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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Ely District Office
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Ely, NV 89301-9408

In Reply Refer To:
4400 (NV-046)

APR 23 1996

Dear Participant:

Enclosed for your information and review is the draft Seaman Herd Management Area Monitoring Evaluation. This is your opportunity again to provide allotment specific information and also to provide comments to the evaluation. We would appreciate receiving your information and/or comments by May 21, 1996, to allow adequate time to review all input and adhere to our schedule. All of the information received will be evaluated and considered prior to the development of the Management Action Selection Report which completes the monitoring evaluation process.

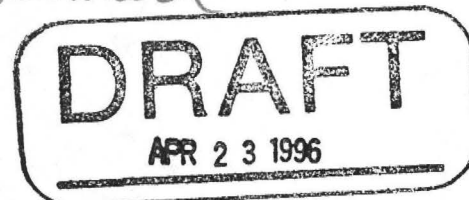
We appreciate your participation and solicit your continued involvement in the consultation process.

Sincerely,

Alfred W. Coulloudon, Manager
Schell Resource Area

- 1 Enclosure
- 1. Evaluation

Dr. Seaman



**SEAMAN HERD MANAGEMENT AREA
MONITORING EVALUATION**

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ELY DISTRICT OFFICE
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ELY, NV 89301**

APRIL 1996

SEAMAN HERD MANAGEMENT AREA MONITORING EVALUATION

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SEAMAN HERD MANAGEMENT AREA MONITORING EVALUATION

I. INTRODUCTION

The Seaman Wild Horse Herd Management Area (HMA) includes all, or a portion of thirteen allotments in the Ely District. Five of the thirteen allotments have already been evaluated. The other eight allotments along with several adjacent allotments will be evaluated together at this time to provide for better management of the area overall. In addition, an appropriate management level (AML) for wild horses within the HMA will be established that will achieve a thriving natural ecological balance. The evaluation covers the period from 1983 to 1995. Map 1 shows the Seaman HMA and grazing allotments. General information for each allotment is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. General Information for Allotments within the Seaman HMA.				
Allotment Name and Number	Selective Management Category		Acres of Public Land Total	within HMA *
Oreana Springs 1003	Maintain (M)		78,646	78,600
Fox Mountain 1001	Custodial(C)		75,436	21,700
Timber Mountain 1004	Custodial(C)		19,732	19,700
North Hiko-Six Mile ** 1007	Custodial(C)		14,625	0
Middle Coal Valley 1011	Custodial(C)		24,826	1,500
Bird Springs ** 1013	Custodial(C)		23,192	0
Coal Valley ** 1014	Custodial(C)		25,978	0
Needles 1016	Custodial(C)		100,311	61,900
Seaman Springs 1019	Custodial(C)		23,560	11,400
West Timber Mountain 1020	Custodial(C)		10,252	10,300
East Water Gap 1025	Custodial(C)		29,883	12,000
These allotments have already been evaluated, and are included for information purposes only.				
Batterman Wash 1018	Improve (I)		39,878	700
Dry Farm 1024	Improve (I)		17,532	5,400
Wilson Creek 1201	Improve (I)		1,077,994	12,100
Forest Moon 1010	Maintain (M)		99,968	19,400
Sunnyside 1023	Maintain (M)		219,519	83,700

* Approximate acres within HMA.

** Allotments not within the Seaman HMA, but included in this evaluation to provide for better management of the area overall.

II. INITIAL STOCKING LEVEL

A. Livestock Use

Table 2 shows the livestock use identified in the Land Use Plan for the allotments included in this evaluation. Period of use, kind of livestock, and percent federal range are also shown.

Table 2. Livestock Use, Periods of Use, Kind of Livestock, and Percent Federal Range.					
Allotment	Permitted Use (AUMs)	Historical Suspended Use (AUMs)	Period of Use	Kind of Livestock	Percent Federal Range
Oreana Springs	3,433	0	09/01-05/31 11/01-04/10	Cattle Sheep	100
Fox Mountain*	6,680	0	11/01-04/10	Sheep	100
Timber Mountain*	965	0	11/01-04/10	Sheep	100
North Hiko - Six Mile	543	0	12/01-02/28	Cattle	100
Middle Coal Valley	1,138	0	09/01-05/31	Cattle	100
Bird Springs	736	226	03/01-02/28	Cattle	100
Coal Valley	848	0	09/01-05/31	Cattle	100
Needles	3,617	0	12/01-03/14	Sheep	100
Seaman Springs	1,619	0	01/26-04/13	Sheep	100
West Timber Mt.	735	0	12/06-01/25	Sheep	100
East Water Gap	1,209	0	09/01-10/30	Cattle	100

* If Dual Use (i.e., sheep and cattle) is made, permitted use is less than what is indicated based on a 1975 Decision.

Some of the permittees grazed livestock in common on several of the allotments. In the past year, these permittees traded AUMs between each other to consolidate their use in one or two allotments. This trade will result in better administrative control and prevent unauthorized use. Permitted use by permittee is listed in Table 3. In addition to his 226 AUMs of permitted use in the Bird Springs Allotment, Orren Nash has 226 AUMs of historical suspended use.

Table 3. Livestock Permitted Use by Permittee.		
Allotment	Permittee(s)	Permitted Use (AUMs)
Oreana Springs	Tom Steele	1,519
	Varlin Higbee	379
	Stuart Twitchell	380
	Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	760
	Wayne Stevens	395
Fox Mountain	Wayne Stevens	6,680
Timber Mountain	Wayne Stevens	965
North Hiko-Six Mile	Higbee Brothers	199
	Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	344
Middle Coal Valley	Tom Steele	1,138
Bird Springs (North Half)	Higbee Brothers	267
	Varlin Higbee	122
	Stuart Twitchell	121
	(South Half) Orren Nash	226
Coal Valley	Higbee Brothers	124
	Varlin Higbee	76
	Stuart Twitchell	76
	Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	572
Needles	Bertrand Paris & Sons	3,617
Seaman Springs	Gracian Uhalde	1,619
West Timber Mountain	Gracian Uhalde	735
East Water Gap	Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	1,209

B. Wild Horse Use

1. Appropriate Management Level

The Schell Resource Area Record of Decision (ROD) set the initial stocking level for wild horses at the number counted in the 1983 census. The Schell Resource Area Rangeland Program Summary (1987) recognized an AML for each allotment as shown in Table 4. This AML of 722 AUMs, or 60 animals yearlong, is the initial stocking level; however, future adjustments to this figure will be based upon reliable vegetation monitoring studies, consultation and coordination, baseline inventory, or a combination of these. The Bureau is actually managing for a thriving natural ecological balance in implementing the land use plan.

Table 4. Wild Horse Appropriate Management Level for each Allotment as Specified in the RPS.

Allotment	Appropriate Management Level (AUMs)
Oreana Springs	223
Fox Mountain	57
Timber Mountain	76
North Hiko-Six Mile	0
Middle Coal Valley	(1)*
Bird Springs	0
Coal Valley	0
Needles	219
Seaman Springs	147
West Timber Mountain	(1)*
East Water Gap	(1)*

(1) *The RPS states "Wild horse use is recognized within these allotments, however their use is minimal. Therefore, no specific number of AUM's are assigned."

2. Herd Management Area

Refer to Map 1 for the location of each allotment in relation to the Seaman Herd Management Area.

C. Wildlife Use (Map 2)

1. Mule Deer

- a. Reasonable Numbers: 331 AUMs.
- b. Key/Crucial Areas: None identified.

2. Pronghorn Antelope

- a. Reasonable Numbers: None identified. Sixty-six pronghorn antelope were released in the south end of White River Valley in 1984 and 1985; 104 were released in Garden Valley in 1989; and 62 were released in Coal Valley in 1991.
- b. Key/Crucial Areas: None identified.

3. Threatened and Endangered Species

Bald eagles, a threatened species, may be found in the area any time of the year, but no special use areas have been identified.

Sensitive species that may be found on any of the allotments include the pygmy rabbit, spotted bat, black tern, white-faced ibis, western least bittern, and ferruginous hawk. There are several ferruginous hawk nests on the Needles Allotment on the east side of Coal Valley.

The Eastwood's milkweed (Asclepias eastwoodiana) and the sheep fleabane (Erigeron ovinus) are sensitive plant species that may occur in the area.

III. ALLOTMENT PROFILE

A. Description

The Seaman Herd Management Area encompasses approximately 338,400 acres in Lincoln County and Nye County, Nevada. The northern end of the area is approximately 70 miles southwest of Ely, Nevada. The core of the HMA is the Seaman Range where most of the wild horses in the herd spend the summer. The HMA extends out from the mountains north and east into White River Valley, and west into Coal Valley which is the wild horses' fall/winter/spring range. Elevation extends from 5,000 feet in the valley bottoms to 8,650 feet on Timber Mountain.

The Weepah Spring Wilderness Study Area (WSA) covers 61,137 acres within the HMA (Map 3). A large portion (53,317 acres) of this WSA is recommended suitable.

Most of the allotments within, or adjacent to, the HMA are unfenced. There is only one fence across White River Valley, and two fences across Coal Valley (Map 4). In addition, there are only a few developed waters in the area, and a couple of these water sources are seasonal. Livestock move freely between several of the allotments depending on where water is available. This causes a distribution problem, as well as a problem with licensing and actual use information. No allotment management plans or grazing systems have been developed for any of the allotments.

B. Allotment Specific Objectives

The allotment specific objectives tie the Land Use Plan/Rangeland Program Summary together into quantified objectives for those allotments included in the Seaman HMA Monitoring Evaluation.

1. Livestock (Appendix I)

- a. The short-term objective will be accomplished through managing the allowable use levels (AUL) by season of use and/or stocking levels to improve or maintain the desired vegetation community throughout the allotments.
- b. The long-term objective is to improve those acres in poor or fair livestock forage condition and maintain all acres presently in good livestock forage condition by managing for those seral stages which optimize livestock forage production.

2. Wild Horses (Appendix I)

- a. The short-term objective will be accomplished through managing the allowable use level (AUL) to improve or maintain the desired vegetative community.
- b. The long-term objective is to manage for the most appropriate seral stage to provide desired quantity, quality and variety of forage in order to meet the requirements of the wild horses.

3. Mule Deer

- a. The short-term objective is to limit use on key browse species listed for mule deer to 45 percent yearlong.
- b. The long-term objective is to maintain mule deer range in at least fair habitat condition by providing diversity of forage species.

4. Pronghorn Antelope

- a. The short-term objective is to limit use on key species listed for pronghorn antelope to 55 percent for forbs and 45 percent for shrubs yearlong.

- b. The long-term objective is to maintain antelope range in at least fair habitat condition by providing appropriate vegetation quantity and quality.

5. Ferruginous Hawks

- a. The short-term objective is to limit use on winterfat near occupied ferruginous hawk nests to 45 percent yearlong.
- b. The long-term objectives are to manage winterfat stands near occupied ferruginous hawk nests in mid to late seral stage, and to maintain integrity of existing pinyon-juniper "stringers" near these winterfat stands.

6. Wilderness Study Area

- a. The short-term objective will be accomplished through managing the allowable use level (AUL) to improve or maintain the desired vegetative community.
- b. The long-term objective is to improve or maintain the current vegetation within the Weepah Spring WSA to provide future wilderness values and biodiversity.

C. Key Species Identification

1. Livestock and Wild Horses (Appendix I)

Key Areas, BB-1, BB-2, TM-2, CVL-1, SCV-1, SCV-2:

winterfat Eurotia lanata (EULA5)
Indian ricegrass Oryzopsis hymenoides (ORHY)

Key Areas, TM-1, FM-1, CVL-4, WTM-1:

black sagebrush Artemesia arbuscula nova
(ARARN)
Indian ricegrass Oryzopsis hymenoides (ORHY)

Key Areas, CVL-2, CVL-3:

fourwing saltbush Atriplex canescens (ATCA2)
Indian ricegrass Oryzopsis hymenoides (ORHY)
galleta Hilaria jamesii (HIJA)

2. Mule Deer

black sagebrush Artemisia arbuscula nova (ARARN)
Stansbury cliffrose Cowania mexicana stansburiana
(COMES)

green ephedra Ephedra viridis (EPVI)

antelope bitterbrush Purshia tridentata (PUTR2)

3. Pronghorn Antelope

bud sagebrush Artemisia spinescens (ARSP5)

black sagebrush Artemisia arbuscula nova (ARARN)

shadscale Atriplex confertifolia (ATCO)

globemallow Sphaeralcea spp. (SPHAE)

buckwheat Eriogonum spp. (ERIOG)

phlox Phlox spp. (PHLOX)

IV. MANAGEMENT EVALUATION

A. Purpose

This evaluation addresses eight allotments within the Seaman Wild Horse Herd Management Area and several adjacent allotments. The purpose of this document is to evaluate the nature of grazing that has occurred on the allotments, and to measure effectiveness in meeting specific management objectives identified in the LUP. Included will be recommendations to make specific changes in current management where these LUP objectives are not being met.

B. Summary of Studies Data

1. Key Management Area Evaluation Summary

Key areas were established in 1995. Ecological status is the only information that has been collected, and is summarized on pages 12 through 14.

2. Actual Use

a. Livestock

Livestock use was determined from past licensed use and has varied from year to year. Permittees have taken nonuse at different times because of the annual fluctuation of their operations, or for conservation and protection of the public lands. For example, in the Middle Coal

Valley Allotment, livestock use ranged from 1,038 AUMs in 1990 to 694 AUMs in 1995. Use in the other allotments are similar, varying from a low of five percent of active preference to a high of 99 percent of active preference. In a few cases, a permittee did not graze any cattle on an allotment for the entire year. Licensed use by allotment by permittee is displayed in Appendix II.

b. Wild Horses

Management of the wild horses in the Seaman HMA is based on the entire herd area, and each allotment is only a subset within the HMA. It is recognized that wild horses roam freely throughout the whole area. Eighty-four wild horses were counted in the 1983 census which established the initial stocking level for the Seaman HMA. Unfortunately, the locations of these wild horses were not identified on a map. Since 1983, additional aerial censuses have been conducted which show the number of wild horses counted by allotment (Table 5). In recent years, the U.S. Forest Service has observed wild horses during the summer on land administered by the Ely Ranger District in the Grant Range. This range is just west of the Seaman HMA, but is not included in any censuses.

c. Wildlife

Mule deer are found on Mount Irish, the Seaman Range, and the Golden Gate Range. The Nevada Division of Wildlife (NDOW) does not survey these mountain ranges because of low deer numbers; therefore, there is no estimate of mule deer use in the area.

Pronghorn antelope have been observed on some of the allotments. NDOW has only surveyed White River Valley since most of the antelope in Management Area 13 are found in this valley. At this time they do not survey Coal Valley or Garden Valley, but as numbers increase they will survey these valleys, too.

