



DEER LODGE HMA
United States Department of the Interior

8/24/2000

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Ely Field Station
HC 33 Box 33500
Ely, Nevada 89301-9408
<http://www.nv.blm.gov>

In Reply Refer To:
4110
Permittee Case File
(NV-045.01)

Certified Mail P 7099 3400 0004 7938 9583
Return Receipt Requested

AUG. 24 2000

Kimner Jenson
c/o Doug Jenson
P.O. Box 831
Panaca, Nevada 89042

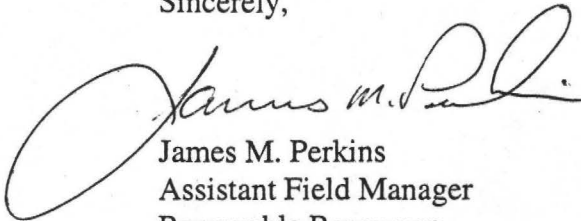
Dear Mr. Jenson:

The Ely Field Office has conducted a drought assessment on the Rabbit Spring Allotment. Monitoring on the allotment has been ongoing since the end of June when the effects of the drought were realized. Most of the allotment has been severely impacted by drought and wild horse use resulting in severely limited forage quantity and quality, although water availability is ample. Currently, an emergency wild horse gather is planned and an effort will be made to reduce horse numbers to the appropriate management level (AML) stated in the Final Multiple Use Decision (FMUD) for the Miller Flat wild horse management area (HMA), dated June 6, 2000. As a result, the Rabbit Spring Allotment will be closed to livestock grazing until it is determined that sufficient forage exists to support it.

Enclosed, please find the Notice of Closure Agreement. Please review it, sign, date and return it to Domenic A. Bolognani within 5 days of receipt. I will sign and return your copy to you. The closure is by agreement. The alternative to a signed agreement is a full force and effect decision. This is an alternative method of achieving the same objectives. If you dispute the need to close the allotment, please contact either Alan Shepherd or Domenic A. Bolognani at (775) 726-8100. Without a signed agreement, a full force and effect decision will be issued.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely,


James M. Perkins
Assistant Field Manager
Renewable Resources

Enclosures:
Notice of Closure Agreement



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Ely District Office
HC 33 Box 33500
Ely, NV 89301-9408

In Reply Refer To:
4110
Kimner Jenson
Grazing Case File
Rabbit Spring File
(NV-045.01)

Notice of Closure Agreement

Severe drought conditions exist within the **Rabbit Spring Allotment**. The allotment was recently visited to evaluate drought conditions. Field observations indicate that available forage is extremely limited and that severe drought conditions exist. In addition, the area has been severely impacted due to wild horses resulting in closure of the allotment. Precipitation for the normal growing season of April, May, and June is 50% of normal. The below normal precipitation has resulted in decreased soil moisture, plant vigor and growth with some locations yielding plants with little or no current year's growth. As a result, heavy to severe utilization of the key perennial species has occurred within the allotment. This closure affects the entire allotment and is in effect until it is determined that sufficient forage exists to support livestock grazing.

Therefore, for the protection of the vegetation and watershed due to severe drought conditions, the **Rabbit Spring Allotment** is hereby temporarily closed to livestock grazing. This Notice of Closure is effective immediately.

The closure will be in effect until the following criteria have been met:

1. Vegetative growth occurs and can sufficiently support livestock grazing; *and*
2. The key forage species all show good vigor; and
3. Soils are sufficiently protected from potential erosion; and
4. Key perennial forage species reach seed maturity (seed set).

Upon determination that the perennial vegetation has been re-established, authorized grazing use will resume. We will ask for the permittees' participation when evaluating forage conditions associated with lifting this closure. This closure is issued as an agreement pursuant to Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 4110.3-3 (b).

This Notice is to inform you that any unauthorized livestock grazing upon public lands within the **Rabbit Spring Allotment** (Legal description T. 1, 2, 3 S., R. 68, 69, 70 E.) under Bureau of Land Management's control will be in violation of 43 CFR 4140.1 (b) (1) and may be impounded. The unauthorized livestock may be impounded at any time after five (5) days from delivery of this notice or after five (5) days from the publishing and posting of this notice. This notice is issued in accordance with 43 CFR 4150.4; any impoundment of unauthorized livestock in connection with this notice will be done in accordance with 43 CFR 4150.4-2.

