M Paul 12/15/93

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ELKO DISTRICT OFFICE
3900 E. IDAHO STREET
P.O. BOX 831
ELKO, NEVADA 89801

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

IN REPLY REFER TO:

4400/4120 (NV-015)

DEC 15 1993

pg 40-54 + Echivard (53) recommendations

Bertrand Paris and Sons
HC 33 Box 33840
Ely, NV 89301-9403

Dear Mr. Paris:

The West Cherry Creek Allotment Evaluation is enclosed for your review. Please direct your comments, if any, to the following subjects:

A) Monitoring information that should be added to the evaluation, and

B) Other ideas to achieve the multiple use objectives, as alternatives to the technical recommendations already described in the enclosed evaluation.

Please provide me with your formal written comments by January 21, 1994, and make your comments as clear and concise as possible.

Sincerely yours,

BILL BAKER, Manager
Wells Resource Area

Enclosure: As stated

cc: NV Dept. of Wildlife
Farm Credit Service
Cliff Gardner
HTT Resources
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Nevada Land Action Association
Louise Lear, et. al.
Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses
NV Dept. of Agriculture
The Nature Conservancy
Jim Mulcahy
Animal Protection Institute
Natural Resources Defense Council
Sierra Club - Toiyabe Chapter
Rutgers Law School
Wells Resource Area Grazing Association
Wild Horse Organized Assistance

Allocated all forage to livestock none to h's

totaled Aum's but no h's missing 600 Aum's

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT EVALUATION

Bureau of Land Management
Elko District Office
Wells Resource Area

Prepared by:
Leticia Gallegos
Range Conservationist

WEST CHERRY CREEK
ALLOTMENT EVALUATION SUMMARY
Wells Resource Area - FY93

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Allotment Name/Number: West Cherry Creek/4350

B. Permittees: Bertrand Paris and Sons
Bertrand Paris Jr. runs the sheep operation and Pete Paris runs the cattle operation. Dave Paris also runs some cattle on the allotment.

C. Evaluation Period: 1984-1992

D. Selective Management Category and Priority: "I" (improve) category. This allotment is ranked first on the current planning efforts in the Rangeland Program Summary (RPS).

II. INITIAL STOCKING LEVEL

A. Livestock Use

1. Land Use Plan Objective (AUMs):
a. Total Preference: 2,674
b. Suspended: 0
c. Active: 2,661 plus 13 AUMs FFR

2. Season of Use/Grazing System:
The season of use is from May 1 through October 31. The grazing system is outlined in the West Cherry Creek Allotment Management Plan (AMP) which was signed on 5/19/86. The AMP is available for review at the Elko District Office upon request.

The basic livestock operation as outlined in the AMP is as follows:

Livestock #	Kind	Begin Pd.	End Pd.	%PL*	AUMs
200	C	5/1	5/14	96	88
230	C	5/15	9/30	96	1009
50	C	10/1	10/31	96	49
1800	S	5/1	5/15	96	170
1500	S	5/16	10/9	96	1392
*Percent Public Land					

Prior to the AMP, 30 head of cattle would go into Taylor Canyon from about 6/15 - 10/31. With the implementation of the AMP, the 30 head now go into one of the seedings from 5/15 - 6/30, then onto Taylor Canyon from 7/1 - 8/15. From 8/15 - 9/30 they return to one of the seedings.

The AMP proposed that 3000 acres be seeded. The purpose of the seedings was to defer cattle use on the native pastures (primarily Odgers Creek) until 8/1 of each year. Any increase in carrying capacity of the seedings will not result in an increase in active preference, but rather, increased use on the seedings and reduced use, if not complete rest, on the native range. Three pastures in Butte Valley were fenced

and seeded. However, due to an escaped prescribed burn, a small fourth pasture was created. The grazing operation described in the AMP was implemented in 1989 following the two year rest of the seeded pastures. As a result of problems with trespass livestock from the Odgers Allotment, the grazing system was not followed as outlined in the AMP.

The southern portion of the South Seeding was reseeded in 1988. The seeding was used in 1989, although not to its full capacity. This resulted in the seeded area not receiving a minimum of 2 years rest. Furthermore, because there was some new growth, it was used more than the northern part, which had plenty of old growth.

In 1990, the permittee requested that a cross-fence be constructed towards the southern part to allow the newly seeded area to receive a minimum of 2 years rest. At the same time, it will allow for increased use in the northern area to reduce some of the old growth and prevent "wolf" plants from forming. The South Seeding Cross Fence was completed in 1991.

The "splitting" of this South Seeding resulted in the creation of the North-South and South-South Seedings.

3. Kind of Livestock: Sheep and cow/calf pairs

4. Percent Federal Range: 96%

5. Other Information:
The Te-Moak Band of Western Shoshone have a grazing preference on the Odgers Allotment, which is adjacent to the West Cherry Creek Allotment. In 1984, the Te-Moak Band of Western Shoshone claimed tribal aboriginal rights on historically used lands and have refused to recognize the BLM's authority to regulate use of those public lands. Litigation of this case in court prevented the BLM from enforcing the removal of the Indian's livestock that trespass on the West Cherry Creek Allotment. Use from trespass livestock, and wild horses continued to result in the riparian areas of Odgers Creek receiving heavy use annually.

In 1984, the Paris-Odgers Fence was constructed between the West Cherry Creek Allotment and the Odgers Allotment to the north. This fence was to prevent cattle that belong on the Odgers Allotment from trespassing on the West Cherry Creek Allotment. However, cattle drifted around this fence; therefore, an extension of the Paris-Odgers Fence was proposed to stop the drift. This fence extension was completed in 1991.

During the 1989 grazing season, the permittee did not use the native range (i.e. Odgers Creek and Dry Troughs Bench areas). With the heavy use that had occurred on the riparian areas of Odgers Creek, the permittee felt it was best not to turn out his livestock. Instead, the permittee's cattle were kept in the North Seeding until the end of the scheduled grazing season (9/29/89). In 1990, the permittee again took non-use on Odgers Creek, but did have some use on Dry Troughs Bench. In 1991 and 1992, the Odgers Creek Pasture was stocked lightly.

B. Wild Horse Use

1. Appropriate Management Levels (AML)
The initial management level for wild horses, as specified in the RPS, was to provide forage to sustain 600 AUMs of wild horse use. Since the RPS was issued, the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) rendered a decision which clarified that a wild horse herd size is to be established based on the concept of maintaining a thriving ecological

balance. Therefore, the initial management level for wild horses has been reworded as follows:

> "Manage for a wild horse herd size which will maintain a thriving ecological balance consistent with other multiple uses while remaining within the wild horse herd management area."

