

**Department of Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Lander Field Office
1335 West Main Street, Lander Wyoming 82520
Range Permit/Lease Renewal Public Scoping – December, 2007**

The Lander Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management will be conducting an environmental analysis for the purpose of re-issuing grazing permits/leases on a number of grazing allotments within the Copper Mountain/Badwater area during the spring and summer of 2008. Since the level of analysis is in part driven by the level of public interest and concern, your comments are requested relative to conditions you have observed on these allotments. The more specific and factual your information is the more useful it will be. The public scoping period is in effect from the date of this notice. Comments would be most helpful if received by January 31, 2008.

An interdisciplinary team consisting of a rangeland management specialist, wildlife biologist, soil and noxious weed specialist, archeologist and recreation specialist will analyze the expiring grazing permits/leases based, in part, on the public comments and all other resource information available. The initial review of comments and available information will help determine the amount of consideration necessary and the appropriate level of analysis for reaching a decision on each grazing permit/lease renewal. The following grazing permits/leases within the Lander Field Office are scheduled for this analysis:

Authorization Number	Allotment Name	Allotment Number	BLM Acres	# and Kind of Animals	Begin Date	End Date	% Public Land	Total Animal Unit Months	BLM Animal Unit Months
4903811	Lysite Mountain	1329	8192	329* Cattle	5/16	9/1	68	1514	1030
4903811	Heinrich Pasture	1367	80	33 Cattle	5/15	11/1	6	183	11
4903706	Jones Creek Basin	1347	3915	428 Cattle	7/1	10/10	34	1435	488
4903800	Brandau Ranch Allotment	1317	1455	63 Cattle	8/15	12/31	58	288	167

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4903706	Quien Sabe Ranch Pasture (Ranch)	1365	4199	310 Cattle	4/1	5/10	7	414	29	
	West Pasture									
	South of Mountain									
4903811	Ramage Ranch	1359	12060	308 Cattle	11/1	5/15	62	1984	1230	
				201 Cattle	5/1	6/20	62	337	209	
4903811	Cotton-wood Pass	1334	3900	345 Cattle	6/11	10/20	55	1500	825	
4903805	Ruth Fuller Private	1360	80	100 Cattle	5/15	5/23	9	33	3	
				50 Cattle	6/26	8/6	9	66	6	
4903805	Fuller Allotment	1323	3099	136 Cattle	5/24	6/25	79	148	117	
				136 Cattle	8/7	10/28	79	370	293	
4903803	167A Scott-Robson	1308	276	320 Sheep	5/1	6/15	7	100	7	
				64 Cattle	5/1	6/15	7	100	7	
				320 Sheep	10/15	12/17	7	129	9	
				64 Cattle	10/15	12/17	7	129	9	

Authorization Number	Allotment Name	Allotment Number	BLM Acres	# and Kind of Animals	Begin Date	End Date	% Public Land	Total Animal Unit Months	BLM Animal Unit Months
4901092	Lost Creek	180	200	317 Cattle	6/15	9/25	2	1050	21
4903847	Battle Axe Berger North Pasture	1331	7373	34 Horses	3/1	2/28	45	408	184
				64 Cattle					
	Battle Axe Berger East Pasture			5 Horses	3/1	2/28	70	27	19
				50 Cattle					
Battle Axe Berger West Pasture	30 Cattle	12/1	1/1	70	53	37			
	30 Cattle								
4903847	Summer Allotment	1357	509	5 Horses	1/1	3/15	57	12	7
				50 Cattle					
4903847	Bow & Arrow	1332	1339	15 Horses	6/1	9/30	33	61	20
4903847	Lysite Mountain	1329	8192	50 Horses	4/10	6/15	33	109	36
				153 Cattle	10/1	12/1	33	312	103
				15 Horses	3/1	2/28	69	180	124
4903814	Picard Private Allotment	1339	2720	248* Cattle	12/1	5/15	36	1361	490
4903814	Scott Draw	1351	3560	300 Cattle	10/1	11/7	81	375	304

