



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 04 2008

Nevada State Clearinghouse
Department of Administration
209 E. Musser St, Room 200
Carson City, NV 89701-4298

RECEIVED

MAR 06 2008

Dear Sir or Madam:

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
BUDGET AND PLANNING DIVISION

We are soliciting input for the 10 year grazing permits for the Squaw Valley, Elevenmile Flat, and Whitehouse Allotments which will be renewed in 2009-2010. This letter is being sent to you either because your grazing allotment(s)/grazing permit will be renewed following new guidelines for grazing permit renewals or you have asked to be included as part of the interested public for these allotments. We will be compiling and analyzing all available data for these allotments in 2008. Please submit any data or information that you have which you think would be helpful for this renewal. As data is compiled and analyzed, it will be provided to you for review. (Enclosed is a vicinity map as well as allotment maps showing the location of these three allotments.)

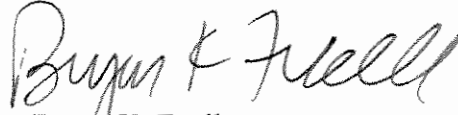
In 2003, the BLM issued an Instruction Memorandum (No. 2003-071) which requires "by the end of fiscal year 2009, all [carryover] grazing permits shall be fully processed using the information from the land health standards evaluations as needed to complete environmental impact analysis." Thus, the BLM's administrative process for permit renewal now requires that the Elko Field Office complies with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) by completing an appropriate environmental document (Categorical Exclusion, Environmental Assessment, or Environmental Impact Statement) for each permit renewal. The NEPA process requires the BLM to issue a scoping document in order to allow public comment and input on the proposed permit renewal. The purpose of this letter is to begin the cooperation, coordination, and consultation (CCC) process as required by the grazing regulations and a preliminary step to completing the scoping process required by NEPA.

This 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.

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.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Donna Jewell, the assigned Rangeland Management Specialist for the Squaw Valley, Elevenmile Flat, and Whitehouse Allotments, at (775) 753-0358.