Table 5. Number of Wild Horses Counted during Aerial Censuses by Allotment.									
Allotment	Date of Aerial Census								
	6/87	3/89	4/91	8/92	5/93	9/94	12/94	3/95	9/95
Oreana Springs	56	0	57	90	42	37	46	59	89
Fox Mountain	0	18	5	0	1	10	38	6	0
Timber Mountain	0	0	0	0	27	0	0	17	0
North Hiko-Six Mile	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Middle Coal Valley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bird Springs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coal Valley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Needles	36	0	20	13	52	13	34	83	21
Seaman Springs	7	7	0	9	5	1	10	9	15
West Timber Mountain	6	6	11	0	12	9	20	64	1
East Water Gap	0	0	0	0	23	11	35	0	0
Batterman Wash *	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0
Dry Farm *	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilson Creek *	0	0	0	0	22	0	3	0	0
Forest Moon *	32	75	37	106	21	76	35	40	66
Sunnyside *	53	52	114	70	83	92	96	80	64
Outside HMA	0	2	0	11	12	0	0	0	71
TOTAL	190	160	244	299	300	254	317	358	327

* These allotments have already been evaluated, and are included for information purposes only.

3. Precipitation

Data for this evaluation was obtained from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration weather station located in Sunnyside, Nevada. Sunnyside is located approximately five miles north of the Seaman HMA. This weather station best represents the climatic conditions of the area. The average annual precipitation from 1977 to 1994 is 10.94 inches. The yearly precipitation for this period ranged from 6.94 inches to 17.11 inches.

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4. Utilization

a. Key Area

Key areas were established in 1995 (Map 5). Their locations were correlated to use pattern mapping data and ecological site data. No utilization transects have been read at the key areas.

b. Use Pattern Mapping

Use pattern mapping was completed for the following allotments:

The Needles Allotment was use pattern mapped in 1992. The use pattern map showed areas of slight, light and moderate use (Map 6).

The West Timber Mountain Allotment was use pattern mapped in 1992 and 1993. The use pattern maps for this allotment showed areas of slight, light, and moderate use (Maps 6 & 7). In 1992, no sheep were on the allotment; therefore, all use that year was made by wild horses.

The East Water Gap Allotment, the Middle Coal Valley Allotment, and the west side of the Oreana Springs Allotment were use pattern mapped in 1992 and 1993. The information is being combined (Maps 8 & 9) because livestock licensed in any one of these allotment had access to the other two allotments. The use pattern maps show areas of slight, light, and moderate use. The 1993 use pattern map shows a very small area of severe use due to an acute corner in a fence that tends to trap livestock.

The North Hiko-Six Mile Allotment was use pattern mapped in 1992 and 1993. The use pattern maps show mostly areas of light and moderate use (Maps 10 & 11). The 1993 use pattern map shows a very small area of heavy use.

The Timber Mountain Allotment was use pattern mapped in 1992 and 1993. The use pattern maps for this allotment showed areas of slight, light and moderate use (Maps 12 & 13).

5. Trend

Apparent trend was determined at all key areas in the spring of 1995. Apparent trend was upward at Key Area WTM-1. Trend was not apparent at Key Areas BB-2, CVL-4, TM-1, TM-2, FM-1, CVL-1, CVL-3, SCV-1, and SCV-2. Apparent trend was downward at Key Areas BB-1, FM-2, and CVL-2,

6. Range Survey Data

Table 6 shows the AUMs available for each allotment according to the 1979 Ocular Reconnaissance Forage Survey. The AUM figure reflects the application of suitability criteria and competitive/noncompetitive criteria.

Allotment	Available AUMs
Oreana Springs	2,834
Fox Mountain	2,799
Timber Mountain	455
North Hiko-Six Mile	628
Middle Coal Valley	821
Bird Springs	392
Coal Valley	1,114
Needles	4,042
Seaman Springs	1,142
West Timber Mountain	527
East Water Gap	1,093

7. Ecological Status (Appendix I)

Ecological status was completed on the key areas in 1995 using the double sampling method. The following is a summary of ecological status at the key areas:

Key Area BB-1 is within a silty range site (029XY020NV) with a condition rating of 30 percent

of Potential Natural Community (PNC) by air dry weight. It is placed in early seral stage due to lack of desirable grass composition.

Key Area BB-2 is within a silty range site (029XY020NV) with a condition rating of 82 percent of PNC by air dry weight. It is placed in mid seral stage due to lack of desirable grass composition.

Key Area TM-1 is within a shallow calcareous loam range site (029XY008NV) with a condition rating of 43 percent of PNC by air dry weight. It is placed in early seral stage due to lack of desirable grass composition.

Key Area TM-2 is within a silty range site (029XY020NV) with a condition rating of 77 percent of PNC by air dry weight. It is placed in mid seral stage due to lack of desirable grass composition.

Key Area FM-1 is within a shallow calcareous loam range site (029XY008NV) with a condition rating of 52 percent of PNC by air dry weight. It is placed in mid seral stage due to lack of desirable grass composition.

Key Area CVL-1 is within a silty range site (029XY020NV) with a condition rating of 80 percent of PNC by air dry weight. It is placed in late seral stage due to lack of desirable grass composition.

Key Area CVL-2 is within a sandy loam range site (029XY046NV) with a condition rating of 13 percent of PNC by air dry weight, placing it in early seral stage.

Key Area CVL-3 is within a sandy loam range site (029XY046NV) with a condition rating of 25 percent of PNC by air dry weight, placing it in early seral stage.

Key Area CVL-4 is within a shallow calcareous loam range site (029XY008NV) with a condition rating of 41 percent of PNC by air dry weight. It is placed in early seral stage due to lack of desirable grass composition.

Key Area WTM-1 is within a shallow calcareous loam range site (029XY008NV) with a condition rating of

62 percent of PNC by air dry weight, placing it in late seral stage.

Key Area SCV-1 is within a coarse silty range site (029XY042NV) with a condition rating of 56 percent of PNC by air dry weight. It is placed in mid seral stage due to lack of desirable grass composition.

Key Area SCV-2 is within a coarse silty range site (029XY042NV) with a condition rating of 37 percent of PNC by air dry weight. It is placed in early seral stage due to lack of desirable grass composition.

8. Wildlife Habitat

Because there are no key/crucial areas on any of the allotments, no wildlife habitat studies have been established.

9. Riparian

There are six springs in the area that have all been developed and the water piped into troughs. There are no riparian areas associated with any of these springs; therefore, no riparian objectives have been established for any of the allotments.

10. Wild Horse Habitat

In general, there appears to be adequate forage, cover, and living space for wild horses. Water availability is limited resulting in concentration of wild horses around the few existing waters.

11. Wilderness Study Area

No ecological status has been collected within the Weepah Spring WSA.

V. CONCLUSIONS

Refer to by number from III.B., Allotment Specific Objectives

A. Livestock

1. Objective Attainment Determination

Met (Short-Term)
Not Met (Long-Term)

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2. Rationale

Short-term utilization levels have not been exceeded except for a few small areas of heavy use. The present seral stage at ten of twelve key areas is lower than desired because of the lack of key grasses and forbs. Continued grazing during the critical spring growing season has decreased the percentage of grasses and forbs in the plant communities.

B. Wild Horses

1. Objective Attainment Determination

Met (Short-Term)
Not Met (Long-Term)

2. Rationale

Short-term utilization levels have not been exceeded. The present seral stage at four of five key areas within the HMA is lower than desired because of the lack of key grasses and forbs.

C. Mule Deer

1. Objective Attainment Determination

Unknown

2. Rationale

No utilization studies have been done on the key species identified for mule deer.

D. Pronghorn Antelope

1. Objective Attainment Determination

Unknown

2. Rationale

No utilization studies have been done on the key species identified for pronghorn antelope.

E. Ferruginous Hawk

1. Objective Attainment Determination

Met

2. Rationale

Use pattern mapping in 1992 showed only slight and light use near occupied ferruginous hawk nests.

F. Wilderness Study Area

1. Objective Attainment Determination

Met

2. Rationale

Use pattern mapping shows no overuse within the Weepah Spring WSA.

VI. TECHNICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Issues

1. Livestock Drift

There are unfenced boundaries between several allotments which allow livestock to drift from one allotment to another. In addition, allotment boundaries currently do not follow natural barriers which also leads to livestock drifting between allotments. Finally, the location of livestock waters in certain allotments draw cattle from other allotments. There are three fences across Coal Valley, and the opportunity to put in other fences to control livestock is limited by the presence of the wild horse HMA.

2. Spring Grazing

Continued grazing during the critical spring growing season has decreased the percentage of grasses and forbs in plant communities. Low percentage of grasses and forbs has resulted in less than desirable seral stages at most of the key areas (Appendix I).

3. Forage Allocation

According to the Schell Resource Area Record of Decision, an initial stocking rate for all large herbivores will be established, and future adjustments will be based upon reliable vegetation monitoring studies, consultation and coordination, baseline inventory, or a combination of these.

The Seaman HMA Evaluation will establish an AML for wild horses which will achieve a thriving natural ecological balance for all allotments within the plan area.

4. Lack of Water

The Seaman area is very dry and water availability is a problem for both livestock and wild horses. Because water may be available on one allotment and not on another, cattle licensed on the one allotment drift onto the other allotment where water is accessible. Wild horses tend to concentrate around the few existing waters, and when water is not available, the wild horses move outside the HMA.

5. Sheep-to-Cattle Conversions

Several permittees would like the option to convert some of their AUMs from sheep use to cattle use.

B. Short-Term Recommendations

1. Change Allotment Boundaries

To address the issue of livestock drift, the following allotment boundary changes are being proposed. Refer to Map 1 for original allotment boundaries and Map 14 for the proposed allotment boundary changes. These proposals were developed through consultation, coordination, and cooperation with affected permittees. Better management and administrative control is expected, and authorized livestock use should occur where it is licensed.

- a. There is no control over cattle licensed on the East Water Gap, Middle Coal Valley and Oreana Springs Allotments within Coal Valley. Cattle licensed on any one of the allotments can make use on any of the other two allotments.

Solution: Create one allotment which would include the East Water Gap and Middle Coal Valley Allotments, and the northern portion of Oreana Springs Allotment. This new allotment would be called the Coal Valley Lake Allotment.

COAL VALLEY LAKE ALLOTMENT (4,821 AUMS)		
ORIGINAL ALLOTMENT	PERMITTEE	PERMITTED USE
East Water Gap	Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	1,209 AUMs Cattle
Middle Coal Valley	Tom Steele	1,138 AUMs Cattle
Oreana Springs	Tom Steele Charles & Clayton Wadsworth Wayne Stevens	1,519 AUMs Cattle 560 AUMs Cattle 395 AUMs Sheep

- b. The southern portion of Oreana Springs, North Hiko-Six Mile, and the eastern portion of Seaman Springs allotment boundaries are unfenced. Cattle licensed on North Hiko-Six Mile and Oreana Springs Allotments can run together and use that portion of Seaman Springs Allotment which is permitted for sheep use.

Solution: Combine the southern portion of Oreana Springs Allotment, the portion of the Seaman Springs Allotment east of Seaman Narrows, and the portion of the North Hiko-Six Mile Allotment west of Highway 318 into one allotment. This new allotment would be called the Black Bluff Allotment. The remainder of North Hiko-Six Mile Allotment (east of Highway 318) would be added to the White River Allotment (No. 1009).

BLACK BLUFF ALLOTMENT (1,668 AUMS)		
ORIGINAL ALLOTMENT	PERMITTEE	PERMITTED USE
Seaman Springs	Gracian Uhalde	262 AUMs Sheep
North Hiko-Six Mile	Higbee Brothers Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	103 AUMs Cattle 344 AUMs Cattle
Oreana Springs	Varlin Higbee Stuart Twitchell Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	379 AUMs Cattle 380 AUMs Cattle 200 AUMs Cattle

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WHITE RIVER ALLOTMENT (501 AUMS)		
ORIGINAL ALLOTMENT	PERMITTEE	PERMITTED USE
White River	Higbee Brothers	405 AUMs Cattle
North Hiko-Six Mile	Higbee Brothers	96 AUMs Cattle

- c. All the allotments south of the Coal Valley Fence are unfenced and cattle graze freely throughout the area. This includes portions of the Worthington Mountain Allotment (No. 1021), Crescent Allotment (No. 1028), and Uhalde Coal Valley Allotment (No. 1032). These allotments are not part of this evaluation, but their boundaries would be changed at this time to provide better administrative control.

Solution: The Coal Valley and Uhalde Coal Valley Allotments, the western portion of the Seaman Springs Allotment, the northeast portion of Crescent Allotment, and the east portion of Worthington Allotment (east of the Golden Gate Range) would be combined and divided into two allotments. The two allotments would be called the South Coal Valley Allotment and the Murphy Gap Allotment. All livestock permittees would run in common until the two allotments are separated by the construction of a fence (see Long-Term Recommendations). The area north and east of the new fence would become the South Coal Valley Allotment, and the area to the south and west would be the Murphy Gap Allotment.

SOUTH COAL VALLEY ALLOTMENT (2,205 AUMS)		
ORIGINAL ALLOTMENT	PERMITTEE	Permitted Use
Seaman Springs	Gracian Uhalde	1,357 AUMs Sheep
Coal Valley	Higbee Brothers	124 AUMs Cattle
	Varlin Higbee	76 AUMs Cattle
	Stuart Twitchell	76 AUMs Cattle
	Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	572 AUMs Cattle

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MURPHY GAP ALLOTMENT (1,951 AUMs)		
ORIGINAL ALLOTMENT	PERMITTEE	PERMITTED USE
Worthington Mtn. (including Uhalde Coal Valley)	Gracian Uhalde	657 AUMs Sheep
Crescent	Bertrand Paris & Sons	1,294 AUMs Sheep

- d. The Needles Allotment is a sheep allotment, and is unfenced from the surrounding allotments. Cattle from adjacent allotments drift onto or through the Needles Allotment, especially from the Dry Farm Allotment.

Solution: Combine the northwest portion of the Needles Allotment, west of the Golden Gate Range, with the Dry Farm Allotment. Fence the new boundaries of the Dry Farm Allotment.

DRY FARM ALLOTMENT (1,530 AUMs)		
ORIGINAL ALLOTMENT	PERMITTEE	PERMITTED USE
Dry Farm	Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	592 AUMs Cattle
Needles	Bertrand Paris & Sons	938 AUMs Sheep

NEEDLES ALLOTMENT (2,679 AUMs)		
ORIGINAL ALLOTMENT	PERMITTEE	PERMITTED USE
Needles	Bertrand Paris & Sons	2,679 AUMs Sheep

- e. The boundaries between the Fox Mountain, Timber Mountain Allotments, and a portion of the Wilson Creek Allotment are not fenced. These allotments are used by the same permittee. There is no control over cattle use along the entire White River bottom. If cattle are licensed in any of the allotments (which is allowable under a 1975 decision) they will be able to drift uncontrolled between allotments.

Solution: Combine the portion of the Wilson Creek Allotment west of Highway 318 with the Timber Mountain Allotment. Change the boundary between the Fox Mountain and Timber Mountain Allotments, and construct a fence from Highway 318 to the Fox Mountain-Sunnyside Division Fence (1/2 to 2 miles).

