



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT WINNEMUCCA DISTRICT OFFICE

705 East 4th Street
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. P020885297
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

July 25, 1986

SECO, Nevada Inc.
c/o John Eade
250 Airport Way
Kings City, CA 93930

Area Manager's Proposed Decision

Dear Mr. Eade:

The Paradise-Denio Resource Area is now entering into the final phase of the planning process. This phase is to implement the land use planning decisions as specified in the Management Framework Plan Step III.

This phase includes the monitoring of the available resources through establishing monitoring studies on the Bullhead Allotment to measure to what extent the allotment objectives are being accomplished.

Previous planning for the Bullhead Allotment includes the development of an allotment management plan which identified issues to solve, including season-of-use, management of seedings, condition of riparian areas, overstocking, and livestock distribution.

The management objectives for the Bullhead Allotment as specified in the Paradise-Denio Land Use Plan MFP III are as shown on Appendix 1.

The Bullhead Allotment Management Plan (AMP), and Bullhead Allotment Monitoring Plan (enclosed) state specifically the objectives to be accomplished. The Bullhead Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP) developed by CRMP Local No. 1 provided the framework and was used as a basis for preparing the AMP and Monitoring Plan.

Monitoring studies have been established on the Bullhead Allotment and collection of this data will continue for the next five years (1990) or until sufficient monitoring data is available. These studies will then be evaluated as deemed necessary to determine if resource objectives are being achieved. These monitoring studies and evaluations will continue throughout the long-term period.

The Bureau will conduct monitoring studies in accordance with the Nevada Rangeland Monitoring Task Force minimum standards, and the Winnemucca District Monitoring Plan guidelines. These documents cover the minimum standards and types of studies needed to accurately measure if allotment objectives are being met.

L 7/25/86
IN REPLY REFER TO:
4160.1
NV-026.6

Your involvement to date has been greatly appreciated in the development of the AMP, establishing objectives, establishment of monitoring study locations, needed range improvements, and voluntary nonuse taken to reach management objectives.

My proposed decision is to gather additional monitoring data in accordance with the attached Bullhead Allotment Monitoring Plan. This is necessary to determine the success of our chosen management scheme, as outlined in the Bullhead Allotment Management Plan, towards reaching our chosen objectives for the allotment.

Objectives developed by the CRMP committee and Bullhead AMP are listed below. These are objectives which monitoring can be used to evaluate. They are limited to resource problems affected by grazing, are measurable within a reasonable time frame, do not conflict with each other, are feasible and capable of accomplishment.

- a. Set initial livestock stocking level of 8350 AUMs.
 - b. Set allowable utilization levels for key species (Table 2A & 2B).
 - c. Implement a three pasture rest rotation system in the spring/summer use area.
 - d. Establish proper initial and long-term stocking rate, season-of-use, and pasture schedule for livestock.
 - e. Increase forage availability from 8,350 AUMs to 12,050 AUMs by 1992.
 - f. Improve the fisheries habitat from poor to good condition on:
 - a. South Fork, Little Humboldt River
 - b. Pole creek
 - c. First Creek
 - g. Maintain and improve wildlife and fisheries habitat to a good condition on:
 - a. Kelly Creek
 - b. Kinney Creek
 - c. Snowstorm Creek
 - d. Winters Creek
 - h. Improve aspen stands to a good ecological condition, and insure that the number of stands are maintained or increased.
 - i. Manage rangeland habitat and forage condition to sustain sage grouse and reasonable numbers of wildlife demand as follows: (improve upland sites to late seral ecological condition)
 - a. Deer 1,029 AUMs
 - b. Antelope 101 AUMs
 - c. Bighorn Sheep 370 AUMs*
- *Potential Bighorn Sheep forage demand
- j. Protect and preserve wild horses as a self-sustaining healthy population. Set an initial level of 600 AUMs.
 - k. Maintain or improve meadows to mid seral ecological condition.

