HENRIE COMPLEX ALLOTMENT

A. Description

The allotment is located in Lincoln County, Nevada and encompasses 131,796 acres of public land adjacent to and surrounding Meadow Valley Wash (see Allotment Map).

The allotment is comprised of several vegetation types including saltbush, big galleta-creosote, white bursage, blackbrush, and pinyon-juniper transition. Elevation for the Complex ranges from 2400 feet in the Meadow Valley Wash bottom to 5200 feet in the mountains.

B. Wildlife occurring on the allotment includes desert bighorn sheep, quail, deer, desert tortoise and other assorted reptiles and small mammals. The desert tortoise is a federally listed threatened species.

C. Wild Horses

The west side of the U.P. Railroad is in the Meadow Valley Mountains wild horse herd management area (HMA). Year-round horse use occurs in this area, but is limited to the areas around Hackberry Canyon and Vigo Canyon, where perennial water is located. The rest of the HMA on this allotment is limited to ephemeral water and water hauled for livestock. In 1996, horses were gathered due to documented severe use and poor forage conditions relating to drought. The AML has not been established.

The east side of the allotment occurs within the Blue Nose Peak and Mormon Mountains HMAs. The AMLs have not been established.

D. Livestock Grazing

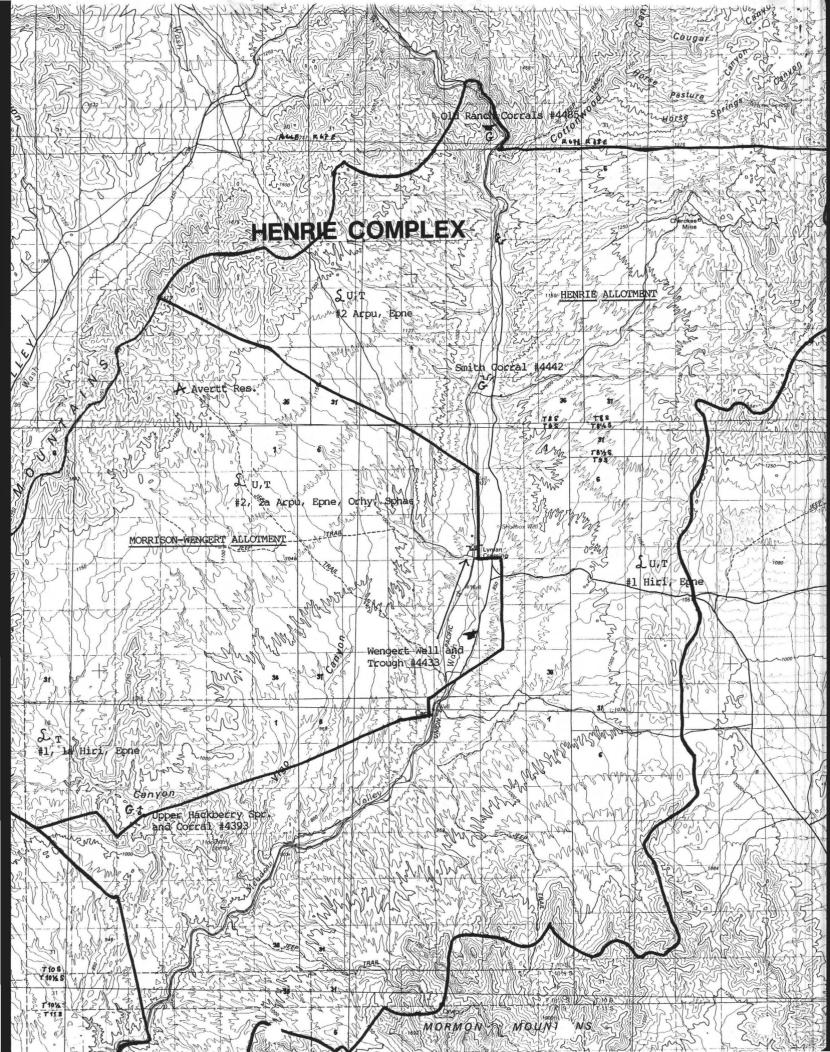
Two permittees hold grazing permits on the allotment. The two permits total 4,168 animal unit months (AUMs) with a year-round season of use for domestic cattle. Currently, 2,210 AUMs are in temporary suspension due to fire.

E. Other Uses

A portion of the allotment occurs within the Meadow Valley Mountains Wilderness Study Area. Mining occurs in several areas on the allotment, including the Cherokee Mine and the opal mines near Averett Reservoir.

E. Tour Agenda

- 7:30 Depart Las Vegas to Henrie Complex via Kane Springs Valley
- 10:00 Meet other parties at Carp Pass Road and begin tour of Henrie Complex.
- 12:00 Lunch at Elgin
- 2:00 Tour of the Miller Flat HMA including Oak Wells, Sheep Spring, Rabbit Spring Allotment



OAK WELLS ALLOTMENT

A. Description

The allotment is located in Lincoln County and encompasses 29,139 acres of public land and 40 acres of private land in mostly hilly with some mountainous terrain (see enclosed map).

