

m 4-20-90



United States Department of the Interior  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
ELY DISTRICT OFFICE  
Star Route 5, Box 1  
Ely, Nevada, 89301



IN REPLY REFER TO:

4130  
(NV-046)

CERTIFIED MAIL No. P 569 361 760  
Return Receipt Requested

APR 20 1990

Mr. Roy Shurtz  
Box 1434  
Elko, Nevada 89801

*99 horses*  
*1188 AUMS*  
*in HMAS*

*16 head on Dry Lake*  
*48 head on Wilson Creek*  
*64 768 AUMS*

NOTICE OF PROPOSED MULTIPLE USE DECISION  
FOR THE GEYSER RANCH ALLOTMENT

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Management Framework Plan and the Record of Decision for the Schell Grazing Environmental Impact Statement were issued in June and July of 1983, respectively. These documents guide the management of public lands within the Geysier Ranch Allotment. The Schell Resource Area Record of Decision dated July 1983 states in pertinent part:

"When adequate monitoring data becomes available adjustments to the grazing capacity will be made that are compatible with the multiple use objectives...

Implementation of the range management program will take place through monitoring and consultation and coordination with all interests concerned with the management of resources in a given local area; landowners, land management agencies, wildlife groups, wild horse groups, conservation organizations, etc. Grazing adjustments, if required, will be based upon reliable vegetation monitoring studies, consultation and coordination, baseline inventory, or a combination of these...

Prior to initiating grazing adjustments, the Bureau, within the guidance of the Management Framework Plan and consultation and coordination, will consider the specific management objectives for an allotment and other resource values (e.g., riparian habitat, water quality, wildlife, recreation, wild horses and livestock) to be evaluated in determining progress in meeting these objectives. Changes in the resource values may warrant a modification of the scheduled adjustments and thus indicate the intensity and types of monitoring that will be required in each allotment..."

Monitoring studies were initially established in 1971 and have been conducted since that time. In accordance with Bureau policy and regulations, this data has been analyzed and evaluated in order to determine progress in meeting management objectives for the Geysers Ranch Allotment. Input was received from the landowner, the lessee, two wild horse groups, two wildlife agencies, two livestock interest groups, and three environmental interest groups.

See Appendices I, II, III, and IV for the management objectives for livestock, wild horses, wildlife, and riparian areas on the allotment. These objectives are in conformance with and formulated to accomplish the Schell Land Use Plan multiple use objectives as they relate to all grazing use on the Geysers Ranch Allotment.

BASED UPON THE EVALUATION OF MONITORING DATA FOR THE GEYSERS RANCH ALLOTMENT, RECOMMENDATIONS FROM DISTRICT STAFF, AND INPUT RECEIVED THROUGH CONSULTATION, COORDINATION, AND COOPERATION FROM THE PERMITTEE AND PUBLIC INTEREST GROUPS, THE PROPOSED DECISION IS AS FOLLOWS:

The analysis of monitoring data has revealed that the multiple use objectives for the Geysers Ranch Allotment are not being met due to the existing grazing use by livestock and wild horses. This analysis also shows that the existing management of wildlife does not contribute to the failure in meeting these multiple use objectives. Therefore, this decision proposes changes in livestock and wild horse use and not to wildlife.

#### LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT DECISION

In accordance with 43 CFR 4110.3 and 4130.6-1 (a), the current authorized livestock active use shall be changed:

FROM:

Number	Kind	Period of Use	% PL	Active AUMs
1,026	Cattle	03/01 to 02/28	100	12,308

(Note: The Geysers Ranch AMP, dated 1978, second revision established the management of livestock in this allotment. This AMP allowed up to 4500 AUMs of flexibility without prior authorization from the BLM.)

TO:

Number	Kind	Period of Use	% PL	Active AUMs
1,209	Cattle	04/01 to 01/31	100	12,093
43	Cattle	11/01 to 03/31	100	215

Livestock use will be authorized by established units (Refer to attached Map) not to exceed the carrying capacity as determined through the continued monitoring procedures.

Authorized livestock use effective October 16, 1990 is as follows:

Area	No. & Kind	Period of Use	Active Aums
Unit I (North)	549 Cattle	4-01 thru 1-31	5490
Unit II (Middle)	366 Cattle	4-01 thru 1-31	3663
Unit III (South)	294 Cattle	4-01 thru 1-31	2940
Bull (Winter) Pastures	43 Cattle	11-01 thru 3-31	215

In accordance with 43 CFR 4120.2(a), 4130.6-2, the following terms and conditions are hereby made a part of the grazing permit on the Geysers Ranch Allotment:

Management of livestock in Geysers Ranch Allotment will be in accordance with the Geysers Ranch AMP dated 1978 second revision, as modified by the following management actions:

Livestock will be moved as prescribed in the grazing schedules (four-pasture rest-rotation) for each unit. Treatments for the four pasture rest-rotation will be as follows:

- pasture one, commence grazing on April 1, utilization not to exceed 60% on key species.
- pasture two, grazing is deferred until grass phenology is in late boot stage, utilization not to exceed 60% on key species.
- pasture three, grazing is deferred until grass phenology is in seed ripe stage, utilization not to exceed 60% on key species.
- pasture four is rested yearlong.