As the Wells Resource Area began collecting data to establish thriving natural ecological balances within the Herd Areas (HAs), it became apparent that a Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment was needed to establish Herd Management Areas (HMAs), clarify boundaries and to set initial herd sizes. The Wells RMP Wild Horse Amendment became final on August 2, 1993. An initial wild horse AML for the West Cherry Creek Allotment will be determined through the allotment evaluation process. The RMP established an initial herd size for the Maverick-Medicine HMA at 389 horses; if it is determined through continued monitoring and the allotment evaluation process that the initial herd size is incorrect, it will be adjusted accordingly.

2. Herd Management Area Within the Allotment

a. Maverick-Medicine HMA

As per the Wells RMP Wild Horse Amendment, the western portion of the Cherry Creek Herd Area (56% of the total HA) was combined with the Maverick-Medicine HMA. Thus, the only HMA in the West Cherry Creek Allotment is the Maverick-Medicine HMA. See Map 1 for HMA boundary.

C. Wildlife Use

1. Mule Deer

a. Existing Numbers: 1,220 deer (1,660 AUMs)
b. Reasonable Numbers: 1,717 deer (2,294 AUMs)
c. Key/Critical Management Areas: deer summer (DS-1) and winter range (DW-1). See Map 2 for seasonal mule deer habitat boundaries. Table 1 outlines the acres of each seasonal use area within the West Cherry Creek Allotment.

Table 1. Mule Deer Seasonal Use Areas.

Seasonal Use Area	Acres	Existing		Reasonable	
		Numbers	AUMs	Numbers	AUMs
DS-1	13,491	440	880	577	1,154
DW-1	19,959	780	780	1,140	1,140

2. Sage Grouse

a. Existing Numbers: No data available for numbers
b. Reasonable Numbers: No data available for numbers.
c. Key/Critical Management Areas: Two sage grouse strutting grounds are known to exist within the West Cherry Creek Allotment. See Map 2 for strutting ground locations.

3. Blue Grouse

a. Existing Numbers: No data available for numbers.
b. Reasonable Numbers: No data available for numbers.
c. Key/Critical Management Areas: Critical yearlong blue grouse habitat exists primarily along the upper mountain ridges of the Cherry Creek Range, particularly on north facing slopes containing limber pine, white fir, and Engleman spruce. During

summer months, brood rearing activity occurs along riparian zones at lower elevations.

4. **Fisheries**
   a. Current population data not available.
   b. Key/Critical Management Areas: Taylor Creek and Odgers Creek.

5. **Threatened/Endangered Species**

The following threatened, endangered, or candidate species are known to exist within the West Cherry Creek Allotment:

   a. Relict Dace: known to occupy Odgers Creek on the West Cherry Creek Allotment. Status: Category 2 (C2) candidate for Federal listing.
   b. Bald Eagle: uncommon - winter resident; spring/fall migrant. Status: Endangered.
   c. Peregrine Falcon: uncommon - spring/fall migrant. Status: Endangered.
   d. Ferruginous Hawk: common - summer resident. Status: Candidate-C2 species.

6. **Other**

Various species of nongame mammals, birds, and reptiles.

III. ALLOTMENT PROFILE

A. Description

The West Cherry Creek Allotment is located in the southeastern part of the Elko District. The Cherry Creek Mountains border the allotment to the east and the Medicine Range borders the west. The watershed area of Taylor Creek defines the northern boundary and the Elko-White Pine County Line defines the southern boundary. Refer to maps 3 and 4.

The topography on the allotment varies from the rolling hills of the Medicine Range to the flats along Butte Valley and upward to the steeper mountains of the Cherry Creek Range.

B. Acreage

Table 2 outlines the acreage by pasture on the West Cherry Creek Allotment.

Table 2. Acreage by Pasture.

Pasture	Public	Private	Total
Far East Seeding	260	0	260
North Seeding	1,460	0	1,460
North-South Seeding	860	0	860
South-South Seeding	750	0	750
East Seeding	1,440	0	1,440
Odgers Creek	27,207	275	27,482
Dry Troughs Bench	8,874	40	8,914
Taylor Canyon Unit	17,120	560	17,680
Snow Creek Unit	5,019	0	5,019
FFR	20	0	20
Total	**63,010**	**875**	**63,885**

C. Allotment Management Objectives

1. General Land Use Plan (LUP) Objectives

a. Provide for livestock grazing consistent with other resource uses.

b. Continue management of the existing wild horse herds consistent with other resource uses.

c. Conserve and/or enhance wildlife habitat to the maximum extent possible.

d. Eliminate all of the fencing hazards in crucial big game habitat and most of the fencing hazards in non-crucial big game habitat.

e. Eliminate all of the high and medium priority terrestrial riparian habitat conflicts in coordination with other resource uses.

f. Improve high and medium priority riparian/stream habitat to at least good condition.

g. Prevent undue degradation of all riparian/stream habitat due to other uses.

2. Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) Objectives

a. Improve livestock distribution on the west bench of the Cherry Creek Mountains.

b. Improve water distribution problems for domestic sheep in the Cherry Creek Mountains near Elko-White Pine County Line.

c. Improve ecological status in the Dry Troughs Bench Unit and Taylor Canyon Unit (Main Camp Spring Area).

d. Maintain or improve ecological status in the Snow Creek Unit (including Dry Trough-Upland), Odgers Creek Unit, and Taylor Canyon (Mustang Spring Area) Unit.

e. Develop an AMP to be signed in FY86.

f. Manage for a wild horse herd size which will maintain a thriving ecological balance consistent with other multiple uses while remaining within the wild horse herd management area.

NOTE: The original AMP objective read "Ensure that wild horse populations are managed at the 1981 levels as per the Wells RMP/EIS." However, IBLA rendered a decision which clarified that a wild horse herd size is to be established based on the concept of maintaining a thriving ecological balance, thus the objective was reworded.

g. Improve or maintain all seasonal big game habitat in the West Cherry Creek Allotment to good or excellent condition to provide forage and habitat capable of supporting the following reasonable numbers by 2005:

1,717 mule deer: 2,294 AUMs

h. Facilitate big game movements by modifying existing fences to Bureau standards where necessary.

i. Improve, enhance, or develop 2 springs in the West Cherry Creek Allotment to good or excellent condition.

j. Improve crucial deer winter habitat by:
-cutting (thinning) 3,000 acres of pinyon and juniper.
-chaining or burning and seeding 250 acres of pinyon, juniper, and sagebrush.

k. Improve riparian/stream habitat to good or better condition on Taylor Creek and Odgers Creek by 2005. Satisfactory progress toward this long-term objective will be measured by a minimum improvement of 30% (from 1980 baseline data) by 1990.

