

*Trusted stewards of Idaho's Resources,
From Main Street to Mountaintop*



Idaho kicks off public process to review state grazing rate

Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter and Secretary of State Lawrence Denney will spend the next year working with stakeholders to review the Idaho Department of Lands' grazing rate for endowment trust lands

October 20, 2015

(BOISE) - The State Land Board kicked off a yearlong public process today to review the rate ranchers pay to graze livestock on State endowment trust lands.

A group representing diverse interests will advise a Land Board subcommittee comprised of Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter and Secretary of State Lawrence Denney before the full Land Board votes on the grazing rate methodology in the fall of 2016.

"We wanted an open, transparent process that engages a spectrum of stakeholders in reviewing the State grazing rate, which has not been reviewed in 20 years," said the subcommittee's chairman, Secretary of State Denney. "The public can expect open meetings at locations around the state, a public comment period, and regular updates from the Idaho Department of Lands throughout the review process. Our efforts to review the grazing rate methodology align with our duty to maximize long-term financial returns to the schoolchildren of Idaho."

Consultants to the subcommittee include experts in agricultural economics from around the region.

A Web page providing updates on the grazing rate review process is available on the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) Web site at this link:

<http://www.idl.idaho.gov/leasing/grazing/rate/index.html>

The grazing rate review process is the second leg in an effort to comprehensively review the entire IDL grazing program, in order to enhance the long-term income and value of the 1.4 million-acre rangeland asset managed by IDL under the direction of the Land Board. The Idaho Constitution mandates that the lands be managed to maximize long-term financial returns to public schools and other beneficiaries. IDL finalized a grazing program business plan in May after a year of engaging the public on overall management concepts for the 1.4 million-acre rangeland asset.

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:

Emily Callihan, Communications Officer
(208) 334-0236 or ecallihan@idl.idaho.gov

Grazing Review Subcommittee Members

Secretary of State Lawrence Denney, Chairman
Tim Hurst, Chief Deputy (staff)

Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter
Stephen Goodson, Special Assistant for Natural Resources (staff)

Subcommittee Advisory Group

- **Wyatt Prescott**, Executive Director, Idaho Cattle Association
- **Jim Hagenbarth**, Livestock Producer/Operator
- **Russ Hendricks**, Director of Governmental Affairs, Idaho Farm Bureau
- **Clive Strong**, Natural Resources Division Chief, Office of Attorney General
- **Tim Corder**, Special Assistant to the Superintendent, Department of Education
- **Scott Phillips**, Deputy Controller, State Controller's Office
- **Michael Gibson**, Executive Director, Idaho Wildlife Federation
- **Mark Davidson**, Director of Conservation Initiatives, The Nature Conservancy
- **Diane French**, Grazing Program Manager, Idaho Department of Lands

Subcommittee Consultants

- **Dr. Dennis Becker**, Director of Policy Analysis Group, University of Idaho
- **Dr. Neil Rimbey**, Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, University of Idaho Extension
- Resource Dimensions 2012 Market Rent Study: **Dr. Julie Ann Gustanski**, CEO; **Dr. Roger Coupal**, Department Head of Agriculture & Applied Economics, University of Wyoming; **Dr. John Ritten**, Associate Professor, Agricultural & Applied Economics, University of Wyoming
- University of Montana; Bioeconomics, Inc.: **Dr. John Duffield**, Natural Resource Economics & Policy; **Chris Neher**, Senior Economist, Natural Resource Economics & Policy

Idaho Department of Lands Staff

- **Tom Schultz**, Director
- **Mike Murphy**, Bureau Chief, Endowment Leasing Bureau

[SIGN UP](#)
to receive news from IDL

Stay Connected:  