectiveness monitoring in this pasture; designated critical bull trout habitat. After thorough discussion, it was felt the key area would be the place for this with full recognition this is the most affected by livestock grazing under current management. The site would most likely be the first to respond to management changes as well. The team recommended a change in management was in order considering the pasture had been receiving consistent late season grazing. Rotational grazing is preferred, with intermittent rest scheduled.

Management change is anticipated. This permit has been waived and there will be a new permittee in 2013 with differing ideas.

North Fork Allotment



3. Ott Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call for the allotment from USFWS is NLAA/NLAA.

Description

The Ott Allotment is composed of approximately 29,990 acres with 29,669 under the National Forest System lands, and 321 acres of private in holdings (unfenced). Within the allotment there are five large pastures and four holding pastures. There are 4.83 miles of occupied critical habitat on the North Fork of the Malheur River in the Ott Allotment which is migratory and winter rearing habitat for fluvial bull trout. No bull trout spawning habitat is present within the Ott allotment. The North Fork of the Malheur River is not grazed within this allotment. There are no anadromous fisheries within this allotment.

Bull Trout Habitat Uses and Locations of Critical Habitat

Pasture	Stream	Migration /Winter	Summer Rearing	Spawning	Designated Critical Habitat
River Corridor	N.F Malheur River[10]	BuT	BuT		4.83 miles
		BuT	BuT		
Rattlesnake	Crane Creek[11]				< 50 feet

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01888	430c/c	1313	6/1-8/31
	4 horses		

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Ott Meadows	06/18-09/30	4 horses		
	07/01-07/05	430 c/c		
	07/14-07/17	Gather	Throughout Season	
Ott	09/11- 09/30	430 c/c	06/05-08/01	430
Rattlesnake	07/06-08/05	430 c/c	08/02-08/25	430
Cottonwood Holding	08/01-08/05	Gather		
West Buttermilk	08/06-09/10	430 c/c	08/25-09/15	330
Knox Meadows	09/05-09/10	Gather		
East Buttermilk	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
River Corridor	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
Cottonwood Riparian	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use
Anderson Holding	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use	Non-Use

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	Key Area	Results	Comments
Ott Meadows	10/03	**Alder Creek**	78 head and 2 horses found	
Knox	10/03	**Cougar**	8 head found	

[10] Livestock have been fenced out of the N.F Malheur River Corridor and no longer have access to the river from this pasture (which is not grazed).
[11] This is limited to one very small water gap.

Pasture	Date	Key Area	Results	Comments
Meadows		**Creek**		
East Buttermilk	10/03	**Cougar Creek**	32 head found	
East Buttermilk	10/30	**Cottonwood Creek**	Livestock still on pasture	

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
River Corridor	10/02	North Fork Malheur River	6	> 6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Light	20%	< 20%
Ott Meadows	11/08	Alder Creek	4”	4-5”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	> 20%
Knox Meadows	11/08	Cougar Creek	4”	4-5”	Not Present	Not Present	20%	15%
Anderson Holding	10/16	Cottonwood Creek	4”	8”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	5%
Cottonwood Riparian	07/03	Non-Use						
Cottonwood Riparian	10/16	Cottonwood Creek	4”	10”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Present	20%	5%
East Buttermilk	11/03	Cougar Creek	4”	6”	Light to Moderate Hedging	Not Monitored	20%	Not Monitored

Spawning Surveys

Spawning surveys were not conducted, grazing did not occur on critical habitat during the spawning season.

Recommendations from 2011

In 2011 a new permit was issued with a 30 day shortened season of use due to previous administrative action: cancellation.

Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

Incidents of excess use occurred throughout the season. The permittee has been billed for grazing outside the authorized season.

The following discussions are focused on 2012 grazing season monitoring results concerns and how to prevent reoccurrence. Prescribed endpoint indicators were not met in the following pasture: Ott Meadow, Alder Creek which flows into Cottonwood Creek (over 30 miles away from bull trout critical habitat).

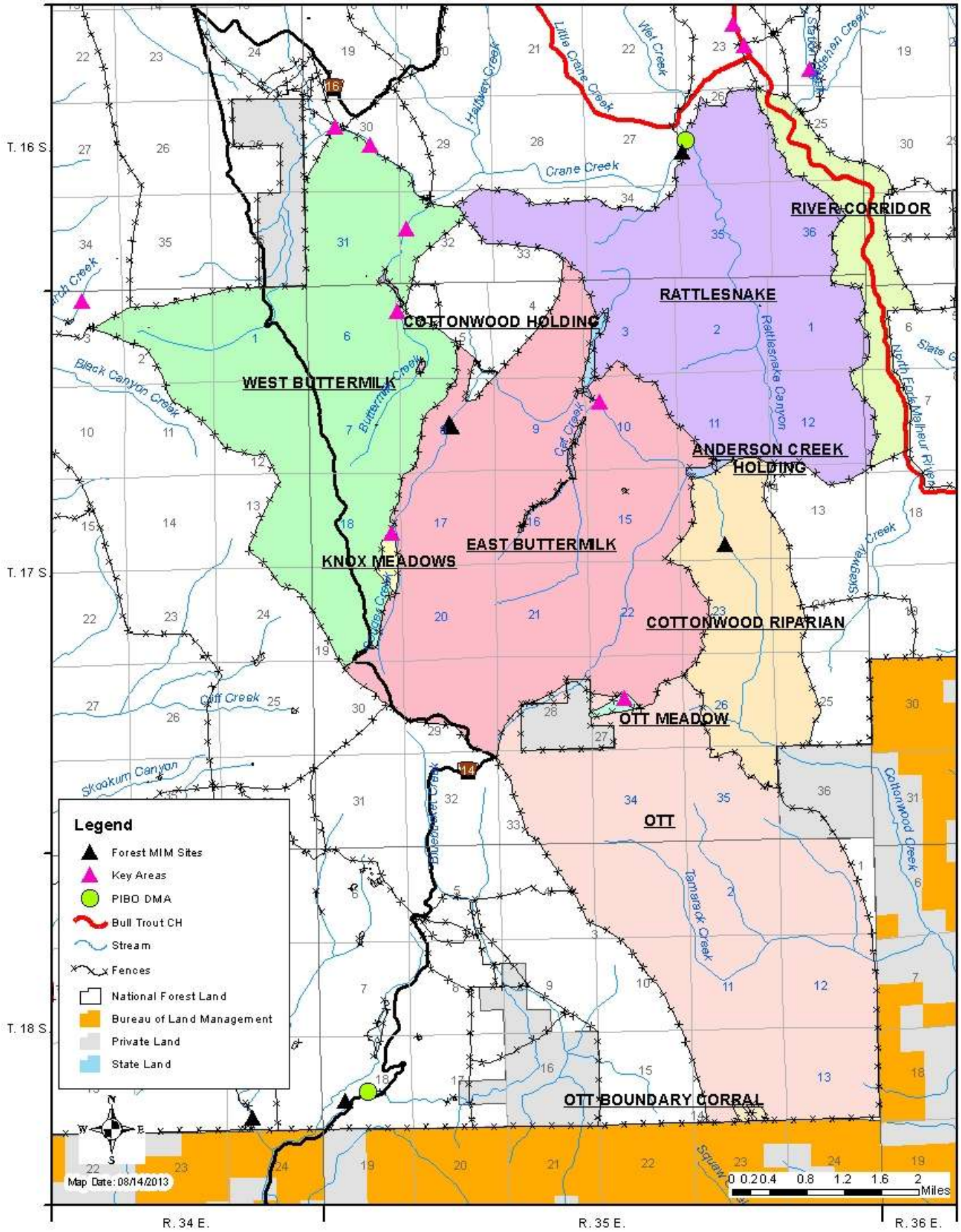
This pasture was scheduled for use while moving from the Ott Pasture however use occurred throughout the season and beyond the season. Current years bank alteration exceeded the endpoint indicator (ocular estimate), however carryover effects are not expected as there is a vigorous stand of hydric species. This issue will be addressed through additional administrative action should it continue.

No new USFS Multiple Indicator Monitoring sites were established during the 2012 grazing season however implementation (end of year) monitoring was conducted on previously established DMA sites on Cougar and Cottonwood Creeks.

Management Recommendations For 2013

The IDT recommends a full growing season's rest; not using Ott Meadow until the end of the grazing season.

Ott Allotment



4. Spring Creek Allotment

- The 2012-2016 consultation call for this allotment from USFWS is NLAA/NLAA.

Description

The Spring Creek allotment consists of approximately 57,000 acres. This allotment crosses sub-basin boundaries and lies within the Upper North Fork Malheur and Little Malheur sub basins. Bull trout presence and spawning has been documented throughout the Spring Creek allotment. There is a healthy population of bull trout in the system. The bull trout in the Spring Creek Allotment of the N.F. Malheur has their primary spawning areas in Little Crane, Sheep, Elk and Swamp Creeks. Little Crane Creek is the key spawning stream for bull trout in the N.F. Malheur watershed. There are about 26 miles of occupied bull trout habitat in the Spring Creek allotment.

Bull Trout Habitat Uses and Locations of Critical Habitat

Pasture	Stream	Migration /Winter	Summer Rearing	Spawning	Designated Critical Habitat
Little Crane	Little Crane Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	1.71 miles
Horseshoe Basin	Sheep Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	3.96 miles
Horseshoe Basin	Swamp Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	3.84 miles
Horseshoe Basin	Horseshoe Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	1.53 miles
Horseshoe Basin	NF Elk Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	2.47 miles
Horseshoe Basin	SF Elf Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	.76 miles
North River	NF Malheur River	BuT	BuT	BuT	1.84 miles
South River	NF Malheur River	BuT	BuT		3.21 miles
South River	Swamp Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	.33 miles
South River	Horseshoe Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	.13 miles
South River	Flat Creek	BuT	BuT		.02 miles
Elk Flat	NF Malheur River	BuT	BuT	BuT	.06 miles
Elk Flat	Flat Creek[12]	BuT	BuT	BuT	.7 miles
Bucktrough	NF Malheur River	BuT	BuT		3.2 miles
River Holding	NF Malheur River	BuT	BuT		.65 miles
Swamp Creek Holding	Swamp Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	

[12] Suspected use, no verifiable observation of bull trout have been documented in several decades.

