



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Winnemucca Field Office
5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445
(775) 623-1500
<http://www.nv.blm.gov/winnemucca>



In Reply Refer To:
4160.3(NV022.15)

March 22, 2001

CERTIFIED MAIL 70001670000696064842
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

FINAL MULTIPLE USE DECISION GOLDBANKS ALLOTMENT

Mike J. Burke
P.O. Box 823
Winnemucca, NV 89445

TOBIN Range

Dear Mr. Burke:

The Sonoma-Gerlach Final Environmental Impact statement was issued on 09/18/81. The Sonoma-Gerlach Management Framework Plan Record of Decision was issued on 07/09/82. These documents guide the management of public lands within the Goldbanks Allotment. Monitoring data has been collected on this allotment in accordance with Bureau policy and regulations. This data has been evaluated in order to determine progress in meeting management objectives and standards for rangeland health for the Goldbanks Allotment and to determine if management adjustments may be necessary to meet management objectives and standards.

On February 2, 2001 the Final Allotment Evaluation and Proposed Multiple Use Decision were issued. No protests were received.

The following are the multiple use management objectives and standards for rangeland health under which grazing on the Goldbanks Allotment will be monitored and evaluated:

A. SHORT TERM

1. The objective for utilization of key wetland riparian plant species is 50% for POA, JUNCUS, CAREX and SALIX.
2. The objective for utilization of key upland plant species is 50% for SIHY, ELCI2, FEID, and STH2.

B. LONG TERM

1. Improve to and maintain 40 acres of riparian and meadow habitat types to

ensure species diversity and quality, and to maximize reproduction and recruitment of woody riparian species.

2. Improve or maintain suitable sage grouse strutting, nesting, brood rearing, and/or wintering habitat in good condition within the ecological potential of the rangeland habitat.

The following parameters have been found to constitute good conditions for sage grouse use:

Strutting habitats

- a) Low sagebrush or brush free areas for strutting and nearby areas of sagebrush having 20-50% canopy cover for loafing.

Nesting habitats

- a) Between 7 and 31 inches of sagebrush height (optimum of 16 inches)
- b) Sagebrush canopy cover between 15 and 30% (optimum of 27%)
- c) 25-35% basal ground cover
- d) Average understory height of 6-7 inches (grasses)

Brood Rearing habitats

- a) Early season
 - i) Sagebrush canopy cover of between 10 and 21% (optimum of 14%).
- b) Late Season
 - i) meadow areas that are in functioning condition
 - ii) Residual meadow vegetation of no less than 3-6 inches in height.

Wintering habitats

- a) Greater than 20% sagebrush canopy cover.

3. Manage, maintain, and improve public rangeland conditions to provide forage on a sustained yield basis for big game, with an initial forage demand of 92 AUMs for mule deer and 18 AUMs for Bighorn Sheep.
4. Manage, maintain, and improve public rangeland conditions to provide forage on a sustained yield basis for livestock, with an initial forage stocking level of 2347 AUMs.
5. Improve range/ecological condition from fair to good on 4,100 acres and good to excellent on 112 acres.

3. Desired Plant Community Objectives

Mud Springs Pasture

Key Area 5-1

- Purpose:** To determine trend of the shadscale/ bud sage community for livestock. The site is 024XY002 which represents approximately 33% of the allotment. Ecological Site Inventory (ESI) data collected in 1982 places this site in late condition.
- Objective:** Maintain the site in late condition with no significant decrease in key forage species.
- Monitoring:** Continue to read the quadrat frequency study established in 1979 and reread in 1994 for key species as follows: bottlebrush squirreltail, shadscale, and bud sage. Establish a production study to determine the percent composition of budsage. The ESI data collected in 1982 places this site in late condition, however, trend data collected in 1994 indicates that a significant decline in bud sage has taken place since 1979.

Key Area 5-2

- Purpose:** To determine trend of the Wyoming sagebrush/stipa community for livestock and habitat suitability for mule deer yearlong range (DY-3). The site is 024XY005 which represents approximately 26% of the allotment.
- Objective:** To increase this site from mid seral condition to late condition. Manage for key species bottlebrush squirreltail, Thurbers needlegrass, Indian ricegrass, and Wyoming sagebrush.
- Monitoring:** Establish quadrat frequency baseline, production, cover density board, and line intercept studies.

