96-12-93



## United States Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

Interior Board of Land Appeals 4015 Wilson Boulevard Arlington, Virginia 22203

AUG 1 2 1993



IBLA 93-460; 93-522; and 93-523

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, ET AL. N2-93-14; N2-93-16; and N2-93-17

Multiple Use Decision--Wild Horses

Appeals Dismissed; Case Referred to Hearings Division

## ORDER

On February 9, 1993, the Sonoma-Gerlach Area Manager, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), issued the Final Multiple Use Decision (FMUD) for the Buffalo Hills Allotment Re-evaluation. The FMUD included a "Livestock Management Decision" and a "Wild Horse Management Decision." The Nevada Department of Wildlife, the Wild Horse Organized Assistance, and the Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses and Burros have appealed the "Wild Horse Management Decision" to this Board, which has docketed the appeals as IBLA 93-460, IBLA 93-522, and IBLA 93-523 respectively.

By memorandum dated June 25, 1993, the Nevada State Office, BLM, advised the Board as follows:

In addition to these appeals, the Livestock portion of this Multiple Use Decision was appealed by the same appellants, as well as an appeal from the Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club (Nevada Appeal No. N2-93-15). These appeals are being forwarded to the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Salt Lake City, Utah consistent with 43 CFR 4.470.

The Nevada State Office requests that the appeals docketed by the Board be referred to the Hearings Division for the purpose of one consolidated factual hearing on all aspects of the FMUD on the Buffalo Hills Allotment.

Based upon our review of the record submitted by BLM, we deem it appropriate to grant BLM's request. See Animal Protection Institute of America, 118 IBLA 345 (1991).

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to the Board of Land Appeals by the Secretary of the Interior, 43 CFR 4.1, the subject appeals are referred to the Hearings Division for consolidation with appeals from the grazing portions of the Buffalo Hills Allotment and for assignment to

an Administrative Law Judge for one consolidated factual hearing on all aspects of the FMUD.

James L. Byrnes

Chief Administrative Judge

I concur:

James F. Roberts

Acting Administrative Judge

## APPEARANCES:

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