



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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

L 8/25/00

AUG 25 2000

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

Certified Mail P 7099 3400 0004 7938 9613
Return Receipt Requested

H. Bruce and Mervyn K. Cox
6511 Deer Spring Way
Las Vegas, Nevada 89131

Dear Mr. Cox:

Severe drought conditions exist within the Miller Flat wild horse herd management area (HMA) which was recently visited to evaluate drought conditions. Sheep Spring Allotment is located within this HMA. Field observations indicate that within Sheep Spring Allotment and the neighboring Rabbit Spring Allotment available forage is extremely limited due to existing severe drought conditions. Precipitation for the normal growing season of April, May, and June was 50% of normal which has lent itself to an overall decrease in soil moisture, plant growth and vigor within the HMA. The Sheep Spring Allotment has been impacted by drought and by heavy to severe grazing by wild horses over the western portion of the allotment.

Currently, an emergency wild horse gather is planned and an effort will be made to reduce horse numbers to the appropriate management level stated in the Final Multiple Use Decision (FMUD) for the Miller Flat HMA, dated June 6, 2000. This will relieve grazing pressure in the HMA, particularly in the Sheep Spring and Rabbit Spring Allotments. Because it is an emergency horse gather, the Sheep Spring Allotment will be closed to livestock grazing until it is determined the existing forage has recuperated enough to allow grazing to occur.

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

Bruce and Mervyn K. Cox
Grazing Case File
Sheep Spring File
(NV-045.01)

Notice of Closure Agreement

Severe drought conditions exist within certain portions of the **Miller Flat wild horse herd management area (HMA)** which was recently visited to evaluate drought conditions. Sheep Spring Allotment is located within this HMA. Field observations indicate that within the Sheep Springs Allotment and neighboring Rabbit Spring Allotment, available forage is extremely limited due to existing severe drought conditions. Precipitation for the normal growing season of April, May, and June was 50% of normal which has lent itself to an overall decrease in soil moisture, plant growth and vigor within the HMA. The Sheep Spring Allotment has been impacted by drought and by heavy to severe grazing by wild horses within the western portion of the allotment.

Currently, an emergency wild horse gather is planned and an effort will be made to reduce horse numbers to the appropriate management level stated in the Final Multiple Use Decision (FMUD) for the Miller Flat HMA, dated June 6, 2000. This will relieve grazing pressure in the HMA, particularly the Sheep Spring and Rabbit Springs Allotments. 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 **Sheep 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

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 **Sheep Spring Allotment** (Legal description T. 2, 3 S., R. 69, 70, 71 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.

