10/13/95



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Caliente Resource Area P.O. Box 237 Caliente, Nevada 89008

JUA 1 3 1955

In Reply Refer To: 7J Ranch Grazing Case File Pennsylvania Allotment File (NV-055.09)

Dear Interested Public:

I am considering a Temporary Nonrenewable Use (TNR) request by the 7J Ranch, permittee of the Pennsylvania Allotment. The permittee has made application for TNR grazing use for 25 domestic cows. Authorization of this request is under Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations Section 4130.6-2 (nonrenewable grazing permits and leases).

The permittee owns and controls the base property for the allotment and meets all mandatory qualifications for the permit. The 7J Ranch is the only permittee on the allotment. The period-of-use applied for, November 1 to December 31, 1995, is during the winter dormant period for the vegetative community. The permittee is requesting to graze outside the established season of use for the allotment which is May 1 to October 31. The permittee has not made any use on the allotment to date.

On October 12, 1995, the allotment was inspected to determine if sufficient forage is available to authorize the nonrenewable grazing use requested. The following was determined:

No measurable has occurred within the area of the allotment that the livestock will graze.

Based on the amount of available forage and plant vigor, sufficient forage is available for the TNR applied for.

This use is consistent with multiple-use objectives and will not interfere with existing livestock operations on the public lands.

The allotment is managed in the Clover Mountain Wild Horse Herd Management Area and the Beaver Dam Wildlife Habitat Area. Wild horses graze primarily on the large blackbrush and woodland burns on the foothills of Ella Mountain. Cattle would graze in the southern portion of Pennsylvania Canyon. This area is separate from the areas utilized by horses. Little or no competition for forage during this period is anticipated because of lack of overlap.

The allotment provides year-round and summer habitat for mule deer. The use of 50 livestock AUMs would not cause an impact to the deer population. Utilization limits will not be permitted to exceed 50% of current year's growth on forage species.

Based on the information provided above, I am considering approval of the TNR request. If you have any questions on this action, please contact Shirley Christman of my staff, at (702) 726-8100.

If you have any comments, please send them in writing by October 30, 1995 to the Caliente Area Manager at the following address: Bureau of Land Management, Caliente Resource Area, Attn. Area Manager, P.O. Box 237, Caliente, NV 89008.

Sincerely,

Curtis G. Tucker

Caliente Area Manager

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CC: L.V.D.O. (NV-053) Ely D.O. (NV-043)