Pasture	Stream	Migration /Winter	Summer Rearing	Spawning	Designated Critical Habitat
Swamp Creek Holding	Sheep Creek	BuT	BuT	BuT	

Permit ID	Permitted Livestock (cow/calf pairs)	AUMs	Permitted Use
01871	344 Cow/calf pairs (cc) or 1720 Ewe/lamb pairs (el) or 204 cc& 700 el	1561 or 2341 or 1222 & 953	6/10-10-25
01872	40c/c	239	6/10-10-25
01873	216 Cow/calf pairs (cc) or 1080 Ewe/lamb pairs (el) or 140 cc & 380 el	1294 or 1470 or 838 & 517	6/10-10-25

Community Allotment

The Spring Creek Allotment is a large allotment operated by three permittees: Anthony (Tony) and Katherine Joyce (Permit #01872), Mark and Wendy Joyce (Permit #01873), and Geraldine Joyce (Permit #01872). It includes a number of large pastures along with several smaller holding pastures along the North Fork Malheur River and Little Crane Creek. Two kinds of livestock are authorized to graze the Spring Creek Allotment. Sheep are currently being grazed in the pastures that have historically been the most difficult to effectively manage cattle. These are also the same pastures with the majority of bull trout spawning areas and recently designated bull trout critical habitat.

Geraldine Joyce and Mark and Wendy Joyce applied for and were granted personal convenience non-use for the second year.

For the 2012 grazing season cattle were managed by one permittee. The cattle were run in 2 separate herds by Anthony and Katherine Joyce. Due to previous administrative action taken 2012 was the third year of a three year suspension of 25% season of use for this permittee.

2012 Authorized and Actual Use

Pasture	Proposed Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Actual Use Dates	Actual Use Numbers
Buttermilk Flats	06/10-06/21	172 c/c, Gather		
Lower Crane	06/21-08/20	100 c/c		
South River	06/25-08/15	72 c/c		
Buchtrough/Mahogany	08/20-10/15	44 c/c		
Little Crane	07/05-09/19	128 c/c		
Crane	07/06-10/15	100 c/c		
Cougar Holding		Gather		
North River	Non-Use			
Horseshoe Basin				
Elk Flat				
River Holding				

Compliance Check(s)

Pasture	Date	Key Area	Results	Comments
Little Crane Exclosure	06/21	**Crane Creek**	Fence fixed	
Little Crane Exclosure	06/25	**Crane Creek**	Fence fixed	
Little Crane Exclosure	07/25	**Crane Creek**	Fence up	No livestock found
Little Crane Exclosure	08/02	**Crane Creek**	Fence up	No livestock found
Little Crane Exclosure	08/14	**Crane Creek**	Fence up	1 calf w/in the fence. Permittee called (08-15) and promptly removed.
Horseshoe Basin	09/13	Elk Creek	No livestock found	No evidence of livestock along Elk Creek

Riparian Monitoring

Pasture	Date	Monitoring Location	Stubble Height		Browse Use		Streambank Alteration	
			Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured
North River	Non-Use							
South River	07/25	Move trigger, not measured						
South River	08/08							
South River	09/12	North Fork Malheur River	6”	8”	Light to Moderate Hedging	7%	15%	6%
Elk Flat	Non-Use							

Spawning Surveys

No grazing was scheduled to occur in the Little Crane Creek Exclosure, however a calf was found in the exclosure. The calf was promptly removed. A spawning survey was conducted to assure livestock had not entered the exclosure and livestock red interaction did not occur. There was no use of the exclosure and habitat was estimated at near desired conditions.

Pasture	Grazed	Date	# Redds Observed	Stream	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	Mitigation
Little Crane Exclosure	No	09-14	20-25	Little Crane Creek	Bill Wall	.6 miles	None needed

Recommendations from 2011

In 2001, a fence was built along 1.5 miles of Little Crane Creek-the length of the stream in the pasture. The year round riparian exclosure/enclosure was installed to keep cattle out of this segment during spawning as well as allowing the of riparian area and stream channel, in order to maintain and enhance spawning and rearing habitat qualities found in this stream reach of Little Crane Creek

During the 2011 grazing season an incident of excess use was reported in the Little Crane Creek exclosure during the bull trout spawning window. To ensure this did not happen again: no livestock were placed in the adjacent pasture, Little Crane Pasture, until the exclosure fence had been maintained and inspected, the exclosure was be checked weekly for excess use. The permittee was notified the day after one calf was found within the exclosure and removed it that day.

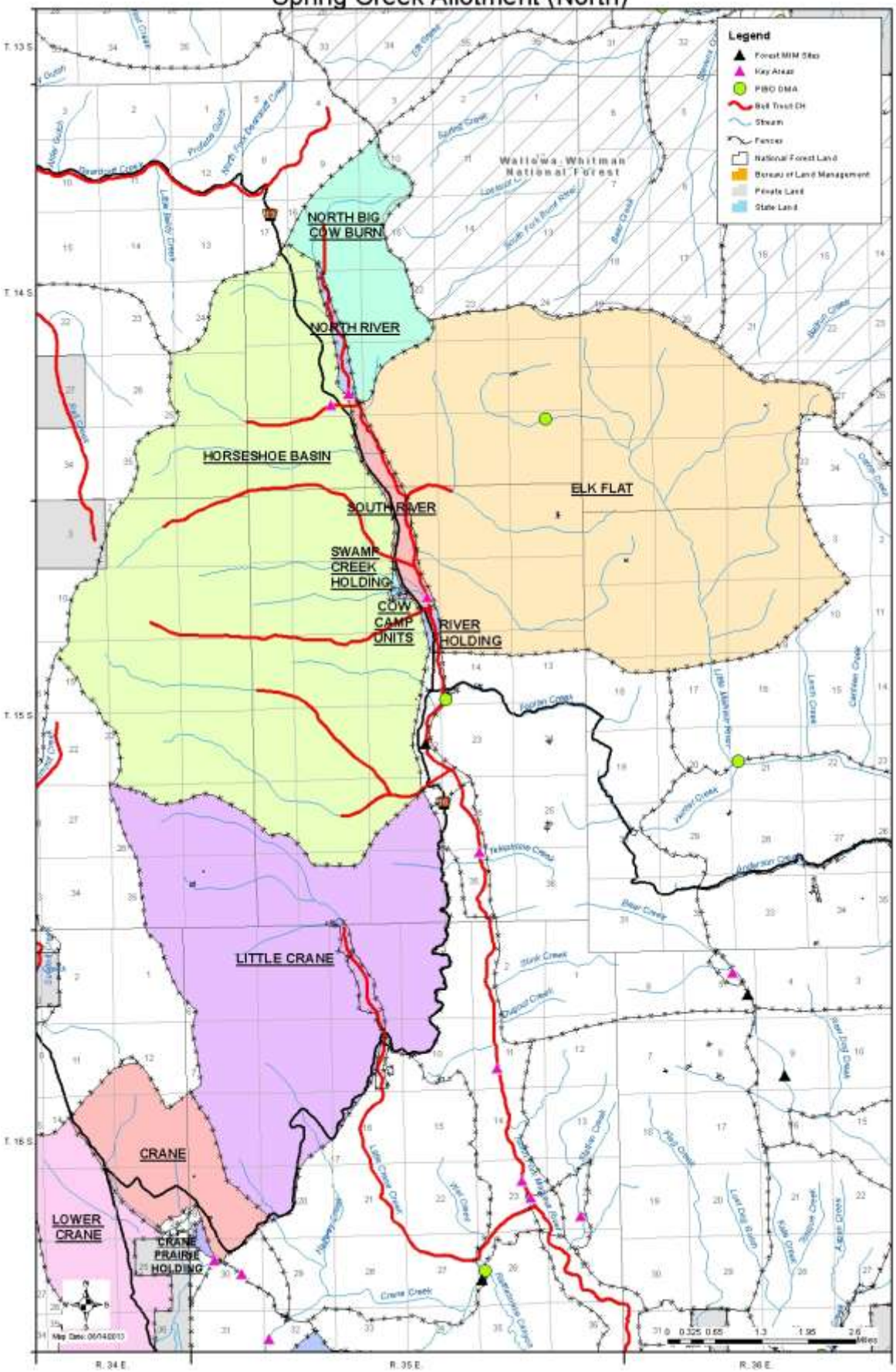
Summary of 2012 Grazing Season

Inspections and photo documentation determined the management of the allotment for 2012 was in compliance with the Letter of Authorization for this allotment as well as prescribed endpoint indicators were met. Numerous inspections were conducted however use was not measured in some of the upland pastures due to their lower priority and non-use status.

