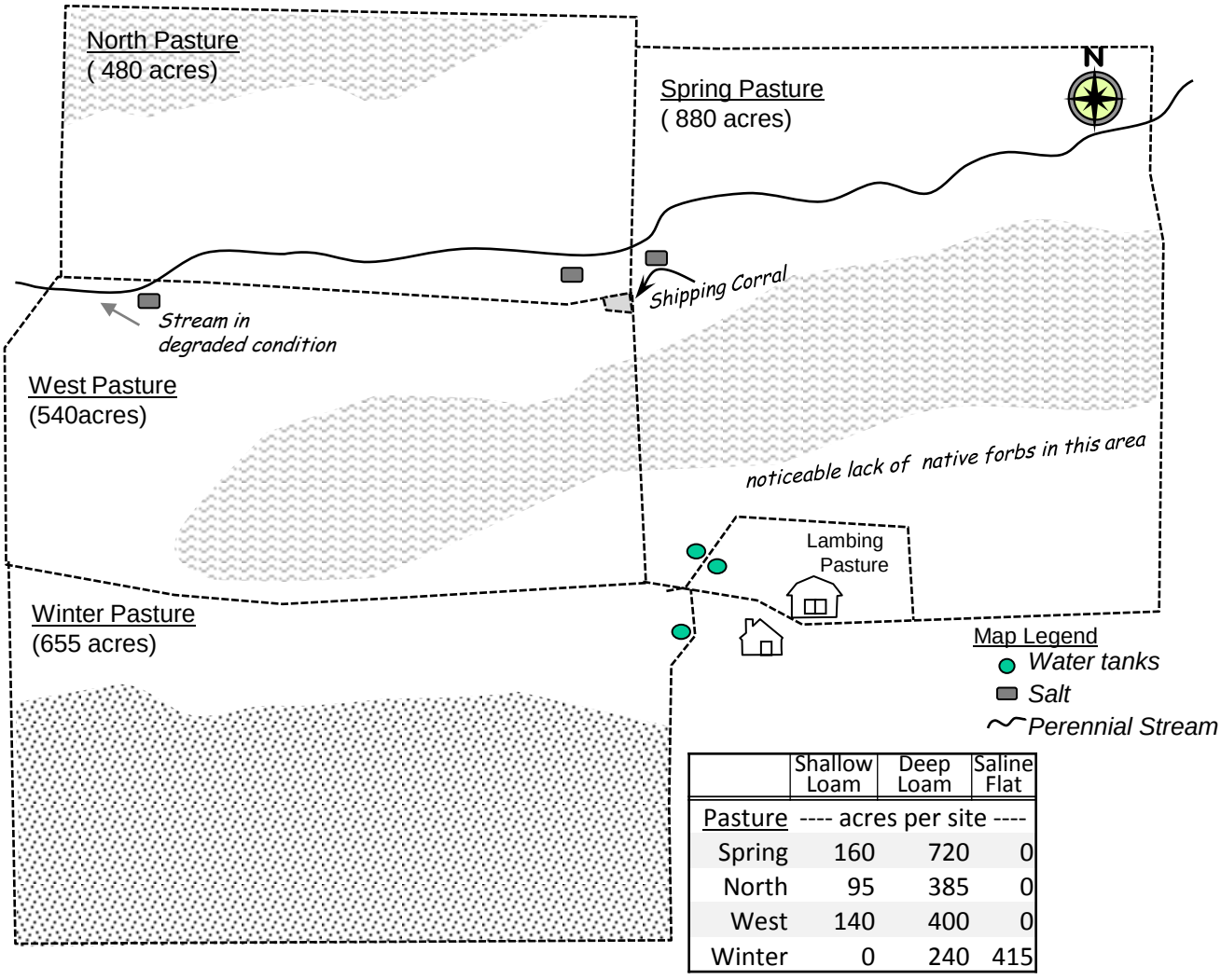
Western National Rangeland Assessment Event
Management Scenario- 2010

The map below depicts a 2,555 acre sheep ranch in the Great Basin region in south central Idaho. This ranch is grazed with 405 sheep. The sheep are managed like a large farm flock operation with 4 mules (1.25 AUE) serving as guard animals.

The sheep are brought into the lambing pasture in March and fed hay as they lamb out in March (i.e., they are shed lambed). Once the sheep have lambed, they are turned into the Spring Pasture (about April 1st). And they graze there till the forage gets limited about late July. Then, they are moved to the North Pasture and stay there till mid-October when the lambs are weaned and sold. The ewes are then moved to the West Pasture. They graze in this pasture till December and then are turned to the Winter Pasture where they graze from January through February when they start to lamb and are moved to the barn and lambing pasture.



	Shallow Loam	Deep Loam	Saline Flat
Pasture	---- acres per site ----		
Spring	160	720	0
North	95	385	0
West	140	400	0
Winter	0	240	415

Shallow Loam Site –
Shallow loamy soils on rocky hillsides. Dominated by grasses and shrubs. Produces on average **500 pounds/acre** (ranging from 300 to 700 lbs/acre depending on year). Recommended use for this ecological site is 40%.

Deep Loamy Site -
Mostly native grasses and forbs with big sagebrush. Produces about **800 pounds/acre** each year (from 600 to 1,000 pounds acre depending on precipitation). Recommended use of forage on this site is 45%.

Saline Flat Site -
Deep and gravelly site with evidence of soil salinity. Mostly native grasses with shadscale and four wing saltbrush. Produces about **350 pounds/acre** each year. Recommended use of forage on this site is 45%.

Part 2 – Rangeland Management (150 points)

2A. Stocking Rate and Management Recommendations *(90 points)*

Example Problem available at: http://www.cnr.uidaho.edu/range/WNRCDE.htm

Supply of usable forage = 772,563 pounds **OR** 1,030 AUMs *(20 pts)*

Forage demand = 709,500 pounds **OR** 946 AUMs *(20 pts)*

Determine if the stocking rate is appropriate for the site. *(Check appropriate box; 10 pts)*

☐ Decrease Stocking Rate ☒ Increase Stocking Rate ☐ Keep Rate the Same

Show Calculations: Supply

	Shallow Loam	Deep Loam	Saline Flat
Pasture	-------- acres per site ----------		
Spring	160	720	0
North	95	385	0
West	140	400	0
Winter	0	240	415
Tot Acres =	395	1,745	415
Pounds/Acre =	500	800	350
Total Pounds	197,500	1,396,000	145,250
Recommen. Use =	40%	45%	45%
Pounds Usable =	79,000	628,200	65,363

Total Pounds Usable Forage =	772,563
Total AUMs =	1,030

Demand

405 sheep ÷ 5 = 81 AU x 11 = 891 AUM

4 mules x 1.25 = 5 AU x 11 = 55 AUM

946 AUM

x 750 lbs/AUM

709,500 lbs of demand

Choose management activities that apply to this site *(Select all that apply; 4 pts each and 40 pts total)*

- ☒ Defer from spring grazing
- ☐ Rest from grazing for a growing season
- ☒ Install a rotation grazing system
- ☐ Add or revise fencing
- ☒ Develop additional water sites
- ☐ Control brush or trees and/or noxious weeds
- ☐ Seed or interseed with adapted species
- ☐ Reduce human recreation activities on site
- ☐ Manage for endangered species
- ☒ Change salt location