

m 9/26/84

851-4817

September 26, 1984

Mr. Gary Bengochea
NEVADA FIRST CORPORATION
620 Melarkey Street
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

Dear Mr. Bengochea:

My name is Dawn Lappin, director for WHOA (Wild Horse Organized Assistance, Incorporated). WHOA has a national membership of over 10,000, who direct us to monitor the Bureau of Land Management's program of protection and management for the wild horses on public lands.

WHOA is a participant in the CRMP #1 (Coordinated Resource Management Plan) for the Owyhee. WHOA supported substantial wild horse reductions in coordination with livestock grazing systems, range improvements, and monitoring. WHOA also lent influence at the BLM State level, as well as national, to acquire funding to areas under CRMP agreements, specifically Owyhee/Bullhead.

Hereafter the purpose of this letter becomes apparent. Approximately 1900 wild horses have been removed from the public lands within the allotments under the CRMP agreement, with the remaining few hundred to be removed during FY 1985. WHOA has honored our signature and the agreement and will continue to do so, as long as the livestock permittees honor their commitment.

As a direct participant Nevada First Corp., has the ultimate responsibility to honor their commitment, even though the allotment has been leased. We understand Nevada First Thrift has leased Nevada Garvey to SECO, and they are reluctant to follow the commitment made by your representatives. For the entire program to work, for trust to remain among the constituents; the momentum of the progress this far must not be compromised.

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WHOA can promise that should the participants pull out of the agreement, after the substantial horse reductions, the public will perceive that Nevada First Corp., used CRMP only for that purpose. Not a very good recommendation for a Nevada-based institution that is based on trust.

WHOA hopes instead, there has been some breakdown in communication and this stalemate has been a misunderstanding. May we meet once again with your representatives and clear the matter up? I have written the Chairman, Sammy Ugalde, requesting a meeting. Should this attempt fail, I will submit my resignation to CRMP #1. I hope to hear from you soon.

Most sincerely,

Dawn Y. Lappin (Mrs.)
Chairman

cc: David R. Belding, Counsel
Edward F. Spang
Frank Shields
Helen Reilly
Sierra Club
Nevada Department of Wildlife
SECO