

m 1984-85



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
CARSON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE

1050 E. William St., Suite 335
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Background data

1984-85

Flanigan Herd Use Area

General Information

The Flanigan Herd Use Area is located entirely within the Flanigan Allotment, which is situated approximately 60 miles north of Reno in the Virginia Mountains. The wild horses range over the entire winter and summer range running from the north end of the Virginia Mountains to the Susanville District Boundary. The herd use area encompasses all of the BLM acreage of 56,639 acres and 2,700 acres of private land. Fish Springs Ranch Ltd. has a cattle grazing permit for 5,062 AUMs with use taking place from 3/1 thru 10/31.

*Fish Spr. Ranch
7368 AUM
84-4977
85-3433
86-3285
3815 offer preference*

Census Information

The Flanigan Herd Inventory is as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Horses</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1962	140	Estimate
1973	96	Aerial Inventory
1975	130	Aerial Inventory
1976	164	Aerial Inventory
1978	168	Aerial Inventory
1979	216	Estimate
1983	275	Aerial (Incomplete)
1984	400-600	Estimate of Total Numbers
85	<i>now 357 want 100</i>	<i>351 gathered Sept. 85 297</i>

Gather Information

12% increase

1976	59 Head Removed
1978	17 Head Introduced (Forced by Closure of Palomino Valley Corral due to Court Suit)
1979	3 Head Introduced (Horses Tagged - Migration Study)

Grazing Permit

Increased grazing use by horses and their expanding range forced the former grazing permittee, Fish Springs Ranch, to remove cattle from the Flanigan Allotment and acquire grazing lands outside of the Carson City District.

Management Plans

A Wild Horse Management Plan was completed in 1976, but a law suit by A.H.P.A. prohibited implementation of the plan. Continued lack of funding has prevented any subsequent removal of horses.

1) It says Inventory - 2) NMA boundaries

1984 EXHIBIT F

Actual use (AUMs)
Average/Weighted
Average Utilization

Potential Actual Use (AUMs)
Desired Average Utilization

$\frac{456}{75\%} = \frac{x}{40\%*}$

- 243 AUMs north of Telephone Pole Canyon. Thus 213 AUMs of horses need to be removed, 213/12 = 18 horses removed north of Telephone Pole Canyon.

* 40% was used here instead of 55% because there are no key species in this area due to severe over utilization by wild horses, 40% is the recommended utilization level for interim species.

The 114 wild horses south of Telephone Pole Canyon (within the HMA) = 1368 AUMs of wild horses. There are also 835 AUMs of cattle use in this area. Thus the total demand for AUMs south of Telephone Pole Canyon (within the HMA) is 2203.

Using the above formula results in a need to reduce 587 AUMs south of Telephone Pole Canyon. Wild horse use comprises 62% of the AUMs south of Telephone Pole Canyon. Therefore 364 AUMs (30 wild horses) of wild horse use need to be removed. Also 223 AUMs of cattle need to be removed.

Allotment wide cattle use has been reduced by 1200 AUMs which results in an estimated 216 AUM reduction of cattle use within the HMA, which very closely coincides with the 223 AUM reduction stated above.

[Faint signature]
James V. Elliott
District Manager

significant impact (21 pp)

APPENDIX A

In order to meet both the HMA and allotment management plan objectives, adjustments in wild horses and cattle both inside and outside of the HMA area are required. Current vegetation monitoring indicates that the HMA will support approximately 1248 AUMs of wild horse use taken yearlong. Therefore, to properly manage the vegetative resource the wild horses will be adjusted to an average population of 104. Further monitoring data will be collected and analyzed, after the population is adjusted, to determine if this adjusted population level will be established as a new Appropriate Management Level (AML) for the HMA.

Based on the Flanigan AMP, livestock will take a 24% or 1200 AUM reduction (monitoring justifies only a reduction of 991 AUMs) and will defer use in the summer portion of the HMA until boot stage of bluebunch wheatgrass, approximately June 15. Fish Springs Ranch, Inc. agreed to a reduction above which is supported by monitoring information, because they realize that the vegetation will improve faster if additional AUMs are reduced.

