



United States Department of the Interior

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

9/30/97

JACKSON
MTN. HMA
~~TO HMA~~

10/28
called Madeline

SEP 30 1997

In Reply Refer To:
NV022.11

fence
North side of track

Dear Interested Party:

Please find enclosed the environmental assessment and record of decision for the Wilder #4 Drift Fence, Wilder #3 Fence Extension, and two extensions of the Wilder-Quinn - Bilk Creek Allotments boundary fence.

McGee mtn
Bureau head
North end of Jackson

43 CFR Sec. 4120.3-1(f) states:

Proposed range improvement projects shall be reviewed in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4371 et seq.). The decision document following the environmental analysis shall be considered the proposed decision under subpart 4160 of this part.

Therefore, the Decision Record following the environmental assessment is my proposed decision. Protest and appeal procedures follow:

Any applicant, permittee, lessee, or other affected interests may protest the proposed decisions under Sec. 43 CFR 4160.1, in person or in writing within 15 days after receipt of such decision to:

Colin P. Christensen
ADM Renewable Resources
5100 East Winnemucca Blvd.
Winnemucca, NV 89445

The protest, if filed, should clearly and concisely state the reason(s) as to why the proposed decision is in error.

In the absence of a protest, the proposed decision will become the final decision of the authorized officer without further notice.

Any applicant, permittee, lessee or other person whose interest is adversely affected by the final decision may file an appeal and petition for stay of the decision pending final determination on appeal under 43 CFR 4160.4, §4.21 and §4.470. The appeal and petition for stay must be filed in the office of the authorized officer, noted above, within 30 days following receipt of the final decision, or 30 days after the date the proposed decision becomes final.

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 appellant's 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 above the petition for stay must be filed in the office of the authorized officer.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colin P. Christensen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Colin P. Christensen
ADM Renewable Resources

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

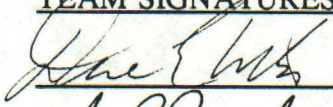
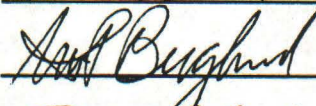
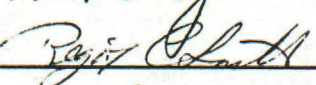
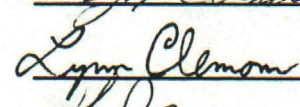
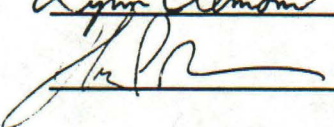
Bureau of Land Management

EA FACE SHEET

OFFICE: Winnemucca D.O FY & REPORT #: NV020-07-25

ACTION: Wilder-Quinn Fences NO. OF PAGES: 5

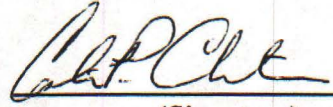
LOCATION: Wilder-Quinn Allotment SERIAL NO. N- _____

<u>TEAM SIGNATURES:</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>RESOURCE VALUES ASSIGNED</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
	Range Management Specialist	Range	
	Wildlife Biologist	Wildlife/T&E	
	Archeologist	Cultural	
	Outdoor Rec. Planner	Recreation/Wilderness	
	Division of Operations		

horse person?

ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR:  24 September 97
(Signature) (Date)

COMPLIANCE OFFICER: _____

Asst. DISTRICT/AREA MANAGER 
(Signature)

9/26/97
(Date)

Environmental Assessment - Wilder #4 Drift Fence,
Wilder #3 Drift Fence Extension,
and Wilder-Quinn - Bilk Creek Allotment
Boundary Fence Extensions

I. Introduction and Overview

Purpose and Need:

The permittee of the Wilder-Quinn Allotment proposes to construct the Wilder #4 Drift Fence and extend the Wilder #3 fence (see attached maps). These fences would prevent livestock drift from areas scheduled for livestock use into areas scheduled for rest. Preventing livestock drift would protect riparian areas in the summer use areas. The fences would also provide internal fencing within the allotment which would allow for a rest-rotation grazing system to be implemented within the Wilder-Quinn Allotment.