To implement the gathering of additional monitoring data, my proposed decision is to initiate the following management actions which are necessary in order to collect the required data. These management actions are:

1. Studies will be conducted in accordance with the Nevada Rangeland Monitoring Task Force minimum standards and the Winnemucca District Coordinated Monitoring Plan guidelines. Types of monitoring studies to be used on the Bullhead Allotment include use pattern mapping, key area utilization, trend, ecological condition, actual use, and climatological data collection.
2. Key area locations and key management objectives are listed on attached Table 1 and Tables 2A & 2B.

Table 1. Monitoring Studies Location and Base Data

Table 2A. Key Management Area Objectives

Table 2B. Stream Survey Objectives

3. The evaluation of the monitoring data will consider all studies information collected and will be conducted through consultation with the affected interests. The evaluation of monitoring data will take place at the end of each grazing season data is collected. The evaluation will consider if the management objectives are being achieved, and if not, how can they be accomplished. Also all monitoring sites will be evaluated for adequacy of data being provided.
4. Your authorized level of grazing use will be your current agreed upon use of 8350 AUMs. This use will be used as proposed in the Bullhead Allotment Management Plan, interim grazing schedule.

Allotment evaluations will occur in three phases. During the interim, evaluate on the third year and at the end of the fifth year. Secondly, the short-term evaluation will occur in the eighth and at the end of ten years. The long-term evaluation will occur every six years after the short-term period, or on an as needed basis.

5. The AMP outlines the interim and normal grazing schedule and formula for the allotment. The authorized level of grazing use will remain in effect until monitoring studies indicate there is a need for adjustment. Any adjustments to your authorized stocking level will be based upon the accomplishment or lack of accomplishment of the key management area objectives and AMP objectives. These adjustments to grazing use may include but are not limited to season-of-use, periods-of-use, animal numbers, kind and class of livestock, designated range improvements, or a combination of these.
6. Any adjustments to grazing use will be phased in over a five-year implementation period, or sooner through agreement.
7. Wildlife - Wildlife in the allotment will be monitored by recognizing reasonable numbers demand for AUMs.

8. Wild Horses - Initial Appropriate Management Levels (AMLs), as agreed to in the CRMP for the Bullhead Allotment are 50 animals or 600 AUMs. The herd will be allowed to increase for 3 years or to 900 AUMs while monitoring occurs.

This decision is issued in accordance with 43 CFR 4110.3-3(a)(b) which states:

(a)"Permanent increases in the allocation of livestock forage (see 4110.3-1(b)) or suspensions of preference (see §4110.3-2(b)) shall be implemented over a 5-year period, unless after consultation with the affected permittees or lessees and other affected interests, an agreement is reached to implement the increase or suspension in less than 5 years."

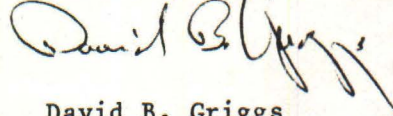
(b)"After consultation, coordination and cooperation, suspensions of preference shall be implemented through a documented agreement or by decision. If data acceptable to the authorized officer are available, an initial reduction shall be taken on the effective date of the agreement or decision and the balance taken in the third and fifth years following the effective date, except as provided in paragraph (a) of this section. If data acceptable to the authorized officer to support an initial reduction are not available, additional data will be collected through monitoring. Adjustments based on the additional data shall be implemented by agreement or decisions that will initiate the 5-year implementation period."

If you wish to protest this proposed decision in accordance with 43 CFR 4160.2, you are allowed 15 days from receipt of this notice within which to file such protest with the Area Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 705 E. 4th Street, Winnemucca, Nevada 89445.

In the absence of a protest within the time allowed, the above proposed decision shall constitute my final decision. Should this notice become the final decision and if you wish to appeal this decision for the purpose of a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge, in accordance with 43 CFR 4.470, you are allowed thirty (30) days from receipt of this notice within which to file such appeal with the Area Manager, Bureau of Land Management, at the above address.

The appeal should specify the reasons, clearly and concisely, as to why you think this decision is in error.