Juniper Basin will be utilized by domestic livestock only in the winter thus ensuring non-competitive use of this area by wild horses from spring through the fall.

Determination of wild horse and livestock numbers to be in balance with the habitat limitations:

The Flanigan HMA contains 15,674 acres of both public and private land.

From utilization records the average utilization within the HMA from 1986 - 1988 is 75%.

Within the Flanigan allotment cattle use can be broken down into sections. From actual use data and habitat utilization studies it is estimated that 2692 AUM's of cattle used 34900 acres of land, of which the HMA is incorporated.

Of the 15674 available acres within the HMA 4907 acres are not used by cattle because the permittee did not place his cattle in this area due to severe over utilization by wild horses. This leaves 10767 acres of the HMA which is used by both cattle and wild horses. Thus 10767 acres comprises 31% of the 34900 acres used by cattle. This results in 835 AUMs (average for 86-88) of cattle use within the HMA. Cattle have not used the area north of Telephone Canyon (4907 acres) for at least the past 5 years.

An average of 62% of the wild horses are outside of the HMA. Thus, of the 399 (1987 census) total population 152 wild horses are inside the HMA. From census and population data it has been determined that 25% of these wild horses use the area north of Telephone Pole Canyon. Therefore 38 wild horses are north of Telephone Pole Canyon within the HMA and 114 wild horses are south of Telephone Pole Canyon within the HMA.

Using the accepted formula for making animal adjustments it is determined that 18 wild horses need to be removed from the area north of Telephone Pole Canyon.

MAP # 4

1987-88

UTILIZATION CLASS

SEVERE
(81-100%)

HEAVY
(61-80%)

MODERATE
(41-60%)

LIGHT
(21-40%)

SLIGHT
(0-20%)