Key Area 5-4

- Purpose:** To determine trend of the shadscale/bud sage community for livestock. The site is 024XY002 which represents approximately 33% of the allotment.
- Objective:** Maintain the site in late condition with no significant decrease in key forage species.
- Monitoring:** Reread trend study established in 1979 and establish a production study.

Panther Canyon Pasture

Key Area 1-1

Purpose: To determine trend of the Wyoming sagebrush/stipa thurberana community for livestock. The site is 024XY005 which represents approximately 26% of the allotment.

Objective: Maintain this site in mid seral condition with no significant decrease in key species.

Monitoring: Continue to read the trend study established in 1979 and reread in 1994. Establish a production study.

Pollard Pasture

Key Area 3-1

Purpose: To determine trend of the bluebunch wheatgrass/Thurbers needlegrass community (024XY029) for livestock and habitat suitability for sage grouse, mule deer summer (DS-4) and big horn sheep winter range (BW-3).

Objective: To increase the site from mid seral to late seral condition.
Manage for key species bluebunch wheatgrass, Thurbers needlegrass and mountain big sagebrush.

Monitoring: Continue to read the quadrat frequency established in 1979. Establish line intercept, cover density board and production studies.

Key Area 3-2

Purpose: To determine trend of the bluebunch wheatgrass, Thurbers needlegrass and Wyoming sagebrush community (024XY035) for livestock and habitat suitability for sage grouse.

Objective: To increase the site from mid seral to late seral condition.
Manage for key species bluebunch wheatgrass, Thurbers needlegrass and Wyoming sagebrush.

Monitoring: Continue to reread the quadrat frequency established in 1981 and establish a production study. Establish a line intercept study to monitor cover.

China Mountain Pasture

Key Area 2-1

Purpose: To determine trend of the Wyoming sagebrush/Thurber needlegrass community for livestock. The site is 024XY005 which represents approximately 26% of the allotment.

Objective: Maintain this site in mid seral condition with no significant decrease in key species.

Monitoring: Continue to read the quadrat frequency established in 1979 and reread in 1994. Establish a production study.

Jim Creek Spray Field

Since the entire Jim Creek Spray Field burned in August of 1999 and has been fenced and reseeded this year it will not be addressed using a Desired Plant Community objective. The objective, once rehabilitation has been achieved, will be to maintain the seeding (Jim Creek Spray Field) in good condition. Forage production should range from five (5) to ten (10) acres per AUM.

C. STANDARDS FOR RANGELAND HEALTH

1. Soil processes will be appropriate to soil types, climate and land form.
2. Riparian/wetland systems are in properly functioning condition.
3. Water quality criteria in Nevada or California State Law shall be achieved or maintained.
4. Populations and communities of native plant species and habitats for native animal species are healthy, productive and diverse.
5. Habitat conditions meet the life cycle requirements of special status species.

D. LIVESTOCK GRAZING DECISION

Based upon the evaluation of monitoring data for the Goldbanks Allotment, consultation with the permittee and other interested public, and recommendations from my staff, it is my final decision for livestock to change the management :

FROM: Description of Existing Use

BURKES - CATTLE

1. Grazing (AUMs)

A. Total	2295
B. Historical Suspended	404
C. Permitted Use	1891
D. Authorized	1891

 Season of Use

Spring/Summer	04/01 to 10/31
Winter	12/01 to 01/31
2. Kind and Class of Livestock Cow/Calf
3. Percent Federal Range 100%
4. Grazing System

PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs
Pollard Cyn.	210	04/01 to 07/15	732
Panther Cyn.	210	07/16 to 09/30	532
China Mtn.	Rest		
Jim Ck. Field	210	10/01 to 10/31	214
Mud Springs	210	12/01 to 01/31	428

PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs
Pollard Cyn.	210	04/01 to 07/15	732
Panther Cyn.	Rest		
China Mtn.	210	07/16 to 09/30	532
Jim Ck. Field	210	10/01 to 10/31	214
Mud Springs	210	12/01 to 01/31	428

PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs
Pollard Cyn.	Rest		
Panther Cyn.	210	07/16 to 09/30	532
China Mtn.	210	04/01 to 07/15	732
Jim Ck. Field	210	10/01 to 10/31	214
Mud Springs	210	12/01 to 01/31	428

AGRI-BEEF - SHEEP

1. Grazing (AUMs)
 - A. Total 208
 - B. Historical Suspended 48
 - C. Permitted Use 160
 - D. Authorized Use 160

2. Season of Use

Fall 10/03 to 11/03

3. Kind and Class of Livestock Sheep

4. Percent Federal Range 59%

5. Grazing System

PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs
Mud Springs	1300	10/03 to 11/03	160

PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs
Mud Springs	1300	10/03 to 11/03	160

PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs
Mud Springs	1300	10/03 to 11/03	160

TO: Grazing System To Be Implemented

BURKES - CATTLE - 2001

The first year (2001) livestock use will be limited to the existing authorized

AUMs since the fire closure Decision is in effect. An increase of 706 cattle AUMs will be phased in over a period of five years (2002-2007) assuming all the allotment objectives and Standards for Rangeland Health are being achieved. Assuming the Fire Rehabilitation Objectives, Allotment Objectives and Standards for Rangeland Health are being accomplished the phasing in process will begin in 2002. Two hundred and thirty-five (235) AUMs will be activated in 2002 with subsequent increases of 235 and 236 AUMs in 2004 and 2006 respectively in accordance with the following schedule.

1. Grazing (AUMs)

A.	Total	2295
B.	Historical Suspended	404
C.	Permitted Use	1891
D.	Authorized	1649
E.	Non-Use - FIRE	242

2. Season of Use

Spring/Summer	05/01 to 10/31
Winter	12/01 to 02/28

3. Kind and Class of Livestock Cow/Calf

4. Percent Federal Range 100%

5. Grazing System

YEAR	PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs
2001	Pollard Cyn.	183	05/01 to 07/15	457
	Panther Cyn.	183	07/16 to 09/30	463
	China Mtn.	Rest		
	Mud Spring	183	10/01 to 10/31	187
	Mud Springs	183	12/01 to 02/28	541

BURKES - CATTLE - 2002 & 2003

1. Grazing (AUMs)

A.	Total	2295
B.	Historical Suspended	169
C.	Permitted Use	2126
D.	Authorized	2126

2. Season of Use

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|----------------|
| | Spring/Summer | 05/01 to 10/31 |
| | Winter | 12/01 to 02/28 |
| 3. | Kind and Class of Livestock | Cow/Calf |
| 4. | Percent Federal Range | 100% |
| 5. | Grazing System | |

YEAR	PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs	
2002	Pollard Cyn.	221	05/01 to 07/15	552	
	Panther Cyn.	Rest			
	China Mtn.	221	07/16 to 09/30	559	
	Jim Ck. Field	221	04/01 to 04/19	138	
			<u>OR</u>	10/01 to 10/19	
	Mud Spring	221	10/01 to 10/31	225	
	Mud Springs	221	12/01 to 02/28	654	

YEAR	PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs	
2003	Pollard Cyn.	Rest			
	Panther Cyn.	221	07/16 to 09/30	559	
	China Mtn.	221	05/01 to 07/15	552	
	Jim Ck. Field	221	04/01 to 04/19	138	
			<u>OR</u>	10/01 to 10/19	
	Mud Spring	221	10/01 to 10/31	225	
	Mud Springs	221	12/01 to 02/28	654	

BURKES - CATTLE - 2004 & 2005

1. Grazing (AUMs)

A.	Total	2361
B.	Historical Suspended	0
C.	Permitted Use	2361
D.	Authorized	2361

2. Season of Use

Spring/Summer	05/01 to 10/31
Winter	12/01 to 02/28

- 3. Kind and Class of Livestock Cow/Calf
- 4. Percent Federal Range 100%
- 5. Grazing System

