

EXISTING CONDITION	DESIRED CONDITION
Fisheries: No fish-bearing streams on allotment.	Fisheries: No change
Range Management: Lower elevation allotment (7800-9000 ft.), easy access to allotment. Water availability is limiting factor in pastures. Additional water source needed in the Blue Springs, Black Mountain, and South Wylie Gulch Pastures to improve livestock distribution. Problems with trespass from adjacent private lands typically in the Black Mountain, Blue Springs, and Ute Log Pastures. Prescribed burns have affected grazing rotations in the last six years. Livestock tend to concentrate in riparian areas in the Reed and Wylie Gulch Pastures. Heavy trailing has occurred in the Bear Lake area on south end of the Black Mountain Pasture. The spring located next to the road in the Back Mountain Pasture does not have enough water to operate properly. The Mud Springs Tank located southeast of the Main Road in the Mud Springs Pasture needs to be repaired/replaced.	Range: Improve water availability and livestock distribution on allotment. Develop new ponds on the south and east side of the Wylie Gulch Pasture. Develop water source ½ mile east of the Blue Springs (southeast Blue Springs Pasture). Relocate tank out of riparian area in Reed Gulch pasture. Establish more water in the Black Mountain Pasture. Re-design the Mud Springs tank south of the road and disconnect pipeline from the spring when livestock are not in the pasture. More watering sources in uplands in the North Wylie Gulch pasture. Repair ponds in the northern portion of the Reed Gulch Pasture. Resolve the unauthorized use situation from adjacent private lands on allotment.
Recreation: There are a number of Forest Service roads in the area. No trails or trailheads are present. Big game hunting is the main activity with some limited dispersed camping and OHV opportunities. Pinon nut gathering is important in years that produce a crop.	Recreation: Maintain accessibility of roads. Provide continued OHV and hunting opportunities. Maintain sufficient mature Pinon trees to provide for recreational gathering. Avoid creating avenues for illegal motorized use.
Wildlife: TES habitat exists for: northern leopard frog, northern goshawk, olive-sided fly catcher, flammulated owl, American three-toed woodpecker, Mexican spotted owl, American hog-nosed skunk, wolverine, Canada lynx, American martin, fringed myotis, and Townsend's big-eared bat; <i>Black Mtn. Pasture</i>	Wildlife: <i>All Areas:</i> supportive of active beaver colony(ies)/densities within the Historical Range of Variability (HRV) in applicable potential habitat types/areas; maintain functionality of lynx travel corridor; willow/aspens/cottonwood regenerated to within HRV levels. Grass/forbs species composition/cover percents/densities are all within HRV. Livestock grazing use to be limited to that not needed by wildlife

<p>-High forb content; good Arizona fescue cover; loss of blue gramma in area.</p> <p>-Erosion issues from livestock trailing down to Bear Lake limiting habitat capabilities for wildlife</p> <p>-Tresspass livestock issues from adjacent private lands could potentially limit forage availability for wildlife</p> <p>-High percentage of bare ground present is limiting habitat capabilities for wildlife</p> <p>-Conifer encroachment occurring in parks</p> <p><i>Blue Spring. Pasture</i></p> <p>-Range condition in upward trend</p> <p>-Smooth brome present in area</p> <p>-Percent bare ground above desirable level limiting habitat capability</p> <p>-Historical down cutting present limiting habitat capability</p> <p><i>Mud Springs Pasture</i></p> <p>-Crested wheatgrass and Canada thistle (non-native) present limiting habitat capability</p> <p>-Masticated material from fuels reduction work still present in parks</p> <p>-Mud Springs tank in state of disrepair (needs re-design of pipe/tank/overflow)</p> <p><i>North Wylie Gulch (Riparian Area)</i></p> <p>-Lack of willow/cottonwoods limiting riparian habitat capability</p> <p>-Non-native plant species present in species composition limiting habitat communities</p> <p>-Conifer encroachment in area limiting riparian habitat communities</p>	<p>in winter range areas. All range improvements must benefit wildlife in winter range areas. Maintain or raise water tables to improve riparian habitat or aquatic organism habitat.</p> <p><i>Black Mtn. Pasture</i></p> <p>-Increased composition of blue gramma present</p> <p>-Reduced bare ground to within HRV</p> <p>-Improved/maintained Arizona fescue cover</p> <p>-Tresspass issues resolved</p> <p>-Erosion controlled/abated at Bear Lake Pond</p> <p>-Implementation of above desired condition criteria would improve habitat capabilities</p> <p><i>Blue Spring Pasture</i></p> <p>-Reduced smooth brome cover and improved cover of native grasses/forbs</p> <p>-Reduced percentage of bare ground present</p> <p>-Eroded gullies are continuing to heal or have healed up</p> <p>-fence off area south of Williams Creek Road at Wylie Gulch Drainage</p> <p>-Implementation of above desired condition criteria would improve habitat capabilities</p> <p><i>Mud Springs Pasture</i></p> <p>-Reduced/eliminated crested wheatgrass cover</p> <p>-Improved cover percent/densities of native grass (i.e., Arizona fescue, mountain muhly, and prairie junegrass; early grazing?</p> <p>-Where considered beneficial, masticated materials reduced by prescribed burning</p> <p>-Mud Springs tank repaired</p>
