

L 8-20-99



United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Caliente Field Station
P.O. Box 237
Caliente, Nevada 89008
http://www.nv.blm.gov



1999 AUG 24 PM 4: 23



In Reply Refer To:
4100
Kenny D. Lee Case File
(NV-045.01)

AUG. 17 1999

Dear Interested Public:

Kenny D. Lee has made application to graze 75 head of cattle from 9/9/99 - 10/09/99 (75 AUMs) on the Uvada Allotment.

The authorized season of use is for 30 head from 3/01 - 2/28 (355 AUMs). Thus far this year he has grazed 90 head from 5/6 - 9/8/99. However, continued grazing of 75 head for the period identified in the application would exceed his total active use of 355 AUMs for the 1999 grazing year by 93 AUMs and, therefore, would be authorized as Temporary Nonrenewable grazing use (TNR). Authorization of this request is found under Title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §4130.6-2 (Nonrenewable grazing permits and leases). He is the only permittee on the allotment and meets all mandatory qualifications for the permit.

On August 16, 1999 the allotment was inspected to determine if sufficient forage was available to support the authorization request and to document use levels on perennial grasses, especially at the key areas within the allotment.

Most of the grazing use occurs within the crested wheatgrass seedings (*Agropyron cristatum*) in the north-central and northeast portions of the allotment (north pasture) and the seeding immediately south of the Union Pacific Railroad (south pasture). However, incidental grazing also occurs in the pinyon-juniper habitat surrounding the seedings.

The permittee is going to graze his cattle in the northwest quarter of the allotment where key area #2 is located. He will use herding to accomplish this. However, some drift may occur into the northeast portion of the allotment where key area #1 is used for monitoring purposes. Consequently, key areas #1 and #2 were read and the results are presented below.

Mr. Lee was present during the allotment inspection.

Key Area #1

This key area is located within a crested wheatgrass seeding in the northeast portion of the allotment. Use on crested wheatgrass was 27% (light). Many of the plants still had their seedheads intact.

Key Area #2

Key species observed were Indian ricegrass (*Oryzopsis hymenoides*), needleandthread (*Stipa comata*), and bottlebrush squirreltail (*Sitanion hystrix*). Use on these three species was 2% (slight), 9% (slight) and no measurable use, respectively. It should also be noted that bluegrass (*Poa*) was also observed and it had a use level of 15.5% (slight).

Conclusion

Results of the field observations indicate that sufficient forage is available to authorize Temporary Nonrenewable grazing use (TNR) applied for in Mr. Lee's grazing application. This use is consistent with multiple-use objectives.

Short term utilization objectives for this allotment are being met based on the documented use levels. There is no riparian habitat or threatened and endangered species within the allotment. The north pasture is located within the Miller Flat wild horse herd management area (HMA), however the south pasture is not.

Based on the information provided above, I am considering approval of the TNR request. If you have any questions on this action, please contact me at (702) 726-8100.

If you have any comments please send them to me in writing, within 15 days of the date of this letter, at the Caliente Field Station at the following address: Bureau of Land Management, Caliente Field Station, P.O. Box 237, Caliente, NV 89008.

Sincerely,



Domenic Bolognani
Range Management Specialist