The permittee of the Bilk Creek Allotment proposes to extend the Wilder-Quinn - Bilk Creek Allotments boundary fence in the vicinity of Table Mountain and north of Bilk Creek Reservoir. These fences would prevent livestock drift from the Wilder-Quinn Allotment into the Bilk Creek Allotment and vice-versa.

Though the proposed actions are not specifically addressed in the MFP, the actions are consistent with the objectives of the MFP III RM 1.10 and with federal, state and local laws, regulations, and policies.

II. Proposed Actions and Alternatives

The proposed Wilder #4 Fence would be located in T.45N., R.31E., Sections. 3, 8, 9, 11 & 12 and would be 23,137 feet, or 4.4 miles in length. The allotment boundary extension fence - north of Bilk Creek Reservoir would be located in T.44N, R.32E., Sections. 9, 16, and 21 and would be 9808 feet, or 1.8 miles in length. The allotment boundary extension fence - north of Texas Spring would be located in T.45N., R.31E., Sections 12, 13, and 24 and would be approximately 9420 feet, or 1.7 miles in length. The Wilder #3 Drift Fence Extension would be constructed in two segments. Segment one would be located in T.47N., R.31E., Sections 25 and 26 and segment two would be in T.47N., R.32E., Section 30. Segment one would be 2910 feet or .5 miles in length and segment two would be 3250 feet, or .6 miles in length. In addition, approximately 300 feet of fence along the Wilder-Quinn - Kings River allotment boundary fence would be removed and rerouted south of where segment two would join with the allotment boundary fence. See attached maps for additional information.

All fences would consist of three strands of fence wire, steel posts, wooden or steel pipe panels and would be built to antelope fence specifications (wire spacing 16", 26", and 38"). The top two wires would be barbed and the bottom wire, smooth. Access to construction sites would be by existing roads in the allotment and by horse back.

The Wilder #4 Fence would be constructed in 1997. The Wilder #3 fence would be constructed in 1998. Funding, materials and construction would be provided by the Denny Livestock Company, permittee of the Wilder-Quinn Allotment.

The two allotment boundary fence extensions would be constructed in 1998. Funding, materials and construction would be provided by the Dufurrena Sheep Company. All fences would be constructed in accordance with the Bureau planning process.

These projects would be implemented under Cooperative Agreements with the permittees and the Bureau of Land Management. The permittees would be responsible for materials and construction of the fences. The Bureau would be responsible for clearances and environmental assessments.

No Action Alternative:

Under the No Action Alternative, the fences would not be constructed. Livestock drift would continue within the Wilder -Quinn Allotment and between the Wilder-Quinn and Bilk Creek Allotments.

III. Affected Environment

The proposed Wilder #4 fence is located in a sagebrush-bunchgrass vegetation type. The slopes in the vicinity of the proposed fence sites vary from flat to moderate over the fence area. Streams and washes in the vicinity of the proposed fences are in general, ephemeral to intermittent in nature and generally have flows during spring snow melt and intense summer storms. However, both fences would cross Shyster Creek and the Mud Spring Fence would cross the Little Sagehen Creek, both of which have intermittent to perennial water flows.

The fence extensions - north of Bilk Creek Reservoir and north of Texas Spring are located in a sagebrush - bunchgrass vegetation types. Slopes are flat to moderate. Streams and washes in the vicinity of the proposed fences are ephemeral to intermittent in nature and generally have flows during spring snow melt and intense summer storms.

The Wilder #3 fence extension is located in a sagebrush - bunchgrass vegetation type. The fence is located on ridgelines where possible so as to tie into existing fences and rock outcrops. Slopes are flat to moderate.

The fence construction sites is located within Class IV Visual Resource Management (VRM) Areas.

BLM State sensitive species and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service species of concern that may occur in the area of the Wilder-Quinn and Bilk Creek Allotments are as follows:

