

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Elko Field Office 3900 East Idaho Street Elko, Nevada 89801 http://www.nv.blm.gov



In Reply Refer To:

4130 (NV-012)

MAR 0 3 2008

Dear Sir or Madam:

In 2003, the BLM issued an Instruction Memorandum (No. 2003-071) which requires "by the end of fiscal year 2009, all [carryover] grazing permits shall be fully processed using the information from the land health standards evaluations as needed to complete environmental impact analysis." At this time, we are soliciting input related to fully processing the grazing permit renewals for the Browne and Lindsay Creek Allotments. Grazing in both allotments is permitted to the same livestock operator and they are part of the same grazing operation. Enclosed is a vicinity map (Map1) as well as a location map for both allotments (Maps 2 & 3).

In 1997, an allotment evaluation (Diamond Mountain Complex) was jointly issued by Ely, Elko, and Battle Mountain BLM offices. The evaluation included the Browne Allotment and culminated in some agreements which included gathering additional monitoring information from which to establish grazing capacities. Some additional data has been collected since that time and our next step will be to include that information in an update to the Browne Allotment evaluation. This update will also include proposed determinations regarding progress towards the standards for rangeland health.

In 2002, an allotment evaluation (assessment of progress towards the standards for rangeland health) was drafted for the Lindsay Creek Allotment which also included proposed determinations regarding progress towards the standards for rangeland health, and some proposed recommendations for changes in management. Due to other workload commitments, that evaluation was not finalized. Our next step will be to update and finalize that evaluation.

After the evaluation updates have been prepared, we intend to distribute those to you for review and comment.

At this time, we are requesting your input on specific resource management issues in either of the allotments, and a request that you provide us any monitoring data or other field observations in these allotments that could be useful in updating the evaluations.

Fully processing the renewal of grazing permits can be a lengthy process and will require several levels of consultation with the permittees and interested public, as well as other governmental agencies. We would like your participation throughout this process and will keep you informed of any proposed field tours and meetings.



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While the field office is managing its workload to ensure permits are processed in a timely manner, occasionally more time is needed. The BLM has discovered that this process typically takes in excess of one year or more to process the permit renewals. Under the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 588 ©), permittees will be allowed to continue to graze under the terms and conditions of their existing permits.

Please submit information for these allotments by April 15, 2008. If you have any questions, please contact me or Justin Rodgers, the assigned Rangeland Management Specialist for the Browne and Lindsay Creek Allotments, at (775) 753-0372.

Sincerely,

Bryan K. Fuell

Assistant Field Manager Renewable Resources

Enclosures: as stated above

Sent to:

Rother Farms, Inc.

SRK Consulting, Inc.

Resource Concepts, Inc.

U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Nevada Cattlemen's Association

Elko County Board of County Commissioners

Nevada Department of Wildlife

Bureau of Land Management, Ely District Office

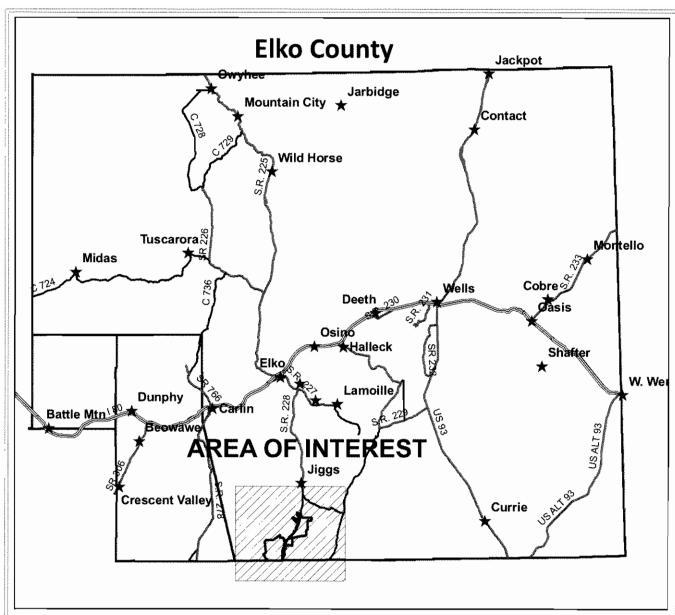
Western Watersheds Project

Nevada State Clearinghouse

Nevada Department of Agriculture

Mandy McNitt

Bobbi Royle





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Map 1 Allotment Vicinity Map

