



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

# Marton Acquisition Management Proposals

## Casper Field Office, Wyoming

### 1. Introduction

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Wyoming Casper Field Office (CFO) is considering various actions in the Marton Project Area. These actions would help the BLM implement goals, objectives and decisions from the CFO Resource Management Plan.

Public input is an important part of the BLM planning process. BLM is soliciting comments on the following projects to further refine and assist the BLM in meeting the public's goals and ideas for this area.

### 2. Recreation

#### *River Development*

**No Action Proposal.** There would be no improvements, bank restoration, or road improvement. The area along the river would remain in its current undeveloped state.

**Low Change Proposal—**Bank restoration at select locations on BLM lands would allow users to engage in a variety of activities near and on the river. The Ledge Creek Road would be improved, and a vault toilet would be installed. The BLM has in the past provided portable restrooms in the Ledge Creek area with an agreement with a private landowner. The addition of a vault toilet on BLM land with the improved access could create a minimally developed day use area for those recreating on the river or in the area.

**Medium Change Proposal—**In addition to bank restoration, road improvement and a vault toilet, this alternative would include a small parking area and day use shelters could provide an excellent place to picnic, hold a gathering or take a break when combined with the previous improvement ideas. Day use fishing, wildlife observance and scenic photography are a few activities of the numerous activities that could benefit from this level of development.

**High Change Proposal--**Full scale development could provide a campground if access is also improved. A 2-to-5-acre footprint campground could offer campsites along with a parking area and vault toilets. A fully developed site might also include a boat ramp to access the river.

### 3. Vegetation Management Plan (including weeds, fire and fuels, and vegetation restoration for upland and riparian areas)

Identified invasive species would receive treatment where warranted in accordance with the 2024 Casper Field Office Vegetation Management EA and/or any future analysis that would authorize applicable invasive species treatment primarily in the northwestern portion of the allotment. Within the areas receiving invasive species treatment, some areas may receive selective seeding of grass, forb, and shrub species that would be conducive to the respective ecological site and better compete with invasive species while providing improved habitat for wildlife species and pollinators.

The Marton Watershed Restoration project will include installing different types of low-tech restoration structures. These structures could include beaver dam analogs, Zeedyk structures, post assisted log structures as well as riparian revegetation. The idea is to reestablish the hydrological connectivity of each of the three drainages that comprise 54 stream miles within the Marton allotment.

#### 4. Livestock Grazing - Grazing Lease Renewal and Fencing

##### *No Action Alternative*

The No Action Alternative would be to continue the existing leases with no changes and would not address the additional conditions detailed in the proposed action. The two current grazing leases (Marton CGD in Natrona County and Marton RGD in Carbon County) were initially issued after the acquisition of the privately owned lands within the Marton Allotment under the decision that the acquired lands would be managed the same as existing and adjacent BLM lands. The leases would be authorized for 8,835 Animal Unit Months (AUM's) for a year-long season of use. Those AUMs would be authorized for all classes of cattle, sheep, goats, horses, and/or indigenous livestock. All classes of livestock could be on the allotment at the same time as long as total AUMs were not exceeded.

This alternative would involve the following provisions:

- No supplemental feeding (hay, cubes, and other materials providing a primary forage base) on BLM with the exception of extenuating circumstances or emergency events. Use of minerals, salts, and forage supplements would continue to be authorized across the allotments except within ¼ mile of water, wetlands, and riparian areas.
- Existing fences, corrals, and livestock water sources on recently acquired BLM lands would continue to be maintained as is with no modification and available for use and maintenance by grazing lessee.
- There would not be limits on AUMs consumed within individual pastures. No new fences would be constructed along the North Platte River to prevent livestock from accessing the river in those specific locations.