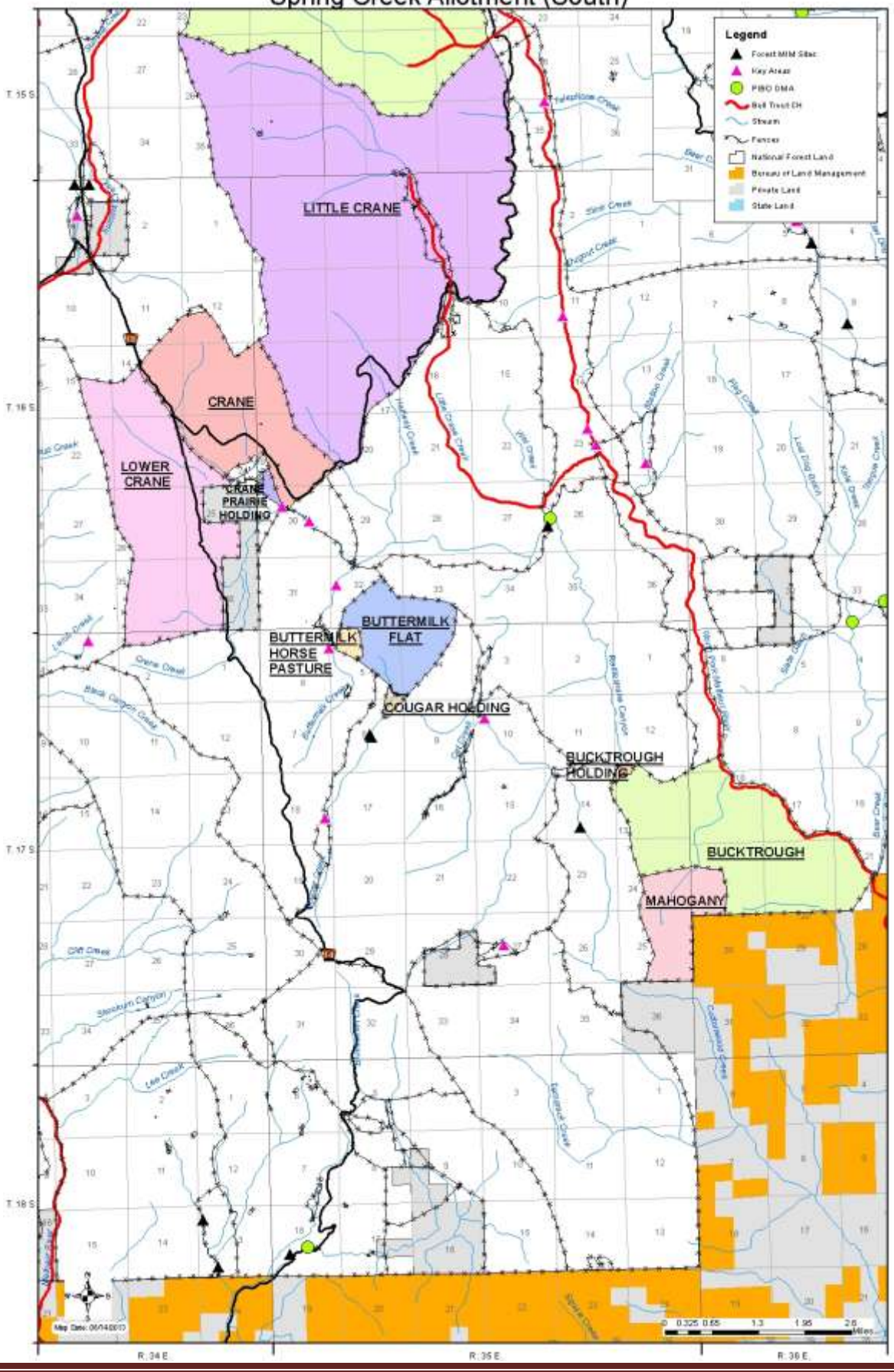
Management Recommendations For 2013

A monitoring site will be established and read after grazing in the Bucktrough/Mahogany Pasture on the North Fork of the Malheur River. Establish a DMA in the Horseshoe Basin Pasture. There are no proposed changes for the 2013 grazing season.

Spring Creek Allotment (North)



Spring Creek Allotment (South)



Appendix A – Annual Implementation Monitoring Schedule

Blue Mountain Ranger District

Table 1: BiOP End of Season Schedule

Allotment	Pasture	Monitoring Type	Monitoring Location	Priority	EOY Date	Range Spec	Comments
Indian Ridge	East	Photo Point & Upland & Riparian Utilization	Indian Creek Key Area	1	24-Sep	SD	No Critical habitat in pasture
Murderers Creek	Timber Mountain	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	2	25-Sep	KW	
Murderers Creek	Blue Ridge	MIM & Upland Utilization	Bark Cabin Creek	1	25-Sep	KW	DMA or Key Area not yet established
Camp Creek	Lower pasture	MIM & Upland Utilization	MFJDR Key Area	1	26-Sep	SD	DMA Site needs IDT approval
Roundtop	Tinker	MIM & Upland Utilization	Tinker Creek Key Area	1	27-Sep	NS	DMA Site needs IDT approval
Roundtop	Grub	Bank Alteration & Photo Point & Upland & Riparian Utilization	Grub Creek	1	27-Sep	NS	
Fields Peak	North Murderers	MIM & Upland Utilization	White Creek (preferably)	2	1-Oct	SD	DMA or Key Area not yet established
Roundtop	Beech Creek	MIM & Upland Utilization	East Fork Beech Creek DMA	1	4-Oct	NS	
Bear	E/F	MIM & Upland Utilization	Mosquito Creek	2	9-Oct	NS	
Fox	Upper Fox	Upland Utilization	Throughout	2	10-Oct	NS	Streams inaccessible
Fox	Wiley	Bank Alteration & Photo Point & Upland & Riparian Utilization	Cottonwood Creek	2	10-Oct	NS	
Fox	South Fork	MIM & Upland Utilization	SF Long Creek Key Area	1	10-Oct	NS	DMA Site needs IDT approval
Mt.Vernon	Belshaw Riparian	MIM & Upland Utilization	Belshaw Creek DMA	1	11-Oct	NS	DMA Site needs IDT approval
John Day	Upper McClellan	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	2	16-Oct	NS	

Allotment	Pasture	Monitoring Type	Monitoring Location	Priority	EOY Date	Range Spec	Comments
John Day	Lower Ennis	Bank Alteration & Photo Point & Upland & Riparian Utilization	Ennis Creek	1	16-Oct	NS	
Upper Middle Fork	Caribou	MIM & Upland Utilization	TBD	1	17-Oct	NS	DMA or Key Area not yet established
Upper Middle Fork	Tincup Riparian	MIM & Upland Utilization	Tincup Creek	2	17-Oct	NS	DMA or Key Area not yet established
Upper Middle Fork	Butte	MIM & Upland Utilization	Butte Creek	1	17-Oct	NS	Used in conjunction with LMF
York	Slide	MIM & Upland Utilization	Slide Creek DMA	1	18-Oct	NS	
McClellan	McClellan	Upland Utilization	Throughout	2	22-Oct	SD	Critical Habitat Inaccessible to people and livestock see BA.
Long Creek	Camp Creek Riparian Pastures	MIM & Upland Utilization	Camp Creek Key Area	1	23-Oct	NS	DMA Site needs IDT approval
Long Creek	Lick Creek	MIM & Upland Utilization	Lick Creek Key Area	1	24-Oct	NS	DMA Site needs IDT approval
Long Creek	Lick Creek	MIM & Upland Utilization	Cougar Creek Key Area	1	24-Oct	NS	DMA Site needs IDT approval
Long Creek	Lick Creek	MIM & Upland Utilization	West Fork Lick Creek Key Area	1	24-Oct	NS	DMA Site needs IDT approval
Long Creek	Hiyu	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	1	24-Oct	NS	
Long Creek	Flat Camp	MIM & Upland Utilization	Keeney Creek Key Area	1	25-Oct	NS	Stream not Critical habitat
Long Creek	Flat Camp	MIM & Upland Utilization	Pepper Creek Key Area	1	25-Oct	NS	Stream not Critical habitat
Long Creek	Flood Meadow	MIM & Upland Utilization	Long Creek DMA	1	25-Oct	NS	
Long Creek	Ladd Place	MIM & Upland Utilization	Long Creek Key Area	1	25-Oct	NS	DMA Site needs IDT approval
Dixie	Bear Creek	MIM & Upland Utilization	Dixie Creek DMA	1	29-Oct	SD	
Dixie	Standard	Upland Utilization	Throughout	2	29-Oct	SD	Stream is inaccessible

Allotment	Pasture	Monitoring Type	Monitoring Location	Priority	EOY Date	Range Spec	Comments
Slide Creek	East	Bank Alteration & Photo Point & Upland & Riparian Utilization	Bear Creek	2	30-Oct	NS	
Slide Creek	West	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	2	30-Oct	NS	
Slide Creek	Camp Holding	Bank Alteration & Photo Point & Upland & Riparian Utilization	Camp Creek	1	30-Oct	NS	
Mt.Vernon	Bear Creek	MIM & Upland Utilization	Beech Creek	2	31-Oct	NS	DMA or Key Area not yet established
Mt.Vernon	Belshaw Creek	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	2	31-Oct	NS	
Beech On/Off	Grouse	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	2	1-Nov	NS	
Beech On/Off	Beef	MIM & Upland Utilization	East Fork Beech Creek DMA	1	1-Nov	NS	
John Day	Lower McClellan	MIM	Lower McClellan DMA	1	1-Nov	NS	
Lower Middle Fork	Pizer	MIM & Upland Utilization	Deadwood Creek DMA	1	6-Nov	NS	
Lower Middle Fork	Sunshine	MIM & Upland Utilization	Sunshine Creek DMA	2	6-Nov	NS	DMA Site needs IDT approval (PIBO site)
Lower Middle Fork	Susanville	MIM & Upland Utilization	Elk Creek or Coyote Creek	2	6-Nov	NS	DMA or Key Area not yet established
Lower Middle Fork	Susanville	MIM & Upland Utilization	Dry Creek Key Area	2	6-Nov	NS	DMA or Key Area not yet established
Lower Middle Fork	Granite Boulder	MIM & Upland Utilization	Beaver Creek	1	6-Nov	NS	Used in conjunction with UMF
Donaldson	Glade	Bank Alteration & Photo Point & Upland & Riparian Utilization	Fox Cr. confluence w/Camp Cr Key Area	1	7-Nov	NS	See Comments from Spawning Survey
Fox	Lower Fox	MIM & Upland Utilization	Fox Creek Key Area	1	15-Nov	NS	DMA Site needs IDT approval

Table 2: Forest Plan Implementation Monitoring Schedule

Allotment	Pasture	Monitoring Type	Monitoring Location	Priority	EOY Date	Range Spec	Comments
Hamilton	West	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	24-Sep	SD	
Hamilton	North East	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	24-Sep	SD	
Indian Ridge	Highway	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	24-Sep	SD	
Indian Ridge	Ridge	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	24-Sep	SD	
Indian Ridge	Boothill	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	24-Sep	SD	
Indian Ridge	West	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	24-Sep	SD	
Murderers Creek	Horse Mountain	Upland Utilization	Throughout	3	25-Sep	KW	No Streams in pasture- excluded through fence construction completed fall 2011.
Roundtop	Short -n- Dirty	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	27-Sep	NS	
Roundtop	4 Corners	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	27-Sep	NS	
Roundtop	Tode	Upland Utilization	Throughout	3	27-Sep	NS	
Deadhorse	Percival	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	1-Oct	SD	
Hanscomb	Allen/Morris	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	1-Oct	SD	
Hanscomb	Morris	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	1-Oct	SD	
Hanscomb	Geary Creek	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	1-Oct	SD	
Hanscomb	Upper Geary	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	1-Oct	SD	
Bear	D	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	2-Oct	NS	
Bear	A	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	2-Oct	NS	
Bear	Bird	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	2-Oct	NS	

Allotment	Pasture	Monitoring Type	Monitoring Location	Priority	EOY Date	Range Spec	Comments
Bear	D1	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	2-Oct	NS	
Bear	B1	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	9-Oct	NS	
Bear	H	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	9-Oct	NS	
Bear	G	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	9-Oct	NS	
John Day	Upper Ennis	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	16-Oct	NS	
Upper Middle Fork	Shop	Upland	Throughout	4	17-Oct	NS	
Dark Canyon	N. Rock Springs	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	22-Oct	SD	
Dark Canyon	Wickiup	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	22-Oct	SD	
Dark Canyon	S. Rock Springs	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	22-Oct	SD	
Dark Canyon	CH pasture	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	22-Oct	SD	
Fawn Springs	G-4	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	22-Oct	SD	
Fawn Springs	Alder	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	22-Oct	SD	
Fawn Springs	Fawn Springs	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	22-Oct	SD	
Fawn Springs	L-8	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	22-Oct	SD	
Long Creek	Keeney Meadows	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	25-Oct	NS	
Long Creek	Coxie	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	25-Oct	NS	
Slide Creek	Sale	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	30-Oct	NS	
Slide Creek	Hog Creek	Upland & Riparian	Throughout	3	30-Oct	NS	

