# 104TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

# S. 852

To provide for uniform management of livestock grazing on Federal land, and for other purposes.

# IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 25 (legislative day, MAY 15), 1995

Mr. Domenici (for himself, Mr. Craig, Mr. Brown, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Hatch, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Burns, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Kyl, Mr. Pressler, Mr. Kempthorne, Mr. Conrad, Mr. Dorgan, Mr. Dole, and Mr. Gramm) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

# A BILL

To provide for uniform management of livestock grazing on Federal land, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
- 5 "Livestock Grazing Act".
- 6 (b) Table of Contents.—The table of contents of
- 7 this Act is as follows:
  - Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
  - Sec. 2. Effective date.

TITLE I-MANAGEMENT OF GRAZING ON FEDERAL LAND

# Subtitle A—General Provisions

- Sec. 101. Findings.
- Sec. 102. Application of title.
- Sec. 103. Objective.
- Sec. 104. Definitions.
- Sec. 105. Fundamentals of rangeland health.
- Sec. 106. Land use plans.
- Sec. 107. Rule of construction.

## Subtitle B—Qualifications and Grazing Preferences

- Sec. 111. Mandatory qualifications.
- Sec. 112. Acquired land.
- Sec. 113. Grazing preferences.
- Sec. 114. Changes in grazing preference status.
- Sec. 115. Changes in Federal land acreage.

#### Subtitle C—Grazing Management

- Sec. 121. Allotment management plans.
- Sec. 122. Range improvements.
- Sec. 123. Water rights.
- Sec. 124. Management of grazing on land under the jurisdiction of other departments and agencies.

#### Subtitle D-Authorization of Grazing Use

- Sec. 131. Applications.
- Sec. 132. Grazing permits or grazing leases.
- Sec. 133. Free-use grazing permits.
- Sec. 134. Other grazing authorizations.
- Sec. 135. Ownership and identification of livestock.
- Sec. 136. Terms and conditions.
- Sec. 137. Fees and charges.
- Sec. 138. Pledge of grazing permits or grazing leases as security for loans.

#### Subtitle E—Civil Violations and Failures of Compliance

Sec. 141. Civil violations and failures of compliance.

### Subtitle F-Unauthorized Grazing Use

- Sec. 151. Liability for damages.
- Sec. 152. Notice and order to remove.
- Sec. 153. Settlement.
- Sec. 154. Impoundment and sale.

# Subtitle G—Procedure

- Sec. 161. Proposed decisions.
- Sec. 162. Protests.
- Sec. 163. Final decisions.
- Sec. 164. Appeals.

#### Subtitle H—Advisory Committees

- Sec. 171. Purpose.
- Sec. 172. Objective.

- Sec. 173. Relation to other law.
- Sec. 174. Policy.
- Sec. 175. General provisions.
- Sec. 176. Resource advisory councils.
- Sec. 177. Grazing advisory councils.
- Sec. 178. Meetings.
- Sec. 179. Conforming amendment and repeal.

# Subtitle I—Reports

Sec. 181. Reports.

#### TITLE II—GRASSLAND

Sec. 201. Removal of grasslands from National Forest system.

#### SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

- 2 (a) IN GENERAL.—This Act and the amendments
- 3 and repeals made by this Act shall become effective on
- 4 March 1, 1996.
- 5 (b) Interim Provision.—Until the effective date
- 6 specified in subsection (a), management of livestock graz-
- 7 ing on Federal land shall be conducted in accordance with
- 8 the law (including regulations) in effect on May 18, 1995.

# 9 TITLE I—MANAGEMENT OF GRAZING ON

### 10 **FEDERAL LAND**

# 11 **Subtitle A—General Provisions**

- 12 **SEC. 101. FINDINGS.**
- 13 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—
- 14 (1) through the cooperative and concerted ef-
- forts of the Federal rangeland livestock industry,
- 16 Federal and State land management agencies, and
- the general public, the Federal rangelands are in the
- best condition they have been in during this century,
- and their condition continues to improve;

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1	(2) as a further consequence of those efforts,
2	populations of big game and wildlife are increasing
3	and stabilizing across vast areas of the West;
4	(3) further efforts to assist in developing and
5	nurturing that cooperation at all levels of govern-
6	ment are important, and those efforts will provide
7	long-term benefits to the Nation's rangelands and
8	their related resources;
9	(4) to promote the economic, cultural, and so-
10	cial well being of western States, rural communities
11	in the western States, and the western livestock in-
12	dustry, it is in the public interest to charge a fee for
13	livestock grazing permits and grazing leases on Fed-
14	eral land that is based on a formula that—
15	(A) reflects a fair return to the Federal
16	Government and the true costs to the permittee
17	or lessee; and
18	(B) promotes continuing cooperative stew-
19	ardship efforts;
20	(5) opportunities exist for improving efficiency
21	in the administration of the range programs on Fed-
22	eral land, and those opportunities should be pursued

with goals of—

- 1 (A) reducing planning and analysis costs 2 and their associated paperwork, procedural, and 3 clerical burdens; and
  - (B) refocusing efforts to the direct management of the resources themselves;
  - (6) in order to provide meaningful review and oversight of the management of the public rangelands and the grazing allotment on those rangelands, refinement of the reporting of costs of various components of the land management program is needed;
  - (7) incentives for greater local input into the management of the public rangelands as well as incentives to encourage private investment in improvement of the public rangelands will assist in those efforts and are in the best interests of the United States;
  - (8) the western livestock industry that relies on Federal land plays an important and integral role in maintaining and preserving the social, economic, and cultural base of rural communities in the western States and further plays an important and integral role in the economies of the 16 western States in which rangelands managed by the Secretary are situated;

(9) maintaining the economic viability of the 1 2 western livestock industry is essential to maintaining 3 open space and habitat for big game, wildlife, and fish, but currently there are pressures to sell the base property of the Federal land ranches for sub-5 division or other development, which would reduce or 6 7 remove the available open space and fish and wildlife habitat; and 8 9 (10) since the enactment of the Federal Land 10 Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 11 1701 et seq.), the Secretary has been charged with 12 developing land use plans that are consistent with land use plans adopted by State, local, and tribal 13 14 governments, but to date the planning efforts have 15 not produced land use plans for Federal land that 16 is in fact consistent with State, local, or tribal plan-17 ning. 18

- (b) Repeal of Earlier Findings.—Section 2(a) of
- the Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (43 19
- 20 U.S.C. 1901(a)) is amended—
- (1) by striking paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and 21
- 22 (4);
- 23 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as
- 24 paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively;

1	(3) in paragraph (1) (as so redesignated), by
2	adding "and" at the end; and
3	(4) in paragraph (2) (as so redesignated)—
4	(A) by striking "harrassment" and insert-
5	ing "harassment"; and
6	(B) by striking the semicolon at the end
7	and inserting a period.
8	SEC. 102. APPLICATION OF ACT.
9	Except as provided in section 137(d), this Act applies
10	to—
11	(1) the management of grazing on Federal land
12	by the Secretary of the Interior under—
13	(A) the Act of June 28, 1934 (commonly
14	known as the "Taylor Grazing Act") (48 Stat.
15	1269, chapter 865; 43 U.S.C. 315 et seq.);
16	(B) the Act of August 28, 1937 (commonly
17	known as the "Oregon and California Railroad
18	and Coos Bay Wagon Road Grant Lands Act of
19	1937'') (50 Stat. 874, chapter 876; 43 U.S.C.
20	1181a et seq.);
21	(C) the Federal Land Policy and Manage-
22	ment Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.);
23	(D) title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm
24	Tenant Act (7 U.S.C. 1010 et seq.); and
25	(E) any other law; and

1	(2) the Secretary on behalf of the head of an-
2	other department or agency under a memorandum
3	of understanding under section 124.
4	SEC. 103. OBJECTIVE.
5	The objective of this Act is to achieve—
6	(1) orderly use, improvement, and development
7	of Federal land;
8	(2) enhancement of productivity of Federal land
9	by conservation of forage resources and reduction of
10	soil erosion and by proper management of other re-
11	sources such as by control of woody species invasion;
12	(3) stabilization of the livestock industry de-
13	pendent on the public rangeland;
14	(4) performance of an inventory and categoriza-
15	tion of public rangelands on the basis of range con-
16	ditions and trends; and
17	(5) consideration of wildlife populations and
18	habitat,
19	consistent with land-use plans, multiple-use, sustained
20	yield, environmental values, and economic and other objec-
21	tives stated in the Acts cited in section 102.
22	SEC. 104. DEFINITIONS.
23	(a) In General.—In this Act:

1	(1) ACTIVE USE.—The term "active use"
2	means the amount of authorized livestock grazing
3	use that is being made at any time.
4	(2) ACTUAL USE.—The term "actual use"
5	means the places at which, the number and kinds or
6	classes of, and the length of time that livestock
7	graze on an allotment.
8	(3) ACTUAL USE REPORT.—The term "actual
9	use report" means a report of the actual livestock
10	grazing use submitted by a permittee or lessee.
11	(4) Affected interest.—The term "affected
12	interest" means an individual or organization that—
13	(A) has expressed in writing to an author-
14	ized officer concern for the management of live-
15	stock grazing on a specific grazing allotment
16	and has provided substantiated evidence that
17	the management of the public lands will affect
18	the individual or organization; and
19	(B) has been determined by an authorized
20	officer to be an affected interest.
21	(5) Allotment.—The term "allotment" means
22	an area of designated Federal land that includes
23	management for grazing of livestock.
24	(6) Allotment management plan.—The
25	term "allotment management plan"—

1	(A) means a documented program that ap-
2	plies to livestock grazing on an allotment; and
3	(B) includes such a documented plan that
4	is included in an activity plan that governs
5	grazing as well as other activities on Federal
6	land.
7	(7) Animal unit month.—
8	(A) STATE DEFINITION.—With respect to
9	grazing on Federal land in a State that charges
10	a fee for grazing on State land based on a for-
11	mula in which one of the factors is an animal
12	unit month, the term "animal unit month" has
13	the meaning established under State law.
14	(B) No state definition.—
15	(i) In general.—Subject to clause
16	(ii), with respect to grazing on Federal
17	land in a State other than a State de-
18	scribed in subparagraph (A), the term
19	"animal unit month" means 1 month's use
20	and occupancy of range by—
21	(I) 1 cow, bull, steer, heifer,
22	horse, burro, or mule, 7 sheep, or 7
23	goats, each of which is 6 months of
24	age or older on the date on which the

1	animal begins grazing on Federal
2	land;
3	(II) any such animal regardless
4	of age if the animal is weaned on the
5	date on which the animal begins graz-
6	ing on Federal land; and
7	(III) any such animal that will
8	become 12 months of age during the
9	period of use authorized under a graz-
10	ing permit or grazing lease.
11	(ii) Livestock not counted.—
12	There shall not be counted as an animal
13	unit month the use of Federal land for
14	grazing by—
15	(I) an animal that is less than 6
16	months of age on the date on which
17	the animal begins grazing on Federal
18	land and is the natural progeny of an
19	animal on which a grazing fee is paid
20	if the animal is removed from the
21	Federal land before becoming 12
22	months of age; or
23	(II) an animal that is progeny,
24	born during the period of use author-
25	ized under a grazing permit or graz-

1	ing lease, of an animal on which a
2	grazing fee is paid.
3	(8) AUTHORIZED OFFICER.—The term "author-
4	ized officer" means a person authorized by the Sec-
5	retary to administer this title, the Acts cited in sec-
6	tion 102, and regulations issued under this title and
7	those Acts.
8	(9) Base property.—The term "base prop-
9	erty'' means—
10	(A) land that has the capability of produc-
11	ing crops or forage that can be used to support
12	authorized livestock for a specified period of the
13	year; and
14	(B) water that is suitable for consumption
15	by livestock and is available to and accessible by
16	authorized livestock when the land is used for
17	livestock grazing.
18	(10) Cancel; cancellation.—The terms
19	"cancel" and "cancellation" refer to a permanent
20	termination, in whole or in part, of—
21	(A) a grazing permit or grazing lease and
22	grazing preference; or
23	(B) a free-use grazing permit or other
24	grazing authorization.