TIMBER MOUNTAIN ALLOTMENT (2,373 AUMs)		
ORIGINAL ALLOTMENT	PERMITTEE	PERMITTED USE
Timber Mountain	Wayne Stevens	965 AUMs Sheep
Fox Mountain	Wayne Stevens	358 AUMs Sheep
Wilson Creek	Wayne Stevens	1,050 AUMs Sheep

FOX MOUNTAIN ALLOTMENT (6,322 AUMs)		
ORIGINAL ALLOTMENT	PERMITTEE	PERMITTED USE
Fox Mountain	Wayne Stevens	6,322 AUMs Sheep

WILSON CREEK ALLOTMENT (1,786 AUMs)		
ORIGINAL ALLOTMENT	PERMITTEE	PERMITTED USE
Wilson Creek	Wayne Stevens	313 AUMs Cattle
	Wayne Stevens	1,473 AUMs Sheep

- f. The Bird Springs Allotment is separated into a north half and a south half by natural barriers. Three permittees use the north half, and only one permittee uses the south half. The south half of the allotment is adjacent to the Irish Mountain Allotment (No. 1006). The permittee that uses the south half is the same permittee that uses the Irish Mountain Allotment.

Solution: Combine the south half of the Bird Springs Allotment with the Irish Mountain Allotment. Keep the north half of the Bird Springs Allotment as a separate allotment, and change the boundary to include the area south of the Seaman Wash road. The north half

of the Bird Springs Allotment will now be called the Black Horse Allotment.

IRISH MOUNTAIN ALLOTMENT (2,541 AUMs)		
ORIGINAL ALLOTMENT	PERMITTEE	PERMITTED USE
Bird Springs	Orren Nash	226 AUMs Cattle
Irish Mountain	Orren Nash	2,315 AUMs Cattle

BLACK HORSE ALLOTMENT (510 AUMs)		
ORIGINAL ALLOTMENT	PERMITTEE	PERMITTED USE
Bird Springs	Higbee Brothers	267 AUMs Cattle
Bird Springs	Varlin Higbee	122 AUMs Cattle
Bird Springs	Stuart Twitchell	121 AUMs Cattle

2. Implement Grazing Systems

To respond to Issue 2, deferred rotation grazing systems have been developed for some allotments to provide for spring rest at least one year out of two. Rest during the critical spring growing season (April and May) will allow grasses and forbs to increase in the plant communities.

a. Coal Valley Lake Allotment

Cattle will be turned into the Coal Valley Lake Allotment in the fall of each year as early as 9/1. Use within the allotment will be controlled by providing water at designated locations. On even numbered years cattle will begin grazing at the north end of the allotment and will be moved south through the winter. On odd years this pattern will be reversed.

Spring Use on the Coal Valley Lake Allotment will be rotated between three use areas (i.e., West Bench, East Bench, and Weepah Wash). Again, use in these areas will be controlled by providing water at designated locations. Beginning in the spring of 1997

cattle will graze the West Bench of Coal Valley. The next year (1998) cattle will use the East Bench. The third year (1999) cattle will graze the Weepah Wash area. In the fourth year this cycle will begin over.

b. Black Bluff & South Coal Valley Allotment

Spring livestock use will be rotated between the Black Bluff Allotment and the South Coal Valley Allotment. On even numbered years cattle will use the Black Bluff Allotment from 03/01 to 05/15. On odd numbered years they will use the South Coal Valley Allotment during this period with the exception of the Wadsworths. Because they do not have enough spring use in other allotments, the Wadsworths will be allowed to use the South Coal Valley Allotment in the spring three out of four years. In the fourth year, they will have to move their cows out of South Coal Valley by 02/28 even if it means moving them to private land.

3. Livestock and Wild Horse Numbers

According to the Schell Resource Area Record of Decision, adjustments to livestock and wild horse numbers will be based upon monitoring data (Issue 3). Use pattern mapping in 1992 and 1993 showed areas of slight, light, and moderate use on all allotments monitored. There was only one small area of heavy use on the North Hiko - Six Mile Allotment, and one area of severe use on the Coal Valley Allotment in 1993. The area of severe use was due to an acute corner in a fence that tends to trap livestock. The fence will be modified to eliminate this corner. The use pattern maps show livestock and wild horse numbers are not excessive; however, there does appear to be a problem with the distribution of animals in the area.

The permitted use for livestock will remain the same as active preference (Appendix III & IV). Improving livestock distribution through additional water locations, and providing spring rest through implementation of grazing systems will allow the Bureau to meet, or make progress towards its multiple use management objectives.

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The appropriate management level for wild horses will be set at existing numbers based on the latest census which was conducted in September 1995. This means the AML for this portion of the Seaman HMA will be 126 animals yearlong. This figure will be added to the AML established previously through the evaluation/decision process for the other five allotments within the HMA. Those five allotments and the AML established are Batterman Wash - 0, Dry Farm - 0, Wilson Creek - 1, Forest Moon - 15, and Sunnyside - 17. Therefore, the AML for the entire Seaman HMA will be 159 wild horses ± 15 percent. The ± 15 percent range allows the wild horse population to fluctuate resulting in fewer removals and less stress to the animals.

The new allotments established as a result of this evaluation will be monitored to provide information for subsequent evaluations. These allotment evaluations will determine if adjustments in permitted use or AML are necessary in the future.

4. Water Hauling

To address the problem of a lack of water in the Seaman area (Issue 4), the permittees will haul water to designated locations during the time their livestock are on the allotments. Permanent storage tanks with troughs may be installed at these sites.

C. Long-Term Recommendations

1. Range Improvements to Control Livestock Drift (Map 15)
 - a. Coal Valley Fence Modification - Realign existing fence to eliminate acute angle which tends to trap livestock. (Not within the Seaman HMA)
 - b. Coal Valley Reservoir Fence - A fence around the entire reservoir area with gates in order to enhance livestock management. (Not within the Seaman HMA)
 - c. Line Reservoir Fence - A fence around the entire reservoir area with gates in order to enhance livestock management. (Not within the Seaman HMA)

- d. Black Bluff Fence - Approximately 6 miles of fence to separate the Coal Valley Lake Allotment and the Black Bluff Allotment. This fence would be open-ended to accommodate wild horse movements.
- e. South Coal Valley Fence - A fence to separate the Murphy Gap Allotment from the South Coal Valley Allotment. (Not within the Seaman HMA)
- f. Dry Farm Boundary Fences - Fences on the north and south boundary of the Dry Farm Allotment to prevent livestock drifting onto adjacent allotments. This fence would be open-ended to accommodate wild horse movements.
- g. Timber Mountain Boundary Fence - A fence to separate the north end of the Timber Mountain Allotment from the Fox Mountain Allotment. This fence would be open-ended to accommodate wild horse movements.
- h. Bird Springs Boundary Fence - A fence on the northern boundary of the Bird Springs Allotment to prevent cattle from drifting into South Coal Valley. (Not within the Seaman HMA)
- i. Black Horse Gap Fences - Gap fences separating the Irish Mountain Allotment and the Black Horse Allotment. (Not within the Seaman HMA)
- j. Needles Fence - A boundary fence to separate the Needles Allotment and the Sunnyside Allotment. This fence would prevent cattle drift between the two allotments. This fence would be open-ended to accommodate wild horse movements.
- k. Murphy Wash Gap Fence - A gap fence to prevent livestock drift from the Murphy Gap Allotment into the Crescent Allotment. (Not within the Seaman HMA)
- l. Hiko Narrows Gap Fence - A gap fence in the Hiko Narrows to prevent livestock drift from the Black Bluff Allotment onto the Irish Mountain Allotment. (Not within the Seaman HMA)

2. Range Improvements to Provide Additional Water for Livestock, Wild Horses, and Wildlife (Map 15)
 - a. Permanent Water Haul Sites - Install storage tanks with troughs at designated locations.
 - b. Oreana Springs Pipeline Modification - Install another trough on the Oreana Springs Pipeline midway between the existing trough and the Coal Valley Reservoir.
 - c. Weepah Spring - Reconstruct the existing development (i.e., spring box, pipeline, and trough).
 - d. Needles Pipelines - Pipelines from the well at the Paris Base Camp to existing troughs in the Needles Allotment.
 - e. Chicken-In Spring - Develop the spring to provide water for livestock in that portion of the Black Bluff Allotment.
3. Sheep-to-Cattle Conversion

Several permittees have requested a conversion of a portion of their sheep AUMs to cattle AUMs. The 1979 Range Survey was examined to determine how many AUMs were available on winterfat sites on each allotment. These AUMs would be converted at a 2:1 ratio (2 sheep AUMs would equal 1 cattle AUM). This ratio was derived from a similar conversion given to another livestock permittee. The following tables show the permitted use by permittee for sheep use only or dual use for each allotment. The difference in AUMs will be placed in nonuse for conservation and protection of the resource. These initial stocking levels for cattle will be evaluated at a later date to determine the amount of cattle AUMs available on a sustained yield basis. Water will need to be made available at designated locations, based on distribution patterns once cattle are placed on an allotment.

BERTRAND PARIS & SONS		
Sheep Use Only		
Allotment	Sheep AUMs	Cattle AUMs
Needles	2,679 AUMs	0
Murphy Gap	1,294 AUMs	0
Dual Use		
Needles	591 AUMs	1,044 AUMs
Murphy Gap	406 AUMs	444 AUMs

GRACIAN UHALDE		
Sheep Use Only		
Allotment	Sheep AUMs	Cattle AUMs
Murphy Gap	657 AUMs	0
Dual Use		
Murphy Gap	239 AUMs	209 AUMs

WAYNE STEVENS		
Sheep Use Only		
Allotment	Sheep AUMs	Cattle AUMs
Fox Mountain (East of Highway 318)	3,732 AUMs	0 AUMs
Fox Mountain (West of Highway 318)	2,590 AUMs	0 AUMs
Timber Mountain	2,373 AUMs	0 AUMs
Dual Use		
Fox Mountain (East of Highway 318)	3,732 AUMs	0 AUMs
Fox Mountain (West of Highway 318)	1,784 AUMs	403 AUMs
Timber Mountain	1,939 AUMs	217 AUMs

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D. Additional Monitoring Required

1. Continue to collect monitoring data (i.e., utilization, frequency, production) at existing key areas.
2. Use pattern map new allotments.
3. Establish new key areas, as necessary, based on changes in livestock management.
4. Collect actual use by permittee by allotment/use area at the end of each grazing period.
5. Conduct wild horse censuses annually.
6. Read utilization on key species identified for wildlife.

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APPENDIX I

SEAMAN HERD MANAGEMENT AREA - LIVESTOCK AND WILD HORSE OBJECTIVES

				PRESENT SITUATION			LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES **		SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES	
Study No.	Key Area Location	Ecological Site No.	Key Species	Key Species % Comp. by Weight	Seral Stage (% of PNC)*	Maintain or Improve	Key Species % Comp. by Weight	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Allowable Use Level ***	Livestock Period of Use
BB-1	T. 2 S., R. 62 E., Sec. 7	029XY020NV	EULA5 ORHY	EULA5 22% ORHY Trace Grasses 1% Forbs 73% Shrubs 26%	Early * (30%)	Improve	EULA5 >30% ORHY >5%	MID	45% 30%(by 5/31) 50%(yearlong)	9/1 - 5/15
BB-2	T. 2 S., R. 61 E., Sec. 27	029XY020NV	EULA5 ORHY	EULA5 79% ORHY Trace Grasses 1% Forbs 10% Shrubs 89%	Mid * (82%)	Improve	EULA5 <79% ORHY 2-5%	MID	45% 30%(by 5/31) 50%(yearlong)	9/1 - 5/15
TM-1	T. 3 N., R. 62 E., Sec. 33	029XY008NV	ARARN ORHY	ARARN 84% ORHY 1% Grasses 3% Forbs 9% Shrubs 87%	Early * (43%)	Improve	ARARN <84% ORHY 3-5%	MID	45% 30%(by 5/31) 50%(yearlong)	11/1 - 4/10
TM-2	T. 3 N., R. 62 E., Sec. 27	029XY020NV	EULA5 ORHY	EULA5 87% ORHY Trace Grasses T Forbs 9% Shrubs 91%	Mid * (77%)	Improve	EULA5 <87% ORHY 3-5%	MID	45% 30%(by 5/31) 50%(yearlong)	11/1 - 4/10
FM-1	T. 4 N., R. 62 E., Sec. 7	029XY008NV	ARARN ORHY	ARARN 63% ORHY Trace Grasses 19% Forbs 6% Shrubs 75%	Mid * (52%)	Improve	EULA5 <63% ORHY 3-5%	MID	45% 30%(by 5/31) 50%(yearlong)	11/1 - 4/10

* Seral stage is based on plant community composition as well as percentage of PNC. These key areas lack key forage species so seral stage is lower than the percentage of PNC indicates.

** This is the percent composition and seral stage that would have the desired vegetative characteristics to optimize production, quantity, quality, and variety to provide the greatest forage value for all users.

*** Allowable use levels for utilization are the short-term objectives established to meet the long-term composition objectives.

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APPENDIX I (Continued)

SEAMAN HERD MANAGEMENT AREA - LIVESTOCK AND WILD HORSE OBJECTIVES

				PRESENT SITUATION			LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES **		SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES	
Study No.	Key Area Location	Ecological Site No.	Key Species	Key Species % Comp. by Weight	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Maintain or Improve	Key Species % Comp. by Weight	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Allowable Use Level ***	Livestock Period of Use
CVL-1	T. 1 N., R. 59 E., Sec. 9	029XY020NV	EULA5 ORHY	EULA5 73% ORHY 2% Grasses 2% Forbs 6% Shrubs 92%	Late * (80%)	Maintain	EULA5 <73% ORHY 3-5%	LATE	45% 40%(by 5/31) 55%(yearlong)	9/1 - 5/15
CVL-2	T. 1 N., R. 60 E., Sec. 17	029XY046NV	ATCA2 ORHY HIJA	ATCA2 Trace ORHY 2% HIJA 3% Grasses 6% Forbs 2% Shrubs 92%	Early (13%)	Improve	ATCA2 1-2% ORHY 3-5% HIJA 3-5%	MID	45% 30%(by 5/31) 50%(yearlong)	9/1 - 5/15
CVL-3	T. 2 N., R. 60 E., Sec. 22	029XY046NV	ATCA2 ORHY HIJA	ATCA2 6% ORHY 1% HIJA 1% Grasses 3% Forbs 15% Shrubs 82%	Early (25%)	Improve	ATCA2 8-10% ORHY 3-5% HIJA 3-5%	MID	45% 30%(by 5/31) 50%(yearlong)	9/1 - 5/15
CVL-4	T. 1 N., R. 61 E., Sec. 36	029XY008NV	ARARN ORHY	ARARN 81% ORHY 1% Grasses 8% Forbs 10% Shrubs 82%	Early * (41%)	Improve	ARARN <81% ORHY 3-5%	MID	45% 30%(by 5/31) 50%(yearlong)	9/1 - 5/15

* Seral stage is based on plant community composition as well as percentage of PNC. These key areas lack key forage species so seral stage is lower than the percentage of PNC indicates.

** This is the percent composition and seral stage that would have the desired vegetative characteristics to optimize production, quantity, quality, and variety to provide the greatest forage value for all users.

*** Allowable use levels for utilization are the short-term objectives established to meet the long-term composition objectives.

