

## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

IN REPLY REFER TO

4700 (N-931.3/ N-040)

NEVADA STATE OFFICE 300 Booth Street

P.O. Box 12000 Reno, NV 89520

MAR 2 5 1982

Dawn Y. Lappin, Director Wild Horse Organized Assistance P.O. Box 555 Reno, Nevada 89504

Dear Mrs. Lappin:

Your February 10, 1982 letter refers to "... Art Cook vs Ely District proposal to fence the District boundary." A recent ruling by the Administrative Law Judge affirmed the District Manager's decision on the location of the allotment line between the Warm Springs and Maverick Springs Allotments. The decision also stated that a fence was to be built on this line, following an environmental assessment. A fence along the district boundary was not a part of this action.

The questions brought up in your letter are of concern to many people. The Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) is also concerned about the impact of the fence on deer migration between the Ruby Mountains and the Maverick Springs Range. These and many other questions must be answered prior to any commitment of project funds.

The Egan Area Manager has proposed a meeting between Art Cook, Dan Russell, a representative from NDOW, and yourself, in April, 1982. The purpose of this meeting would be to get all interested people together in an attempt to identify the problems in this area and to get the group to arrive at some acceptable solutions to the questions you raise in paragraph three of your letter. Only through this type of group discussion, can your questions be fully answered.

The Ely District is in no way committed to the construction of a fence, only to solving a serious trespass problem without impacting the wild horses and wildlife in the area. Alternatives to construction of the fence on the allotment line should be brought before the group for consideration.

Everyone will be contacted in early April to determine a convenient meeting time. If you have any further questions, please contact the Ely District Manager or Howard Hedrick, the Egan Area Manager.

Sincerely yours,

Edward F. Spang

State Director, Nevada

cc: N-040