Treatments for the other pastures will be as follows:

- West and East Bull (Winter) pastures, commence grazing on/or after November 1 thru March 31, utilization not to exceed 45% on key shrubs and 55% on key grasses.
- Riparian Pasture, when constructed in 1991, will be grazed from April 1 thru June 30, with 175 AUMs available for livestock use, utilization will not exceed 30 percent on aspen and willow and 50% for grass and grass-like species along North Creek and Geysers Creek.

When livestock are moved out of a pasture, gates will be closed.

Livestock will be herded to improve distribution and salt will be placed at least 1/4 mile from water.

Actual use will be submitted within 15 days of completing annual grazing use.

When yearling cattle are used, animal unit computations will be based on one (1) yearling month is equivalent to one (1) cow month.

Future monitoring data will be evaluated in the third and fifth year following this decision to determine if any adjustments are necessary and/or if any additional modifications in existing management will be necessary.

RATIONALE: The analysis and evaluation of available monitoring data indicates that the current management practices must be modified to meet the multiple use management objectives for the Geyser Ranch Allotment as identified in Appendix I, II, III, and IV. Increased intensity of management (construction of a riparian pasture, and other management practices) will provide needed control of grazing use to maintain the riparian and aquatic condition on North and Geyser Creeks, to improve the condition of Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep range, and to allow other multiple use objectives to be met.

AUTHORITY: The authority for this decision is contained in Title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which states in pertinent parts:

4100.0-8: "The authorized officer shall manage livestock grazing on public lands under the principle of multiple use and sustained yield, and in accordance with applicable land use plans. Land use plans shall establish allowable resource uses (either singly or in combination), related levels of production or use to be maintained, areas of use and resource condition goals and objectives to be obtained. The plans also set forth program constraints and general management practices needed to achieve management objectives. Livestock grazing activities and management actions approved by the authorized officer shall be in conformance with the land use plan as defined at 43 CFR 1601.0-5(b)."

4110.3: "The authorized officer shall periodically review the grazing preference specified in a grazing permit or grazing lease and may make changes in the grazing preference status. These changes shall be supported by monitoring, as evidenced by rangeland studies conducted over time, unless the change is either specified in an applicable land use plan or necessary to manage, maintain or improve rangeland productivity."

4120.2(a): "The allotment management plan shall include terms and conditions under sections 4130.6, 4130.6-1, 4130.6-2 and 4130.6-3 of this title, and shall prescribe the livestock grazing practices necessary to meet specific multiple-use management objectives."

4130.6: "Livestock grazing permits and leases shall contain terms and conditions necessary to achieve the management objectives for the public lands and other lands under Bureau of Land Management administration."

4130.6-1(a): "The authorized officer shall specify the kind and number of livestock, the period(s) of use, the allotment(s) to be used, and the amount of use, in animal unit months, for every grazing permit or lease. The authorized livestock grazing use shall not exceed the livestock carrying capacity as determined through monitoring and adjusted as necessary under sections 4110.3, 4110.3-1 and 4110.3-2."

4130.6-2: "The authorized officer may specify in grazing permits and leases other terms and conditions which will assist in achieving management objectives, provide for proper range management or assist in the orderly administration of the public rangelands..."

PROTEST/APPEAL:

If you wish to protest this decision, in whole or in part, you are allowed fifteen (15) days from receipt of this notice within which to file a protest with the Schell Resource Area Manager, Star Route 5 Box 1, Ely, Nevada 89301.

In the absence of a protest within the time allowed, the above proposed decision shall constitute my final decision. Should this notice become the final decision and you wish to appeal this decision for the purpose of a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge, in accordance with 43 CFR 4160.3 and 4160.4, you are allowed thirty (30) days within which to file such an appeal with the Schell Resource Area Manager, at the above address. The appeal should state clearly and concisely why you think the decision is in error.

WILD HORSE AND BURRO MANAGEMENT DECISION

It has been determined through monitoring that a thriving natural ecological balance will be obtained by maintaining wild horse numbers at an appropriate management level of 16 on the Dry Lake Herd Management Area and 48 on the Wilson Creek Herd Management Area in the Geyser Ranch Allotment.