3. **Cherry Creek Habitat Management Plan (HMP) Objectives**

a. Improve to or maintain in at least good condition all deer use areas in the Cherry Creek Resource Conflict Area (RCA) by 2000.

b. Increase the combined percentage of seedlings and young plants in the Cherry Creek bitterbrush population to 10% by 2000.

c. Achieve annual utilization of the Cherry Creek bitterbrush population which does not exceed 45% of twig length by 2000 (maximum of 25% for livestock).

d. Maintain or increase the foliar coverage of the Cherry Creek bitterbrush population by 2000.

e. Improve 1.5 miles of lower Taylor Creek from 36.9% to 48.0% of habitat optimum (30% improvement) within the short-term (by 1992). NOTE: The HMP objective was written for all of lower Taylor Creek. The specific objective for the West Cherry Creek Allotment

should read: "Improve the riparian/stream habitat condition of 0.9 mile of lower Taylor Creek by a minimum of 30% (from 1980 baseline data) within the short-term (by 1992)."

f. Improve 1.5 miles of lower Taylor Creek from 36.9% to at least 60% of habitat optimum (good condition) within the long-term (by 2000).
NOTE: The HMP objective was written for all of lower Taylor Creek. The specific objective for the West Cherry Creek Allotment should read: "Improve the riparian/stream habitat condition of 0.9 mile of lower Taylor Creek to good or better condition (60% or more of habitat optimum) in the long-term (by 2000)."

g. Complete one comprehensive study of the relict dace by 1992.

h. Improve 8.5 miles of Odgers Creek from 32.4% to 42.1% of habitat optimum (30 percent improvement) within the short-term (by 1992).
NOTE: The HMP objective was written for all of Odgers Creek. The specific objective for the West Cherry Creek Allotment should read: "Improve the riparian/stream habitat condition of 4.5 miles of Odgers Creek by a minimum of 30% (from 1980 baseline data) within the short-term (by 1992)."

i. Improve 8.5 miles of Odgers Creek from 32.4% to at least 60% of habitat optimum (good condition) within the long-term (by 2000).
NOTE: The HMP objective was written for all of Odgers Creek. The specific objective for the West Cherry Creek Allotment should read: "Improve the riparian/stream habitat condition of 4.5 miles of Odgers Creek to good or better condition (60% or more of habitat optimum) in the long-term (by 2000)."

j. Improve 25 springs and wet meadows, presently in poor or fair condition, to good or excellent condition by 2000.
NOTE: Two springs are to be improved within the West Cherry Creek Allotment.

4. Allotment Management Plan (AMP) Objectives

a. Maintain or improve the ecological status of all key areas to late seral within 10 years.

b. Show a significant increase in percent frequency of occurrence of key species, as defined by Duncan's Multiple Range Test, within 10 years.

c. Manage for a wild horse herd size which will maintain a thriving ecological balance consistent with other multiple uses while remaining within the wild horse herd management area.

NOTE: The original AMP objective read "Ensure that wild horse populations are managed at the 1981 levels as per the Wells RMP/EIS." However, IBLA rendered a decision which clarified that a wild horse herd size is to be established based on the concept of maintaining a thriving ecological balance, thus the objective was reworded.

d. Maintain good or excellent habitat condition ratings in deer summer ranges in the Cherry Creek Mountains.

e. Improve the habitat condition rating for the deer winter range from the current rating of fair to good within 10 years.

f. Maintain the current good riparian habitat condition ratings along Taylor Creek and improve the aquatic habitat condition rating from poor to fair within 10 years and to good condition within 20 years.

g. Improve current poor aquatic and riparian habitat condition ratings on Odgers Creek to fair condition within 10 years and good condition within 20 years.

5. **Key Area Objectives**

KA-01 - Dry Trough-Upland (Snow Creek Unit):
a. Maintain or improve current late seral stage within 10 years.
b. Manage grazing for maximum utilization of 50% on AGSP, ORHY, and POSC. Also, manage for a maximum allowable use of 25% on PUTR2 by livestock.

KA-02 - Dry Trough-Loamy (Dry Troughs Bench Unit):
a. Improve from current mid to late seral stage within 10 years. This would require a slight increase in AGSP and other perennial grasses (ORHY, POSE, and POSC).
b. Manage grazing for maximum utilization of 50% on AGSP, ORHY, and POSC.

KA-03 - Odgers Creek (Odgers Creek Unit):
a. Maintain or improve current late seral stage within 10 years.
b. Manage grazing for maximum utilization of 50% on SPAI, SPGR, and POA++.

KA-04 - Snow Creek (Snow Creek Unit):
a. Maintain or improve current late seral stage within 10 years.
b. Manage grazing for maximum utilization of 50% on STLE4, STCO3, AGOSE, and ERIOG.

KA-05 - Mustang Spring (Taylor Canyon Unit):
a. Maintain or improve current late seral stage within 10 years.
b. Manage grazing for maximum utilization of 50% on AGSP, POSC, and STLE4.

KA-06 - Main Camp Spring (Taylor Canyon Unit):
a. Improve from current mid to late seral in 10 years. This would require a significant increase in HEKI, STCO3, and AGSP.
b. Manage grazing for maximum utilization of 50% on AGSP, STCO3, HEKI, and AGOSE.

KA-07 - East Seeding
a. Maintain crested wheatgrass production at 3.0 acres/aum.
b. Manage grazing for maximum utilization of 55% on AGCR.

KA-08 - East Seeding
a. Same as KA-07.
b. Same as KA-07.

KA-09 - Far East Seeding
a. Same as KA-07.
b. Same as KA-07.

KA-10 - North Seeding
a. Same as KA-07.
b. Same as KA-07.

KA-11 - North Seeding
a. Same as KA-07.
b. Same as KA-07.

KA-12 - North-South Seeding
a. Same as KA-07.
b. Same as KA-07.

KA-13 - South-South Seeding
a. Same as KA-07.
b. Same as KA-07.

D. Key Species Identification

Table 3 outlines key areas and key species.

Table 3. Key Areas and Key Species.

Key Area	Key Species
KA-01	AGSP, ORHY, POSC, PUTR2
KA-02	AGSP, ORHY, POSC
KA-03	SPAI, SPGR, POA++
KA-04	STLE4, STCO3, AGOSE, ERIOG
KA-05	AGSP, POSC, STLE4
KA-06	AGSP, STCO3, AGOSE, HEKI
KA-07 thru KA-13	AGCR

Table 4 defines scientific and common names for key species codes.

Table 4. Key Species Codes Defined.