Allotment	Pasture	Monitoring Type	Monitoring Location	Priority	EOY Date	Range Spec	Comments
		Utilization					
Slide Creek	Whiskey Flat	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	30-Oct	NS	
Slide Creek	Slide Holding	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	30-Oct	NS	
Camp Creek	Middle	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	31-Oct	SD	
Camp Creek	North	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	31-Oct	SD	
Camp Creek	Gibbs Mdw	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	31-Oct	SD	
Camp Creek	Road	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	31-Oct	SD	
Camp Creek	Middle	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	31-Oct	SD	
Camp Creek	Upper & New Pasture	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	31-Oct	SD	
Mt.Vernon	Cohoe	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	31-Oct	NS	
Mt.Vernon	Birch	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	31-Oct	NS	
Mt.Vernon	Belshaw Meadow	Upland Utilization	Throughout	3	31-Oct	NS	
Beech On/Off	Timber	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	1-Nov	NS	
Beech On/Off	Paterson	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	1-Nov	NS	
Seneca	Camp Creek	MIM & Upland Utilization	Camp Creek DMA	3	1-Nov	SD	
Seneca	Camp Mgmt	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	1-Nov	SD	
Seneca	Koehler	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	1-Nov	SD	
Lower Middle Fork	Chickenhouse	Upland Utilization	Throughout	4	6-Nov	NS	

Allotment	Pasture	Monitoring Type	Monitoring Location	Priority	EOY Date	Range Spec	Comments
Lower Middle Fork	Balance	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	6-Nov	NS	
Donaldson	Hinton	Upland & Riparian Utilization	Throughout	3	7-Nov	NS	

Prairie City Ranger District

Allotment & Permittee	Pasture	Number	On Date	Off Date	General Priority	Miles Of Critical Habitat	2012 Scheduled Monitoring Type	Comments
Bluebucket								
Dunten	Cow Camp (S. Horse)	25	06-01	07-01	3 BT			
	Patchen Park	25	06-22					
	Lake Camp	50	07-02	09-30	6 BT	.08 mi BT CH		No access
Hussey	**Cougar**	120	06-08	06-29	6 BT	.32 mi BT CH		No access
	Dry Meadows	120	06-30	09-10				
	Teepee	210	06-25	07-15				
	Rock Springs	210	07-16	09-10		.01 mi BT CH		No access
	Jones Spring	Various but not over 14						
	Cougar Riparain	Non-use			7 BT			
Deardorff								
A, J & J Jacobs	**Deardorff***	75	06-20	10-10	**1 BT** 2 StH	8.10 mi BT CH 4.47 mi StH CH	Spawning, Presence, Midpoint & EOS	
Dollar Basin/Star Glade								
Coombs	**South Star Glade**	50 yrlg	06-10	07-10	**1 BT**	1.4 mi BT CH	Midpoint, EOS, Unauth (PFC)	
	Merit	50 yrlg	07-11	09-22		6.69 mi BT CH	Midpoint & EOS (PFC)	
	Merit	50	09-03	09-22		6.69 mi BT CH	Midpoint & EOS (PFC)	
	N. & S. Starvation	various	09-23	10-10	2 BT	.91 mi BT CH	Midpoint & EOS (PFC)	
	S. Starvation	50 yrlg	07-11	08-11				

Allotment & Permittee	Pasture	Number	On Date	Off Date	General Priority	Miles Of Critical Habitat	2012 Scheduled Monitoring Type	Comments
	Rocking Chair	50	07-10	09-02	2 BT		Midpoint & EOS (PFC)	
	Merit	116	08-01	09-22	**1 BT**		Midpoint & EOS (PFC)	Need to ground truth
	Dollar Basin	116	06-10	06-20	4 BT		Midpoint & EOS (PFC)	
	Dollar	116	06-21	07-31	**1 BT**	3.77 mi BT CH		
McCoy								
Riggs	**Cow Camp,** Ridge, Dry, Gov't Flat	63	06-15	10-15	2 BT	.51 mi BT CH	Midpoint, In-Season & EOS	
	Starvation	Non-Use			5 BT	.22 mi BT CH	Presence	
	Lake Creek	Non-Use						
Flag Prairie								
PW Cow	South	Non-Use			7 BT		Unauth	
	Mountain	Non-Use			5 BT	4.23 mi BT CH	Unauth & EOS	
	Flat	Non-Use			7 BT		Unauth	
	Crane Prairie Riparian	Non-Use			7 BT		Unauth & EOS	
	Crane Prairie Holding	Non-Use			7 BT			
	Special Use/E. Holding	Non-Use			7 BT			
	E. Holding	Non-Use			7 BT			
	Crane Crossing	Non-Use			5 BT	.71 mi BT CH	Unauth & EOS	
Three Valley	**River**	Non-Use			5 BT	5.17 mi BT CH	Unauth & EOS	
	Bear Creek Riparian	Non-Use			7 BT		Unauth & EOS	
	South Bear	Non-Use			7 BT			
	Sheep Gulch	Non-Use			7 BT			
	Dude Riparian	Non-Use			7 BT		Unauth & EOS	
	East Hole	Non-Use			8 BT			

Allotment & Permittee	Pasture	Number	On Date	Off Date	General Priority	Miles Of Critical Habitat	2012 Scheduled Monitoring Type	Comments
Hot Springs								
Elmwood Ranches	Allen on/off	24	06-01	07-10				
	RL on/off	35	05-29	10-15				
	Gillette/ Thompson on/off*	35	06-16	08-30	**1 BT 1 Sth**	3.60 mi BT CH 2.20 mi StH CH	Midpoint & EOS	Need to ground truth
	Hot Springs on/off*	75 yrlgs	07-15	10-15			Midpoint & EOS	
Rail								
Elmwood Ranches	**Rail on/off***	50	08-01	09-30	2 BT 2 StH	20.90 mi BT CH	Midpoint & EOS	
Indian Creek (PC)								
Riggs	**Allotment Wide**	50	07-02	09-30	3 BT 2 StH	1.06 mi StH CH	Midpoint, In-Season & EOS	Need to ground truth
Logan Valley								
Alan & Judy Jacobs	Front Field	Non-Use						
	Lower Field	65	06-10	06-30	**1 BT**	.12 mi BT CH	Midpoint & EOS	
	E. Bosenberg	357	09-30	10-10	**1 BT**	.01 mi BT CH	Midpoint & EOS	Need to ground truth
	W. Bosenberg	65	06-10	07-01	**1 BT**	.13 mi BT CH	Midpoint & EOS	
	Flat Field	160	06-10	07-10				
	N. Big & Big Creek portion of E. Lake Creek	65	07-01	08-12	**1 BT**	.74 mi BT CH	Midpoint & EOS	
	S. Big Creek	65	07-02	08-12	**1 BT**	.49 mi BT CH	Midpoint & EOS	
	E. Lake Creek (upland portion)	50	07-02	09-01	**1 BT**	.32 mi BT CH	Midpoint & EOS	
	E. Lake Creek (upland portion)	160	08-13	09-01	**1 BT**	.32 mi BT CH	Midpoint & EOS	
	W. Lake	50	06-10	07-01	5 BT	1.02 mi BT CH	Midpoint & EOS	

Allotment & Permittee	Pasture	Number	On Date	Off Date	General Priority	Miles Of Critical Habitat	2012 Scheduled Monitoring Type	Comments
	Creek							
	Big Field	210	09-02	09-30				
		130	08-13	09-30				
	Corral Holding	various	10-10	10-15	**1 BT**	.12 mi BT CH	EOS	
North Fork								
M & S Siddoway	Squaw Creek	Non-use			7 BT			
	Squaw Creek Holding	Non-use			7 BT			
	Camp Creek	Non-use			7 BT			
	Anderson Creek Riparian	Non-use			7 BT			
	Anderson pasture	Non-use			7 BT			
	North River	Non-use			5 BT	2.72 mi BT CH	Midpoint, EOS & Unauth after 08-15	
	Mountain	Non-use			7 BT		EOS	
	Bear Creek Meadows	Non-use			7 BT			
	South River	200 ylng	08-08	10-15	**1 BT**	2.00 mi BT CH	Midpoint & EOS	
Ott								
Nate Engeberg	E. Buttermilk	Non-use			7 BT			
	Anderson Holding	Non-use			7 BT			
	Ott	430	6/16	7/16	3 BT			
	Ott Meadows	4 horses & gather			4			
	W. Buttermilk	430	7/8	8/8	3 BT			
	Knox Meadows	Gather	09-10	09-15	3 BT		EOS	
	River Corridor				5 BT	4.83 mi BT CH	Presence & EOS	
	Cottonwood Riparian				7 BT		Unauth	

Allotment & Permittee	Pasture	Number	On Date	Off Date	General Priority	Miles Of Critical Habitat	2012 Scheduled Monitoring Type	Comments
	Ott Meadows	Gather			4			
Reynolds								
Emmel Brothers	**Reynolds**	Non-Use for resource protection			7 BT Many StH	13.78 mi BT CH Many mi StH CH	Unauth	
	Danish	166	07-04	08-18	3			
	Davis	166	08-19	09-18	3			
Spring Creek								
A & K Joyce	**Bucktrough**/ Mahogany	44	7/20	10/15	**1 BT**	3.16 mi BT CH	Presence & EOS	Little access
	Little Crane	128	7/5	9/19	5 BT	1.71 mi BT CH	Fence Maint & Unauth	Fenced out
	Buttermilk Flat/Cougar	Various			4 BT			
	Lower Crane	100	6/28	8/27	3 BT			
	South River pasture	72	06-30	08-15	**1 BT**	3.68 mi BT CH	Midpoint, EOS & Unauth After 8/15	
	Little Crane		07-06	10-15	5 BT	1.71 mi BT CH	Fence Maint & Unauth	
Geraldine Joyce	Buttermilk Flat/Cougar	Non-Use			4 BT			
	Little Crane	Non-Use			5 BT	1.71 mi BT CH	Fence Maint & Unauth	
	Crane	Non-Use			4 BT			
Mark & Wendy Joyce	**Bucktrough**	Non-use			**1 BT**	3.16 mi BT CH	Presence & EOS	
	Buttermilk Flat	Non-use			4 BT			
	Crane	Non-use			4 BT			
	Little Crane	Non-use			5 BT	1.71 mi BT CH	Fence Maint & Unauth	Fenced out
	Horseshoe Basin	Non-use			5 BT	13.05 mi BT CH	Spawning	
	Elk Flat	Non-use			6 BT	.73 mi BT CH		
	River Holding	Non-use			5 BT	.84 mi BT CH		
	South River Pasture	Non-use			**1 BT**	3.68 mi BT CH	Midpoint, EOS & Unauth After 8/15	
	Cow Camp Holding	Non-use						