<u>Group</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
Mammals	<u>Brachylagus idahoensis</u>	Pygmy rabbit
	<u>Myotis ciliolabrum</u>	Small footed myotis
	<u>Myotis evotis</u>	Long eared myotis
	<u>Myotis thysanodes</u>	Fringed myotis
	<u>Myotis volens</u>	Long legged myotis
	<u>Plecotus townsendii</u>	Pacific Townsend's bit eared bat
	<u>townsendii</u>	
<u>Plecotus townsendii</u>	Pale Townsend's big eared bat	
<u>pallescens</u>		
Bird	<u>Athene cucularia</u>	Burrowing owl
	<u>hypugea</u>	
	<u>Accipiter gentilis</u>	Northern Goshawk
	<u>Buteo regalis</u>	Ferruginous hawk
	<u>Chilodnias niger</u>	Black tern
	<u>Ixobrychus exilis</u>	Least bittern
	<u>hesperis</u>	
<u>Plegadis Chihi</u>	white faced ibis	
Plants	<u>Cryptantha schoolcrafti</u>	Schoolcraft's cryptantha
	<u>Mentzelia mollis</u>	Smooth stickleaf

Please consult the Paradise-Denio Grazing EIS for a more complete description of the affected environment.

The following critical elements of the human environment are not present and/or not affected by the proposed actions or alternatives:

Air quality, Areas of Critical Environmental Concerns, Cultural Resources, Prime or Unique Farm Lands, Flood Plains, Native American Religious Concerns, Paleontology, Threatened and Endangered, or Candidate Species, Wastes - Hazardous or Solid, Water Quality, Wild and Scenic Rivers, and Wilderness.

IV. Environmental Consequences:

Proposed Actions:

Construction of the fencelines would cause short-term damage to vegetation from crushing, trampling and breaking during construction. Broad-path brush beating would not

be required at any location.

The proposed fences would be built to antelope specifications, thus, there would be minimal adverse impacts to wildlife.

Cultural resource inventories (CR2-1311) was conducted for the Wilder #4 fence, (CR2-1301) for the Wilder-Quinn - Bilk Creek Allotment boundary fence extension - north of Bilk Reservoir, (CR2-1302) for the Wilder-Quinn - Bilk Creek Allotment boundary fence extension - north of Texas Spring, and the Wilder #3 Fence Extension (CR2-1313). All inventories along the fence routes were found to be negative in the vicinity of the fences with the exception of the Wilder #4 Fence. Isolated artifacts of no significant value were the only items located on the Wilder #4 fence.

The proposed actions are located within a Class IV Visual Resource Management (VRM) area. Although visual contrast rating worksheets are not required, visual resources were considered in the analysis of the fences and it was determined the proposed fences would have negligible impact in the areas.

Cumulative Impact Analysis

All resource values have been evaluated for cumulative impacts. It has been determined that cumulative impacts would be negligible as a result of the proposed actions.

V. Specialist Coordination/Concurrence/Comments

The specialists who have signed the face sheet of this document have been involved in the development and review of the proposed projects and concluded these fences would not result in significantly adverse impacts to resources under their management.

The Ranch Manager for the Quinn River Crossing Ranch has been involved in the coordination of the proposed Wilder #4 and Wilder #3 and Buster Dufurrena has been involved in the coordination of the allotment boundary fence extensions.

The following Interested Publics have been consulted on the proposed action and no comments were received:

Denny Land & Cattle CO. LLL
Roger and Marsha Colby
Bob de Braga
Dufurrena Sheep CO.
Natural Resources Defense Council
Craig Downer
The Wilderness Society
USFWS Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge
Desert Bighorn Council
NDOW-Fallon

NDOW-Winnemucca
John Marvel
Nevada Cattleman's Association
Nevada Farm Bureau Federation
USFWS
Sagebrush Chapter, Trout Unlimited
Wild Horse Organ. Assist.
Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses
Humbolt County Commissionars
Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
Resource Concepts Incorporated

RECORD OF DECISION/FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

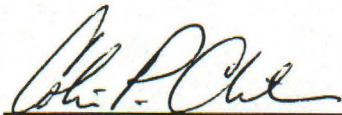
RECORD OF DECISION

Based on the Environmental Assessment (EA), a net beneficial impact to the total environment would result from implementing the proposed action. Therefore, the proposed action is adopted in its' entirety.

The mitigating measure identified in the EA will be adapted as stipulation.

FONSI

The EA adequately analyzes the environmental impacts of the proposed action. Since no significant negative impacts are expected as a result of implementing the decision, an EIS is not required.