SPP. Code	Scientific Name	Common Name
AGCR	Agropyron cristatum	Crested wheatgrass
AGOSE	Agoseris spp.	False dandelion
AGSP	Agropyron spicatum	Bluebunch wheatgrass
ERIOG	Eriogonum spp.	Eriogonum
HEKI	Hesperochloa kingii	Spike Fescue
ORHY	Oryzopsis hymenoides	Indian ricegrass
POA++	Poa spp.	Bluegrass
POSC	Poa scabrella	Pine bluegrass
PUTR2	Purshia tridentata	Antelope bitterbrush
SPAI	Sporobolus airoides	Alkali sacaton
SPGR	Spartina gracilis	Alkali cordgrass
STCO3	Stipa columbiana	Columbia needlegrass
STLE4	Stipa lettermanii	Letterman's needlegrass

E. Riparian/Stream Habitat

1. High and Medium Priority Streams

The Wells RPS gave medium priority for management to two streams in the West Cherry Creek Allotment. Based on the riparian/stream habitat potential and the amount of public land involved, Taylor Creek and Odgers Creek were designated as "super streams".

The specific objectives for these streams are listed above. Riparian/stream habitat condition pertains to fisheries habitat potential. Condition is expressed as a percentage of optimum, optimum being 100%. Optimal habitat is characterized by clear, cold water; a silt free rocky substrate in riffle-run areas; an approximate 1:1 pool-riffle ratio with areas of slow, deep water; well vegetated stream banks; abundant instream cover; and relatively stable water flow, temperature regimes, and stream banks.

Rating Classification

70.0% and above = Excellent
60.0% - 69.9% = Good
50.0% - 59.9% = Fair
49.9% and below = Poor

2. Low Priority Streams

Class 1
There are 0.2 miles of public land on upper Taylor Creek that are not covered by the objectives of the Cherry Creek HMP. Because of the

limited amount of public land on upper Taylor Creek, that portion of stream was given low priority for management.

The general objective of preventing undue degradation of all riparian/stream habitat due to other uses will be measured by improvement of riparian/stream habitat to good or excellent condition (60% or more of habitat optimum) in the long-term (by 2005).

There are no Class 2 or 3 low priority streams on the West Cherry Creek Allotment.

IV. MANAGEMENT EVALUATION

A. Purpose

The purpose of this evaluation is to:

1. Summarize current management in the allotment,
2. Determine whether or not adequate progress is being made toward achieving the multiple use objectives, and
3. Provide recommendations for future management of the allotment.

B. Summary of Studies Data

Actual use, utilization, use pattern maps (UPMs), weight-estimate production, ecological status, and frequency data will be summarized and analyzed by key area. Actual use, utilization, and UPMs are short-term indicators of what might be happening to long-term range condition objectives. Long-term monitoring is measured through production, frequency, and ecological status. Significant or insignificant changes in frequency data is based on the results of the XMONITOR program. Utilization data on native grasses and forbs is combined use by livestock, wild horses, and wildlife. Utilization on PUTR2 at KA-01 is read prior to deer arriving at the area and after deer leave the area. Beginning in 1990, utilization on Odgers Creek was collected prior to livestock turnout to get an estimate on horse use in the area.

Individual key area summaries can be found in the Data Summaries section attached to this evaluation. The key area summaries section includes the following information: Key area studies summary matrix, summary of actual use and utilization (table), and summary of ecological status (table). The Data Summaries is divided into appendices as follows:

Appendix 1 Key Area Summaries
Appendix 2 Actual Use Summary
Appendix 3 Recommended Grazing System

Three of the key areas in the native range (KA-02, -03, -05) were established in September 1984. The other three key areas (KA-01, -04, -06) were originally established as wildlife studies in August 1979 (KA-01) and July 1981 (KA-04 and -06). The latter three key areas were also representative of livestock use and in September 1984, they were formally established as range/wildlife studies. Refer to Map 5 for location of key areas.

The East (KA-07 and -08) and Far East Seedings (KA-09) had key areas established in July 1989. Key areas in the North (KA-10 and -11) and North-South (KA-12) and South-South Seedings (KA-13) were established in September 1991.

Following is a discussion of actual use, utilization, use pattern maps, production, ecological condition, and frequency data. Refer to the data provided in Appendices 1 thru 3 in the Data Summaries section of this evaluation.

1. **Snow Creek Unit** (KA-01 and KA-04)

Actual Use and Utilization

The correlation between actual use and key area utilization and actual use and utilization adjusted by the climatic adjustment factor (CAF) shows a positive relationship in the Snow Creek Unit.

Utilization during the evaluation period varies from slight to moderate. The highest recorded utilization was in 1992 when it was recorded at 47% on bitterbrush. It represented combined wildlife and livestock use. Most of the use in the Snow Creek Unit has occurred for about 3 weeks between early to mid June through July. Use late in the season has been on the lower benches. Use in this unit has been dependent on snow for water. Most of the use occurs during the early part of the growing season.

The key area utilization objective for bitterbrush is 25% use by livestock. Use has been recorded below the 25% use, with the exception of 1992. Average use on bitterbrush from 1987-1992 has been 21% by livestock.

Use Pattern Maps

No UPM was done in 1986; however, key area utilization showed light use. The 1987 UPM showed only slight to light use; however field observations indicated that snowberry and rabbitbrush were receiving moderate use. In 1989, a small percentage of the area showed moderate use on the ridge tops with mostly light use on the slopes.

No UPMs were completed from 1990 - 1992.

KA-01

Weight-Estimate Production Data

The weight-estimate production data indicates that production increased from 769 lbs/acre in 1984 to 2974 lbs/acre in 1989.

Ecological Condition

Species composition of native grasses decreased from 27% in 1984 to 12% in 1989. Bluebunch wheatgrass declined from 22% to 11% between 1984 and 1989. Shrub species indicated an overall increase from 73% to 83% for the same period. However, there were varying changes in individual shrub species. For example, bitterbrush showed a decline from 20% to 6% while Mountain big sage showed an increase from 23% to 71%. The ecological condition rating dropped from 53% (late seral) in 1984 to 40% (mid seral) in 1989.

Frequency

The frequency data indicates that overall, native grasses increased. For example, bluebunch wheatgrass decreased from 57% in 1979 to 45% in 1983; however, it increased to 66% in 1989. Overall, there was a significant increase of 9% from 1979 to 1989 in bluebunch wheatgrass. The frequency of phlox and Indian paintbrush showed significant decreases while other forbs remained the same. The frequency of Mountain big sage, bitterbrush, and snowberry showed no significant changes. The frequency data indicates that trend is upward.

KA-04

Weight-Estimate Production Data

The weight-estimate production data indicates that production increased from 1094 lbs/acre to 3954 lbs/acre.

Ecological Condition
Species composition of native grasses decreased from 17% in 1984 to 7% in 1989. For example, both bluegrass and needlegrass decreased from 3% in 1984 to 1% in 1989. Lupine increase from 1% to 11% during the same period. No Eriogonum or Agoseris were recorded in 1984 and only a trace of Eriogonum was recorded in 1989. The composition of Mountain big sage was recorded at 71% in 1984 and 73% in 1989. The ecological condition rating was 52% (late seral) in 1984 and 41% (mid seral) in 1989.

