

11/18/99



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Elko Field Office
3900 East Idaho Street
Elko, Nevada 89801-4611
<http://www.nv.blm.gov>

In Reply Refer To:
4120 (NV-012)

NOV 18 1999

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
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Dear Interested Public:

In accordance with the Grazing Regulations, "... the authorized officer shall consult, cooperate and coordinate with affected permittees or lessees, the State having lands or responsible for managing resources within the area, and the interested public prior to issuance of nonrenewable grazing permits and leases" (43 CFR 4130.6-2).

On November 10, 1999, William and Elizabeth Dickinson applied to graze 205 cows on the Lower Seeding in the North Butte Valley Allotment starting December 7, 1999 and ending December 20, 1999. The utilization in the Lower Seeding this summer was light (35%). The Wells Resource Management Plan (RMP) describes the livestock grazing period of use in the North Butte Valley Allotment as May 1 to December 22. An allotment evaluation was completed in 1989, and a grazing agreement was signed on February 2, 1990. No modification was made to the period of use. The permitted use in the North Butte Valley Allotment is 1,645 AUMs.

William and Elizabeth Dickinson are applying for an additional 94 AUMs above their permitted use in the North Butte Valley Allotment. The application dated November 10, 1999, would be authorized as a temporary deviation from the grazing permit dates and as temporary non-renewable use above the permitted use of the William and Elizabeth Dickinson grazing permit.

The North Butte Valley Allotment is a medium sized cattle grazing allotment located in the northern portion of Butte Valley, approximately 50 miles south of Wells, Nevada. The Lower Seeding is located in the northern portion of the allotment (see attached map). A portion of the Maverick/Medicine Herd Management Area (HMA) occurs within this allotment. This allotment receives only incidental to light use by wild horses. Crested wheatgrass provides most of the forage in this pasture and there are no streams or springs in this pasture. The permittee uses a well in the Lower Seeding to water his livestock. Approval of the grazing application is consistent with multiple use objectives for this allotment. Utilization will be monitored prior to the scheduled off-date. If use is below the objective levels outlined, additional use may be approved. Utilization will again be monitored at the end of the grazing period.

In addition to the existing terms and conditions, the following terms and conditions will apply:

- a. Utilization of the key forage species will not exceed 65 percent. When 65 percent utilization is achieved, the cattle will be removed within 5 days.
- b. Submit an actual use report within 15 days of the end of grazing.
- c. The extension in period of use (12/07 through 12/20) is authorized as temporary nonrenewable use and will not result in a permanent change to the grazing permit.

If you have any comments regarding the approval or denial of this application, please provide them to this office within 15 days of the date of this letter.

If you have any questions, please call Bruce Thompson at (775) 753-0200.

Sincerely yours,

Clayton Marchio, Acting

CLINTON R. OKE,
Assistant Field Manager
Renewable Resources

Enclosure: As stated above

cc: William and Elizabeth Dickinson
Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses
Elko Board of County Commissioners
Nevada Cattlemen's Asso.
Nevada Division of Wildlife
HTT Resource Advisors
Resource Concepts, Inc.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Jack and Terry Bowers
Int'l Society-Protection of Mustangs and Burros