TYPE USE

HORSE

CATTLE

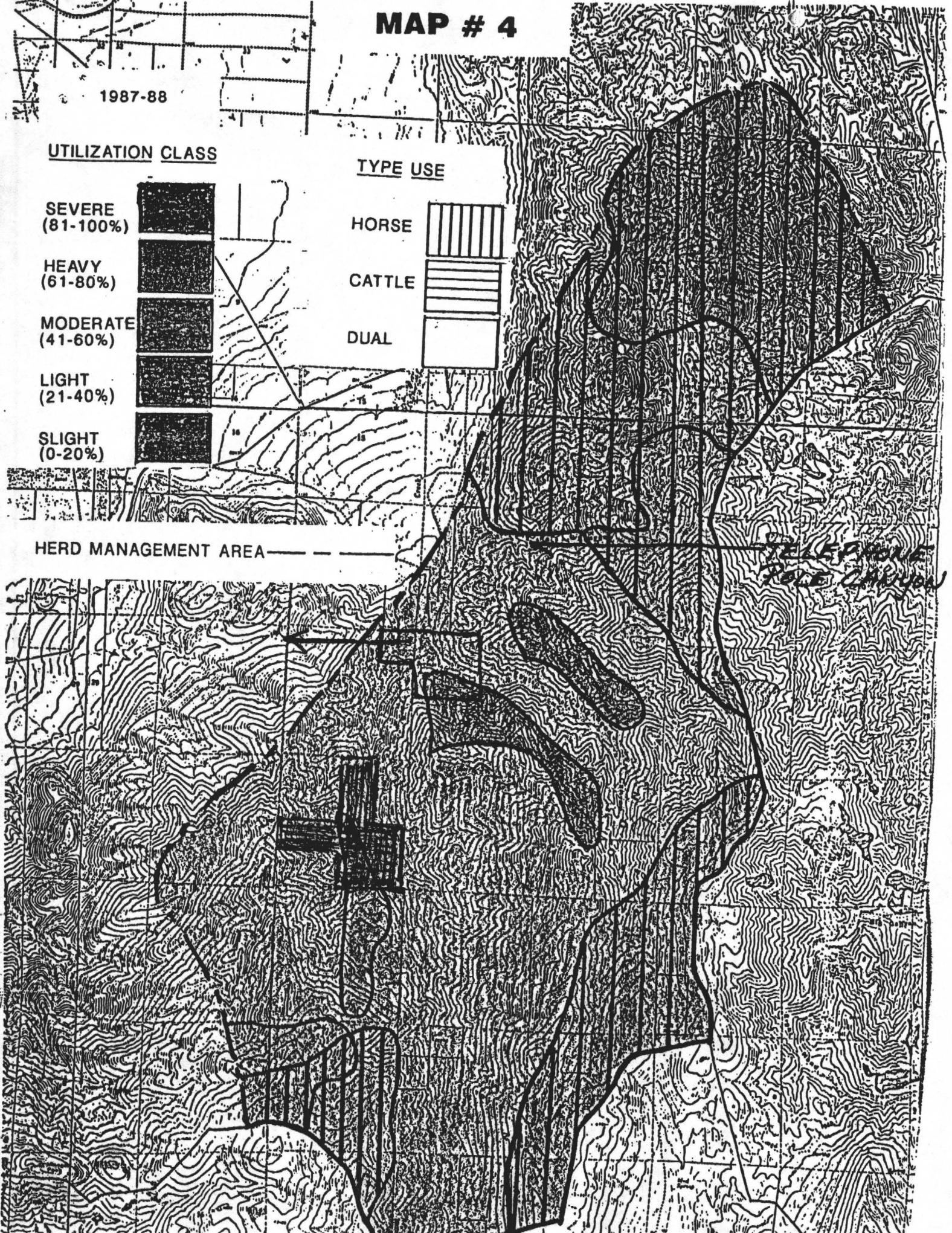
DUAL

HERD MANAGEMENT AREA

TELEPHONE
POLE LOCATION

COMPARISON

1989 EXHIBIT T