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4903824	Gates Draw	1333	12667	377 Cattle	3/1	5/31	73	1139	832
				228 Cattle	11/1	2/28	73	900	657
4903838	Stinking Well	1354	10023	759* Sheep	12/1	4/15	79	678	536
				285 Sheep	5/15	6/15	79	59	47
				44* Cattle	12/1	5/31	79	261	206
4903838	Howard Pasture	1356	2788	35 Cattle	1/1	2/28	67	67	45
				75 Sheep	4/1	7/31	67	60	40
				415 Sheep	12/15	2/28	67	207	139
4903838	East of Ranch	1325	2945	97 Cattle	12/1	5/31	18	583	105
				565 Sheep	12/1	6/15	18	733	132
4903838	Lichtenstein	1326	5947	620 Sheep	12/1	2/28	86	367	316
				235 Sheep	3/1	4/15	86	71	61
				72 Cattle	1/1	2/28	86	140	120
4903838	Lookout Hill	1355	7987	85 Cattle	4/1	5/15	71	125	89
				1148 Sheep	4/1	6/28	71	672	477
				1185 Sheep	11/20	12/10	71	163	116
4903838	Joe Johns Pasture	1352	1101	693 Sheep	6/1	10/1	45	560	252
				29 Cattle	8/15	11/30	45	102	46

Authorization Number	Allotment Name	Allotment Number	BLM Acres	# and Kind of Animals	Begin Date	End Date	% Public Land	Total Animal Unit Months	BLM Animal Unit Months
4903838	Campbell	1353	2755	13 Horses	4/15	1/1	32	113	36
				46 Cattle	5/13	11/30	32	306	98
				435 Sheep	5/15	7/15	32	178	57
				510 Sheep	9/1	12/10	32	338	108
4903838	Cabin Pasture	1366	245	10 Horses	5/1	11/30	16	69	11
				70 Sheep	3/1	2/28	16	169	27
				14 Cattle	3/1	2/28	16	169	27
4903819	Bonneville Reservoir	1346	12,667	156 Cattle	4/15	6/10	84	293	246
				12 Horses	4/15	6/10	84	23	19
				283 Cattle	10/1	12/31	84	856	719

*Livestock numbers averaged over grazing season.

Location:

These Allotments are located between Shoshoni and Thermopolis, Wyoming on a north-south axis and between Boysen Reservoir and Lysite, Wyoming on an east-west axis.

Key Issues and Resource Values:

- Some areas within allotments may be too steep or too far from water to be considered suitable for livestock grazing.
- The area provides crucial winter range for antelope, elk and mule deer. Most of the allotments contain at least one of these crucial habitats within their borders.
- Invasive species such as halogeton are widespread in the area.
- Some allotments may have stocking rate and season of use issues.

- Some allotments have riparian areas that receive heavy livestock use.
- This group consists of mostly “I” category allotments. “I” allotments have potential for improvement in forage production (vegetation condition), have potentially significant resource conflicts, and current grazing management practices could be improved.
- Some permits in this area have multiple grazing allotments.
- The area is experiencing an increase in natural gas development.
- This area receives little precipitation and has been affected by drier than normal conditions in recent years.

Further information on the allotments being evaluated can be obtained at <http://www.geocommunicator.gov/NILS-PARCEL2/map.jsp>

These grazing permit/lease renewals are one of several groups of grazing permit and lease renewals that will be analyzed in 2008 and beyond. Public scoping for the other permit/lease renewals will take place concurrently and at a later time. Comments may be made by writing us at the above address, e-mailing us at Lander_wymail@blm.gov, or by stopping at our office and sharing your thoughts, comments or concerns. General information on the Bureau of Land Management and Lander Field Office is available on our website located at

http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/field_offices/lander.html If you have any specific questions about the range permit renewal process, please contact Judi Mott or Rubel Vigil at (307) 332-8400.