



MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS DECISION GUIDE WORKBOOK

"...except as necessary to meet minimum requirements for the administration of the area for the purpose of this Act..."

-- The Wilderness Act of 1964

Project Title: Grazing Allotment Management

MRDG Step 1: Determination

Determine if Administrative Action is Necessary

Description of the Situation

What is the situation that may prompt administrative action?

The West Fork Grazing Allotment pre-dates the designation of the Ute Canyon Wilderness area in 1979, managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Old roads and trails from previous mining activities enter the wilderness in several places . One road in particular has been used by the permittee annually to access a drop-off point about 2 miles into the wilderness and deliver about 1600 lbs. of salt twice a year (a total of 3200 lbs. annually) using a motor vehicle. The permittee then subsequently distributes the salt from the drop-off point using pack stock to various locations within the allotment.

The Ute Canyon Wilderness area was designated in 1984. There is evidence from public hearings held prior to designation that motor vehicle use by the permittee had occurred but in the intervening years such access was never authorized and is not part of the previous grazing permit or allotment management plan. The existing road leading to the allotment inside the wilderness has evidence of use but is adequate for occasional use without repair or upgrade.

The revised allotment management plan indicates that there is a continuing need for salt distribution within the allotment to implement best range management practices consistent with the need to protect the wilderness resource but it does not specify the method for transporting the salt .

The purpose of this analysis is to determine if management action is necessary in wilderness to address the requirements of managing the existing grazing allotment (Step 1) and, if so, what the minimum required action is (Step 2) .

Options Outside of Wilderness

Can action be taken outside of wilderness that adequately addresses the situation?

YES

NO

EXPLAIN & COMPLETE STEP 1 OF THE MRDG

Explain:

The grazing allotment is located entirely within wilderness area. Therefore, there is no option outside of the wilderness area which can resolve the issue.

Criteria for Determining Necessity

Is action necessary to meet any of the criteria below?

A. Valid Existing Rights or Special Provisions of Wilderness Legislation

Is action necessary to satisfy valid existing rights or a special provision in wilderness legislation (the Wilderness Act of 1964 or subsequent wilderness laws) that **requires** action? Cite law and section.

YES

NO

Explain:

It is necessary to take action to satisfy a special provision of wilderness legislation. Wilderness Act (1964) - Special Provision - Section 4 (d)(4): "...the grazing of livestock, where established prior to September 3, 1964, shall be permitted to continue subject to such reasonable regulations as are deemed necessary by the Secretary of Agriculture." Though the language of use in The Wilderness Act of 1964 refers to the Secretary of Agriculture boilerplate language in subsequent wilderness laws applies this provision by extension to all areas in the National Wilderness Preservation System, including those managed by the BLM.

The continuation of grazing in the wilderness is not the issue for this analysis. The issue is how the grazing activities are to be managed. The specific proposals and alternatives, and their effects, will be described and evaluated in Step 2.

See the file : Grazing Allotment Management MRDG - Additional Information.docx for a continuation of the BLM policy on management of grazing in wilderness.

B. Requirements of Other Legislation

Is action necessary to meet the requirements of other federal laws? Cite law and section.

YES

NO

Explain:

It is not necessary to take action to meet requirements of other federal laws. There are no other federal laws that are directly applicable.

C. Wilderness Character

Is action necessary to preserve one or more of the qualities of wilderness character including: Untrammeled, Undeveloped, Natural, Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation, or Other Features of Value?

UNTRAMMELED

YES

NO

Explain:

It is not necessary to take action to preserve this quality. The definition of the Untrammeled quality is the lack of manipulation or control of natural processes by humans, which if allowed to occur, would eventually affect wilderness character. This quality is preserved when no manipulation or control of natural processes occurs.

Management of the grazing allotment within wilderness, including the transportation of salt, is not a significant manipulation of the natural processes on-going in wilderness.