Allotment & Permittee	Pasture	Number	On Date	Off Date	General Priority	Miles Of Critical Habitat	2012 Scheduled Monitoring Type	Comments
Summit Prairie								
A, J & J Jacobs	Sagehen	75	06-10	07-15	**1 BT**	3.98 mi BT U CH	Midpoint, EOS, Unauth	
	Crane Rock	125	06-10	07-15				
	Little Logan	200	07-16	08-07	**1 BT**	3.60 mi BT U CH	Midpoint, EOS, Unauth	
	Summit Rock	225	08-15	10-24	**1 BT**	4.20 mi BT U CH	Midpoint, In-Season & EOS	
	North Summit	various	10-17	10-24	**1 BT**	.93 mi BT U CH	EOS	
	West Summit	various	10-17	10-24	?			
Sullens								
	Vacant	Vacant					Unauth	
Lake Creek								
	Vacant	Vacant					Unauth	

* : ID Team to reassess monitoring sites and appropriate attributes. *Italics:* 2011 Noncompliant Units. **Bold**: Critical Habitat General Priorities:

Priority	Monitoring
Grazed	
➢ Pastures w/ CH and MSRA	1 23
➢ Pastures w/CH and no MSRA	2 7
➢ Pastures w/ riparian, not CH	3
➢ Pastures w/out riparian or CH	4
Not Grazed	
➢ Pastures w/ CH and MSRA	5 13
➢ Pastures w/CH and no MSRA	6 4
➢ Pastures w/ riparian, not CH	7
➢ Pastures w/out riparian or CH	8

Monitoring Total: 47

Pastures w/ CH: 38. Pastures w/ grazing long than 30 days: 15

Appendix B – Spawning Survey History

Blue Mountain Ranger District

Upper John Day River Sub-Basin Allotments

Allotment	Pasture	Stream	2012	# Redds	2013	# Redds	2014	# Redds	2015	# Redds	2016	# Redds
Dark Canyon	Canyon Creek	MF Canyon Creek										
		Canyon Creek										
		Crazy Creek										
		Wall Creek										
		Wall Creek Trib										
	15 Road	Canyon Creek										
Fawn Springs	Lake	Wall Creek										
Hanscomb	Laycock	Laycock Creek										
		Hanscomb Creek										
Dixie	Standard	Dixie Creek										
		Standard Creek										
	Bear Creek	Dixie Creek										
		Bear Creek										
		Hall Creek										
		East Fork Camp Creek										
Roundtop	Beech	East Fork Beech Creek										
	Tinker	Tinker Creek										
		East Fork Beech Creek										
	Grub	Grub Creek										
John Day	Lower Ennis	Beech Creek										
		East Fork Beech Creek										

Allotment	Pasture	Stream	2012	# Redds	2013	# Redds	2014	# Redds	2015	# Redds	2016	# Redds
		Clear Creek										
		Johnson Creek										
		Hog Creek										
		Ennis Creek										
	Lower McCellan	McClellan Creek										
	Upper McClellan	McClellan Creek										
Beech Creek	Beef	East Fork Beech Creek	X	1								
Mt. Vernon	Belshaw	Belshaw Creek										
	Belshaw Riparian											
	Bear Creek	Bear Creek										
Seneca	Vance	Vance Creek										
Deadhorse	North	Riley Creek										
		Ingle Creek										
Williams	Cow	East Fork Canyon Creek										

South Fork Malheur River Sub-Basin Allotments

Allotment	Pasture	Stream	2012	# Redds	2013	# Redds	2014	# Redds	2015	# Redds	2016	# Redds
Fields Peak	North Murderers Creek	Basin Creek										
		White Creek										
		Charlie Mack										
	Tex Creek	Tex Creek										
	Miners Creek	Sugar Creek										
	Fields Peak	Tex Creek										
		Fields Creek										
		Buck Cabin Creek										
		Wickiup Creek										
	Murderers	Lemon Creek										

Allotment	Pasture	Stream	2012	# Redds	2013	# Redds	2014	# Redds	2015	# Redds	2016	# Redds
	Creek	Murderers Creek										
Murderers Creek	Frenchy Butte	Crazy Creek										
		Deer Creek										
		Vester Creek										
		Blue Creek										
		Buck Creek										
	Deer Creek	Deer Creek										
		Corral Creek										
		South Fork Deer Creek										
		North Fork Deer Creek										
	Timber Mountain	South Fork Murderers Creek										
	John Young Meadow											
	S. Fk. Murderers Holding											
	Blue Ridge											
		Blue Creek										
		Bark Cabin Creek										
	Tex Gather	Murderers Creek										
		Tex Creek										
	Martin Corrals	Murderers Creek										
		Thorn Creek										
	Red Rocks	Duncan Creek										
		Duncan Creek Trib										
	Oregon Mine	Murderers Creek										
		Thorn Creek										
		Tennessee Creek										
		Oregon Mine Creek										
		Duncan Creek										

Allotment	Pasture	Stream	2012	# Redds	2013	# Redds	2014	# Redds	2015	# Redds	2016	# Redds
		Duncan Creek Trib										
	Dans Creek	Dans Creek										
		Orange Creek										

Middle Fork Malheur River Sub-Basin Allotments

Allotment	Pasture	Stream	2012	# Redds	2013	# Redds	2014	# Redds	2015	# Redds	2016	# Redds
Blue Mountain	Squaw	Middle Fork John Day River										
		Summit Creek										
		Squaw Creek										
	Crawford	Crawford Creek										
	Idaho	Idaho Creek										
		Fly Creek										
		Summit Creek										
		North Fork Summit Creek										
	East Summit	Summit Creek										
		Idaho Creek										
	West Summit	Middle Fork John Day River										
		Crawford Creek										
		Clear Creek										
Upper Middle Fork	Butte	Butte Creek										
		Ruby Creek										
		Bennet Creek										
		Ragged Creek										
		Sulpher Creek										
		Little Butte Creek										
		Middle Fork John Day River Trib										
	Deerhorn	Deerhorn Creek										
		Davis Creek										
		Placer Gulch										

Allotment	Pasture	Stream	2012	# Redds	2013	# Redds	2014	# Redds	2015	# Redds	2016	# Redds
		N. Fk. Bridge Creek										
		Little Butte CreekTrib										
		Davis Creek E. Trib										
		Davis Creek W. Trib										
		MF John Day River										
	Caribou	Granite Boulder Creek										
		Caribou Creek										
		Little Boulder Creek										
		Windlass Creek										
		Little Boulder Creek Trib										
	Upper Vinegar	Vinegar Creek										
		Vincent Creek										
		Blue Gulch										
	Lower Vinegar	Vinegar Creek										
		Vincent Creek										
Lower Middle Fork	Granite Boulder	Granite Boulder Creek										
		Beaver Creek										
		Lemon Creek										
	Mosquito Creek	Mosquito Creek										
	Pizer	East Fork Big Creek										
		Pizer Creek	X	0								
		Big Creek	X	4								
		Lost Creek										
		Deadwood Creek	X	0								

Allotment	Pasture	Stream	2012	# Redds	2013	# Redds	2014	# Redds	2015	# Redds	2016	# Redds
		Swamp Gulch	X	0								
		Onion Gulch										
	Susanville	Big Boulder Creek	X	0								
		Wray Creek										
		Coyote Creek										
		Elk Creek										
		Deep Creek										
		Badger Creek										
		Myrtle Creek										
		Dry Creek										
		Beaver Creek	X	10								
	Sunshine	Sunshine Creek										
Long Creek	Lick Creek	Lick Creek	X	8								
		Cougar Creek	X	2								
		Trail Creek										
		West Fork Lick Creek	X	17								
		Camp Creek	X	7								
		Eagle Creek										
		Charlie Creek										
	Flood Meadows	Long Creek										
	Ladd											
	Hiyu											
		Jonas Creek										
	Flat Camp	Cottonwood Creek										
		Long Creek										
		Jonas Creek										
	Flat Camp Cow Camp	Cottonwood Creek										
	Coxie Creek	Coxie Creek										
Camp	Lower	Middle Fork John Day River										
Slide	Camp	Camp Creek										

Allotment	Pasture	Stream	2012	# Redds	2013	# Redds	2014	# Redds	2015	# Redds	2016	# Redds
	Creek Riparian											
	East	Bear Creek										
		Whiskey Creek										
	West	Slide Creek										
	Slide Riparian	Slide Creek										
	Whiskey Riparian	Whiskey Creek										
York	Slide	Slide Creek										
Bear	C1 & C2	Middle Fork John Day River										
	E/F	Mosquito River										

North Fork Malheur River Sub-Basin Allotments

Allotment	Pasture	Stream	2012	# Redds	2013	# Redds	2014	# Redds	2015	# Redds	2016	# Redds
Fox	Lower Fox	Fox Creek										
		Day Creek										
		Mill Creek										
		Mill Creek Trib.										
	South Fork	South Fork Long Creek										
	Upper Fox	Smith Creek										
		Dunning Creek										
	Wiley	Cottonwood Creek										
		Mill Creek										
		Murphey Creek										
Donaldson	Glade	Fox Creek	X	0								
		Cottonwood Creek	X	0								
		Camp Creek	X	0								
		Boulder Creek	X	0								
Deer Creek	Deer Creek	West Fork Deer Creek										

Allotment	Pasture	Stream	2012	# Redds	2013	# Redds	2014	# Redds	2015	# Redds	2016	# Redds
Hamilton	East Fork Riparian	East Fork Deer Creek										

Prairie City Ranger District

Upper John Day River Sub-Basin and North Fork Malheur River Sub-Basin Allotments

Allotment	Pasture	Stream	2012	# Redds	2013	# Redds	2014	# Redds	2015	# Redds	2016	# Redds
Deardorff		Deardorff Creek	X	0								
Rail Creek		Roberts Creek		0								
		Rail Creek										
		Call Creek										
		Upper John Day River										
Spring Creek	Little Crane Exclosure	Little Crane Creek		20-25								

File Code: 2670

Date: August 13, 2012

Dr. Kim Kratz
NMFS
1201 NE Lloyd Blvd, Suite 1100
Portland, OR 97232-2182

Dear Dr. Kratz:

We send this letter in response to the recommendation the Level 1 Team made at the July 10, 2012, Consultation Level I Team meeting in John Day to briefly lay out the findings of redd surveys, redd trampling mitigation measures taken, and a discussion of the potential for redds to have been trampled in connection with the 2012 grazing season on the Malheur National Forest (MNF), as well as proactive measures the Forest intends to implement to reduce the risk of redd trampling in the future, all as described in more detail below.