The allotment consists mainly of pinyon-juniper woodland. Within woodlands, a shrub/grass understory occurs where the tree canopy is open enough to support it. Shrub species within the allotment include, desert bitterbrush, cliffrose and sagebrush. Grasses include Indian ricegrass, needleandthread, bottlebrush squirreltail, bluegrass and galleta.

The highest elevation in the allotment is Mosey Mountain at 7,343 feet.

Annual precipitation averages about nine to ten inches on the allotment. There has been significant greenup on this allotment due to storms in June and July 1996.

There are three water troughs within the allotment, that are fed by Oak Wells spring, which provide an available water source for animals. However, there are a number of other natural springs, which serve the same function, located in the surrounding countryside.

Wildlife found within the allotment include mule deer, birds of prey, small mammals and small reptiles.

B. Wild Horses

The allotment is located within the Miller Flat herd management area (HMA). The estimated 1996 horse population within the HMA is approximately 125, based on a 1994 census.

C. Livestock Grazing

Only one permittee grazes livestock on the allotment. He has a license to graze 43 cattle (516 AUMs) yearlong.

D. Other Uses

Commercial harvesting of pinyon and juniper trees is authorized on the allotment in specifically designated woodcutting areas.

SHEEP SPRING ALLOTMENT

A. Description

The allotment is located in Lincoln County and encompasses 31,077 acres of public land in hilly and mountainous terrain (see enclosed map).

The allotment consists mainly of pinyon-juniper woodland. Within woodlands, a shrub/grass understory occurs where the tree canopy is open enough to support it. Shrub species within the allotment include, desert bitterbrush, cliffrose and sagebrush. Grasses include Indian ricegrass, needleandthread, bluegrass, bottlebrush squirreltail and galleta.

Elevations range from 6,719 feet at Panaca Summit, in the northeast part of the allotment, to 5,700 feet in the far western portion near Chokecherry Spring.

Annual precipitation averages about nine to ten inches on the allotment. However, from October 1, 1995 to August 30, 1996 approximately four to four and one-half inches of precipitation has occurred. Consequently, vegetational growth during this time period has been extremely limited.

Several natural springs including Dow, Miser, and Sheep Springs are located within the allotment. These sources supply marginal amounts of water to wildlife and horses.

Wildlife occurring on the allotment include mule deer, various fur bearers (gray fox, coyotes, bobcat mountain lion), other non-game animals and assorted reptiles.

B. Wild Horses

The allotment is located within the Miller Flat herd management area (HMA). The estimated 1996 horse population within the HMA is approximately 125, based on a fall 1994 census.

C. Livestock Grazing

This allotment has not received domestic livestock use for the last 16 years. Wild horses and mule deer are the primary forage consumers. One permittee holds a permit to graze 35 cattle yearlong (420 AUMs).

D. Other Uses

Commercial harvesting of pinyon and juniper trees is authorized on the allotment in specifically designated woodcutting areas.

RABBIT SPRING ALLOTMENT

A. Description

The allotment is located in Lincoln County and encompasses 20,975 acres of public land and 40 acres of private land (see enclosed map).

The east half of the allotment is located in mainly pinyon-juniper woodland habitat. Within these woodlands, a shrub/grass understory occurs where the tree canopy is open enough to support it. Shrub species within the allotment include desert bitterbrush, cliffrose and sagebrush. Grasses include Indian ricegrass, needleandthread, bottlebrush squirreltail, bluegrass and galleta.

The west half is comprised of shrub/grass rangeland habitat. Shrub species include black sagebrush, Nevada ephedra, fourwing saltbush and winterfat. Grasses include Indian ricegrass, needleandthread, bottlebrush squirreltail, bluegrass and galleta.

A portion of the allotment is located above Highway 319, which consists of a hilly relatively open pinyon-juniper woodland.

Elevations range from 6,700 feet in the northern portion of the allotment to 5,300 feet in the far western sections.

Annual precipitation averages about nine to ten inches on the allotment. However, from October 1, 1995 to August 30, 1996 approximately four to four and one-half inches of precipitation has fallen. Consequently, vegetational growth during this time period has been extremely limited.

Rabbit Spring, located on private land, is the only natural available water source for animals on the allotment.

Wildlife occurring on the allotment include mule deer, various fur bearers (gray fox, coyotes, bobcat mountain lion), other non-game animals and assorted reptiles.

B. Wild Horses

The portion of the Rabbit Spring allotment, north of Highway 319, is located within the Deer Lodge Canyon herd management area (HMA). The portion of the allotment, south of Highway 319, is located within the Miller Flat HMA. The estimated 1996 horse population within the Miller Flat and Deer Lodge Canyon HMA is approximately 125 and 148 horses, respectively, based on a fall 1994 census.

C. Livestock Grazing

The allotment has not received domestic livestock use for the last 16 years. Wild horses and mule deer are the primary forage consumers. One permittee holds a permit to graze

935 sheep for six months (1,023 AUMs).

D. Utilization Monitoring

In May 1996, approximately 20% of the total acreage of the allotment (4,265 Acres) was determined to be within the severe use category. Monitoring conducted in August 1996, showed that areas documented as heavy use in May were now in the severe use category.