YEAR	PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs	
2004	Pollard Cyn.	245	05/01 to 07/15	612	
	Panther Cyn.	245	07/16 to 09/30	620	
	China Mtn.	Rest			
	Jim Ck. Field	245	04/01 to 04/19	153	
			<u>OR</u>	10/01 to 10/19	
	Mud Spring	245	10/01 to 10/31	250	
	Mud Springs	245	12/01 to 02/28	725	

YEAR	PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs	
2005	Pollard Cyn.	245	05/01 to 07/15	612	
	Panther Cyn.	Rest			
	China Mtn.	245	07/16 to 09/30	620	
	Jim Ck. Field	245	04/01 to 04/19	153	
			<u>OR</u>	10/01 to 10/19	
	Mud Spring	245	10/01 to 10/31	250	
	Mud Springs	245	12/01 to 02/28	725	

BURKES - CATTLE - 2006 & 2007

- 1. Grazing (AUMs)
 - A. Total 2597
 - B. Historical Suspended 0
 - C. Permitted Use 2597
 - D. Authorized 2597
- 2. Season of Use
 - Spring/Summer 05/01 to 10/31
 - Winter 12/01 to 02/28
- 3. Kind and Class of Livestock Cow/Calf
- 4. Percent Federal Range 100%
- 5. Grazing System

YEAR	PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs	
2006	Pollard Cyn.	Rest			
	Panther Cyn.	269	07/16 to 09/30	672	
	China Mtn.	269	05/01 to 07/15	681	
	Jim Ck. Field	269	04/01 to 04/19	168	
			<u>OR</u>	10/01 to 10/19	
	Mud Spring	269	10/01 to 10/31	274	
	Mud Springs	269	12/01 to 02/28	796	

YEAR	PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs	
2007	Pollard Cyn.	269	05/01 to 07/15	672	
	Panther Cyn.	269	07/16 to 09/30	681	
	China Mtn.	Rest			
	Jim Ck. Field	269	04/01 to 04/19	168	
			<u>OR</u>	10/01 to 10/19	
	Mud Spring	269	10/01 to 10/31	274	
	Mud Springs	269	12/01 to 02/28	796	

RATIONALE:

This grazing system extends the winter season of use within the Mud Springs pasture by one month until 02/28 and increases the allotment permitted use by 37%. The grazing system utilizes a three summer pastures, Panther, Pollard and China rest/rotation plan with one pasture used early (05/01 to 07/15), the second pasture used later (07/16 to 09/30) and the third pasture rested. The Pollard pasture is always grazed early (05/01 to 07/15) during the cooler portion of the summer when livestock are not as likely to concentrate on the riparian sites along the creek. Using the Panther pasture later (07/16 to 09/30) allows rest until seedripe (July 15) increasing plant vigor, food storage, forage production and seed production. A complete season of rest increases plant vigor, food storage, forage production and establishment of seedlings. The winter and early spring use areas are grazed as follows: Jim Creek Spray Field (04/01 - 04/19 or 10/01 - 10/19) and Mud Springs (10/01 to 10/31 & 12/01 to 02/28). Grazing these areas during the winter and early spring seasons when most of the vegetation is dormant or starting to green up and after livestock removal on 04/28 allows the vegetation time for regrowth. This grazing system allows some flexibility when moving livestock from the winter to the summer pastures. Depending upon the range readiness and vegetative green up the cattle may move into the summer pasture on or about 04/01 or a month later about 05/01.

AGRI-BEEF - SHEEP - 2001

The first year (2001) sheep use will be limited to the existing authorized AUMs since the fire closure Decision is in effect. An increase of 182 sheep AUMs will be phased in over a period of five years (2002-2007) assuming all the Allotment Objectives and Standards for Rangeland Health are being achieved. Assuming the Fire Rehabilitation Objectives, Allotment

Objectives and Standards for Rangeland Health are being accomplished the phasing in process will begin in 2002. Sixty-one (61) AUMs will be activated in 2002 with subsequent increases of 61 and 60 AUMs in 2004 and 2006 respectively in accordance with the following schedule.