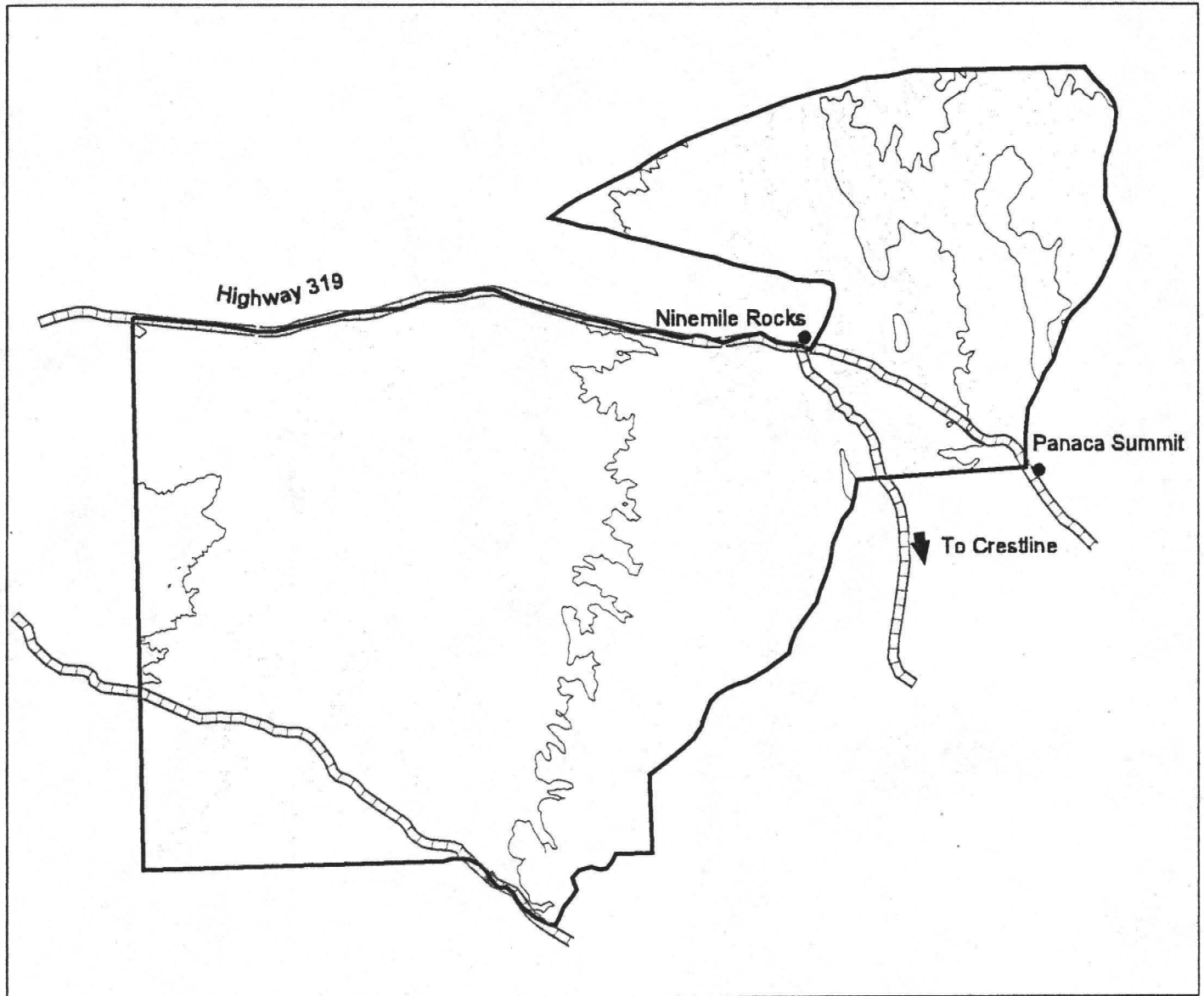
Kimner Jenson, Permittee/Doug Jenson, Authorized Representative

Date

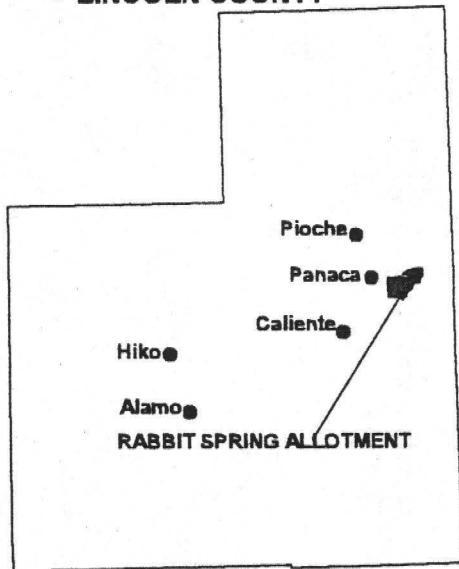
Assistant Field Manager,
Renewable Resources

Date

RABBIT SPRING ALLOTMENT



LINCOLN COUNTY



 **Roads**
 **Allotment Boundary**