In its recently issued Biological Opinion (BiOp) regarding the effects of authorized livestock grazing within the MNF on mid-Columbia River (MCR) steelhead, NMFS provided an incidental take statement as required by section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The incidental take statement describes reasonable and prudent measures NMFS considers necessary or appropriate to minimize the impact of incidental take. The take statement sets forth nondiscretionary terms and conditions, including reporting requirements, that the MNF must comply with to carry out the reasonable and prudent measures. More specifically, reasonable and prudent measures 1 and 3 and the accompanying terms and conditions relate, at least in part, to incidental take that may result from potential MCR steelhead redd trampling caused by authorized livestock grazing, and are described below.

2.8.3 Reasonable and Prudent Measures *(BiOp at page 231)*

"Reasonable and prudent measures" are nondiscretionary measures to minimize the amount or extent of incidental take (50 CFR 402.02). The MNF shall:

1. *Minimize incidental take caused by trampling of MCR steelhead redds and rearing juveniles by performing spawning surveys and protecting redds.*
3. *Implement a program of monitoring and reporting to ensure that the amount and extent of take limits are not exceeded.*

2.8.4 Terms and Conditions *(BiOp at pages 231-233)*

"Terms and conditions" implement the reasonable and prudent measures (50 CFR 402.14). These must be carried out for the exemption in section 7(o)(2) to apply.

1. *To implement reasonable and prudent measure #1 (redd trampling and juvenile disturbance), the MNF shall:*
    a. *In pastures that will be grazed prior to June 30, perform surveys before turnout on all spawning reaches within the most sensitive riparian areas (MSRA), and on not less than 20% of all other designated critical habitat, to locate and map steelhead redds.*
    b. *Implement positive measures to protect each mapped redd, including but not necessarily limited to: pasture rest or alternative rotation, exclusion fencing, or protective herding.*
    c. *Prior to cattle turnout, share redd maps with permittees and coordinate positive measures to be implemented with permittees.*

3. *To implement reasonable and prudent measure #3 (monitoring and reporting), the MNF shall:*
    a. *The MNF shall visually inspect riparian livestock use in each steelhead-bearing pasture near the mid-point of the grazing rotation for that pasture, and will conduct applicable Multiple Indicator Monitoring (MIM) on any such pasture if it appears that riparian conditions are approaching one or more move triggers or end-point indicators.*
    b. *For each steelhead-bearing pasture grazed longer than 30 days in the months of August, September, and/or October, the MNF will have at least one additional inseason field compliance check. The number of additional compliance checks will be determined by the length of season in the pasture (i.e., 60-day grazing season would have a minimum of two checks).*
    c. *At a minimum, the MNF shall use the following locations and protocols in each grazed steelhead-bearing pasture for end of season end-point indicator monitoring:*
        i. *Pastures with DMA –The MIM protocol will be used to measure Bank Alteration, Stubble Height, and Woody Browse at DMA locations.*
        ii. *Pastures with Key Areas – The MIM protocol will be used to measure Bank Alteration, Stubble Height, and Woody Browse at Key Areas.*
        iii. *Pastures currently with neither a DMA or Key Area because the DMA or Key Area identification guidance cannot be applied– if pastures do not meet the criteria necessary for selection of a DMA or Key Area following MIM TR1737-23, Bank Alteration, Stubble Height, and Woody Browse, if relevant, will be measured using the MIM protocol.*

Summary of 2012 MCR Steelhead Spawning Surveys and Redd Mitigation Measures

In accordance with the foregoing provisions of the BiOp, steelhead redd surveys were conducted on numerous streams throughout the month of May by Blue Mountain Ranger District (BMRD) fisheries and range personnel, which were supplemented with surveys conducted by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Surveys conducted by BMRD were documented on the Steelhead Spawning Survey Report form and redd locations were recorded using Global Positioning System (GPS). GPS points were obtained from ODFW for redds observed by ODFW crews. The BiOp provides under term and condition 1b for the MNF to "implement positive measures to protect each mapped redd, including but not necessarily limited to: pasture rest or alternative rotation, exclusion fencing, or protective herding" and, under term and condition 1c, to also, "[p]rior to cattle turnout, share redd maps with permittees and coordinate positive measures to be implemented with permittees." BMRD implemented one or more of the following protection measures where redds were located (site-specific measures are detailed in the tables below): electric fencing, adjusted turn-out dates, and additional riding focused on keeping livestock in the uplands. The presence of redds within streams and the planned mitigation was relayed to grazing permittees by BMRD range personnel via phone conversations.

In addition, on April 5, 2012, the BMRD compiled a list of pastures containing streams designated as MCR steelhead critical habitat on which authorized livestock grazing was planned prior to June 30. Table 1 represents those streams that were surveyed as part of the 2012 spawning survey strategy. All stream segments identified as Most Sensitive Riparian Areas (MSRA) with potential for livestock/redd interaction were surveyed. In addition to streams containing MSRA, 13 streams containing Critical Habitat were considered for surveys as part of the 20% random sample due to potential for redd/livestock interaction described in the Strategy. Three of those 13 streams were selected, and identified in italics in Table 1 (see Attachment 1 Strategy to Minimize Redd Trampling). It should be noted that MSRA identified in the Forest's 2012-2016 Biological Assessments, as well as stream reaches identified for risk of livestock/redd interaction, will continue to be reviewed by the BMRD Interdisciplinary Team and will be adjusted as appropriate.

Table 1. Streams Surveyed in 2012 by Allotment

Long Creek	Beech Creek	Lower Middle Fork	Donaldson
Lick Cr W.F. Lick Cr Cougar Cr Camp Cr	E.F. Beech Cr	*Pizer Cr* Big Cr Swamp Gulch Deadwood Cr *Big Boulder Cr* Beaver Cr	Boulder Cr Fox Cr *Camp Cr* *Cottonwood Cr*

Streams selected for survey in the 20% random sample are identified in *italics*

2012 Redd Survey Results and Monitoring Summary

- Long Creek Allotment:

Lick Creek – 2.4 miles

Date	# Redds Observed	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA (Y/N)	Mitigation
May 1	7	ODFW	Confluence w/Camp Creek upstream to W. F. Lick Creek	Y	Lick Cr Riparian Pasture will not be used until after 6/30
May 17	1	BMRD	Confluence w/W.F. Lick Creek upstream 0.5 miles	Y	None-Robust vegetation making livestock access unlikely

June 6th allotment inspection – Cattle reach Lick Creek pasture

June 11th allotment inspection – BMRD Rangeland Management Specialist Nick Stiner found cattle had dropped into the Lick Creek drainage; he met the rider in the vicinity of Lick Creek and instructed him to move cattle back into the uplands.

June 13th allotment inspection – Following the inspection Stiner contacts the permittee by phone to ensure that the livestock do not impact the redds identified in the Long Creek allotment.

July 1st allotment inspection – Stiner contacts riders, they inform him that they have begun gather and will start moving out of the Lick pasture. Any livestock that fall into the bottom mile of the streams are being moved to the next pasture.

July 2nd site visit – The single redd located upstream of the Lick/West Fork Lick Creek confluence was observed by Stiner and Allen Taylor (BMRD Fisheries Biologist) to have no evidence of recent livestock activity, validating that mitigation was effective for this redd.

July 3rd site visit [by Jeff Shinn (BMRD Acting District Ranger), Allen Taylor, and Steve Namitz (MNF Fisheries Program Manager)] – A water gap on Lick Creek for the Lick Creek pasture showed evidence of recent livestock activity. This water gap was not addressed in the Long Creek Allotment Biological Assessment, and occurs in an area previously described to be completely contained by the Lick Creek Riparian Pasture. The water gap is approximately 300' in length. No redds are in the vicinity of the water gap, and so there was no possibility of redd trampling within the water gap.

West Fork Lick Creek – 2.4 miles

Date	# Redds Observed	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA (Y/N)	Mitigation
up to May 7	8	ODFW	3675-514 road crossing upstream 1.5 miles	Y	Riding and use of off-site waters
May 7-May 30	4 Additional	ODFW	Same reach	Y	Riding and use of off-site waters

May 18	5	BMRD	Confluence w/ Lick Creek upstream to 3675-514 road crossing	Y	Use electric fencing from 514 downstream 0.75 miles

May 30th allotment inspection – Electric fence installed on West Fork Lick Creek

June 4th allotment inspection –Stiner meets with permittee and rider while they are unloading cattle; Stiner discusses the presence of redds in the Lick Creek pasture with rider, the rider states that he is confident they can keep cattle out of West Fork Lick Creek and Cougar Creek until after July 1. Stiner reminds him that he still needs to check and ensure the electric fence is working properly.

June 6th allotment inspection – Cattle reach Lick Creek pasture

June 11th allotment inspection –Stiner found cattle had dropped into the Lick Creek drainage and have been pushing hard on the electric fence on West Fork Lick Creek; he met the rider in the vicinity of Lick Creek and instructed him to move cattle back into the uplands.

June 13th allotment inspection – Following the inspection Stiner contacts the permittee by phone to ensure that the livestock do not impact the redds identified in the Long Creek allotment. The permittee informs Stiner that an additional rider will camp at the fork of West Fork Lick Creek and Lick Creek. This rider will patrol the MSRA hourly beginning 6/18, and another rider will be on Cougar creek several times/day.

June 14th site visit – Namitz observed evidence of livestock activity within the electric fence in the vicinity of redds.

June 18th site visit - Taylor confirmed evidence of livestock activity within the electric fence in the vicinity of surveyed redds.

June 19th allotment inspection - Stiner meets with rider on West Fork Lick Creek, rider informs him that a tree fell on the electric fence and 4 cows got into the fenced area, he removed them promptly and has repaired the fence. Stiner inspected the creek and could not locate where cattle had accessed stream.

June 25th allotment inspection – Stiner inspects electric fence and confirms that it is working properly; he meets with rider on West Fork Lick Creek, rider informs Stiner that after the first couple of days they have only seen a couple cows coming down to the road, maybe once a day. None have breached the fence.

July 1st allotment inspection – Stiner contacts riders, they inform him that they have begun gather and will start moving out of the Lick pasture. Any livestock that are found in the bottom mile of the streams are being moved to the next pasture.

