

6/29/89



IN REPLY REFER TO:



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ELY DISTRICT OFFICE
Star Route 5, Box 1
Ely, Nevada, 89301

1784.3
(NV-046)

JUN 29 1989

Dear Participant:

We appreciate your interest in being involved in the consultation process and enclosed for your information and review is the Batterman Wash Allotment 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 July 31, 1989, to allow adequate time to review all input and to adhere to our deadlines. All of the information received will be evaluated and considered in the final portion of the evaluation which is the selection of a management action.

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

Sincerely,

Gerald M. Smith, Manager
Schell Resource Area

- 1 Enclosure
- 1. Batterman Wash Evaluation (33 pp)

JUN 29 1989

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Allotment Name and Number: Batterman Wash 11018
- B. Permittee: Gracian Uhalde.
- C. Evaluation Period: 1983 thru 1988
- D. Selective Management Category and Priority:
I Category, moderate priority

II. INITIAL STOCKING LEVEL

A. Livestock Use

1. Land Use Plan Objective

- a. Total Preference: - 2,093 AUMs
- b. Suspended Preference: - 0 AUMs
- c. Active: - 2,093 AUMs
- d. T N R : - 0 AUMs

2. Season of Use

- a. EIS: 11/10 to 01/30 and 03/26 to 04/06
- b. Permittee: 11/01 to 05/01

3. Kind and Class of Livestock:

- a. Cattle (Cow/Calf)
- b. Sheep (Ewe/Lamb)

4. Percent Federal Range/Exchange of Use:

100% Federal range/no exchange of use.

B. Wild Horse and Burro Use (see Map 1)

1. Appropriate Management Levels:

The allotment receives only infrequent and minimal use if any, and 1 AUM was identified in the RPS.

2. Herd and Use Areas within the allotment:

A small portion of the Seaman Herd Management Area falls within the northeastern boundary of Batterman Wash Allotment.

C. Wildlife Use (see Map 2)

1. Mule Deer

a. Reasonable Numbers: 323 AUMs (Note: The Nevada Department of Wildlife has identified additional winter range on other allotments within Management Area 13. Based on this new information, the reasonable numbers figure of 323 AUMs is believed to be too high. The existing numbers figure more accurately reflects the management level for mule deer on the allotment.)

b. Key/Crucial Management Areas: None identified

2. Pronghorn Antelope

a. Reasonable Numbers: None specified (Note: currently there is no antelope use on the Batterman Wash Allotment; however, the Nevada Department of Wildlife is scheduled to augment the antelope herd in Garden Valley in 1989-90. this may result in antelope using the allotment in the future.

b. Key/Crucial Areas: None identified.

3. Ferruginous Hawks: 1 occupied nest, 7 unoccupied nests

4. Threatened and Endangered Species: Bald eagles and peregrine falcons may be found on the allotment any time of the year, but no special use areas have been identified.

III. ALLOTMENT PROFILE

A. Description

Batterman Wash Allotment is located in the Schell Resource Area of the Ely District, in Nye County, Nevada. The allotment is approximately 120 miles southwest of Ely, Nevada. The elevation ranges from 5200' to 6200'. The allotment is located in the northern half of Garden Valley, flanked by the Grant Mountain Range to the west and the Golden Gate Range to the east. Batterman Wash is a dual use allotment with sheep generally being run on the western bench and cattle in the winterfat bottomland. Deer occupy the western benches, antelope are to be augmented into Garden Valley in 1989.

Facilities include a fence which runs east to west the length of Garden Valley. The fence is a southern boundary fence which separates Batterman Wash Allotment from Pine Creek and West Water Gap Allotments. Water for livestock is supplied by Uhalde

Well, water hauling, and Cherry Creek (also referred to as Batterman Wash). There is also a ditch system which diverts Cherry Creek into a series of earthen reservoirs across the northern portion of the allotment.

Cherry Creek headwaters are located on the Humboldt National Forest. The upper stretch of the creek is perennial. As the stream nears Garden Valley it flows through several parcels of private land before reaching the valley and ultimately the BLM land. As the stream flows past the private lands the primary use of the water is irrigation. Several low pressure sprinkler systems can be noted from Adaven to the last irrigated field, a distance of approximately 5 miles. In addition water is diverted during the fall and winter into a ditch in order to provide livestock with water through a series of reservoirs in the north half of the allotment.

Due to water diversions occurring on the private land Cherry Creek is considered ephemeral on the public lands.

There are no anticipated or pending land and mineral actions which will affect the allotment in the foreseeable future.

B. Acreage

1. Allotment Total: 39,878 acres
2. Pastures: None.

C. Allotment Specific Objectives:

1. Land Use Plan and Rangeland Program Summary (see Appendix 1)
 - a. Livestock
 - (1) The short term objective will be accomplished through managing the allowable use levels (AUL) by season of use to improve or maintain the desired vegetation community. (see Appendix 1)
 - (2) 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. (see Appendix 1)

b. Wild horses

- (1) The short term objective is to be accomplished by managing the allowable use levels (AUL) by wild horses by season to improve or maintain the desired vegetation community (see Appendix 1, BWR2).
- (2) The long term objective is to manage for the most appropriate seral stages to provide desired quantity, quality, variety, and density of forage in order to meet the requirements of the wild horses. (see Appendix 1, BWR2)

c. Mule Deer

- (1) The short term objective is to limit use on key browse species listed for mule deer to 30 percent by livestock prior to November 1, and to 45 percent by all animals yearlong.
- (2) The long term objective is to maintain mule deer winter range in at least fair habitat condition by providing diversity of forage species.

d. Pronghorn Antelope

- (1) The short term objective is to limit use on key species listed for pronghorn antelope range to 55 percent for perennial grasses, grass-like plants, and forbs; and to 45 percent for shrubs yearlong.
- (2) The long term objectives is to maintain antelope range in at least fair habitat condition by providing appropriate vegetation quantity and quality.

e. Ferruginous Hawks

- (1) The short term objective is to limit use on winterfat by livestock and wild horses near occupied ferruginous hawk nests to 45 percent yearlong.
- (2) The long term objectives are to manage winterfat stands (silty range site) near occupied hawk nests in mid to late seral stage, and to maintain the integrity of existing pinyon-juniper "stringers" near these winterfat stands.

e. Riparian Areas

- (1) The short term objective is to limit use on wet meadows to 50 percent for grass and grass-like species by all animals yearlong.
- (2) The long term objectives are to manage all wet meadows for late seral stage (80-85 percent grass and grass-like plants, 10-15 percent forbs, and 5 percent shrubs).

2. Activity Plans: None implemented.
3. T&E: No objectives identified. (see Section III. C. 1. d.)

D. Key Species Identification

1. Uplands: See Appendix 1

a. Livestock

KA1: Winterfat Eurotia lanata EULA
Indian ricegrass Oryzopsis hymenoides ORHY

KA2: Black sagebrush Artemisia arbuscula nova ARARN
Fourwing Saltbush Atriplex canescens ATCA
Indian ricegrass Oryzopsis hymenoides ORHY

b. Mule deer unit 13 (Grant Range):

Black sagebrush Artemisia arbuscula nova ARARN
Mexican cliffrose Cowania mexicana COME

c. Pronghorn antelope range:

All forbs
Black sagebrush Artemisia arbuscula nova ARARN
Douglas rabbitbrush Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus CHV18
Shadscale Atriplex confertifolia ATCO

2. Riparian:

All perennial grass and grass-like species

3. Crucial Habitat: None identified.

IV. MANAGEMENT EVALUATION

A. Purpose:

The purpose of this document is to evaluate the nature of grazing that has occurred on the Batterman Wash allotment and to measure effectiveness in meeting specific management objectives identified in the land use plan (LUP). Included will be recommendations to make specific changes in current management where these LUP objectives are not being met.

B. Summaries of Studies Data

1. Appendix

(See Form No. 4400-17, Appendix 2)

2. Actual Use (see Appendix 3)

a. Livestock - Actual use was estimated from licensed use and documented unauthorized drift which has occurred since 1980. The use has ranged from 1,100 AUMs to 1,937 AUMs.

b. Wildlife: Mule deer use was extrapolated from Nevada Department of Wildlife's estimates of herd numbers. The estimated use is based on the amount of deer range that is on the allotment, and the season the animals are on that range.

c. Wild horses: Use was estimated from censuses conducted during 1983, 1987 and 1989. Only animals counted on the allotment were considered to be using the allotment. Horses have not been censused within the allotment boundaries. Even horse sign (i.e., feces) seen on the allotment indicates only intermittent use by wild horses.

3. Precipitation (see Appendix 4 & 5)

The average precipitation for the last 11 reporting years was 11.87 inches with a range from 7.39 inches to 17.11 inches. The greatest precipitation occurs during the spring, late summer and fall months.

Precipitation data has been used to adjust the utilization levels for the allotment evaluation years. The first step is to calculate the crop

Artemisia arbuscula low sage.

yield, the effective precipitation for plant growth occurring between September and June of each year. The crop yield for the past eleven years ranged from 6.42 inches to 12.33 inches. The crop yield was then arrayed and the middle five years were averaged in order to determine the average median. The average median was 9.61 inches. The crop yield was then divided by the average median to determine the precipitation index for each year. The precipitation index ranged from 67 to 128. The yield index is then determined from the precipitation index by using the linear regression equation $\hat{Y} = -23 + 1.23 X$ (Sneva et al. 1983).

4. Utilization

a. Key area

The yield index discussed in the previous section is then multiplied by the utilization level. The result of this is a utilization level normalized by precipitation. The normalized utilization level is used as a guide. Monitoring and evaluation will continue in the future.

Normalized Key Area Utilization
Summary by Year

<u>Year</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>
Yield Index	95	112	86	131	59	59	91	105
Location								
Key Sp.								
KA1:								
EULA				17	5	31	9	17
ORHY				64	37	41	73	45
KA2:								
ARARN					2	8	36	15
ATCA				21	24	21	14	44
ORHY		40		5	21	12	66	28

Key Area Utilization
Summary by Year

<u>Year</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>
Key Area 1							
EULA			13	9	52	10	16
ORHY			49*	62	70	80**	43
Key Area 2							
ARARN				4	13	40	14
ATCA			16	40	35	15*	42
ORHY	36		4	36	20	72*	27

* < 10 Sample Points

** < 3 Sample Points

b. Use Pattern Mapping
(see Maps 3, 4 & 5)

5. Trend

Frequency trend indicated that there was no significant change at the .05 and .10 level of significance. However, apparent trend read in June of 1988 indicated that both key areas are improving.

At Key Area 1, young Indian ricegrass (ORHY) plants are appearing in the interspaces between EULA plants. At Key Area 2, perennial grass species (comprising 25% by weight of the vegetative community) demonstrate good vigor and very abundant seed production.

6. Range Survey Data

The 1979 Ocular Reconnaissance Forage Survey indicated that there are 1828 AUMs available for livestock.