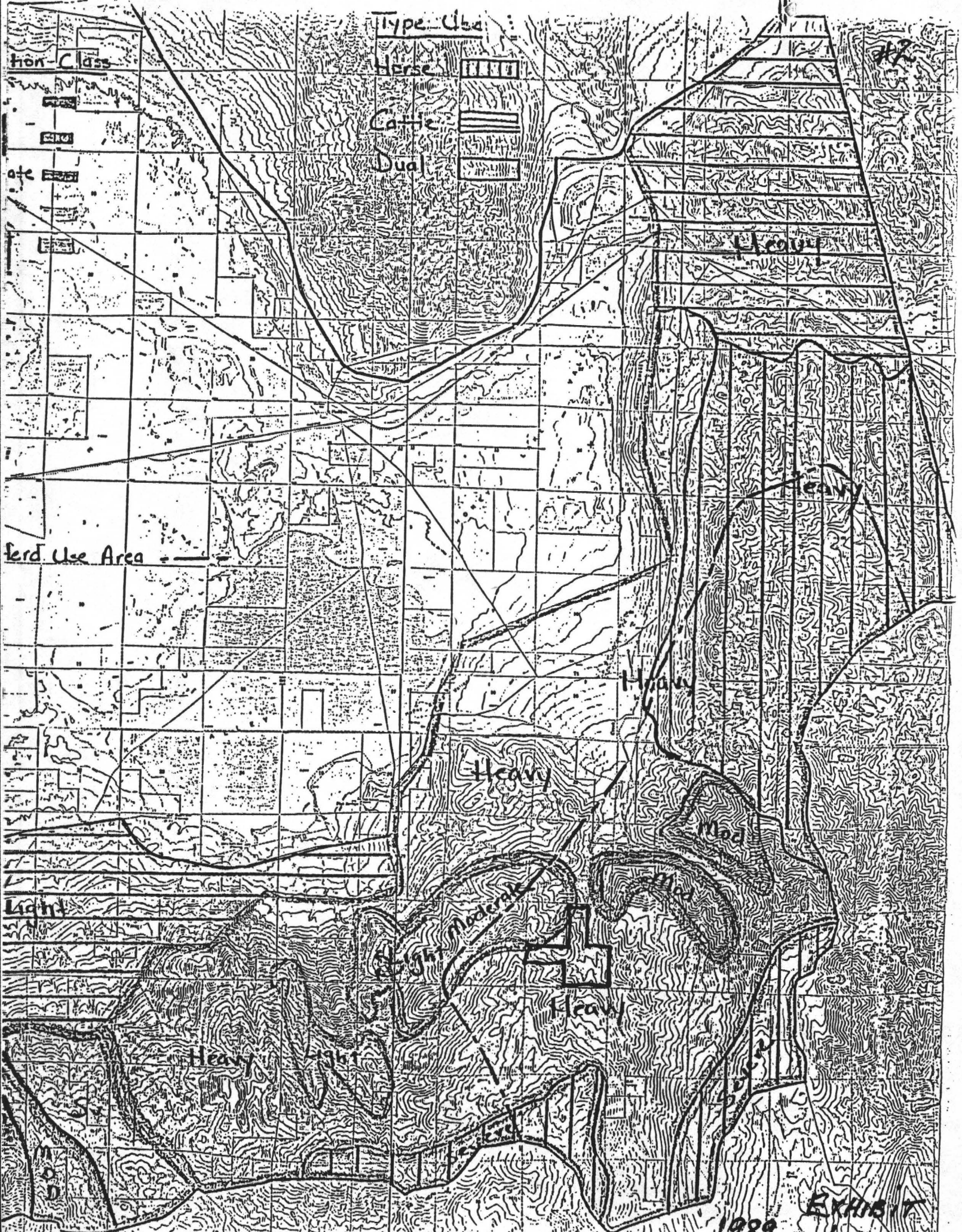


Existing Fence
Proposed Spring Development
Existing Well
Proposed Well
Photo Plot
Frequency Plot
Proposed Frequency
Spring Spring

