



SIERRA CLUB

Toiyabe Chapter — Nevada and Eastern California
P.O. Box 8096, Reno, Nevada 89507

February 3, 1993

Bud Cribley, Manager
BLM/Sonoma-Gerlach Resource Area
705 E. 4th St.
Winnemucca, NV 89445

VIA FAX

623-1503

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DISTRICT OFFICE
WINNEMUCCA NEVADA

Dear Manager Cribley,

The Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club and the Natural Resources Defense Council formally protests the livestock and wildlife management decisions of the proposed full force and effect multiple use decision for the Buffalo Hills Allotment, issued by the Bureau of Land Management on January 14, 1993 and received by the Sierra Club on January 19, 1993.

The Sierra Club and NRDC have a long history of involvement in the public land use planning process in Nevada in general and in the Sonoma-Gerlach Resource Area in particular. We have commented extensively on the land use plan and on subsequent planning documents, including the draft allotment evaluation. We have participated on range trips and the CRMP for Buffalo Hills in the 1980's.

We protest the proposed livestock and wildlife management decisions because they will continue to permit livestock use to exceed carrying capacity, to damage riparian areas and fish and wildlife habitat in violation of federal laws, BLM regulations and policies, especially on riparian area protection, and land use plan and allotment specific requirements.

We incorporate herein by reference our written comments on the draft allotment evaluation, dated November 26, 1992 as well as our comments during a meeting on the Buffalo Hills draft allotment evaluation in Reno on Nov. 23, 1992 which detail the points of this protest. We also incorporate herein by reference the written protest by the Nevada Dept. of Wildlife on the proposed decision, dated January 22, 1993. Our verbal and written comments were apparently totally disregarded by the BLM in developing this proposed decision.

Please advise us of your decision on our protest as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Rose Strickland, Chair
Public Lands Committee