Sincerely,



Bryan K. Fuell
Assistant Field Manager
Renewable Resources

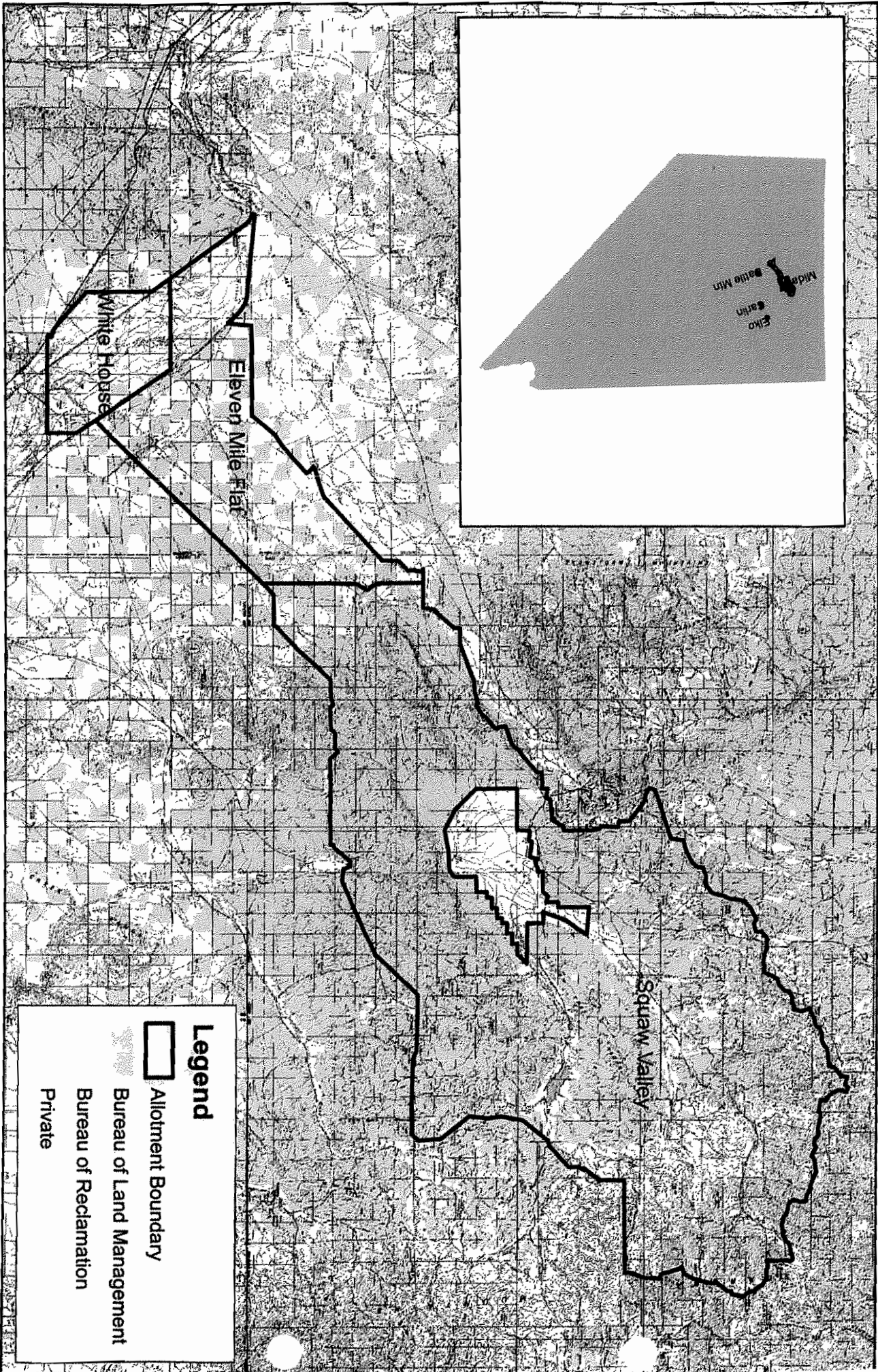
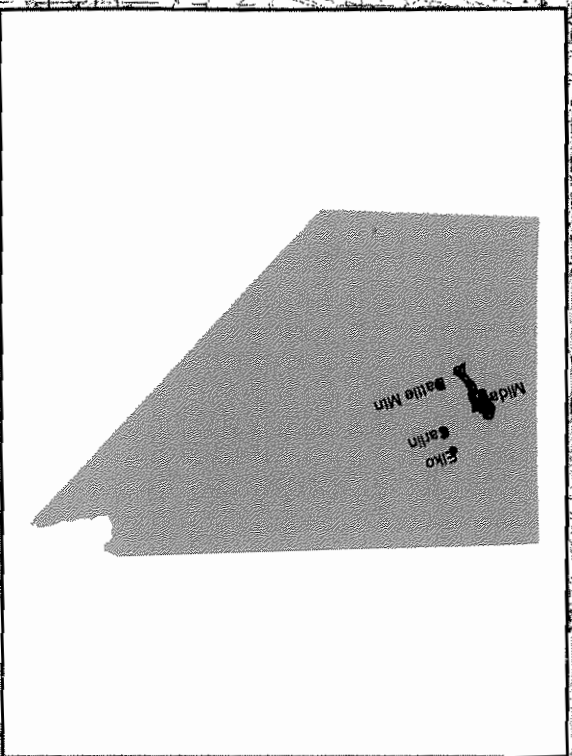
Enclosures: as stated above

Sent to:

Gregg Simonds
JD Radakovich
Gary Sundseth
Jim Butler
Bill Hall
Brenda Younkin
Western Watersheds Project
Resource Concepts, Inc., Attn.: John McLain
U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Attn.: Robert Williams
Nevada Cattlemen's Assn & Nevada Land Action Assn.
Elko County Board of County Commissioners
Nevada Department of Wildlife, Attn.: Steve Foree
U. S. Forest Service, Mountain City Ranger District
Mandy McNitt
Bobbi Royle