1. Grazing (AUMs)
 - A. Total 208
 - B. Historical Suspended 48
 - C. Permitted Use 160
 - D. Authorized Use 148
 - E. Non-Use - FIRE 12

2. Season of Use
 - Winter 01/01 to 03/31

3. Kind and Class of Livestock Sheep

4. Percent Federal Range 59%

5. Grazing System

YEAR	PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs
2001	Pollard Cyn.	426	01/01 to 01/31	51
	Panther Cyn.	426	02/01 to 02/28	46
	China Mtn.			
	Mud Springs	426	03/01 to 03/31	51

AGRI-BEEF - SHEEP - 2002 & 2003

1. Grazing (AUMs)
 - A. Total 221
 - B. Historical Suspended 0
 - C. Permitted Use 221
 - D. Authorized Use 221

2. Season of Use
 - Winter 01/01 to 03/31

3. Kind and Class of Livestock Sheep

4. Percent Federal Range 59%

5. Grazing System

YEAR	PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs
2002	Pollard Cyn.	635	01/01 to 01/31	76
	Panther Cyn.	Rest		
	China Mtn.	635	02/01 to 02/28	69
	Mud Springs	635	03/01 to 03/31	76

YEAR	PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs
2003	Pollard Cyn.	Rest		
	Panther Cyn.	635	02/01 to 02/28	69
	China Mtn.	635	01/01 to 01/31	76
	Mud Springs	635	03/01 to 03/31	76

AGRI-BEEF - SHEEP - 2004 & 2005

1. Grazing (AUMs)

A.	Total	282
B.	Historical Suspended	0
C.	Permitted Use	282
D.	Authorized Use	282

2. Season of Use

Winter 01/01 to 03/31

3. Kind and Class of Livestock Sheep

4. Percent Federal Range 59%

5. Grazing System

YEAR	PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs
2004	Pollard Cyn.	805	01/01 to 01/31	97
	Panther Cyn.	805	02/01 to 02/28	88
	China Mtn.	Rest		
	Mud Springs	805	03/01 to 03/31	97

YEAR	PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs
2005	Pollard Cyn.	805	01/01 to 01/31	97
	Panther Cyn.	Rest		
	China Mtn.	805	02/01 to 02/28	88
	Mud Springs	805	03/01 to 03/31	97

AGRI-BEEF - SHEEP - 2006 & 2007

1. Grazing (AUMs)
 - A. Total 342
 - B. Historical Suspended 0
 - C. Permitted Use 342
 - D. Authorized Use 342

2. Season of Use
 - Winter 01/01 to 03/31

3. Kind and Class of Livestock Sheep

4. Percent Federal Range 59%

5. Grazing System

YEAR	PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs
2006	Pollard Cyn.	Rest		
	Panther Cyn.	979	02/01 to 02/28	106
	China Mtn.	979	01/01 to 01/31	118
	Mud Springs	979	03/01 to 03/31	118

YEAR	PASTURE	LIVESTOCK #	SEASON OF USE	AUMs
2007	Pollard Cyn.	979	01/01 to 01/31	118
	Panther Cyn.	979	02/01 to 02/28	106
	China Mtn.	Rest		
	Mud Springs	979	03/01 to 03/31	118

RATIONALE:

This system allows the sheep to graze within two of the summer pastures following the same schedule as the cattle. Grazing the sheep during the early spring within the Mud Springs Pasture at green up should not have a negative impact on the vegetative resources. Once the sheep are removed on 03/31 there will be 3 ½ months of growing season rest to allow for regrowth. Use of Pollard Canyon, Panther Canyon and China Mountain pastures by sheep should not conflict with cattle use since the cows use these areas from May 1 to September 30. Sheep use in Mud Springs is in a different portion of the pasture than areas that cattle are scheduled to use. Since sheep tend to graze more shrubs and forbs while cattle prefer grasses there should be very little dietary overlap.

E. Range Improvements

1. Add sheep troughs to Panther Canyon pipeline

Rationale: To make water accessible to sheep as well as cattle, so that livestock can be better distributed within the allotment.