Sincerely yours,



David B. Griggs
Area Manager

Enclosure - Bullhead Allotment
Monitoring Plan

cc: Sierra Club, Toiyabe Chapter
Dawn Lappin
Helen Reilly
Nevada First Corporation
Nevada Dept. of Wildlife
Robert Palm

Kind of Plan	Allotment/Operator	Selective Management Category	Initial Stocking Level 1/ (AUMs)	LIVESTOCK		WILDLIFE			
				Management Objectives 1/	Existing Use (AUMs)	Deer	Antelope	Bighorn Sheep	Management Objectives 1/
CRMP	Bullhead/ Nevada First Corp. (Leased to Seco Co.)	I	8,350	Increase available forage for livestock to sustain an active preference of 17,930 AUMs. Adjustments in livestock AUMs, upward or downward, will be based upon monitoring of available forage for livestock in the same proportion as the initial stocking rate for livestock and wild horses. Improve range condition on the two seasonal use areas (spring and summer) by operating a three-pasture rest-rotation grazing system between 4/1 and 12/15. A deferred rest system will be used for the seeding and proposed seedings.	144 (Wnca) 909 (Elko)	41	60	0	Manage rangeland habitat and forage condition to sustain reasonable numbers of wildlife demand as follows: Deer 1,029 AUMs Antelope 101 AUMs Bighorn Sheep 370 AUMs Improve condition of riparian areas through fencing and implementation of a rest-rotation grazing system. Protect existing sage grouse strutting areas and breeding complexes, and future grounds identified. Develop potential waterfowl habitat. Provide available, quality water for all wildlife. Increase in available forage for big game will be made in the same proportion as the initial stocking rate for livestock, wild horses, and wildlife.

 WILD HORSES AND BURROS

Existing Use (ALMs)	Management Objectives 1/	Identified Monitoring Plan 2/ Components
600	<p>Initial reduction of wild horse numbers to 600 ALMs.</p> <p>Provide adequate forage for wild horses of 900 ALMs.</p> <p>Adjustments in wild horse ALMs, upward or downward, will be based upon monitoring of available forage for wild horses in the same proportion as the initial stocking rates for livestock and wild horses.</p> <p>Perpetuate a viable herd which is manageable and compatible with other resources.</p> <p>Preserve unique types and markings.</p> <p>Reduce internal barriers to herd migration.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify key areas 2. Identify ecological range sites for key areas <p>Establish:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Utilization plots, studies 4. Photo & measured trend plots 5. Frequency transects 6. Condition transects 7. Monitoring schedules 8. Management actions for the following resources: wildlife habitat, range, wild horses, watershed, riparian, and aquatic wildlife

Table 1. Monitoring Studies Locations and Baseline Data

Bullhead 1

KEY AREA NO. (PASTURE)	KEY AREA NAME	LOCATION	TYPE OF STUDY(S)	ECOLOGICAL SITE ¹	ECOLOGICAL STATUS ²
0201 (Dry Hills)	DH1	T. 42 N., R. 42 E., Sec. 29 SESE	Trend Utilization	024X002N (loamy 5-8" p.z.)	60% Late Seral
0202 (Dry Hills)	DH2	T. 40 N., R. 43 E., Sec. 29 NENE	Trend Utilization	025X019N (loamy 8-10" p.z.)	36% Mid-Seral
0203 (Dry Hills)	DH3	T. 39 N., R. 43 E., Sec. 2 SESE	Trend Utilization	024X005N (loamy 8-10" p.z.)	51% Late Seral
0204 (Dry Hills)	DH4	T. 40 N., R. 42 E., Sec. 16 NWSE	Trend Utilization	024X020N (droughty loam 8-10" p.z.)	46% Mid-Seral
0205 (Dry Hills)	DH5	T. 39 N., R. 42 E., Sec. 3 NWNW	Utilization	N/A	N/A
0301 (First Creek)	First Creek Basin	T. 41 N., R. 44 E., Sec. 36 NENE	Trend Utilization	025X019N (loamy 8-10" p.z.)	44% Mid Seral
0302 (First Creek)	County Line	T. 41 N., R. 44 E., Sec. 23 SENE	Trend Utilization	025X019N (loamy 8-10" p.2.)	65% Late Seral
0303 (First Creek)	Kelly Spring	T. 40 N., R. 43 E., Sec. 22 SWNE	Utilization	N/A	N/A
0401 (Kelly Burn)	Winter's Creek	T. 40 N., R. 45 E., Sec. 18 SE SE	Trend Utilization	025x12N (loamy slope 10-16" p.2.)	49% Mid-Seral
0402 (Kelly Burn)	Aspen	T. 40 N., R. 45 E., Sec. 19 SENW	Trend Utilization	023X064N Riparian Aspen	No Data (Ecological site has not yet been developed)
0403 (Kelly Burn)	Meadow	T. 40 N., R. 44 E., Sec. 22 NE	Trend	025X06N Dry Meadow 10-16" p.z.	No Data
0404	Kelley Creek		Stream Survey	N/A	N/A

