



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

ELY DISTRICT OFFICE
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

4403.3 (NV-047)

APR 19 1991

Commission for the Protection
of Wild Horses
Stewart Facility, Capitol Complex
Carson City, NV 89710

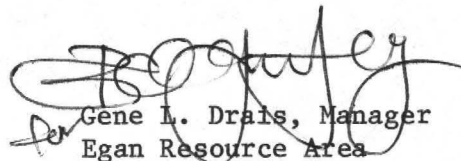
Dear Participant:

Enclosed for your information is the Management Action Selection Report for the North Pancake Allotment. This report is the final section of the allotment evaluation, and completes the monitoring evaluation process.

The Management Action Selection Report addresses the primary concerns received from involved interests, lists the options considered during the evaluation, and identifies the management actions selected. The report also describes the rationale as to why those actions were selected.

This report is provided for your information only, and will be followed at a later date by a proposed multiple-use decision if indicated in the report. This decision will be issued to actually initiate the chosen actions on the ground, and will specify the procedures for protest and appeal. A copy of the decision will be provided to those individuals and/or organizations that have participated in the monitoring evaluation process. If no decision is required, the Management Action Selection Report will serve as documentation to the grazing file that current management is appropriate.

Sincerely,


Gene L. Drais, Manager
Egan Resource Area

Enclosure

1. North Pancake (5 pp)

MANAGEMENT ACTION SELECTION REPORT
NORTH PANCAKE ALLOTMENT (0612), EGAN RESOURCE AREA
Pete Paris Jr., Permittee

A. INTRODUCTION

The North Pancake Allotment evaluation was conducted in accordance with the direction set forth in Washington Office Instruction Memorandum No. 86-706, and is based on monitoring data collected from 1981 to 1989.

A limited amount of public comment was received pertaining to this allotment evaluation. Copies of the comment letters are located in the North Pancake allotment evaluation files in the Ely District office. All allotment-specific comments were considered for incorporation into the final evaluation.

Conclusions of the evaluation were based on data collection and comments from the following sources:

1. Range, wildlife, and wild horse monitoring studies files compiled by the Egan Resource Area and Division of Resources.
2. Input from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Reno Field Station, in a letter dated 6/27/90.
3. Input from the Nevada Department of Wildlife, Region II, in a letter dated 7/2/90.
4. Input from the N-4 Grazing Board, via a letter from Resource Concepts Inc., dated 7/16/90.
5. Input from the permittee, Mr. Pete Paris, during meetings on 3/26/90 and 8/23/90. Input was solicited but not received from Mr. Dan Russell, permittee on Newark allotment.

B. ANALYSIS OF MONITORING DATA

Based on analysis of monitoring studies, 5 out of 7 of the land use plan objectives identified for this allotment are not being met with current management practices. The primary resource problem on the allotment is overutilization of winterfat and indian ricegrass, and trespass use by cattle from Newark allotment. Unfortunately, comparison of actual use AUM's with utilization data to calculate a stocking rate is not valid in this case. A substantial portion of the use on this allotment, particularly in the winterfat strata, is due to cattle drift from the surrounding Newark allotment. North Pancake is unfenced, and the western boundary is less than a mile from Carter (Smith) Well in the Newark allotment,

which services a large portion of the adjoining area. Cattle drift freely onto North Pancake all winter, and short of fencing the allotment or removing cattle from this portion of Newark Valley, this drift is uncontrollable. This cattle use is also impossible to estimate, since there are no area-specific counts for that portion of Newark allotment. Also, horse counts are unusable. Since the allotment is so small (approximately 3 by 4 miles) horses can come and go in a matter of minutes, making point-in-time counts within allotment boundaries unreliable. Aerial census has not shown horses within allotment boundaries, but ground observations and use mapping indicate substantial wild horse use on this allotment.

Cattle and horse use make up a large portion of the use on this allotment, and neither can be effectively estimated. Use mapping field notes indicate that the limited sheep preference is not the problem. Over 6,000 acres of winterfat and black sagebrush range sites in late seral stage can support 648 AUM's of winter sheep use. Problem utilization areas and forage species consumed are those utilized by cattle or a combination of cattle and sheep. Because of the trespass problems, no stocking rate adjustments are proposed. Management actions proposed are designed to solve the trespass cattle problem, and allow for more accurate evaluations in the future.

C. SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

1. Fencing the allotment boundary: This option would involve fencing the allotment on three sides, leaving the eastern boundary open for horse access through the foothills.
2. Permittee trades: Paris Livestock and Russell Ranches could trade allotments or portions of allotments to allow a discrete use area for Paris, and/or provide for cattle preference in North Pancake allotment. Cattle and horse use would be evaluated and corrected during the Newark allotment evaluation.
3. Disband allotment: This option would involve disbanding the North Pancake allotment, and providing Paris Livestock with 648 AUM's of sheep preference on specific areas in Newark allotment. Again, cattle and horse use would be evaluated and corrected if necessary during the Newark allotment evaluation.

D. SELECTED MANAGEMENT ACTION

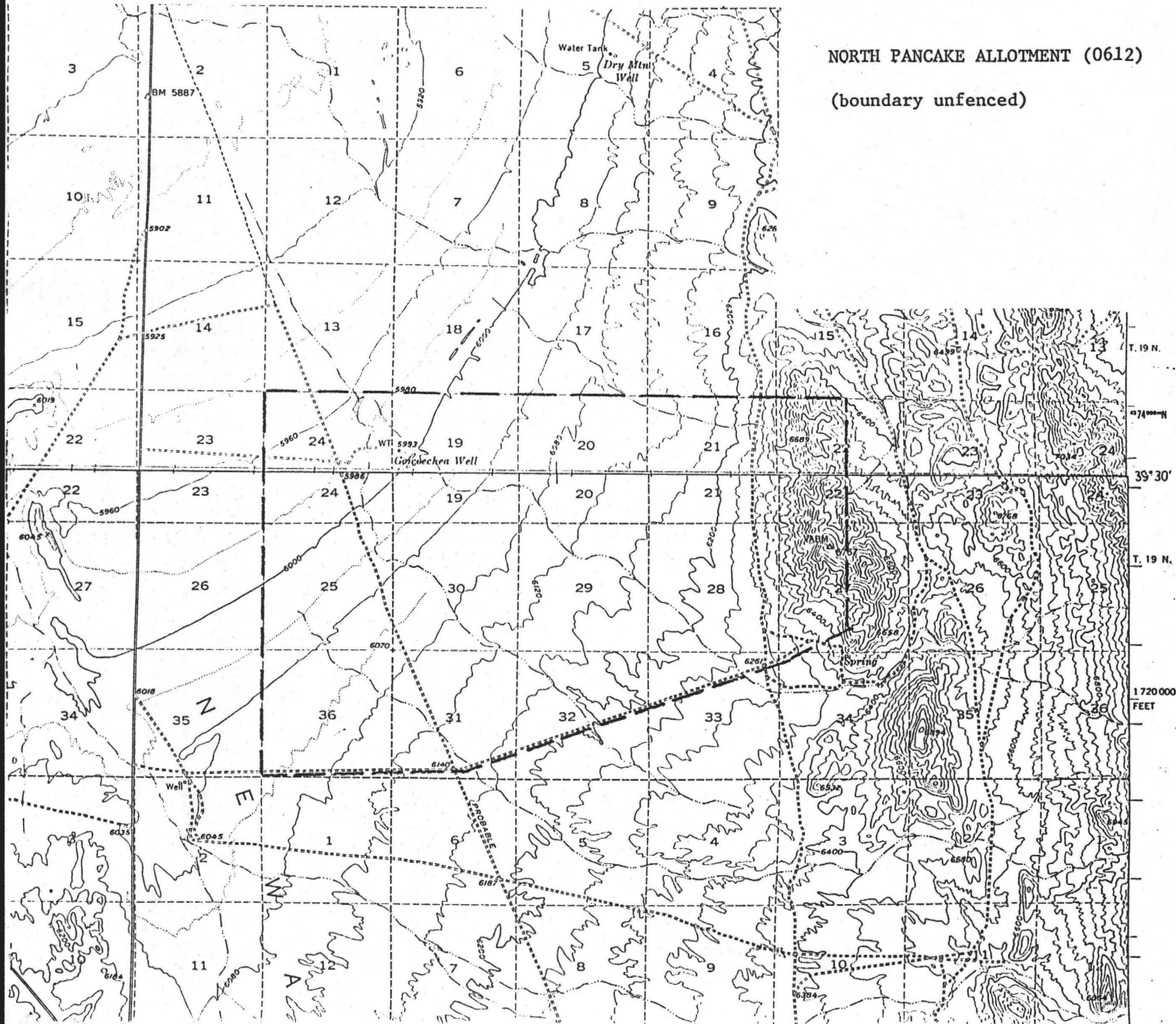
The selected management option is to disband the North Pancake allotment, adding 648 sheep AUM's for Paris Livestock to the existing Newark allotment, with a use area that roughly includes the area between Barrel Springs road and Dry Mountain, from Beck Pass to Highway 50 (see attached map). The decision on this management action, along with specific stipulations for this use, will be issued as part of the Newark Allotment Evaluation decision, scheduled for late 1991. Wild horse and livestock use will be evaluated and appropriate stocking rates set during the Newark Allotment evaluation.

