



WF L 9/28/01

## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Winnemucca Field Office  
5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard  
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445  
775-623-1500

In Reply Refer To:  
(NV-22.15)  
4160.3(f)

September 28, 2001

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7000 1670 0007 8535 7039  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

### Notice of Final Decision

Estill Ranches LLC  
P.O. Box 67  
Likely, CA. 98116

Dear Mr. Estill:

In accordance with the Notice of Closure signed by the AFM, Renewable Resources, the burned portions of the Soldier Meadows Allotment are closed to all livestock for a minimum of two (2) growing seasons for new seedings and natural recovery.

Preburn management practices will resume when a minimum of two growing seasons of rest have been provided for native species. Seedings would also be protected from livestock grazing for a minimum of two growing seasons.

The emergency closure will be lifted when the vegetative cover meets or exceeds 50% of the minimum potential perennial ground cover for the ecological site after a minimum of two growing seasons. The Winnemucca District will monitor the recovery of the burned area to see if the objectives of the closure are being achieved. If the fire rehabilitation criteria for the new seedings is not met, an additional growing season rest may occur.

Once the burned portions and/or pastures are open to authorized livestock grazing, a 50% utilization objective, for the seeded species, will be in affect.

The emergency closure will provide rest for surviving perennial species to regain vigor and will provide seedling establishment of native species. The rest will also benefit the native species by allowing sufficient time for germination of seed, development of adequate seedling root growth to prevent uprooting by grazing animals, and by allowing perennial seedlings to develop good vigor and produce viable seed.

The permittee must keep livestock out of the burned portions of the Soldier Meadows Allotment by herding.

We will be soliciting your participation in the selection of key areas and key species which will be the basis for the re-opening of the closed portion(s) of the allotment.

This final decision is effective upon receipt in accordance with 43 CFR 4110.3-3(b) and 4160.3(f) for the protection of the soil and vegetation due to fire.

Any applicant, permittee, lessee, or other person whose interest is adversely affected by this final decision may file an appeal and petition for stay of the decision pending final determination of the appeal under Sec. 43 CFR §4160.4 and §4.470. Appeals and petitions for a stay of the decision shall be filed in person or in writing to Pete Christensen, AFM Renewable Resources, Bureau of Land Management, Winnemucca District, 5001 E. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV. 89445, within 30 days after 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 under Sec. 43 CFR §4.21:

- (1) The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied.
- (2) The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits.
- (3) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted.
- (4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

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

Sincerely yours,



Colin P. Christensen  
Assistant Field Manager  
Renewable Resources

cc	NDOW - Winnemucca	7000 1670 0007 8535 8630
	NDOW - Fallon	7000 1670 0007 8535 8586
	RCI	7000 1670 0007 8535 8623
	Nevada Cattlemen's Assoc.	7000 1670 0007 8535 8616
	STATE OF NV ADMIN.	7000 1670 0007 8535 7657
	Sierra Club	7000 1670 0007 8535 8609
	Nevada Woolgrower's Assoc.	7000 1670 0007 8535 8692
	Humboldt County Commissioners	7000 1670 0007 8535 8647
	WHOA	7000 1670 0007 8535 7732
	NCPWH	7000 1670 0007 8535 7688
	Katie Fite	7000 1670 0007 8535 7879
	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	7000 1670 0007 8535 7480
	Natl. Res. Defense Council	7000 1670 0007 8535 7268
	Orient Farms	7000 1670 0007 8535 7244
	ISPMB	7000 1670 0007 8535 7237
	William Cowan	7000 1670 0007 8535 7220
	Friends of Nv. Wilderness	7000 1670 0007 8535 7282