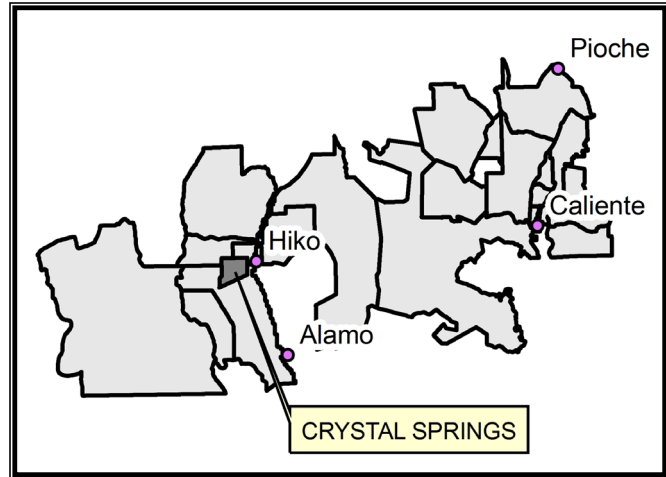


27.0 CRYSTAL SPRINGS ALLOTMENT

Permittee: William J Wright
Contact: Jay or Marjorie Wright
City/State: Buhl, Idaho

Base Property: Land



27.1 ALLOTMENT DESCRIPTION

The Crystal Springs Allotment is located west of Hiko, and directly north of US Highway 93. The entire allotment was fenced during its use as a range demonstration site for the Soil Conservation Service.

Table 27.1: Crystal Springs Allotment Details

ALLOTMENT ACRES		GRAZING PERMIT					
Public	Private	Number/Type of Livestock	Season of Use	AUMs			
				Total	Active	Suspended	
7,571.2	0	44 cattle	8/1-5/31	437	437	0	

27.1.1 Grazing System

This allotment is managed as continuous winter season use November – April, and is used as a single pasture.

27.1.2 Stockwaters and Water Rights

One well is located in the center of the allotment and serves as the water source for the entire pasture.

27.1.3 Existing Fencing

The perimeter of the allotment is entirely fenced. There are no other internal fences or pastures.

27.2 PROPOSED RAILROAD ALIGNMENT – LINCOLN COUNTY SHORT ROUTE

This allotment would be impacted by the Lincoln County Short Route, which cuts through the northwestern corner of the allotment. The alignment will isolate approximately 1,400 acres.

Rail Length Within Allotment: 4.1 miles
 1,000' Construction Right-of-Way Area: 495.76 acres

27.2.1 Fencing Preference for Proposed Rail Alignment

The Permittee prefers that the right-of-way (ROW) be fenced provided that the fence is regularly maintained and that provisions are made to ensure the free movement of cattle within the allotment. In-rail cattleguards will be needed at the terminal end of the ROW fence and at all road crossings.

27.2.2 Impacts and Mitigation

27.2.2.1 Base Property

No base property will be impacted by the proposed alignment.

27.2.2.2 Grazing System

The railway would cross the allotment near the center and would isolate approximately 1,400 acres, including some of the best quality forage in the allotment, from the centrally located well.

At least three underpasses would be required to maintain free movement of cattle under the current grazing system.

27.2.2.3 Existing Fence and Capital Improvements

The proposed rail would cross the existing allotment boundary fence of the Crystal Springs Allotment in two places.

Gates will be needed at pasture boundaries. In addition approximately 1.2 miles of fence will need to be removed.

27.2.2.4 Stockwaters and Associated Infrastructure

The water source for this allotment is located within one mile of the proposed alignment.

A pipeline and trough will need to be constructed to move the watering location to at least one mile from the proposed alignment.

27.2.2.5 Road and Trails

The proposed rail alignment crosses two existing dirt roads. One of these roads provides a crucial access point to the northwest corner.

If the decision is made to split the allotment into two pastures, a road crossing will need to be built.

27.2.2.6 Vegetation and Forage

A permanent loss of forage will occur within the railway footprint as well as within the fenced ROW. Other concerns include the temporary loss of forage due to construction activities and railway operations. There is also the potential for long-term loss of desirable forage within disturbed areas due to difficulty of rehabilitation, establishment of noxious or invasive weeds, and fires resulting from railway operations.

Mitigation must include compensation for lost AUMs due to construction and/or operation of the railway. This includes deferred or suspend AUMs resulting from wildland fires caused by railway operations. Disturbed areas should be kept to a minimum, successfully revegetated

to a predetermined condition, and managed for noxious weeds. It should be the responsibility of the rail operator to control noxious or invasive weed infestations for the life of the rail.

27.2.2.7 Loss of Livestock

The Permittee shall be reimbursed for any loss of livestock due to railway operations. It shall be the responsibility of the railway operator to maintain all ROW fencing.

27.2.2.8 Other Impacts and Mitigations

None known.

Table 27.2: Crystal Springs Allotment Impacted Features

Impacted Features	Lincoln County Short Route
Base Property (land)	0
Base Property (water within 4 miles)	0
Base Property (water within 1 mile)	0
Base Property (pipeline crossings)	0
Existing Fencing (ea)	2
Capital Improvements	0
Stockwaters within 4 miles	0
Stockwaters within 1 mile	1
Creeks (ea)	0
Pipelines (ea)	0
Roads (ea)	1
Trails (ea)	0
ROW Acreage	496

Table 27.3: Crystal Springs Allotment Mitigation Summary

Proposed Mitigation Units	Lincoln County Short Route
Fence Construction (miles)	8.2
Fence Removal	1.4
Gates (ea)	2
Railroad Cattleguards (ea)	1
Road Cattleguards (ea)	2
Grazing Management Plan	1
Corral Relocation	0
Chute Relocation	0
Wells (ea)	0
Troughs (ea)	1
Springs (ea)	0
Creek Crossings (ea)	0
Unspecified Stockwaters (ea)	0
Pipeline Crossings (ea)	0
Pipeline Construction (miles)	.25
Road Crossings (ea)	1
Trail Crossings (ea)	0
Sheep Crossings (ea)	0
Cattle Crossings (ea)	0
Underpasses (ea)	3

Figure 27.1: Crystal Springs Allotment

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27.1 Crystal Springs.pdf