

WF 7/16/99



United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management

Ely Field Office

HC 33 Box 33500 (702 No. Industrial Way)

Ely, Nevada 89301-9408

<http://www.nv.blm.gov>

In Reply Refer To:

4110

Newby Cattle Case File

Lytle and Wade Case File

(NV-045.09)

JUL. 16 1999

Dear Interested Public:

The Blue Garden fire caused by lightning, began on May 29, 1999 and burned approximately 10,100 acres of public lands in the area between Blue Nose Peak and Garden Mountain in south Lincoln County, Nevada (see enclosed map). The fire occurred on the Garden Spring and Sheep Flat grazing allotments and affected portions of the Clover Mountains and Blue Nose Peak Wild Horse Herd Management Areas (HMA). Approximately 1,400 acres of the fire also occurred in the Clover Mountains Wilderness Study Area (WSA).

The burned area will rehabilitate with the application of a native/non-native seed mixture to maintain site stability and re-establish vegetation. No non-native species will be seeded in the WSA. This action will minimize soil erosion, off-site sediment loads, protect on-site productivity, enhance watershed characteristics and reduce potential for invasion by highly flammable plants and noxious weeds. In order to maximize recovery of the burned area, it will be closed to livestock grazing for a minimum of two growing seasons. An emergency removal of wild horses is not necessary at this time. If wild horses adversely impact the rehabilitated areas, an emergency removal will be proposed.

The Garden Spring Allotment is grazed from October 1 to May 31 each year, while the Sheep Flat Allotment is grazed from June 1 to September 30. Closure agreements are being formulated between the BLM and the permittees on the Garden Spring and Sheep Flat allotments. No livestock will be permitted to graze the burn for the duration of the closure. You are invited to review this closure and submit comments to the BLM at the address above. Comments should be received by the BLM by **August 16, 1999**.

If you would prefer to discuss this matter with us, please contact Shirley Christman-Johnson at (775) 726-8100 or Gary Medlyn at (775) 289-1800.

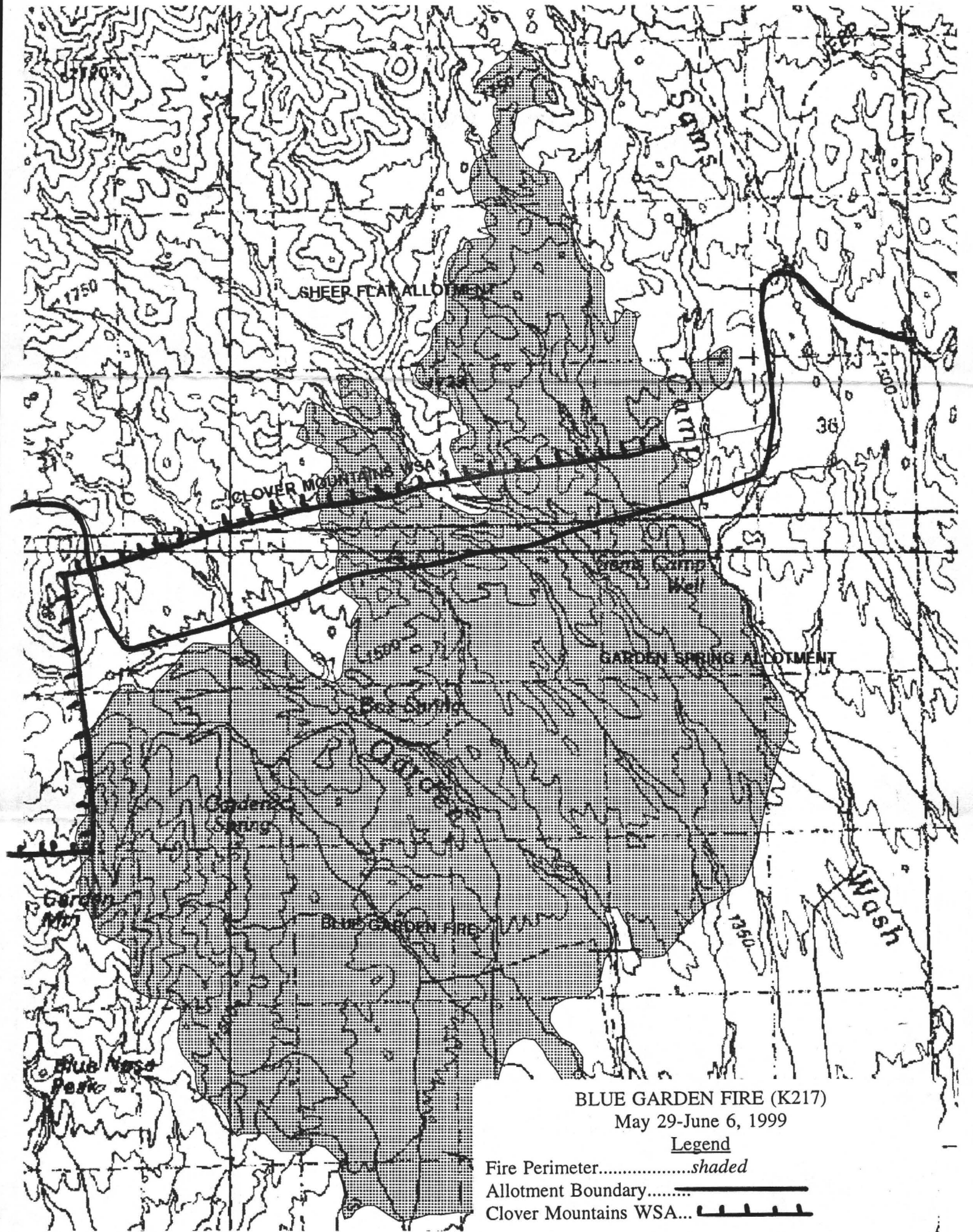
Sincerely,

James M. Perkins

Assistant District Manager, Renewable Resources

Enclosure:
Fire Map

cc: Kenneth Newby
Francis Lytle
Lavar Wade
Cathy Barcomb, Nevada Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses
Nevada State Clearinghouse
Lincoln County Public Lands Commission
Lincoln County Commissioners
Nevada Cattlemen's Association
Resource Concepts, Inc.
UNR Co-op Extension
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Reno, NV
Nevada Woolgrower's Association



BLUE GARDEN FIRE (K217)
May 29-June 6, 1999

Legend

- Fire Perimeter.....shaded
- Allotment Boundary.....**—————**
- Clover Mountains WSA... **|||||**