1	(11) CLASS.—The term "class", in reference to
2	livestock, refers to the age and sex of a group of
3	livestock.
4	(12) Consultation, cooperation, and co-
5	ORDINATION.—The term "consultation, cooperation,
6	and coordination" has the meaning stated in section
7	402(d) of the Federal Land Policy and Management
8	Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1752(d)), as amended.
9	(13) Control.—The term "control", in ref-
10	erence to base property or livestock, means respon-
11	sibility for providing care and management of base
12	property or livestock.
13	(14) FEDERAL LAND.—The term "Federal
14	land''—
15	(A) means land or an interest in land out-
16	side the State of Alaska that is owned by the
17	United States and administered by the Sec-
18	retary of the Interior, acting through the Direc-
19	tor of the Bureau of Land Management; but
20	(B) does not include land held for the ben-
21	efit of Indians.
22	(15) Grazing district.—The term "grazing
23	district" means the specific area within which Fed-
24	eral land is administered under section 3 of the Act

of June 28, 1934 (commonly known as the "Taylor

- 1 Grazing Act'') (48 Stat. 1270, chapter 865; 43 2 U.S.C. 315b).
- (16) Grazing fee year.—The term "grazing fee year", for billing purposes, means a 12-month period that begins on March 1 of a year and ends on the last day of February of the following year.
  - (17) GRAZING LEASE.—The term "grazing lease" means a document authorizing use of Federal land outside grazing districts under section 15 of the Act of June 28, 1934 (commonly known as the "Taylor Grazing Act") (48 Stat. 1275, chapter 865; 43 U.S.C. 315m) for the purpose of grazing livestock.
    - (18) Grazing Permit.—The term "grazing permit" means a document authorizing use of the Federal land within a grazing district under section 3 of the Act of June 28, 1934 (commonly known as the "Taylor Grazing Act") (48 Stat. 1270, chapter 865; 43 U.S.C. 315b), for the purpose of grazing livestock.
    - (19) Grazing preference.—The term "grazing preference" means the number of animal unit months of livestock grazing on Federal land as adjudicated or apportioned and attached to base property owned or controlled by a permittee or lessee.

1	(20) Land base property.—The term "land
2	base property" means base property described in
3	paragraph (9)(A).
4	(21) Land use plan.—The term "land use
5	plan'' means—
6	(A) a resource management plan; or
7	(B) a management framework plan that is
8	in effect pending completion of a resource man-
9	agement plan,
10	developed in accordance with the Federal Land Pol-
11	icy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701
12	et seq.).
13	(22) LIVESTOCK.—The term "livestock"
14	means—
15	(A) a species of domestic livestock, includ-
16	ing cattle, sheep, horses, burros, and goats; and
17	(B) a member of such a species.
18	(23) LIVESTOCK CARRYING CAPACITY.—The
19	term "livestock carrying capacity" means the maxi-
20	mum sustainable stocking rate that is possible with-
21	out inducing permanent damage to vegetation or re-
22	lated resources.
23	(24) Monitoring.—The term "monitoring"
24	means the periodic observation and orderly collection
25	of data to evaluate—

1	(A) effects of management actions; and
2	(B) effectiveness of actions in meeting
3	management objectives.
4	(25) Range improvement.—The term "range
5	improvement''—
6	(A) means an authorized activity or pro-
7	gram on or relating to rangeland that is de-
8	signed to—
9	(i) improve production of forage;
10	(ii) change vegetative composition;
11	(iii) control patterns of use;
12	(iv) provide water;
13	(v) stabilize soil and water conditions;
14	or
15	(vi) provide habitat for livestock, wild
16	horses and burros, and wildlife; and
17	(B) includes structures, treatment projects,
18	and use of mechanical means to accomplish the
19	goals described in subparagraph (A).
20	(26) Rangeland study.—The term "range-
21	land study" means a method of study for collecting
22	data on actual use, utilization, climatic conditions,
23	other special events, production trend, and range-
24	land condition and trend to determine whether man-
25	agement objectives are being met, that—

1	(A) uses physical examination of measure-
2	ments of range attributes and does not rely on
3	a cursory visual scanning of land unless the
4	condition to be assessed is patently obvious and
5	requires no physical examination; and
6	(B) is accepted by an authorized officer.
7	(27) Secretary.—The term "Secretary"
8	means the Secretary of the Interior.
9	(28) Service area.—The term "service area"
10	means the area that can be properly grazed by live-
11	stock watering at a certain water.
12	(29) Stocking rate.—The term "stocking
13	rate" means the number of animal unit months au-
14	thorized under a grazing permit or grazing lease
15	from year to year.
16	(30) Sublease.—The term "sublease" means
17	an agreement by a permittee or lessee that—
18	(A) allows a person other than the permit-
19	tee or lessee to graze livestock on Federal land
20	without controlling the base property support-
21	ing the grazing permit or grazing lease; or
22	(B) allows grazing on Federal land by live-
23	stock not owned or controlled by the permittee
24	or lessee.

- 1 (31) SUPPLEMENTAL FEED.—The term "sup2 plemental feed" means a feed that supplements the
  3 forage available from Federal land and is provided
  4 to improve livestock nutrition or rangeland manage5 ment.
  6 (32) SUSPEND; SUSPENSION.—The terms "sus-
  - (32) SUSPEND; SUSPENSION.—The terms "suspend" and "suspension" refer to a temporary withholding, in whole or in part, of a grazing preference from active use, ordered by the Secretary or done voluntarily by a permittee or lessee.
    - (33) TREND.—The term "trend" means the direction of change, over time, toward or away from a desire management objective.
    - (34) UTILIZATION.—The term "utilization" means the percentage of a year's herbage production consumed or destroyed by herbivores.
- 17 (35) WATER BASE PROPERTY.—The term 18 "water base property" means base property de-19 scribed in paragraph (9)(B).
- 20 (b) Consultation, Cooperation, and Coordina-
- 21 TION.—Section 402(d) of the Federal Land Policy and
- 22 Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1752(d)) is
- 23 amended—

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- 24 (1) by inserting a comma after "cooperation"
- each place it appears; and

- 1 (2) by adding at the end the following: "As
  2 used in this subsection, the term 'consultation, co3 operation, and coordination' means engagement in a
  4 good faith effort to reach consensus on issues, plans,
  5 or management actions from—
  - "(1) other agencies, permittees, or lessees, and affected interests involved in an activity with respect to which consultation, cooperation, and coordination are required under this title;
  - "(2) resource advisory councils established under section 177 of the Livestock Grazing Act;
- 12 "(3) any State having land within the area to 13 be covered by an allotment management plan; and
- "(4) additional affected interests (as defined in section 104(a)(4) of the Livestock Grazing Act).".

### 16 SEC. 105. FUNDAMENTALS OF RANGELAND HEALTH.

- 17 (a) Standards and Guidelines.—The Secretary
- 18 shall establish standards and guidelines on a State or re-
- 19 gional level in conjunction with the State department of
- 20 agriculture or other appropriate agency and the land-grant
- 21 university or other appropriate institution of higher edu-
- 22 cation of each interested State.
- 23 (b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act
- 24 or any other law implies that a minimum national stand-
- 25 ard or guideline is necessary.

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# 1 SEC. 106. LAND USE PLANS.

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2	(a) Principle of Multiple Use and Sustained
3	YIELD.—An authorized officer shall manage livestock
4	grazing on Federal land under the principle of multiple
5	use and sustained yield and in accordance with applicable
6	land use plans.
7	(b) Contents of Land Use Plan.—A land use
8	plan shall—
9	(1) establish allowable resource uses (singly or
10	in combination), related levels of production or use
11	to be maintained, areas of use, and resource condi-
12	tion goals and objectives to be obtained; and
13	(2) set forth programs and general manage-
14	ment practices needed to achieve management objec-
15	tives.
16	(c) APPLICATION OF NEPA.—A land use plan shall
17	be developed in conformance with the requirements of the
18	National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.
19	4321 et seq.).
20	(d) Conformance With Land Use Plan.—Live-
21	stock grazing activities and management actions approved
22	by the authorized officer—
23	(1) may include any such activities as are not
24	clearly prohibited by a land use plan; and
25	(2) shall not require any consideration under
26	the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42

1	U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) in addition to the studies sup-
2	porting the land use plan.
3	SEC. 107. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.
4	Nothing in this title shall be construed to reduce or
5	otherwise limit the levels of livestock grazing that were
6	authorized to be permitted as of August 1, 1993.
7	Subtitle B—Qualifications and Grazing
8	Preferences
9	SEC. 111. MANDATORY QUALIFICATIONS.
10	Except as provided under sections 112, 114, and
11	134(c), to qualify for grazing use on Federal land an ap-
12	plicant shall—
13	(1) be engaged in the livestock business;
14	(2) own or control base property; and
15	(3) be—
16	(A) a citizen of the United States or a per-
17	son who has properly filed a valid declaration of
18	intention to become a citizen or a valid petition
19	for naturalization;
20	(B) a group or association authorized to
21	conduct business in the State in which the graz-
22	ing use is sought, all members of which are per-
23	sons described in subparagraph (A); or

1	(C) a corporation authorized to conduct
2	business in the State in which the grazing use
3	is sought.
4	SEC. 112. ACQUIRED LAND.
5	With respect to land acquired by the Secretary
6	through purchase, exchange, Act of Congress, or Execu-
7	tive order under the terms of which the Secretary is re-
8	quired to honor an existing grazing permit or grazing
9	lease, the permittee or lessee shall be considered qualified
10	for grazing use on that land.
11	SEC. 113. GRAZING PREFERENCES.
12	(a) Base Property.—
13	(1) Criteria.—An authorized officer shall find
14	land or water owned or controlled by an applicant
15	for a grazing permit or grazing lease to be base
16	property if the land or water—
17	(A) serves as a base for a livestock oper-
18	ation that utilizes Federal land within a grazing
19	district; or
20	(B) is contiguous land, or noncontiguous
21	land if no applicant for the grazing permit or
22	grazing lease owns or controls contiguous land,
23	used in conjunction with a livestock operation
24	that utilizes Federal land outside a grazing dis-
25	trict.

1	(2) Specification of length of time.—
2	After appropriate consultation, cooperation, and co-
3	ordination with the applicant only, an authorized of-
4	ficer shall specify the length of time for which land
5	base property shall be considered to be capable of
6	supporting authorized livestock during the year, rel-
7	ative to the multiple use management objective of
8	Federal land.
9	(3) Submission by applicant.—An applicant
10	shall—
11	(A) provide a legal description, or plat, of
12	the base property; and
13	(B) certify to the authorized officer that
14	the base property meets the requirements under
15	paragraphs (1) and (2).
16	(4) Loss of ownership or control.—
17	(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
18	subparagraph (B), if a permittee or lessee loses
19	ownership or control of all or part of the base
20	property, the grazing permit or grazing lease, to
21	the extent it was based on the lost property,
22	shall terminate immediately, without notice
23	from the authorized officer.
24	(B) Extension of Termination date.—
25	If, prior to losing ownership or control of the

- base property, the permittee or lessee requests in writing that the grazing permit or grazing lease be extended to the end of the grazing season or grazing year, the authorized officer, after consultation with the new owner or person in control, may grant the request.
  - (C) AVAILABILITY FOR TRANSFER.—When a grazing permit or grazing lease terminates because of a loss of ownership or control of a base property, the grazing preference shall remain with the base property and be available for transfer under subsection (c) to the new owner or person in control of the base property.
  - (5) ISOLATED OR DISCONNECTED FEDERAL LAND.—An applicant that owns or controls base property contiguous to or cornering on a tract of Federal land outside a grazing district that consists of an isolated or disconnected tract embracing 760 acres or less shall, for a period of 90 days after the tract has been offered for grazing lease, have a preference right to graze the tract.