The effects of the various methods of transporting the salt will be addressed in the Step 2 alternatives.

UNDEVELOPED

 YES NO

Explain:

It is not necessary to take action to preserve this quality. Preserving this quality keeps areas free from "expanding settlement and growing mechanization" and "with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable" and without structures, installations, temporary or permanent roads, or use of motorized equipment, mechanical transport, or landing or aircraft, as required by the Wilderness Act. The Undeveloped quality is preserved when wilderness retains its "primeval character and influence," and is essentially "without permanent improvements" or modern human occupation.

Management of the grazing allotment within wilderness, including the transportation of salt, is not an impact to the Undeveloped quality.

The effects of the various methods of transporting the salt will be addressed in the Step 2 alternatives.

NATURAL

 YES NO

Explain:

It is not necessary to take action to preserve this quality. A wilderness area is to be "protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions" meaning that wilderness ecological systems are substantially free from the effects of modern civilization. To preserve this quality, it may be necessary to take action to correct unnatural conditions even if they were present at the time of designation.

The use of salt in the wilderness will cause some impacts to natural conditions but it has been found to be consistent with the need to protect the wilderness resource by implementing best practices for range management (see allotment management plan). The issue for this analysis is the management of the grazing allotment within wilderness, including the transportation of salt, which is not a significant impact to the Natural quality or the Conservation public purpose of wilderness.

The effects of the various methods of transporting the salt will be addressed in the Step 2 alternatives.

SOLITUDE OR PRIMITIVE & UNCONFINED RECREATION

 YES NO

Explain:

It is not necessary to take action to preserve this quality. The Wilderness Act defines wilderness as having “outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.” This quality is preserved when the *opportunity* for people to experience wilderness in terms of the visitor's sense of solitude, and their expectation for an undeveloped environment with minimal restrictions is available.

The issue for this analysis is the management of the grazing allotment within wilderness, including the transportation of salt, which is not a significant impact to the Solitude or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation quality or the Recreation public purpose of wilderness.

The effects of the various methods of transporting the salt will be addressed in the Step 2 alternatives.

OTHER FEATURES OF VALUE

 YES NO

Explain:

It is not necessary to take action to preserve this quality. No Other Features of Value would be affected by the transportation of salt within the wilderness.

The effects of the various methods of transporting the salt will be addressed in the Step 2 alternatives.

Step 1 Determination

Is administrative action necessary in wilderness?

Decision Criteria

- A. Existing Rights or Special Provisions
- B. Requirements of Other Legislation
- C. Wilderness Character
 - Untrammeled
 - Undeveloped
 - Natural
 - Outstanding Opportunities
 - Other Features of Value

Summary Responses

Action IS necessary to meet this criterion.

Action IS NOT necessary to meet this criterion.

Is administrative action necessary in wilderness?

YES

EXPLAIN & PROCEED TO STEP 2 OF THE MRDG

NO

Explain:

There is a need to take some type of administrative action in order to satisfy a special provision of wilderness legislation that allows for grazing to continue subject to management requirements. The issue for this analysis is management of the allotment and the transportation of salt within the wilderness. The alternative transportation methods and their impacts will be described in Step 2.

Project Title: Grazing Allotment Management

MRDG Step 2

Determine the Minimum Activity

Other Direction

Is there "special provisions" language in legislation (or other Congressional direction) that explicitly **allows** consideration of a use otherwise prohibited by Section 4(c)?

AND/OR

Has the issue been addressed in agency policy, management plans, species recovery plans, or agreements with other agencies or partners?