In accordance with 43 CFR 4700.0-6(a), wild horse use on the Geyser Ranch Allotment shall be managed at 16 animals on the Dry Lake Herd Management Area and 48 animals on the Wilson Creek Herd Management Area.

In accordance with 43 CFR 4720.1, all wild horses in excess of the appropriate management level of 16 animals on the Dry Lake Herd Management Area and 48 animals on the Wilson Creek Herd Management Area will be removed.

RATIONALE: The analysis and evaluation of available monitoring data indicates that management actions for wild horses must be modified to meet multiple use management objectives on the Geysers Ranch Allotment as identified in Appendix I, II, III and IV. The data indicate that there are 768 AUMs available for wild horse use. The removal of excess wild horses is necessary to establish and maintain a thriving natural ecological balance and prevent a deterioration of the rangeland resources.

AUTHORITY: The authority for this decision is contained in Sec. 3(a) and (b) of the Wild-Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act (P.L. 92-195) as amended and in Title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which states in pertinent parts:

4700.0-6(a): "Wild horses and burros shall be managed as self-sustaining populations of healthy animals in balance with other uses and the productive capacity of their habitat."

4710.4: "Management of wild horses and burros shall be undertaken with the objective of limiting the animals' distribution to herd areas. Management shall be at the minimum level necessary to attain the objectives identified in approved land use plans and herd management area plans."

4720.1: "Upon examination of current information and a determination by the authorized officer that an excess of wild horses or burros exists, the authorized officer shall remove the excess animals immediately..."

PROTEST/APPEAL:

In accordance with 43 CFR 4770.3 which states in part:

"Any person who is adversely affected by a decision of the authorized officer in the administration of these regulations may file an appeal in accordance with 43 CFR 4.4 within 30 days of receipt of the written decision."

Although these regulations allow for an appeal with no mention of a protest, for the purpose of consistency the multiple use decision will be initially sent as a "Proposed" decision. If no protests are received within fifteen days, the proposed decision shall constitute the final decision, which may then be appealed.

Should you wish to appeal this decision as it pertains to wild horses to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, you are required to appeal in accordance with 43 CFR 4.400. An appeal should specify the reasons, clearly and concisely, as to why you think the decision is in error and a statement of standing, if necessary as per 43 CFR 4.400.

*Gerald M. Smith*

Gerald M. Smith, Manager  
Schell Resource Area

	(Certified Mail No.)
cc: Natural Resources Defense Council	(P 569 361 761)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	(P 569 361 762)
Nevada Department of Wildlife, Region II	(P 569 361 763)
Animal Protection Institute of America	(P 569 361 764)
Wild Horse Organized Assistance	(P 569 361 765)
Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses	(P 569 361 766)
Rangeland Data Source	(P 569 361 767)
Nevada Cattlemen's Association	(P 569 361 768)
Nevada State Grazing Board, N-4	(P 569 361 769)
Nevada Outdoor Recreation Association	(P 569 361 770)
Sierra Club, Toiyabe Chapter	(P 569 361 771)
Nevada Department of Wildlife, Region III	(P 569 361 772)
Resource Concepts, Inc.	(P 569 361 773)
Marvel & Hansen, Attorneys at Law	(P 569 361 774)

APPENDIX I: Land Use Plan/Activity Plan Objectives

A. Land Use Plan/Rangeland Program Summary Objectives

1. Livestock

a. The short term objective will be accomplished through managing the allowable use levels (AUL) by season of use to improve or maintain the desired vegetation community.

b. The long term objective is to improve those acres in poor or fair livestock forage condition and maintain all acres presently in good livestock forage condition by managing for those seral stages which optimize livestock forage production.

2. Wild Horses

a. The short term objective is to be accomplished by managing the allowable use levels (AUL) for wild horses by season to improve or maintain the desired vegetation community.

b. The long term objective is to manage for the most appropriate seral stages to provide the desired quantity, quality, variety, and density of forage in order to meet the requirements of the wild horses.

3. Mule Deer

a. The short term objective is to limit use on key species listed for mule deer range to 60 percent for perennial grasses, grass-like plants and forbs; and to 45 percent for shrubs yearlong.

b. The long term objective is to improve or maintain the habitat condition of key/crucial areas in good or excellent condition.

4. Pronghorn Antelope

a. The short term objective is to limit use on key species listed for pronghorn antelope range to 60 percent for perennial grasses, grass-like plants and forbs; and to 45 percent for shrubs yearlong.

b. The long term objective is to maintain antelope range in at least fair habitat condition by providing the appropriate vegetation quantity and quality.