# (b) Specifying Grazing Preference.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A grazing permit or grazing lease shall specify a grazing preference that includes—

1	(A) a historical grazing preference right;
2	(B) active use, based on the amount of for-
3	age available for livestock grazing established in
4	the land use plan;
5	(C) suspended use; and
6	(D) voluntary and temporary nonuse.
7	(2) Attachment of grazing preference.—
8	A grazing preference identified in a grazing permit
9	or grazing lease shall attach to the base property
10	supporting the grazing permit or grazing lease.
11	(3) ATTACHMENT OF ANIMAL UNIT MONTHS.—
12	The animal unit months of a grazing preference
13	shall attach to—
14	(A) the acreage of land base property on a
15	pro rata basis; or
16	(B) water base property on the basis of
17	livestock forage production within the service
18	area of the water.
19	(c) Transfer of Grazing Preference.—
20	(1) IN GENERAL.—A transfer of a grazing pref-
21	erence, in whole or in part, may be made in accord-
22	ance with this subsection.
23	(2) Qualification of transferee.—A trans-
24	feree shall meet all necessary qualifications for a
25	grazing preference under this title.

- (3) APPLICATION.—An application to transfer a grazing preference shall evidence assignment of interest and obligation in range improvements authorized on Federal land under section 122 and maintained in conjunction with the transferred preference.
  - (4) ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—A transferee of a grazing preference may elect to accept or reject the terms and conditions of the terminating grazing permit or grazing lease and of any related cooperative agreement or range improvement permit or to accept those terms and conditions with such modifications as the transferee may request and the authorized officer approve or with such modifications as the authorized officer may require.
  - (5) APPLICATION FOR GRAZING PERMIT OR GRAZING LEASE.—A proposed transferee shall file an application for a grazing permit or grazing lease to the extent of the transferred grazing preference simultaneously with the filing of a transfer application.

# (6) Transfers.—

(A) Transfers on sale or grazing lease of base property.—If base property is

1	sold or leased, the transferee, not later than 90
2	days after the date of sale or grazing lease,
3	shall file with the authorized officer a properly
4	executed transfer application that—
5	(i) identifies the base property; and
6	(ii) states the amount of grazing pref-
7	erence being transferred in animal unit
8	months.
9	(B) Transfer from base property to
10	BASE PROPERTY.—
11	(i) IN GENERAL.—If a grazing pref-
12	erence is being transferred from 1 base
13	property to another base property, the
14	transferor shall own or control the base
15	property from which the grazing preference
16	is being transferred and file with the au-
17	thorized officer a properly completed trans-
18	fer application for approval.
19	(ii) Consent of owner or leased
20	BASE PROPERTY.—If the transferor leases
21	the base property, no transfer shall be al-
22	lowed without the written consent of the
23	owner and of any person or entity holding
24	an encumbrance of the base property from

which the transfer is to be made unless the

1	transferor is a lessee without whose live-
2	stock operations the grazing preference
3	would not have been established.
4	(7) TERMINATION.—On the date of approval of
5	a transfer, the existing grazing permit or grazing
6	lease shall terminate automatically and without no-
7	tice to the extent of the transfer.
8	(8) Acquisition of base property by per-
9	SON NOT QUALIFIED.—
10	(A) No effect for 2 years.—For a pe-
11	riod of 2 years after an unqualified transferee
12	acquires rights in base property through oper-
13	ation of law or testamentary disposition, the
14	transfer shall not—
15	(i) affect the grazing preference or
16	any outstanding grazing permit or grazing
17	lease; or
18	(ii) preclude the issuance or renewal
19	of a grazing permit or grazing lease based
20	on the base property.
21	(B) CANCELLATION.—If an unqualified
22	transferee fails to qualify for a transfer under
23	this section within the 2-year period described
24	in subparagraph (A), the grazing preference
25	shall be subject to cancellation, but the author-

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1	ized officer my grant extensions of the 2-year
2	period if there have been delays solely attrib-
3	utable to probate proceedings.
4	(9) Failure to comply.—Failure of a trans-
5	feree or transferor to comply with this subsection
6	may result in rejection of the transfer application or
7	cancellation of the grazing preference.
8	(d) Allotments.—After consultation, cooperation,
9	and coordination with permittees or lessees, an authorized
10	officer may designate and adjust allotment boundaries.
11	SEC. 114. CHANGES IN GRAZING PREFERENCE STATUS.
12	(a) IN GENERAL.—An authorized officer shall peri-
13	odically review the stocking rate specified in a grazing per-
14	mit or grazing lease and may make changes in the status
15	of the stocking rate.
16	(b) SUPPORT.—A change in a stock rate shall be sup-
17	ported by monitoring, as evidenced by rangeland studies
18	conducted over time, and as is specified in an applicable
19	land use plan or as is necessary to manage, maintain, or
20	improve rangeland productivity.
21	(c) Increase in Active Use.—
22	(1) IN GENERAL.—Any additional forage that

becomes available may be apportioned to a qualified

applicant for livestock grazing use, consistent with

multiple-use management objectives.

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1 (2) TEMPORARY AVAILABILITY.—Any additional 2 forage that becomes temporarily available for livestock grazing use (including forage that is tempo-3 rarily available within an allotment because of a change in grazing use under section 131(b)) may be 5 6 apportioned on a nonrenewable basis. 7 (3) AVAILABILITY ON SUSTAINED USE BASIS.— (A) IN GENERAL.—Any additional forage 8

- that becomes available on a sustained yield basis for livestock grazing use shall be apportioned in satisfaction of grazing preferences to the permittees and lessees authorized to graze
- in the allotment in which the forage is available 14 before being apportioned to other persons under

subparagraph (B).

(B) APPORTIONMENT TO OTHERS.—After consultation, cooperation, and coordination, additional forage on a sustained yield basis available for livestock grazing use exceeding the amount of grazing preferences of the permittees and lessees in an allotment may be apportioned

in the following priority to—

(i) permittees and lessees in proportion to their contribution or efforts that resulted in increased forage production;

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1	(ii) permittees or lessees in proportion
2	to the amount of their grazing preferences;
3	and
4	(iii) other qualified applicants under
5	section 131.
6	(d) Decrease in Authorized Grazing Use.—
7	(1) Temporary suspension.—
8	(1) IN GENERAL.—Active use may be sus-
9	pended in whole or in part on a temporary basis
10	to facilitate—
11	(i) recovery from drought, fire, or an-
12	other natural event; or
13	(ii) installation, maintenance, or modi-
14	fication of range improvements.
15	(B) Implementation.—If an authorized
16	officer determines that the soil, vegetation, or
17	other resources on Federal land require tem-
18	porary protection because of conditions such as
19	drought, fire, flood, or insect infestation, after
20	consultation, cooperation, and coordination with
21	affected permittees or lessees and other affected
22	interests, action shall be taken to close allot-
23	ments or portions of allotments to grazing by
24	any kind of livestock or to modify authorized
25	grazing use.

- (2) PERMANENT SUSPENSION.—When monitoring shows that active use is causing an unacceptable level or pattern of utilization or exceeds the livestock carrying capacity, as determined through monitoring, an authorized officer, after evaluating and implementing all reasonable and viable management practices or alternatives, shall reduce active use if necessary to maintain or improve rangeland productivity only if the authorized officer determines that a change in management practices would not achieve the management objectives.
  - (3) Period of Suspension.—When active use is reduced, the active use shall be held in suspension or in nonuse for conservation and protection purposes until the authorized officer determines that active use may resume.
- 17 (e) Implementation of Changes in Available 18 Forage.—
  - (1) Phasing-in.—A change in active use in excess of 10 percent shall be implemented over a 5-year period, unless, after consultation with the affected permittees or lessees and other affected interests, an agreement is reached to implement the increase or decrease over less than a 5-year period.
  - (2) Suspension of grazing preference.—

1	(A) IN GENERAL.—After consultation, co-
2	operation, and coordination, a suspension of a
3	grazing preference shall be implemented
4	through a documented agreement or by decision
5	of an authorized officer.
6	(B) DATA AVAILABLE.—If acceptable
7	range analysis data are properly gathered, ana-
8	lyzed, and reviewed by the authorized officer,
9	an initial decrease shall be taken on the effec-
10	tive date of the agreement or decision and the
11	balance taken in the third and fifth year follow-
12	ing that effective date, except as provided in
13	paragraph (1).
14	(C) Data not available.—If data ac-
15	ceptable to the authorized officer to support an
16	initial decrease are not available—
17	(i) additional data shall be collected
18	through monitoring and in coordination
19	with the land-grant university (or other ap-
20	propriate institution of higher education)
21	and department of agriculture of the State;
22	and
23	(ii) adjustments based on the addi-
24	tional data shall be implemented by agree-

1	ment or decision that will initiate the 5-
2	year implementation period.
3	SEC. 115. CHANGES IN FEDERAL LAND ACREAGE.
4	(a) Increases in Land Acreage.—If land outside
5	a designated allotment becomes available for livestock
6	grazing—
7	(1) the forage available for livestock shall be
8	made available to a qualified applicant at the discre-
9	tion of the authorized officer; and
10	(2) grazing use shall be apportioned under sec-
11	tion 131.
12	(b) Decrease in Land Acreage.—
13	(1) In General.—If there is a decrease in
14	Federal land acreage available for livestock grazing
15	within an allotment—
16	(A) grazing permits or grazing leases may
17	be canceled, suspended, or modified as appro-
18	priate to reflect the changed area of use; and
19	(B) grazing preferences may be canceled or
20	suspended in whole or in part.
21	(2) Equitable apportionment.—A cancella-
22	tion or suspension determined by the authorized offi-
23	cer to be necessary to protect Federal land—

1	(A) shall be apportioned as agreed among
2	the authorized users and the authorized officer;
3	or
4	(B) if no agreement is reached, shall be eq-
5	uitably apportioned by the authorized officer
6	based on the level of available forage and mag-
7	nitude of the change in Federal land acreage
8	available.
9	(3) Disposition or use for public pur-
10	POSE.—
11	(A) IN GENERAL.—If Federal land is dis-
12	posed of or devoted to a public purpose so as
13	to preclude livestock grazing, the Secretary
14	shall, except in a case of emergency such as
15	need to satisfy a national defense requirement
16	in time of war or a natural disaster, provide
17	permittees and lessees 2 years' notice prior to
18	cancellation of grazing permits, grazing leases,
19	and grazing preferences.
20	(B) Waiver.—A permittee or lessee may
21	unconditionally waive the 2-year prior notifica-
22	tion required by subparagraph (A).
23	(C) RIGHT TO COMPENSATION.—A waiver
24	under subparagraph (B) shall not prejudice a
25	permittee's or lessee's right to reasonable com-

1	pensation at (but not in excess of) the fair mar-
2	ket value of the permittee's or lessee's interest
3	in authorized permanent range improvements
4	located on Federal land.
5	Subtitle C—Grazing Management
6	SEC. 121. ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLANS.
7	(a) In General.—An allotment management plan
8	shall be prepared in careful and considered consultation,
9	cooperation, and coordination with permittees and lessees,
10	landowners, the grazing advisory council for the grazing
11	district, and any State having land within the area to be
12	covered by the allotment management plan.
13	(b) Contents.—An allotment management plan
14	shall—
15	(1) include the terms and conditions described
16	in section 136;
17	(2) prescribe the livestock grazing practices
18	necessary to meet specific multiple-use management
19	objectives;
20	(3) specify the limits of flexibility within which
21	the permittee or lessee may adjust operations with-
22	out prior approval of the authorized officer; and
23	(4) provide for monitoring to evaluate the effec-
24	tiveness of management actions in achieving the spe-
25	cific multiple-use management objectives of the plan.