2. Construct exclosures in the China Pasture to protect wetland riparian habitat. Exact location of exclosures will be determined during the survey and design stage of the project process in coordination with all interested publics.

Rationale: To protect and improve wetland riparian habitat, so that the utilization and condition objective for wetland riparian habitat can be met.

3. Recommend fencing the headwater meadow of Pollard Creek. This area is private land belonging to Agri Beef, we will pursue a cooperative effort to construct this project.

Rationale: To protect the headwater meadow from trampling and to provide good wetland riparian habitat.

4. Recommend reconstructing the boundary fence between the South Buffalo Allotment and Goldbanks Allotment.

Rationale: To prevent unauthorized livestock from drifting from the South Buffalo Allotment into the Pollard Canyon pasture.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS - AGRI-BEEF & BURKES

The terms and conditions must be in conformance with the Standards and Guidelines for the Sierra Front - Northwestern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council, approved by the Secretary of the Interior on February 12, 1997.

1. "Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g) the holder of this authorization must notify the authorized officer, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony (as defined at 43 CFR 10.2). Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you must stop activities in the immediate vicinity of the discovery and protect it from your activities for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer."
2. The authorized officer reserves the authority to modify annual grazing authorization as long as the modification is consistent with management objectives and remains within the designated season of use.
3. Continuation of grazing and implementation of scheduled increases will be contingent on the attainment of the utilization objectives and standards for uplands within the Goldbanks Allotment. Verification of utilization objectives and standards will be made at the end of the grazing season through monitoring. If utilization objectives and standards are not met, scheduled increases in AUMs will not occur.
4. The permittees are required to perform normal maintenance on range improvements as per their signed cooperative agreements and section 4 permits prior to livestock turnout.
5. Salt and/or mineral blocks shall not be placed within one quarter (1/4) mile of springs, streams, meadows, riparian habitats or aspen stands.
6. The permittees certified actual use report, by pasture, is due fifteen (15) days after the end of the authorized grazing period.
7. The grazing authorization with the schedules of use outlined in this evaluation will be the only approved use and all other schedules, flexibilities and terms and conditions addressed in the Goldbanks Allotment Management Plan dated January 31, 1972 are suspended, unless revised.

F. GRAZING PERMIT

A ten year grazing permit, reflecting the terms and conditions of this decision, will be offered upon completion of the decision process. Any existing permit would become null and void as the new ten year permit becomes effective.

AUTHORITY:

The authority for this decision is contained in Title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which states in pertinent parts:

4100.0-8 "The authorized officer shall manage livestock grazing on public lands under the principles of multiple use and sustained yield and in accordance with applicable land use plans. Land use plans shall establish allowable resource uses (either singly or in combination), related levels of production or use to be maintained, areas of use and resource condition goals and objectives to be obtained. The plans also set forth program constraints and general management practices needed to achieve management objectives. Livestock grazing activities and management actions approved by the authorized officer shall be in conformance with the land use plan as defined at 43 CFR 1601.0-5(b)."

4110.3 "The authorized officer shall periodically review the permitted use specified in a grazing permit or grazing lease and shall make changes in the permitted use as needed to manage, maintain or improve rangeland productivity, to assist in restoring ecosystems to properly functioning condition, to conform with land use plans or activity plans, or to comply with the provisions of subpart 4180. These changes must be supported by monitoring, field observations, ecological site inventory or other data acceptable to the authorized officer.

4130.3-1(a) "The authorized officer shall specify the kind and number of livestock, the period(s) of use, the allotment(s) to be used, and the amount of use, in animal unit months, for every grazing permit or lease. The authorized livestock grazing use shall not exceed the livestock carrying capacity as determined through regulations or of any term or condition of the permit or lease.

4130.3-2 "The authorized officer may specify in grazing permits and leases other terms and conditions which will assist in achieving management objectives, provide for proper range management or assist in the orderly administration of the public rangelands..."