Frequency
The frequency data indicates a significant increase in the key species Columbia needlegrass and a significant decrease in the bluegrass species. In 1981 a needlegrass species was recorded at 5%, but it was not identified as to whether it was Letterman's or Columbia needlegrass. In 1989, the frequency of Columbia needlegrass was 60%. Bluegrasses all showed significant decreases. For example, the frequency of Nevada bluegrass decreased from 25% in 1981 to 4% in 1989. The frequency of lupine increased from 44% in 1981 to 55% in 1989. Agoseris showed a significant decrease from 69% to 10% while Eriogonum showed an insignificant change during the same period. The frequency of Mountain big sage was 63% in 1981 and 58% in 1989. The frequency data indicates that trend is declining.

2. Dry Troughs Bench (KA-Q2)
Actual Use and Utilization
In summary, correlation between actual use and key area utilization and actual use and utilization adjusted by the CAF shows a positive relationship in Dry Troughs Bench.

Utilization during the evaluation period has been slight to light. Most of the use from 1986 through 1989 was from early May through mid June. Between 1990 and 1992, use occurred through mid July. Most of the use in the fall has been in September and October. However, since 1989 when more waters were developed in the unit, more use has occurred during August.

Use Pattern Maps
The 1987 UPM showed slight use on the upper benches. No signs of cattle were observed and only casual use by sheep occurred.

In 1989, overall use was light. Moderate to heavy use was observed around waters. Key area utilization also showed light use.

No UPMs were completed between 1990 and 1991.

The 1992 UPM showed moderate use on the benches with light use on the north and south portions.

Weight-Estimate Production Data
The weight-estimate production data indicates that production increased from 420 lbs/acre to 1521 lbs/acre.

Ecological Condition
Species composition of native grasses decreased from 28% in 1984 to 16% in 1989. Bluebunch wheatgrass decreased from 23% in 1984 to 15% in 1989. Lupine, the dominant forb, showed an increase from 2% to 8% during the same period. The composition of sagebrush increased from 33% to 50% while rabbitbrush decreased from 28% to 16%. The ecological condition rating was 47% (mid seral) in 1984 and 49% (mid seral) in 1989, which is an insignificant difference between the years.

Frequency
The frequency data indicates a slight decline in occurrence of native grasses. There was no significant changes in the frequency of occurrence of bluebunch wheatgrass. However, there were significant decreased in bluegrasses. Pine bluegrass decreased from 11% to 0% while Sandberg bluegrass decreased from 28% to 13% during the same period. Lupine had a frequency of 31% in 1984 and significantly increased to 49% by 1989. The frequency of sagebrush was 35% in 1984 and 40% in 1989, which is an insignificant change. Rabbitbrush showed a significant decline from 47% to 14% during the same period. The frequency data indicates that trend is declining.

3. Odgers Creek (KA-03)

Actual Use and Utilization
Correlation between actual use and utilization and actual use and utilization adjusted by the CAF shows a positive relationship in Odgers Creek Unit in 1986 and 1987. However, in 1989 and 1990, there was no actual use submitted by permittee for cattle use, yet key area utilization was recorded at 57% and 58%, respectively.

No actual use is available for trespass livestock in the Odgers Creek pasture for 1989 and 1990. However, observations at various times during the field season showed that approximately 100 head of cattle grazed the allotment from July through September (about 300 AUMs).

In 1991 and 1992, use by the permittee was limited. In 1991, use prior to livestock turnout was 15%. By the time livestock came off, combined use by wild horses and livestock was 72%. In 1992, use prior to livestock turnout was recorded at 32%. No data was available for combined use.

Use Pattern Maps
In 1984 and 1986 no UPMs were completed. However, key area utilization showed light and moderate use in 1984 and 1986, respectively.

The 1987 UPM revealed heavy use on the riparian/stream areas with an extensive area of moderate use around the meadows. Field observation and documentation showed that about 50 horses grazed this pasture from mid July through mid September. As many as 75 horses were counted at one time.

Use patterns in 1988 were very similar to 1987.

In 1989 and 1990, the north end of Odgers Creek showed extensive heavy use in the riparian areas. Use was made by wild horses and trespass cattle from Odgers Allotment. This year again, up to 100 head of cattle and 70 horses were observed from July through September.

By 1991 and 1992, the trespass livestock issue was resolved. However, heavy use continued in the riparian areas by wild horses.

Weight-Estimate Production Data
The weight-estimate production data indicates that production increased from 326 lbs/acre to 1233 lbs/acre.

Ecological Condition
Species composition of native grasses decreased from 69% in 1984 to 29% in 1989. Alkali sacaton decreased from 15% in 1984 to 0% in 1989. Alkali cordgrass decreased from 13% to 1% while bluegrass remained static at 7% and 8% during the same period. Saltgrass showed a decrease from 13% to 5%. Rabbitbrush increased from 25% in 1984 to 50% in 1989.

No Wyoming big sage was recorded in 1984 and 10% was recorded in 1989. Ecological condition rating was 58% (late seral) in 1984 and 29% (mid seral) in 1989.

Frequency
The frequency data indicates that overall there was a slight increase in the occurrence of native grasses. Alkali sacaton significantly increased from 14% in 1984 to 33% in 1989 and bluegrass also significantly increased from 39% to 77%. Alkali cordgrass showed a significant decrease from 66% in 1984 to 34% in 1989 and saltgrass also showed a decline from 72% to 21%. The frequency of rabbitbrush and Wyoming big sage showed no significant changes between 1984 and 1989. For example, the frequency of rabbitbrush was 56% in 1984 and 52% in 1989 while Wyoming big sage was 16% and 19%, respectively. The frequency data shows that trend is upward.

4. Taylor Canyon (KA-05 and KA-06)
Actual Use and Utilization
In Taylor Canyon, KA-05 shows a positive relationship between actual use and key area utilization; however, a negative relationship is seen between actual use and utilization adjusted by the CAF. In 1986 the CAF showed that precipitation was above normal, this caused the adjusted utilization figure to inflate.

Utilization at KA-05 has ranged from moderate to heavy. Most of the use from 1986-1989 occurred between July and September. From 1990-1992, use occurred through mid October.

In KA-06, a negative relationship also occurs between actual use and key area utilization and actual use and adjusted utilization.

Utilization at KA-06 averaged moderate with most of the use occurring from July through mid October.

Use Pattern Maps
In 1986, a UPM was not completed. However, key area utilization was recorded at high moderate.

