



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Winnemucca District Office

5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard

Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

702-623-1500

In Reply Refer To:
(NV-0221.1)

April 17, 1997

Dear Interested Public:

I have received a grazing application for the Deer Creek Allotment with a portion of the requested use period falling outside the season of use identified in the grazing term permit and/or multiple use decision. The Bureau is required to provide affected permittees and interested publics an opportunity to review, comment, and give input prior to authorizing use outside the season of use.

Permitted use identified in the 10 year permit and multiple use decision for the Deer Creek Allotment is 200 C 03/01 to 03/31 201 AUMs and 176 C 10/01 to 11/30 353 AUMs in the winter/early spring use area. The late spring/summer area use is as follows: 200 C 04/01 to 04/30 200 AUMs. The active preference is 754 AUMs. The winter/early spring and late spring/summer use areas are divided by a fence which runs north-south along the Jackson Mountain Road. The permittee has requested the following livestock use:

80 C	03/01/97 to 04/30/97	163 AUMs
75 C	05/01/97 to 09/30/97	380 AUMs
70 C	10/01/97 to 12/31/97	<u>211 AUMs</u>
		754 AUMs

The AUMs in the permittees request are consistent with permitted use identified in the 10 year permit. However, portions of the requested use periods, 05/01 to 09/30 and 12/01 to 12/31 are outside the season of use. The proposal has lower livestock numbers but would increase the season of use in the spring/summer ranges from one month to six months. AUMs would be increased from 200 AUMs to 461 AUMs in the spring/summer use area and decreased in the winter/early spring use area from 554 AUMs to 293 AUMs.

The majority of Deer Creek and Pass Creek has intermittent to ephemeral water flow and little potential for supporting a fishery. However, both creeks support woody riparian species such as willow and dogwood over the majority of the creeks and have isolated areas of herbaceous vegetation. In order to ensure the short-term utilization of 50% for stream-side/riparian habitat is met if this request is authorized, the permittee will be authorized as follows:

75 C 05/01 to 07/31 227 AUMs

The following term and condition will be included on the grazing authorization:

"An extension of livestock use will be considered after 07/31 as long as utilization levels on woody and/or herbaceous riparian species on Deer Creek and Pass Creek are below 40%. An extension will not be authorized if utilization levels are above 40%. The BLM, permittee, and interested publics will inspect the Deer Creek and Pass Creek riparian areas on or before 07/31. The inspection will determine if an extension can be authorized based on utilization levels in both creeks and the length of the extension, if any. The length of the extension may vary in accordance to utilization levels observed but shall not exceed two weeks. Additional extensions will be considered as long as utilization levels are below 40% in both creeks. These extensions will not exceed two weeks and will require additional inspections. The permittee will be given a five (5) day notice in which to remove livestock when utilization levels exceed 40%".

If you have comments with this proposal, please contact me in writing by April 30, 1997. Please contact Richard Barry or Arn Berglund at (702) 623-1500 should you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Assistant District Manager
Division of Renewable Resources



COMMISSION FOR THE
PRESERVATION OF WILD HORSES

1105 Terminal Way

Suite 209

Reno, Nevada 89502

(702) 688-2626

April 28, 1997

Mr. Pete Christensen
Paradise-Denio Resource Area
Bureau of Land Management
5100 East Winnemucca Blvd.
Winnemucca, Nevada 89406

Subject: Deer Creek Allotment - Jackson HMA

Dear Mr. Christensen:

Thank you for consulting the Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses concerning a grazing authorization affecting the Deer Creek Allotment and the Jackson Mountains Wild Horse Herd.

Allotment evaluations and multiple use decisions throughout the Jackson Wild Horse Herd Management Area adjusted wild horse numbers to protect riparian habitats. Livestock adjustments were primarily changes in the seasons of use.

We appreciate the additional terms and conditions to protect resources that wild horses have been removed.

This action will require additional monitoring by the District to assure compliance. We hope that the District will not compromise valuable monitoring efforts for practices that have not been successful in the past.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine Barcomb".

CATHERINE BARCOMB
Executive Director