



IN REPLY REFER TO:

# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Ely District Office  
HC 33 Box 33500  
Ely, Nevada 89301-9408



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
File Code 4400(NV-04200)



AUG 31 1998

*MORIAN HMA*

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:

<u>Number and Kind of Livestock</u>	<u>Period of Use</u>	<u>Type of Use</u>	<u>AUMs</u>
420 Sheep	03/01 to 05/31	Nonuse	254
63 Cattle	06/03 to 08/31	Active	186*
416 Sheep	09/01 to 02/28	Nonuse	495

TNR Grazing Application:

<u>Number and Kind of Livestock</u>	<u>Period of Use</u>	<u>Type of Use</u>	<u>AUMs</u>
63 Cattle	09/15 to 10/31	TNR	97

\* Five AUMs of cattle use were not activated.

On August 11, 1998 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 at the identified key areas 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 33% on ORHY and 22% on POSE (SIHY had 17% and STIPA had 13% but few plants were noted in the transect).

Utilization levels at key area MS02 (T. 21 N., R. 70 E., Sec. 20 NWNE) were 23% on ORHY and 10% on POSE, ARNO was not measured due to the type of livestock use, STIPA occurred only once in the transect however plants adjacent to the transect had slight use.

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.

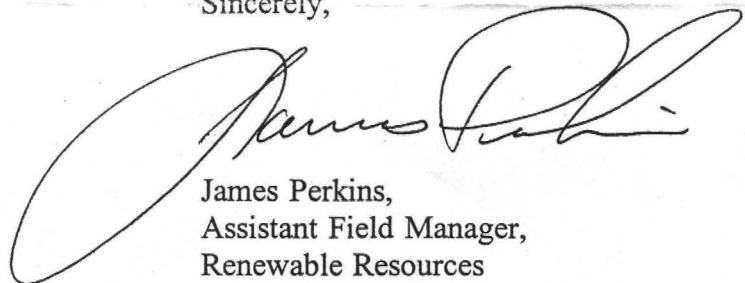
Results of the field observations indicate that sufficient forage is available within the allotment to authorize the nonrenewable grazing use (TNR) applied for in the grazing application. This use is consistent with multiple-use objectives and does not interfere with existing livestock operations on 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 11, 1998. 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, 1998 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