¹ Ecological sites listed here can be referenced to SCS Ecological Site Descriptions (SCS 1983)

² Ecological status is referred to here in terms of the percent potential natural plant community (PNC) present on the site

Table 1. Monitoring Studies Locations and Baseline Data

KEY AREA NO. (PASTURE)	KEY AREA NAME	LOCATION	TYPE OF STUDY(S)	ECOLOGICAL SITE ¹	ECOLOGICAL STATUS ²
0501 (Bull Seed)	Kelly Ranch	T. 39 N., R. 43 E., Sec. 15 SWNE	Utilization	N/A	N/A
0502 (Bull Seed)	Private Native	T. 39 N., R. 43 E., Sec. 17 SESW	Utilization	N/A	N/A
0503 (Bull Seed)	Upper	T. 39 N., R. 43 E., Sec. 17 SWNE	Trend Utilization	No Data	No Data
0601 (Kinney)	Crows Nest	T. 40 N., R. 44 E., Sec. 16 NESE	Trend Utilization	025X027N (loamy 12-16" p.z.)	38% Mid-Seral
0602 (Kinney)	Kinney Aspen	T. 40 N., R. 44 E., Sec. 22 NE	Trend Utilization	Aspen Woodland	No Data
0603	Kinney Meadow	T. 40 N., R. 44 E., Sec. 11 SENE	Trend Utilization	026X06N Dry Meadow 10-16" p.z.	
0801 (Rabbit)	Rabbit Creek	T. 38 N., R. 43 E., Sec. 5 NENW	Trend Utilization	024X020N (droughty loam 8-10" p.z.)	26% Early Seral
0802 (Rabbit)	Kelly Creek	T. 38 N., R. 43 E., Sec. 8 NE NW	Trend Utilization	024X006N (dry floodplain 6-10" p.z.)	69% Late Seral
0901 (Snowstorm)	Snowstorm Creek	T. 40 N., R. 45 E., Sec. 4 SWSW	Trend Utilization	025X014N loamy 10-12" p.z.)	49% Mid Seral
0902 (Snowstorm)	Flat Meadow	T. 40 N., R. 45 E., Sec. 26, SWNW	Trend Utilization	025X06N Dry Meadow 10-16" p.z.	No Data
0903	First Creek		Stream Survey	N/A	Fair to Poor
0904	Pole Creek		Stream Survey	N/A	Fair to Poor
0905	South Fork		Stream Survey	N/A	Fair to Poor

¹ Ecological sites listed here can be referenced to SCS Ecological Site Descriptions (SCS 1983)

² Ecological status is referred to here in terms of the percent potential natural plant community (PNC) present on the site

