



Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

The Kamloops Forest District is dedicated to the management and conservation of the forest and range values for more than 2,769,417 hectares of crown land, of which 1,057,000 ha are crown range and 69,286 ha are *Land Act* grazing leases. Grasslands make up less than one percent of the provincial land base yet a significant proportion of rare and endangered species rely on them for habitat. Within the Kamloops District there are 17% of the total provincial grasslands.

Much of the area around Noble and Barnhartvale/Scuitto is contained within a grazing lease. These grazing leases were issued many years ago, primarily for grazing purposes. Entry onto a grazing lease requires the permission of the lease holder; however, the ranchers in this area have not previously raised concerns about recreational activity choosing rather to support integrated use. They have always been aware and have monitored the amount of ORV use that occurs on their grazing leases. Recently, due to the increase of ORV use in the Noble and Barnhartvale/Scuitto areas, concerns about damage to the rangeland resource have been raised. We have begun to educate and when necessary, enforce, that they are recreating on a grazing leases and are therefore, trespassing.

Below, we have tried to describe the difference between a grazing lease and grazing licence.

A “grazing lease” (under the *Land Act*) Section 65 of the *Land Act*, the lease can exclude others and the lease holder may take legal action against persons who trespass, as provided under the *Trespass Act*.

A “grazing licence” (issued under the *Range Act*) only offers access to the forage in an area. The grazing licence provides an authorization for grazing livestock, in support of industries such as the beef and guide outfitting industries, in areas that also support other business or recreational activity. The goal is sustainable, integrated use.