5. Elk

a. The short term objective is to limit use on key species listed for elk to 55 percent for native perennial grasses and 60 percent for seeded perennial grasses yearlong.

b. The long term objective is to manage the native range for late mid seral stage to the Potential Natural Community (PNC) with high diversity of forage species.

6. Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep

a. The short term objective is to limit use on key species listed for rocky mountain bighorn sheep to 55 percent for native perennial grasses yearlong.

b. The long term objective is to manage the native range for late mid seral stage to the Potential Natural Community (PNC) with high diversity of forage species.

7. Ferruginous Hawk

a. The short term objective is to limit use on winterfat near the occupied ferruginous hawk nest to 60 percent yearlong.

b. The long term objective are to manage winterfat stands (silty range sites) near occupied Ferruginous hawk nests in mid to late seral stage. Maintain integrity of existing pinyon-juniper "stringers" near winterfat stands (silty range sites).

8. Stream Habitat

a. The short term objective is to limit use to 30 percent on aspen and willow and other riparian vegetation along North Creek and Geyser Creek.

b. The long Term objective is to maintain bank cover and bank stability at over 60 percent of optimum on North Creek and Geyser Creek.

9. Riparian Areas

a. The short term objective is to limit use on wet meadows and stream riparian areas in less than good condition to 30 percent for grass and grass-like species by all animals yearlong and to limit use on all other wet meadows and stream riparian areas to 50 percent for grass and grass-like species by all animals yearlong.

b. The long term objective is to manage all wet meadows for late seral stages (80-85 percent grass and grass-like plants, 10-15 percent forbs, and 5 percent shrubs); and to manage all stream riparian areas for good to excellent condition (based on greater than 50 percent cover of riparian plant species and rock).

APPENDIX II: Site Specific Allotment Objective

ALLOTMENT: Geysers Range - Native Range (Livestock & Wildlife)

Study No.	Key Area Location	Ecological Site No.	Key Species	PRESENT SITUATION		LONG TERM OBJECTIVE			SHORT TERM OBJECTIVE				Rationale
				Key Spp % Comp By Weight	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Maintain or Improve	Key Spp % Comp By Weight	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Allowable Use Level	Season of Use	Met or Not Met		
GRR1 1)	North Creek	028BY038NV Mt. Ridge 12-16"	POSE-4%	Grasses- 8% Forbs -12% Shrubs -78%	Mid. (44%)	Improve	POSE-6-10% Grasses-20% Forbs -12% Shrubs -68%	early late	60%	Y/L	Met	Allowable use level not exceeded	

1) Study area representing livestock and wildlife use.

APPENDIX II: Site Specific Allotment Objectives

ALLOTMENT: Geyser Ranch - Seeding (Livestock & Wild Horses)

Study No.	Key Area Location	Ecological Site No.	Key Species	PRESENT SITUATION		LONG TERM OBJECTIVE		SHORT TERM OBJECTIVE				
				Key Spp % Comp By Cover	Livestock Forage Condition)	Maintain or Improve	Key Spp % Comp By Cover (not Less than)	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Allowable Use Level	Season of Use	Met or Not Met	Rationale
4-10 1)	Pasture 1 West	N/A	AGCR	55	Good	Maintain	55	N/A	60	Y/L	Not Met	70% Use 1985
4-9 1)	Pasture 1 East	N/A	AGCR	99	Good	Maintain	95	N/A	60	Y/L	Not Met	70% Use 1985
4-13 1)	Pasture 2 North	N/A	AGCR	100	Good	Maintain	95	N/A	60	Y/L	Not Met	70% 1983 70% 1984
4-15 1)	Pasture 3 North	N/A	AGCR	100	Good	Maintain	95	N/A	60	Y/L	Not Met	61% use in 1983, 1984

1) Study area representing livestock use.

APPENDIX II: Site Specific Allotment Objectives

ALLOTMENT: Geyser Ranch - Seeding (Livestock & Wild Horses)

Study No.	Key Area Location	Ecological Site No.	Key Species	PRESENT SITUATION		LONG TERM OBJECTIVE			SHORT TERM OBJECTIVE			
				Key Spp % Comp By Cover	Livestock Forage Condition	Maintain or Improve	Key Spp % Comp By Cover (not Less than)	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Allowable Use Level	Season of Use	Met or Not Met	Rationale
4-20 1)	Pasture 4 North	N/A	AGCR	50%	Good	Maintain	50%	N/A	60	Y/L	Not Met	AGCR 70% 1985
4-21 1)	Pasture 4 East	N/A	AGCR	100%	Good	Maintain	95%	N/A	60	Y/L	Not Met	AGCR 70% 1985
4-23 1)	Pasture 4 West	N/A	ORHY PUTR	24% 73%	Good	Maintain	24% 73%	N/A	60	Y/L	Met	Allowable use levels not exceeded
4-22 1)	Pasture 5 West	N/A	AGCR	100%	Good	Maintain	95%	N/A	60	Y/L	Met	Allowable use levels not exceeded
4-24 1)	Pasture 5 East	N/A	AGCR	89%	Good	Maintain	89%	N/A	60	Y/L	Not Met	AGCR 61% Use 1985
4-41 1)	Pasture 6 West	N/A	ELJU	100%	Good	Maintain	95%	N/A	60	Y/L	Met	Allowable use levels not exceeded