- 1 (c) PRIVATE AND STATE LAND.—Private and State
- 2 land shall be included in an allotment management plan
- 3 with the consent or at the request of the person that owns
- 4 or controls the land.
- 5 (d) Incorporation in Grazing Permits and
- 6 Grazing Leases.—An allotment management plan shall
- 7 be incorporated into the affected grazing permits and
- 8 grazing leases.
- 9 (e) Satisfaction of Requirements of Other
- 10 Laws.—The issuance of a grazing permit or grazing lease
- 11 that is consistent with a land use plan shall not be consid-
- 12 ered to be a Federal action requiring the conduct of any
- 13 study or assessment under the National Environmental
- 14 Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) or any other
- 15 law.
- 16 SEC. 122. RANGE IMPROVEMENTS.
- 17 (a) Range Improvement Cooperative Agree-
- 18 MENTS.—
- 19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter
- into a cooperative agreement with a permittee or les-
- see for the construction, installation, modification,
- maintenance, or use of a permanent range improve-
- 23 ment or development of a rangeland to achieve a
- 24 management or resource condition objective.

(2) Cost-sharing.—A range improvement cooperative agreement shall specify how the costs or labor, or both, shall be shared between the United States and the other parties to the agreement.

#### (3) TITLE.—

- (A) In General.—Subject to valid existing rights, title to an authorized permanent range improvement under a range improvement cooperative agreement shall be in the name of the permittee or lessee and of the United States, respectively, in proportion to the value of the contributions (funding, material, and labor) toward the initial cost of construction by the United States and the permittee or lessee, respectively.
- (B) VALUE OF FEDERAL LAND.—For the purpose of subparagraph (A), only a contribution to the construction, installation, modification, or maintenance of a permanent rangeland improvement itself, and not the value of Federal land on which the improvement is placed, shall be taken into account.
- (C) MAINTENANCE.—Maintenance of range improvements in the form of time as labor or monetary expenditures shall be applied

- to the value and percentage of ownership proportionate to the value of the contribution by a party to the cooperative agreement.
  - (4) Nonstructural range improvement cooperative agreement shall ensure that the respective parties enjoy the benefits of any nonstructural range improvement, such as seeding, spraying, and chaining, in proportion to each party's contribution to the improvement.
  - (5) INCENTIVE.—A range improvement cooperative agreement shall contain terms and conditions that are designed to provide a permittee or lessee an incentive for investing in range improvements.

# (b) RANGE IMPROVEMENT PERMITS.—

- (1) APPLICATION.—A permittee or lessee may apply for a range improvement permit to construct, install, modify, maintain, or use a range improvement that is needed to achieve management objectives within the permittee's or lessee's allotment.
- (2) FUNDING.—A permittee or lessee shall agree to provide full funding for construction, installation, modification, or maintenance of a range improvement covered by a range improvement permit.

- 1 (3) AUTHORIZED OFFICER TO ISSUE.—A range 2 improvement permit shall be issued at the discretion 3 of the authorized officer.
  - (4) TITLE.—Title to an authorized permanent range improvement under a range improvement permit shall be in the name of the permittee or lessee.
- 7 (5) CONTROL.—The use by livestock of stock 8 ponds or wells authorized by a range improvement 9 permit shall be controlled by the permittee or lessee 10 holding a range improvement permit.
- 11 (c) STANDARDS, DESIGN, AND STIPULATIONS.—A
  12 range improvement cooperative agreement under sub13 section (a) and a range improvement permit under sub14 section (b) shall specify the standards and design, con15 struction, and maintenance criteria for the range improve16 ments.
- (d) Assignment of Range Improvements.—An authorized officer shall not approve the transfer of a grazing preference under section 113(c) or approve use by the transferee of existing range improvements unless the transferee has agreed to compensate the transferor for the transferor's interest in the authorized improvements within the allotment as of the date of the transfer.
- 24 (e) Removal and Compensation for Loss of 25 Range Improvements.—

- (1) PROHIBITION OF REMOVAL.—A person shall not remove a range improvement from Federal land without authorization by the authorized officer.
  - (2) REQUIREMENT TO REMOVE.—The authorized officer may require a permittee or lessee to remove a range improvement on Federal land that the permittee or lessee owns if the improvement is no longer helping to achieve land use plan or allotment goals and objectives or if the improvement fails to meet the standards and criteria of subsection (c).
  - (3) CANCELLATION OF GRAZING PERMIT OR GRAZING LEASE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If a grazing permit or grazing lease is canceled in order to devote Federal land covered by the grazing permit or grazing lease to another public purpose, including disposal, the permittee or lessee shall be entitled to receive from the United States reasonable compensation for the value of the permittee's or lessee's interest in authorized permanent range improvements purchased by the permittee or lessee or placed or constructed by the permittee or lessee on Federal land covered by the canceled grazing permit or grazing lease.

- 1 (B) FAIR MARKET VALUE.—The value of a
  2 permittee's or lessee's interest under subpara3 graph (A) shall be equal to the fair market
  4 value of the terminated portion of the permit5 tee's or lessee's interest in the permanent range
  6 improvements.
  - (C) Salvage and rehabilitation.—In a case in which a range improvement is authorized by a range improvement permit or range improvement cooperative agreement, the permittee or lessee may elect to salvage materials and perform rehabilitation measures rather than accept compensation for the fair market value.
  - (4) CANCELLATION OF RANGE IMPROVEMENT PERMIT OR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.—If a range improvement permit or range improvement cooperative agreement is canceled, the permittee or lessee shall be allowed 180 days after the date of cancellation in which to salvage material owned by the lessee or permittee and perform rehabilitation measures necessitated by the salvage.
- 23 (i) CONTRIBUTIONS.—An authorized officer may ac-24 cept contributions of labor, material, equipment, or money

- 1 for administration, protection, and improvement of Fed-2 eral land necessary to achieve the objectives of this title.
- 3 (j) Transfer of Ownership of Improvements.—
- 4 (1) MEDIATION.—An authorized officer may—
  - (A) mediate a dispute regarding reasonable compensation in connection with a transfer of ownership of a range improvement; and
    - (B) following consultation with the interested parties, make a determination concerning the fair and reasonable share of operation and maintenance expenses and compensation for use of authorized range improvements.
    - (2) No agreement.—If an agreement on the amount of compensation cannot be reached, the authorized officer shall issue a temporary grazing authorization, including appropriate terms and conditions and the requirement to compensate the permittee or lessee for the fair share of operation and maintenance, as determined by the authorized officer.

#### 21 SEC. 123. WATER RIGHTS.

- (a) IN GENERAL.—No water rights shall be acquired,
- 23 perfected, owned, controlled, maintained, administered, or
- 24 transferred in connection with livestock grazing manage-
- 25 ment unless authorized in accordance with State law con-

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- 1 cerning the use and appropriation of water within the
- 2 State.
- 3 (b) STATE LAW.—In managing livestock grazing on
- 4 Federal land, the Secretary shall follow State law with re-
- 5 gard to water ownership.
- 6 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this title
- 7 shall be construed to create an expressed or implied res-
- 8 ervation of water rights in the United States.
- 9 SEC. 124. MANAGEMENT OF GRAZING ON LAND UNDER THE
- JURISDICTION OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS
- 11 AND AGENCIES.
- 12 (a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of land under the ad-
- 13 ministrative jurisdiction of the head of another entity in
- 14 the department or of another department or agency on
- 15 which grazing is managed by the Secretary on behalf of
- 16 the head of that entity, department, or agency, the Sec-
- 17 retary shall enter into a memorandum of understanding
- 18 setting out the terms and conditions under which grazing
- 19 will be managed on that land.
- 20 (b) APPLICATION OF TITLE.—This title shall apply
- 21 to management of grazing under subsection (a) except to
- 22 the extent that the Secretary, in consultation with the
- 23 head of the department or agency with jurisdiction over
- 24 the land, in view of the needs of the other department

- 45 or agency or the applicability of other law, requires application of different rules. 3 **Subtitle D—Authorization of Grazing Use** SEC. 131. APPLICATIONS. (a) In General.—An application for a grazing per-5 mit or grazing lease authorizing active use and nonuse, a free-use grazing permit, or other grazing authorization 8 shall be filed with the authorized officer at the local Bureau of Land Management office having jurisdiction over the Federal land that is the subject of the application. 10 11 (b) Changes in Grazing Use.— 12 (1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any grazing fee year, an application for a change in grazing use 13 should be filed with the authorized officer before the 14 15 billing notice for the affected grazing use has been 16 issued for the grazing fee year. 17 (2) Late filing.—An application for a change
  - (2) Late filing.—An application for a change in grazing use filed after a billing notice for the affected grazing use has been issued that requires the issuance of a replacement or supplemental billing notice shall be subject to a service charge under section 137(d).
  - (3) AUTHORITY TO GRANT.—An authorized officer may grant an application for a change in grazing use.

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1	(c) Conflicting Applications.—
2	(1) Factors to be considered.—If more
3	than 1 qualified applicant applies for livestock graz-
4	ing use of the same Federal land or if additional for
5	age for livestock or additional acreage becomes avail-
6	able, an authorized officer may authorize grazing
7	use of the Federal land or use of forage—
8	(A) as provided in section 114(c); or
9	(B) on the basis of any of the following
10	factors:
11	(i) Historical use of Federal land.
12	(ii) Proper range management and
13	use of water for livestock.
14	(iii) General needs of the applicants
15	livestock operations.
16	(iv) Topography.
17	(v) Other land use requirements
18	unique to the situation.
19	(2) Factor not to be considered.—In au-
20	thorizing grazing use or use of forage under para-
21	graph (1), an authorized officer shall not take into
22	consideration the past practice or present willingness
23	of an applicant to allow public access to Federa
24	land over private land.