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<p>-Stabilization work in area has been effective -Good vegetative cover, minimal amount bare ground present</p> <p><i>Reed Gulch(water tank area)</i> -Conifer encroachment in riparian bottoms from down cutting limiting riparian habitat communities -Cheatgrass invasion present limiting habitat capability -Good cottonwood regeneration present -Range condition in upward trend</p> <p><i>Ute Log (riparian/uplands area)</i> -Riparian corridor is healthy -Multiple age classes of willow present; willow regeneration in gullies present but not as distributed as it should be -Uplands range condition is good -Bare banks present up to 20' high present limiting habitat capability</p>	<p>-Implementation of above desired condition criteria would improve habitat capabilities</p> <p><i>North Wylie Gulch (Riparian Area)</i> -Water table raised -Increased vegetative cover in/on banks -Increased cover on native species -Functioning gradient controls maintained -Forage production maintained/improved with mechanical fuel treatments -Conifer encroachment abated -Cottonwood/willow densities, seral classes within HRV levels -Using Wylie as two pastures (North & South) -Non-native grasses/forbs controlled/eradicated -Additional benchmarks established in pasture (located down farther in Wylie Gulch than the one in the headwaters) -Implementation of above desired condition criteria would improve habitat capabilities</p> <p><i>Reed Gulch (water tank area)</i> -Road moved out of stream bottom area -Conifer encroachment abated (girdle/drop trees) -Native grasses composition improved/maintained to within HRV (esp. cool season bunch grasses like Arizona fescue) -Cottonwood regeneration is maintained (fencing) -Maximum retention of water in channel due to minimal diversion for livestock watering -Implementation of above desired condition criteria would improve habitat capabilities</p> <p><i>Ute Log (riparian/uplands area)</i></p>
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	<p>-South Fork of drainage has greater willow densities to within HRV -Pasture range, soils, hydrology, vegetation conditions are continuing to improve until at HRV -Steep gulleying areas have reached angle of repose and revegetated with native grasses/forbs/shrubs -Implementation of above desired condition criteria would improve habitat capabilities</p>
<p>Vegetation: Fuel reduction projects (hydro-axe, burning) have helped improve vegetation on allotment. Fuel reduction projects have significantly improved forage production in on the allotment. Because the allotment is in a lower elevation and has a drier climate the percentage of bare ground is higher and litter cover is lower than other allotments on the District. Allotment has good historical records of vegetation on allotment. Overall, the allotment is in an apparent upward trend.</p> <p>Blue Springs The apparent trend of vegetation is upward in the Blue Springs Pasture. Non-native smooth brome is present in the Blue Springs Pasture. Ground has been manipulated in the Blue Springs Pasture. The percentage of bare ground is more than desired in the Blue Springs Pasture.</p> <p>Mud Springs Non –native crested wheatgrass is part of vegetative composition in the Mud Springs Pasture.</p> <p>Ute Log Existing masticated material from fuel reduction projects still present in parks in the Ute Log Pasture.</p> <p>North Wylie Gulch, Reed Gulch, and Black Mountain</p>	<p>Vegetation: Maintain allotment in an upward trend. Higher percentage of bunch grasses and less bare ground in the Black Mountain Pasture. In the Blue Springs Pasture reduce the cover of smooth brome and improve cover of native grasses and forb species. Reduce the percentage of bare ground present in the Blue Springs Pasture. Reduce crested wheatgrass and improve native grass species: Arizona fescue, Mtn. Muley, and June grass in the Mud Springs Pasture. Reduce masticated materials in parks using prescribed burns. Increase vegetative cover on banks in the North Wylie Gulch Pasture area. Establish willow and cottonwood regeneration in the North Wylie Gulch riparian area. Reduce non-native species in the North Wylie Gulch Pasture. Maintain good vegetative cover and minimal bare ground on uplands in the North Wylie Pasture. Reduce conifer encroachment by continuing maintenance and improvement of forage production with mechanical fuel and prescribed burning treatments on the allotment. Reduce conifer encroachment in riparian areas in the Reed Gulch Pasture. Control invasion of cheat grass in the Reed Gulch Pasture. Allow cottonwood and willow regeneration to continue the Wylie and Reed Gulch riparian areas. Maintain and improve composition of native cool season grasses on the allotment. Continue improvement of</p>