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APPENDIX I (Continued)

SEAMAN HERD MANAGEMENT AREA - LIVESTOCK AND WILD HORSE OBJECTIVES

				PRESENT SITUATION			LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES **		SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES	
Study No.	Key Area Location	Ecological Site No.	Key Species	Key Species % Comp. by Weight	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Maintain or Improve	Key Species % Comp. by Weight	Seral Stage (% of PNC)	Allowable Use Level ***	Livestock Period of Use
WTM-1	T. 2 N., R. 61 E., Sec. 20	029XY008NV	ARARN ORHY	ARARN 60% ORHY 8% Grasses 11% Forbs 20% Shrubs 69%	Late (62%)	Maintain	ARARN <60% ORHY >8%	LATE	45% 40%(by 5/31) 55%(yearlong)	12/1 - 2/28
SCV-1	T. 1 S., R. 60 E., Sec. 10	029XY042NV	EULA5 ORHY	EULA5 65% ORHY Trace Grasses 5% Forbs 5% Shrubs 90%	Mid * (56%)	Improve	EULA5 <65% ORHY 3-5%	MID	45% 30%(by 5/31) 50%(yearlong)	9/1 - 5/15
SCV-2	T. 2 S., R. 59 E., Sec. 2	029XY042NV	EULA5 ORHY	EULA5 91% ORHY 1% Grasses 2% Forbs 3% Shrubs 95%	Early * (37%)	Improve	EULA5 <91% ORHY 3-5%	MID	45% 30%(by 5/31) 50%(yearlong)	9/1 - 5/15

* Seral stage is based on plant community composition as well as percentage of PNC. These key areas lack key forage species so seral stage is lower than the percentage of PNC indicates.

** This is the percent composition and seral stage that would have the desired vegetative characteristics to optimize production, quantity, quality, and variety to provide the greatest forage value for all users.

*** Allowable use levels for utilization are the short-term objectives established to meet the long-term composition objectives.

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APPENDIX II

ACTUAL USE (AUMS) BY ALLOTMENT

OREANA SPRINGS (1003)

Permittee	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Tom Steele	1,370	810	1,025	995	1,506	1,506	1,512	1,428	1,519	1,002	1,549
Higbee Brothers	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Varlin Higbee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	140
Stuart Twitchell	430	294	740	675	591	477	353	188	-	-	-
Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	-	-	-	75	203	309	89	221	-	-	-
Wayne Stevens	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	140	190	-	-
Gracian Uhalde (Trail use)	33	-	23	11	13	-	-	-	23	-	-
TOTAL	1,856	1,104	1,788	1,756	2,300	2,292	1,954	1,977	1,732	1,002	1,689

FOX MOUNTAIN (1001)

PERMITTEE	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Wayne Stevens	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,766	2,083	2,476	757

TIMBER MOUNTAIN (1004)

PERMITTEE	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Wayne Stevens	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66	237	291	248

NORTH HIKO - SIX MILE (1007)

PERMITTEE	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Tom Steele	150	150	195	197	175	175	178	175	200	199	-
Higbee Brothers	198	159	-	124	-	199	123	197	199	108	-
Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	20	15	50	39	-	-	-	141	-	-	-
TOTAL	368	324	245	360	175	374	301	513	399	307	-

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APPENDIX II (Continued)

ACTUAL USE (AUMS) BY ALLOTMENT

MIDDLE COAL VALLEY (1011)

PERMITTEE	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Tom Steele	300	350	475	572	568	574	590	503	535	567	387
Higbee Brothers	134	208	314	192	313	313	284	-	284	20	-
Stuart Twitchell	260	150	245	75	150	151	128	374	80	-	-
Bertrand Paris & Sons (Trail use)	17	14	27	29	25	53	-	-	14	-	-
TOTAL	711	722	1,061	868	1,056	1,091	1,002	877	913	587	387

BIRD SPRINGS (1013)

PERMITTEE	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Tom Steele	150	150	255	252	48	48	49	209	254	232	-
Higbee Brothers	-	-	-	82	20	62	100	122	119	128	121
Varlin Higbee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	63
Stuart Twitchell	-	-	-	90	127	126	59	122	121	-	63
Orren Nash	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	150	150	255	424	195	236	208	453	494	360	247

COAL VALLEY (1014)

PERMITTEE	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Higbee Brothers	135	183	125	70	123	124	121	-	115	114	124
Varlin Higbee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66
Stuart Twitchell	60	124	61	-	152	90	151	-	85	-	76
Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	236	395	572	515	256	572	-	500	234	268	-
Gracian Uhalde (Trail use)	13	11	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bertrand Paris & Sons (Trail use)	-	14	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	444	727	770	599	531	786	272	500	434	382	266

NEEDLES (1016)

PERMITTEE	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Bertrand Paris & Sons	2,497	2,085	967	2,297	2,412	2,498	1,037	764	2,373	900	-

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APPENDIX II (Continued)

ACTUAL USE (AUMS) BY ALLOTMENT

SEAMAN SPRINGS (1019)

PERMITTEE	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Gracian Uhalde	719	519	374	97	494	187	163	130	528	276	75

WEST TIMBER MOUNTAIN (1020)

PERMITTEE	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Gracian Uhalde	627	415	600	567	729	628	487	708	617	543	214

EAST WATER GAP (1025)

PERMITTEE	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	690	598	245	197	54	301	266	290	498	405	476
Gracian Uhalde (Trail use)	11	12	11	11	13	-	12	-	-	-	-
Bertrand Paris & Sons (Trail use)	17	14	27	29	25	53	-	-	14	-	-
TOTAL	718	624	283	237	92	354	278	290	512	405	476

DRAFT

APPENDIX III

SUMMARY OF PERMITTED USE FOR PROPOSED ALLOTMENTS

COAL VALLEY LAKE ALLOTMENT (4,821 AUMs)			
PERMITTEE	NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK	PERIOD OF USE	PERMITTED USE
Tom Steele	314 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	2,657 AUMs
Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	209 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	1,769 AUMs
Wayne Stevens	373 Sheep	11/01 to 04/10	395 AUMs

BLACK BLUFF ALLOTMENT (1,668 AUMs)			
PERMITTEE	NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK	PERIOD OF USE	PERMITTED USE
Higbee Brothers	12 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	103 AUMs
Varlin Higbee	45 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	379 AUMs
Stuart Twitchell	45 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	380 AUMs
Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	64 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	544 AUMs
Gracian Uhalde	443 Sheep	12/01 to 02/28	262 AUMs

WHITE RIVER ALLOTMENT (501 AUMs)			
PERMITTEE	NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK	PERIOD OF USE	PERMITTED USE
Higbee Brothers	113 Cows	11/01 to 03/15	501 AUMs

DRAFT

APPENDIX III (Continued)

SUMMARY OF PERMITTED USE FOR PROPOSED ALLOTMENTS

SOUTH COAL VALLEY ALLOTMENT (2,205 AUMs)			
PERMITTEE	NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK	PERIOD OF USE	PERMITTED USE
Higbee Brothers	15 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	124 AUMs
Varlin Higbee	9 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	76 AUMs
Stuart Twitchell	9 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	76 AUMs
Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	67 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	572 AUMs
Gracian Uhalde	2,293 Sheep	12/01 to 02/28	1,357 AUMs

MURPHY GAP ALLOTMENT (1,951 AUMs) (Sheep use only)			
PERMITTEE	NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK	PERIOD OF USE	PERMITTED USE
Gracian Uhalde	1,110 Sheep	12/01 to 02/28	657 AUMs
Bertrand Paris & Sons	1,303 Sheep	10/01 to 02/28	1,294 AUMs

DRY FARM ALLOTMENT (1,530 AUMs)			
PERMITTEE	NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK	PERIOD OF USE	PERMITTED USE
Charles & Clayton Wadsworth	295 Cows	06/01 to 07/31	592 AUMs
Bertrand Paris & Sons	724 Sheep	10/01 to 04/15	938 AUMs

DRAFT

APPENDIX III (Continued)

SUMMARY OF PERMITTED USE FOR PROPOSED ALLOTMENTS

NEEDLES ALLOTMENT (2,679 AUMs) (Sheep use only)			
PERMITTEE	NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK	PERIOD OF USE	PERMITTED USE
Bertrand Paris & Sons	2,068 Sheep	10/01 to 04/15	2,679 AUMs

WEST TIMBER MOUNTAIN ALLOTMENT (735 AUMs) (Sheep use only)			
PERMITTEE	NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK	PERIOD OF USE	PERMITTED USE
Gracian Uhalde	1,242 Sheep	12/01 to 02/28	735 AUMs

FOX MOUNTAIN ALLOTMENT (6,322 AUMs) (Sheep Use Only)			
PERMITTEE	NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK	PERIOD OF USE	PERMITTED USE
Wayne Stevens	5,972 Sheep	11/01 to 04/10	6,322 AUMs

TIMBER MOUNTAIN ALLOTMENT (2,373 AUMs) (Sheep use only)			
PERMITTEE	NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK	PERIOD OF USE	PERMITTED USE
Wayne Stevens	2,242 Sheep	11/01 to 04/10	2,373 AUMs

DRAFT

APPENDIX III (Continued)

SUMMARY OF PERMITTED USE FOR PROPOSED ALLOTMENTS

IRISH MOUNTAIN ALLOTMENT (2,541 AUMs)			
PERMITTEE	NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK	PERIOD OF USE	PERMITTED USE
Orren Nash	211 Cows	03/01 to 02/28	2,541 AUMs

BLACK HORSE ALLOTMENT (510 AUMs)			
PERMITTEE	NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK	PERIOD OF USE	PERMITTED USE
Higbee Brothers	22 Cows	03/01 to 02/28	267 AUMs
Varlin Higbee	10 Cows	03/01 to 02/28	122 AUMs
Stuart Twitchell	10 Cows	03/01 to 02/28	121 AUMs

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APPENDIX IV

SUMMARY OF PERMITTED USE BY PERMITTEE

TOM STEELE

<u>ALLOTMENT NAME</u>	<u>NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK</u>	<u>PERIOD OF USE</u>	<u>PERMITTED USE</u>
Coal Valley Lake	314 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	2,657 AUMs
Pine Creek	332 Cows	05/01 to 12/31	2,667 AUMs
			<u>5,324 AUMs</u>

CHARLES AND CLAYTON WADSWORTH

<u>ALLOTMENT NAME</u>	<u>NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK</u>	<u>PERIOD OF USE</u>	<u>PERMITTED USE</u>
Coal Valley Lake	209 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	1,769 AUMs
Black Bluff	64 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	544 AUMs
South Coal Valley	67 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	572 AUMs
Dry Farm	295 Cows	06/01 to 07/31	592 AUMs
			<u>3,477 AUMs</u>

HIGBEE BROTHERS

<u>ALLOTMENT NAME</u>	<u>NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK</u>	<u>PERIOD OF USE</u>	<u>PERMITTED USE</u>
Black Bluff	12 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	103 AUMs
White River	113 Cows	11/01 to 03/15	501 AUMs
South Coal Valley	15 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	124 AUMs
Black Horse	22 Cows	03/01 to 02/28	267 AUMs
			<u>995 AUMs</u>

VARLIN HIGBEE

<u>ALLOTMENT NAME</u>	<u>NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK</u>	<u>PERIOD OF USE</u>	<u>PERMITTED USE</u>
Black Bluff	45 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	379 AUMs
South Coal Valley	9 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	76 AUMs
Black Horse	10 Cows	03/01 to 02/28	122 AUMs
			<u>577 AUMs</u>

DRAFT

APPENDIX IV (Continued)

SUMMARY OF PERMITTED USE BY PERMITTEE

STUART TWITCHELL

<u>ALLOTMENT NAME</u>	<u>NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK</u>	<u>PERIOD OF USE</u>	<u>PERMITTED USE</u>
Black Bluff	45 Cows	09/01 to 05/15	380 AUMs
South Coal Valley	9 Cows	09/01 to 02/28	76 AUMs
Black Horse	10 Cows	03/01 to 02/28	<u>121 AUMs</u>
			577 AUMs

WAYNE STEVENS

<u>ALLOTMENT NAME</u>	<u>NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK</u>	<u>PERIOD OF USE</u>	<u>PERMITTED USE</u>
Coal Valley Lake	373 Sheep	11/01 to 04/10	395 AUMs
Fox Mountain	5,972 Sheep	11/01 to 04/10	6,322 AUMs
Timber Mountain	2,242 Sheep	11/01 to 04/10	2,373 AUMs
Wilson Creek	1,391 Sheep	11/01 to 04/10	1,473 AUMs
Wilson Creek	106 Cows	01/01 to 03/31	313 AUMs
Narrows	904 Sheep	12/01 to 02/28	<u>535 AUMs</u>
			11,411 AUMs

GRACIAN UHALDE

<u>ALLOTMENT NAME</u>	<u>NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK</u>	<u>PERIOD OF USE</u>	<u>PERMITTED USE</u>
Black Bluff	443 Sheep	12/01 to 02/28	262 AUMs
South Coal Valley	2,293 Sheep	12/01 to 02/28	1,357 AUMs
Murphy Gap	1,110 Sheep	12/01 to 02/28	657 AUMs
West Timber Mtn.	1,242 Sheep	12/01 to 02/28	735 AUMs
Worthington Mtn.	*	*	5,641 AUMs
Batterman Wash	887 Sheep	12/01 to 04/15	799 AUMs
Batterman Wash	243 Cows	11/15 to 03/31	1,094 AUMs
Batterman Wash	80 Cows	04/01 to 06/15	200 AUMs
White River Trail	4,800 Sheep	11/21 to 11/29	284 AUMs
White River Trail	4,800 Sheep	04/04 to 04/13	<u>316 AUMs</u>
			11,345 AUMs

* Number and Kind of Livestock and Season of Use will be determined in a separate allotment evaluation at a later date.

