

## United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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

Other Site was a said

In Reply Refer To:

4130 (NV-042)

Dear Interested Publics:

maccissible pennes The new grazing regulations require the authorized officer to consult, cooperate, and coordinate (CCC) with affected permittees, the State agencies responsible for managing resources within the area, and the interested public prior to the issuance or renewal of grazing permits and leases (43 CFR 4130.2(b).

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

A Final Multiple Use Decision was issued for the Cold Creek Allotment in 1/23/92 based on monitoring data collected between 1977 and 1990. In 1993 the Cold Creek Seeding was established in the Cold Creek Allotment (I). The seeding was partially funded by Bald Mountain Mine, to help mitigate impacts from mine expansion in the form of reduced forage availability to livestock. The permittee contributed to the project by providing the labor and equipment to prepare the seed bed. The seeding was rested for two full growing seasons and has had minimal use since its establishment in 1993.

The seeding is located in the Buck and Bald Herd Management Area (HMA); however, during the planning period it was determined that the area received minimal wild horse use due to the lack of available forage and exclusion by existing fences. The entire 700 acre seeding has been fenced since that time.

Based on production data collected in the Cold Creek Seeding during June of 1996, the BLM proposes to set the total number of animal unit months of specified livestock grazing at 474 AUMs. These AUMs would be added as additional AUMs to the current permittees' (Silver State Ranch) grazing permit for the Cold Creek Allotment.

In accordance with grazing regulations 43 CFR 4110.3-1(c) "After consultation, cooperation, and coordination, with the affected permittees or lessees, the state having lands or managing resources within the area, and the interested public, additional forage on a sustained yield basis available for livestock grazing use in an allotment may be apportioned to permittees, or lessees or other applicants provided the permittee, lessee, or other applicant is found to be qualified under subpart 4110 of this Part."

The applicant Silver State Ranches is in good standing and meets all of the qualifications for a grazing permittee outlined in 43 CFR 4110.1. Renewal of a permit complies with the regulations regarding grazing permits and leases outlined in 43 CFR 4130.2.

Prior to approval and the subsequent issuance of a new term permit, should you have any information, data, etc. that you would like to provide please do so prior to Thursday, April 23, 1998. Any comments in writing should be sent to the Ely District BLM, HC 33 Box 33500, Ely, NV 89301.

If you have any questions, please contact Wendy Fuell at (702) 289-1889

Sincerely,

James Perkins

Assistant District Manager

Renewable Resources