

ROCK SPRINGS RMP

TOP CONCERNS FOR AGRICULTURE

TOP IMMEDIATE IMPACTS

- Designate, in coordination with APHIS-WS, the entire planning area as a “restricted control area” for animal control. Animal damage management may be planned, but control activities may be limited to certain methods or times of the year to achieve management objectives. Emphasize non-lethal methods.
- Prohibit livestock grazing in big game parturition habitat during the birthing season (usually from May 1 through June 30).
- Limit control of noxious weeds and other invasive plant species to mechanical and biological methods.
- Prohibit livestock grazing in riparian areas that are not meeting PFC.
- Prohibit placement of salt and mineral supplements (such as low moisture block supplements) as follows:
 - Within ½ mile of natural perennial or ephemeral water sources, BLM water improvements, riparian-wetland areas, regional historic trails and early highways, or as needed to protect setting on areas being reclaimed
 - Within three miles on each side of the National Historic Trails (NHT) unless the project and its associated impacts are not visible from the NHTs
 - Within 2,640 feet (½ mile) of surface water sources (excluding stock tanks), riparian areas, and wetlands
 - Supplements within 1,320 feet (¼ mile) of Special Status plant species populations.

TOP LONG-TERM IMPACTS

- Increases Areas of Critical Environmental Concern(ACEC) by 1,319,190 acres.
- Establish allotment stocking rates which result in forage utilization levels in areas preferred by livestock (generally a light 21% to 40% utilization level) that provide for wildlife cover and utilization.
- Reduce areas open to grazing and available AUMs where industrial activity conflicts with grazing operations and rangeland management objectives.
- Grazing rest of fire areas increased from minimum of 2 years to minimum of 5 years
- If a land health evaluation shows that land health standards are not met and current livestock grazing management is determined to be among the causal factors, implement a 20% reduction annually from the 10-year average of actual billed AUMs for each permit/lease up to three consecutive years (60%) in active AUMs until land health standards are met.

