

APPENDIX D

Livestock Management Tools

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT TOOLS

MANAGEMENT TOOL	OUTCOMES	CAUTIONS
Early (cool) Season Grazing	Better distribution and use of uplands, less impact on riparian areas. Opportunity for plant re-growth. Provides forage for wildlife during late season.	Potential for overuse to decrease re-growth opportunities. Potential conflicts with sage grouse, other ground nesting birds, or rare plant species. Increased potential for compaction on moist soils.
Alternate Seasons of Use	Utilize plants in different areas in different times of year. Provides for plant recovery during different times of year. Moves away from systems which graze livestock on the same piece of ground at the same time of year, every year.	Potential conflicts with wildlife species. Potential conflicts with sage grouse, nesting birds, or rare plant species.
Creating Pastures within Allotment to Implement Different Grazing Systems.	Allows more flexibility to add deferment or rest into an allotment. Allows timing changes.	Smaller pastures require more management. Costs are higher. Additional fences will require additional NEPA analysis to implement and there increased maintenance.
Herding (riding)	Better livestock distribution. Distribute utilization across the allotment into different plant communities. Ensures livestock thoroughly moved out of pastures on time.	Increased expense.
Salting and Supplement Placement	Draw livestock away from water or riparian areas. Better livestock distribution within an allotment.	Heavy use in areas immediately adjacent to supplement. Creates concentrated use areas which can impact resources in an area.
Managed Timing of Livestock Grazing (rest)	Provides for growth and re-growth of plants at different times of year. Defers grazing in pastures within the allotment.	Intensified management requires more work. May result in some hot season use in given pastures.
Intensity of Grazing. (Short duration/high intensity or longer duration/light or moderate intensity)	Short duration can be used to address weed or cheat grass spread. Light intensity has less impact on plants and riparian areas.	Using short duration/high intensity requires management and monitoring to be successful. There are risks of impacting specific plant communities even in moderate to light grazing.
Placement/Repair of Off-stream Water Sources	Better distribution of livestock away from riparian areas.	There is added expense when repairing or moving troughs. Requires additional NEPA to address site specific environmental concerns.
Changing Animal Classes or Species.	Sheep are more easily herded and can be intensively managed. Different age classes of cattle behave differently which can be used to meet different management goals.	Changing species requires additional NEPA analysis and decision. Changing classes of animals may not be an option for some permittees based on current operating plans. Using sheep in this project area would result in conflicts with California bighorn sheep.