7. Ecological Status:

Ecological status using ocular estimation was determined on both key areas in 1984. Key area 1, a silty range site (029X015NV) had a condition rating of 47% of the Potential Natural Community (PNC) by air dry weight at that time. Key area 2, a shallow calcareous loam (029X008NV) had a condition rating of 65% PNC.

Ecological status using the double sampling technique was completed on the two key areas in June 1988. Key area 1, site 029X015NV, had a

condition rating of 44% of PNC by air dry weight, placing it in a mid seral stage. The mid seral stage is due to grass production at 1/30 of PNC site description and shrub production 1.65 times PNC site description. EULA production is 3 times site description.

Key area 2, site 029X008NV, had a condition rating of 63% of PNC by air dry weight, placing it into a late seral stage.

8. Wildlife Habitat

Because there are no key/crucial areas identified on the allotment, no wildlife habitat studies have been established.

9. Riparian/Fisheries Habitat

Based on subjective evaluations during the water resources inventory completed in 1982, all three springs surveyed were in good or better condition. No ecological survey has been completed on these areas.

10. Wild Horse and Burro Habitat:

A small portion of the Seaman Herd Management Area falls within the boundaries of the Batterman Wash Allotment, but it receives only occasional if any, use. No wild horses were censused last count, but one AUM was identified in the RPS.

V. CONCLUSIONS

A. Referred to by number from III.C., Specific Objectives

1. Land Use Plan and Rangeland Program Summary

a. Livestock

(1) Objective Attainment Determination:

Not met.

(2) Rationale:

The allowable use level at the key area BWR1 was exceeded in one of five years on EULA. (see Appendix 1)

Use pattern mapping indicates areas of heavy use in 1985 and areas of heavy to severe use in 1986 and 1987. (see Maps 3, 4, 5)

b. Wild horses and burros

(1) Objective Attainment Determination:

Met.

(2) Rationale:

Use pattern mapping indicates slight to moderate use within the HMA boundaries.

c. Mule deer

(1) Objective Attainment Determination:

Met.

(2) Rationale:

Use pattern mapping indicates the AUL on ARARN was not exceeded. Utilization on COME is unknown.

d. Pronghorn antelope

(1) Objective Attainment Determination:

Met.

(2) Rationale:

Use pattern mapping indicates the AUL on ARARN was exceeded.

e. Ferruginous hawks

(1) Objective Attainment Determination:

Not met.

(2) Rationale:

Exceeded allowable use level for winterfat in 1985 (see Appendix 2).

f. Riparian areas

(1) Objective Attainment Determination:

Not met.

(2) Rationale:

Exceeded allowable use levels in 1986 on wet meadows (see Appendix 1).

VI TECHNICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Identified Issues

Unauthorized drift from adjacent allotments.
Uneven distribution.

B. Short Term Solutions

Option 1 - Adjust Numbers.

Option 2 - Control livestock distribution with water and herding.

1. Option 1

A desired stocking level was determined using the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{Actual Use}}{\text{KMA Utilization}} = \frac{\text{Desired Actual Use}}{\text{Desired KMA Utilization}}$$

Use Pattern Mapping was used to determine the Desired Actual Use for 1985, 1986, and 1987, as illustrated below.

Use Pattern Map Summary: Acres and percent of allotment by use category

Year	Zero 0	Slight 1-20	Light 21-40	Moderate 41-60	Heavy 61-80	Severe 81-100	Percent
1985	1410 4	18555 46	11626 29	7495 19	792 2	0 0	Acres Percent
1986	866 2	13496 34	6839 17	13475 34	3885 10	1317 3	Acres Percent
1987	1897 5	22193 56	11020 27	3206 8	1301 3	261 1	Acres Percent

TABLE 1: CALCULATED STOCKING RATES FOR BATTERMAN WASH
(1984-87)

Use Pattern Mapping:

Stratum 1

Year/

Key SPP	Actual Use (AUMs)				Total	Meas Util	Yield Index	Adjus Util	Desired Util	Desired Use(AUMS)
	Cattle	Sheep	Unauth	Deer						
1985/										
EULA	728		130		858	70%	0.59	41.3%	45%	935
1986/										
EULA	666		22		688	80%	0.91	72.8%	45%	425
1987/										
EULA	946		196		1142	70%	1.05	73.5%	45%	699

Stratum 2

Year/

Key SPP	Actual Use (AUMs)				Total	Meas Util	Yield Index	Adjus Util	Desired Util	Desired Use(AUMS)
	Cattle	Sheep	Unauth	Deer						
1985/										
ATCA	81	336	14	16	447	70%	0.59	41.3%	45%	487
1986/										
ORHY	74	335	3	19	431	70%	0.91	63.7%	55%	372
1987/										
ATCA	105	189	22	16	332	60%	1.05	63.0%	45%	237

Average Carrying Capacity

Year	AUMs	Cattle	Sheep	Deer
1985	1422			
1986	797			
1987	936			
Ave. (3 years)	1052	701	332	19

The three year average carrying capacity was determined to be 1,052 AUMs. Active preference will be adjusted to 1,033 AUMs with 1,060 AUMs placed into suspended nonuse.

Adjusting the active preference from 2,093 AUMs to 1,031 AUMs will decrease but not eliminate the areas of heavy and severe use. Additional management is required to eliminate these problems.

2. Option 2

Improve livestock distribution with additional herding and water improvements.

Areas of severe use constitute less than 1% of the allotment, and areas of heavy use have been approximately 5% of the allotment over the last three years of use pattern mapping. Both problems would be alleviated with increased herding and water distribution.

Use of the northern diversion ditch and reservoir system in combination with Uhalde Well would continue. The pipeline located at T. 3 N., R. 57 E., sec. 27 would be repaired and water restored to the tank at T. 2 N., R. 57 E., sec. 3. Uhalde Well should be the primary watering source for livestock during winter when the ditch system is frozen. The pipeline and ditch and reservoir system should be the primary methods of watering livestock, at other times the livestock are present. The optional use of water hauling sites (see Map 6) will be employed as necessary.

Increased herding and using Uhalde Well only when the ditch system is frozen will achieve better distribution and alleviate areas of heavy and severe use. Preference of 2,093 AUMs would be maintained.

Increased use supervision is also necessary in order to decrease the unauthorized drift which is thought to be a major contributing factor to most areas of heavy and severe use.

B. Long Term Solutions

Fence allotment boundaries to curb unauthorized use.
Adjust the areas of use
Implement a grazing system

1. Option 1

Fence the Batterman Wash allotment boundary to exclude unauthorized livestock drift onto the allotment. Currently livestock have been known to drift from Dry Farm allotment to the north and the Forest Service allotment to the west. This action in combination with herding practices previously identified will eliminate areas of heavy and severe use. Use supervision on the allotment will be minimized (see Map 8). The allotment boundary will be fenced by 1995.

2. Option 2

Improve water facilities and provide salt to improve the distribution of livestock throughout the allotment. Reconstruction of an auxiliary ditch and reservoir in T. 3 N., R. 58 E., sec. 10 would be completed. Construction of an auxiliary ditch system from T. 3 N., R. 58 E., sec. 15 to T. 3 N., R. 58 E., sec. 26, and an accompanying reservoir at that location will be done by 1993.

In combination with water developments salt blocks will be located no closer than one quarter of a mile from the nearest available water to facilitate the desired distribution. (see Map 9)

By reducing the impact of livestock by additional waters and salting no closer than 1/4 mile from waters, allowable use levels on the key area would be attained and heavy and severe use and improper distribution problems would be substantially reduced. The combination of water, salting, fencing, and herding practices should eliminate improper distribution problems.

In the long term, proper distribution maintained through these measures should result in utilization rates throughout the allotment similar to those measured on the key areas.

Average calculated stocking rates based on key area utilization indicates that additional AUMs may be available through improved management and distribution (refer to Table 2). The appropriate stocking level would be based on future monitoring data after implementation of the above described actions.

TABLE 2: CALCULATED STOCKING RATES FOR 1983-87 (SINGLE KEY SPP).

Stratum 1										
Year/										
Key SPP	Actual Use (AUMs)				Total	Meas Util	Yield Index	Adjus Util	Desired Util	Desired Use(AUMS)
1983/										
EULA	724				724	13%	1.31	17.0%	45%	1913
1984/										
EULA	707		26		733	9%	0.59	5.3%	45%	6212
1985/										
EULA	728		51		779	52%	0.59	30.7%	45%	1143
1986/										
EULA	666		22		688	10%	0.91	9.1%	45%	3402
1987/										
EULA	946		178		1124	16%	1.05	16.8%	45%	3011
Av. Rate/EULA										3136

Stratum 2										
Year/										
Key SPP	Actual Use (AUMs)				Total	Meas Util	Yield Index	Adjus Util	Desired Util	Desired Use(AUMS)
1983/										
ATCA	81	322		7	410	16%	1.31	21.0%	45%	880
1984/										
ATCA	79	366	3	11	459	40%	0.59	23.6%	45%	875
1985/										
ATCA	81	336	73	16	506	35%	0.59	20.7%	45%	1103
1986/										
ATCA	74	335	3	19	431	15%	0.91	13.7%	45%	1421
1987/										
ATCA	105	189	40	16	350	42%	1.05	44.1%	45%	357
Av. Rate/ATCA										927

3. Option 3

Implement a deferred rotation grazing system in conjunction with Worthington Mountain Allotment (category M to be evaluated FY 1990). Cattle would be allowed to graze in one of the allotments through out the spring, the following year that allotment would be rested during the spring season. Watering and salting procedures identified in short term Option 2 and long term Option 3 will be implemented as well as fencing the allotment boundary.

The allowable use levels on the key area will be attained and heavy and severe use and improper distribution problems would be alleviated.

The allowable use level with the implementation of a grazing system will be increased to 50%.

4. Option 4

Develop a 3 pasture deferred rotation grazing system. This would allow for spring rest on two of the three pastures each year with one pasture being rested in the spring for two consecutive years. This will meet the physiological requirements of the vegetative key species. To accomplish this, additional fencing, and previously identified water facilities and herding practices would be implemented. The implementation of the fencing and water would occur by 2000.

The implementation of a grazing system would further increase the available AUMs by 5% in the long term (Van Poollen and Lacey 1979). The allowable use levels with the implementation of this grazing system will increase to 50% (see Map 10).

C. Additional Monitoring Data Required:

Develop site specific Riparian Area Ecological site descriptions.

Read utilization yearly and determine ecological status along Cherry Creek T. 3 N., R. 57 E., sec. 24 NE1/4; and the spring at T. 3 N., R. 57 E., sec. 27.

Establish a new key area T. 3 N., R. 58 E., sec. 25.

Continue present monitoring studies.

Literature Cited

Sneva, Forest, and C.M. Britton. 1983. Adjusting and Forecasting Herbage Yields in the Intermountain Big Sagebrush Region of the Steppe Province. Agricultural Experiment Station Oregon State University, Station Bulletin 659. p. 61.

Van Poollen, H. Walt and John R. Lacey, 1979, Herbage Response to Grazing Systems and Stocking Intensities. Journal of Range Management 32(4):250-253.