In 1987, the UPM showed severe use on lower Taylor Creek, Main Camp Spring, and Tent Spring. Heavy use was also mapped around these areas. The rest of the unit received moderate use. Trough Spring and Mustang Spring received extensive heavy use with only some moderate use.

In 1989, use patterns were very similar to 1987; however, severe use around the springs was not as extensive. This may have been directly related to actual use being less in 1989 than 1987.

No use pattern maps were completed from 1990 through 1992.

KA-05

Weight-Estimate Production Data
The weight-estimate production data indicated that production decreased from 1309 lbs/acre to 678 lbs/acre.

Ecological Condition
Species composition of native grasses slightly decreased from 17% in 1985 to 11% in 1989. The species composition of bluebunch wheatgrass increased from 3% to 6% during the same period. Forbs increased from 8% to 28% with aster composing 21% of species composition in 1989. Low sage decreased from 76% to 61% during the same period. The ecological

condition rating was 56% (late seral) in 1985 to 53% (late seral) in 1989.

Frequency
The frequency data indicates that overall there was a significant decrease in occurrence of native grasses. While bluebunch wheatgrass remained the same at 50% from 1985 to 1989, other key native grass species showed significant decreases. For example, pine bluegrass decreased from 45% to 29% and Letterman's needlegrass decreased from 23% to 14% during the same period. Forbs showed an overall slight increase between the years. The frequency of aster was not recorded in 1985. However, it was recorded at 15% in 1989. Low sage was recorded at 55% in 1985 and 45% in 1989, which is an insignificant change between the years. The frequency data indicates that trend is declining.

KA-06

Weight-Estimate Production Data
The weight-estimate production data indicates that production increased from 143 lbs/acre to 4410 lbs/acre.

Ecological Condition
Species composition of native grasses decreased from 16% in 1984 to 2% in 1989. For example, bluebunch wheatgrass decreased from 4% to a trace and Columbia needlegrass decreased from 3% to just a trace during the same period. While the species composition of forbs remained relatively unchanged, shrubs showed an increase from 85% in 1984 to 94% in 1989. Mountain big sage increased from 78% to 84%. The ecological condition rating decreased from 49% (mid seral) in 1984 to 35% (mid seral) in 1989.

Frequency
The frequency data indicates that there was an overall decrease in occurrence of native grasses. Bluebunch wheatgrass significantly decreased from 72% in 1981 to 27% in 1989. Columbia needlegrass also significantly decreased from 49% to 15% during the same period. In 1981, no slender wheatgrass was recorded, but 66% was recorded in 1989. This could be an indication that a species identification problem existed and slender wheatgrass was confused with bluebunch wheatgrass. While the frequency of lupine remained the same, there was an overall significant decrease in frequency of forbs. The frequency of Mountain big sage remained the same from 1984 to 1989. The frequency data indicate that trend is declining.

5. **East Seeding** (KA-07 and KA-08)

Actual Use and Utilization
There is a negative relationship between actual use and utilization and actual use and utilization adjusted by the CAF in KA-07. A positive relationship exists between the 1989 - 1991 actual use and utilization and a negative relationship between actual use and utilization adjusted by the CAF in KA-08.

Utilization levels at both key areas was recorded below the allowable use level from 1989-1991. However, in 1992, utilization was recorded at 61% in both key areas.

Use Pattern Maps
The 1989 through 1991 use pattern maps showed mostly light to moderate use.

The 1992 use pattern map showed extensive heavy use throughout the seeding.

Weight-Estimate Production Data
In 1989, weight-estimate production data was collected at each key area. Key area seven produced 589 lbs./acre and KA-08 produced 223 lbs./acre for an average of 406 lbs./acre.

6. **Far East Seeding** (KA-09)

Actual Use and Utilization
A positive relationship exists between the 1989 and 1990 actual use and utilization and actual use and utilization adjusted by CAF. There no correlation with the 1988 data.

Utilization levels have not exceeded the allowable use level. In 1988, the utilization was estimated off of the use pattern maps as key areas had not been established yet.

Use Pattern Maps
The 1988 use pattern indicated mostly light use. In 1989, use was mostly light use and by 1990, use was light to moderate.

Weight-Estimate Production Data
In 1989, weight-estimated production data indicated that the seeding produced 494 lbs./acre.

7. **North Seeding** (KA-10 and KA-11)

Actual Use and Utilization
A negative relationship exists between actual use and utilization and actual use and utilization adjusted by the CAF.

Utilization has ranged from slight to heavy. The highest key area utilization was recorded in 1992 at 65%.

Use Pattern Maps
The 1988 use pattern map indicated mostly slight to light use.

In 1989, the North Seeding received extensive heavy use, especially in the south end. Water was hauled to the north end in an attempt to move livestock north and remove some of the heavy pressure in the south. The heavier use resulted from the permittee not turning out his livestock into the Odgers Creek Pasture as scheduled due to the heavy use that occurred on the riparian bottoms. His livestock remained in the North Seeding till the end of the grazing season.

In 1990, the lower half of the seeding received moderate to heavy use while the upper half received mostly light with some moderate use near the water hauling areas.

Weight-Estimate Production Data
In 1988, weight-estimate production data indicated that the seeding produced 542 lbs./acre. The data was collected off a random transect in 1988 as the key area was not established until 1991.

8. **North-South Seeding** (KA-12)

Actual Use and Utilization
A negative relationship exists between the actual use and utilization and actual use and utilization adjusted by the CAF.

The utilization has been light to heavy. The highest recorded use was in 1992 when it was read at 70%.

Use Pattern Maps
The North-South Seeding was not divided until 1991. Thus, use patterns in 1989 and 1990 reflected use patterns of the entire South Seeding. Use patterns in 1989 showed slight to light use. In 1990, the south end received moderate use while the north end received mostly slight to light use. "Wolf" plants were beginning to form as this area was not being used uniformly.

In 1991 and 1992, use pattern maps were not completed.

Weight-Estimate Production Data
A random weight-estimate production clip was done in 1989 as key areas in the South Seeding had not been established yet. Production yielded 304 lbs./acre. In 1992, a production clip was completed at the key area and yielded 312 lbs./acre. The average is 308 lbs./acre.

9. South-South Seeding (KA-13)

Actual Use and Utilization
A negative relationship exists between the actual use and utilization and actual use and utilization adjusted by the CAF.

Utilization has ranged from slight to moderate. Highest recorded use was in 1990 when use was recorded at 57%.

Use Pattern Maps
The southern portion of the South Seeding was reseeded in 1988. The seeding was used in 1989, although not to its full capacity. This resulted in the seeded area not receiving a minimum of 2 years rest. Furthermore, because there was some new growth, it was used more than the northern part, which had plenty of old growth.

In 1991 and 1992, use pattern maps were not completed.

