

Western National RANGELAND ASSESSMENT CDE Student Id Number: _____

Part 5 - Stocking Rate and Management Recommendations (Completed at beginning or end of event)(90 points)

Students will complete the problem individually but at the same time as a group.

Supply of usable forage = _____ pounds **AND** _____ **AUMs** 20 pts

Forage demand = _____ pounds **AND** _____ **AUMs** 20 pts

Determine if the stocking rate is appropriate for the site for 2013-2014. (Check appropriate box) 10 pts

- Decrease Stocking Rate Increase Stocking Rate Keep Rate the Same

Space for Calculations:

Choose management activities that apply to this site *(Select all that apply; 4 pts each)*

40 pts

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Defer from spring grazing | <input type="checkbox"/> Control brush, trees and/or noxious weeds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rest from grazing for a growing season | <input type="checkbox"/> Seed or interseed with adapted species |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Install a rotation grazing system | <input type="checkbox"/> Reduce human recreation activities on site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Add or revise fencing | <input type="checkbox"/> Manage for endangered species |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Develop additional water sites | <input type="checkbox"/> Change salt location |

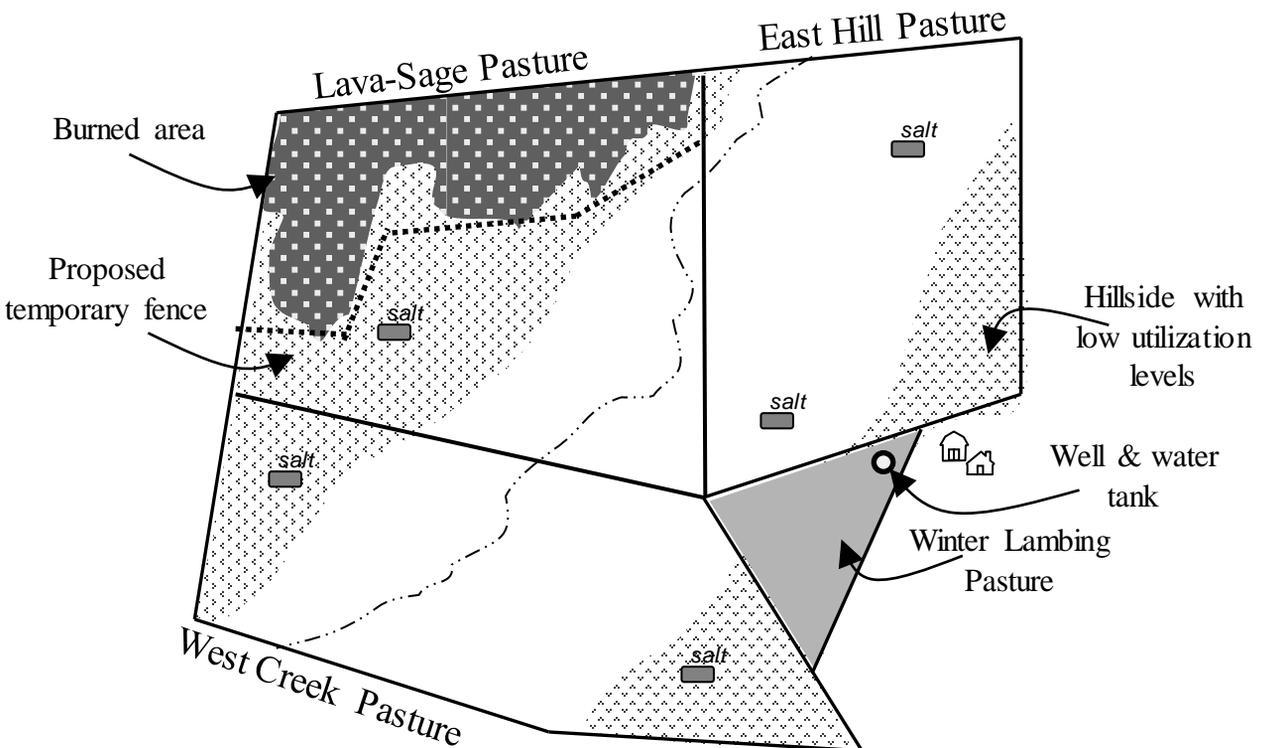
Western National FFA Rangeland Assessment Event Management Scenario- Fall 2012

The Sage Hills Ranch in eastern Idaho is a small sheep operation that includes 1659 acres of grazing on 3 pastures of deeded land and a BLM grazing permit for summer grazing. This summer, there was a fire that was started by lighting on the adjacent BLM Big Desert allotment. The fire burned into the Lava-Sage pasture on the ranch and was stopped by a combination of fire fighters and a fortunate cool weather front coming through the area.

The owners of the Sage Hills ranch plan to construct a temporary fence to exclude about 240 acres around the burned area so grazing can continue next year and give the burned area time to recover. The ranch owners are quite concerned about the recovery of the burned area as they want to create habitat for sage-grouse and other wildlife on the ranch. The most immediate question the ranchers have is if their current herd size of 225 ewes and 5 rams will need to be reduced until the burned area can be grazed again and the temporary fence is removed in 2014.