4130.3-3 "Following consultation, cooperation, and coordination with the affected lessees or permittees, the State having lands or responsible for managing resources within the area, and the interested public, the authorized officer may modify terms and conditions of the permit or lease when the active grazing use or related management practices are not meeting the land use plan, allotment management plan or other activity plan, or management objectives, or is not in conformance with the provisions of subpart 4180. To the extent practical, the authorized officer shall provide to affected permittees or lessees, States having lands or responsibility for managing resources within the affected area, and the interested public an opportunity to review, comment and give input during the preparation of reports that evaluate monitoring and other data that are used as a basis for making decisions to increase or decrease grazing use, or to change the terms and conditions of a permit or lease."

4160.4 "Any person whose interest is adversely affected by a final decision of the authorized officer may appeal the decision for the purpose of a hearing before an

administrative law judge by the following requirements set out in 4.470 of this title. As stated in that part, the appeal must be filed within 30 days after receipt of the decision or within 30 days after the date the proposed decision becomes final as provided in 4160,3(a). Appeals and petitions for a stay of the decision shall be filed at the office of the authorized officer. The authorized officer shall promptly transmit the appeal and petition for stay and the accompanying administrative record to ensure their timely arrival at the appropriate Office of Hearing and Appeals.”

4180.1 “The authorized officer shall take appropriate action under subparts 4110, 4120, 4130, and 4160 of this part as soon as practicable but not later than the start of the next grazing year upon determining that existing grazing management needs to be modified to ensure that the following conditions exist.”

- (a) Watersheds are in, or are making significant progress toward, properly functioning physical condition, including their upland, riparian-wetland, and aquatic components; soil and plant conditions support infiltration, soil moisture storage, and the release of water that are in balance with climate and landform and maintain or improve water quality, water quantity, and timing and duration of flow.
- (b) Ecological processes, including the hydrologic cycle, nutrient cycle, and every flow, are maintained, or there is significant progress toward their attainment, in order to support healthy biotic populations and communities.
- (c) Water quality complies with State water quality standards and achieves, or is making significant progress toward achieving, established BLM management objectives such as meeting wildlife needs.
- (d) Habitats are, or are making significant progress toward being restored or maintained for Federal threatened and endangered species, Federal Proposed, Category 1 and 2 Federal candidate and other special status species.

· APPEAL:

Any applicant, permittee, lessee or other interested public whose interest is adversely affected by the final livestock decision may file an appeal, and may petition for stay of the decision pending final determination on appeal under Sec 43 CFR 4160.4, 4.470. The appeal and petition for stay must be filed at the following address:

Colin P. Christensen
AFM Renewable Resources
Bureau of Land Management
Winnemucca Field Office
5100 East Winnemucca Blvd.
Winnemucca, NV 89445

The appeal and petition for stay must be filed within thirty (30) days following receipt of the final decision.

The appeal shall state the reasons, clearly and concisely, why the appellant thinks the final decision is in error.

Should you wish to file a motion for stay, the appellant shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

1. The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied.
2. The likelihood of the appellants success on the merits.
3. The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and
4. Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

As noted the petition for stay must be filed in the office of the authorized officer.

G. WILD HORSE MANAGEMENT

The appropriate management level for wild horses within the Goldbanks Allotment portion of the East Range Herd Area and the Tobin Range Herd Management Area will be 0 horses and 0 AUMs. Adjustments to the wild horse populations are not warranted. Wild horse populations will remain at the number outlined in the Land Use Plan.

RATIONALE

The Sonoma-Gerlach MFP III (1982) established an initial stocking level of 0 for the East Range Herd Area (HA) that is part of the Tobin Range Herd Management Area (HMA) contained within the allotment. There is 5% of the East Range HA and 10 % of the Tobin Range HMA contained within the allotment.

H. WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Adjustments to the wildlife populations are not warranted. Wildlife populations will remain at the reasonable numbers outlined in the Land Use Plan. Reasonable numbers of wildlife are as follows:

Mule Deer	92 AUMs
Bighorn Sheep	18 AUMs

RATIONALE:

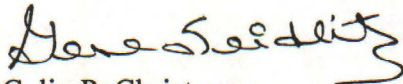
Analysis of monitoring data indicates that the utilization objectives, for upland, wetland riparian and streambank riparian habitats have been typically met in most years. Therefore, a change in the existing wildlife populations or the existing wildlife management, within the Goldbanks Allotment, is not warranted.