Weight-Estimate Production Data
A random weight-estimate production clip was done in 1989 as key areas in the South Seeding had not been established yet. Production yielded 304 lbs./acre. In 1992, a production clip was completed at the key area and yielded 295 lbs./acre. The average is 300 lbs./acre.

10. Ecological Site Inventory
In 1988, the ecological site inventory was completed on the West Cherry Creek Allotment. Table 5 summarizes the results of the inventory.

Table 5. Summary of Ecological Site Inventory.			
Total Acres Surveyed and Classified			
Description	**Acres**	**% of Total Acres Surveyed**	**% of Total Acres in Allotment**
Early Seral	925	2	1
Mid Seral	20,117	51	31
Late Seral	16,349	42	26
PNC	1,885	5	3
Total	39,276	100	61
Total Acres Unclassified			
Description	**Acres**	**% of Total Acres Unclassified**	
Woodland	12,264	50	19
Seedings	2,845	11	5
Rock Outcrop	1,175	5	2
Inclusions	8,439	34	13
Total	24,723	100	39
Total Classified and Unclassified	63,999		100

Ecological site inventory data reveals that 61% of the total acres in the West Cherry Creek Allotment were surveyed and classified into seral stages. In general, potential natural communities (PNC) occur in the higher elevations of the portion of the Medicine Range that occurs within the allotment. The benches of the Medicine Range and most of the Cherry Creek Range are in late seral. The flats in Butte Valley and the sites around the major springs in the Cherry Creek Range are classified in mid seral. Early seral stages were located on the southern portion of the allotment near the county line.

The data also reveals that 39% of the total acres in the allotment were unclassified. Unclassified acres refers to acres that were not classified or cannot be classified into seral stages.

11. Big Game Habitat Conditions

Two big game habitat condition studies have been established within mule deer summer range, representing approximately 13,491 acres of habitat. These studies were first read in 1981 and read again in 1988. Data from these studies indicate summer habitat conditions currently range from fair to good (50% of the habitat area=FAIR; 50%=GOOD). Both the 1981 and 1988 readings showed the Snow Creek portion of the Cherry Creek Range to be in good condition. The Taylor Canyon portion had shown a downward trend from excellent in 1981 to fair in 1988. Available data indicates the most limiting factor on this deer summer range is poor

forage diversity and conflicts with livestock use of important riparian habitats.

Several habitat components are evaluated to determine overall habitat conditions for mule deer. These include: browse vigor, forage quality, cover, water distribution, and disturbance and interference ratings. In the case of the Taylor Canyon portion, the disturbance and interference rating showed the most change which resulted in the overall decline in habitat conditions from excellent to fair. The low disturbance rating in 1988 is based on the fact that historically crucial or reproduction areas have been severely disturbed in the last 10 years. The riparian areas associated with springs, streams, and aspen stands in the Taylor Canyon area are important to mule deer during fawning. Livestock use in these areas has denuded most all available herbaceous vegetation and understory cover, significantly lowering their habitat values during the fawning period. Whether these conditions existed in 1981 and were simply overlooked during the habitat evaluation process is unknown. It is suspected this was the case and habitat conditions have basically remained static in fair condition. Poor forage diversity and disturbance to crucial or reproduction areas by livestock are the most limiting factors.

One big game habitat condition study has been established within crucial mule deer winter range, representing approximately 19,959 acres of habitat. This study was first read in 1979 and read again in 1983, 1988, and 1992. This area was rated in "fair" condition , but declined to poor condition in 1992. Data from this study indicates the most limiting factor on mule deer winter range in the West Cherry Creek Allotment is the unsatisfactory age structure of bitterbrush. The combined percentage of bitterbrush seedlings and young plants is far exceeded by the percentage of decadent plants; that is, there are too few seedlings and young plants present to ensure the long-term survival of the bitterbrush population. In 1992, forage quantity was also very low. Vegetation growth and vigor overall was poor. The effects of prolonged drought on winter range condition were evident. The Cherry Creek HMP established objectives to increase the percentage of seedlings and young plants to 10% by 2000 as well as to maintain or increase the foliar coverage of the Cherry Creek bitterbrush population. Baseline data was established in 1979 and re-read in 1983, 1988, and 1992 as per the HMP monitoring schedule. Tables 6 and 7 outline existing bitterbrush Cole browse and canopy cover data collected on the West Cherry Creek Allotment crucial deer winter range.

Table 6. Bitterbrush Cole Browse Data, key area D(C)W-1-T-02 (west slope of Cherry Creek Mtns.).

	1979	1983	1988
# samples	453	25	50
# sdlgs/yg. plts.	20	5	0
% sdlgs/yg. plts.	4.4%	20%	0%
1992 Cole Browse Data was not collected.			

Table 7. Bitterbrush Canopy Cover Data.				
	Total Inches (Line Intercept)			
Key Area	1979	1983	1988	1992
DCW1T02	119	29	198.5	46

Utilization data prior to 1987 is lacking. However, the 1979 and 1983 studies indicated the form class of bitterbrush was unsatisfactory. The Cherry Creek HMP established a maximum total utilization objective of 45% of annual twig length for bitterbrush (25% maximum by livestock). Beginning in 1987, utilization of bitterbrush has been measured annually in the fall (following removal of livestock and prior to the influx of migrant deer herds) and spring (after deer leave and prior to spring growth and cattle use). From 1987 - 1992, livestock use (measured in fall) has averaged 21%. However, livestock use in 1992 exceeded the target utilization significantly. Total cattle and deer use (measured in spring) has averaged 43% (see Attachment 1).

Table 8 outlines the results of habitat condition studies in seasonal mule deer range within the West Cherry Creek Allotment.

Table 8. Mule Deer Habitat Condition Summary.				
Herd Use Area	Transect Number	Habitat Condition*	Habitat Rating*	% of Area
Summer Range				
DS-1	DS1T01	1981-GOOD	62	50%
		1988-GOOD	69	
DS-1	DS1T03	1981-EXCLLT	82	50%
		1988-FAIR	57	
Winter Range				
DW-1	DCW1T02	1979-FAIR	66	100%
		1983-FAIR	59	
		1988-FAIR	57	
		1992-POOR	46	
* (10-50=POOR; 51-60=FAIR; 61-80=GOOD; 81-100=EXCELLENT)				

12. Riparian/Stream Habitat

Riparian/stream habitat surveys were completed as follows:

Stream	Dates Surveyed
Taylor Creek	1980, 1987, 1992
Odgers Creek	1980, 1987, 1992

These surveys included both private and public portions of the streams. RMP objectives are based only on public land portions of the streams. Therefore, for the purposes of this evaluation, data was analyzed only

for the survey stations located on the public portions of each stream. A summary of the data for each survey station on public land can be found in Attachment 2.