<p>Pastures Conifer encroachment occurring in parks on the North Wylie Gulch, Reed Gulch, and Black Mountain Pastures. Conifer encroachment occurring on riparian bottoms in the Reed and Wyle Gulch Pastures. Invasion of cheat grass occurring in areas of the Reed Gulch Pasture. Good willow regeneration occurring in Wylie Gulch and Reed Gulch riparian areas. Good regeneration of cottonwoods occurring in the Reed Gulch Pasture. Range condition is in an apparent upward trend in the Reed Gulch Pasture. Lack of willows and cottonwoods in the North Wylie Gulch Pasture riparian area. Non-native species present in the North Wylie Gulch Pasture. Good vegetative cover and a minimal amount of bare ground present in uplands on the North Wylie Gulch Pasture. Change in vegetative composition in the Black Mountain Pasture occurred as the result of drought. High forb composition and less blue grama present after drought in the Black Mountain Pasture. High percentage of bare ground present in the Black Mountain Pasture. Good cover of Arizona Fescue present in the Black Mountain Pasture. Riparian corridor is healthy in the Ute Log Pasture. Different age classes of willows present in the Ute Log riparian area. Willow regeneration is occurring in gullies but not as distributed as they should be in the Ute Log Pasture. Range condition of uplands is in an apparent upward trend in the Ute Log Pasture. Canadian thistle is present in the Reed and Wylie Gulch Pastures and the Black Mountain and Mud Spring Pastures.</p>	<p>vegetative conditions in the Ute Log Pasture. Allow for willow regeneration to continue with adequate distribution in the Ute Log Pasture. Reduce cover of crested wheatgrass in the Ute Log Pasture. Increase willows in the south fork drainage in the Ute Log Pasture. Reduce forb composition and increase occurrence of bunch grasses in the Black Mountain Pasture. Reduce percentage of bare ground in the Black Mountain Pasture. Continue to control noxious weeds on the allotment.</p>
<p>Hydrology: The Devils Hole C&H allotment is comprised of 7 pastures totaling approximately 13,200 acres (20.7 square miles).</p>	<p>Hydrology: The main objective is to maintain the uplands and the riparian and stream corridors at desired condition. The following bullets summarize some of the related guidance discussed in the Forest</p>

<p>Approximately 53% (7,000 acres) of the allotment are open parks, and 48% (6,300 acres) of the allotment is accessible to livestock. These open parks are the primary areas grazed by livestock. In round figures, seven percent of this area is riparian, 90% is grassland, and three percent is shrubland.</p> <p>Appendix A of the hydrology report contains maps which show the open parks area for each pasture. Each map displays the wetter and drier portions of the pasture by climatic zones, improvements, and roads/trails. Known soil disturbances are also indicated on the existing condition maps by the small, red circles. Appendix B of the hydrology report contains a spreadsheet of the field observations made by the hydrologist; descriptions of the soil disturbances can be found there if observed.</p> <p>Of the accessible acreage on the Devils Hole allotment, 95% occurs in the lower montane and 5% occurs in the semi-arid climatic zone.</p> <p>The accessible open park within the lower montane zone is mostly underlain by soil map units 102F, 520M, and 521M. Parent material of the 102F is comprised of slope wash and alluvium. This map unit is obviously drier than 100F and 101F, yet can be wet in places and it does support riparian communities. This soil map unit supports the blue gramma and needlegrass ecological unit. Parent material of 520M is comprised of slope wash and residuum; this soil unit is drier and also supports the blue gramma and needlegrass ecological unit. Parent material of 521M is comprised of slope wash and valley till, and this map unit is also drier and supports the ponderosa pine ecological unit.</p>	<p>Land & Resource Management Plan, the Watershed Conservation Practices (WCPs), and other key, hydrologic concepts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain all riparian ecosystems in at least an upper mid-seral stage based upon the R2 Riparian Ecosystem Rating System (PSICC LRMP, III-50). Provide healthy, self-perpetuating plant communities, meet water quality standards, provide habitats for viable populations of wildlife and fish, and provide stable stream channels and still water-body shorelines (PSICC LRMP, III-203). • Achieve desired condition of riparian areas by following the standards set forth in the Watershed Conservation Practices (WCP) Handbook, FSH 2509.25. Section 12 deals specifically with Riparian Areas. Management measure (3) of this section states, “In the water influence