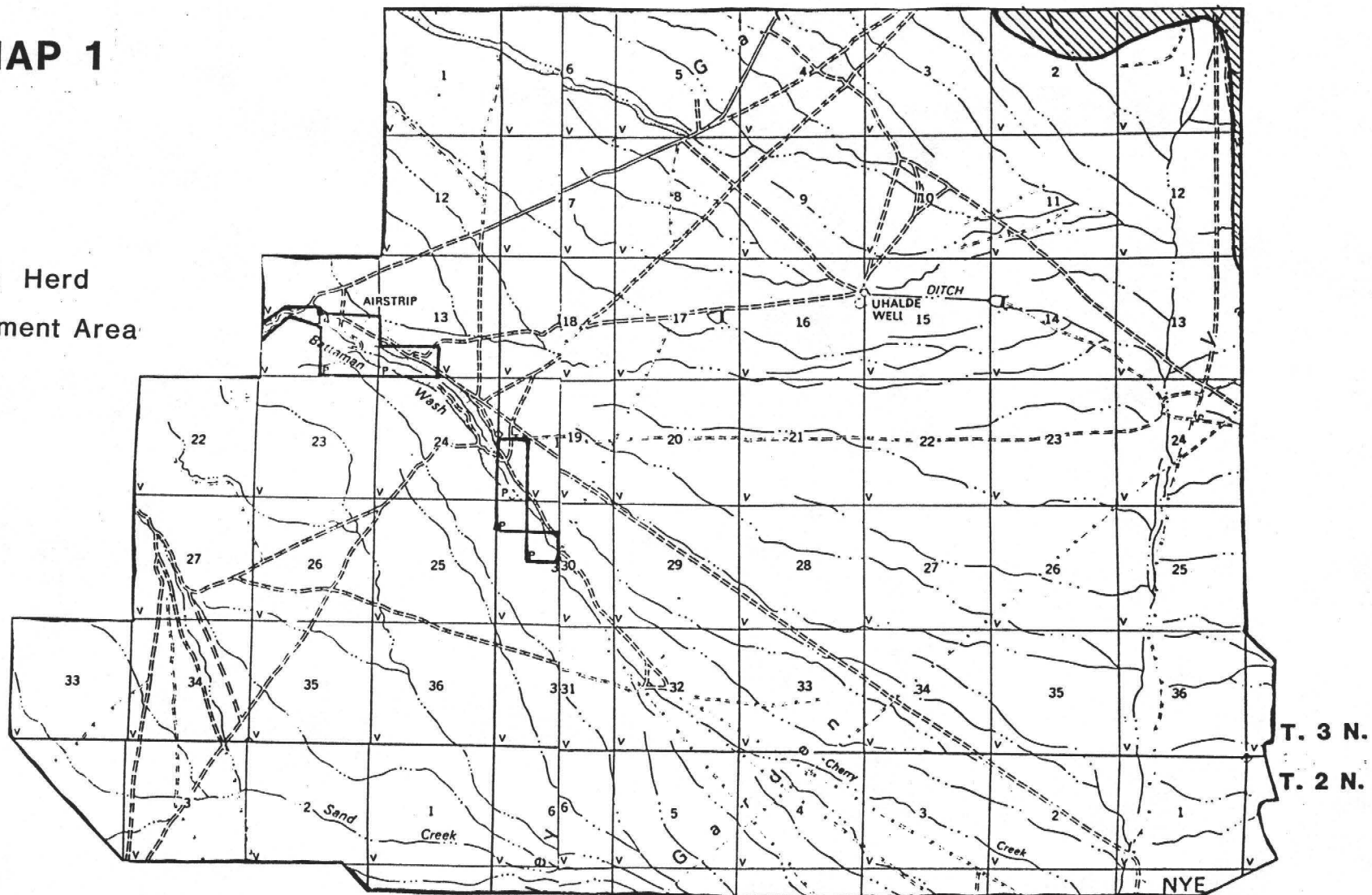
BATTERMAN WASH ALLOTMENT

MAP 1

LEGEND



Seaman Herd
Management Area



R. 57 E. R. 58 E.

T. 3 N.
T. 2 N.

BATTERMAN WASH ALLOTMENT

WILDLIFE USE AREAS

MAP 2

LEGEND



Deer Winter Range

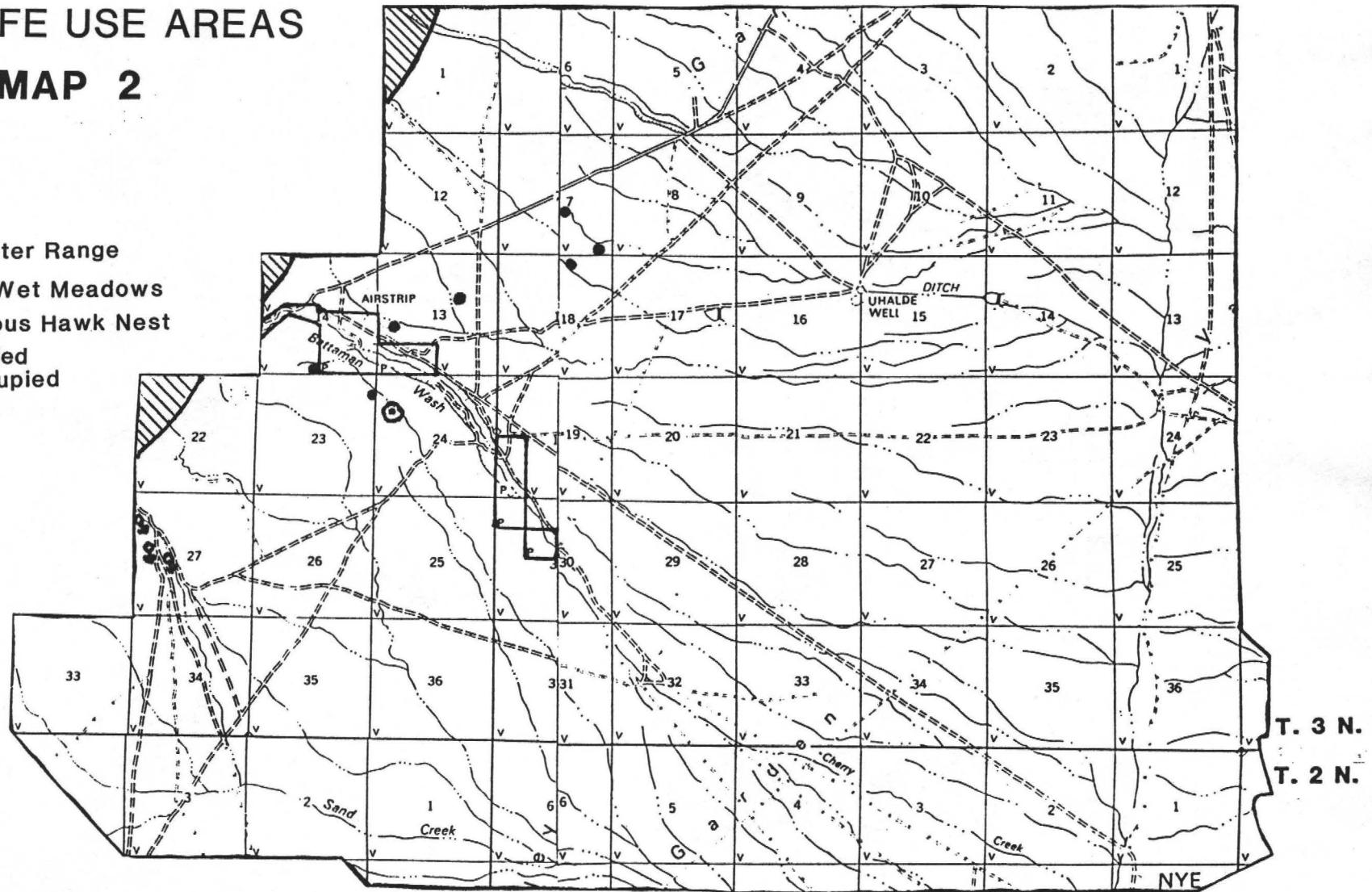


Springs/Wet Meadows



Ferruginous Hawk Nest

occupied
unoccupied



R. 57 E. R. 58 E.

T. 3 N.

T. 2 N.

NYE

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
KEY MANAGEMENT AREA
EVALUATION SUMMARY

Office

ELY

Planning Area

SHELL

Date

1989

Allotment

BATTERMAN WASH

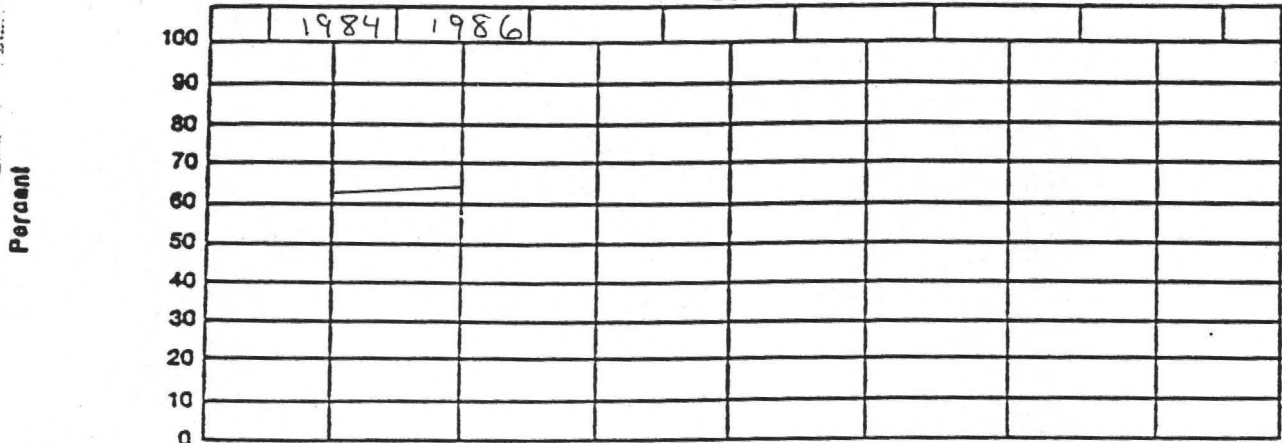
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BWRI

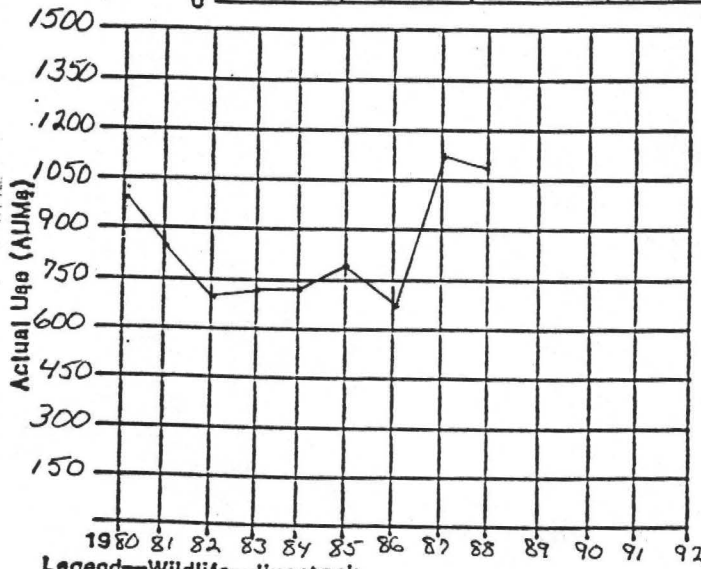
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Date