1) Study area representing livestock use.

APPENDIX II: Site Specific Allotment Objectives

ALLOTMENT: Geyser Ranch - Seeding (Livestock & Wild Horses)

Study No.	Key Area Location	Ecological Site No.	Key Species	PRESENT SITUATION		LONG TERM OBJECTIVE			SHORT TERM OBJECTIVE			
				Key Spp % Comp By Cover	Livestock Forage Condition	Maintain or Improve	Key Spp % Comp By Cover (not Less than)	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Allowable Use Level	Season of Use	Met or Not Met	Rationale
4-42 1)	Pasture 6 East	N/A	ELJU	75%	Good	Maintain	75%	N/A	60	Y/L	Met	Allowable use not exceeded
4-40 1)	Pasture 7 West	N/A	ELJU	53%	Good	Maintain	53%	N/A	60	Y/L	Met	Allowable use not exceeded
4-39 1)	Pasture 7 East	N/A	AGCR	100%	Good	Maintain	95%	N/A	60	Y/L	Met	Allowable use not exceeded
4-35 1)	Pasture 8 South	N/A	AGCR	20%	Fair	Improve	20%	N/A	60	Y/L	Met	Allowable use not exceeded
4-25 1)	Pasture 8 West	N/A	AGCR	46%	Good	Maintain	46%	N/A	60	Y/L	Met	Allowable use not exceeded
4-30 1)	Pasture 8 Central	N/A	AGCR	51%	Good	Maintain	51%	N/A	60	Y/L	Met	Allowable use not exceeded

1) Study Area representing livestock use.

APPENDIX II: Site Specific Allotment Objectives

ALLOTMENT: Geyser Ranch - Seeding (Livestock & Wild Horses)

Study No.	Key Area Location	Ecological Site No.	Key Species	PRESENT SITUATION		LONG TERM OBJECTIVE		SHORT TERM OBJECTIVE				
				Key Spp % Comp By Cover	Livestock Forage Condition	Maintain or Improve	Key Spp % Comp By Cover (not Less than)	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Allowable Use Level	Season of Use	Met or Not Met	Rationale
4-31 1)	Pasture 8 North	N/A	AGCR	41%	Fair	Improve	41%	N/A	60	Y/L	Met	Allowable use not exceeded
4-34 1)	Pasture 9 West	N/A	AGCR	83%	Good	Maintain	83%	N/A	60	Y/L	Met	Allowable use not exceeded
4-36 2)	Pasture 10 North	N/A	AGCR	6%	Poor	Improve	6%	N/A	60	Y/L	Not Met	AGCR 81% 1981 70% 1985
4-19 1)	Pasture 10 South	N/A	AGCR	100%	Good	Maintain	95%	N/A	60	Y/L	Met	Allowable use not exceeded
4-17 1)	Pasture 11	N/A	AGCR	100%	Good	Maintain	95%	N/A	60	Y/L	Met	Allowable use not exceeded

1) Study area representing livestock use.

2) Study area representing livestock and wild horse use.

APPENDIX II: Site Specific Allotment Objectives

ALLOTMENT: Geyser Ranch - Seeding (Livestock & Wild Horses)

Study No.	Key Area Location	Ecological Site No.	Key Species	PRESENT SITUATION		LONG TERM OBJECTIVE			SHORT TERM OBJECTIVE			
				Key Spp % Comp By Cover	Livestock Forage Condition	Maintain or Improve	Key Spp % Comp By Cover (not Less than)	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Allowable Use Level	Season of Use	Met or Not Met	Rationale
4-18 1)	Pasture 12 North	N/A	AGCR EULA	20% 50%	Good	Maintain	20% 50%	N/A	60	Y/L	Not Met	Use on AGCR 61 1984
4-38 1)	Pasture 12 West	N/A	AGCR	56%	Good	Maintain	56%	N/A	60	Y/L	Met	Allowable use not exceeded
4-37 1)	Pasture 12 South	N/A	AGCR	60%	Good	Maintain	60%	N/A	60	Y/L	Met	Allowable use not exceeded
4-11 1)	West Winter Bull Pasture	N/A	EULA ORHY	37% 15%	Good	Maintain	37% 15%	N/A	50/30 55/50	Winter/ Spring	Not Met	Use exceeded in 1983/ 1984
4-12 1)	East Winter Bull Pasture	N/A	EULA ORHY	42% 13%	Good	Maintain	42% 13%	N/A	50/30 55/50	Winter/ Spring	Not Met	Use on SIHY 65% 83, 70% 84 EULA-65%-83

1) Study Area representing livestock use.



