

Little Ouyhee

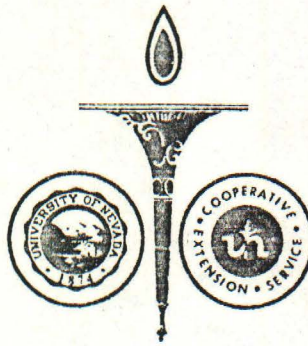
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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

MAX C. FLEISCHMANN COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA RENO

HUMBOLDT COUNTY



REPLY TO:

HUMBOLDT COUNTY  
EXTENSION SERVICE  
815 HARMONY ROAD  
WINNEMUCCA, NEVADA 89445  
PHONE: 623-5081, Ext. 295

January 5, 1982

Memo

To: C.R.M.P. Members & interested persons

From: Kenneth Sakurada  
Kenneth Sakurada

Subject: Meeting

Enclosed is a copy of the minutes of the November 12, 1981 meeting. We had a long day with topics sometimes repeated. Please review these for correction as I probably made some mistakes.

The next C.R.M.P. Local #1 meeting will be held, 9:30 A.M. Friday, January 15, 1982 at the Humboldt County Library Meeting Room in Winnemucca, Nevada.

Agenda items will include:

1. Wildhorse sub-committee report
2. Handbook revision suggestions
3. Allotment Plan review and reports

KS/bm

LITTLE OWYHEE CRMP: PLANNING OBJECTIVES

1. Establish proper long range stocking rates for livestock, wild horses, and wildlife.
2. Establish proper initial stocking rates, seasons of use and pasture schedule for livestock.
3. Establish a wild horse management plan.
  - a. perpetuate a viable herd which is manageable and compatible with livestock operations, wildlife, and resources available.
  - b. preserve unique types and primitive mustang markings.
  - c. reduce internal barriers to herd migration within wild horse herd area.
4. Maintain current trailing rights associated with the allotment.
5. Improve condition of riparian habitats.
6. Preserve wilderness characteristics of Wilderness Study Areas within allotment until final wilderness designations are made.
7. Develop range improvement programs to;
  - a. repair and up-grade current improvements,
  - b. increase range capacities to achieve objective #1,
  - c. control pests and noxious weeds,
  - d. control watershed problems,
  - c. enhance and protect wildlife areas.
8. Continue public access to allotment areas.
9. Establish reasonable numbers for wildlife demand.
10. Design grazing system to protect and enhance shrub, forb, winterfat, and meadow areas critical to wildlife populations.
11. Protect sagegrouse strutting grounds.
12. Develop potential waterfowl habitats.
13. Provide for mining activities compatible with other objectives of this plan.
14. Coordination of planning process with Elko district BLM.
15. Align and develop base properties to complement this plan.
16. Establish an on-going monitoring system for all objectives.

NAME OF PLAN: LITTLE OWYHEE ALLOTMENT

LIST OF MAJOR PROBLEMS/ISSUES

1. Trailing rights on the Little Owyhee on Stewarts, Nouque and Pedroli and the Indians through this area. On the Star Valley Road and the Quinn River road the cattle are not fed off of the range.
2. Proper long range stocking rate.
3. Present condition of the riparian habitats.
4. Other wildlife problems to be delineated by NDOW.
5. Accelerated erosion.\*
6. Other watershed problems (a list to be delineated by Ted Angle to be reviewed by committee).
7. Constraints placed upon livestock user and the riparian areas by the wilderness study area.
8. Lack of management and population control of wild horses.
9. Extent of pests and noxious weeds.
10. Alignment and development of base properties.
11. Possible mining activities.
12. Lack of range improvements.
13. Coordinating this with Elko District.
14. Public Access.
15. Development of native meadows.

This list was developed by CRMP Local #1.

\* Found not to be a problem or issue during May allotment tour.