Table 2A. Key Management Area Objectives

Bullhead 1

KEY AREA NUMBER	KEY SPECIES ¹	ALLOWABLE USE LEVELS ²	DESIRED ECOLOGICAL STATUS ³	INTERIM (5 YEARS)	SHORT TERM (10 YEARS)	LONG TERM (35 Years)	ECOLOGICAL STATUS OBJECTIVES	
				FREQUENCY TREND ⁴	FREQUENCY TREND	ECOLOGICAL STATUS OBJECTIVES ⁴		FREQUENCY TREND
0201	SIHY ARSP5	40 30	Late Seral	Static (If ORHY appears in study, reevaluate objectives.	Static	Maintain shrub and grass composition.	Static	Same as short term.
0202	STTH2 SIHY	40 40	Late Seral	Static (If AGSP appears in study, reevaluate objectives.	Upward	Increase AGSP to 5% and STTH2 to 7%.	Upward	Increase AGSP to 10% and STTH2 to 12%. Maintain forb composition.
0203	STTH2 STTH2 SIHY	40 40 40	Late Seral	Static	Upward	Increase AGSP to 5% and STTH2 to 15%.	Upward	Increase AGSP to 10% and STTH2 to 20%. composition.
0204	ORHY SIHY	50 40	Late Seral	Static	Upward	Increase ORHY to 5%.	Upward (Reevaluate if STTH2 appears.)	Increase ORHY to 8%.
0205	SIHY	40	<u>Utilization Study Only</u>					

¹Plant abbreviation codes are used here. These codes are identified in the Plant List (See Appendix).

²Allowable use levels are the objectives established for utilization. They are derived from the Paradise-Denio Grazing Environmental Impact Statement (BLM 1981).

³This is the Seral stage that would have the greatest value for all resources (livestock, wild horses, and wildlife).

⁴Frequency identified as static or upward. If an important plant forage species appears on a study that previously was not recorded, then all monitoring objectives for that key area should be reevaluated.

Table 2A. Key Management Area Objectives

Bullhead 2

KEY AREA NUMBER	KEY SPECIES ¹	ALLOWABLE USE LEVELS ²	DESIRED ECOLOGICAL STATUS ³	INTERIM (5 YEARS)	SHORT TERM (10 YEARS)	LONG TERM (35 Years)	ECOLOGICAL STATUS OBJECTIVES ⁴	ECOLOGICAL STATUS OBJECTIVES
				FREQUENCY TREND ⁴	FREQUENCY TREND	FREQUENCY TREND		
0301	AGSP ELCI CREPIS	50 50 50	Late Seral	Static	Upward	Increase AGSP to 15% and ELCI to 8%. Maintain forb composition.	Static	Maintain grass and forb composition.
0302	AGSP CREPIS	50 50	Late Seral	Static	Static	Maintain species composition and diversity (grasses and forbs).	Static	Maintain species composition and diversity (grasses and forbs).
0303	AGSP ORHY SIHY	50 50 40	<u>Utilization Study Only</u>					
0401	SIHY FEID SYOR	40 40 40	Late Seral	Static (If AGSP appears reevaluate objectives).	Upward	Increase FEID to 7% and ELCI to 8%. Maintain forb composition.	Static	Maintain grass, forb and shrub diversity and composition.
0402	POTR5	40	Late Seral	Static	Upward	Late Seral	Static	Late Seral
0403	TRIFOL	50	Mid Seral	Static	Upward	Mid Seral	Static	Mid Seral

¹Plant abbreviation codes are used here. These codes are identified in the Plant List (See Appendix).

²Allowable use levels are the objectives established for utilization. They are derived from the Paradise-Denio Grazing Environmental Impact Statement (BLM 1981).

³This is the Seral stage that would have the greatest value for all resources (livestock, wild horses, and wildlife).

⁴Frequency identified as static or upward. If an important plant forage species appears on a study that previously was not recorded, then all monitoring objectives for that key area should be reevaluated.