APPENDIX IV: Site Specific Allotment Objectives

ALLOTMENT: Geyser Ranch (Wildlife & Stream Habitat)

Study No.	Key Area Location	Ecological Site No.	Key Species	PRESENT SITUATION		LONG TERM OBJECTIVE		SHORT TERM OBJECTIVE				
				Habitat Condition Rating 1/		Maintain or Improve	Habitat Condition Rating 1/		Allowable Use Level	Season of Use	Met or Not Met	Rationale
KDW-22A	Dutch John sec. 14, T. 7 N., R. 65 E.,	Unknown	COME	51% Fair		Improve	61% Good		20% 35%	By 11/1 Yearlong	Not Met	Utilization exceeded AUL 82-83 = 67% 83-84 = 47%
KDW-22B	Grassy Spring T. 6 N. R. 65 E.	No Studies	established to date									
KDS-22B	Robbers Roost sec. 12, T. 10 N., R. 64 E.,	South Slope 12-16"	CREPI AMELA SYMPH	63% Good		Maintain	63% Good		55% 45% 45%		Met	Allowable use levels not exceeded
KDS-22C	Patterson Pass sec. 19, T. 9 N., R. 65 E.,	Mt. Ridge 16-22"	CREPI LUPIN SYMPH	75% Good		Maintain	75% Good		55% 55% 45%		Met	Allowable use levels not exceeded

1/ For Mule Deer, habitat condition is based on browse vigor rating and forage quality rating; for pronghorn antelope, habitat condition is based on vegetation quality rating, diversity index, and vegetation quantity rating; and for perennial streams, habitat condition is based on bank cover and bank stability.

APPENDIX III: Site Specific Allotment Objectives

ALLOTMENT: Geyser Ranch (Riparian)

Study No.	Key Area Location	Ecological Site No.	Key Species	PRESENT SITUATION		LONG TERM OBJECTIVE			SHORT TERM OBJECTIVE			
				Key Spp % Comp By Weight	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Maintain or Improve	Key Spp % Comp By Weight	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Allowable Use Level	Season of Use	Met or Not Met	Rationale
Grassy Spring (Complex)	T. 6 N., R. 65 E., Sec. 22 NE1/4	Unknown	Grasses and grass-like	No ecological status survey completed to date					50%	Yearlong	Not Met	Utilization exceeded allowable use level.
Jasper Spring	T. 7 N., R. 64 E., Sec. 34 SW1/4	Unknown	Grasses and grass-like	No ecological status survey completed to date					50%	Yearlong	Met	Good condition
Spring Complex	T. 7 N., R. 64 E., Sec. 34	Unknown	Grasses and grass-like	No ecological status survey completed to date					50%	Yearlong	Met	Allowable use level not exceeded
Roadside Spring	T. 8 N., R. 65 E., Sec. 5 NE1/4	Unknown	Grasses and grass-like	No ecological status survey completed to date					50%	Yearlong	Met	Allowable use level not exceeded (exclosure around spring)
Milk Ranch Spring	T. 8 N., R. 65 E., Sec. 19 SW1/4	Unknown	Grasses and grass-like	No ecological status survey completed to date					50%	Yearlong	Met	Good condition
Spring Complex	T. 8 N., R. 65 E., Sec. 19	Unknown	Grasses and grass-like	No ecological status survey completed to date					50%	Yearlong	Met	Good condition

APPENDIX III: Site Specific Allotment Objectives

ALLOTMENT: Geyser Ranch (Riparian)

