BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Ely Field Office
702 North Industrial Way, HC 33 Box 33500
Ely, Nevada 89301-9408

In Reply Refer To:

File Code 4400(NV-042)

AUG 30 1999

Dear Interested Public:

I am considering a Temporary Nonrenewable Use (TNR) request by Mr. Rex Claridge for the Mallory Springs Allotment. Authorization of this request is under Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 4130.6-2 (Nonrenewable grazing permits and lease).

The period of use applied for is during the fall dormant period for the vegetation communities. The grazing use authorized to date and the grazing use applied for in the grazing application are as follows:

Current Authorized Use:

Number and Kind of Livestock		Period of Use	Type of Use	AUMs
420	Sheep	03/01 to 05/31	Nonuse	254
63	Cattle	06/08 to 08/31	Active	176*
416	Sheep	09/01 to 02/28	Nonuse	495

TNR Grazing Application:

Number and Kind of Livestock		Period of Use	Type of Use	AUMs
63	Cattle	09/15 to 10/31	TNR	64

* Fifteen AUMs of cattle use were not activated.

On August 25, 1999 the native range was inspected to determine if sufficient forage was available to support the authorization of the request and to document the current utilization levels within the allotment. The following information was collected during the monitoring tour:

Utilization levels at key area MS01 (T. 21 N., R. 70 E., Sec. 9 SWSW) were 56% on ORHY, 56% on STIPA and 16% on POSE.

Utilization levels at (T. 21 N., R. 70 E., Sec. 18 NWNW) were 30% on STIPA.

Utilization levels at (T. 21 N., R. 69 E., Sec. 12 SWSE) were 25% on STIPA and 28% on ORHY.

The allotment is in good condition based on observed vigor of the plant species present, species diversity, and the production (annual growth) observed. Short term utilization objectives for this allotment are being met based on the documented use levels. All key forage species in the allotment are in good overall condition (vigor) and allotment objectives
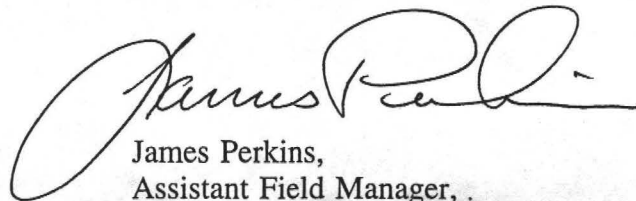
are being met.

Results of the field observations indicate that sufficient forage is available within the allotment to authorize the nonrenewable grazing use (TNR) applied for in the grazing application. This use is consistent with multiple-use objectives and does not interfere with existing livestock operations on the public lands.

Mallory Springs Allotment is located within the Moriah Herd Management Area. Census data indicates low and infrequent wild horse use in the allotment. Wild horses do not appear to be dependent upon the forage and forage will be available to support the wild horse herd if TNR is authorized. No wild horse sign was noted during an allotment inspection August 25, 1999. Wild horses are not concentrated in the area they occasionally use either the north or south sides of the allotment high on the benches and mountain tops. There have been no recent gathers in this herd management area. Census data for the Mallory Springs Allotment: August 18, 1998, 0 adults 0 foals; June 5, 1997, 0 adults 0 foals; August 30, 1994, 3 adults 1 foal; May 11, 1993, 6 adults 1 foal; August 30, 1992, 0 adults 0 foals; March 14, 1990, 0 adults 0 foals; March 14 1988, 0 adults 0 foals.

Based on the information provided above, I am considering approval of the nonrenewable grazing use request. If you have any questions on this action, please contact Brett Covlin or Chris Mayer, of my staff at 702-289-1864 or 702-289-4865.

If you have any comments, please send them in writing by September 14, 1999 to the Renewable Resources Assistant Field Manager at the following address: Bureau of Land Management, Ely Field Office, Attn: Renewable Resources Assistant Field Manager, HC 33 Box 33500, Ely Nevada 89301-9401

Sincerely,

James Perkins,
Assistant Field Manager,
Renewable Resources

CC: Nevada State Clearinghouse
   Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses
   Mr. Duane Erickson, NDOW
   Mr. Curt Baughman, NDOW
   Mr. Mike Podborny, NDOW
   White Pine County Commissioners
   Nevada Cattlemen's Association
   Mr. John McLain, RCI
   Mr. Don Holloway, UNR Coop. Extension