EXHIBIT

1989 M

ON DELETED AREA VS 1989 UMA



Type Use

Horse Class

Horse

Cattle

Dual

Heavy

Heavy

Ferd Use Area

Heavy

Medium

Light

Slight

Heavy

Heavy

1989

EKHISIT

FLANIGAN HERD BOUNDARY

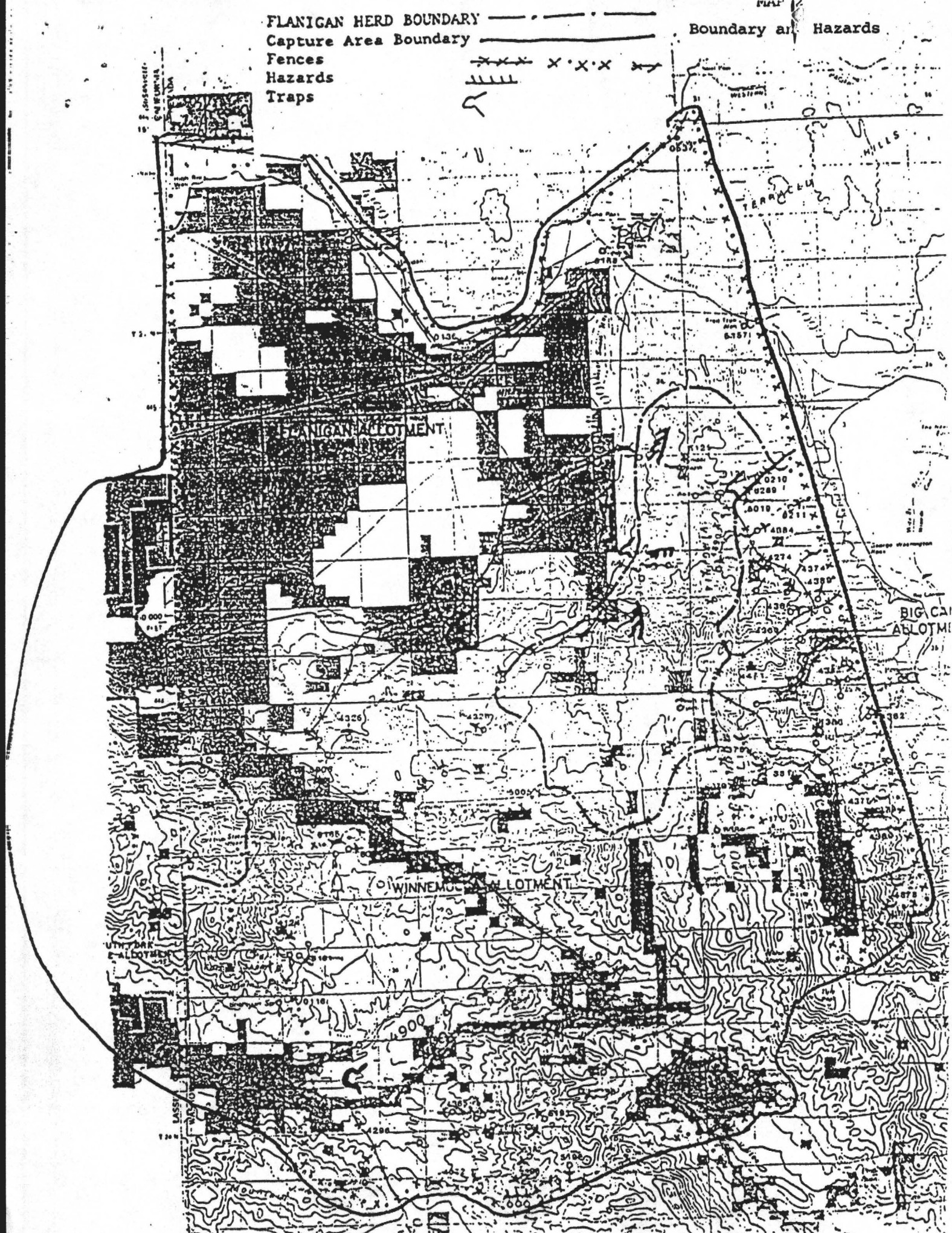
Capture Area Boundary

Fences

Hazards

Traps

Boundary and Hazards



1989 EXHIBIT K

Table 2. Flanigan Herd Composition
Adapted from aerial survey - 2/1973

Band No.	Total	Studs	Colts	Mares	Yearlings	Unknown
1	14	1	4	9	0	
2	3	3	0	0	0	
3	9	1	2	6	0	
4	12	1	2	6	3	
5	10	1	3	4	2	
6	2	2*	0	0	0	
7	3	3	0	0	0	
8	12	1	2	6	3	
9	4	1	1	2	0	
10	4	4	0	0	0	
11	8	1	3	4	0	
12	5	1	2	2	0	
13	8	1	3	4	0	
14	2	2	0	0	0	
	96	23	22	43	8	0

*Located on East side of Division Fence between Flanigan and Big Canyon Allotments

EXHIBIT J

PROPOSED PERMANENT FACILITIES (PURPLE)

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1 - MARL HOLDING & SORTING CORRAL & PIPELINE | 5 - E. VIRGINIA PEAK WING TRAP |
| 2 - TRAIL CONSTRUCTION | 6 - COTTONWOOD CANYON WING TRAP |
| 3 - UPPER ADOBE SP. WATER TRAP | |
| 4 - FENCE CONSTRUCTION | |

Additional
Topographic Map



FLANIGAN ALLOT.
BOUNDARY (RED)

PRIVATE LANDS
(GREEN)

NATIONAL RESOURCE
LANDS (WHITE)

EXHIBIT

1976 & 1984

A