FUTURE MONITORING AND GRAZING ADJUSTMENTS:

The Winnemucca Field Office will continue to monitor the Goldbanks Allotment. The monitoring data will continue to be collected in the future to provide the necessary information for subsequent evaluations. These evaluations are necessary to determine if the allotment specific objectives are being met and the Standards for Rangeland Health are being achieved under the new grazing management strategy. In addition, these subsequent evaluations will determine if adjustments are required to meet the established allotment specific objectives and standards.

The Goldbanks Allotment is scheduled to be re-evaluated in FY 2010.

Sincerely yours,



FOR
Colin P. Christensen
Assistant Field Office Manager
Renewable Resources

CC: Nevada Cattlemen's Assoc.	7000 1670 0006 9606 4835
NDOW - Fallon	7000 1670 0006 9606 4828
NDOW - Winnemucca	7000 1670 0006 9606 4811
Sierra Club-Toiyabe	7000 1670 0006 9606 4804
Nevada Woolgrowers Assoc.	7000 1670 0006 9606 4798
Pershing County Commissioners	7000 1670 0006 9606 4781
Resource Concepts Inc.	7000 1670 0006 9606 4774
Mike Maestri	7000 1670 0006 9606 4767
Frank Maestri	7099 3220 0009 6610 7627
Agri-Beef Co.	7000 1670 0006 9606 4859
State of Nv. - Dept. of Administration	7099 3400 0014 2803 3649

NEVADA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Department of Administration
Budget and Planning Division
209 East Musser Street., Room 200
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4298
(775) 684-0209
Fax (775) 684-0260

DATE: March 27, 2001

Governor's Office
Agency for Nuclear Projects
 Agriculture
Business & Industry
Energy
Minerals
Economic Development
Tourism
Fire Marshal
Human Resources
Aging Services
 Health Division
Indian Commission
Colorado River Commission

Legislative Counsel Bureau
Information Technology
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PUC
Transportation
UNR Bureau of Mines
UNR Library
UNLV Library
Historic Preservation
Emergency Management
Office of the Attorney General
Washington Office
Nevada Assoc. of Counties
Nevada League of Cities

Conservation-Natural Resources
 Director's Office
State Lands
Environmental Protection
Forestry
 Wildlife
Region 1
 Region 2
 Region 3
Conservation Districts
State Parks
 Water Resources
 Natural Heritage
 Wild Horse Commission

Nevada SAI # E2001-125
Project: Final Multiple Use Decision for the Goldbanks Allotment
Ref: E2001-100

Yes No Send more information on this project as it becomes available.

CLEARINGHOUSE NOTES:

Enclosed, for your review and comment, is a copy of the above mentioned project. Please evaluate it with respect to its effect on your plans and programs; the importance of its contribution to state and/or local areawide goals and objectives; and its accord with any applicable laws, orders or regulations with which you are familiar.

Please submit your comments no later than **April 20, 2001**. Use the space below for short comments. If significant comments are provided, please use agency letterhead and include the Nevada SAI number and comment due date for our reference. Questions? Heather Elliott, 684-0209.

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY REVIEW AGENCY:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> No comment on this project | <input type="checkbox"/> Conference desired (See below) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proposal supported as written | <input type="checkbox"/> Conditional support (See below) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional information below | <input type="checkbox"/> Disapproval (Explain below) |

AGENCY COMMENTS:

Signature

s:\shardat\clear\clear.doc

Agency

Date



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Winnemucca Field Office
5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445
(775) 623-1500
<http://www.nv.blm.gov/winnemucca>

In Reply Refer To:
4160.3(NV022.15)

CERTIFIED MAIL 70993400001428033649
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Dear Interested Public:

Please find enclosed the Goldbanks Allotment Final Multiple Use Decision.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Ron Pearson at (775) 623-1500.

Sincerely yours,

FOR
Colin P. Christensen
Assistant Field Office Manager
Renewable Resources



Enclosure