E. FUTURE MONITORING AND GRAZING ADJUSTMENTS

The Egan Resource Area will continue to monitor all existing studies and establish additional studies as identified in Section VI of the Allotment Evaluation. This monitoring data will continue to be collected in the future to provide necessary information for evaluation as part of the Newark Allotment.

NORTH PANCAKE ALLOTMENT (0612)

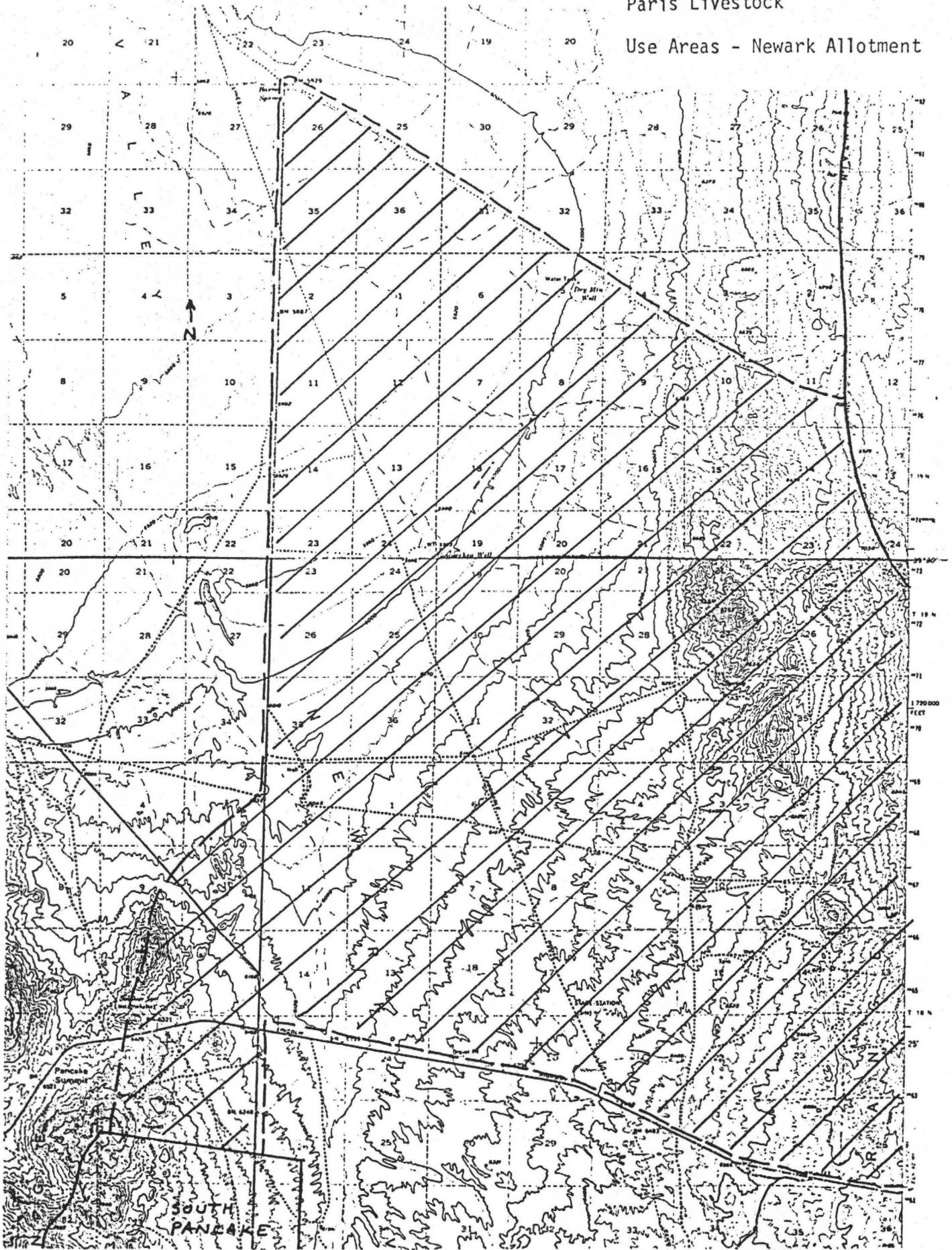
(boundary unfenced)