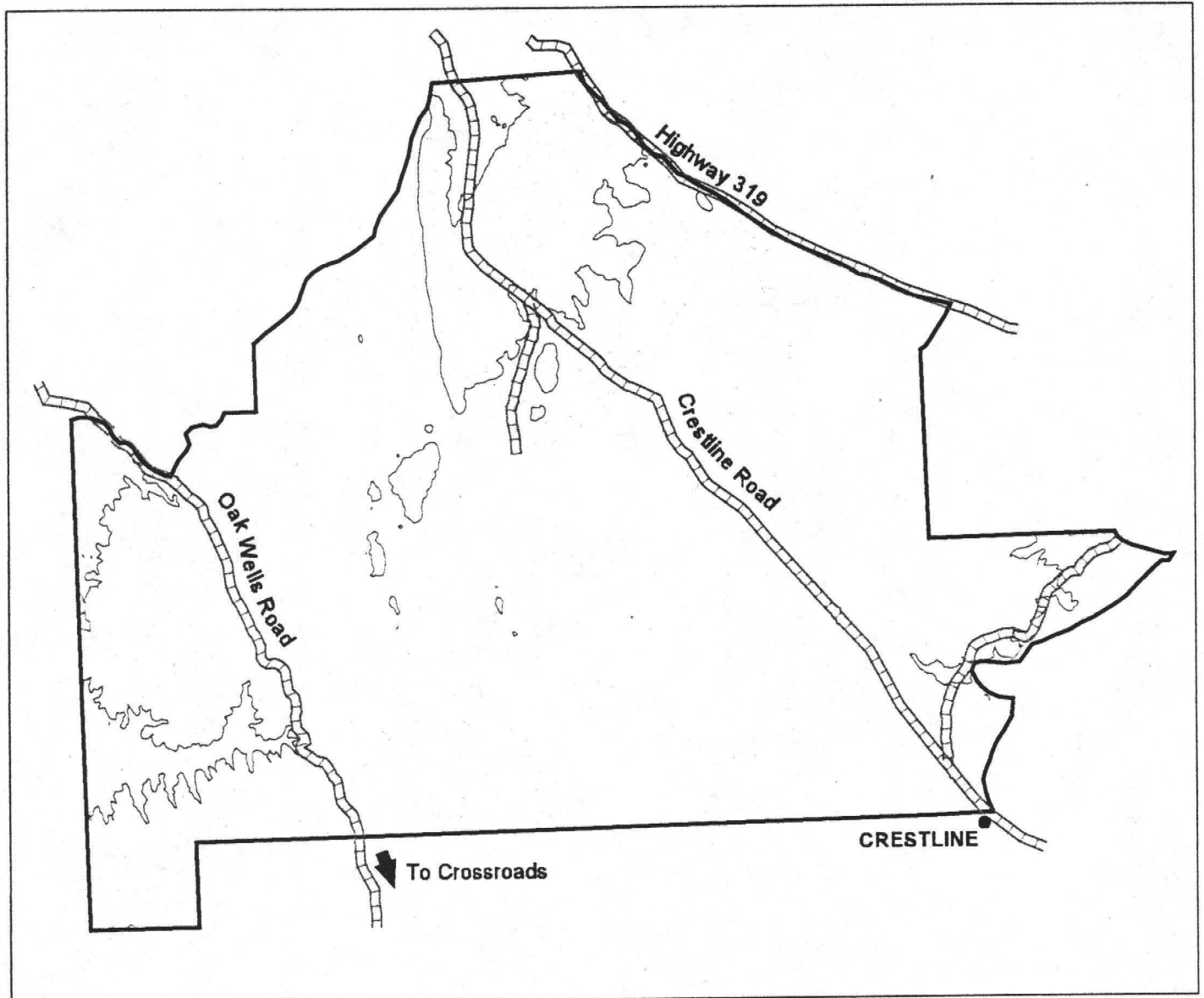
H. Bruce and Mervyn K. Cox Permittees

Date

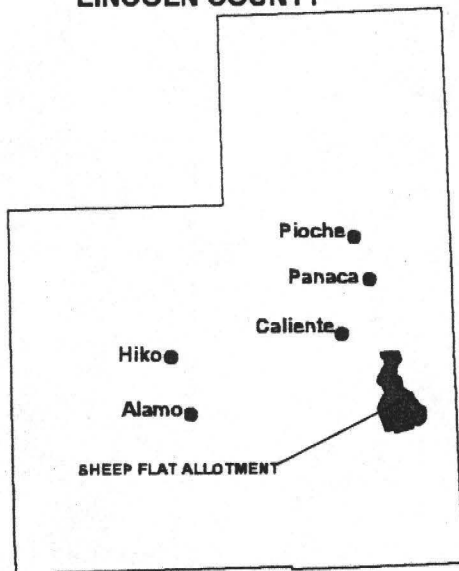
Assistant Field Manager,
Renewable Resources

Date

SHEEP SPRING ALLOTMENT



LINCOLN COUNTY



 Roads
 Allotment Boundary





United States Department of the Interior

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 9644
Return Receipt Requested

JUN 25 2000

George I. Andrus
59 South 500 East
St. George, Utah 84770

Dear Mr. Andrus:

