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United States Department of the Interior

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(N-023.3)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
705 East Fourth Street
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

February 16, 1977

Wild Horse Organized Assistance
Attention: Mrs. Dawn Y. Lappin
P.O. Box 555
Reno, Nevada 89504

Dear Mrs. Lappin:

In answer to your letter of February 7, 1977, we are providing you the following information taken from our latest annual grazing statistical report completed May 11, 1976.

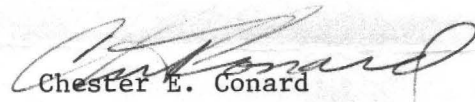
1. There were 103 livestock licenses in the Winnemucca District at that time.
2. The Winnemucca District authorized 375,434 AUM's of domestic livestock use in 1975.
3. There were 103 regular grazing licenses issued in 1975 and most of those licenses carried suspended non-use as a part of the license.
4. There were no free use permits issued in 1975.
5. The horse population is estimated at 12,000 animals.
6. There are no outstanding claims for wild horses in this district.
7. We estimate our current population (12,000) using the figure of 18% as a recruitment rate to the population (recruitment rate is defined as that addition to a population as a result of total births minus total deaths; recruitment = total births - total deaths).
8. There were 394,430 AUM's of forage available for domestic livestock in this district. There were, according to the 1966 adjudication sheets, 5,670 AUM's of forage reserved for wildlife. There has been no allocation of forage for wild horses and burros in this district.



No matter how the problem is analyzed, the forage in the Winnemucca District is currently overobligated. We have conducted and are in the process of conducting a new forage inventory for the entire district. This information will be used, along with other current information, to allocate available forage to wildlife, wild horses, burros and domestic livestock in that order.

I hope we have answered your questions satisfactorily. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact myself or Mr. Raymond Hoem of my staff.

Sincerely yours,


Chester E. Conard
District Manager