YES

DESCRIBE OTHER DIRECTION BELOW

NO

Describe Other Direction:

House Report 101-405, Appendix A— The Grazing Management Guidelines, in association with either the Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990, Section 101(f) or House Report 96-1126, issued in association with the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1980 are not cited in the 1979 Canyon Wilderness Act but the guidelines do provide useful information and criteria that may allow consideration of an otherwise prohibited use, including motor vehicles:

"2. The maintenance of supporting facilities, existing in an area prior to its classification as wilderness (including fences, line cabins, water wells and lines, stock tanks, etc.), is permissible in wilderness. Where practical alternatives do not exist, maintenance or other activities may be accomplished through the occasional use of motorized equipment. This may include, for example, the use of backhoes to maintain stock ponds, pickup trucks for major fence repairs, or specialized equipment to repair stock watering facilities. Such occasional use of motorized equipment should be expressly authorized in the grazing permits for the area involved. The use of motorized equipment should be based on a rule of practical necessity and reasonableness. For example, motorized equipment need not be allowed for the placement of small quantities of salt or other activities where such activities can reasonably and practically be accomplished on horseback or foot. On the other hand, it may be appropriate to permit the occasional use of motorized equipment to haul large quantities of salt to distribution points. Moreover, under the rule of reasonableness, occasional use of motorized equipment should be permitted where practical alternatives are not available and such use would not have a significant adverse impact on the natural environment. Such motorized equipment uses will normally only be permitted in those portions of a wilderness area where they had occurred prior to the area's designation as wilderness or are established by prior agreement."

See the file : *Grazing Allotment Management MRDG - Additional Information.docx* for a continuation of the BLM policy on management of grazing in wilderness.

Time Constraints

What, if any, are the time constraints that may affect the action?

The existing 2 mile road is located on a naturally hard surface but the route crosses one small wash that is dry except during the monsoon season (typically mid-August). The road must not be used by motor vehicles when the wash is flowing water or the surface is impassable due to wet conditions.

Components of the Action

What are the discrete components or phases of the action?

Component X	<i>Example: Transportation of personnel to the project site</i>
Component 1	Transportation of salt within the wilderness.
Component 2	Conditions resulting from transportation of salt within the wilderness.
Component 3	
Component 4	
Component 5	
Component 6	
Component 7	
Component 8	
Component 9	

Proceed to the alternatives.

Refer to the [MRDG Instructions](#) regarding alternatives and the effects to each of the comparison criteria.

MRDG Step 2: Alternatives

Alternative 1: Transport salt and personnel by motor vehicle to drop-off point.

Description of the Alternative

What are the details of this alternative? When, where, and how will the action occur? What mitigation measures will be taken?

The existing two mile long road would be used to transport approximately 1600 lbs. of salt and personnel by motor vehicle to the previously used designated drop-off point (identified in the allotment management plan) inside wilderness. Each salt transportation operation would involve two round trips of the truck in one day to move the salt to the drop-off point. The operation would occur twice a year for a total of four vehicle entries into the wilderness annually. Moving the salt into the wilderness and unloading it would be completed in one day each time.

From the drop-off point, pack stock would be used to subsequently move the salt blocks to where they are needed within the grazing allotment.

The road would not be used by motor vehicles when the wash is flowing water or the surface is impassable due to wet conditions. Use of the road would be scheduled to avoid high use periods and minimize conflicts with wilderness visitors. Visitors would be informed prior to and during the salt transport operation via information provided at the trailheads, road entrance, agency office and website.

Component Activities

How will each of the components of the action be performed under this alternative?

	Component of the Action	Activity for this Alternative
X	<i>Example: Transportation of personnel to the project site</i>	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>
1	Transportation of salt within the wilderness.	The salt will be transported by motor vehicle to the drop-off site, and by pack stock from there.
2	Conditions resulting from transportation of salt within the wilderness.	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		

Wilderness Character

What is the effect of each component activity on the qualities of wilderness character? What mitigation measures will be taken?

UNTRAMMELED

Component Activity for this Alternative		Positive	Negative	No Effect
X	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	The salt will be transported by motor vehicle to the drop-off site, and by pack stock from there.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals		0	0	NE
Untrammeled Total Rating		0		

Explain:

Neither the periodic use of a motor vehicle in wilderness nor the presence of the salt as part of grazing operations described in the allotment management plan represent significant manipulations of the natural processes on-going in wilderness and therefore are not an impact to the Untrammeled quality of the wilderness.

