



BOB MILLER  
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

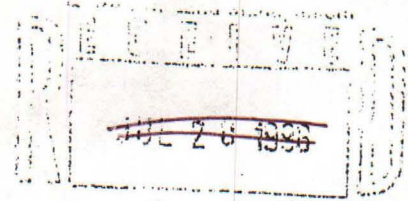
**DIVISION OF WILDLIFE**

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PETER G. MORRIS 710  
Director  
Department of Conservation  
and Natural Resources

WILLIAM A. MOLINI  
Administrator

July 16, 1998



DISTRICT OFFICE  
WINNEMUCCA, NEVADA

Mr. Colin P. Christensen  
Assistant District Manager, Renewable Resource  
Bureau of Land Management  
5100 East Winnemucca Blvd.  
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

RE: Wilder/Quinn Draft Allotment Evaluation

Dear Pete:

Thank you for consulting our agency. We concur with most of the findings and general terms of the document. Several issues are in need of comment.

We are concerned with the short and long term conclusions. Not all short term objectives were met during the past four to five years with above average precipitation, and range years suggest that management is not efficient.

Mahogany objectives were stated as being obtained. We would request age and form class data to assure that this critical species is in an upward trend.

Beavers can contribute to adverse impact to aspen stands in this allotment. We do not find beavers responsible for present age class nor lack of regeneration of aspens on the allotment. Our agency contracted the removal of most beavers on this allotment over the past years.

Objectives for 259 acres of meadow habitat have not been met. We agree.

Sage brush encroachment into old seedings can be beneficial to wildlife. Small scale burns to promote diversity may be acceptable, but we cannot support large scale conversions from brush to restore the entire seeding.

Mr. Colin Christensen  
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Section B recognizes riparian habitat as key management areas. However, stocking level and season of use adjustments were not considered as immediate actions. While range improvement projects may mitigate the effects of livestock, these projects are subject to future funding.

Terms and conditions should establish allowable use levels to better manage the allotment. As drafted, we do not find similar terms and conditions as found in multiple use decisions for Alder Creek, Dyke Hot and other allotments.

Alternative #1 suggest great potential in meeting allotment specific objectives. This management strategy provides rest in summer pastures and stronger terms or conditions could provide better assurances and authorities to protect resources.

We would appreciate your consideration on these matters. Please contact Mr. Jim Jeffress, Wildlife Biologists, for further input and coordination.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM A. MOLINI, ADMINISTRATOR



Richard T. Heap, Jr.  
Regional Manager  
Region I

CC: Habitat, Reno  
Jim Jeffress