Code

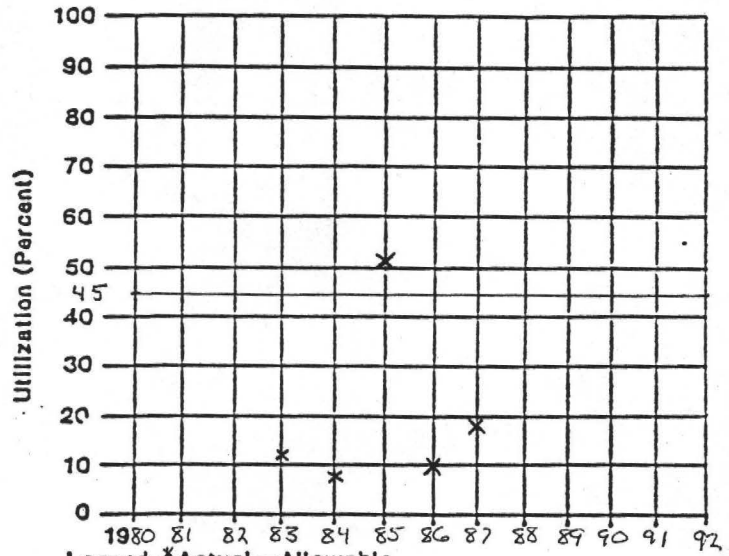
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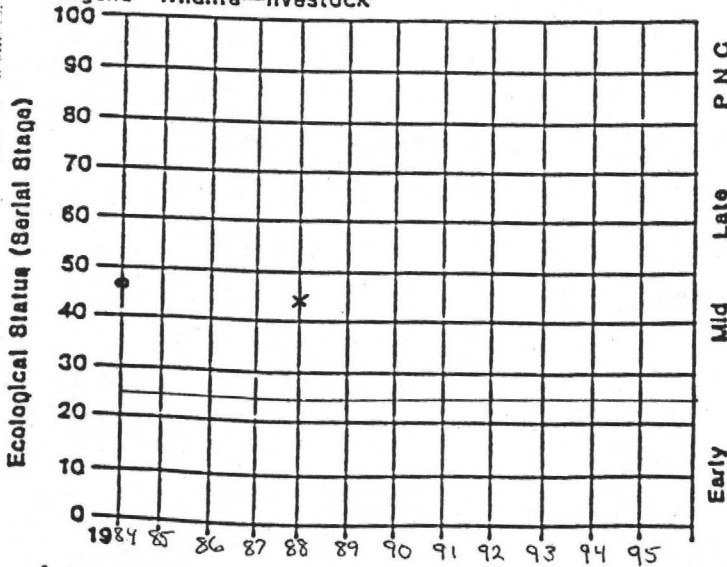
EULA



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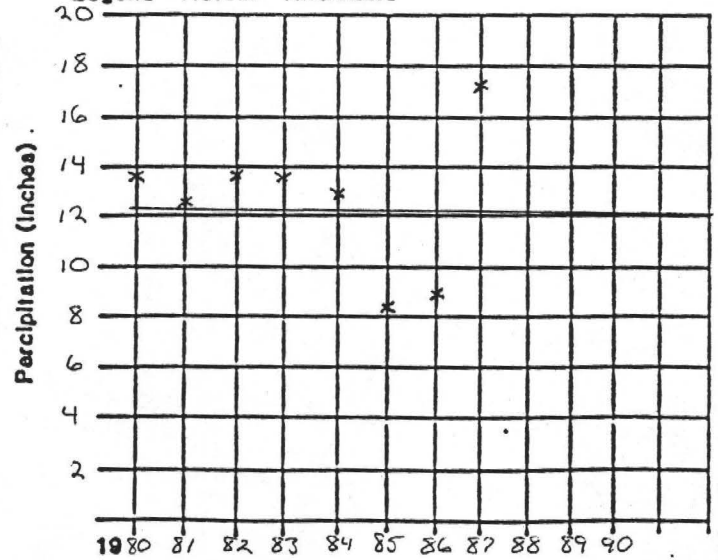


Legend—*Actual—Allowable



Legend—Actual—Objective

o OCCULAR ESTIMATION



Legend—Actual—Normal

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
KEY MANAGEMENT AREA
EVALUATION SUMMARY

District

ELY

Planning Area

SHELL

Date

1989

Allotment

BATTERMAN WASH

Key Management Area

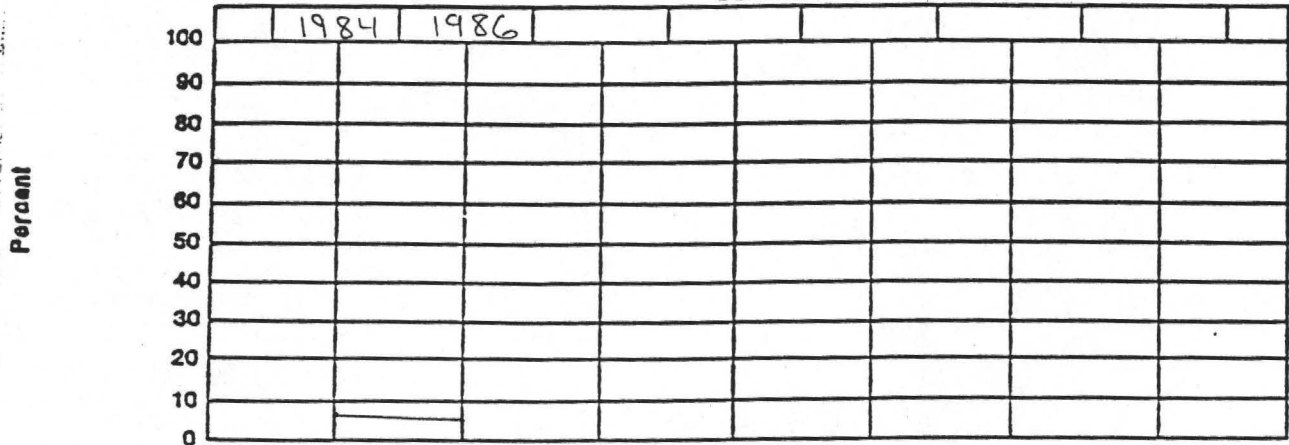
BWR 2

Trend Index (Frequency)

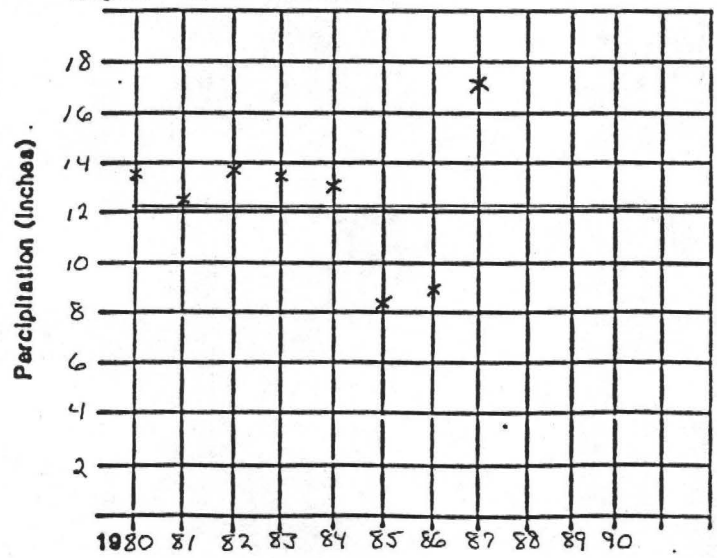
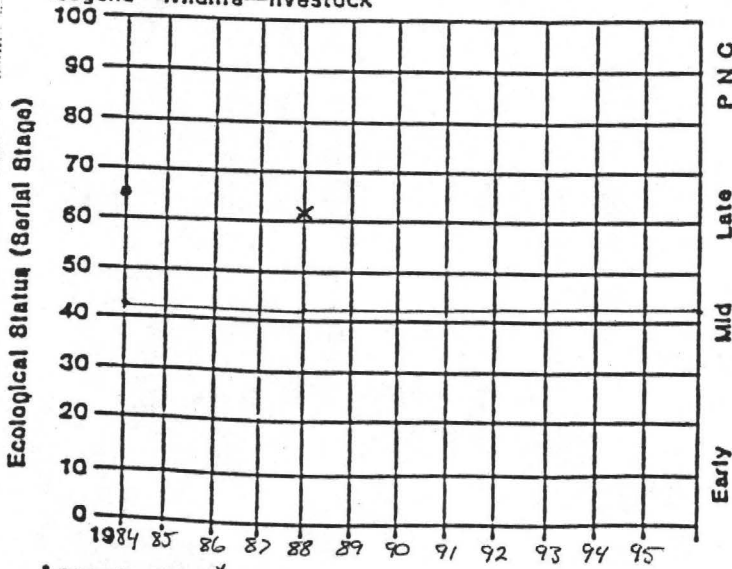
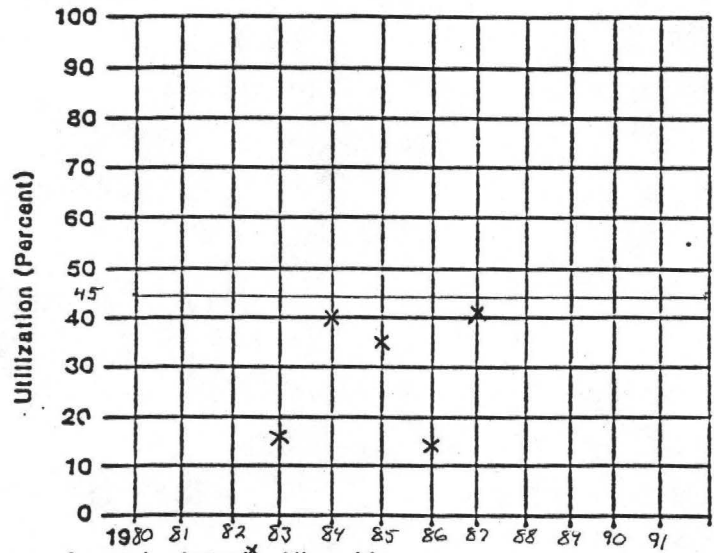
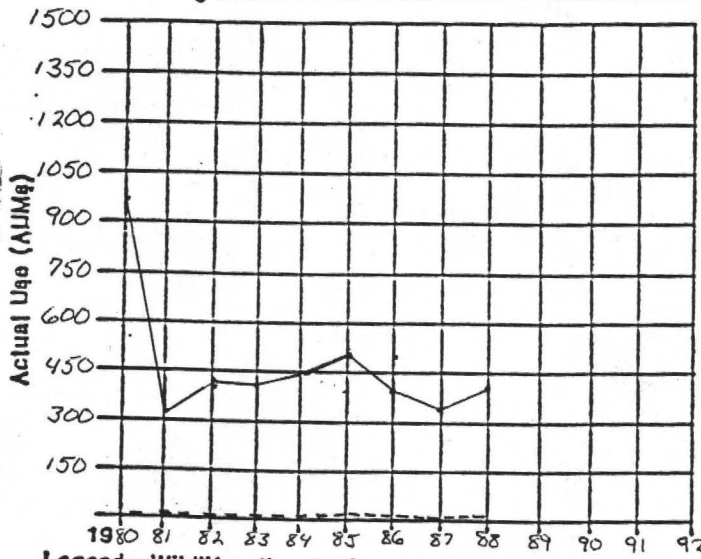
Date