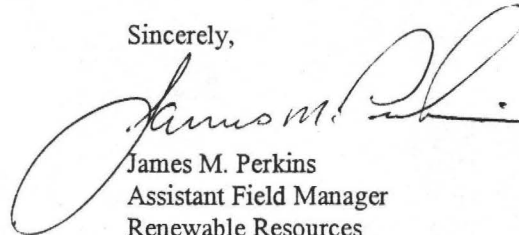
The Ely Field Office has conducted a drought assessment within the Miller Flat wild horse herd management area (HMA). Oak Wells Allotment is located within this HMA. Monitoring within the HMA has been ongoing since the end of June when the effects of the drought were realized. Monitoring along the existing pipeline within the Oak Wells Allotment was included in this drought assessment. This monitoring has revealed that grazing use along the existing pipeline has reached the heavy to severe category.

Currently, an emergency wild horse gather is planned and an effort will be made to reduce horse numbers to the appropriate management level stated in the Final Multiple Use Decision (FMUD) for the Miller Flat HMA, dated June 6, 2000. This will relieve grazing pressure in the HMA. Furthermore, because of the reduced forage production and the current level of use along the existing pipeline, the portion of the Oak Wells Allotment east of the Oak Wells Road will be closed to grazing until it is determined that the existing forage has recuperated enough to support grazing in the future. The west half of the allotment will remain open to grazing with provision of water being made available in that portion of the allotment. It will remain open to grazing until utilization limits are met.

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
Actual Use Form



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
George Andrus
Grazing Case File
Oak Wells File
(NV-045.01)

Notice of Closure Agreement

Severe drought conditions exist within certain portions, of the **Miller Flat wild horse herd management area (HMA)** which was recently visited to evaluate drought conditions. Oak Wells Allotment is located within this HMA. Monitoring along the existing pipeline within the Oak Wells Allotment was included in these drought assessments. This monitoring has revealed that grazing use along the existing pipeline has reached the heavy to severe category.

Currently, an emergency wild-horse gather is planned and an effort will be made to reduce horse numbers to the appropriate management level stated in the Final Multiple Use Decision (FMUD) for the Miller Flat HMA, dated June 6, 2000. This will relieve grazing pressure in the HMA. Because of the current level of use along the existing pipeline, the portion of the Oak Wells Allotment west of the Oak Wells Road will be closed to grazing until it is determined that the existing forage has recuperated enough to support grazing in the future.

Therefore, because of the current use levels along the existing pipeline, that portion of the **Oak Wells Allotment west of the Oak Wells Road** is hereby temporarily closed to livestock grazing.

This Notice of Closure is effective immediately.

The closure will be in effect until it is determined that the existing forage has recuperated enough to support grazing in the future. 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 west of the Oak Wells Road, within the **Oak Wells Allotment** (Legal description T. 3, 4 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.