OBJECTIVE #1

$$\begin{array}{r} 374 \\ 12 \overline{) 44882} \\ \underline{36} \\ 88 \\ \underline{84} \\ 48 \\ \underline{48} \\ 2 \end{array}$$

Establish proper long range stocking rates for livestock, wild horses, and wildlife. A tenth year goal of 44,882 AUM active preference for livestock is set based on stocking rates established in previous AMP's and historic use before wild horse population increases and resulting range deterioration.

It is agreed ten years of proper wild horse and livestock management as well as range improvements planned may be required to return range condition to its previous capacities.

A proportionate increase in AUM'S allocated for wild horses is planned with 3840 AUM's so allocated as the tenth year goal. Wild horse base herd will be allowed balanced increases to utilize increased capacities allocated.

$$\begin{array}{r} 320 \\ 12 \overline{) 3840} \\ \underline{36} \\ 24 \end{array}$$

Wildlife AUM's allocated will also receive proportionate increase if wildlife demand warrants further allocations.

It is anticipated that increased forage availability will surpass the tenth year goals. If so determined wildlife, wild horses, and livestock will be distributed excess AUM's in the same proportions as in initial stocking rates established by this plan.

Should any decreases in stocking rates prove necessary proportionate decreases in AUM's will be assessed livestock and wild horses. Wildlife decreases in AUM's will be assessed only if demand is reduced.

ACTIONS:

1. Initial stocking rates, seasons of use, and pasture sequences as per objective #2.
2. Wild horse management as per objective #3.
3. Range improvements as per objective #7.
4. Reasonable numbers of wildlife as per objective #9.
5. Monitoring as per objective #16.
6. Adjustments in stocking rates as monitoring indicates availability.

Who: BLM & NFC

When: Preliminary decision reached at end of each grazing season, final decision 30 days prior to next grazing season, adjustments during grazing season if indicated.

7. Review of stocking rate decisions by CRMP #1 if BLM and users in conflict.

OBJECTIVE #2

Establish proper initial stocking rate, season of use, and pasture sequence of livestock use.

An initial stocking rate based on BLM, NFC and consultants estimates of available forage after wildlife allocations was agreed at 31,378 AUM's with 27,800 AUM's allocated for livestock use, the remainder available for wild horses as in objective #3.

The following is initial grazing sequence and schedule:

Years 1, 4, 7.

Field	Dates	# Head	AUM's
Twin Valley	4/1-6/1	1900	3800
Lake Creek	4/1-6/30	4000	12000
Fairbank	Rest	0	0
Calico	8/15-9/30	2000	3000
Capital Peak	8/15-9/30	500	750
Rock Springs	7/1-8/15	4000	6000
	8/15-9/30	1500	2250
Antelope	Rest	0	0
Total AUM's livestock use			<u>27800</u>

Years 2, 5, 8.

Twin Valley	4/1-6/30	4000	12000
Lake Creek	Rest	0	0
Fairbank	4/1-6/1	1900	3800
Calico	7/1-8/15	4000	6000
	8/15-9/30	1500	2250
Capital Peak	8/15-9/30	500	750
Rock Springs	Rest	0	0
Antelope	8/15-9/30	2000	3000
Total AUM's livestock use			<u>27800</u>

Years 3, 6, 9.

Twin Valley	Rest	0	0
Lake Creek	3/15-6/1*	1900	4750 *
Fairbank	4/1-6/1	4000	12000
Calico	Rest	0	0
Capital Peak	8/15-9/30	500	750
Rock Springs	8/15-9/30	2000	3000
Antelope	7/1-8/15	4000	6000
	8/15-9/30	1500	2250
Total AUM's livestock use			<u>28750</u>

OBJECTIVE #2

\* During years when "light use" (1900) is taken in Lake Creek field. A turn-out date March 15 will be allowed if range conditions warrant.

Note: Lake Creek field has winter range potentials not currently practical with current livestock management practices.

Action: Initiate above schedule beginning 1982 grazing season.

Who: BLM & NFC

When: 1982

OBJECTIVE #3

Establish a wild horse management plan.