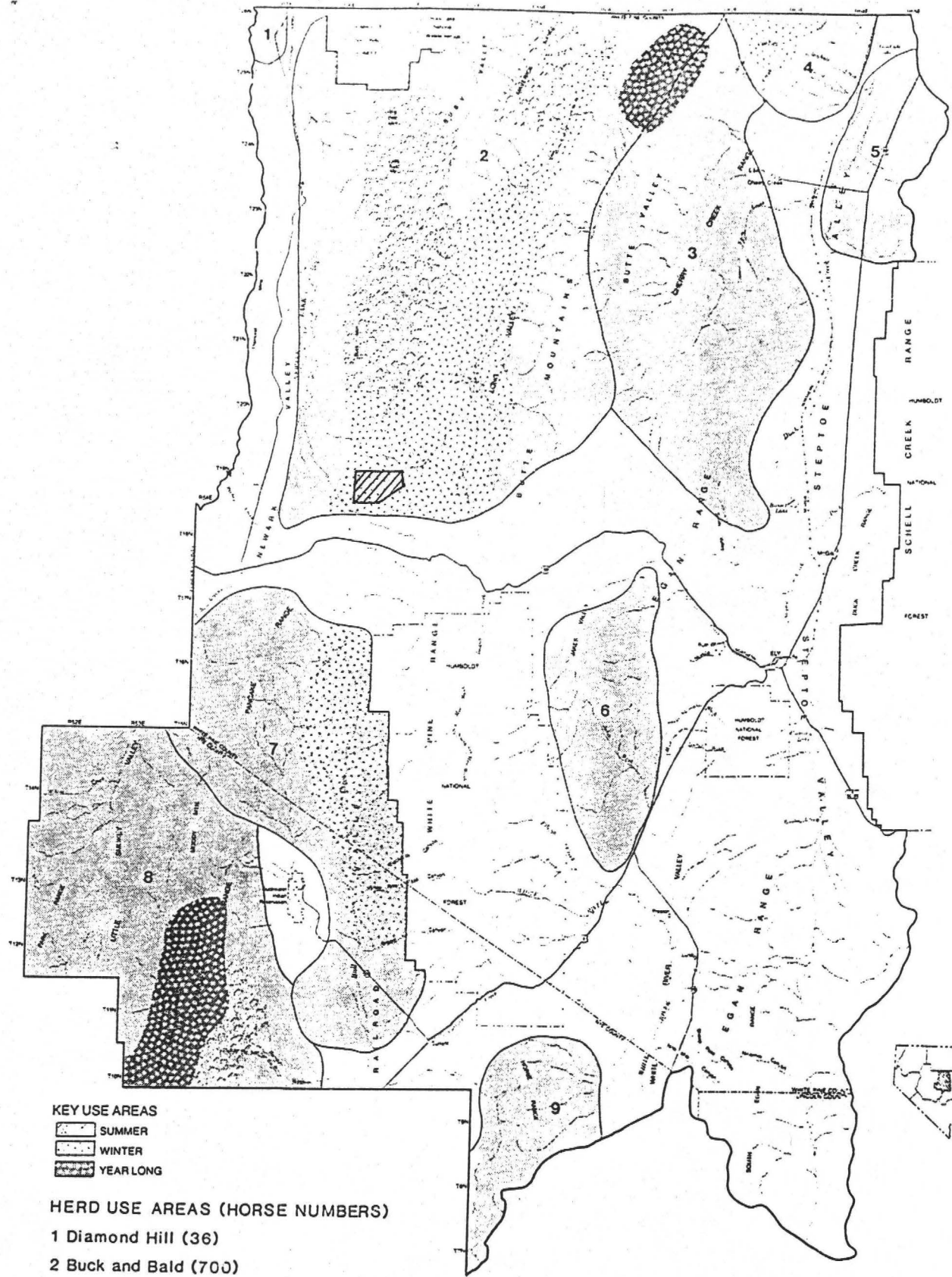


APPENDIX II.

Paris Livestock

Use Areas - Newark Allotment





KEY USE AREAS

-  SUMMER
-  WINTER
-  YEAR LONG

HERD USE AREAS (HORSE NUMBERS)

- 1 Diamond Hill (36)
- 2 Buck and Bald (700)
- 3 Butte (60)
- 4 Cherry Creek (11)
- 5 Antelope (14)
- 6 Jakes Wash (20)
- 7 Monte Cristo (96)
- 8 Sand Springs (494)
- 9 White River (20)



North Pancake Allotment