Code

Key Species-C



ATCA



Legend—Actual—Objective
• OCCULAR ESTIMATION

Batterman Wash Appendix 3

Year	Area	Livestock			Wildlife			Wild Horse 1/	Total Estimated Use
		Cattle	Sheep	Total	Deer	Elk	Antelope		
1980	KA1	974		974					974
	KA2	108	855	963	6				969
	Total	1082	855	1937	6			-0-	1943
1981	KA1	845		845					845
	KA2	94	223	317	5				322
	Total	939	223	1162	5			-0-	1167
1982	KA1 (6)	707		707					707
	KA2 (1)	79	348	427	7				435
	Total (7)	786	348	1134	7			-0-	1142
1983	KA1	724		724					724
	KA2	81	322	403	7				410
	Total	805	322	1127	7			-0-	1134
1984	KA1 (26)	728		733					733
	KA2 (3)	79	366	448	11				459
	Total (29)	807	366	1181	11			-0-	1192
1985	KA1 (51)	728		779					779
	KA2 (73)	81	336	490	16				506
	Total (124)	809	336	1269	16			-0-	1285
1986	KA1 (22)	666		688					688
	KA2 (3)	74	335	412	19				431
	Total (25)	740	335	1100	19			-0-	1119

Batterman Wash Appendix 3

Year	Area	Cattle	Livestock		Total	Wildlife			Wild Horse 1/	Total Estimated Use
			Sheep			Deer	Elk	Antelope		
1987	KA1	(178) 946			1124					1124
	KA2	(40) 105	189		334	16				350
	Total	(218)1051	189		1458	16			-0-	1474
1988	KA1	1089			1089					1089
	KA2	121	286		407	12				419
	Total	1210	286		1496	12			-0-	1508

() Numbers from certificate of livestock counts showing livestock drift into the allotment.

1/ No horses have been censused in this allotment.

APPENDIX 5

REPORTING STATION: SUNNYSIDE

Year	Crop Yield	Average Median	PPT Index	Yield Index
1978	10.39	9.61	108	110
1979	9.46	9.61	98	98
1980	9.25	9.61	96	95
1981	10.58	9.61	110	112
1982	8.52	9.61	89	86
1983	12.02	9.61	125	131
1984	6.42	9.61	67	59
1985	6.43	9.61	67	59
1986	8.92	9.61	93	91
1987	10.01	9.61	104	105
1988	12.33	9.61	128	134

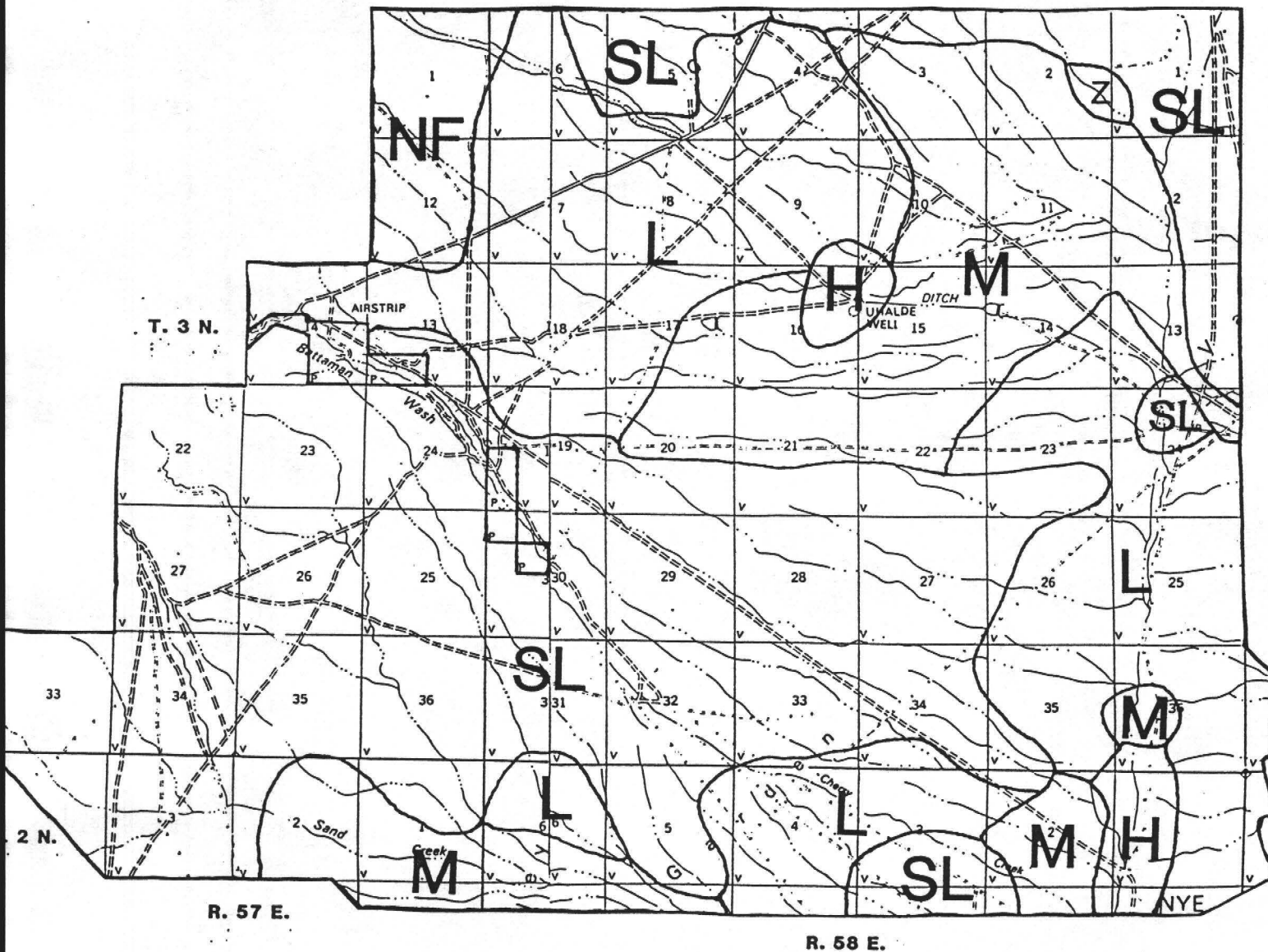
BATTERMAN WASH ALLOTMENT

1985 UTILIZATION PATTERN MAP

MAP 3

LEGEND USE LEVEL KEY

- S Severe (81-100%)
- H Heavy (61-80%)
- M Moderate (41-60%)
- L Light (21-40%)
- SL Slight (1-20%)
- NF Zero (No Forage Available)
- Z Zero (Forage Available
But No Use)



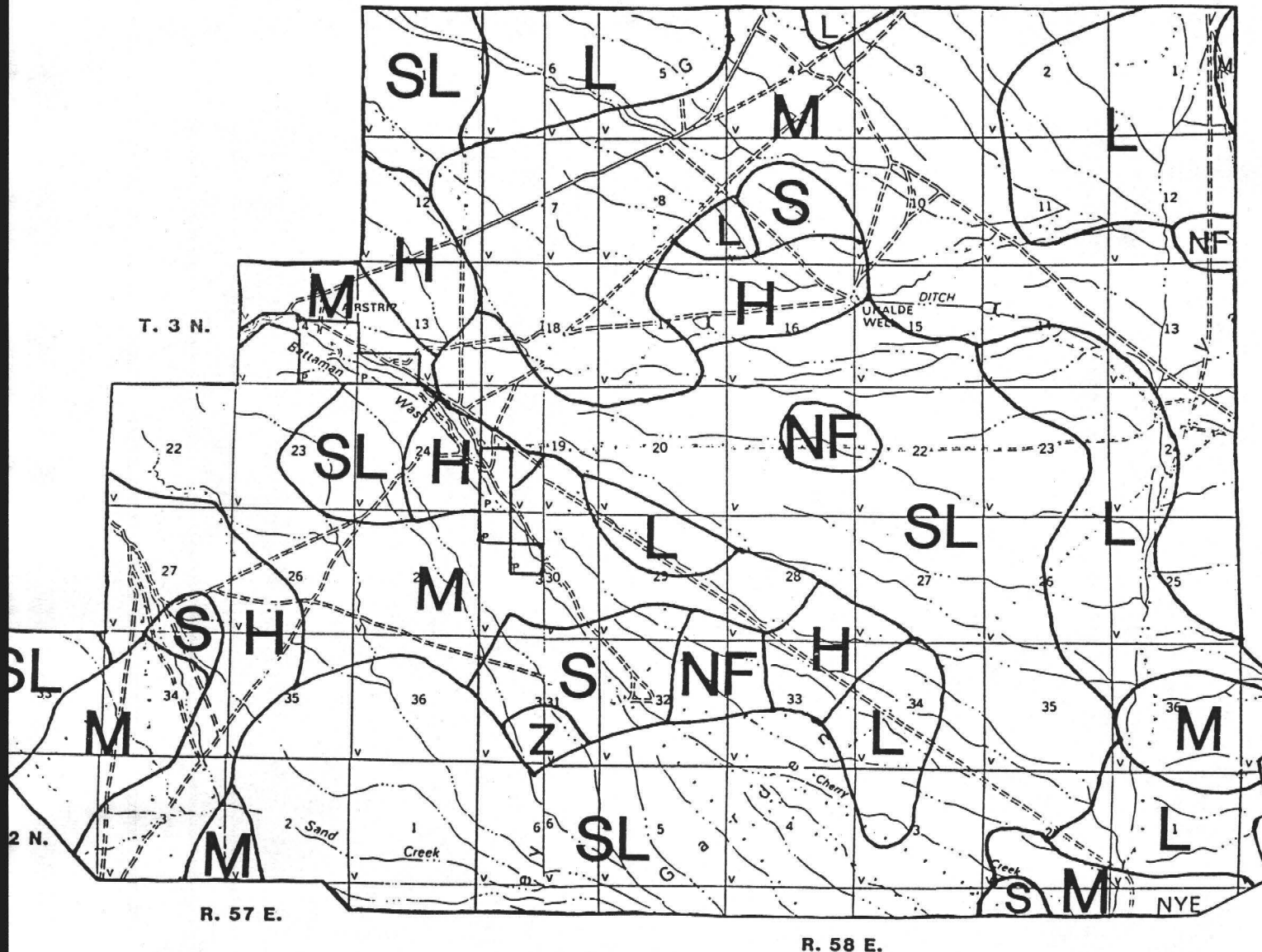
BATTERMAN WASH ALLOTMENT

1986 UTILIZATION PATTERN MAP MAP 4

LEGEND

USE LEVEL KEY

- S Severe (81-100%)
- H Heavy (61-80%)
- M Moderate (41-60%)
- L Light (21-40%)
- SL Slight (1-20%)
- NF Zero (No Forage Available)
- Z Zero (Forage Available
But No Use)