DRAFT

APPENDIX IV (Continued)

SUMMARY OF PERMITTED USE BY PERMITTEE

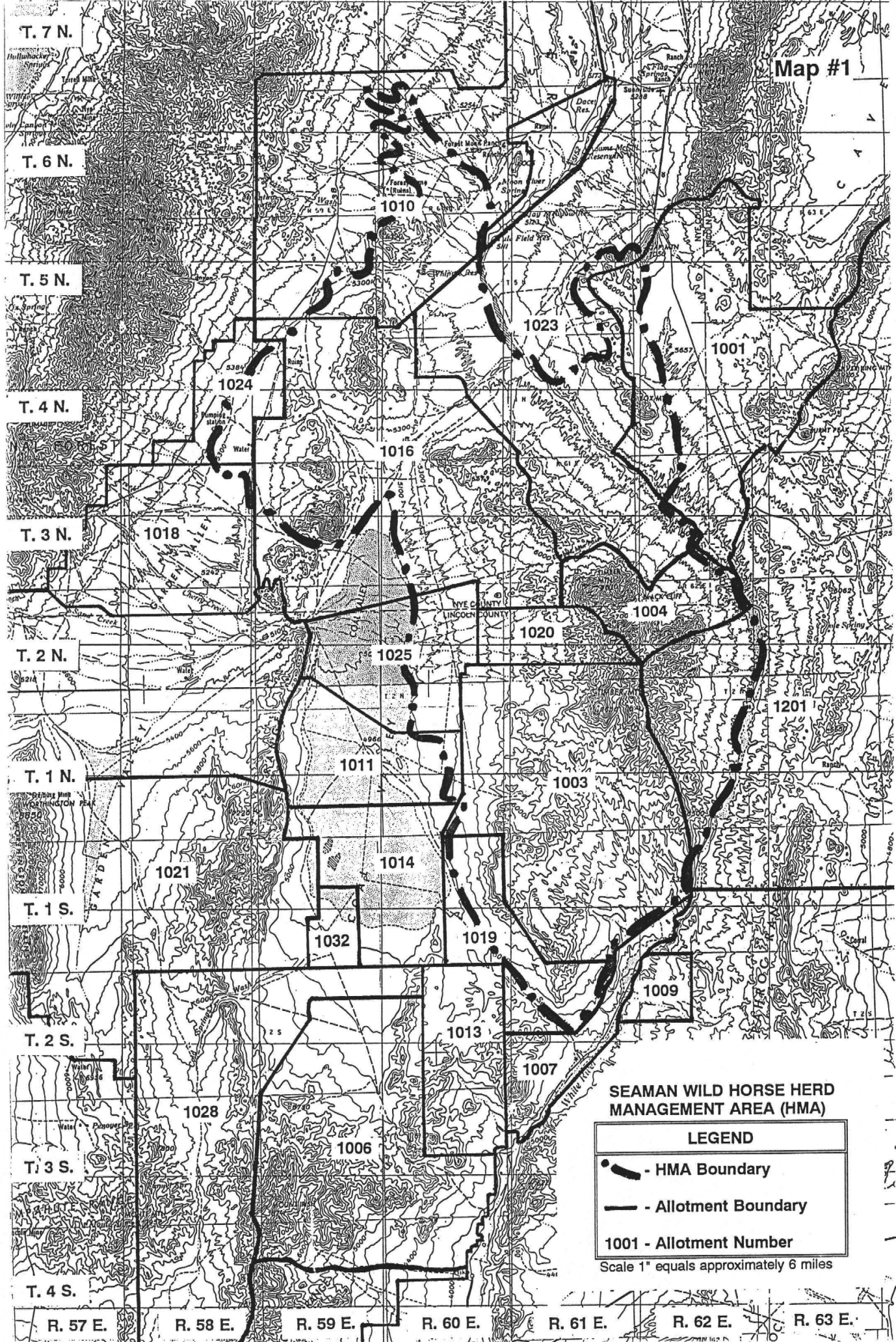
BERTRAND PARIS AND SONS

<u>ALLOTMENT NAME</u>	<u>NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK</u>	<u>PERIOD OF USE</u>	<u>PERMITTED USE</u>
Murphy Gap	1,303 Sheep	10/01 to 02/28	1,294 AUMs
Crescent	353 Sheep	10/01 to 02/28	351 AUMs
Irish Mountain **	604 Sheep	10/01 to 02/28	600 AUMs
Needles	2,068 Sheep	10/01 to 04/15	2,679 AUMs
Dry Farm	724 Sheep	10/01 to 04/15	938 AUMs
			<u>5,862 AUMs</u>

ORREN NASH



<u>ALLOTMENT NAME</u>	<u>NUMBER AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK</u>	<u>PERIOD OF USE</u>	<u>PERMITTED USE</u>
Irish Mountain	211 Cows	03/01 to 02/28	2,541 AUMs
Crescent **	50 Cows	03/01 to 02/28	600 AUMs
Wild Horse	26 Cows	03/01 to 02/28	315 AUMs
South Hiko-Six Mile	48 Cows	03/01 to 05/31	144 AUMs
			<u>3,600 AUMs</u>

** There is an Lease Agreement between Bert Paris and Orren Nash. Bert Paris leases 600 AUMs on the Crescent Allotment to Orren Nash in exchange for Orren Nash leasing 600 AUMs to Bert Paris on the Irish Mountain Allotment.



SEAMAN WILD HORSE HERD MANAGEMENT AREA (HMA)

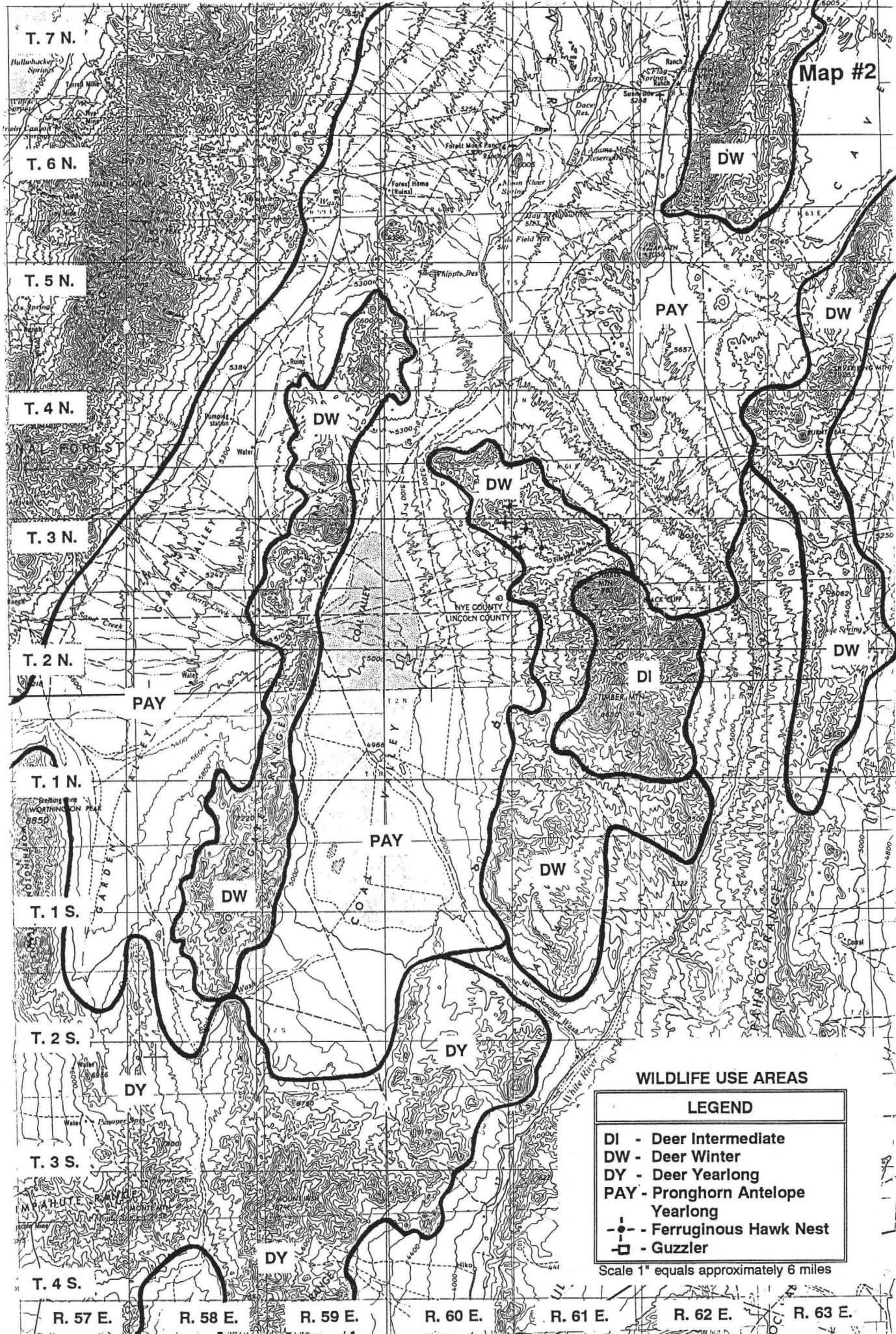
LEGEND

-  - HMA Boundary
-  - Allotment Boundary
- 1001 - Allotment Number

Scale 1" equals approximately 6 miles

T. 7 N.
T. 6 N.
T. 5 N.
T. 4 N.
T. 3 N.
T. 2 N.
T. 1 N.
T. 1 S.
T. 2 S.
T. 3 S.
T. 4 S.

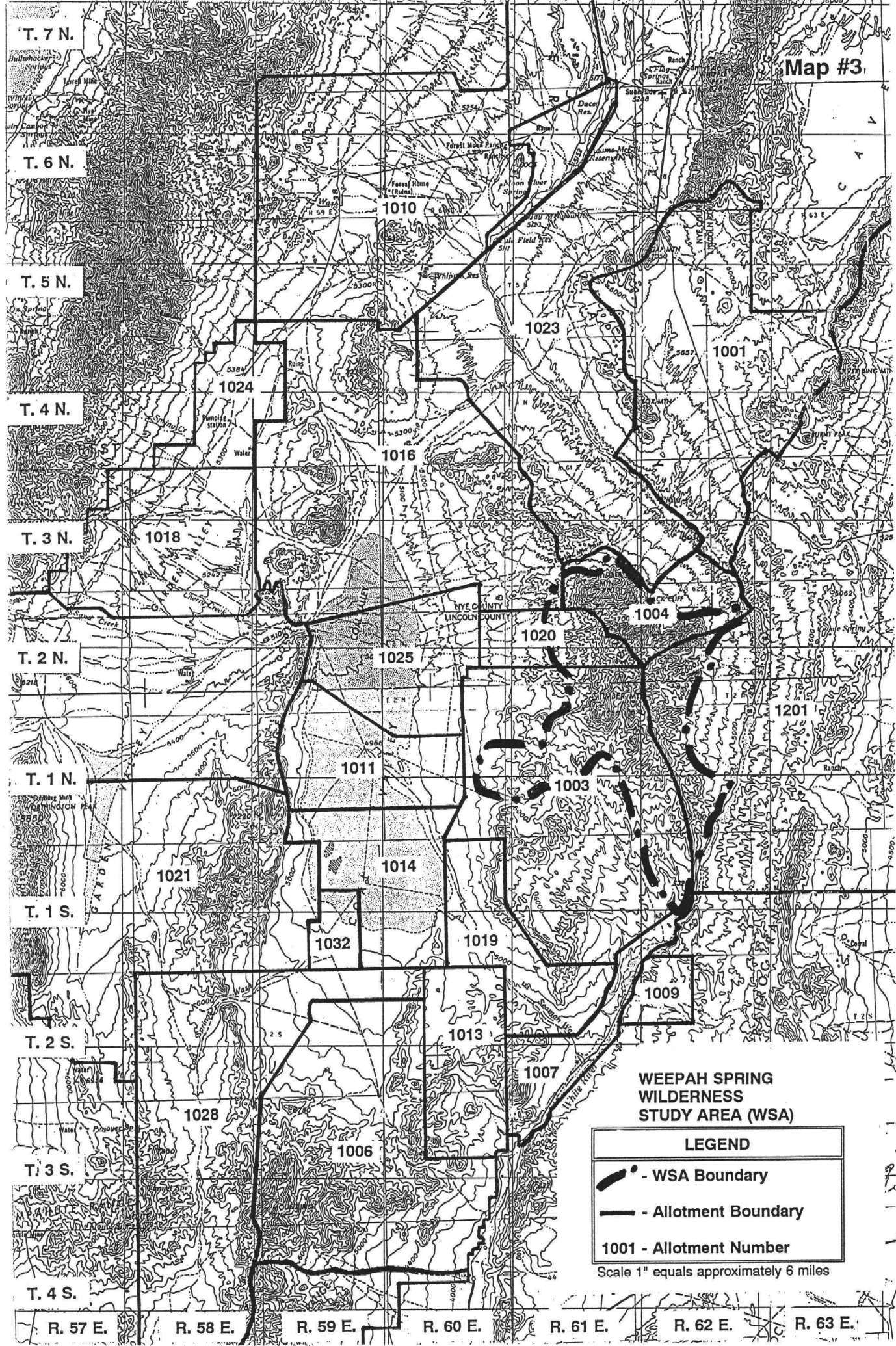
R. 57 E. R. 58 E. R. 59 E. R. 60 E. R. 61 E. R. 62 E. R. 63 E.



WILDLIFE USE AREAS



LEGEND	
DI	- Deer Intermediate
DW	- Deer Winter
DY	- Deer Yearlong
PAY	- Pronghorn Antelope Yearlong
⊙	- Ferruginous Hawk Nest
⊠	- Guzzler

Scale 1" equals approximately 6 miles



WEEPAH SPRING WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (WSA)