- a. perpetuate a viable herd which is manageable and compatible with livestock operations, wildlife, and resources available.
- b. preserve unique types and primitive mustang markings.
- c. reduce internal barriers to herd migration within wild horse herd area.

A base herd of 200 wild horses was agreed as compatible with livestock operations as planned, wildlife demand, and resources available in the Little Owyhee spring range area. An additional 50 wild horse shall be included as part of the Owyhee herd and Bullhead allotment spring range shall be included as part of wild horse management area.

ACTIONS:

1. Gathering of wild horses in Little Owyhee and Bullhead allotment. Who: BLM When: 1981, 1982 & 1983 before spring turn-out.

2. ~~From those gathered,~~ <sup>S</sup> Select a base herd of 250 head to ~~be returned to~~ Little Owyhee and Bullhead spring range consisting of:

- a. equal numbers of male and females,
- b. approximate proportions of 45% age 2-4 year olds, 40% age 5-8 year olds, and 15% age 9+ years.
- c. all primitive marking mustang types gathered will be returned as part of base herd.

Who: BLM When: 1982, 1983

3. ~~Select and return with base herd a considerable portion of the foals gathered~~ to assure replacements surviving two winters prior to time they become part of the base herd. Efforts will be made to allow foals to "mother-up" with mares selected for the base herd.

Who: BLM When: 1982, 1983

4. ~~Select and return with base herd a portion of yearlings gathered which are needed~~ <sup>with the</sup> to develop into two year olds for base herd replacements for death loss from old age and other causes.

Who: BLM When: 1982, 1983

5. Establish a herd monitoring system including:

- a. Observation of gathering and selection process.
- b. Inventory of initial herd by age, sex, type & condition.
- c. Herd photographic inventory.
- d. Seasonal inventory by location (ocular & photographic every spring and fall)
- e. Yearly review of herd proportions, condition, health, locations, migrations and trends.

Who: BLM & CRMP #1 Wild Horse Committee

When: Beginning 1982

6. Adjust herd inventory if monitoring indicates any age or sex group is disproportionately large or small. Gather excess groups, return deficient group with large proportion of potential replacements.

Who: Wild Horse Committee decides and recommends adjustments to be made by BLM.

When: Every two years.

7. In the event the natural base herd is reduced below 100 head by disease, accident or other causes, reintroduction of a base herd up to 250 head should be made from wild horse gathering within Nevada.

Who: BLM

When: Within two years of the time base herd is found to be reduced below 100 head.

8. Internal division fences in herd area shall have gates at one mile minimum intervals and new gates (minimum 20 ft. wide) at all locations receiving heavy pressures from past wild horse populations.

Who: BLM

When: 1982

9. All gates on division fences between Lake Creek, Twin Valley, Fairbanks pastures and Bullhead Allotment, shall be opened and tied back from July 1 to March 15 to facilitate "free-roaming" migration of the base herd within spring range area and Bullhead allotment. A deterioration of range condition caused by excessive use in any one field may be controlled by gate closure if deemed necessary by CRMP Wild Horse Committee.

Who: BLM & NFC

When: 1983

*10. gate qualified*

*to Wild Horse Committee*  
*The maintenance plan*



OBJECTIVE #4

Maintain current trailing right and/or privileges associated with and through Little Owyhee allotment.

ACTION:

Current trailing right and/or privileges will be honored and regulated by raling permits issued by BLM when through BLM allotments. BLM will ascertain and consider the following when issuing permits.

- a. Brucellosis and Scabies status of the allotments permittees' and trailing livestock herds.
- b. Notification of allotment permittee as to when and where trailing is to occur.
- c. Persons trailing livestock must provide satisfactory protection from commingling or exposing allotment permittees' livestock with trailed livestock when either herd is a known suspect, contact or quarantined herd for any communicable or infectious disease.
- d. Restrict drifting and straying of trailed livestock within allotment.
- e. Restrict overnight "stay-overs" of trailed herds to designated areas or traps.

Who: BLM  
When: 1982

OBJECTIVE #5

Improve conditions of riparian habitats.