BATTERMAN WASH ALLOTMENT

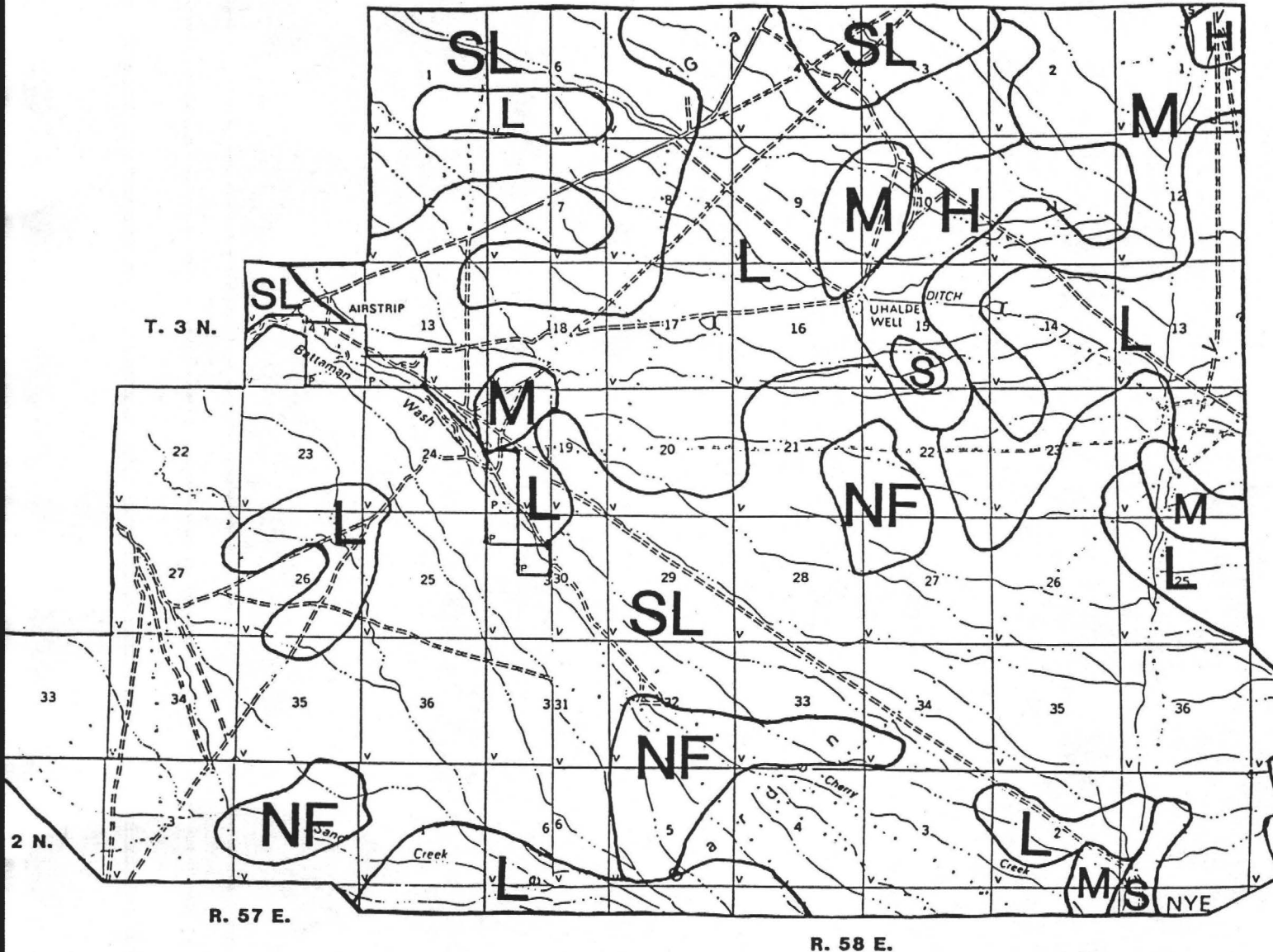
1987 UTILIZATION PATTERN MAP

MAP 5

LEGEND

USE LEVEL KEY









- S Severe (81-100%)
- H Heavy (61-80%)
- M Moderate (41-60%)
- L Light (21-40%)
- SL Slight (1-20%)
- NF Zero (No Forage Available)
- Z Zero (Forage Available But No Use)

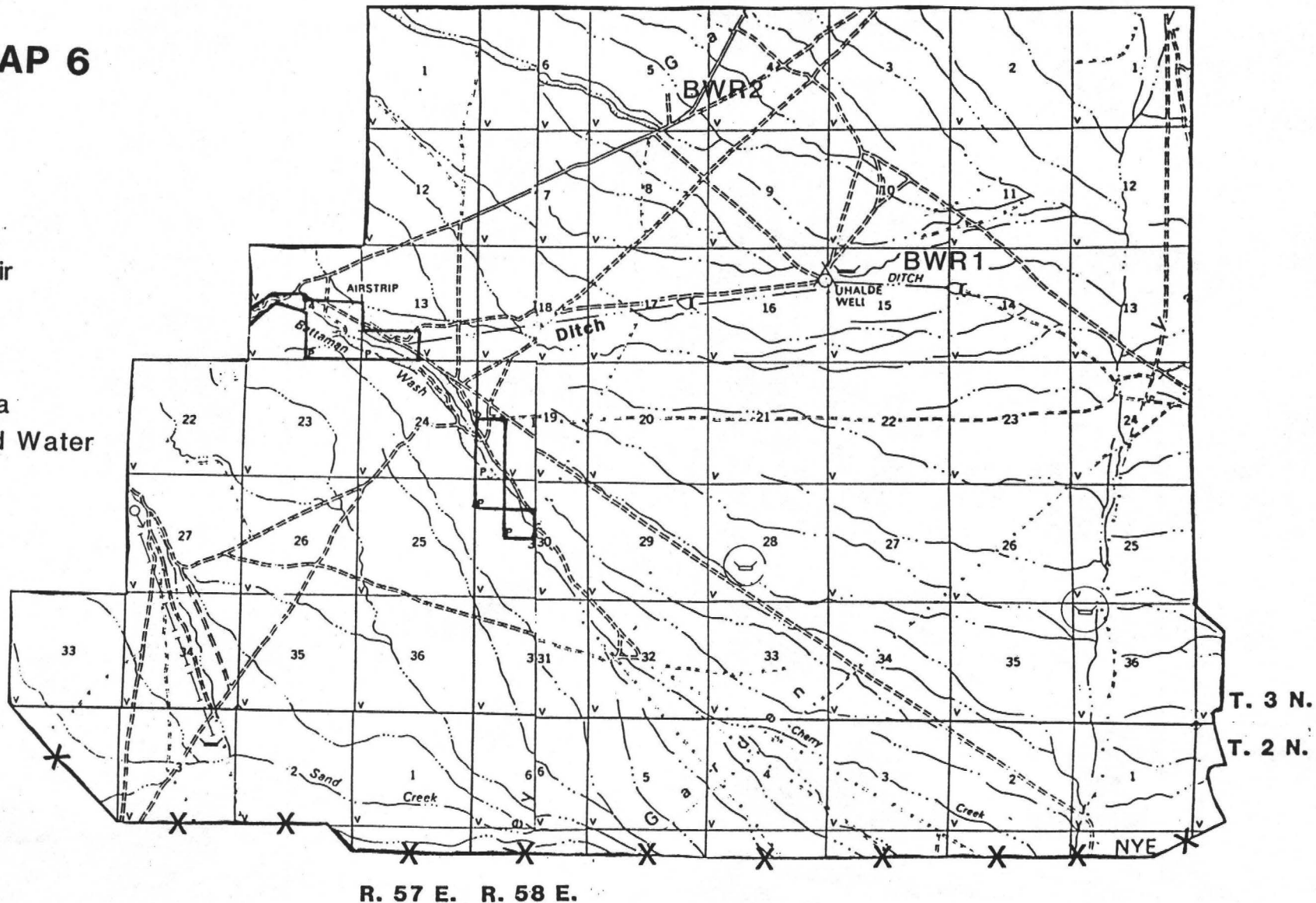


BATTERMAN WASH ALLOTMENT

MAP 6

LEGEND

-  Well
-  Ditch
-  Reservoir
-  Pipeline
-  Water
-  Fence
-  BWR Key Area
-  Proposed Water