Current Grazing Plan:

- **225 Columbia Ewes** (0.2 AUE) spend the winter (Mid-December through March) in a pasture right near ranch headquarters where they are fed hay. The ewes lamb in this winter pasture in late February and March.
- The grazing season starts the beginning of April when the ewes are turned out on one of the three main pastures. The pasture designated for spring grazing rotates among the East Hill, Lava-Sage, and West Creek pasture.
- The ewes are move to the BLM grazing allotment in mid-June and stay on a BLM permit through August.
- Then ewes are brought back to the ranch where they graze until December rotating through the two pastures that were not grazed in spring. Lambs are weaned in late September and **5 rams** (0.24 AUE) are turned in with the ewes the first of October to graze on the range with the ewes.
- The ewes and rams are moved to the winter holding pasture in mid-December. When the ewes go back out on range in the spring, the rams stay in the winter lambing pasture to forage for the summer.



 **Loamy Ecological Site** – Mostly native grass with scattered big sagebrush. Grazing guidelines suggest this site can be grazed at 4.5 acres/AUM for proper use.

 **Shallow Loamy Ecological Site** - Rocky shallow site, on steep rocky hillsides. Grazing guidelines suggest this site can be grazed at 8 acres/AUM for proper use.

Pasture	Acres of Each Site in Each Pasture	
	Loamy	Shallow Loamy
East Hill	315	200
Lava-Sage	216	440
West Creek	144	344

240 acres of this site will not be available for in grazing 2013-14 because of fire

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Students will complete the problem individually but at the same time as a group.

Supply of usable forage = 182,250 pounds AND 243 AUMs 20 pts

Forage demand = 204,750 pounds AND 273 AUMs 20 pts

Determine if the stocking rate is appropriate for the site in 2013-2014. (Check appropriate box) 10 pts

- Decrease Stocking Rate Increase Stocking Rate Keep Rate the Same

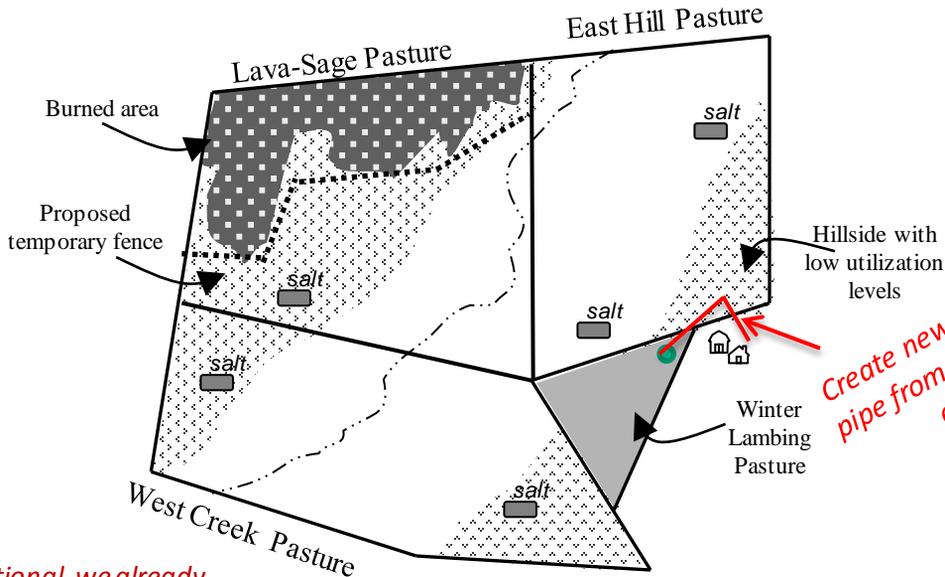
Space for Calculations:

Supply:

Loamy site = 315 acres (E.Hills) + 216 (Lava-Sage) + 144 (W.Creek) = 675 Acres ÷ 4.5 ac/AUM = 150 AUM
 Shallow Loam = 200 acres (E.Hills) + 200 (Lava-Sage) + 344 (W.Creek) = 744 Acres ÷ 8 ac/AUM = 93 AUM
 Supply = 150 + 93 = **243 AUMs** × 750 lbs/ AUM = **182,250 pounds**

Demand:

225 ewes × .2 = 45 AU × 6 months (April 1 - June 15 + Sept 1 - Dec 15) = 270 AUM
 5 rams × .24 = 1.2 AU × 2.5 months (Oct 1 - Dec 15) = 3 AUM
 Demand = 270 + 3 = **273 AUMs** × 750 lbs/ AUM = **204,750 pounds**



These are optional, we already said noted this would be done.

Choose management activities that apply to this site (Select all that apply; 4 pts each) 40 pts

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Defer from spring grazing | <input type="checkbox"/> Control brush, trees and/or noxious weeds |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rest from grazing for a growing season | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seed or interseed with adapted species |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Install a rotation grazing system | <input type="checkbox"/> Reduce human recreation activities on site |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Add or revise fencing | <input type="checkbox"/> Manage for endangered species |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Develop additional water sites | <input type="checkbox"/> Change salt location |

Seed burned area