

Ely Dist + Buck + Bald
Warm Spring Allot.

7/19/85



United States Department of the Interior

IN REPLY REFER TO:

4700-4110
(NV-046)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Ely District Office
Star Route 5, Box 1
Ely, Nevada 89301

JUL 19 1985

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

Dawn!
Dear Mrs. Lappin:

I would first of all like to express my appreciation to you for the willingness you have shown in helping to resolve some of the resource concerns in the Buck and Bald area. The efforts you and others have shown could indeed be the first positive step towards cooperation in management in this critical area.

Enclosed is a draft of the agreement we prepared at Fish Creek Ranch. As discussed, I have set up a meeting for Thursday, August 1, 1:00 p.m. in the River Room (1st floor) at the Holiday Hotel (Mill and South Center Streets) in Reno, Nevada. Hopefully, we can agree upon any necessary changes to this draft and complete a signed agreement.

Again, my personal thanks for your cooperation and understanding in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Howard Hedrick

Howard F. Hedrick, Manager
Egan Resource Area

Enclosure

9/4/85 1:10 am N/A

The parties in this agreement recognize that the white sage (Ceratoides lanata) in Long Valley is critical winter range for both livestock and wild horses in the area. They also recognize that the recent drought conditions and grazing during the growing season may be affecting this important plant species.

All parties agree that some actions taken immediately will benefit the white sage flats in Long Valley. These actions will be only temporary in nature and will in no way substitute for a coordinated management plan which is scheduled to be written at a later date. It is further noted that this agreement or any actions taken based on this agreement will in no way jeopardize or compromise any complaint or protest either party has filed on the Final Egan Resource Management Plan.

No more than 17,054 AUM's will be licensed in the Warm Springs Allotment by Russell Ranches. This is the three-year average licensed use for the 1982-84 grazing seasons. The current preference is 23,995 AUM's. Season of use for cattle on Long Valley remains 10/15 to 04/15. ~~(A maximum of one half of the three-year average use (8,527 AUM's) may be licensed during this season of use.)~~ **uniform use** *throughout - uniform use ANNUAL WORK PLAN*

Both Dawn Lappin, Director of Wild Horse Organized Assistance and Dan Russell of Russell Ranches will support BLM gathering wild horses during the winter of 1985-86 in the Buck and Bald herd management area, leaving approximately 700 animals. This and subsequent gatherings will focus on wild horses in Long Valley. Every two years following the first gathering, BLM will inventory this area and if wild horses number more than 900, BLM will conduct a gathering that same winter, bringing the herd down to 700 wild horses.

FOUR

Fence AS NECESSARY
Seven water developments, in Long Valley (see attached map) will be fenced by April 15, 1986, to aid in the management of critical winter range. The gates to these waters will be closed April 15 and reopened October 15 each year. If the Egan Area Manager, BLM, determines that severe water shortages occur, all parties will be notified in writing and use of these waters could continue throughout the summer. BLM will be responsible for all environmental assessments and clearances and Russell Ranches will be responsible for building and maintaining the fences and ensuring that gates are opened and closed in a timely manner.

This is only a temporary agreement and in no way implies any concurrence regarding present range condition or stocking levels. BLM will continue existing rangeland monitoring studies and establish new studies as needed. Data gathered in the next three to five years from monitoring studies will be used to determine if adjustments in livestock or wild horse numbers were necessary.

If any party does not fulfill their portion of this agreement, the remaining parties may choose to declare this agreement null and void and may do so by informing everyone involved of their intentions.

Dan Russell
Russell Ranches

Date

Dawn Lappin, Director
Wild Horse Organized Assistance

Date

Merrill L. DeSpain
District Manager, BLM

Date