Data published in: North American Datum 1983 (NAD83) UTM coordinates, Zone 11, meters

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Legend

★ Cities

Allotment Boundary

Major Roads

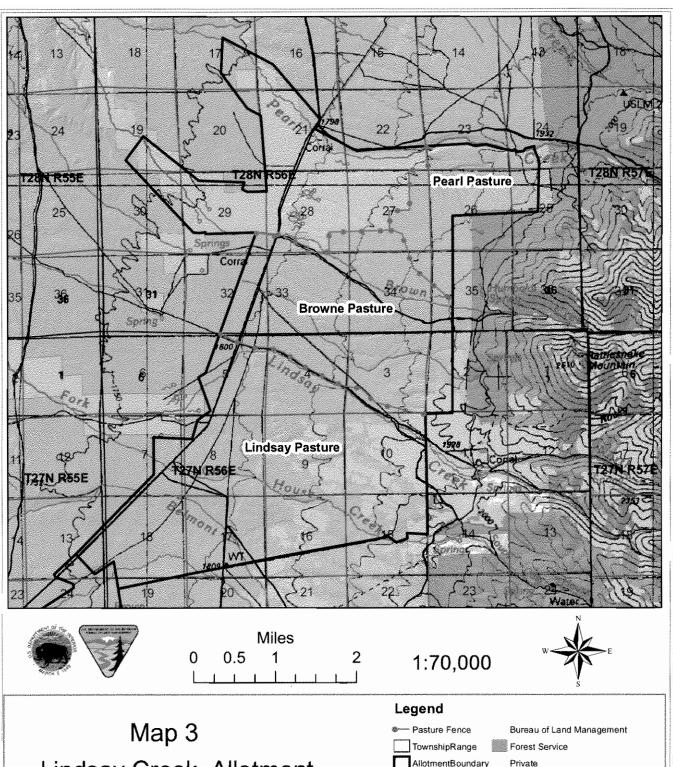
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---- hard-improved

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primary

secondary

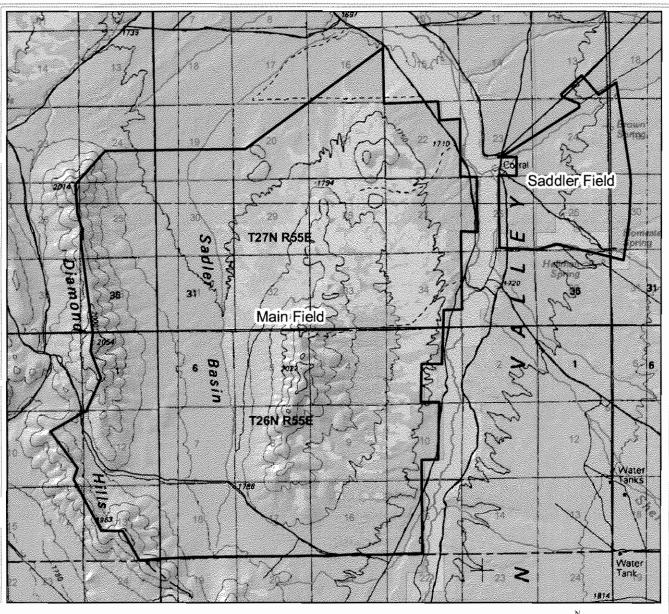


Lindsay Creek Allotment

Data published in: North American Datum 1983 (NAD83) UTM coordinates, Zone 11, meters

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TownshipRange	Forest Service
AllotmentBoundary	Private
Primary	
Secondary	
Tertiary	
Hard-Improved	
Dirt	
4WD	
Section	





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Map 2 Browne Allotment

Data published in: North American Datum 1983 (NAD83) UTM coordinates, Zone 11, meters

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TownshipRange

AllotmentBoundary

Primary

Secondary

Tertiary

---- Hard-Improved

--- Dirt

4WD

Section

Bureau of Land Management

Private