UNDEVELOPED

Component Activity for this Alternative		Positive	Negative	No Effect
X	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	The salt will be transported by motor vehicle to the drop-off site, and by pack stock from there.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals		0	1	NE
Undeveloped Total Rating		-1		

Explain:

The road is a development within wilderness and motor vehicle use is a form of mechanical transport generally prohibited by The Wilderness Act. The continued existence and use of the road by a motor vehicle is an adverse impact to the Undeveloped quality.

The presence of salt in the wilderness as part of grazing operations described in the allotment management plan is not an impact to the Undeveloped quality.

NATURAL

Component Activity for this Alternative		<input type="checkbox"/> Positive	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Effect
X	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	The salt will be transported by motor vehicle to the drop-off site, and by pack stock from there.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals		0	2	NE
Natural Total Rating		-2		

Explain:

The periodic use of a motor vehicle on an existing road may have some adverse impacts on natural conditions within the wilderness which cannot be mitigated. The noise and presence of the vehicle would likely temporarily disturb any wildlife in the area and the road is not part of the natural habitat.

The presence of salt blocks used for grazing management in the wilderness is not part of the natural conditions and, despite mitigation measures for proper placement of the blocks, there may be some localized negative impacts..

SOLITUDE OR PRIMITIVE & UNCONFINED RECREATION

Component Activity for this Alternative		<input type="checkbox"/> Positive	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Effect
X	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	The salt will be transported by motor vehicle to the drop-off site, and by pack stock from there.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals		0	2	NE
Solitude or Primitive & Unconfined Recreation Total Rating		-2		

Explain:

The use of a motor vehicle on an existing road may have some adverse impacts on opportunities for solitude within the wilderness. The noise and presence of the vehicle would likely temporarily disturb the solitude for any visitors in the area and neither the motor vehicle or the road is not part of the natural scenic environment. There would be no impacts to the primitive or unconfined recreation components of this quality.

The presence of salt blocks used for grazing management in the wilderness is not part of the natural scenic condition and may be an adverse impact for some wilderness visitors.

OTHER FEATURES OF VALUE

Component Activity for this Alternative		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Positive	Negative	No Effect
X	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	The salt will be transported by motor vehicle to the drop-off site, and by pack stock from there.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals		0	0	NE
Other Features of Value Total Rating		0		

Explain:

The are no known other features of value in the area.

Summary Ratings for Alternative 1

Wilderness Character	
Untrammeled	0
Undeveloped	-1
Natural	-2
Solitude or Primitive & Unconfined Recreation	-2
Other Features of Value	0
Wilderness Character Summary Rating	-5

MRDG Step 2: Alternatives

Alternative 2: Transport salt by pack stock to drop-off point.

Description of the Alternative

What are the details of this alternative? When, where, and how will the action occur? What mitigation measures will be taken?

The existing two mile long road would be used to transport 1600 lbs. of salt by pack stock to the drop-off point (identified in the allotment management plan) inside wilderness. Each salt transportation operation would involve eight round trips of the pack stock and riders to move the salt to the drop-off point. The operation would occur twice a year. Moving the salt into the wilderness and unloading it would be completed in two days each time.

From the drop-off point, pack stock would be used to subsequently move the salt blocks to where they are needed within the grazing allotment.

The road would not be used by pack stock when the wash is flowing water or the surface is impassable due to wet conditions. Visitors would be informed prior to and during the salt transport operation via information provided at the trailhead/road entrance, agency office and website.

Component Activities

How will each of the components of the action be performed under this alternative?