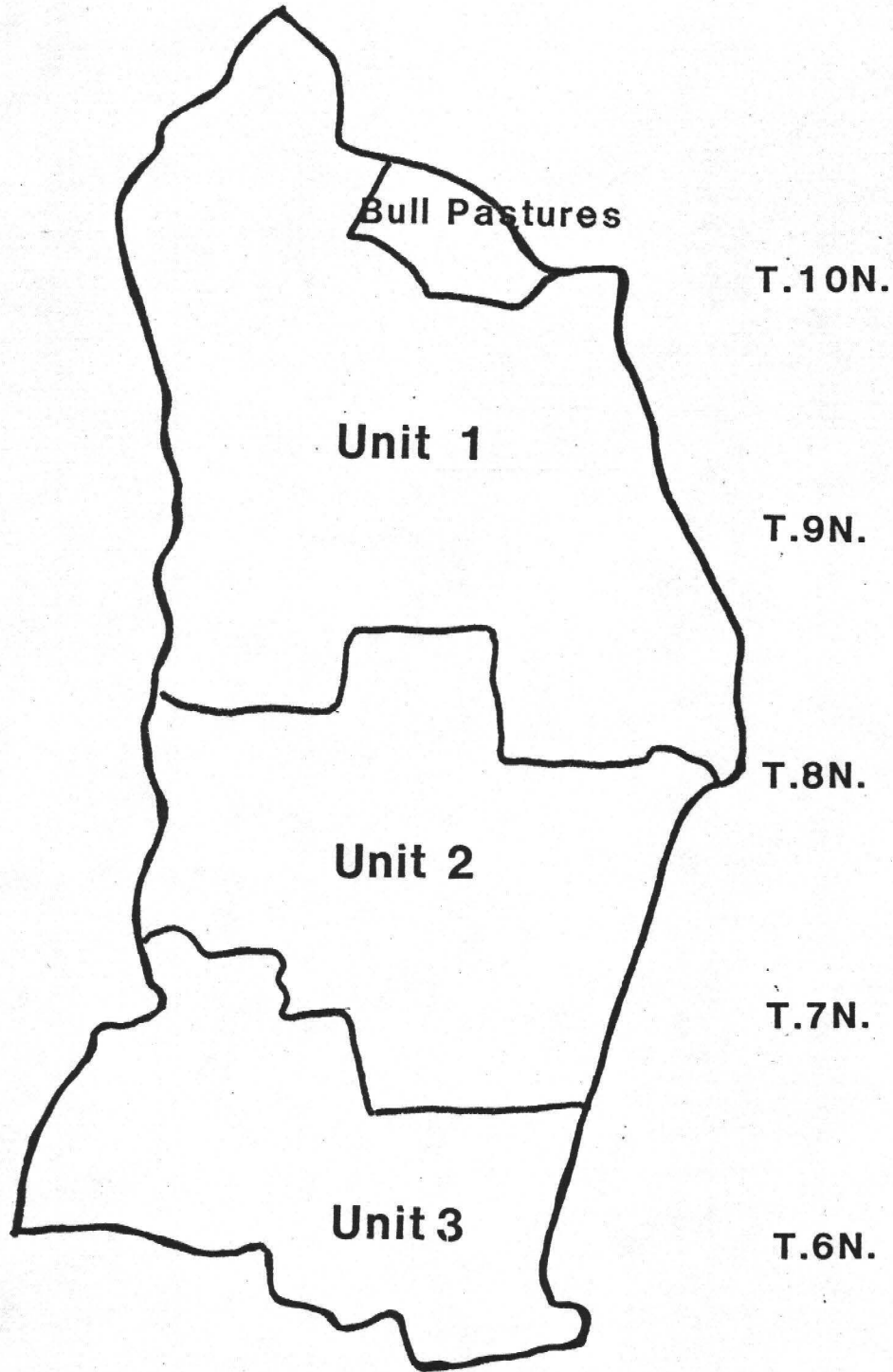
Study No.	Key Area Location	Ecological Site No.	Key Species	PRESENT SITUATION		LONG TERM OBJECTIVE			SHORT TERM OBJECTIVE				Rationale			
				Key Spp % Comp By Weight	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Maintain or Improve	Key Spp % Comp By Weight	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Allowable Use Level	Season of Use	Met or Not Met					
Graham Spring	T. 9 N., R. 65 E., Sec. 7 SE1/4	Unknown	Grasses and grass-like	No ecological status survey completed to date									50%	Yearlong	Met	Lush
Dupont Spring	T. 9 N., R. 65 E., Sec. 8 SE1/4	Unknown	Grasses and grass-like	No ecological status survey completed to date									50%	Yearlong	Met	Good condition
Schwartz Spring	T. 9 N., R. 65 E., Sec. 19 SW1/4	Unknown	Grasses and grass-like	No ecological status survey completed to date									50%	Yearlong	Met	Lush
Spring Complex	T. 9 N., R. 65 E., Sec. 31	Unknown	Grasses and grass-like	No ecological status survey completed to date									50%	Yearlong	Met	Good condition, very lush
Campbell Spring	T. 10 N., R. 65 E., Sec. 18 NE1/4	Unknown	Grasses and grass-like	No ecological status survey completed to date									50%	Yearlong	Not Met	Utilization exceeded allowable use levels at time of water resources inventory in 1982.
North Creek Spring Complex	T. 10 N., R. 65 E., Sec. 19	Unknown	Grasses and grass-like	No ecological status survey completed to date									50%	Yearlong	Met	Good condition