Squaw Valley, Elevenmile Flat, and Whitehouse Allotments Vicinity Map



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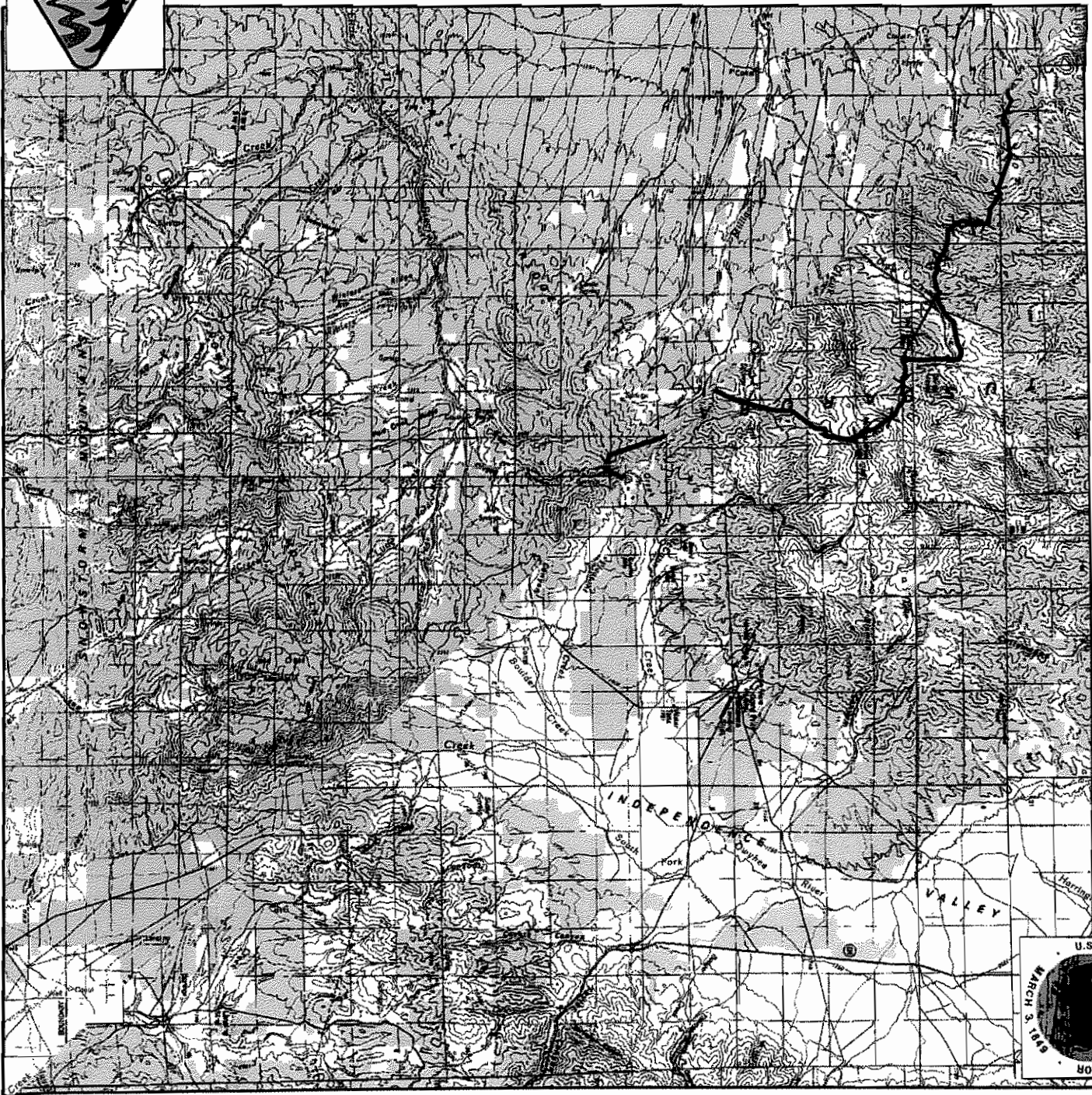


Legend

-  Allotment Boundary
-  Bureau of Land Management
-  Bureau of Reclamation
-  Private

