



# NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION®

*People and Nature: Our Future Is in the Balance*

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## FACT SHEET

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# Blackrock/Spread Creek Allotment

## BACKGROUND

**LOCATION** – NW Wyoming, 20 miles south of Yellowstone National Park, borders Grand Teton National Park, on Bridger-Teton National Forest. It provides a wildlife corridor between Yellowstone National Park, the Teton Wilderness, and Grand Teton National Park.

**SIZE** – 87,500 acres; the allotment is approximately 25 miles long by 7 miles wide, stretching from the Snake River to Togwoote Pass

**VEGETATION** – Diverse habitat types: mixed conifer, sagebrush grassland, aspen, wet meadow, wetlands, mixed riparian, mixed mountain shrub

## HISTORY

- Grazed for more than 40 years by the Walton family
- Not grazed for past 4 years due to wildlife/livestock conflicts
- Conflicts with wolves and bears have resulted in mortality to these carnivores and have created difficult livestock management conditions
- Provides some of the best non-wilderness backcountry recreation in the region

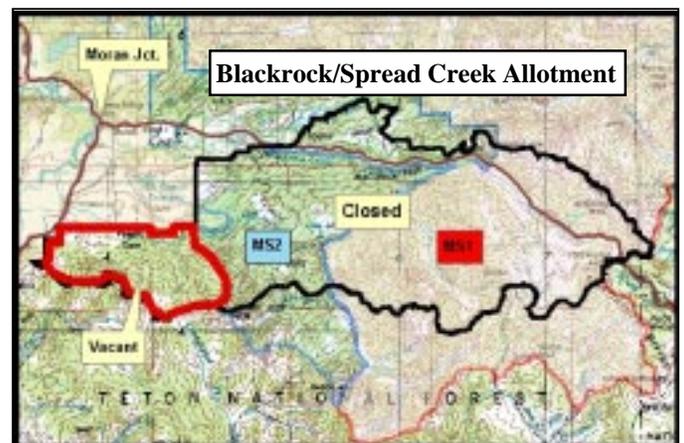
## WILDLIFE/LIVESTOCK CONFLICTS

### GRIZZLY BEARS

- Number of cows killed or injured by grizzlies from 1992-1998: 108
- Compensation paid for dead or injured livestock 1992-1998: \$158,000
- State of Wyoming costs to manage livestock/grizzly conflict 1992-1998: approximately \$300,000

### WOLVES

- Resident wolf pack has occasionally preyed on livestock on private lands
- Resumption of livestock grazing would place cows a short distance from the den site of the Teton wolf pack



## BISON

- As many as 300 bison currently use the Blackrock/Spread Creek allotment. Wyoming law requires removal of bison if the state veterinarian believes there is a significant risk of disease transmission from bison to cattle. If bison and cows are calving in the same areas, the state veterinarian likely will require the Wyoming Game and Fish Department to kill bison

## ELK

- The state veterinarian may have some of the same disease concerns if elk are in close proximity to cows for extended periods.

## BENEFIT TO WILDLIFE SPECIES

### GRIZZLY BEARS

- The Wyoming Game and Fish Department has recorded as many as 25 different bears using this area
- 86% of the allotment is Management Situation 1 or 2 grizzly bear habitat, critical habitat for bears as defined by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Management Guidelines

## WOLVES

- Teton Pack has denned immediately adjacent to Blackrock for the past 3 years and makes extensive use of the allotment

## BISON

- The Jackson Herd numbers approximately 730 animals and is growing
- Significant numbers of bison use the allotment all year
- The west end of the allotment contains important winter range that's in short supply in the Jackson area

## ELK

- Provides extremely important year-round habitat for portions of the Jackson elk herd; high quality calving area and important winter range (800-900 elk wintered here during the last two winters)
- The area is part of an important migration route for elk from Teton Wilderness and Yellowstone Park
- Important area for elk hunting, it provides thousands of quality recreational hunting days annually

## MOUNTAIN LIONS

- Populations have increased significantly within the West, and use of this allotment appears to have increased, as well; contains excellent year-round habitat

## MOOSE

- Provides year-long habitat for moose
- Portions of the allotment are important winter range

## MULE DEER

- Provides spring-summer-fall habitat

## PRONGHORN

- Provides spring-summer-fall habitat, part of an important migration corridor
- The allotment is the northern extension of the longest wild ungulate migration known in the lower 48 states - the pronghorn migration from Rock Springs to Moran Junction.

## ADDITIONAL SENSITIVE, THREATENED, OR ENDANGERED SPECIES

Trumpeter swan	Harlequin duck
Peregrine falcon	Long-billed curlew
Great blue heron	Northern goshawk
Northern pygmy owl	Great gray owl
Three-toed woodpecker	Boreal owl
Black-backed woodpecker	Bald eagle
Wolverine	Canada lynx

## LIST OF SUPPORTERS

### **The National Wildlife Federation is grateful to its partners and supporters.**

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