	Component of the Action	Activity for this Alternative
X	<i>Example: Transportation of personnel to the project site</i>	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>
1	Transportation of salt within the wilderness.	The salt will be transported by pack stock to the drop-off point and throughout the allotment.
2	Conditions resulting from transportation of salt within the wilderness.	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment.
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		

Wilderness Character

What is the effect of each component activity on the qualities of wilderness character? What mitigation measures will be taken?

UNTRAMMELED

Component Activity for this Alternative	Positive	Negative	No Effect
X <i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1 The salt will be transported by pack stock to the drop-off point and throughout the allotment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2 Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals	0	0	NE
Untrammeled Total Rating	0		

Explain:

Neither the periodic use of pack stock in wilderness nor the presence of the salt as part of grazing operations described in the allotment management plan represent significant manipulations of the natural processes on-going in wilderness and therefore are not an impact to the Untrammeled quality of the wilderness.

UNDEVELOPED

Component Activity for this Alternative		Positive	Negative	No Effect
X	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	The salt will be transported by pack stock to the drop-off point and throughout the allotment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals		0	0	NE
Undeveloped Total Rating		0		

Explain:

Pack stock use is not a development and using traditional, non-motorized tools and transportation methods does not make the wilderness less developed (which would be a positive impact), it merely keeps the wilderness from becoming more developed (a negative impact).

The temporary presence of salt in the wilderness as part of grazing operations described in the allotment management plan is not an impact to the Undeveloped quality.

NATURAL

Component Activity for this Alternative		<input type="checkbox"/> Positive	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Effect
X	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	The salt will be transported by pack stock to the drop-off point and throughout the allotment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals		0	1	NE
Natural Total Rating		-1		

Explain:

The periodic use of pack stock to transport salt should not have a significant impact on natural conditions within the wilderness.

The presence of salt blocks used for grazing management in the wilderness is not part of the natural conditions and, despite mitigation measures for proper placement of the blocks, there may be some localized negative impacts.

SOLITUDE OR PRIMITIVE & UNCONFINED RECREATION

Component Activity for this Alternative		<input type="checkbox"/> Positive	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Effect
X	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	The salt will be transported by pack stock to the drop-off point and throughout the allotment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals		0	1	NE
Solitude or Primitive & Unconfined Recreation Total Rating		-1		

Explain:

The periodic use of pack stock to transport salt into and throughout the wilderness should not have an impact on this quality.

The presence of salt blocks used for grazing management in the wilderness is not part of the natural scenic condition and may be an adverse impact for some wilderness visitors.

OTHER FEATURES OF VALUE

Component Activity for this Alternative		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Positive	Negative	No Effect
X	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	The salt will be transported by pack stock to the drop-off point and throughout the allotment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals		0	0	NE
Other Features of Value Total Rating		0		

Explain:

The are no known other features of value in the area.

Summary Ratings for Alternative 2

Wilderness Character	
Untrammeled	0
Undeveloped	0
Natural	-1
Solitude or Primitive & Unconfined Recreation	-1
Other Features of Value	0
Wilderness Character Summary Rating	-2

MRDG Step 2: Alternatives

Alternative 3: Transport salt by pack stock directly to use locations within the wilderness.

Description of the Alternative

What are the details of this alternative? When, where, and how will the action occur? What mitigation measures will be taken?

The 1600 lbs. of salt would be transported by pack stock directly from various trailheads to use locations within the wilderness as needed. No central drop-off point in the wilderness would be used and, for some locations, a wilderness trail, rather than the existing road, would be used for efficient distribution. Each salt transportation operation would be unique depending on the use location but several locations could be serviced in a work day by pack stock. The operations would occur twice a year. Distributing the salt within the wilderness would be completed in five days each time.

Trails and existing roads would not be used by pack stock if washes are flowing water or the surface is impassable due to wet conditions.

Component Activities

How will each of the components of the action be performed under this alternative?