Table 2A. Key Management Area Objectives

Bullhead 3

KEY AREA NUMBER	KEY SPECIES ¹	ALLOWABLE USE LEVELS ²	DESIRED ECOLOGICAL STATUS ³	INTERIM (5 YEARS)	SHORT TERM (10 YEARS)	LONG TERM (35 Years)		
				FREQUENCY TREND ⁴	FREQUENCY TREND	ECOLOGICAL STATUS OBJECTIVES ⁴	FREQUENCY TREND	ECOLOGICAL STATUS OBJECTIVES
0501	AGCR	50	<u>Utilization Study Only</u>					
0502	SIHY	40	<u>Utilization Study Only</u>					
0503	AGCR	50	Seeding	Static (maintain AGCR in good condition class).	Same as interim.	Maintain in good condition.	Same as interim.	Maintain in good condition.
0601	SIHY FEID SENEC	40 40 50	Late Seral	Static	Upward	Maintain ELCI and perennial forbs. Increase FEID to 5%.	Upward	Maintain ELCI and perennial forbs. Increase FEID to 15%.
0602	POTR5	40	Late Seral	Static	Upward	Late Seral	Static	Late Seral
0603	CAREX PONE3	50 50	Mid Seral	Static	Upward	Mid Seral	Static	Mid Seral

¹Plant abbreviation codes are used here. These codes are identified in the Plant List (See Appendix).

²Allowable use levels are the objectives established for utilization. They are derived from the Paradise-Denio Grazing Environmental Impact Statement (BLM 1981).

³This is the Seral stage that would have the greatest value for all resources (livestock, wild horses, and wildlife).

⁴Frequency identified as static or upward. If an important plant forage species appears on a study that previously was not recorded, then all monitoring objectives for that key area should be reevaluated.

Table 2A. Key Management Area Objectives

Bullhead 4

KEY AREA NUMBER	KEY SPECIES ¹	ALLOWABLE USE LEVELS ²	DESIRED ECOLOGICAL STATUS ³	INTERIM (5 YEARS)	SHORT TERM (10 YEARS)	LONG TERM (35 Years)		
				FREQUENCY TREND ⁴	FREQUENCY TREND	ECOLOGICAL STATUS OBJECTIVES ⁴	FREQUENCY TREND	ECOLOGICAL STATUS OBJECTIVES
0801	SIHY	40	Late Seral	Upward (Show increase in ORHY; if STTH2 appears, reevaluate.)	Same as interim.	Increase ORHY to 5% and increase perennial forbs.	Same as interim.	Increase ORHY to 10% and maintain forbs. (Mid Seral)
0802	ELCI	50	PNC	Upward (Show increase in ELCI; if AGSM appears, reevaluate objectives.)	Same as interim.	Increase ELCI to 40%.	Same as interim.	Increase ELCI to 45%.
0901	AGSP ELCI CREPIS	50 50 50	Late Seral	Upward (show increase in AGSP).	Upward	Increase AGSP to 10%.	Upward	Increase AGSP to 15%.
0902	CAREX PONE3	50 50	Mid Seral	Static	Upward	Mid Seral	Static	Mid Seral

¹Plant abbreviation codes are used here. These codes are identified in the Plant List (See Appendix).

²Allowable use levels are the objectives established for utilization. They are derived from the Paradise-Denio Grazing Environmental Impact Statement (BLM 1981).

³This is the Seral stage that would have the greatest value for all resources (livestock, wild horses, and wildlife).

⁴Frequency identified as static or upward. If an important plant forage species appears on a study that previously was not recorded, then all monitoring objectives for that key area should be reevaluated.

Table 2B. Stream Survey Objectives

Key Area Number	Study Name	Key Habitat Factors	Desired Habitat Rating	Interim (5 Years)	Short Term (10 Years)	Long Term (25 Years)
0404	Kelley Creek	Bank Stability Bank Cover Habitat Condition	Good/Excellent	Upward trend	Good/Excellent	Good/Excellent
0903	First Creek	Bank Stability Bank Cover Habitat Condition	Good/Excellent	Upward trend	Good/Excellent	Good/Excellent
0904	Pole Creek	Bank Stability Bank Cover Habitat Condition	Good/Excellent	Upward trend	Good/Excellent	Good/Excellent
0905	South Fork	Bank Stability Bank Cover Habitat Condition	Good/Excellent	Upward trend	Good/Excellent	Good/Excellent