



United States Department of the Interior

m 9/23/97

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Winnemucca Field Office
5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445
702-623-1500

In Reply Refer To:
(NV-022.17)

September 23, 1997

Dear Interested Party:

A working group meeting was held on August 28, 1997. The purpose for that meeting was to begin writing technical recommendations starting with the Klondike and Goldbanks Allotments. The notes for that meeting are enclosed. The next meeting has been scheduled for 1:00 on October 2, 1997, at the Winnemucca District Office for the Clear Creek, Dolly Hayden, Klondike, and Goldbanks Allotment Evaluations. The purpose of this meeting will be to begin writing technical recommendations for the Clear Creek and Dolly Hayden Allotments

If you have any questions or comments please contact Peggy Redick at (702)-623-1500.

Sincerely yours,

Colin P. Christensen, ADM Renewable Resources
Winnemucca District

enclosure

cc Richard Heap, NDOW
Craig Downer
Cathy Barcomb, Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses
Resource Concepts, Inc.
Rose Strickland, Sierra Club
Johanna H. Wald, NRDC
Tom Filbin
Pershing County Commissioners
Mike Burke
Casey Anderson
Robert Albrecht

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August 28, 1997 Meeting Notes

A. Klondike Technical Recommendations

1. Carrying Capacity

$$\frac{\text{actual use}}{\% \text{ utiliz.}} = \frac{X}{\text{desired utiliz. (50\%)}}$$

X = Desired Stocking Level = 3838 BLM AUMs
1212 EOU AUMs

2. Grazing System

a. alternative 1

Use Area	Numbers	Kind	Use Period	%PL	AUMs
Big Sagebrush /bunchgrass	529	cow/calf	04/01 to 10/31	76%	2835
Salt Desert Shrub	529	cow/calf	11/01 to 01/15	76%	1003

This system would include a North/South rotation in year 1 and then a South/North rotation in year 2.

b. alternative 2

Use Area	Numbers	Kind	Use Period	%P.L.	AUMs
Salt Desert Shrub	529	cow/calf	03/01 to 03/31	76%	411
Big Sagebrush /bunchgrass	529	cow/calf	06/21 to 10/31	76%	2835
Salt Desert Shrub	529	cow/calf	11/01 to 02/28	76%	592

c. alternative 3

Use Area	Numbers	Kind	Use Period	%P.L.	AUMs
Salt Desert Shrub	590	cow/calf	03/15 to 06/01	76%	1137
Big Sagebrush /bunchgrass	590	cow/calf	06/01 to 10/31	76%	2258
Salt Desert Shrub	590	cow/calf	11/01 to 11/30	76%	443

This system would include a north/south rotation in year 1 and a south/north rotation in year 2. By going out early, can make use of cheatgrass and defer grazing on big sagebrush /bunchgrass vegetative communities.

*** Important to have flexibility.

*** Prefer increase in numbers and shorter season for livestock management and use on private winter pasture.

3. Range Improvements

a. Klondike Boundary Fence for west and south end of allotment. To eliminate drift on and off of the Klondike Allotment. Need a short section on North end from Ranch to Reed Canyon.

b. Waters

1) Shepherd's Well rehabilitated.

*** Standard operating procedure for Coyote Creek Ranch is to rehab any dirt work they do and will continue to do so.

B. Goldbanks Technical Recommendations

1. Carrying Capacity

a. Mud Springs Pasture (winter) - 1364 AUMs

This included sheep actual use. This is the only pasture that the sheep used during the evaluation period.

b. Summer Pastures

1. Panther - 3275 AUMs

2. China - 849 AUMs

3. Pollard - 684 AUMs

Recommendation is to use the Pollard Pasture as the limiting factor and use 684 AUMs as the basis for the Summer Pastures.

c. Sprayfield - No utilization during the evaluation period.

2. Grazing System

a. alternative 1 Retain existing grazing system

treatment 1	Graze from 5/1 to 7/15	
treatment 2	rest until seedripe (July 15) for plant vigor, food storage, forage production, and seed production.	Graze from 7/16 to 9/30.
treatment 3	Rest for vigor, food storage, forage production, and establishment of seedlings.	
treatment 4	Graze from 10/1 to 10/30	
treatment 5	Graze from 12/1 to 1/31 and 4/1 to 4/30	

The sequence of the treatments is shown below:

Pasture	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Pollard Canyon	treatment 1	treatment 2	treatment 3
Panther Canyon	treatment 3	treatment 1	treatment 2
China Mountain	treatment 2	treatment 3	treatment 1
Jim Creek Sprayfield	treatment 4	treatment 4	treatment 4
Mud Springs	treatment 5	treatment 5	treatment 5

b. alternative 2 Modify existing grazing system as follows:

treatment 1	Graze from 05/15 to 07/31	
treatment 2	Rest until after seedripe (July 15) for plant vigor, food storage, forage production, and seed production.	Graze from 08/01 to 10/16

treatment 3	Rest for vigor, food storage, forage production, and establishment of seedlings.
treatment 4	04/15 to 05/15
treatment 5	Graze from 04/1 to 04/15, 10/16 to 10/31, & 12/01 to 02/28

Need to check to see how many AUMs will be loss due to mining because the Mud Springs Pasture will have to be adjusted accordingly.

3. Sheep Use - Currently the sheep permit is for the month of October. Agri Beef would like to have flexibility to use the allotment from 02/01 to 04/30 to fit within their other grazing allotment sequences better. Proportionate to the increase for the cattle permit, the sheep permit would be increased from 161 AUMs to 217 AUMs.

4. Range Improvements

- a. Mitigation Replacement of water due to mine activity to include two pipelines. (Locations marked on BLM map)
- b. Add sheep troughs to Panther Canyon pipeline
- c. Construct exclosures in the China Pasture to protect wetland riparian habitat. Exact location of exclosures will be determine during the survey and design stage of the project process in coordination with all interested publics.
- d. Recommend fencing the headwater meadow of Pollard Creek. This is private land belonging to Agri Beef. Bob Schweigert said he would discuss with Agri Beef.