zone (WIZ) next to perennial and intermittent streams, lakes, and wetlands, allow only those actions that maintain or improve long-term stream health and riparian ecosystem condition.” Adherence to the design criteria within this standard will help to sustain riparian areas at or move them toward their desired conditions. • To provide healthy uplands and riparian communities and stable stream systems in order to sustain the flow of high quality water to the forest boundary under current climatic conditions. • To ensure that grazing does not negatively alter the hydrologic processes in the uplands and along the riparian corridors, and to maintain the pattern, profile and dimensions of the stream network. • To protect the hydrologic integrity and functionality of all riparian communities, particularly the subalpine, mesic
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<p>As one would expect in this climatic zone, the riparian occurs as narrow stringers along the predominantly intermittent and ephemeral channels. Nearly 20% of the open park is underlain by soil map unit 102F. Of this acreage, 86% is mountain grassland, 3% is mountain shrubland, one percent is aspen/evergreen stringers, two percent is cottonwood, and eight percent is mesic meadow, riparian shrub complex and upland grasses associated with riparian. Eighty-five percent of this acreage occurs in the Mud Springs, North and South Wylie and Reed Gulch pastures.</p> <p>Because of the limited availability of water, many of the water developments occur in or near these narrow, riparian corridors. Forty-three water developments occur within the allotment; thirty-one occur in the Mud Springs, North and South Wylie and Reed Gulch pastures. The range summary for this allotment provides a good description of these developments and their condition. As cattle tend to congregate in North and South Wylie Gulch and Reed Gulch pastures, they were identified as areas of concern by the IDT. No stream/riparian surveys were conducted by the hydrologist.</p>	<p>vegetative community types by reducing livestock use in these areas, and by improving distribution onto and increasing the utilization of the mountain grasslands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that current water sources are adequately watering the livestock in a manner that is protecting those sources and the watershed. Where this is not occurring use tools available under current management or adaptive management to provide sufficient water in a manner that protects these resources. Develop springs in a manner that provides for their long-term sustainability.
<p>Soils: Pastures: Black Mountain Unit has 1526 acres of capable grazing, 92% of total pasture area; Blue Springs Unit has 1008 acres of capable grazing, 98% of total pasture area; Mud Springs Unit has 1770 acres of capable grazing, 95% of total pasture area; Reed Gulch Unit has 3991 acres of capable grazing, 90% of total pasture area; Ute Log Unit has 795 acres of capable grazing, 84% of total pasture area; Wylie Gulch Unit has 3605 acres of capable grazing, 96% of total pasture area;</p>	<p>Soils: Continue to maintain vegetation cover on pastures with good ground cover, improve vegetation cover and reduce percentage of bare ground present in pastures with sparse or decadent vegetative cover, continue to promote gully stabilization and healing,</p> <p>Reed Gulch and Mud Springs Units: Improve ground cover and decrease trampling in areas immediately adjacent to ponds and stock tanks, possibly relocate/redesign tank in Mud Springs, improve veg cover near ponds in the northern portion of the Reed</p>

<p>No capable grazing areas are found on slopes greater than 40% or in areas of highly erodable soils.</p> <p>Total pasture size: Black Mountain Unit, 1667 acres, Blue Springs Unit, 1025 acres, Mud Springs Unit, 1815 acres, Reed Gulch Unit, 4140 acres, Ute Log Unit, 803 acres, Wylie Gulch Unit, 3774 acres;</p> <p>All Pastures: Soils in predominant grazing areas are formed under dry moisture conditions on gently sloping mesas, benches and valley slopes; vegetation cover is present but sparse in some areas, available water holding capacity is low to moderate, depth to water table is > 6ft, mean annual precipitation is 12 to 16 inches;</p> <p>Black Mountain Unit: Some erosion present in and near trailing areas to Bear Lake</p> <p>Blue Springs Unit: Surface vegetation is sparse in some areas exposing surface soils; gullying present but stabilized;</p> <p>Mud Springs Unit: Trampling in immediate area around Mud Springs Tank east of main road with exposed soil evident;</p> <p>North Wylie Gulch: Good veg cover with minimal exposed soil surface, channel banks are stabilized and healing;</p> <p>Reed Gulch Unit: Soils stable, good veg cover, some trampling of soils in immediate area around stock ponds;</p> <p>Ute Log Unit: Stable soils with good ground cover, gully stabilizing nicely;</p>	<p>Gulch Pasture</p>
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