North Fork Gorge Area:

ACTION:

Fence three (four if possible) narrow water-gap areas across canyon to allow livestock watering but restricting use up and down gorge floor area. Develop 4 reservoirs east of gorge and 1 reservoir west of gorge in Fairbank pasture.

Who: BLM When: 1982

*Mudler*  
ACTION:

Fence private lands below spring and develop new reservoir to create riparian and meadow zone to reduce overuse by livestock.

Who: NFC When: 1982

Piccolo Reservoir

ACTION:

Fence 1/2 reservoir and adjacent riparian zone above.

Who: BLM When: 1982

Calico Spring & Reservoir Area

ACTION:

Repair and up-grade existing fence and reservoir. Control grazing use to prevent over-use and deterioration.

Who: NFC When: 1982

North Fork Little Humboldt Greeley Crossing to Forks Ranch

ACTION: Close access to stream except at three narrow watergaps and develop pipe line off Mahogany ridge and improve existing reservoirs.

Who: BLM When: 1982-1983

ACTION:

Develop and monitor watershed study areas in summer range area.

Who: BLM When: 1982-1983

*Little Canyon Gorge → private lands not under our control  
- fence under our control if road + protected  
was only for camp horses  
& goats*  
*W. J. Munk*

OBJECTIVE #6--

CRMP - Little Owyhee Allotment

Wilderness Program

I. Unit #NV-020-827 Proposed Wilderness Study Area - North Fork of the Little Humboldt River

A. Unit lies entirely within the Little Owyhee Allotment boundary.

B. Wilderness program dictates that all lands under wilderness review will be managed by the guidelines established in the "Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review" (IMP's).

1. The IMP's are in effect until such time as Congress acts on each designated unit or they are released from inventory status by Federal Register Notice. Tentative deadline for Congressional action is 1983, and no later than 1991.

OBJECTIVE #7

Develop range improvement program to:

- a. Repair and up-grade current improvements.
- b. Increase range capacities to reach goals of objective #1.
- c. Control pests and noxious weeds.
- d. Control watershed problems.
- e. Enhance wildlife areas.

ACTIONS:

1. Repair and improve reservoirs currently in place but in poor functional condition.  
Who: BLM    When: 1981 & 1982
2. Repair and improve spring range wells.  
Who: NFC    When: 1981 & 1982
3. Develop new reservoirs in Twin Valley, Lake Creek and Fairbanks fields.  
Who: BLM & NFC by cooperative agreements. When: 1981 & 1982
4. Locate new springs to be developed in Fairbanks, Summer ranges and upper Lake Creek areas. Develop if feasible.  
Who: BLM & NFC    When: 1981 & 1982
5. Repair and replace troughs and pipelines on Antelope and Maiden Springs pipelines.  
Who: BLM    When: 1981 & 1982
6. Locate and determine feasibility of seeding and vegetation treatment areas. Implement if feasible.  
Who: BLM & NFC    When: Feasibility and location 1981 & 1982  
Implementation 1983, 1984, 1985
7. Monitor and assess extent of pest and noxious weeds. Implement control measures in cooperation with Nevada Dept. of Agriculture.  
Who: BLM, NFC, NDA    When: As problems are identified and controls prove feasible.

OBJECTIVE #8

Continue public access through allotment areas.

ACTION:

Public access through NFC private land on current roads will remain but may be revoked if liabilities or property damages occur. Closures of private roads will be reviewed by CRMP #1.

OBJECTIVE #9

Establish reasonable AUM demand for wildlife.

ACTION:

The following has been recommended by Nevada Department of Wildlife and BLM.

	<i>Cattle</i> Summer Range	<i>Cattle</i> Spring Range
	AUMs	AUMs
Mule Deer (Elko)		63
Mule Deer (Winnemucca)	175	125
Antelope (Winnemucca)	187	605
Antelope (Elko)		441
Bighorn Sheep*	72*	

*Elko*

\* AUM's allocated to bighorn sheep will be used by livestock until bighorns are reintroduced.