Colin Christensen
Assistant District Manager
Division of Renewable Resources

9/26/97
Date

Wilder #4^x fence

Denio Summit 7.5 min

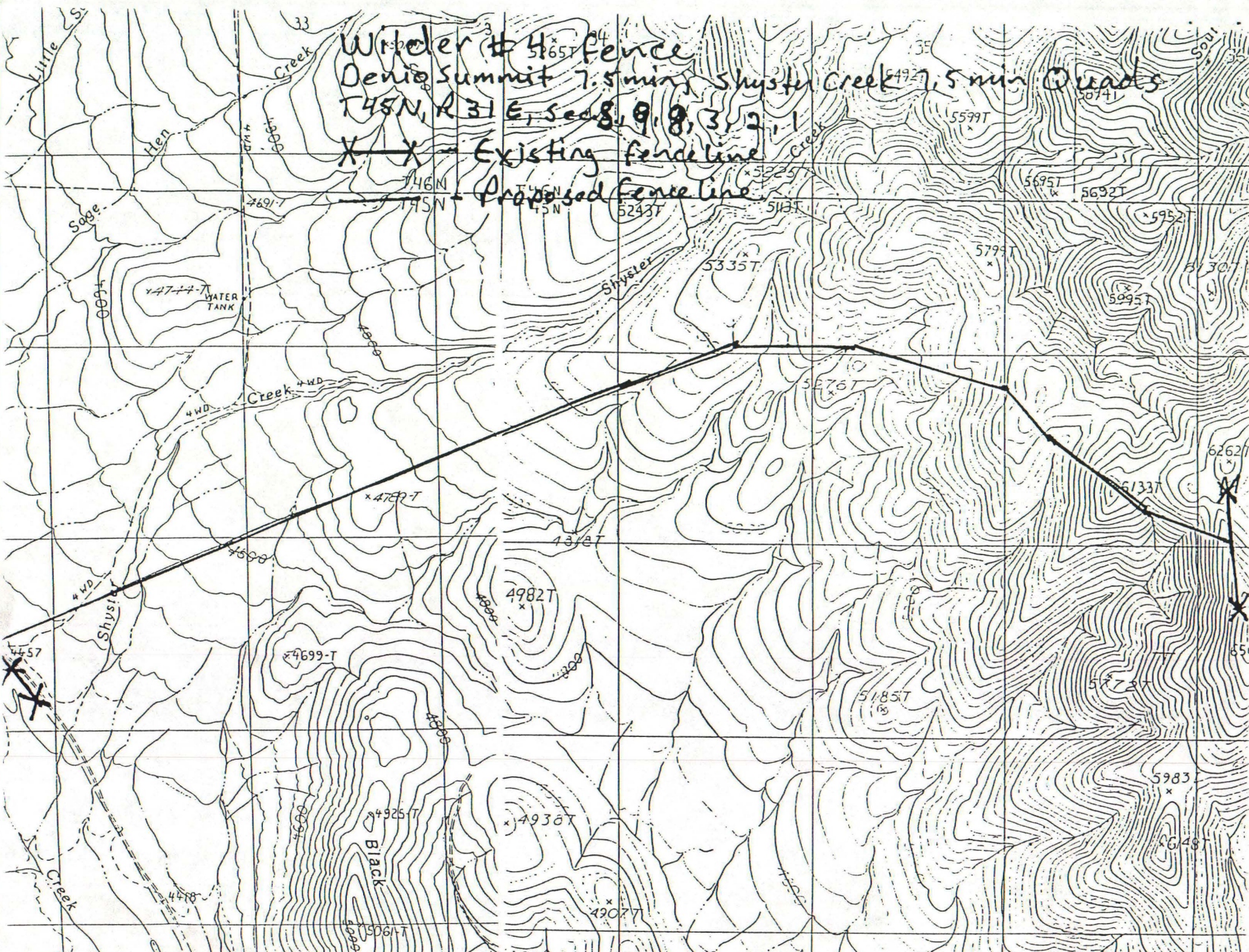
Shyster Creek 7.5 min

Quads

T45N, R31E, Sec 8, 9, 3, 2, 1

X X Existing fence line

- - - - Proposed fence line



WATER TANK

Black

Little S.