# 1 SEC. 132. GRAZING PERMITS OR GRAZING LEASES.

2	(a) Specification of Terms and Conditions.—
3	A grazing permit or grazing lease shall specify terms and
4	conditions as required by section 136.
5	(b) TERM.—A grazing permit or grazing lease shall
6	be issued for a term of 15 years unless—
7	(1) the land is pending disposal;
8	(2) the land will be devoted to a public purpose
9	that precludes grazing prior to the end of 15 years
10	or
11	(3) the Secretary determines that it would be in
12	the best interest of sound land management to speci-
13	fy a shorter term, if the decision to specify a shorter
14	term is supported by appropriate and accepted re-
15	source analysis and evaluation.
16	(c) RENEWAL.—A permittee or lessee holding a graz-
17	ing permit or grazing lease shall be given first priority
18	at the end of the term for renewal of the grazing permit
19	or grazing lease if—
20	(1) the land for which the grazing permit or
21	grazing lease is issued remains available for domes-
22	tic livestock grazing;
23	(2) the permittee or lessee is in compliance with
24	this title and the terms and conditions of the grazing
25	permit or grazing lease; and

1	(3) the permittee or lessee accepts the terms
2	and conditions included by the authorized officer in
3	the new grazing permit or grazing lease.
4	SEC. 133. FREE-USE GRAZING PERMITS.
5	(a) In General.—A free-use grazing permit may be
6	issued, consistent with the Act, cited in section 102, to
7	an applicant—
8	(1) whose residence is adjacent to Federal land
9	within a grazing district;
10	(2) who needs Federal land to support domestic
11	livestock owned by the applicant; and
12	(3) whose products or work related to livestock
13	grazing are used directly and exclusively by the ap-
14	plicant and the applicant's family.
15	(b) Conflicting Applications.—The issuance of a
16	free-use grazing permit is subject to section 131(c).
17	(c) TERM.—A free-use grazing permit shall be issued
18	for a term of 1 year.
19	(d) No Transfer or Assignment.—A free-use
20	grazing permit may not be transferred or assigned.
21	SEC. 134. OTHER GRAZING AUTHORIZATIONS.
22	(a) Exchange-of-Use Grazing Agreements.—
23	(1) IN GENERAL.—An exchange-of-use grazing
24	agreement may be issued to any applicant that owns
25	or controls land that is unfenced and intermingled

- with Federal land when use under such an agreement would be in harmony with the management objectives for the allotment.
- 4 (2) EXTENT OF USE.—An exchange-of-use 5 grazing agreement may authorize use of Federal 6 land to the extent of the livestock carrying capacity 7 of the land offered in exchange-of-use.
- 8 (3) No FEE.—No fee shall be charged for graz-9 ing use under an exchange-of-use agreement.
- 10 (b) Nonrenewable Grazing Permits and Graz-
- 11 ING LEASES.—A nonrenewable grazing permit or grazing
- 12 lease may be issued on an annual basis to a qualified ap-
- 13 plicant when forage is temporarily available if grazing use
- 14 under the grazing permit or grazing lease—
- 15 (1) is consistent with multiple-use objectives;
- 16 and
- 17 (2) does not interfere with other livestock oper-18 ations on the Federal land concerned.
- 19 (c) Crossing Permits.—An applicant showing the
- 20 necessity for crossing Federal land or other land under
- 21 control of the Secretary with livestock for proper and law-
- 22 ful purposes may be issued a crossing permit on such
- 23 terms and conditions as the authorized officer considers
- 24 necessary to achieve the objectives of this title.

1	(d) Special Grazing Permits or Grazing
2	Leases.—
3	(1) IN GENERAL.—A special grazing permit or
4	grazing lease authorizing grazing use by privately
5	owned or controlled indigenous animals may be is-
6	sued at the discretion of the authorized officer, con-
7	sistent with multiple-use objectives.
8	(2) TERM.—A special grazing permit or grazing
9	lease shall be issued for such a term as the author-
10	ized officer considers to be appropriate, not to ex-
11	ceed 10 years.
12	(e) No Priority; No Transfer or Assignment.—
13	An exchange-of-use grazing agreement, nonrenewable
14	grazing permit or grazing lease, crossing permit, or special
15	grazing permit or grazing lease shall have no priority for
16	renewal and may not be transferred or assigned.
17	SEC. 135. OWNERSHIP AND IDENTIFICATION OF LIVE
18	STOCK.
19	(a) In General.—A permittee or lessee shall own
20	or control and be responsible for the management of the
21	livestock that graze the Federal land under a grazing per-
22	mit or grazing lease.
23	(b) Compliance With State Requirements.—An

23 (b) COMPLIANCE WITH STATE REQUIREMENTS.—An 24 authorized user shall comply with the requirements of the 25 State in which Federal land is located relating to brand-

- 51 1 ing, marking, or tagging of livestock, breed, grade, and number of bulls, health, and sanitation. 3 (c) Marking or Tagging.—An authorized officer shall not impose any marking or tagging requirement in addition to the requirement under State law. 6 (d) FILING OF CONTROL AGREEMENT AND Brand.—A permittee or lessee that controls but does not 8 own the livestock that graze Federal land shall file with the authorized officer— (1) the agreement that gives the permittee or 10 11 lessee control of the livestock; and (2) the brand and other identifying marks on 12 the livestock. 13 14 SEC. 136. TERMS AND CONDITIONS. 15 (a) IN GENERAL.—
- 16 (1) Specifications.—An authorized officer
  17 shall specify in a grazing permit or grazing lease the
  18 kind and number of livestock, the periods of use, the
  19 allotments to be used, and the amount of use (stated
  20 in animal unit months) for each grazing permit or
  21 grazing lease.
  - (2) AMOUNT OF USE.—The amount of livestock grazing use that is authorized in a grazing permit or grazing lease shall not exceed the livestock carrying capacity of the Federal land concerned, as deter-

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- 1 mined through monitoring and adjusted as necessary 2 under section 114.
- 3 (3) CANCELLATION, SUSPENSION, OR MODI-4 FICATION.—A grazing permit or grazing lease shall 5 be subject to cancellation, suspension, or modifica-6 tion for any violation of this title or of any term or 7 condition of the grazing permit or grazing lease.
- 8 (b) No Special Terms and Conditions.—An au-9 thorized officer shall not impose any term or condition in 10 a grazing permit or grazing lease other than a term or 11 condition described in subsection (a).
- 12 (c) Modification.—Following careful and consid-13 ered consultation, cooperation, and coordination with per-14 mittees, lessees, and other affected interests, an author-15 ized officer may modify the terms and conditions of a 16 grazing permit or grazing lease if monitoring data show 17 that the grazing use is not meeting the land use plan or 18 management objectives.

#### 19 SEC. 137. FEES AND CHARGES.

- 20 (a) Grazing Fees.—
- 21 (1) BASIC FEE.—The basic fee for each animal 22 unit month in a grazing fee year shall be equal to 23 the 3-year average of the total gross value of pro-24 duction for livestock, as determined by the National 25 Agricultural Statistics Service of the Department of

1	Agriculture in accordance with paragraph (2) on the
2	basis of economic data published by the Service in
3	the June Agricultural Survey for the 3 years preced-
4	ing the grazing fee year, multiplied by .06 and di-
5	vided by 12.
6	(2) Criteria.—
7	(A) IN GENERAL.—The National Agricul-
8	tural Statistics Service of the Department of
9	Agriculture shall make a determination under
10	paragraph (1) based on the following informa-
11	tion gathered from livestock grazing operators,
12	with respect to the largest single grazing lease
13	of each operator (in terms of dollars):
14	(i) Whether the operator charged—
15	(I) per acre;
16	(II) per head per month;
17	(III) per pound of gain;
18	(IV) per hundredweight of gain;
19	or
20	(V) by another measure, and the
21	rate charged.
22	(ii) (I) The estimated average pounds
23	gained per season for the grazing lease.
24	(II) The total dollar amount estimated
25	to be realized from the grazing lease.

1	(III) Grazing lease acreage.
2	(IV) The State and county where the
3	grazing lease is located.
4	(iii) The classes of livestock grazed.
5	(iv) The term of the grazing lease.
6	(v)(I) Whether grazing lease payments
7	are paid if no grazing occurred.
8	(II) Whether the grazing lease con-
9	tains a take or pay provision.
10	(vi) Whether responsibility for the
11	grazing lease is ensured by daily livestock
12	care, water supply, or other factors.
13	(B) PRIVATE NATIVE RANGELAND.—For
14	the purpose of determining rates for grazing
15	leases of private native rangeland, rates for irri-
16	gated pasture, crop aftermath, and dryland win-
17	ter wheat shall be excluded.
18	(3) Surcharge.—
19	(A) IN GENERAL.—A surcharge shall be
20	added to the grazing fee billings for authorized
21	grazing of livestock owned by a person other
22	than a permittee or lessee unless—
23	(i) the grazing use is made by live-
24	stock owned by a spouse, son, daughter,

1	grandson, or granddaughter of the permit-
2	tee and lessee; or
3	(ii) the operator is unable to make full
4	grazing use, as authorized by a grazing
5	permit or grazing lease, due to the age or
6	death of the primary operator.
7	(B) PAYMENT IN ADVANCE.—A surcharge
8	shall be paid prior to grazing use.
9	(C) LIVESTOCK OWNED BY OTHERS.—A
10	surcharge for authorized pasturing of livestock
11	owned by a person other than a permittee or
12	lessee shall be equal to 25 percent of the dif-
13	ference between the current year's Federal
14	grazing fee and the prior year's private grazing
15	land lease rate per year for the appropriate
16	State, as determined by the National Agricul-
17	tural Statistics Service in accordance with para-
18	graph (2).
19	(4) Payment.—
20	(A) DUE DATE.—A grazing fee shall be
21	due on the due date specified in the billing no-
22	tice.
23	(B) Payment prior to use.—A grazing
24	fee shall be paid prior to grazing use.

1	(C) BILLING AFTER GRAZING SEASON.—If
2	an allotment management plan provides for bill-
3	ing after the grazing season, a grazing fee shall
4	be based on actual grazing use and shall be due
5	upon issuance.
6	(5) Refunds.—
7	(A) IN GENERAL.—A grazing fee may be
8	refunded if an application for change in grazing
9	use and related refund is filed prior to the pe-
10	riod of use for which the refund is requested.
11	(B) Failure to make grazing use.—
12	(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided
13	in subparagraph (B), no refund shall be
14	made for failure to make grazing use.
15	(ii) Range depletion or dis-
16	EASE.—During a period of range depletion
17	due to drought, fire, or other natural
18	cause, or in case of a general spread of dis-
19	ease among the livestock that occurs dur-
20	ing the term of a grazing permit or graz-
21	ing lease, an authorized officer may credit
22	or refund a grazing fee in whole or in part
23	or postpone fee payment for as long as the
24	emergency exists.
25	(b) Other Fees and Charges.—

	•
1	(1) Crossing permits, transfers, and bill-
2	ING NOTICES.—A service charge shall be assessed
3	for each crossing permit, transfer of grazing pref-
4	erence, and replacement or supplemental billing no-
5	tice except in a case in which the action is initiated
6	by the authorized officer.
7	(2) Amount of flpma fees and charges.—
8	The fees and charges under section 304(a) of the
9	Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976
10	(43 U.S.C. 1734(a)) shall reflect processing costs
11	and shall be adjusted periodically as costs change.
12	(3) Notice of Change.—Notice of a change
13	in a service charge shall be published in the Federal
14	Register.
15	(c) Repeal and Supersedure.—
16	(1) Repeal.—Section 6(a) of the Public
17	Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (43 U.S.C.
18	1905) is repealed.
19	(2) Supersedure.—This section supersedes
20	Executive Order 12548 (43 U.S.C. 1905 note) effec-
21	tive March 1, 1996.
22	(d) Application of Section.—This section applies
23	to the management of livestock grazing on Federal land
24	by the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief

of the Forest Service, as well as to the Secretary.