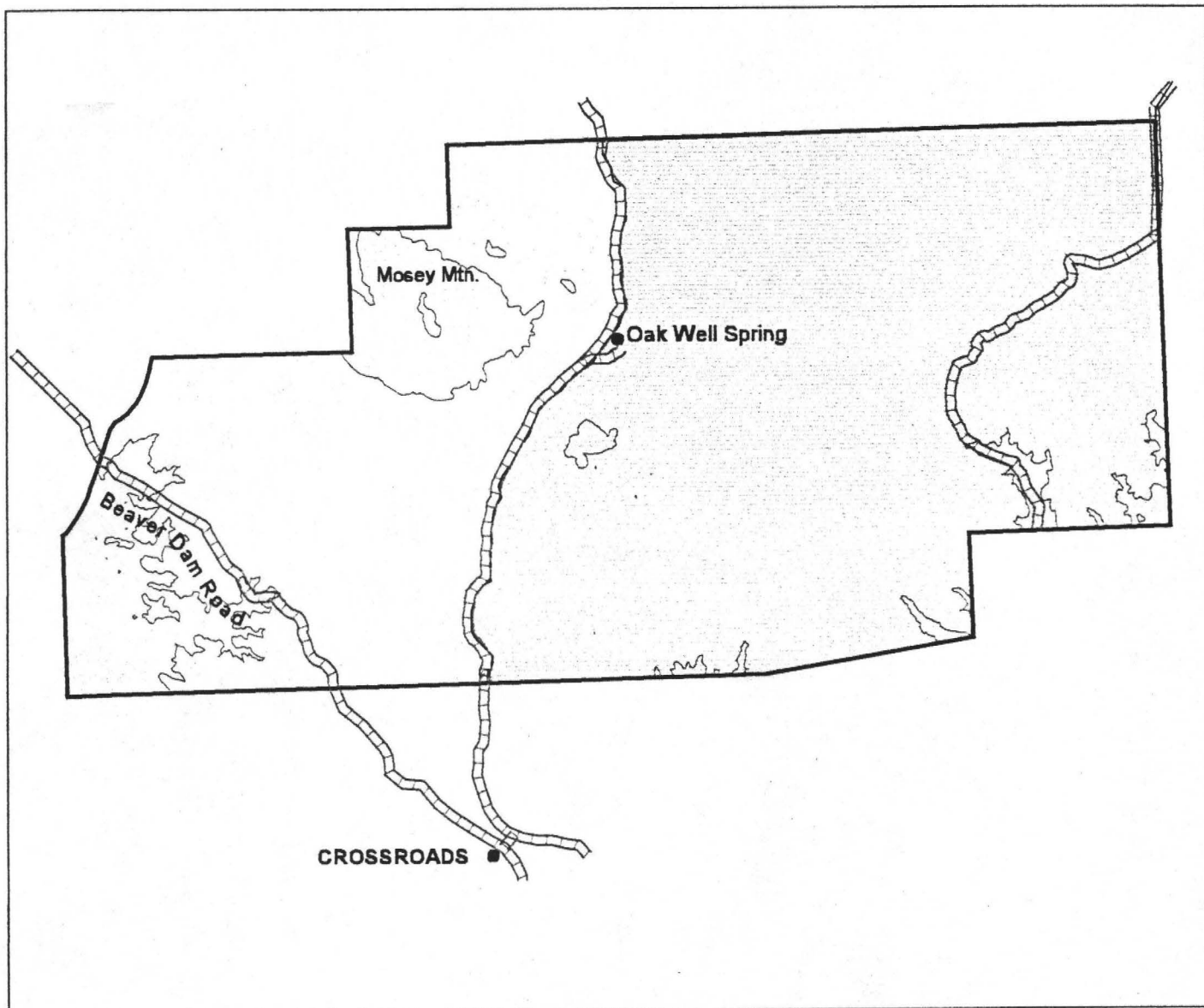
George I. Andrus, Permittee

Date

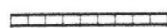
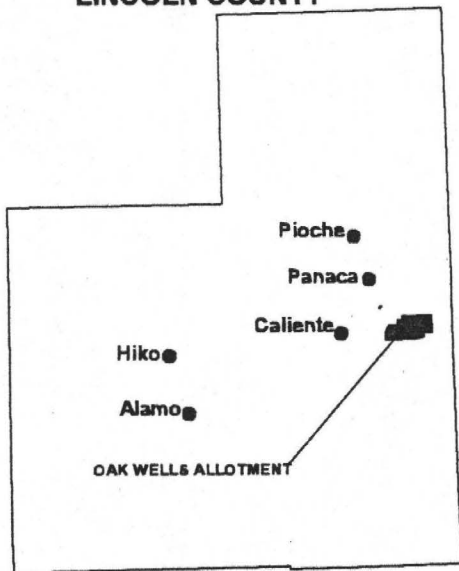
Assistant Field Manager,
Renewable Resources

Date

OAK WELLS ALLOTMENT



LINCOLN COUNTY



Roads



Allotment Boundary



Closure Area