Sage

Hen

Creek

Creek

Shyster

Shyster

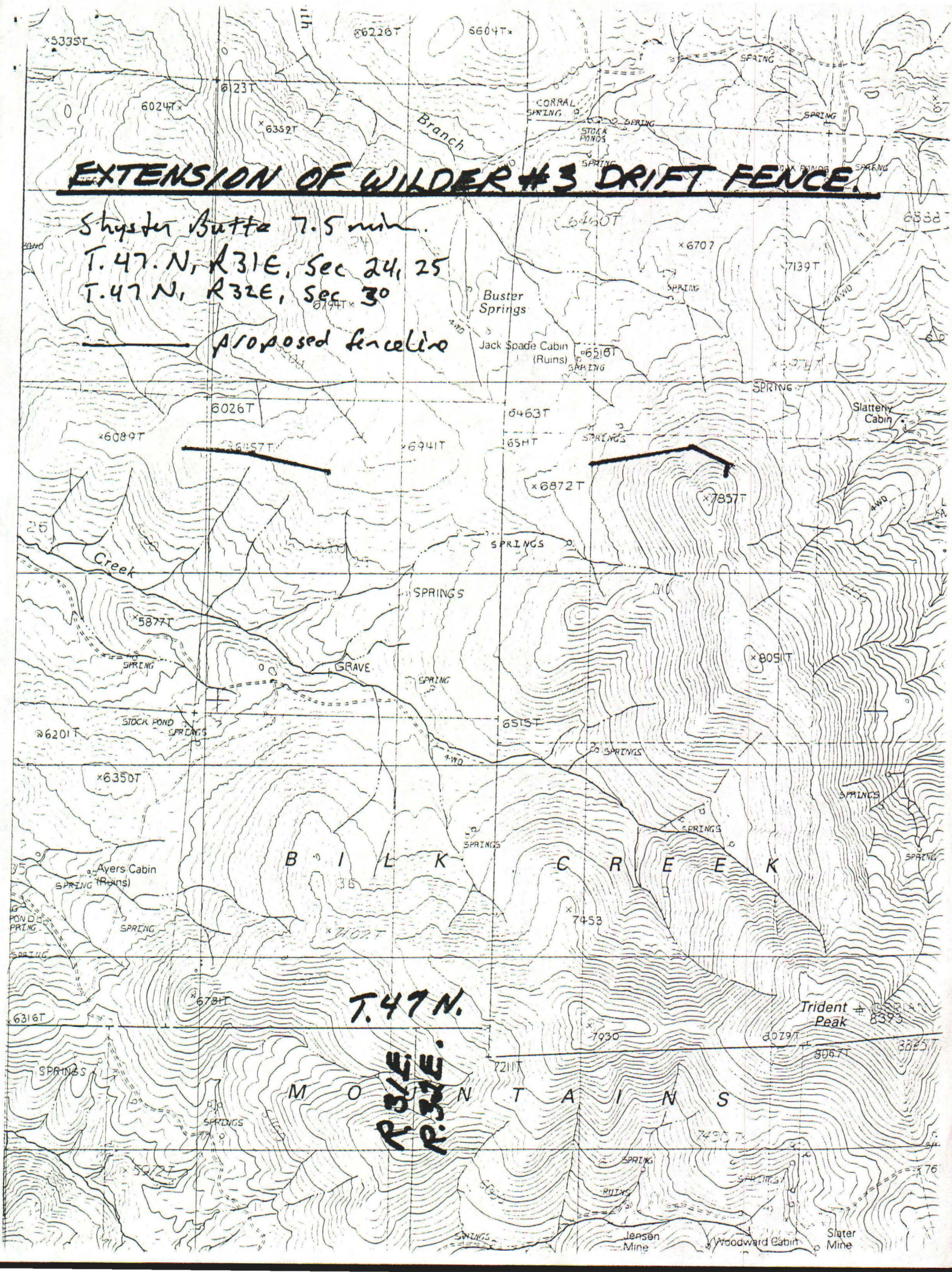
Creek

Black

EXTENSION OF WILDER #3 DRIFT FENCE.