APPENDIX III: Site Specific Allotment Objectives

ALLOTMENT: Geyser Range (Riparian)

Study No.	Key Area Location	Ecological Site No.	Key Species	PRESENT SITUATION		LONG TERM OBJECTIVE			SHORT TERM OBJECTIVE				Rationale
				Key Spp % Comp By Weight	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Maintain or Improve	Key Spp % Comp By Weight	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Allowable Use Level	Season of Use	Met or Not Met		
Geyser Spring	T. 10 N., R. 65 E., Sec. 34 SW1/4	Unknown	Grasses and grass-like	No ecological status survey completed to date					50%	Yearlong	Met	Good condition	
Deer Track Spring	T. 10 N., R. 64 E., Sec. 12 SW1/4	Unknown	Grasses and grass-like	No ecological status survey completed to date					50%	Yearlong	Met	Good condition	

# GEYSER RANCH ALLOTMENT (01101)



R.64E.

R.65E.

R.66E.

BOB MILLER  
Acting Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

5-4-90  
TERRI JAY  
Executive Director



**COMMISSION FOR THE  
PRESERVATION OF WILD HORSES**

Stewart Facility  
Capitol Complex  
Carson City, Nevada 89710

(702) 885-5589  
May 4, 1990

**COMMISSIONERS**  
Deloed Satterthwaite, Chairman  
Spanish Ranch  
Tuscarora, Nevada 89834

Dawn Lappin  
15640 Sylvester Road  
Reno, Nevada 89511

Michael Kirk, D.V.M.  
P.O. Box 5896  
Reno, Nevada 89513

Gerald M. Smith, Area Manager  
Schell Resource Area  
BLM - Ely District Office  
Star Route 5, Box 1  
Ely, Nevada 89301

Dear Mr. Smith,

This letter is response to your Notice of Proposed Multiple Use Decision for the Geyser Ranch Allotment.

The Commission is an affected interest in this matter since we have been participating in the allotment evaluation process for all allotments that are in wild horse herd areas and we are concerned for the welfare of wild horses in Nevada.

The Commission is protesting the decision for several reasons.

First of all, the livestock is not taking any reduction at all. Only the grazing system is being modified. Yet the horses are taking a substantial reduction.

There has typically been full use of 4500 AUM's of temporary, non-renewable AUM's. This would feed 375 head of horses year-long. And now you are proposing reducing horses below viable populations numbers.

This is not a fair and equitable situation.

Since there is no reduction in active preference scheduled, but there has typically been 4500 AUM's over preference used, and 3 and 5 year monitoring will be used to make adjustments, then the horses must be reduced in increments over five years so they will be able to take proportional advantage of any increase that you make available.

It is unfair to force the horses to take such a large reduction and all at once when livestock have been permitted to use temporary, non-renewable AUM's for so long. This means that your monitoring data was based on an over-adjudication for livestock. Therefore, livestock should be forced to take a reduction and the horses should be at least allowed to maintain viable numbers.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed decision.

Sincerely,

  
TERRI JAY  
Executive Director

$$\begin{array}{r} 48 \\ 12 \overline{) 576} \\ \underline{48} \phantom{0} \\ 96 \\ \underline{96} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1025 \text{ head} \\ 12 \overline{) 12308} \\ \underline{12} \phantom{0} \\ 30 \\ \underline{24} \\ 68 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 51 \\ 12 \overline{) 612} \text{ AUMs} \\ \underline{60} \\ 12 \end{array}$$

Future Monitoring 3rd & 5<sup>th</sup> yr  
Cattle are year-long

16 on Dry Lake - <sup>was 576 AUMs</sup> 51 - not even viable popo  
48 on Wilson Creek - was 576 AUMs (48) #16  
 $64 \times 12 = 768 \text{ AUMs}$

No reduction of livestock is proposed.

~~What~~ Why aren't the livestock being reduced

4500 Temporary Non-Renewable - 4500 AUMs - 375 head of horses

$$\begin{array}{r} 375 \\ 12 \overline{) 4500} \\ \underline{36} \phantom{0} \\ 90 \\ \underline{84} \\ 60 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 669 \\ 12 \overline{) 8811} \\ \underline{72} \phantom{00} \\ 1611 \\ \underline{108} \phantom{0} \\ 531 \\ \underline{504} \\ 27 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 801 \\ 12 \overline{) 9612} \end{array}$$