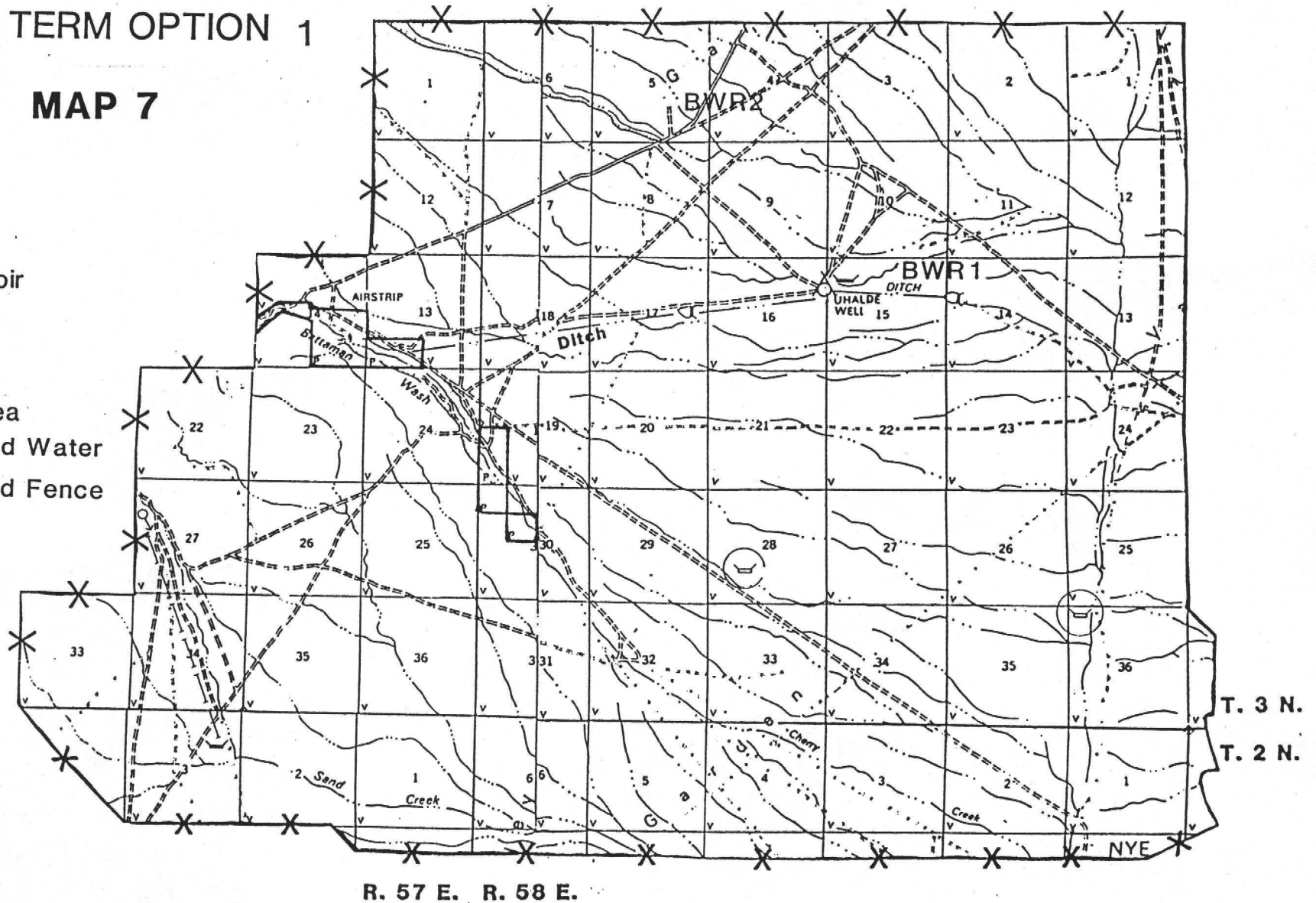
BATTERMAN WASH ALLOTMENT

LONG TERM OPTION 1

MAP 7

LEGEND

- ⊗ Well
- - - Ditch
- ⊕ Reservoir
- Pipeline
- ~ Water
- * Fence
- BWR Key Area
- ⊖ Proposed Water
- * Proposed Fence













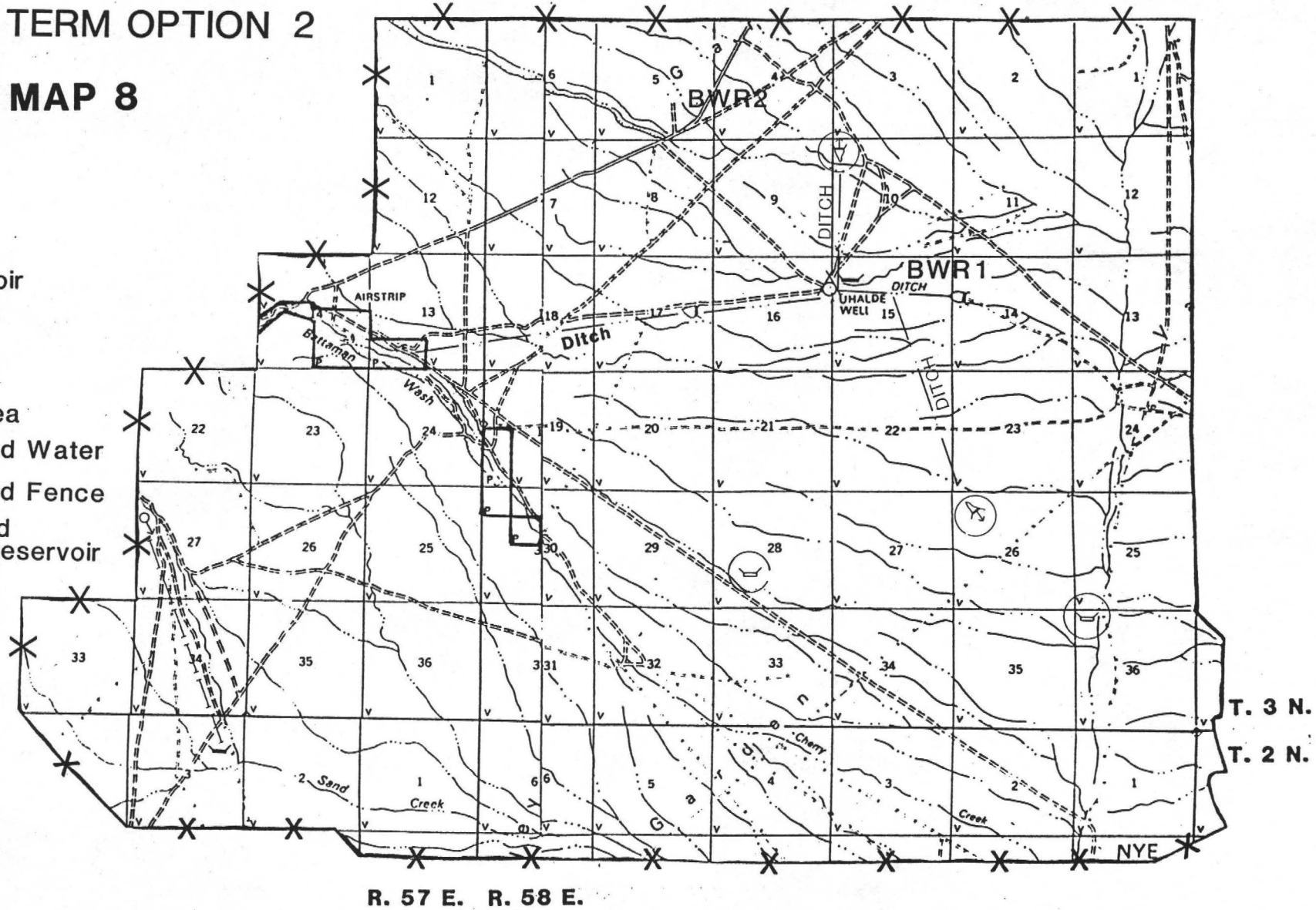
BATTERMAN WASH ALLOTMENT

LONG TERM OPTION 2

MAP 8

LEGEND

-  Well
-  Ditch
-  Reservoir
-  Pipeline
-  Water
-  Fence
-  BWR Key Area
-  Proposed Water
-  Proposed Fence
-  Proposed Reservoir



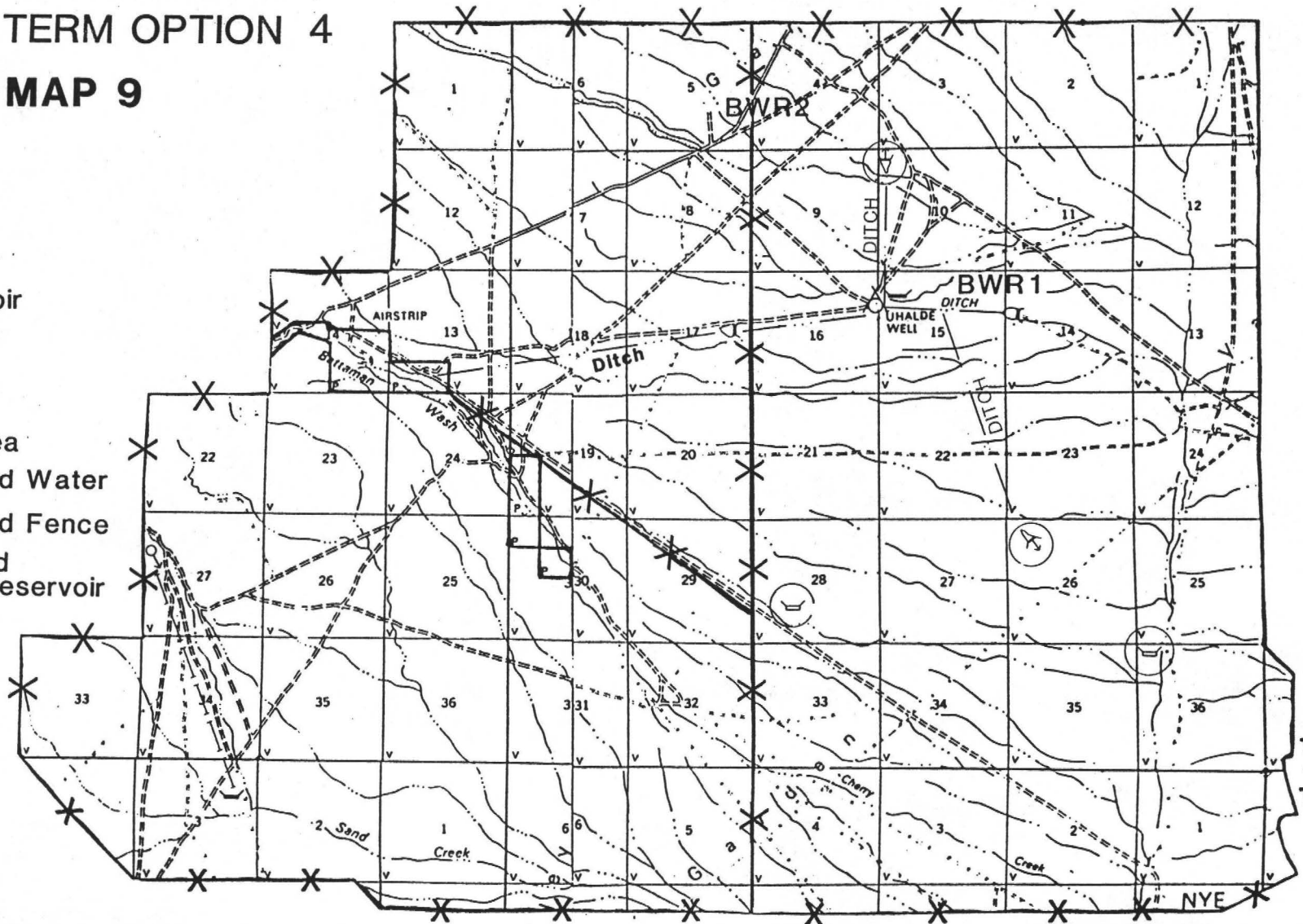
BATTERMAN WASH ALLOTMENT

LONG TERM OPTION 4

MAP 9

LEGEND

- ⊕ Well
- - - Ditch
- ⊕ Reservoir
- | | Pipeline
- ~ Water
- * Fence
- BWR Key Area
- ⊕ Proposed Water
- * Proposed Fence
- ⊕ Proposed Reservoir



R. 57 E. R. 58 E.

T. 3 N.

T. 2 N.

NYE

WHOA

WILD HORSE ORGANIZED ASSISTANCE
P.O. BOX 555
RENO, NEVADA 89504



a note from

July, 28, 1989

Dawn Y. Lappin

Mr. Gerald M. Smith, Manager
Schell Resource Area
Ely District Office
Bureau of Land Management
Star Route 5, Box 1
Ely, Nevada 89301

Dear Mr. Smith:

Thank you very much for the opportunity to comment relating to the Batterman Wash Allotment Evaluation.