1	SEC. 138. PLEDGE OF GRAZING PERMITS OR GRAZING
2	LEASES AS SECURITY FOR LOANS.
3	(a) RENEWAL.—A grazing permit or grazing lease
4	that has been pledged as security for a loan from a lending
5	agency shall be renewed by the authorized officer for a
6	period of not to exceed 15 years if—
7	(1) the loan is for the purpose of furthering the
8	permittee's or lessee's livestock operation;
9	(2) the permittee or lessee has complied with
10	this title; and
11	(3) renewal would be in accordance with other
12	applicable laws.
13	(b) EFFECT OF PLEDGE.—The pledging of a grazing
14	permit or grazing lease as security for a loan from a lend-
15	ing agency shall not exempt the grazing permit or grazing
16	lease from this title.
17	Subtitle E—Civil Violations and Failures of
18	Compliance
19	SEC. 141. CIVIL VIOLATIONS AND FAILURES OF COMPLI-
20	ANCE.
21	(a) Scope of Section.—
22	(1) IN GENERAL.—This section states all of the
23	violations and failures of compliance that pertain
24	specifically to livestock grazing on Federal land that
25	may result in imposition of a sanction described in
26	subsection (c) against a person in the person's ca-

1	pacity as a permittee, lessee, or applicant for a graz-
2	ing permit or grazing lease.
3	(2) OTHER VIOLATIONS.—A permittee, lessee,
4	or applicant for a grazing permit or grazing lease
5	that commits a violation relating to Federal land
6	under a law that applies to all persons generally
7	shall be subject to penalty under that law.
8	(b) IN GENERAL.—A person that does 1 of the fol-
9	lowing shall be subject to a civil sanction under subsection
10	(c):
11	(1) Fails to make substantial grazing use as au-
12	thorized by a grazing permit or grazing lease for 2
13	consecutive fee years.
14	(2) Places supplemental feed on land covered by
15	a grazing permit or grazing lease without authoriza-
16	tion.
17	(3) Fails to comply with a term, condition, or
18	stipulation of a range improvement cooperative
19	agreement or range improvement permit.
20	(4) Enters into an unauthorized sublease.
21	(5) Allows livestock or another privately owned
22	or controlled animal to graze on or be driven across
23	Federal land—
24	(A) without a grazing permit, grazing
25	lease, or other grazing use authorization:

1	(B) in violation of a term or condition of
2	a grazing permit, grazing lease, or other graz-
3	ing use authorization, including a provision
4	stating the number of livestock covered by the
5	authorization;
6	(C) in an area or at a time different from
7	that authorized; or
8	(D) if the livestock is not identified in
9	compliance with section 135.
10	(6) Installs, uses, modifies, or removes a range
11	improvement on Federal land without authorization
12	(7) Damages or removes Federal Government
13	property from Federal land without authorization.
14	(8) Molests livestock authorized to graze or
15	Federal land.
16	(9) Interferes with a lawful grazing use or law-
17	ful user.
18	(10) Knowingly or willfully makes a false state-
19	ment or representation in a base property certifi-
20	cation, grazing application, range improvement per-
21	mit application, cooperative agreement, or actual use
22	report, or an amendment thereto.
23	(11) Grazes livestock on Federal land not sub-
24	stantially in compliance with State livestock require-
25	ments relating to—

1	(A) branding, marking, or tagging of live-
2	stock;
3	(B) breed, grade, or number of bulls; or
4	(C) health or sanitation.
5	(c) Penalties.—
6	(1) IN GENERAL.—In a case of a violation or
7	failure of compliance described in subsection (b), an
8	authorized officer may—
9	(A) withhold issuance of a grazing permit
10	or grazing lease for a period of time;
11	(B) suspend the grazing use authorized
12	under a grazing permit or grazing lease for a
13	period of time, in whole or in part; or
14	(C) cancel a grazing permit or grazing
15	lease and grazing preference, or a free-use graz-
16	ing permit or other grazing authorization, in
17	whole or in part.
18	(2) SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT WILLFUL VIOLA-
19	TION.—In a case of a second or subsequent willful
20	civil violation described in subsection (a), an author-
21	ized officer shall—
22	(A) suspend the grazing use authorized
23	under a grazing permit for a period of time, in
24	whole or in part; or

- 1 (B) cancel a grazing permit or grazing 2 lease and grazing preference, in whole or in 3 part.
  - (3) Consideration of severity.—A determination of the length of time that a grazing permit or grazing lease will be withheld or suspended or that a grazing permit or grazing lease will be canceled shall reflect the severity of the violation or failure of compliance.
  - (4) REFERRAL FOR ACTION UNDER SUBTITLE F.—If a person other than a permittee or lessee violates subsection (a)(5), and the person has not made satisfactory settlement under section 153, the authorized officer shall refer the matter to proper authorities for appropriate legal action by the United States against the violator under subtitle F.

### (5) Subleases.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A person who violates subsection (b)(4) shall be required to pay to the United States the dollar equivalent value, as determined by the authorized officer, of all compensation received for the sublease that is in excess of the sum of the established grazing fee and the cost incurred by the person for the in-

stallation and maintenance of authorized range 1 2 improvements. (B) FAILURE TO PAY.—If the dollar equiv-3 4 alent value is not received by the authorized officer within 30 days of receipt of a final deci-6 sion, the grazing permit or grazing lease shall 7 be canceled. 8 (C) ADDITIONAL PENALTY.—Payment under this paragraph shall be in addition to any 9 other penalties the authorized officer may im-10 11 pose under this subsection. (6) FAILURE TO USE.—After consultation, co-12 operation, and coordination, the authorized officer 13 14 may cancel a grazing preference to the extent of fail-15 ure to use when a permittee or lessee has failed to make substantial grazing use as authorized for 2 16 17 consecutive years. 18 **Subtitle F—Unauthorized Grazing Use** 19 SEC. 151. LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES. 20 (a) IN GENERAL.—A person who commits a violation described in section 141(a)(5) shall be liable in damages 21 to the United States for— (1) the value of forage consumed by the live-23 stock of the person; 24

1	(2) injury to Federal property caused by unau-
2	thorized grazing use; and
3	(3) expenses incurred in impoundment and sale
4	of the person's livestock.
5	(b) No Liability.—In no circumstances shall a per-
6	son be liable for damages to the United States for ex-
7	penses incurred in impoundment or sale of the person's
8	livestock if the person did not commit a violation of section
9	141(a)(5) or if the impoundment or sale was not con-
10	ducted in accordance with State law.
11	SEC. 152. NOTICE AND ORDER TO REMOVE.
12	(a) Known Owner.—
13	(1) Service.—When it appears that a violation
14	described in section 151 has occurred or is occurring
15	and the owner of the unauthorized livestock is
16	known, an authorized officer shall serve written no-
17	tice of unauthorized use and an order to remove live-
18	stock by a specified date on the owner (or the own-
19	er's agent of record) by certified mail or personal de-
20	livery.
21	(2) Opportunity to respond.—Written no-
22	tice under paragraph (1) shall allow a specified time
23	from receipt of notice for the livestock owner to—
24	(A) show that there has been no violation;
25	or

1	(B) make settlement under section 153.
2	(b) UNKNOWN OWNER.—When it appears that a vio-
3	lation described in section 151 has occurred or is occur-
4	ring and neither the owner or the unauthorized livestock
5	nor an agent of the owner is known, an authorized officer
6	may immediately proceed to impound the livestock under
7	section 154.
8	SEC. 153. SETTLEMENT.
9	(a) DETERMINATION OF WILLFULNESS.—An author-
10	ized officer shall determine whether a violation described
11	in section 151 is a nonwillful, willful, or second or subse-
12	quent willful violation.
13	(b) Second or Subsequent Willful Viola-
14	TIONS.—In the case of a second or subsequent willful vio-
15	lation, the authorized officer shall—
16	(1) suspend the grazing use authorized under a
17	grazing permit or grazing lease, in whole or in part
18	or
19	(2) cancel a grazing permit or grazing lease and
20	grazing preference, or a free-use grazing permit or
21	other grazing authorization, in whole or in part.
22	(c) Settlement Amount.—Except as provided in
23	subsection (e), the settlement amount in the case of a vio-
24	lation described in section 151 shall include—

1	(1) the value of forage consumed as determined
2	under subsection (d);
3	(2) the full value for all damage to Federal land
4	and other property of the United States resulting
5	from the violation; and
6	(3) all reasonable expenses incurred by the
7	United States in detecting, investigating, and resolv-
8	ing the violation, and livestock impoundment costs.
9	(d) Value of Forage.—
10	(1) Nonwillful violation.—In the case of a
11	nonwillful violation, the value of forage consumed
12	shall be the product of—
13	(A) average monthly rate per animal unit
14	month for pasturing livestock on privately
15	owned land (excluding irrigated land) for the 16
16	western States as published annually by the De-
17	partment of Agriculture; and
18	(B) the period of the violation.
19	(2) WILLFUL VIOLATIONS.—In the case of a
20	willful violation, the value of forage consumed shall
21	be twice the value determined under paragraph (1).
22	(3) Second or subsequent willful viola-
23	TIONS.—In the case of a second or subsequent will-
24	ful violation, the value of forage consumed shall be
25	3 times the value determined under paragraph (1).

- 1 (e) Nonmonetary Settlement.—An authorized
  2 officer may approve a nonmonetary settlement of a case
  3 of a violation described in section 151 if the authorized
  4 officer determines that each of the following conditions is
  5 satisfied:
  6 (1) No fault.—Evidence shows that the unauthorized use occurred through no fault of the live8 stock operator.
  (2) Insurance The foregoing is insign
- 9 (2) Insignificance.—The forage use is insignificant.
- 11 (3) NO DAMAGE.—Federal land has not been damaged.
- 13 (4) BEST INTERESTS.—Nonmonetary settle-14 ment is in the best interests of the United States.
- 15 (f) Effect of Settlement.—Payment of a settle-
- 16 ment amount under this section shall not relieve the viola-
- 17 tor of any criminal liability under Federal or State law.
- 18 (g) No Grazing Use.—A person who is found to
- 19 have committed a violation described in section 151 shall
- 20 not be authorized to make grazing use until any settle-
- 21 ment amount found to be due under this section has been
- 22 paid.
- 23 (h) OTHER SANCTIONS.—An authorized officer may
- 24 cancel or suspend a grazing authorization or deny ap-

1	proval of an application for grazing use until a settlement
2	amount found to be due under this section has been paid.
3	SEC. 154. IMPOUNDMENT AND SALE.
4	(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to section 152(b), unau-
5	thorized livestock remaining on Federal land after the date
6	specified in a notice and order under section 152(a) may
7	be impounded and sold by the authorized officer, acting
8	in conjunction with the State Livestock Board.
9	(b) Notice of Intent To Impound.—
10	(1) Known owner.—
11	(A) Service.—A written notice of intent
12	to impound shall be sent by certified mail or
13	personally delivered to the livestock owner (or
14	the owner's agent).
15	(B) CONTENTS.—The written notice shall
16	state that unauthorized livestock on specified
17	Federal land may be impounded any time after
18	10 days following delivery of the notice.
19	(2) Unknown owner.—
20	(A) Publication and posting.—If the
21	livestock owner and owner's agent are unknown,
22	or if both a known owner and the owner's agent
23	refuse to accept delivery of notice, a notice of
24	intent to impound shall be published in a local

newspaper and posted at the county courthouse

- and a post office near the Federal land concerned.
- 3 (B) CONTENTS.—The notice shall state 4 that unauthorized livestock on specified Federal 5 land may be impounded any time after 10 days 6 following publication and posting of the notice.
- 7 (c) IMPOUNDMENT.—After 10 days following delivery 8 or publication and posting of a notice under subsection 9 (b), the notice shall become effective, and unauthorized 10 livestock may be impounded without further notice any 11 time with the 12-month period following the effective date 12 of the notice.