	Component of the Action	Activity for this Alternative
X	<i>Example: Transportation of personnel to the project site</i>	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>
1	Transportation of salt within the wilderness.	The salt will be transported by pack stock directly to the use locations.
2	Conditions resulting from transportation of salt within the wilderness.	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment.
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		

Wilderness Character

What is the effect of each component activity on the qualities of wilderness character? What mitigation measures will be taken?

UNTRAMMELED

Component Activity for this Alternative	Positive	Negative	No Effect
X <i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1 The salt will be transported by pack stock directly to the use locations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2 Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals	0	0	NE
Untrammeled Total Rating	0		

Explain:

Neither the periodic use of pack stock in wilderness nor the presence of the salt as part of grazing operations described in the allotment management plan represent significant manipulations of the natural processes on-going in wilderness and therefore are not an impact to the Untrammeled quality of the wilderness.

UNDEVELOPED

Component Activity for this Alternative		Positive	Negative	No Effect
X	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	The salt will be transported by pack stock directly to the use locations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals		0	0	NE
Undeveloped Total Rating		0		

Explain:

Pack stock use is not a development and using traditional, non-motorized tools and transportation methods does not make the wilderness less developed (which would be a positive impact), it merely keeps the wilderness from becoming more developed (a negative impact).

The temporary presence of salt in the wilderness as part of grazing operations described in the allotment management plan is not an impact to the Undeveloped quality.

NATURAL

Component Activity for this Alternative		<input type="checkbox"/> Positive	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Effect
X	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	The salt will be transported by pack stock directly to the use locations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9				
Totals		1	1	NE
Natural Total Rating		0		

Explain:

The periodic use of pack stock to transport salt should not have any significant impacts on natural conditions within the wilderness. But the elimination of the salt drop-off site improves a natural condition within wilderness.

The presence of salt blocks used for grazing management in the wilderness is not part of the natural conditions and, despite mitigation measures for proper placement of the blocks, there may be some negative impacts.

SOLITUDE OR PRIMITIVE & UNCONFINED RECREATION

Component Activity for this Alternative		<input type="checkbox"/> Positive	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Effect
X	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	The salt will be transported by pack stock directly to the use locations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals		0	1	NE
Solitude or Primitive & Unconfined Recreation Total Rating		-1		

Explain:

The periodic use of pack stock to transport salt into and throughout the wilderness should not have an impact on this quality.

The presence of salt blocks used for grazing management in the wilderness is not part of the natural scenic condition and may be an adverse impact for some wilderness visitors.

OTHER FEATURES OF VALUE

Component Activity for this Alternative		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Positive	Negative	No Effect
X	<i>Example: Personnel will travel by horseback</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	The salt will be transported by pack stock directly to the use locations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Salt is transported within the wilderness and distributed throughout the allotment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals		0	0	NE
Other Features of Value Total Rating		0		

Explain:

The are no known other features of value in the area.

Summary Ratings for Alternative 3

Wilderness Character	
Untrammeled	0
Undeveloped	0
Natural	0
Solitude or Primitive & Unconfined Recreation	-1
Other Features of Value	0
Wilderness Character Summary Rating	-1

MRDG Step 2: Alternatives Not Analyzed

Alternatives Not Analyzed

What alternatives were considered but not analyzed? Why were they not analyzed?

No Action - An alternative of not moving salt into the wilderness was considered but not analyzed. The process used to develop the revised allotment management plan carefully considered management of this allotment without providing supplemental salt in the wilderness. This method was not approved due to the necessity of the salt for the grazing animals and the reduction in grazing impacts possible by proper placement and movement of the salt blocks.

Project Title: Grazing Allotment Management

MRDG Step 2: Alternative Comparison

Alternative 1: Transport salt and personnel by motor vehicle to drop-off point.

Alternative 2: Transport salt by pack stock to drop-off point.

Alternative 3: Transport salt by pack stock directly to use locations within the wilderness.