On July 3rd site visit (Shinn, Taylor, Namitz) – Observed livestock activity within the electric fence in the vicinity of all 5 redds located by BMRD staff, including trailing along and across the stream. Multiple fry were observed in vicinity of redds. Based on the quantity, location, and pattern of hoof prints adjacent to redds, site visit team determined there was the potential for trampling of at least one redd to have occurred and that, therefore, additional mitigation measures should be implemented in the future, as measures employed for 2012 appeared to not be adequately effective. Shinn, Taylor and Namitz also observed the four redds furthest downstream located by ODFW; the lowest 3 had no evidence of livestock use, and the next redd upstream showed low use but evidence of livestock crossing the stream in the vicinity of the redd. Redds located further upstream were assumed to have had similar potential for trampling and not visited July 3rd.

Cougar Creek – 0.7 miles

Date	# Redds Observed	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA (Y/N)	Mitigation
May 17	2	BMRD	Confluence w/Camp Creek upstream 0.7 miles	Y*	Riding and use of off-site waters

* It should be noted that the extent of MSRA is inaccurately reported in the subject BA as 2.6 miles, and is actually 0.7 miles

June 4th allotment inspection –Nick Stiner meets with permittee and rider while they are unloading cattle; Stiner discusses the presence of redds in the Lick Creek pasture with rider, the rider is confident they can keep cattle out of West Fork Lick Creek and Cougar Creek until after July 1.

June 6th allotment inspection – Cattle reach Lick Creek pasture

June 13th allotment inspection – Following the inspection Stiner contacts the permittee by phone to ensure that the livestock do not impact the redds identified in the Long Creek allotment. The permittee informs Stiner that an additional rider will camp at the fork of West Fork Lick Creek and Lick Creek. This rider will patrol the MSRA hourly beginning 6/18, and another rider will be on Cougar creek several times/day.

June 18th site visit – BMRD staff observed evidence of cattle activity, including hoof prints in the vicinity of redds.

June 19th allotment inspection - Stiner meets with rider on Cougar Creek, only a few cows had accessed the stream and she pushed them out on the road.

June 25th allotment inspection – Stiner meets with rider on Cougar Creek, rider states they have been successful at keeping cattle off the stream.

July 1st allotment inspection – Stiner contacts riders, they inform him that they have begun gather and will start moving out of the Lick pasture. Any livestock that fall into the bottom mile of the streams are being moved to the next pasture.

July 2nd site visit – Nick Stiner and Allen Taylor observed and collected evidence of livestock activity in the vicinity of redds, including trailing across and along the stream, as well as a potential hoof print within the stream substrate adjacent to the lowest redd.

July 3rd site visit (Shinn, Taylor, Namitz) – Evidence of livestock activity was observed to have occurred within the vicinity of the 2 redds observed by BMRD staff, including trailing across and along the stream. Hoof prints within the stream substrate adjacent to the lowest redd were observed. Fry were observed at both redds. Based on the quantity, location, and pattern of hoof prints adjacent to redds, site visit team concludes that there was the potential for trampling to have occurred, and that additional mitigation in the future is appropriate.

Camp Creek – 1.0 miles

Date	# Redds Observed	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA (Y/N)	Mitigation
up to May 7	7	ODFW	All within the Lick Cr pasture	Y/N (3 within MSRA)	Riding and use of off-site waters. Recommend adjusting MSRA. Electric fence installed 6/13.

June 6th allotment inspection – Cattle reach Lick Creek pasture.

June 13th allotment inspection – Stiner installs electric fences around redds located within the MSRA to provide additional protection.

June 19th allotment inspection – Electric fences functioning properly and intact.

June 25th allotment inspection – Electric fences functioning properly and intact

July 1st allotment inspection – Stiner contacts riders, they inform him that they have begun gather and will start moving out of the Lick pasture. Any livestock the fall in to the bottom mile of the streams is being moved to the next pasture.

July 2nd allotment inspection/site visit – Stiner removes electric fencing from MSRA on Camp Creek. No livestock sign was observed in the vicinity of the 3 redds located within the MSRA.

July 3rd site visit (Shinn, Taylor, Namitz) – Evidence of livestock activity was observed to have occurred within the vicinity of the 5 lowest redds, including trailing along and across the stream. Dozens of fry were observed. Redds further upstream were assumed to have had similar potential for trampling and were not visited July 3. Observers discussed that based on the quantity, location, and pattern of hoof prints adjacent to redds, there was the potential for trampling to have occurred, and that additional mitigation in the future is appropriate.

- Beech Creek Allotment:

East Fork Beech Creek – 2.05 miles

Date	# Redds Observed	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA (Y/N)	Mitigation
May 8	1	BMRD	All within the Beef pasture	Y	Delay turnout to June 22

June 27th allotment inspection – Stiner notes that water has receded and the location of the redd is above the water line and vegetation is growing in the gravel adjacent to the redd.

This redd was not visited during the July 3rd mitigation effectiveness assessment.

- Lower Middle Fork Allotment:
  - ★ The permittee has not turned cattle out in the Pizer pasture, which contains Pizer Cr, Big Cr, Swamp Gulch, and Deadwood Cr. BMRD does not expect cattle to be in this pasture in 2012.

Pizer Creek – 0.7 miles (selected in 20% random sample)

Date	# Redds Observed	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA (Y/N)	Mitigation
May 22	0	BMRD	Confluence w/Big Creek upstream 0.7 miles	N	None – not likely spawning or rearing habitat, no re-survey

Big Creek – 2.2 miles

Date	# Redds Observed	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA (Y/N)	Mitigation
up to May 9	2	ODFW	4560 road crossing upstream 1.2 miles	Y	Turn cattle into upper elevation reaches
May 23	1	ODFW	Same reach	Y	Turn cattle into upper elevation reaches
May 21	1	BMRD	Remaining 1 mile of MSRA	Y	Turn cattle into upper elevation reaches. Recommend adjusting MSRA

July 3rd site visit – No evidence of livestock activity was observed in the vicinity of the lowest redd located by ODFW. The remaining 3 redds located further upstream were assumed to have similar potential for livestock activity and therefore not visited. Permittee has not turned cattle into the Pizer pasture as of 7/24/2012.

Swamp Gulch– 0.4 miles

Date	# Redds Observed	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA (Y/N)	Mitigation
May 21	0	BMRD	All of MSRA	Y	None – recommended removing MSRA designation and no re-survey

Surveys documented that the reach likely does not fit MSRA and recommended no resurvey. MSRA as described in BA mistakenly included private land, thus less than 0.4 miles actually surveyed. Permittee has not turned cattle into the Pizer pasture as of 7/24/2012.

Deadwood Creek– 1.1 miles

Date	# Redds Observed	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA (Y/N)	Mitigation
May 22	0	BMRD	Confluence with Big Creek upstream 1.1 miles	Y	None – high flows limited visibility; recommended adjusting MSRA upstream of end point

Permittee has not turned cattle into the Pizer pasture as of 7/24/2012.

Big Boulder Creek– 2.0 miles (selected in 20% random sample)

Date	# Redds Observed	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA (Y/N)	Mitigation
May 21	0	BMRD	FS boundary upstream 2 miles (roughly half of reach, reach is 3.98 miles)	N	None – high flows limited visibility

Beaver Creek– 1.2 miles

Date	# Redds Observed	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA (Y/N)	Mitigation
May 1	10	ODFW	Confluence w/Middle Fork John Day River to 4550 road crossing	Y	Delay turnout until after June 30.

- Donaldson Allotment:

Boulder Creek – 0.8 miles

Date	# Redds Observed	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA (Y/N)	Mitigation
May 15	0	BMRD	FS boundary upstream to 0.2 miles past upper extent of MCR steelhead critical habitat	Y	None – 3 *Onchorhynchus mykiss* observed. Recommend no re-survey due to insufficient water depth to pass adult steelhead by the end of May.

Fox Creek – 0.8 miles

Date	# Redds	Surveyed	Survey Reach	MSRA	Mitigation

	Observed	By		(Y/N)	
May 16	0	BMRD	FS boundary upstream to 0.2 miles past upper extent of MCR steelhead critical habitat	Y	None – Reach not likely MSRA, recommend no re-survey.

Cottonwood Creek – 0.6 miles (selected in 20% random sample)

Date	# Redds Observed	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA (Y/N)	Mitigation
May 16	0	BMRD	All MCR steelhead critical habitat within pasture	N	None – Reach not likely MSRA, recommend no re-survey. Live and dead steelhead observed.

Camp Creek – 0.2 miles (not on survey list)

Date	# Redds Observed	Surveyed By	Survey Reach	MSRA (Y/N)	Mitigation
May 16	0	BMRD	All MCR steelhead critical habitat within pasture	N	None – Reach not likely MSRA, recommend no re-survey.

Likelihood of Redd Trampling and Future Minimization Measures

As described in the BiOp, incidental take is reasonably certain to occur when redds containing eggs or pre-emergent fry are stepped upon by cattle and the eggs or fry are injured or killed by being crushed or excavated and washed away. Trampled redds are the best indicator that this form of incidental take has actually occurred because: (1) Trampled redds have the most biological impact in numbers of individuals seriously injured per episode; (2) trampled redds are indicative of cattle presence and activity at times and places where the other most sensitive MCR behaviors of spawning and early rearing take place; and (3) trampled redds lend themselves to being observed by a monitoring program because redds, unlike individual fish, are stationary and retain evidence of trampling, while individual fish are mobile and unless disturbance is viewed when it occurs it is impossible to know if a fish has been disturbed by cattle at other times.

The June 14th, 18th and July 2nd and 3rd site visits described above yielded no observations of redds being trampled, nor was there any retained evidence that any redds actually were trampled in any of the areas where livestock use appeared to occur prior to July 1 in the vicinity of redds, as described in Reasonable and Prudent Measure 1 and Term and Condition 1. As a consequence, the Forest does not believe that the evidence in the record indicates that it is likely the ITS was exceeded and/or requires that consultation be reinitiated at this time. Nevertheless, due to the quantity, location, and pattern of what appeared to be relatively recent cattle hoof prints observed in the vicinity of documented redds on Cougar Creek, West Fork Lick Creek, and Camp Creek, the July 3rd site visit team, which included both the Forest's and the District's Fish Biologists, to conclude that there is potential that trampling of one or more redds may have occurred.