Wildlife allocations are drawn prior to allocations for livestock and wild horses in Objective #2.

OBJECTIVE #10

Design grazing system to protect and enhance shrub, forb, winterfat, and meadow areas critical to wildlife populations.

ACTION:

The 3 pasture rest - rotation of spring and summer ranges in Objective #2 and improvements in Objective #5 will achieve this objective. Any vegetation treatments in Objective #7 will be done in ways compatible with this objective.

ACTION:

Fence 1 acre study exclusive at Button Lake to monitor forb conditions on dry lake bed.

Who: BLM When: 1982-1983

OBJECTIVE #11

Protect sage grouse strutting grounds:

ACTION:

Vegetative manipulation projects will follow guidelines as set forth by Western States Sage Grouse Committee and Management Framework Plan unless modified by mutual agreement between NFC, BLM and State Dept. of Wildlife.

OBJECTIVE #12

Develop potential waterfowl habitats.

*W. Allards 1.D.  
on objective*

ACTION: As in Objective #5.

ACTION:

Develop fenced waterfowl habitat on a portion of any new reservoirs developed on live water streams or springs.

Who: BLM      When: As developed

OBJECTIVE #13

Provide for mining activities compatible with other objectives of this plan.

ACTION:

Mining activities on NFC lands within allotment will be required to be compatible with all other objectives of this plan. BLM restrictions as per regulations.

OBJECTIVE #14

Coordinate planning process between Winnemucca and Elko BLM districts.

ACTION: Participation of Elko BLM in CRMP #1 activities.

OBJECTIVE #15

Align and develop base properties to complement this plan.

ACTION:

1. New base property agreement.

Who: NFC      When: 1981

2. Develop meadow and base property improvement plan with cooperation of Soil Conservation Service & District.

Who: NFC & SCS      When: 1982 & 1983

OBJECTIVE #16

Establish monitoring systems for all objectives.

ACTIONS:

1. Determine key areas for range, riparian, and wildlife area studies.  
Who: BLM & NFC / *State Wildlife, UNR* When: 1981, 1982
2. Establish utilization plots in each key area.  
Who: BLM When: 1982
3. Establish photo and measured trend plots in each key area.  
Who: BLM When: 1982
4. Establish monitoring schedules for:
  - a. range condition and trend
  - b. riparian condition and trend
  - c. wildlife habitat condition and trend
  - d. watershed and stream condition and trend
  - e. wildlife populations and trends
  - f. wild horse base herd and trendWho: BLM, CRMP, NFC When: 1981-1982
5. Implement scheduled monitoring.  
Who: BLM When: 1982 through 1992
6. Review of monitoring results. + *adjust accordingly*  
Who: CRMP #1 When: Yearly

Name of Plan: LITTLE OWYHEE - NFC

PLANNING PARTICIPANTS:

NAME

REPRESENTING



PLAN: LITTLE OWYHEE ALLOTMENTLIST OF MAJOR PROBLEMS/ISSUES

- ✓ 1. Trailing rights on the Little Owyhee on Stewarts, Nouque and Pedroll and the Indians through this area. On the Star Valley Road and the Quinn River road the cattle are not fed off of the range.
- ✓ 2. Proper long range stocking rate.
- ✓ 3. Present condition of the riparian habitats.
- ✓ 4. Other wildlife problems to be delineated by NDOW.
- ✓ 5. Excelerated erosion. \*
- ✓ 6. Other watershed problems (a list to be delineated by Ted Angle to be reviewed by committee).
- ✓ 7. Constraints placed upon livestock user and the riparian areas by the wilderness study area.
- ✓ 8. Lack of management and population control of wild horses.
- ✓ 9. Extent of pests and noxious weeds.
10. Alignment and development of base properties.
11. Possible mining activities.
12. Lack of range improvements.
13. Coordinating this with Elko District.
14. Public Access.
15. Development of native meadows.

This list was developed by CRMP Local #1 .

\*

\* Found not to be a problem or issue during May allotment tour.

(USE CONTINUATION SHEETS AS NEEDED)