Initial Stocking Level

Please explain the difference on the Season of Use, wherein you state the EIS season of use is 11/10 to 01/30 and 03/26 to 04/06; and the permittee is 11/01 to 05/01.

2 (a). Will any of part of Garden Valley have critical areas delineated before the animals are released?

C (1) a. Isn't the short-term objective and long-term objective of managing through allowable use levels (AUL) in conflict with the use of yield indexing and normalizing? How can you get proper use when you are factoring in a buffer?

V.(A)1(d) Antelope: I don't understand, the objective said it was met, yet the rationale states that "use pattern mapping indicates the AUL on ARARN was exceeded. I looked back to C (1) d., and found that short-term PU is 55% for grasses and forbs, and 45% for shrubs yearlong. Then I looked up ARARN which is black sage which is a shrub, so the 45% would apply. The rationale on V(A)1(d) states "it was exceeded," is the "met" a typing error?

Technical Recommendations

Short-term options could be a combination of Option 1 & 2, some reductions, some herding and water.

Table 1

I repeat my arguments from Wilson Creek, Dry Farm, Geysers that you are not following your BLM monitoring procedures as outlined in the Nevada Rangeland Monitoring Handbook. WHOA will fight the continued use of this "yield indexing" or "normalizing." The use of this factoring diminishes the hard work that has been done by the District in the monitoring program. Should you continue to use this adjustment factor, we will demand the same factoring, everywhere, be applied equally to wild horses and wildlife.

B. Long Term Solutions

Will the proposed fenceline to facilitate livestock management be in a herd management area? Any fencing within the herd management area will be strongly opposed due to the affect the fences would have to the free roaming nature of the wild horses and impede their ability to utilize their entire range.

I thought there already was a policy on not putting salt close to water.

Recommendations

Use measured utilization and actual use to adjust grazing animals .

Drop the use of yield index or normalizing (Sneva).

Incorporate the Draft Habitat Suitability Criteria for wild horses. (Carson City used it to promote a capture, surely you can use it to assist in identifying habitat and key species.)

Most sincerely,

Dawn Y. Lappin (Mrs.)
Director

cc: Board of Trustees
David A. Hornbeck, Esq.

BOB MILLER
Acting Governor

STATE OF NEVADA



TERRI JAY
Executive Director

COMMISSIONERS

Deloyd Satterthwaite, Chairman
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Tuscarora, Nevada 89834

Dawn Lappin
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Reno, Nevada 89511

Michael Kirk, D.V.M.
P.O. Box 5896
Reno, Nevada 89513

**COMMISSION FOR THE
PRESERVATION OF WILD HORSES**

Stewart Facility
Capitol Complex
Carson City, Nevada 89710
(702) 885-5589

July 27, 1989

Gerald Smith, Area Manager
Schell Resource Area
Ely District Office
Star Route 5, Box 1
Ely, Nevada 89301

Dear Mr. Smith,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Wilson Creek, Geyser Ranch, Batterman Wash, and Dry Farm Allotment Evaluations.

The concerns that I have for how wild horses were evaluated in the documents, are similar for all of the documents, so I have taken the liberty of combining my comments for your review.

The first concern that I have with all of the documents, is the use of the "Yeild Index" to produce an adjusted utilization. To the best of my knowledge, if you eat 90% of a plant, you have eaten 90% of the plant. No amount of rain and sunshine is going to save it. It appears as though you have tried to come up with some kind of a scheme to prevent having to force the livestock cuts that have been too long in coming.

I hereby request that you use only measured utilization and actual use to make adjustments in grazing on the public lands. OR, you must use the same "Yeild Index" in looking at forage consumption by wild horses.

In some of the documents, an estimated actual use was also used. If there is a question of trespass or unauthorized use, this should be assessed so ONLY the true ACTUAL use will be used in making decisions.

My next concern is in regard to the use of AML's or Appropriate Management Levels for herd numbers. In light of the recent IBLA ruling, the AML no longer exists. It is important now to manage horses in a thriving ecological balance as per IBLA. Please modify your documents to remove all notations of an AML and replace with "a thriving ecological balance."

I feel that at this time, in looking at allotments that contain wild horses as an integral part of the ecosystem, it is important to integrate the Draft Wild Horse And Burro Habitat Evaluation Procedures Users Guide. This guide has already been used by the Carson City District.

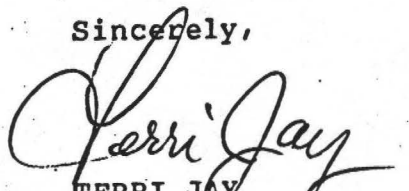
Gerald Smith
July 27, 1989
Page 2

In order to best determine how to manage a multiple-use allotment, the needs of the horses must be taken into consideration just as the needs of critical wildlife habitat are considered. This may help to better define key horse use areas.

In conclusion, I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the aforementioned documents and look forward to working with you further on the allotment evaluations.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,


TERRI JAY
Executive Director



SSAMAN 7-30-89

SIERRA CLUB

Toiyabe Chapter — Nevada and Eastern California
P.O. Box 8096, Reno, Nevada 89507

July 30, 1989

Gerald Smith, Manager
BLM/Schell Resource Area
SR 5, Box 1
Ely, NV 89301

Dear Manager Smith,

Thank you for sending us copies of allotment evaluations on Dry Farm, Sampson Creek, Batterman Wash, Geyser Ranch, and Tippet in the Schell Resource Area. On behalf of the Sierra Club and NRDC, I am submitting comments on these AEs by this letter, as well as a few additional ones on Wilson Creek (on which I have previously commented). Our general comments follow:

The Sierra Club and NRDC oppose the use of precipitation indexing for the reasons detailed in our comments on the Wilson Creek AE. In brief, it is a questionable method, which is not in general use among BLM districts nor has it been court tested, to our knowledge. In addition, it effectively discounts excessive livestock utilization and reduces the needed reductions in stocking rates to balance livestock use with carrying capacity. Our organizations intend to support BLMs use of monitoring data to make long over-due adjustments in livestock numbers, but would be unable to do so with this doubtful monitoring method. The public has been waiting since the completion of the land use plans while BLM collected monitoring data on which to base its grazing decisions. The BLM has utilization and use pattern mapping data for these allotments for over five years in some cases. This more reliable data should be used. If BLM grazing decisions are challenged, it makes more sense to have the strongest case possible, not the weakest.

In addition, like the Wilson Creek AE, these evaluations are not responsive to land use plan objectives. Only the Tippet AE specifies all the objectives for which the allotment management is supposed to be evaluated. The one short term and one long term objective for the other five AEs cannot adequately state all of the LUP objectives each allotment management is supposed to be meeting.

Our specific comments follow:

Dry Farm. Most objectives have not been met. Changes in current grazing numbers and practices are definitely warranted. A stocking reduction is needed, but one based on excessive utilization and severe and heavy patterns of use, not the flimsy and unreasonable method proposed. A stocking level closer to the 1979 survey capacity level of 236 AUMs appears to be still

warranted. We also support the development of a grazing system, herding, and redistribution efforts. This actions must address actions to improve the extensive acreage in poor condition. We oppose water development until grazing management problems have been worked out. This AE is deficient in objectives, monitoring, and recommendations on protecting and rehabilitating degraded riparian areas. This should be added to the final document. We also suggest consideration of a change in season of use.

Sampson Creek. Objectives on this allotment have mostly not been met. A stocking reduction is warranted. It was interesting to observe that even though the challengeable indexing method was used to adjust up utilization, the recommended cut in the stocking rate was nearly non-existent. A totally incomprehensible system whose real purpose seems to be to protect existing numbers of livestock!? The format of this AE was particularly obtuse with a lot of utilization information given, but no overall summaries or indication of how BLM uses the various data.

Another major problem evident in this AE is that reductions in stocking rates are made from active preference, not from actual use. Therefore, if adopted, this recommendation will actually result in more livestock use than the average 404 AUMs which is causing excessive utilization and heavy and severe use which necessitates the stocking reduction in the first place. It appears that our public resources are the big loser, no matter which action BLM chooses to take. Better options are needed for this allotment.

Batterman Wash. There was much better information on the existing conditions in this AE. The use pattern mapping summary and the actual use in Appendix 3 were a great improvement over tables of "adjusted" or "normalized" utilization data. Unfortunately, Appendix 3 did not try to estimate trespass use, which is identified as a major problem in this allotment. It was interesting to compare 1986 actual use which was one of the lighter years with 1986 use pattern mapping which was the worst year. We wonder whether the stocking rate reduction proposed may not be appropriate if the permittee's livestock are not excessively utilizing the allotment. However it was reached, the proposed stocking rate of 1033 is actually a reduction in actual use, so will probably have some benefits. Other options propose maintenance and development of water. Isn't the permittee already required to maintain fences and water developments? If not, why not? Fencing the allotment boundaries would be an exorbitant cost. Who would pay for this? Can't ear-tagging be used to control trespass from adjacent allotments?

Geyser Ranch. This is the worst management situation of any reviewed, as BLM has routinely permitted excessive stocking rates, heavy and severe use, and degradation of riparian areas by a permittee who has annually violated provisions of the grazing system. In addition, despite its high multiple use values, less

monitoring has been done on this allotment than all others. Somehow the Bureau has been unable to collect enough monitoring data on which to base badly needed stocking reductions. Nor does the AE propose to ever collect the necessary data. The short term riparian objective is more liberal than that of any other allotment, despite identified problems. With livestock numbers over 100% higher than grazing capacity estimated in 1979, the options proposed are to keep the same numbers of livestock, reduce a few wild horses which are doing "resource damage?!" and protect the crested wheat grass seedings. This is a classic case of livestock mismanagement and BLM inability or unwillingness to correct decades-long problems. A great deal more work needs to be done on this allotment to identify management problems, to use existing information to correct the severe overstocking problem, and to develop other options which will protect public resources on this area with valuable multiple resources.

Tippett. This AE was more informative as the writer appeared to actually be familiar with the allotment and its management problems. In addition, it included LUP objectives, although we feel that other affected interests should be involved in the "consensus of the livestock operators, horse and wildlife interest groups and BLM personnel" in the first objective. The annual turnover in permittees has made management next to impossible. There appear to be definite utilization problems with two areas receiving up to 90% use in 1985 while utilization was still being measured. How can BLM evaluate objectives as being met/not met if no data has been collected since 1985? We certainly support the implementation of an AMP for the allotment, but we'd like to have input into the plan and we'd like to see an Environmental Assessment on what environmental impacts can be expected from AMP implementation. We don't know how the stocking levels in Recommendation #2 were set. Please explain. We'd also like to see information on how each objective was met or not met and BLMs rationale for each of its recommendations.

We thank you for considering our input into the AE process. It certainly deserves much effort by all of us to see that the best possible allotment specific decisions are made in order to implement the LUP and improve resource management in the Schell Resource Area.

Sincerely,

Rose Strickland, Chair
Public Lands Committee

SIERRA TELEPHONE

747-1111

281K

77m scheduling

WED Afternoon
FRI morning