Shyster Butte 7.5 mi.
T. 47. N, R. 31. E, Sec 24, 25
T. 47 N, R. 32 E, Sec 30

proposed fence line



45N 45N 5243T 513T 620T 6402

Shyster

Fence Extension - North of Texas Spring Shyster Butte Quad T.5 min

T.45N, R.31E, Sec 12, 13, 24

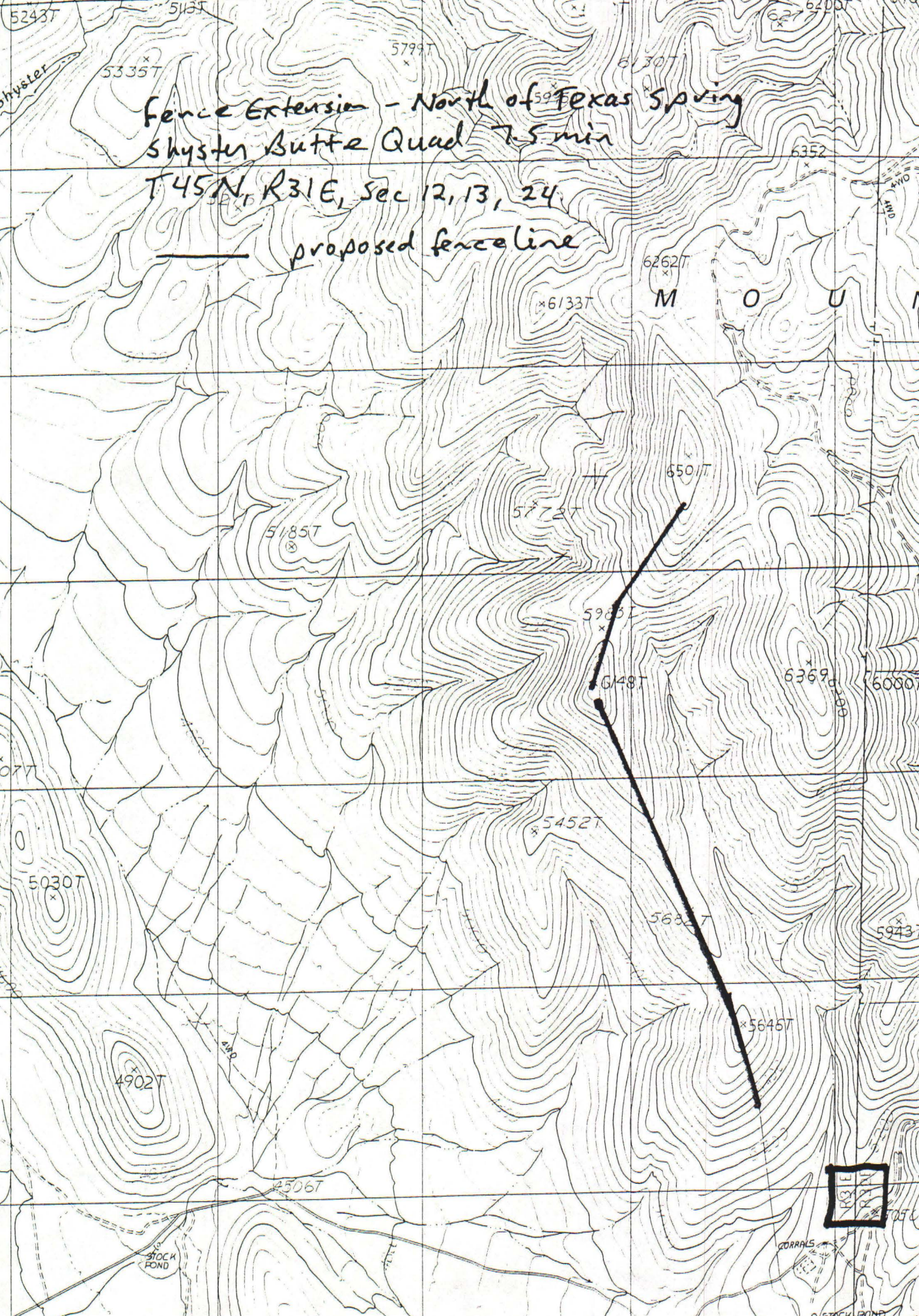
proposed fence line

M O U N

782T

4938T

lack
utte



CORRALS
O STOCK POND

Fence Extension - North of
Bilk Creek Reservoir
Bilk Creek Res. Quad 7.5 mi
T44N, R32E, Sec 9, 10, 21

proposed fence line

Existing fence line

44
T. N.

R. 32 E.