## 13 (d) Notice of Public Sale.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—Following the impoundment of livestock under this section, the livestock may be sold by the authorized officer or, if a suitable agreement is in effect, turned over to the State for sale, in accordance with subsection (f).
- 19 (2) NOTIFICATION.—Any known livestock 20 owner (or owner's agent) shall be notified in writing 21 by certified mail or by personal delivery of the sale 22 and the procedure by which the impounded livestock 23 may be redeemed prior to the sale.
- 24 (e) Redemption.—An owner (or owner's agent) or 25 lienholder of record of impounded livestock may redeem

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1	the livestock in accordance with State law, prior to the
2	time of sale upon settlement with the United States under
3	section 153 or adequate showing that there has been no
4	violation.
5	(f) SALE.—If livestock are not redeemed on or before
6	the date and time fixed for sale, the livestock shall be of-
7	fered at public sale to the highest bidder by the authorized
8	officer under State law, or by the State.
9	Subtitle G—Procedure
10	SEC. 161. PROPOSED DECISIONS.
11	(a) Proposed Decisions on Grazing Permits or
12	Grazing Leases.—
13	(1) Service on applicants, permittees,
14	LESSEES, AND LIENHOLDERS.—In the absence of a
15	written agreement between an authorized officer and
16	any applicant, grazing permittee, lessee, or
17	lienholder, the authorized officer shall serve, by cer-
18	tified mail or personal delivery, a proposed decision
19	on any applicant, permittee, lessee, or lienholder (or
20	agent of record of the applicant, permittee, lessee, or
21	lienholder) that is affected by—
22	(A) a proposed action on an application for
23	a grazing permit, grazing lease, or range im-
24	provement permit; or

1	(B) a proposed action relating to a term or
2	condition of a grazing permit, grazing lease, or
3	range improvement permit.
4	(2) CONTENTS.—A proposed decision described
5	in paragraph (1) shall—
6	(A) state reasons for the action, including
7	reference to pertinent provision of this title or
8	other applicable law (including regulations); and
9	(B) state that any protest to the proposed
10	decision must be filed not later than 15 days
11	after service.
12	(b) Proposed Decisions on Alleged Viola-
13	TIONS.—
14	(1) Service.—If the authorized officer deter-
15	mines that a permittee or lessee appears to have vio-
16	lated any provision of this title, the authorized offi-
17	cer shall serve a proposed decision on the permittee
18	or lessee (or permittee's or lessee's agent) by cer-
19	tified mail or personal delivery.
20	(2) CONTENTS.—A proposed decision shall—
21	(A) state—
22	(i) the alleged violation and refer to
23	the specific provision of this title that is al-

1	(ii) the reasons for the proposed deci-
2	sion;
3	(iii) the fee due under section 137(a)
4	or settlement amount due under section
5	153; and
6	(iv) any civil penalty to be imposed
7	under section 141; and
8	(B) state that any protest to the proposed
9	decision must be filed not later than 15 days
10	after service.
11	SEC. 172. PROTESTS.
12	An applicant, permittee, lessee, or other affected in-
13	terest may protest a proposed decision under section 161
14	in person or in writing to the authorized officer within
15	15 days after service of the proposed decision.
16	SEC. 163. FINAL DECISIONS.
17	(a) No Protest.—In the absence of a timely filed
18	protest, a proposed decision shall become the final decision
19	of the authorized officer without further notice.
20	(b) RECONSIDERATION.—If a protest is timely filed,
21	the authorized officer shall reconsider the proposed deci-
22	sion in light of the protestant's statement of reasons for
23	protest and in light of other information pertinent to the
24	case.

1	(c) Service.—After reviewing the protest, the au-
2	thorized officer shall serve a final decision on the parties
3	to the proceeding.
4	SEC. 164. APPEALS.
5	(a) In General.—In the case of a final decision of
6	an authorized officer with respect to which a protest under
7	section 162 was timely filed, a permittee, lessee, or af-
8	fected interest may appeal the final decision for the pur-
9	pose of a hearing before an administrative law judge by
10	filing a notice of appeal in the office of the authorized
11	officer within 30 days after the service of the final deci-
12	sion.
13	(b) Suspension Pending Appeal.—
14	(1) IN GENERAL.—An appeal of a final decision
15	shall suspend the effect of the decision pending final
16	action on the appeal unless the decision is made ef-
17	fective pending appeal under paragraph (2).
18	(2) Effectiveness pending appeal.—
19	(A) IN GENERAL.—A District Manager of
20	the Bureau of Land Management may order
21	that a decision on a grazing permit application
22	shall remain in effect during an appeal of the
23	decision if it is determined that imminent and

irreversible damage to land resources would be

1	likely to result from delay of effectiveness of the
2	decision.
3	(B) Basis of order.—An order under
4	subparagraph (A) shall be made in accordance
5	with—
6	(i) state-of-the-art science;
7	(ii) information and opinions offered
8	by State land grant universities; and
9	(iii) the preponderance of evidence
10	gathered in the proceeding.
11	(c) Expeditious Dismissal of Nonmeritorious
12	APPEALS.—The District Manager shall—
13	(1) examine each appeal as soon as practicable
14	after it is filed; and
15	(2) expeditiously dismiss an appeal that does
16	not raise a substantially meritorious issue.
17	(d) AUTHORITY.—A final decision of an appeal shall
18	be issued by a District Manager.
19	<b>Subtitle H—Advisory Committees</b>
20	SEC. 171. PURPOSE.
21	This subtitle contains standards and procedures for
22	the establishment, operation, and termination of advisory
23	committees to advise the Secretary on matters relating to
24	grazing on Federal land and resources under the adminis-
25	trative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management.

#### SEC. 172. OBJECTIVE.

- 2 The objective of an advisory committee established
- 3 under this subtitle is to provide to the Secretary expert
- 4 recommendations of concerned, knowledgeable citizens
- 5 and public officials regarding—
- 6 (1) the formulation of operating guidelines; and
- 7 (2) the preparation and execution of plans and
- 8 programs for the use and management of Federal
- 9 land, the natural and cultural resources on Federal
- land, and the environment.

#### 11 SEC. 173. RELATION TO OTHER LAW.

- Except to the extent that the following laws may be
- 13 inconsistent with this subtitle, the following laws shall
- 14 apply to an advisory committee established under this sub-
- 15 title:
- 16 (1) The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5
- 17 U.S.C. App.).
- 18 (2) The Federal Land Policy and Management
- 19 Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.).
- 20 (3) Section 2 of Reorganization Plan No. 3 of
- 21 1950 (5 U.S.C. App.).
- 22 **SEC. 174. POLICY.**
- 23 (a) IN GENERAL.—After consultation, cooperation,
- 24 and coordination with State and local government officials,
- 25 the Secretary shall establish advisory committees rep-
- 26 resentative of major citizens' interests to advise the Sec-

1	retary regarding policy formulation, program planning,
2	decisionmaking, attainment of program objectives, and
3	achievement of improved program coordination and econo-
4	mies in the management of Federal land and resources.
5	(b) Optimal Employment.—The Secretary shall
6	ensure that—
7	(1) advisory committees are optimally utilized;
8	and
9	(2) the number of advisory committees is lim-
10	ited to the number that is essential to the conduct
11	of the public's business.
12	SEC. 175. GENERAL PROVISIONS.
13	(a) Charters.—
14	(1) IN GENERAL.—For each advisory committee
15	established by the Secretary, the Secretary shall—
16	(A) prepare a charter describing the advi-
17	sory committee's structure and functions; and
18	(B) file the charter with the Committee on
19	Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate
20	and the Committee on Resources of the House
21	of Representatives.
22	(2) Amendment.—Except for the correction of
23	errors and other minor changes, a charter filed
24	under paragraph (1) shall not be amended without
25	authorization by an Act of Congress.

1	(b) Calls for Nominations.—Candidates for ap-
2	pointment to an advisory committee shall be sought
3	through public calls for nominations made through publi-
4	cation in the Federal Register and through media releases
5	and systematic contacts with State and local government
6	officials and individuals and organizations interested in
7	the use and management of Federal land and resources.
8	(c) Composition.—
9	(1) STRUCTURE.—An advisory committee shall
10	be structured—
11	(A) to provide fair membership balance
12	(geographic and interest-specific) in terms of
13	the functions to be performed and points of
14	view to be represented, as prescribed by the ad-
15	visory committee's charter; and
16	(B) to provide representative advice about
17	Federal land and resource planning, retention,
18	management, and disposal.
19	(2) No discrimination.—No person shall be
20	denied an opportunity to serve on an advisory com-
21	mittee because of race, age, sex, religion, or national
22	origin.
23	(3) QUALIFICATIONS.—A person shall be quali-
24	fied to serve on an advisory committee if—

1	(A) the person's education, training, or ex-
2	perience enables the person to give informed
3	and objective advice regarding an industry, dis-
4	cipline, or interest specified in the committee's
5	charter;
6	(B) the person has demonstrated experi-
7	ence or knowledge of the geographical area
8	under the purview of the advisory committee;
9	and
10	(C) the person has demonstrated a com-
11	mitment to seeking consensus solutions to re-
12	source management issues.
13	(d) Avoidance of Conflicts of Interest.—
14	(1) Participation in deliberations.—An
15	advisory committee member shall not participate in
16	deliberations or vote on any matter if the decision of
17	the matter would, on its face or as applied, affect
18	only an interest held by that member and not the in-
19	terests of permittees, lessees, or other affected inter-
20	ests generally.
21	(2) Disclosure of interests.—
22	(A) IN GENERAL.—Each member of an ad-
23	visory committee shall be required to disclose
24	the member's direct or indirect interest in graz-

ing leases, licenses, permits, contracts, or

1	claims and related litigation that involve lands
2	or resources administered by the Secretary.
3	(B) Definition.—In this paragraph, the
4	term "indirect interest" includes holdings of a
5	spouse or dependent children of a member.
6	(e) TERMINATION OF SERVICE.—The Secretary may,
7	after written notice, terminate the service of a member
8	of an advisory committee if—
9	(1) the member—
10	(A) no longer meets the requirements
11	under which elected or appointed;
12	(B) fails or is unable to participate regu-
13	larly in committee work; or
14	(C) has violated Federal law (including a
15	regulation); or
16	(2) in the judgment of the Secretary, termi-
17	nation is in the public interest.
18	(f) Compensation and Reimbursement of Ex-
19	PENSES.—A member of an advisory committee shall not
20	receive any compensation or reimbursement of expenses
21	in connection with the performance of the member's duties
22	as a member of the advisory committee.
23	SEC. 176. RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCILS.
24	(a) Resource Advisory Council for Each Graz-
25	ING DISTRICT.—The Secretary, after consultation, co-

- 1 operation, and coordination with the State and affected
- 2 counties, shall appoint not fewer than 9 nor more than
- 3 15 persons to serve on a resource advisory council for each
- 4 grazing district.

## (b) Membership.—

- (1) Representation of interests.—The members of a resource advisory council shall be selected from among persons that represent historical use, multiple uses, affected landowners, county social and economic interests, elected State and county officers, and the public at large.
  - (2) PERMITTEES AND LESSEES.—Permittees and lessees may be appointed to serve on a resource advisory council.
  - (3) Residency.—Members of a resource advisory council shall be residents of the State in which the grazing district is situated.

## (4) Terms.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A member of a resource advisory council shall serve a 3-year term, except that as nearly as possible one-third of the initial members shall be appointed for a 1-year term and one-third of the initial members shall be appointed for a 2-year term.

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1	(B) Members ex officio.—On the de-
2	parture from elective office of a member of a
3	resource advisory council who was appointed or
4	the basis of the member's status as an elected
5	official of general purpose government serving
6	the people of the grazing district for which the
7	resource advisory council is established prior to
8	the end of the member's term, the newly elected
9	official shall serve the remainder of the mem-
10	ber's term.
11	(C) VACANCIES.—A vacancy occurring by
12	reason of removal, resignation, or death of a
13	member of a resource advisory council shall be
14	filled for the balance of the member's term
15	using the same method by which the member
16	was appointed.

## (D) REAPPOINTMENT.—

- (i) SECOND CONSECUTIVE TERM.—A member of a resource advisory council who has served a 3-year term on a resource advisory council may be reappointed to a second consecutive 3-year term.
- (ii) SUBSEQUENT TERM.—A member of a resource advisory council who has served 2 consecutive 3-year terms may be

subsequently reappointed no earlier than 3 years after the member's last date of membership on that resource advisory council, except that the Secretary may reappoint the member to a 1-year term if the Secretary determines that the member's continued or renewed service on the resource advisory council is in the public interest and is critical to the effective functioning of the resource advisory council.