In light of this determination, and in the spirit of the clear purpose of the applicable provisions of the BiOp that are designed to minimize the likelihood of incidental take of MCR steelhead, at the July 10, 2012, Level I Consultation Team Meeting, Jeff Shinn, Allen Taylor, and Nick Stiner briefed the Team on

the effectiveness of redd trampling minimization measures implemented, and additional measures that BMRD may implementation to minimize risk of redd trampling during the remaining consultation period. Jeff Shinn, Allen Taylor, and Kelly Ware (Supervisory Rangeland Management Specialist) had previously met with the Level I Team June 5, 2012 to brief them on results of spawning surveys conducted and planned mitigation.

Measures to minimize future risk of redd trampling that the BMRD intends to implement:

Lick Creek Pasture – Long Creek Allotment

- The Lick Creek pasture will not be grazed prior to June 30 for 2 years
- Permittee requirement to maintain all off-site water sources within the Lick Creek Pasture before next scheduled pre-June 30 turnout into the pasture. It should be emphasized that all three streams where redd trampling may have occurred are within the Lick Creek Pasture of the Long Creek Allotment, and this measure is expected to reduce the need for livestock to water within riparian areas of the pasture.
- Electric fence will be used on all MSRAs with identified redds
- Electric fence will be 2-strand (only 1 was used in 2012) and will be installed prior to turn-out.
- Initiate IDT redd trampling mitigation effectiveness monitoring within the first week of turnout, as needed until the end of the spawning/incubation period, and conduct final effectiveness assessment as near the end of the spawning/incubation period as possible

All allotments with the potential for livestock/redd interactions

- Ground-truth reaches identified as MSRA to adequately minimize potential for redd trampling.
- Revisions to MSRA maps from 2012 spawning surveys and range monitoring will be completed, documented and delivered along with the annual end of year report. Ground-truthing and revision will continue throughout the remainder of the consultation period.
- Include reaches with stock driveways or water gaps in the list of stream reaches considered for spawning surveys.
- Conduct future spawning surveys at least 15 days prior to 2012 survey date on Boulder Creek in the Donaldson Allotment.
- Conduct spawning surveys prior to peak flows on Deadwood Creek, Big Boulder Creek, and Beaver Creek in the Lower Middle Fork Allotment.
- Initiate IDT redd trampling mitigation effectiveness monitoring within the first week of turnout, as needed until the end of the spawning/incubation period, and conduct final effectiveness assessment as near the end of the spawning/incubation period as possible.
- Adapt extent, location, and operational timing of electric fencing.
- Use two-strand electric fencing to protect redds where IDT members are concerned with the potential for livestock/redd interaction.
- Flag and GPS-mark location of redds to enhance ability to relocate them.
- Implement measures to link hoof action observed with likelihood of trampling.

This is an informational memo only and a reply from NMFS is not required. As noted above, the MNF is not requesting reinitiated consultation or reporting observations of any MCR steelhead redds that were actually trampled. Nevertheless, the MNF wanted to ensure that the Level 1 team was aware of the potential that trampling of one or more redds may have occurred and also to document its intention to implement the additional mitigation measures set forth above in addition to the Project Design Criteria included in the BMRD's 2012-2016 livestock grazing proposed action over the remainder of the consultation period in order to further minimize the risk of redd trampling associated with the BMRD

livestock grazing program. Additionally, the MNF will continue to coordinate and communicate with the Level I Team to further refine conservation measures.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Namitz, Malheur National Forest Level I Team Representative by telephone at 541-575-3167 or by email at smnamitz@fs.fed.us. We look forward to working with you and your staff in the future to conserve threatened fish species and their habitat in the John Day Basin.

Sincerely,

/s/ Teresa Raaf
TERESA RAAF
Forest Supervisor

cc: Jeffrey Shinn
Steven M Namitz
Spencer Hovekamp

Appendix C – Monitoring Compliance History

Blue Mountain Ranger District

Upper John Day River Sub-Basin Allotments

Allotment	Pasture	2012			2013			2014			2015			2016		
Indicator:		SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA
Dark Canyon	Canyon Creek	Rested														
	15 Road	6-7	UA	3-8												
Fawn Springs	Lake	Rested														
Hanscomb	Laycock	Rested														
Dixie	Standard Creek	NM	NM	NM												
	Bear Creek	7	28	11												
Roundtop	Beech	Rested														
	Grub															
	Tinker															
John Day	Lower Ennis	9	32	2												
	Upper McClellan	Rested														
	Lower McClellan															
Beech Creek	Beef	10	44	3												
Mt. Vernon	Belshaw Creek	NM	NM	NM												
	Bear Creek	NP	50	0												
	Belshaw Riparian	8	34	15												
Seneca	Vance	Rested														

Allotment	Pasture	2012			2013			2014			2015			2016		
Indicator:		SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA
Deadhorse	North	Rested														

South Fork John Day River Sub-Basin Allotments

Allotment	Pasture	2012			2013			2014			2015			2016		
Indicator:		SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA
Fields Peak	Fields Creek	Rested														
	Tex Creek															
	Miners Creek															
	N. Murderers Creek	5	48	11												
	Murderers Creek	Rested														
Murderers Creek	Timber Mountain	NP	UA	0-1												
	Murderers Creek Gather	Rested														
	Red Rocks															
	Deer Creek															
	Frenchy Butte															
	John Young Meadow															
	Blue Ridge	4	NP	29												
	Dans Creek	Rested														
	Oregon Mine															
	Martin Corrals															
	Tex Creek Gather															
	Murderers Creek Gather															

Middle Fork John Day River Sub-Basin Allotments

Allotment	Pasture	2012			2013			2014			2015			2016		
Indicator:		SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA
Blue Mountain	Crawford Creek	Rested														
	West Summit															
	Idaho Creek															
	East Summit															
	Squaw															
Upper Middle Fork	Upper Vinegar	Rested														
	Lower Vinegar															
	Deerhorn															
	Butte															
	Caribou	10	21	2												
Lower Middle Fork	Pizer	Rested														
	Susanville	19	32	0												
	Granite Boulder	5	45	9												
	Sunshine	13	62	1												
Long Creek	Flat Camp	7	40	8												
	Lick Creek	5	44	14												
	Hiyu	7	53	13												
	Camp Creek Riparian	15	38	0												
	Lick Creek Riparian	11	30	2												
	Flood Meadows	14	NP	6												
	Ladd Pasture	9	41	9												
Camp Creek	Lower Camp	10	37	3												
Slide Creek	West	NP	NP	NP												
	Slide	8	37	8												

Allotment	Pasture	2012			2013			2014			2015			2016		
Indicator:		SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA
	Riparian															
	Camp Creek Riparian	12	30	0												
	East	4	43	20												
York	Slide	Rested														
Bear	C1	Rested														
	C2															
	E/F	NP	17	6												

North Fork John Day River Sub-Basin Allotments

Allotment	Pasture	2012			2013			2014			2015			2016		
Indicator:		SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA
Fox	Upper Fox	NP	NP	0												
	Lower Fox	7	50	13												
	Wiley	NP	40	0												
	South Fork	4	44	2												
Donaldson	Glade	4	NP	12												
Deer Creek	Deer Creek	Rested														
Hamilton	East Fork Deer Riparian	Rested														

Prairie City Ranger District

Upper John Day River Sub-Basin Allotments

Allotment	Pasture	2012			2013			2014			2015			2016		
Indicator:		SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA
Deardorff	Deardorff	14	0	10												
		NP	30	10												
		6	20	10												
	Gillette/ Thompson (on)	16+	NP	0												
	Hot Springs	NP	20	0												
		NP	0	0												
Indian Creek	Indian	6	10	4												
		NP	NP	4												
		NP	30	7												
Rail Creek	Rail	NP	0	0												
		NP	0	0												
		NP	10	5												

Malheur River Sub-Basin Allotments

Allotment	Pasture	2012			2013			2014			2015			2016		
Indicator:		SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA
Bluebucket	Cougar Riparian	Rested														
	Teepee	5	NP	10												
		5	NP	0												
		7+	30	4												
		7.4	13	6												
Dollar Basin	Dollar	5	NM	12												
		5	50	7												
		3.3	70	22												
	Merit	5	NP	11												
		6	NP	19												
	North	7	NP	15												

Allotment	Pasture	2012			2013			2014			2015			2016		
Indicator:		SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA
	Starvation															
Star Glade	South Star Glade	7	NP	15												
		6	30	6												
Logan Valley	Lower Field	NM	NP	0												
		NM	NP	0												
		7	NP	7												
	West Lake Creek	10	0	15												
		10	0	17												
		9	0	16												
		13	2	12												
	North Big Creek	10	NM	13												
		9	0	8												
	South Big Creek	10	0	13												
		6	0	19												
		6	40	17												
McCoy Creek	Lake Creek	Rested														
	Starvation	8	NM	0												
Summit Prairie	Sagehen	6	0	8												
		5	0	6												
		6	10	1												
		5	10	9												
	Crane Rock	8	NP	16												
	Little Logan (upper)	6	NP	6												
		6	20	5												
		5	70	14												
	Little Logan (lower)	8	NP	9												
		7	NP	17												
		6	NP	10												
		5	NP	18												
	Summit Rock/South Summit (WF Summit Cr)	5	3	20												
	Summit	6	NP	13												

Allotment	Pasture	2012			2013			2014			2015			2016		
Indicator:		SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA
	Rock/South Summit (Summit Cr)	7	70	9												
	North Summit	7	26	16												
		6	28	14												
		7	48	15												
	West Summit	8	50	14												

North Fork John Day River Sub-Basin Allotments

Allotment	Pasture	2012			2013			2014			2015			2016		
Indicator:		SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA
Flag Prairie	South	12	NP	0												
	Mountain	19	NM	5												
	Crane Riparian	6	NP	11												
	Crane Crossing	19	NP	5												
	River	19	NP	5												
	South Bear	12	NP	0												
	Bear Creek Riparian	Rested														
	Sheep Gulch	14	NP	8												
	Dude Riparian	17	NP	5												
North Fork	South River	7	NP	29												
	North River	Rested														
	Squaw Creek	18	NP	15												
	Anderson Riparian	12	NP	0												
	Mountain	Rested														
	Bear Meadows	14	NP	7												
Ott	Ott	5	NP	>20												

Allotment	Pasture	2012			2013			2014			2015			2016		
Indicator:		SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA	SH	WB	SA
	Meadows															
	East Buttermilk	6	NM	NM												
	River Corridor	>6	10	<20												
	Cottonwood Riparian	10	NP	5												
	Anderson Creek Holding	8	NP	5												
	Knox Meadows	5	NP	15												
Springs Creek	South River	8	7	6												
	North River	Rested														
	Little Crane Enclosure	Rested														
	Horseshoe Basin	Rested														
	Elk Flat															
	River Holding															