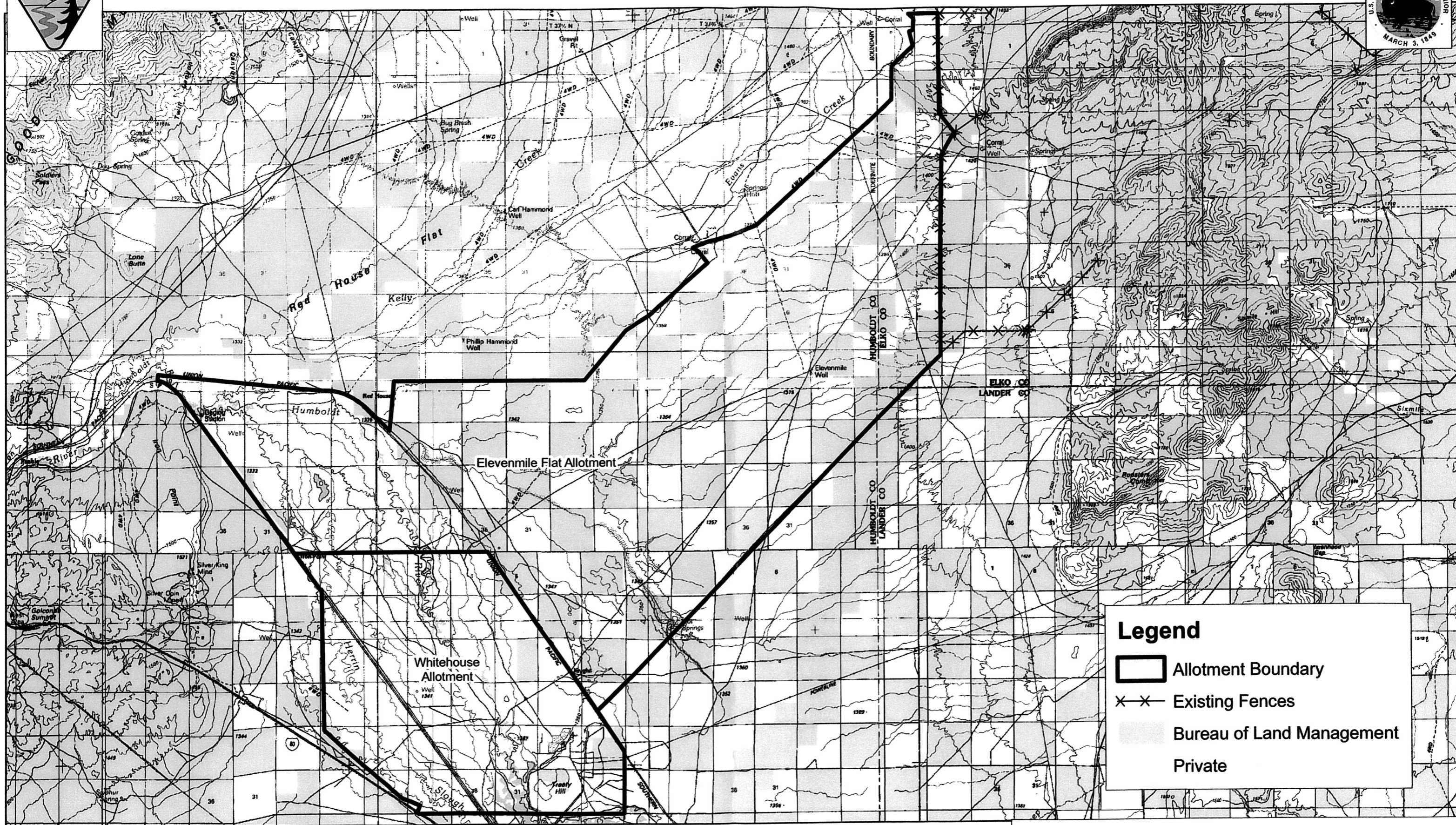
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Squaw Plotment


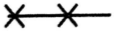




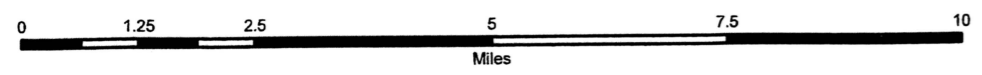


Elevenmile Flat & Whitehouse Allotments



Legend

-  Allotment Boundary
-  Existing Fences
-  Bureau of Land Management
-  Private



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February 1, 2008