LEGEND

-  - WSA Boundary
-  - Allotment Boundary
- 1001 - Allotment Number

Scale 1" equals approximately 6 miles

T. 7 N.

T. 6 N.

T. 5 N.

T. 4 N.

T. 3 N.

T. 2 N.

T. 1 N.

T. 1 S.

T. 2 S.

T. 3 S.

T. 4 S.

R. 57 E.

R. 58 E.

R. 59 E.

R. 60 E.

R. 61 E.

R. 62 E.

R. 63 E.

1010

1023

1001

1024

1016

1018

1025

1020

1201

1011

1003

1021

1014

1032

1019

1009

T. 2 S.

1028

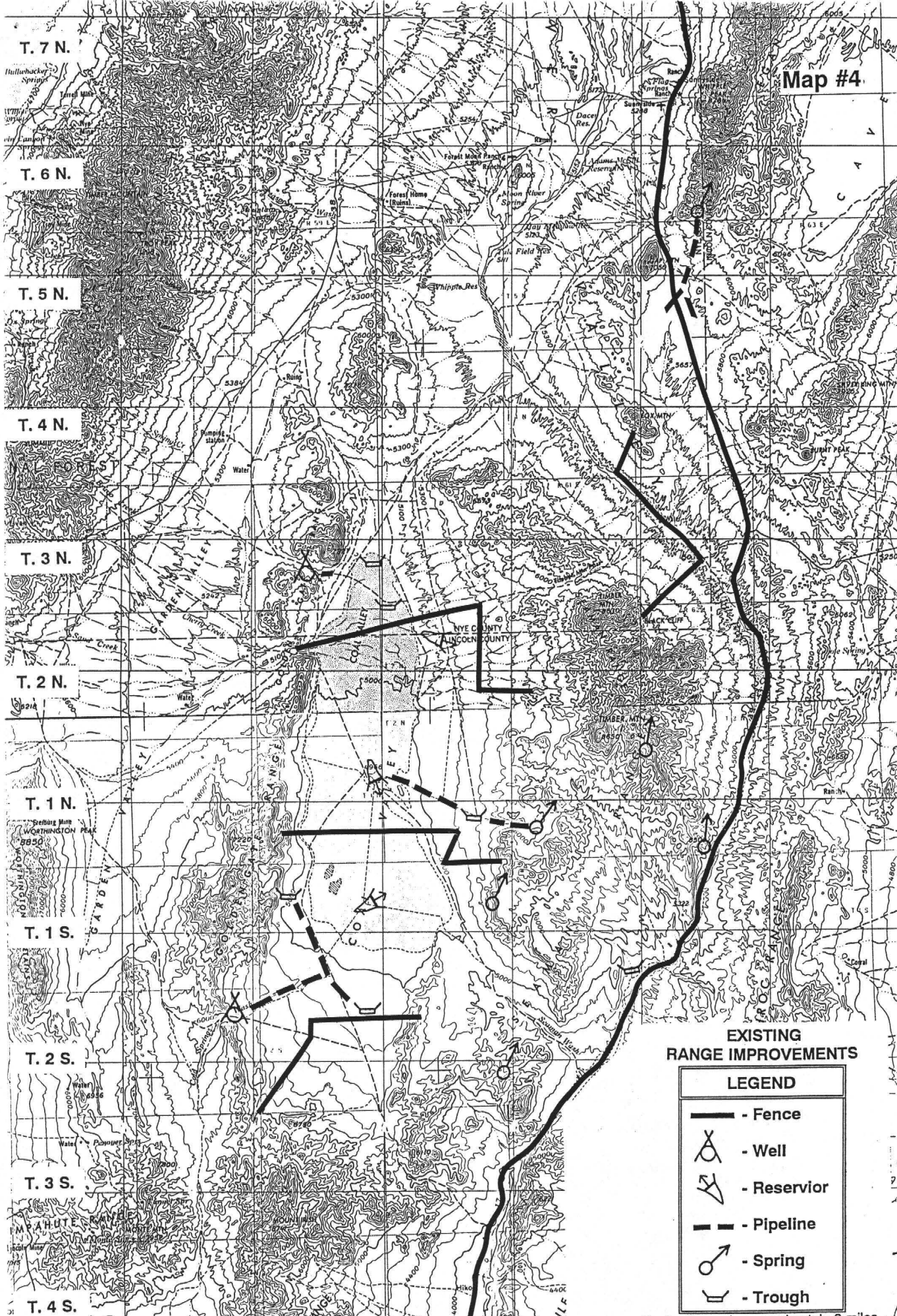
1013

1007

T. 3 S.

1006

T. 4 S.



T. 7 N.

T. 6 N.

T. 5 N.

T. 4 N.

T. 3 N.

T. 2 N.

T. 1 N.

T. 1 S.

T. 2 S.

T. 3 S.

T. 4 S.

R. 57 E.

R. 58 E.

R. 59 E.

R. 60 E.

R. 61 E.

R. 62 E.

R. 63 E.

EXISTING RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

LEGEND	
	- Fence
	- Well
	- Reservoir
	- Pipeline
	- Spring
	- Trough

Scale 1" equals approximately 6 miles

T. 7 N.

T. 6 N.

T. 5 N.

T. 4 N.

T. 3 N.

T. 2 N.

T. 1 N.

T. 1 S.

T. 2 S.

T. 3 S.

T. 4 S.

R. 57 E.

R. 58 E.

R. 59 E.

R. 60 E.

R. 61 E.

R. 62 E.

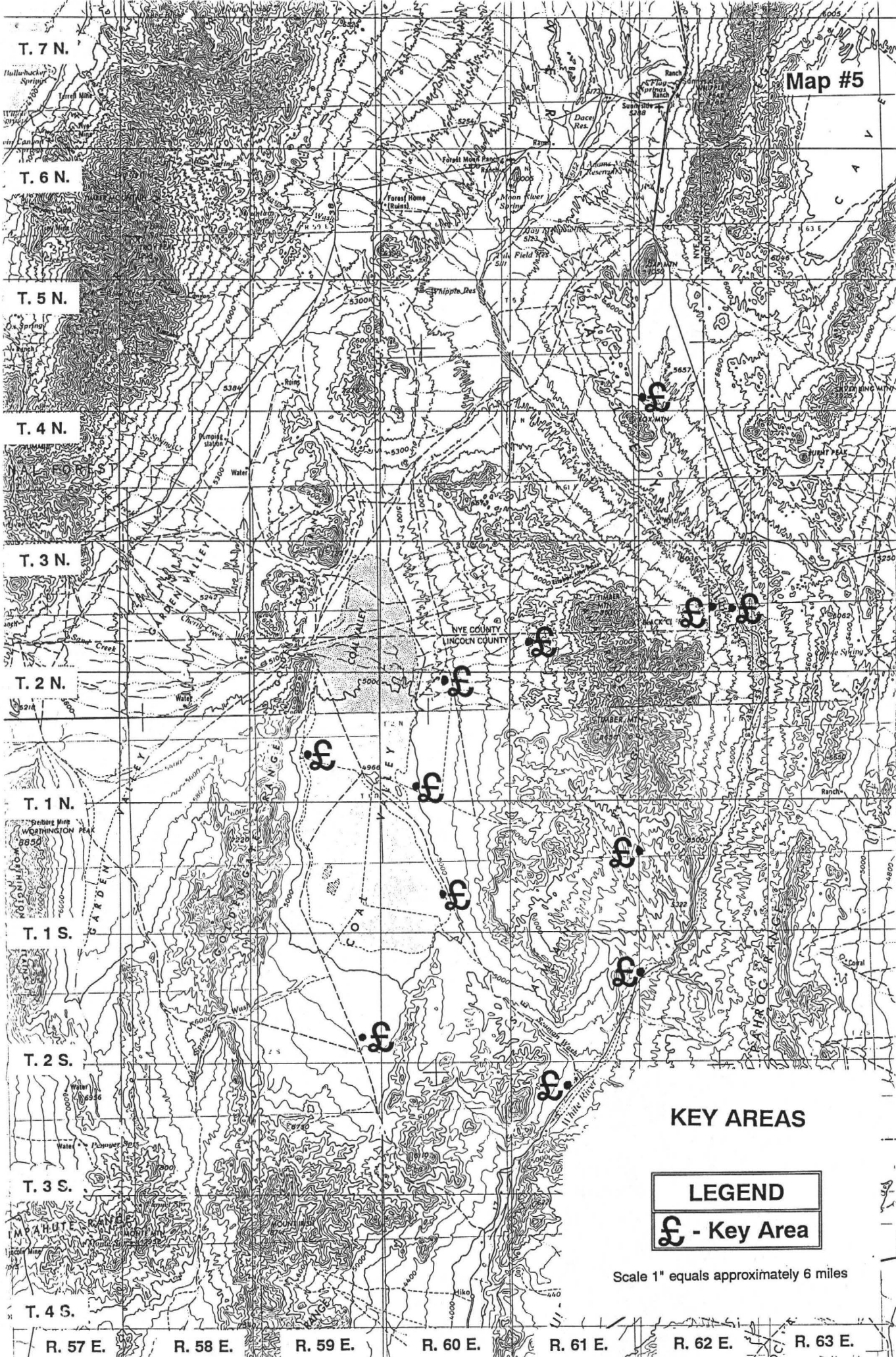
R. 63 E.