Alternative 4: _____

Wilderness Character	Alternative 1		Alternative 2		Alternative 3		Alternative 4	
	Positive	Negative	Positive	Negative	Positive	Negative	Positive	Negative
Untrammeled	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Undeveloped	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Natural	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	0
Solitude/Primitive/Unconfined	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0
Other Features of Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	5	0	2	1	2	0	0
Wilderness Character Rating	-5		-2		-1		0	

Alternative 5: _____

Alternative 6: _____

Alternative 7: _____

Alternative 8: _____

Wilderness Character	Alternative 5		Alternative 6		Alternative 7		Alternative 8	
	Positive	Negative	Positive	Negative	Positive	Negative	Positive	Negative
Untrammeled	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Undeveloped	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Natural	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Solitude or Primitive & Unconfined Rec.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Features of Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilderness Character Rating	0		0		0		0	

MRDG Step 2: Determination

Refer to the [MRDG Instructions](#) before identifying the selected alternative and explaining the rationale for the selection.

Selected Alternative

- Alternative 1: Transport salt and personnel by motor vehicle to drop-off point.
- Alternative 2: Transport salt by pack stock to drop-off point.
- Alternative 3: Transport salt by pack stock directly to use locations within the wilderness.
- Alternative 4:
- Alternative 5:
- Alternative 6:
- Alternative 7:
- Alternative 8:

Explain Rationale for Selection:

The selected alternative requires any transportation of salt within wilderness to occur by pack stock directly to use locations and without use of a drop-off site. This alternative was selected because it results in the least adverse impact to wilderness character and utilizes traditional skills while still facilitating quality grazing management, with a reasonable burden for the permittee, and a low safety risk rating.

Alternative 1, which includes the continued use of motor vehicles for this operation, is consistent with actions taken prior to the area being designated as wilderness, but use of a motor vehicle does not result in the least impact to wilderness character, as required by the Wilderness Act and BLM policy, when practical alternatives exist.

Alternative 2, which relies on pack stock transport of the salt to a drop-off site better preserves wilderness character better than Alternative 1 because the use of a motor vehicle in wilderness is eliminated. However a salt drop off point is still used within wilderness which does not result in the least impact to wilderness character as required by the Wilderness Act and BLM policy, when practical alternatives exist.

The major difference between Alternative 3 and the other two alternatives considered is the burden of additional time and costs for use of pack stock by the permittee to distribute salt directly to the use locations. In this case, little is gained by the existing practice of transporting the salt over the short distance (2 miles) to the existing drop off site. And, given the amount of salt to be moved, it is both practical and reasonable to expect that the salt could be transported by pack stock directly to the use locations, at a minimal increase in costs to the permittee, avoiding the use of motor vehicles in wilderness and allowing the drop-off site to return to a more natural condition.

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Explain Rationale for Selection, Continued:

A No Action alternative was identified but not analyzed. The process used to develop the revised allotment management plan carefully considered management of this allotment without providing supplemental salt in the wilderness. This method was not approved due to the necessity of the salt for the grazing animals and the reduction in grazing impacts possible by proper placement and movement of the salt blocks.

Describe Monitoring & Reporting Requirements:

Transportation of salt within wilderness shall be monitored as part of the allotment management plan.

Approvals

Which of the prohibited uses found in Section 4(c) of the Wilderness Act are approved in the selected alternative and for what quantity?

<u>Prohibited Use</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical Transport:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Motorized Equipment:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Motor Vehicles:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Motorboats:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Landing of Aircraft:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Roads:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Structures:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Installations:	

Record and report any authorizations of Wilderness Act Section 4(c) prohibited uses according to agency policies or guidance.

Refer to agency policies for the following review and decision authorities:

Prepared	Name		Position		
	Signature			Date	
Recommended	Name		Position		
	Signature			Date	
Recommended	Name		Position		
	Signature			Date	
Approved	Name		Position		
	Signature			Date	

App		
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