(E) Date of appointment.—For the purpose of eligibility for reappointment under subparagraph (C) or (D), an appointment shall be considered to be made on January 1 of the first year of the term to which a member is appointed regardless of the date on which the appointment is actually made.

## (c) Responsibilities.—

(1) In General.—A resource advisory council shall have the responsibility of advising the Secretary and appropriate State officials on major management decisions while working within the broad management goals established for the grazing district.

1	(2) Land use plans.—A resource advisory
2	council shall advise the Secretary regarding the
3	preparation, amendment, and implementation of
4	land use plans for Federal land and resources within
5	the grazing district.
6	(3) Allocation and expenditure of
7	FUNDS.—Except for the purposes of long-range
8	planning and the establishment of resource manage-
9	ment priorities, a resource advisory council shall not
10	provide the Secretary advice regarding—
11	(A) the allocation or expenditure of funds;
12	or
13	(B) personnel actions.
14	(d) Disregard of Advice.—
15	(1) REQUEST FOR RESPONSE.—If a resource
16	advisory council becomes concerned that its advice is
17	being arbitrarily disregarded, the resource advisory
18	council may, by unanimous vote of its members, re-
19	quest that the Secretary respond directly to the re-
20	source advisory council's concerns within 60 days
21	after the Secretary receives the request.
22	(2) Effect of response.—The response of
23	the Secretary to a request under paragraph (1) shall

not—

1	(A) constitute a decision on the merits of
2	any issue that is or might become the subject
3	of an administrative appeal; or
4	(B) be subject to appeal.
5	(e) Administrative Support.—Administrative sup-
6	port for a resource advisory council shall be provided by
7	the office of the authorized officer.
8	SEC. 177. GRAZING ADVISORY COUNCILS.
9	(a) Grazing Advisory Council for Each Graz-
10	ING DISTRICT.—The Secretary, in consultation with the
11	State and affected counties, shall appoint not fewer than
12	5 nor more than 9 persons to serve on a grazing advisory
13	council for each grazing district.
14	(b) Membership.—
15	(1) Representation of interests.—The
16	members of a grazing advisory council shall be se-
17	lected from among persons that represent permit-
18	tees, lessees, affected landowners, county social and
19	economic interests, and elected State and county
20	officers.
21	(2) Permittees and lessees.—Permittees
22	and lessees shall constitute the majority of the mem-
23	bership of a grazing advisory council.

- 1 (3) RESIDENCY.—Members of a grazing advi-2 sory council shall be residents of a community within 3 or adjacent to the grazing district.
  - (4) TERMS.—An appointment to a grazing advisory council shall be for a 2-year term.
- 6 (5) REAPPOINTMENT.—A member of a grazing
  7 advisory council may be appointed to additional
  8 terms.
- 9 (c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—A grazing advisory council
  10 shall set range improvement objectives, advise on the ex11 penditure of range improvement funds under the Public
  12 Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 1901
  13 et seq.), advise on grazing management programs and im14 plementation, and address range management decisions
  15 and actions at the allotment management plan level or
  16 permit management plan level.

# (d) Disregard of Advice.—

(1) REQUEST FOR RESPONSE.—If a grazing advisory council becomes concerned that its advice is being arbitrarily disregarded, the grazing advisory council may, by unanimous vote of its members, request that the Secretary respond directly to the grazing advisory council's concerns within 60 days after the Secretary receives the request.

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1	(2) Effect of response.—The response of
2	the Secretary to a request under paragraph (1) shall
3	not—
4	(A) constitute a decision on the merits of
5	any issue that is or might become the subject
6	of an administrative appeal; or
7	(B) be subject to appeal.
8	SEC. 178. MEETINGS.
9	(a) In GENERAL.—All meetings of an advisory com-
10	mittee and associated field examinations shall be open to
11	the public and news media.
12	(b) Notice of Meetings.—
13	(1) IN GENERAL.—A notice of a meeting of an
14	advisory committee shall be published in the Federal
15	Register and distributed to the news media at least
16	30 days in advance of the meeting.
17	(2) URGENT MATTERS.—If an urgent matter
18	arises, a notice of a meeting of an advisory commit-
19	tee shall be published in the Federal Register and
20	distributed to the news media at least 15 days in ad-
21	vance of the meeting.
22	(3) CONTENTS.—A notice of a meeting of an
23	advisory committee shall state the date, time, and
24	place of the meeting and describe the topics or is-
25	sues to be discussed at the meeting.

- 1 (c) Appearances.—Any person may appear before
- 2 or file a statement with an advisory committee regarding
- 3 matters on the meeting agenda.
- 4 (d) SCHEDULING.—The scheduling of meetings of an
- 5 advisory committee and the preparation of agenda shall
- 6 be done in a manner that encourages and facilitates public
- 7 attendance and participation.
- 8 (e) Extension of Time.—The amount of time
- 9 scheduled for a meeting of an advisory committee may be
- 10 extended if an authorized officer considers it necessary to
- 11 accommodate all who seek to be heard regarding matters
- 12 on the agenda.
- 13 (f) AUTHORITY TO SCHEDULE.—An advisory com-
- 14 mittee shall meet only at the call of the Secretary or of
- 15 an authorized officer.
- 16 (g) Attendance by Authorized Officer.—No
- 17 meeting of an advisory committee shall be held in the ab-
- 18 sence of an authorized officer or designee of an authorized
- 19 officer.
- 20 (h) AGENDA.—A meeting of an advisory committee
- 21 shall be conducted with close adherence to the agenda ap-
- 22 proved in advance by an authorized officer.
- 23 (i) ADJOURNMENT.—An authorized officer may ad-
- 24 journ a meeting of an advisory committee at any time if—

1	(1) continuance would be inconsistent with the
2	purpose for which the meeting was called or with the
3	rules established for the conduct of the advisory
4	committee; or
5	(2) adjournment is determined to be in the pub-
6	lic interest.
7	(j) Records.—
8	(1) IN GENERAL.—Detailed records shall be
9	kept of each meeting of an advisory committee.
10	(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The records of a meeting
11	of an advisory committee shall include, at a mini-
12	mum—
13	(A) the time and place of the meeting;
14	(B) copies of the Federal Register and
15	other public notices announcing the meeting;
16	(C) a list of members of the advisory com-
17	mittee and of Federal employees (in the capac-
18	ity of Federal employee) present;
19	(D) a list of members of the public
20	present, and a description of the interest rep-
21	resented by each member;
22	(E) the meeting agenda;
23	(F) a complete summary description of
24	matters discussed and conclusions reached:

1	(G) a list of recommendations made by the
2	advisory committee;
3	(H) copies of all reports received, issued,
4	or approved by the advisory committee; and
5	(I) a description of the nature of public
6	participation.
7	(3) CERTIFICATION BY CHAIRPERSON.—The
8	Chairperson of an advisory committee shall certify
9	the accuracy of the records of the advisory commit-
10	tee.
11	(4) Availability for inspection and copy-
12	ING.—All records, reports, transcripts, minutes, rec-
13	ommendations, studies, working papers, and other
14	documents prepared by or submitted to an advisory
15	committee shall be available for public inspection
16	and copying in the Federal office responsible for
17	support of the advisory committee.
18	(k) Subcommittees.—Each of the requirements of
19	this section that applies to an advisory committee applies
20	to any subcommittee of an advisory committee.
21	SEC. 179. CONFORMING AMENDMENT AND REPEAL.
22	(a) Amendment.—The third sentence of section
23	402(d) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act
24	of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1752(d)) is amended by striking "dis-
25	trict grazing advisory boards established pursuant to sec-

- 1 tion 403 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act
- 2 (43 U.S.C. 1753)" and inserting "grazing advisory coun-
- 3 cils established under section 177 of the Livestock Grazing
- 4 Act".
- 5 (b) Repeal.—Section 403 of the Federal Land Pol-
- 6 icy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1753) is re-
- 7 pealed.

# 8 Subtitle I—Reports

- 9 SEC. 181. REPORTS.
- 10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than March 1, 1997,
- 11 and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to
- 12 Congress a report that contains—
- 13 (1) an itemization of revenues received and
- costs incurred directly in connection with the man-
- agement of grazing on Federal land; and
- 16 (2) recommendations for reducing administra-
- tive costs and improving the overall efficiency of
- 18 Federal rangeland management.
- 19 (b) ITEMIZATION.—If the itemization of costs under
- 20 subsection (a)(1) includes any costs incurred in connection
- 21 with the implementation of any law other than a statute
- 22 cited in section 102, the Secretary shall indicate with spec-
- 23 ificity the costs associated with implementation of each
- 24 such statute.

- 1 (c) Suspension of Implementation of Other
- 2 Law in Absence of Report.—During any period in
- 3 which a report due to be submitted under subsection (a)
- 4 has not been submitted in accordance with the require-
- 5 ments of this section, the Secretary shall conduct livestock
- 6 grazing management on Federal land without regard to
- 7 any law other than a statute cited in section 102.

#### 8 TITLE II—GRASSLAND

- 9 SEC. 201. REMOVAL OF GRASSLANDS FROM NATIONAL FOR-
- 10 EST SYSTEM.
- 11 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that the inclusion of
- 12 the National Grasslands (and land utilization projects ad-
- 13 ministered under title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm
- 14 Tenant Act) within the National Forest System constrains
- 15 the Secretary of Agriculture in managing the National
- 16 Grasslands as intended under title III of the Bankhead-
- 17 Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U.S.C. 1010 et seq.).
- 18 (b) Amendment of the Forest and Rangeland
- 19 RENEWABLE RESOURCES PLANNING ACT OF 1974.—Sec-
- 20 tion 11(a) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Re-
- 21 sources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1609(a)) is
- 22 amended in the second sentence by striking "the national
- 23 grasslands and land utilization projects administered
- 24 under title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act
- 25 (50 Stat. 525, 7 U.S.C. 1010–1012),".

- 1 (c) Amendment of the Bankhead-Jones Farm
- 2 TENANT ACT.—Section 31 of the Bankhead-Jones Farm
- 3 Tenant Act (7 U.S.C. 1010) is amended by adding the
- 4 following:

#### 5 "SEC. 31. LAND CONSERVATION AND LAND UTILIZATION.

- 6 "(a) Program.
- "(1) IN GENERAL.—To accomplish the purposes 7 of the Livestock Grazing Act, the Secretary shall de-8 9 velop a program of land conservation and utilization 10 as a basis for grassland agriculture, to promote se-11 cure occupancy and economic stability of farms, and 12 thus assist in controlling soil erosion, preserving nat-13 ural resources, protecting fish and wildlife, develop-14 ing and protecting recreational facilities, mitigating 15 flood damage, preventing impairment of dams and 16 reservoirs, developing energy resources, protecting 17 the watersheds of navigable streams, conserving sur-18 face and subsurface moisture, and protecting public 19 land, health, safety and welfare.
  - "(2) LIMITATION.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall not build an industrial park or establish a private industrial or commercial enterprise.
- 24 "(b) LIVESTOCK GRAZING LEASES.—The Secretary,
- 25 in cooperation and coordination with grazing associations,

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- 1 shall issue renewable livestock grazing leases to achieve
- 2 the land conservation and utilization goals of this sec-
- 3 tion.".
- 4 (d) Conservation Programs.—In managing live-
- 5 stock grazing on National Grasslands under title I, the
- 6 Secretary of the Interior may continue to establish and
- 7 implement conservation programs authorized by title III
- 8 of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U.S.C. 1010
- 9 et seq.).

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