KEY AREAS

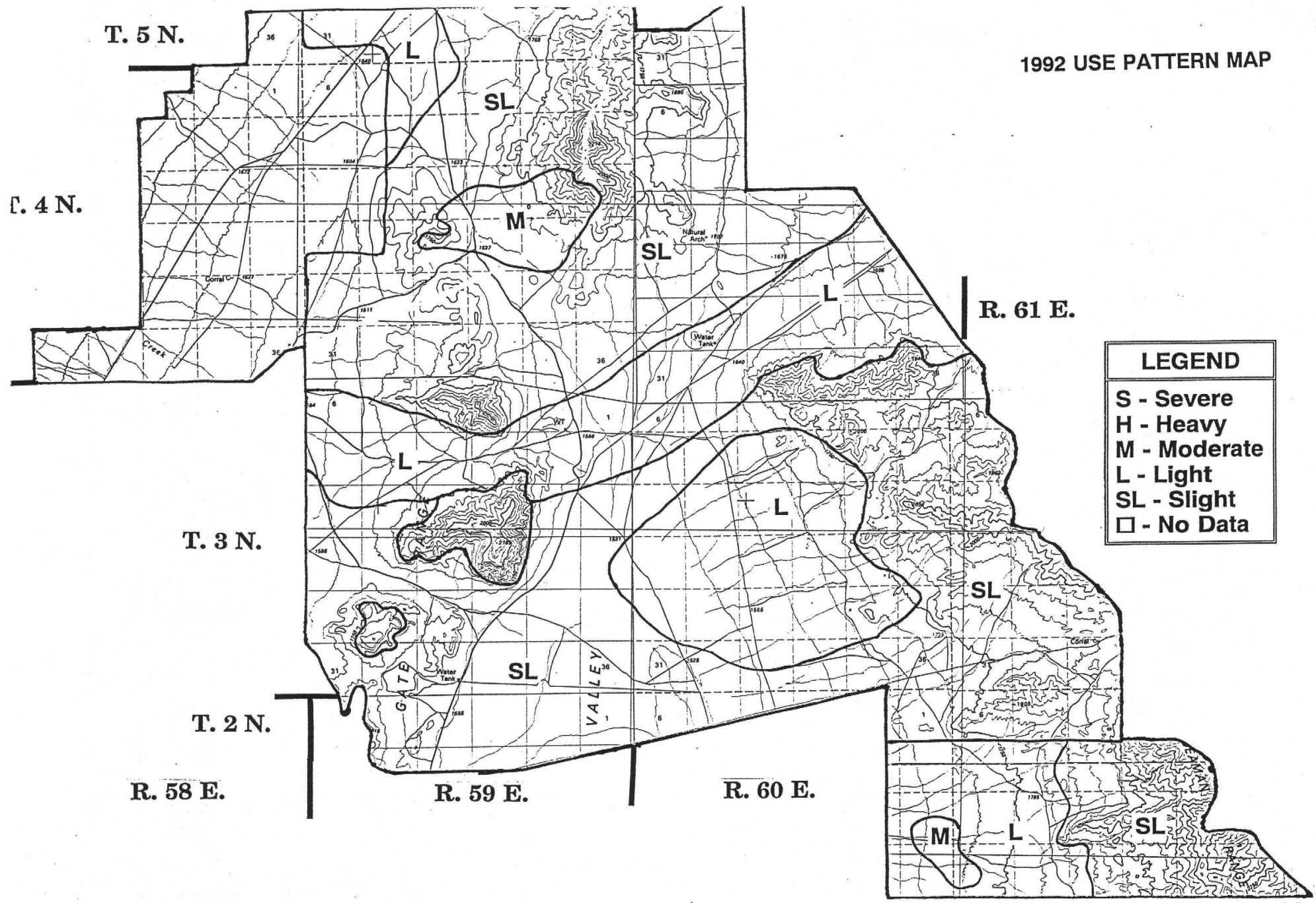
LEGEND

☒ - Key Area

Scale 1" equals approximately 6 miles

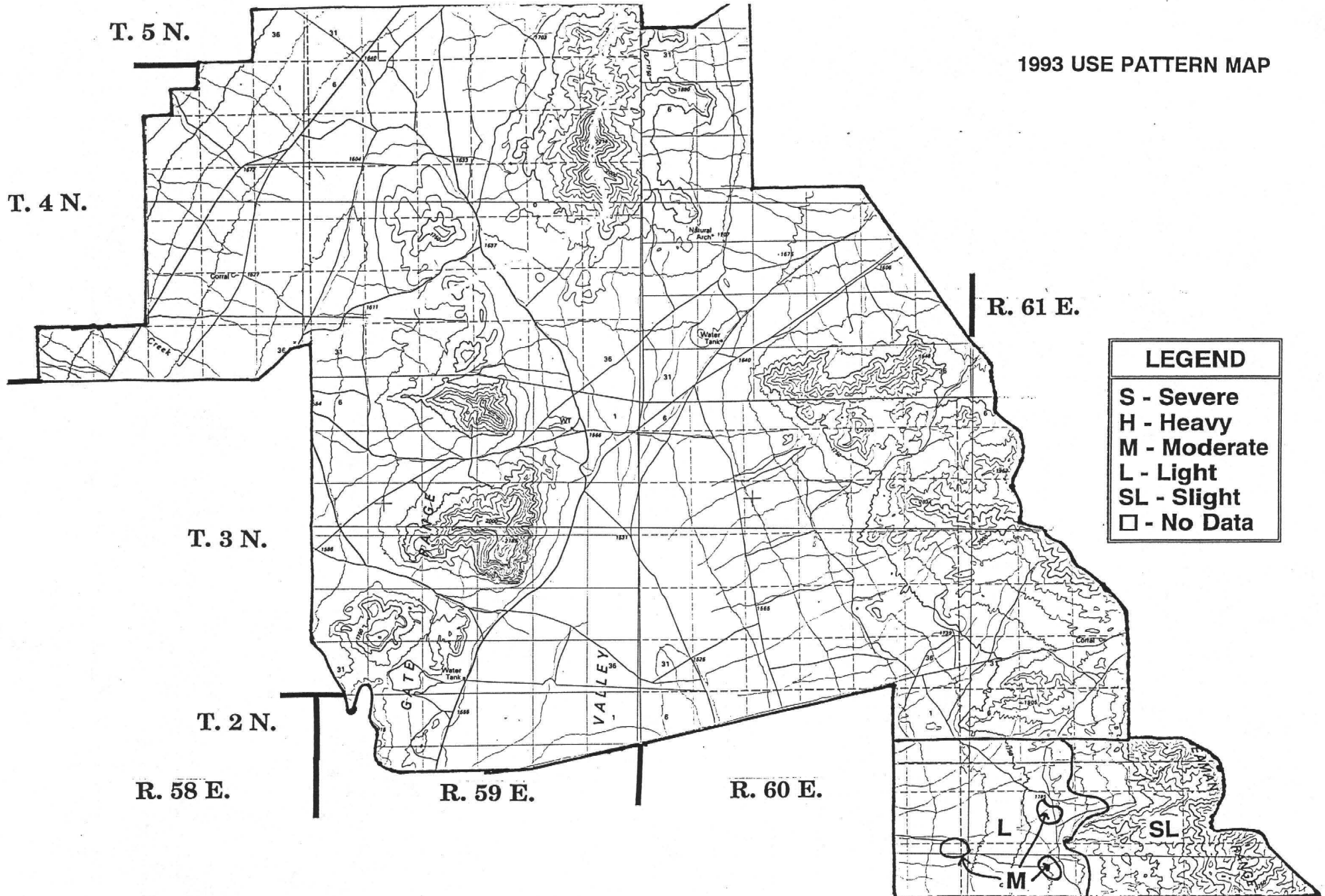


1992 USE PATTERN MAP



LEGEND	
S	- Severe
H	- Heavy
M	- Moderate
L	- Light
SL	- Slight
□	- No Data

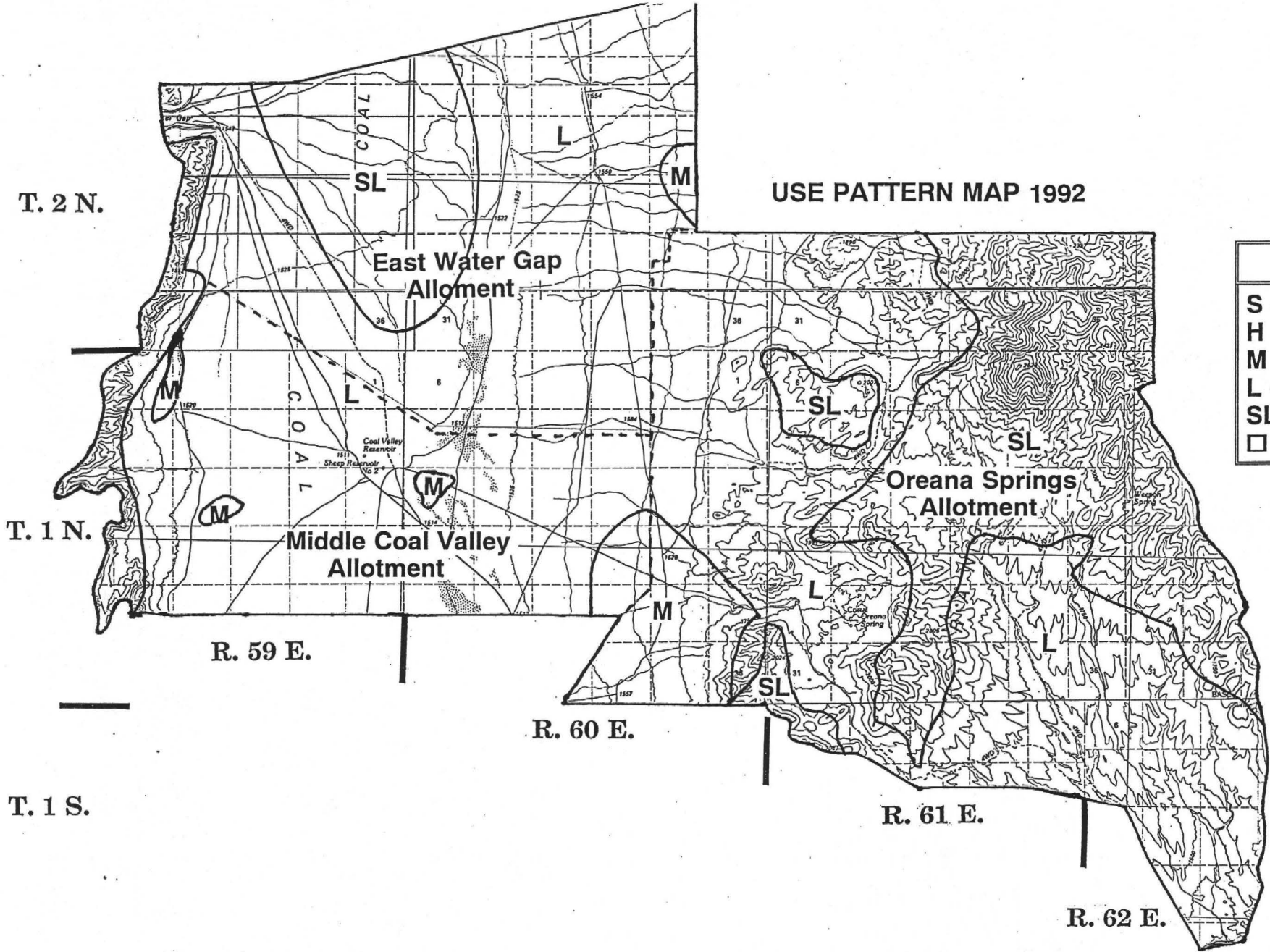
1993 USE PATTERN MAP



LEGEND	
S	- Severe
H	- Heavy
M	- Moderate
L	- Light
SL	- Slight
□	- No Data

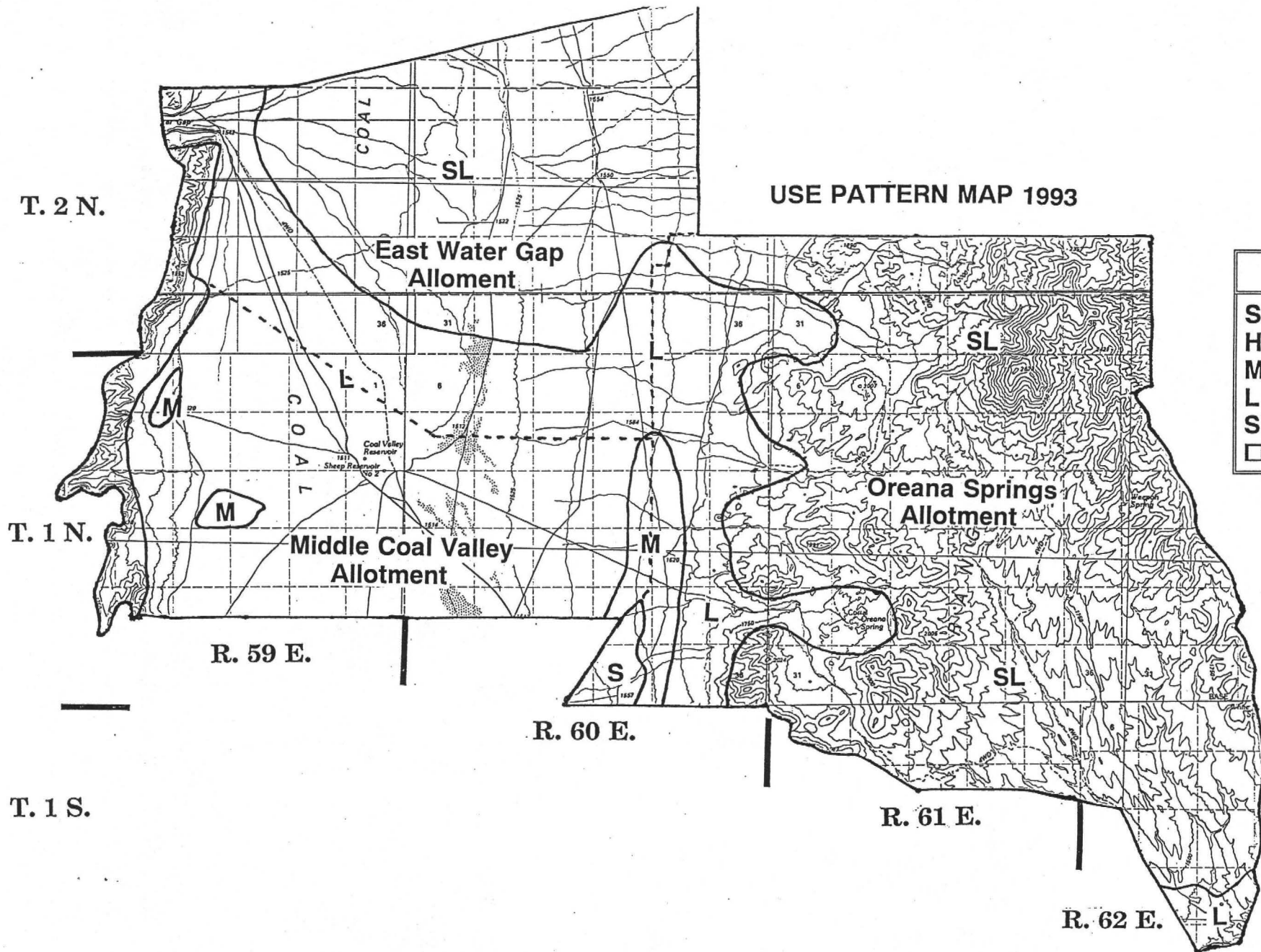
USE PATTERN MAP 1992

LEGEND	
S	- Severe
H	- Heavy
M	- Moderate
L	- Light
SL	- Slight
□	- No Data

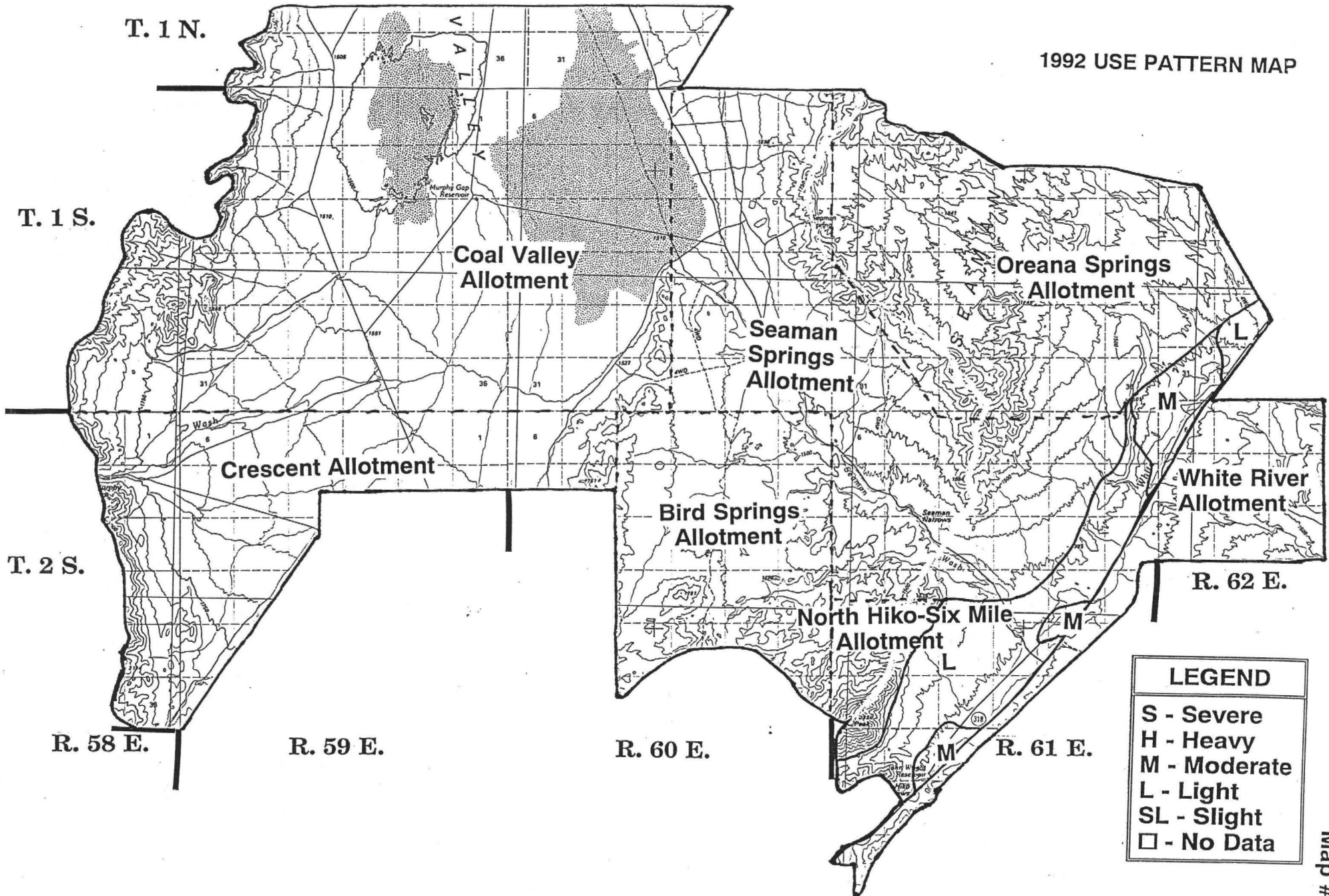


USE PATTERN MAP 1993

LEGEND	
S	- Severe
H	- Heavy
M	- Moderate
L	- Light
SL	- Slight
□	- No Data



1992 USE PATTERN MAP



LEGEND	
S	- Severe
H	- Heavy
M	- Moderate
L	- Light
SL	- Slight
□	- No Data

1993 USE PATTERN MAP

T. 1 N.

T. 1 S.

T. 2 S.

R. 58 E.

R. 59 E.

R. 60 E.

R. 61 E.

R. 62 E.

Coal Valley Allotment

Oreana Springs Allotment

Seaman Springs Allotment

Crescent Allotment

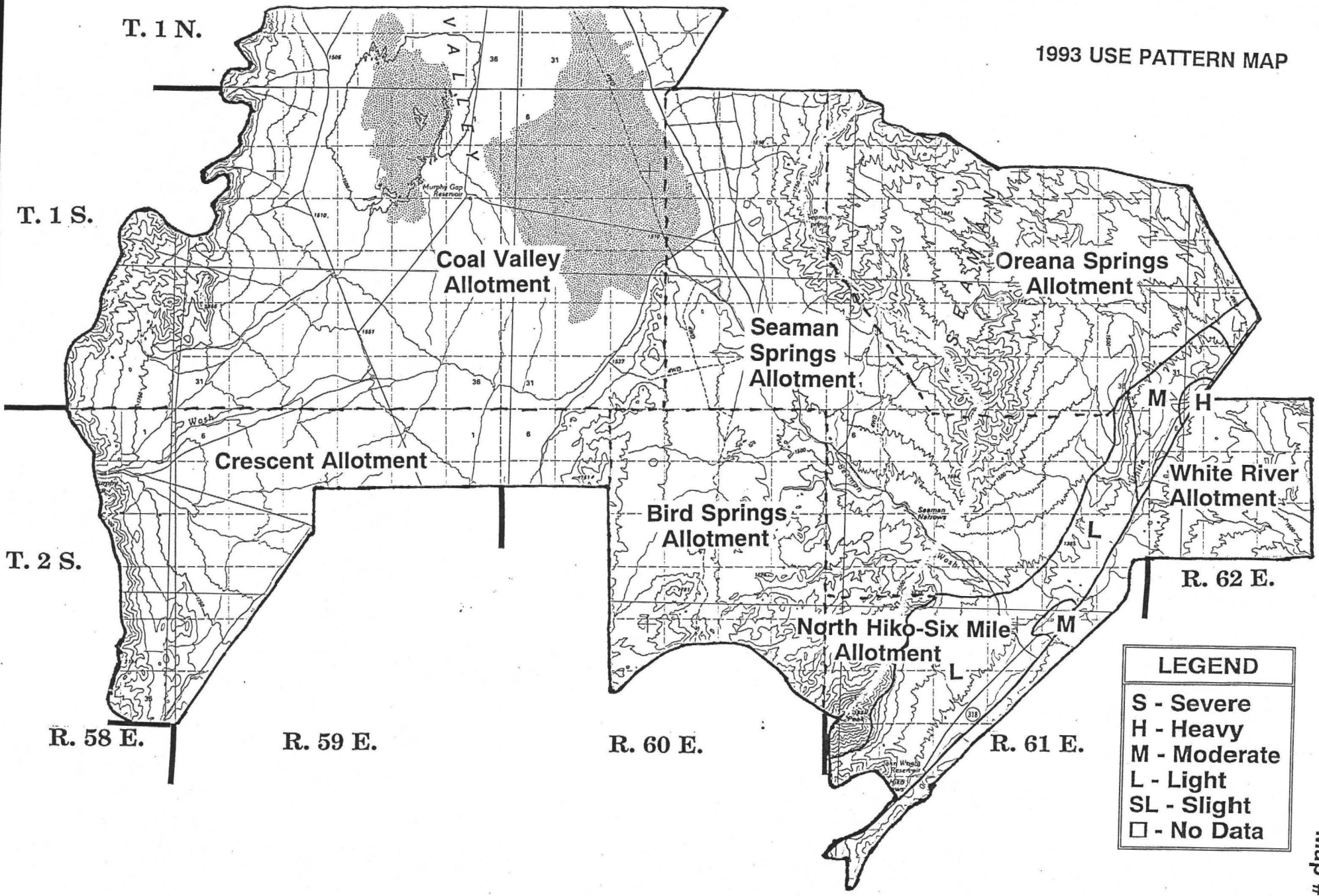
Bird Springs Allotment

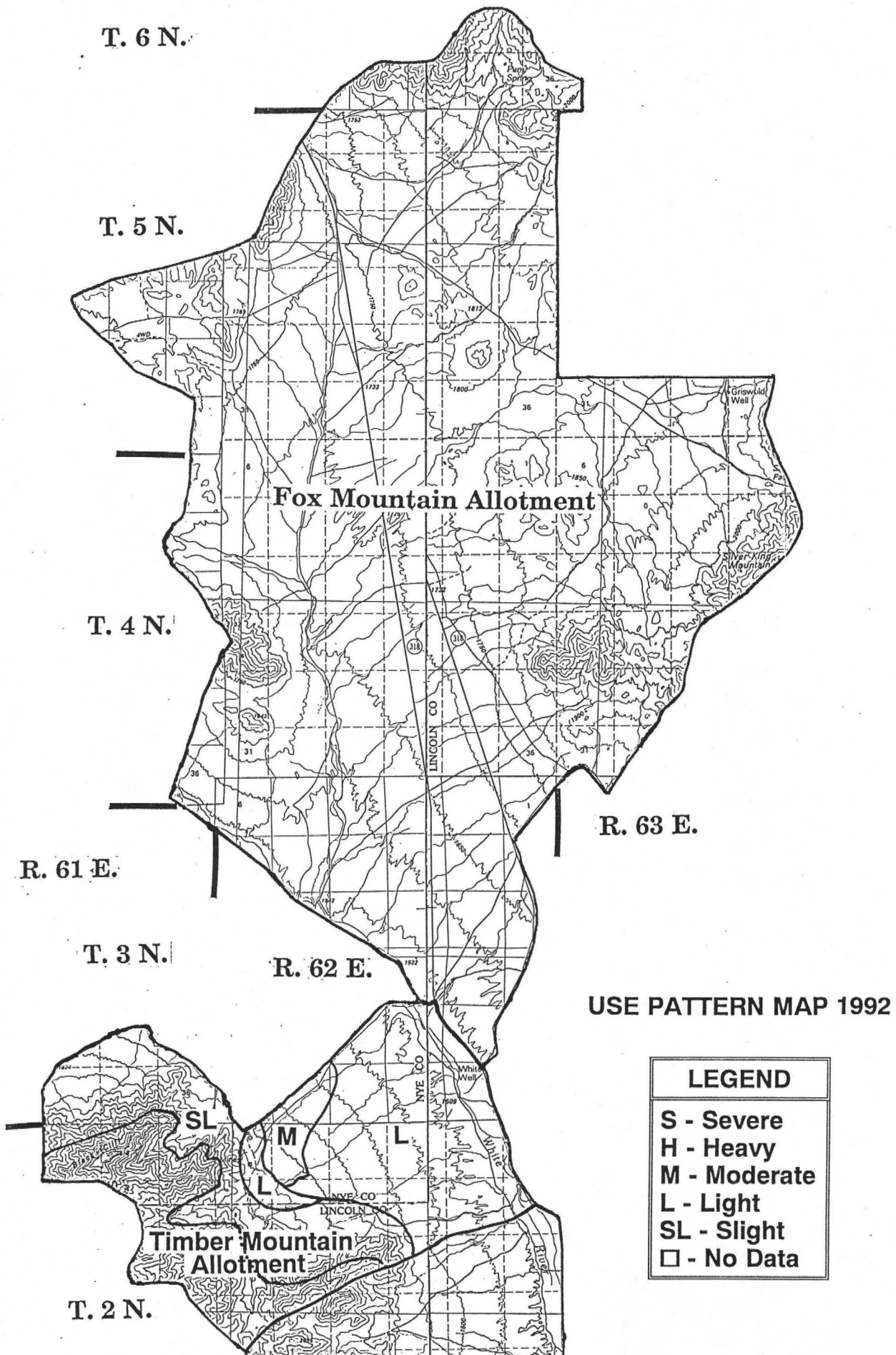
North Hiko-Six Mile Allotment

White River Allotment

LEGEND

- S - Severe
- H - Heavy
- M - Moderate
- L - Light
- SL - Slight
- - No Data





T. 6 N.

T. 5 N.

T. 4 N.

R. 61 E.

R. 63 E.

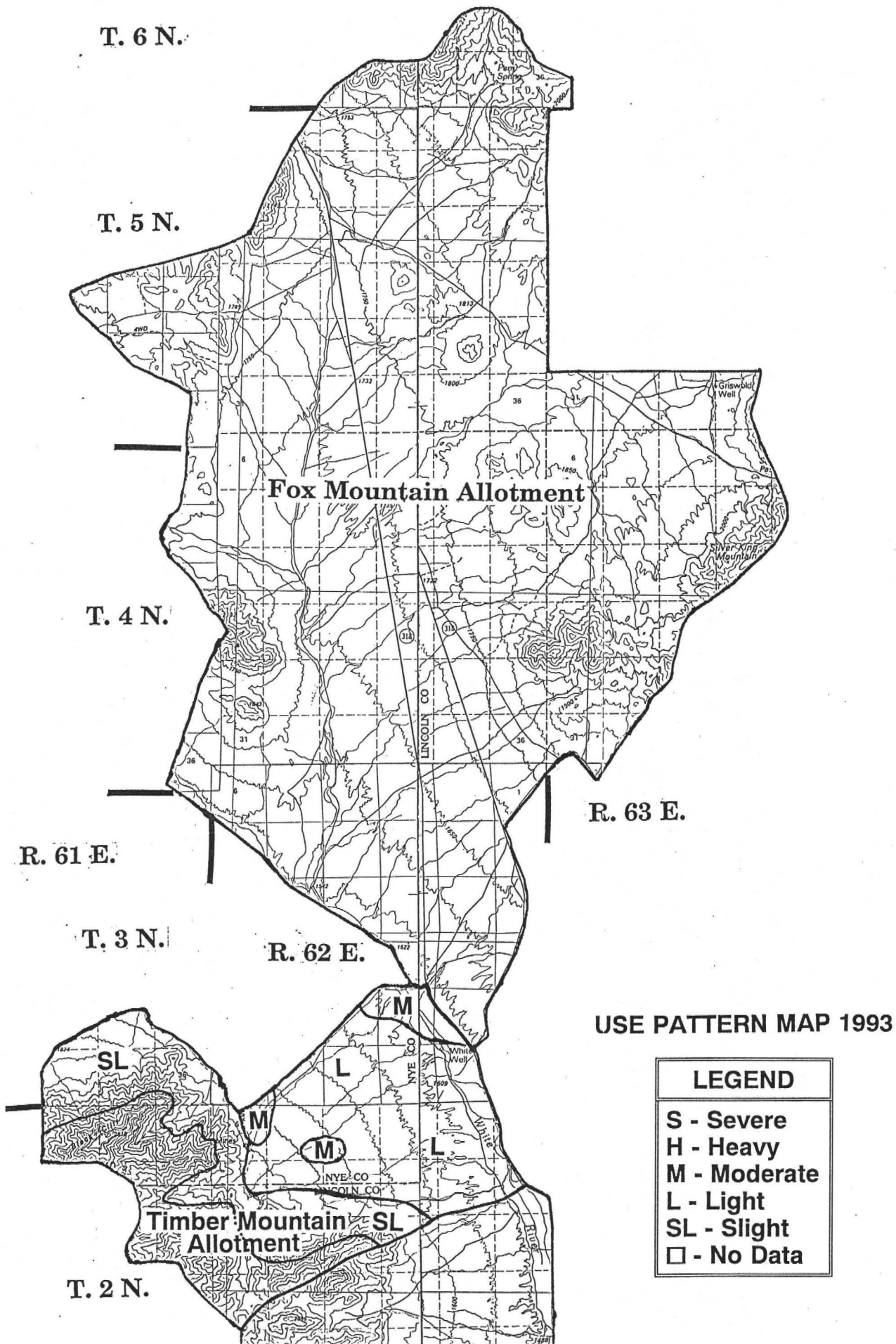
T. 3 N.

R. 62 E.

USE PATTERN MAP 1992

LEGEND	
S	- Severe
H	- Heavy
M	- Moderate
L	- Light
SL	- Slight
□	- No Data

T. 2 N.



T. 7 N.

T. 6 N.

T. 5 N.

T. 4 N.

T. 3 N.

T. 2 N.

T. 1 N.

T. 1 S.

T. 2 S.

T. 3 S.

T. 4 S.

R. 57 E.

R. 58 E.

R. 59 E.

R. 60 E.

R. 61 E.

R. 62 E.

R. 63 E.

DRY FARM ALLOTMENT

FOX MOUNTAIN ALLOTMENT

NEEDLES ALLOTMENT

TIMBER MOUNTAIN ALLOTMENT

WEST TIMBER MOUNTAIN ALLOTMENT

COAL VALLEY LAKE ALLOTMENT

WORTHINGTON MOUNTAIN ALLOTMENT

BLACK BLUFF ALLOTMENT

SOUTH COAL VALLEY ALLOTMENT

WHITE RIVER ALLOTMENT

MURPHY GAP ALLOTMENT

BLACK HORSE ALLOTMENT

CRESCENT ALLOTMENT

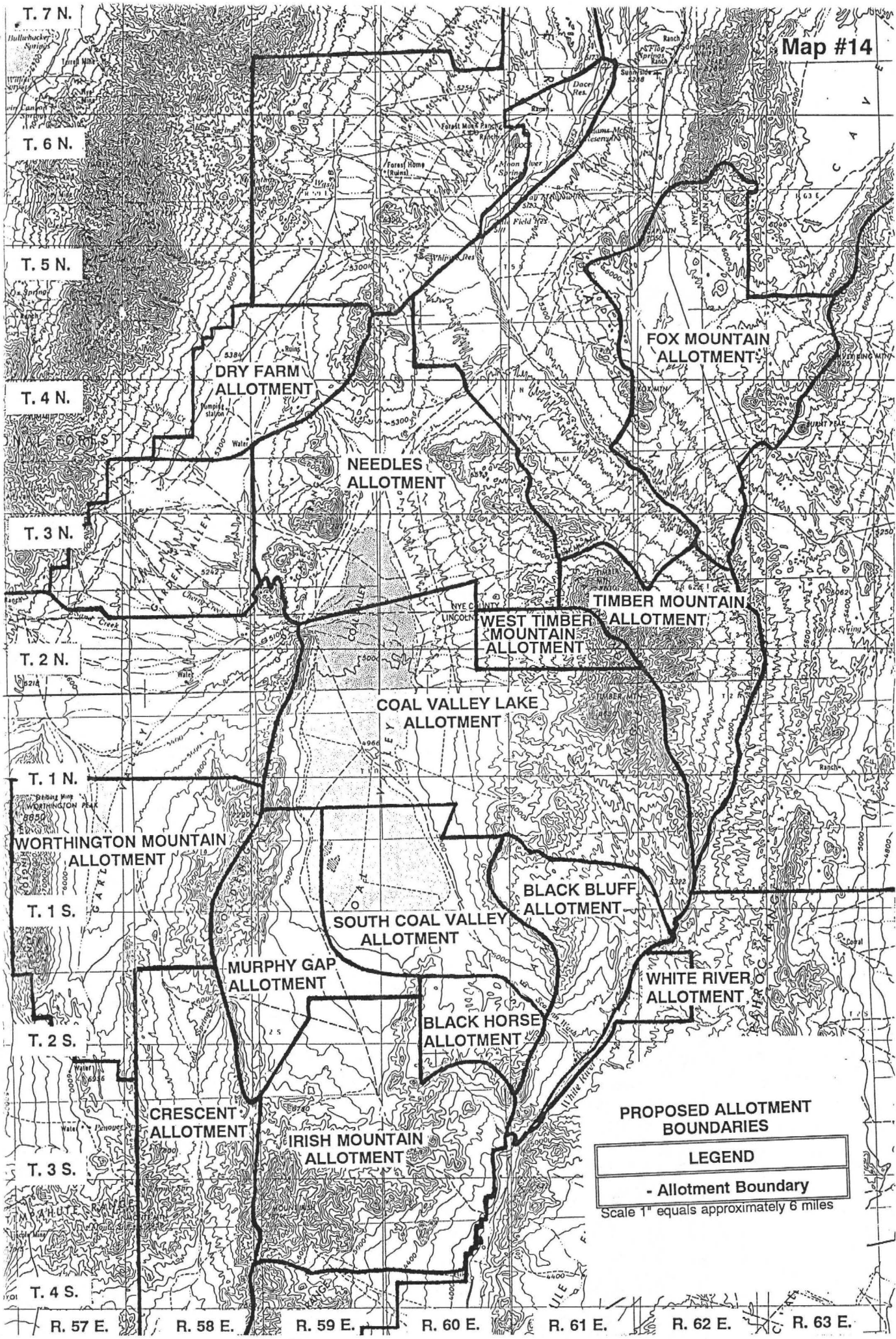
IRISH MOUNTAIN ALLOTMENT

PROPOSED ALLOTMENT BOUNDARIES

LEGEND

- Allotment Boundary

Scale 1" equals approximately 6 miles





**COMMISSION FOR THE
PRESERVATION OF WILD HORSES**

255 W. Moana Lane

Suite 207A

Reno, Nevada 89509

(702) 688-2626

May 6, 1996

Mr. Alfred W. Coulloudon
Schell Resource Area
Bureau of Land Management
HC 33 Box 33500
Ely, Nevada 89301-9408

Subject: Seaman Wild Horse Herd - Draft

Dear Mr. Coulloudon:

The Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses has received and reviewed the Draft Seaman Herd Management Area Monitoring Evaluation. We are impressed with the District's herd or ecosystem approach to determine proper livestock and wild horse management for these public lands.

We support the inclusion of all 13 allotments within the herd management area for the purpose of monitoring data evaluation. To establish the appropriate management level, it is necessary that all management actions must achieve a thriving natural ecological balance.

We support the establishment and use of key species with key management areas for future monitoring and decisions. Areas heavily impacted by livestock and wild horses that require multiple use decision should be represented by the key management areas.

It would appear that the thirteen affected allotments are not adequately fenced and are used in common by permittees. Phenological requirements may better govern allotments or portions of allotments than traditional or permitted authorizations. We support the combining of allotments to better manage the range to maintain or improve range conditions.

We are unaware of any conversions that found that two domestic sheep are equivalent to one cow and calf. Domestic sheep are not direct competitors with wild horses; however, cattle have the same dietary requirements and may compete.

Mr. Alfred Coulloudon
May 6, 1996
Page 2

We support the development of new key areas to reflect changes in livestock management. We would encourage the District to develop several key areas strictly used by wild horses to better define any differences between resource users.

We appreciate the use of allowable use levels of key vegetation on key management areas. All affected interests are aware of the limiting factors to be used in future decisions.

The use of water hauls may be critical to improving livestock distribution to achieve more uniform utilization. It may be in the best interest of all users to create barriers to prevent wild horse use of these waters. It has been observed that a pipe rail fence at forty five inches high has discouraged wild horses, while allowing access to livestock and wildlife.

In summary, we find the evaluation to be an excellent approach to managing the entire herd area. Combining allotments to better suit the needs of the resource and permittee should prove to be successful in the long term. We encourage the District to sustain its obligation to monitor the range and make the necessary adjustments to achieve a thriving natural ecological balance.

Sincerely,



CATHERINE BARCOMB
Executive Director