13. Wild Horse Use

Census Data

Actual use by wild horses is sometimes difficult to determine due to their wild and free-roaming behavior. The West Cherry Creek Allotment is partially fenced on its northern, eastern, and southern boundaries. The western boundary is not fenced. Wild horses are able to move in and out of the allotment at will.

The number of horses that actually use the allotment varies greatly with the time of year and the availability of water. In 1991, the BLM began intensive seasonal distribution flights in order to determine the location of horses at different times of the year as can be seen in Table 9. Using this data, it was determined that an average of 23% of the Maverick-Medicine herd use the West Cherry Creek Allotment. Most of this use occurs between April and October or approximately 7 months. This has been determined using the most recent and relevant data from census flights conducted once per year (depending on budget) beginning in 1978 and then flights conducted three times per year beginning in 1991. Although most of the use occurs from April to October, there is incidental winter use which provides relevant data in determining distribution patterns, thus, this data is used in our calculations.

Additional information gained from the seasonal distribution flights is that an average of 46% of the horses using the West Cherry Creek Allotment will be found on the Odgers Creek Unit and 54% will be found on the Taylor Canyon Unit. These figures were determined by analyzing the three seasonal census maps completed per year since 1991. The maps identify the locations of horses and are available for review at the Elko District Office upon request.

The results of census data are listed in Table 9. In the early years of wild horse management, maps were not kept as part of the census flights; therefore, only certain years have numbers of horses observed in the West Cherry Creek Allotment.

Table 9. Wild Horse Census Results.

Maverick-Medicine Herd Management Area

Mon./Yr.	Total Horses Observed	Total in WCC Allot.	Percent of Total in WCC Allot.
3/78	112	ND	ND
3/80	215	ND	ND
3/81	244	ND	ND
4/83	158	ND	ND
8/84	198	ND	ND
9/85	291	34	12
12/85	224	0	0
6/87	443	104	23
3/89	323	0	0
7/91[1]	507	240	47[3]
6/92[1]	580	130	22[3]
9/92[1]	589	100	17[3]
1/93[1]	610	34	5.6[3]
Avg.from 1991-1993			23%

Cherry Creek Herd Management Area[2]

Mon./Yr.	Total Horses Observed	Total in WCC Allot.	Percent of Total in WCC Allot.
3/78	74	ND	ND
2/80	71	33	46
3/81	64	ND	ND
4/83	21	ND	ND
9/84	84	ND	ND
6/85	103	21	20
3/89	47	31	66

[1] These numbers include horses found in the formerly designated Cherry Creek HA: the Wells RMP Amendment combines this HA into two existing HMAs, the Maverick Medicine and the Antelope Valley HMAs.

[2] This HMA was counted separately until 1991 when numbers were combined into either the Maverick-Medicine HMA or the Antelope Valley HMA.

[3] Seasonal distribution flight data used to determine percent of Maverick-Medicine HMA wild horses that use the West Cherry Creek Allotment. Used data beginning in 1991 when intensive flights began.

ND= No Data

Removals

Wild horse gathers in the West Cherry Creek Allotment have been infrequent. In January 1980, over a 21 day period, 711 wild horses were gathered from the Cherry Creek, Antelope Valley, and Goshute Lake HAs as part of the extensive claiming program of the late 1970's. No specific numbers are available for the number of horses gathered from each allotment. However, the horses in the Cherry Creek HA were gathered on the east side of the Cherry Creek Mountains, thus did not affect the West Cherry Creek Allotment.

In February 1986, 96 wild horses were proposed to be gathered in the Maverick-Medicine HMA. However, due to inclement weather, only 45 horses were gathered. Another gather was proposed for July 1989; a protest from wild horse groups prevented this gather from occurring. In February 1987, 52 horses were gathered from the Cherry Creek HA. Again, the horses were gathered on the east side of Cherry Creek Mountains and thus did not affect the West Cherry Creek Allotment.

As is indicated in Table 9, horse numbers in the Maverick-Medicine HMA are clearly increasing.

Key Area Utilization

Within the West Cherry Creek Allotment, there are three key areas which receive wild horse use. Of these, two are in the Taylor Canyon Unit; KA-05 and KA-06. Actual use by wild horses was not broken down between the two subunits of the Taylor Canyon Unit, instead actual use was determined only at KA-05. Neither of the key areas in the Taylor Canyon Unit have been read prior to livestock turnout.

The key area on the Odgers Creek Unit, KA-03 has had utilization read prior to livestock turnout when the permittee did not use the unit during the 1989 grazing season. Utilization reflected both use by wild horses and trespass cattle from Odgers Allotment and exceeded the key area objective by 8%-13%.

Table 10 and Table 11 show the actual use made by wild horses and actual use made by livestock and the resulting combined utilization levels.

Tables 10 and 11 indicate that when the population of the Maverick-Medicine HMA is between 350 and 380, the number of horses in West Cherry Creek Allotment is around 80-90 head. At these population levels, actual utilization levels are within the combined utilization goals established for each key area.

Table 10. Odgers Creek Unit / KA-03

YEAR	TOT. HMA POP.[1]	# OF HORSES IN WCC ALLOTMENT[2]	# OF HORSES ON ODGERS CREEK UNIT[3]	# OF MONTHS HORSES ARE ON ODGERS CREEK UNIT	TOT. # OF AUMS USED BY HORSES	TOT. # OF AUMS USED BY COWS/SHEEP	TOT. AUMS USED	% TOT. AUMS USED BY HORSES	TOT. % COMBINED UTILIZATION	HORSE UTILIZATION[9]
1984	240	55	25	7	175	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
1985	316	73	34	7	238	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
1986	379[4]	87	40	7	280	558	838	33%	54%	18%
1987	443	102	47	7	329	470	799	41%	60%	25%
1988	532[4]	122	56	7	392	342	734	53%	50%[6]	27%
1989	354	81	37	7	259	300[5]	559	46%	57%[7]	26%
1990	425[4]	98	45	7	315	300[5]	615	51%	63%[7]	32%
1991	507	116	53	7	371	90	461	80%	72%	58%
1992	589	135	62	7	434	40	474	92%	35%[8]	32%[10]

1 Mav-Med HMA; boundaries as revised by Wells RMP Amendment.
2 Based on an average of 23% of the Maverick-Medicine HMA wild horses using the West Cherry Creek Allotment.
3 Based on an average of 46% of the wild horses in the West Cherry Creek Allotment using the Odgers Creek Unit.
4 No census; # was derived by applying a 20% annual increase.
5 Estimated actual use by trespass livestock (approximately 100 cattle from July through September).
6 Key area was not read but the area was use patterned mapped at moderate. The mid-point of moderate is 50%.
7 All use made by horses and trespass cows.
8 Estimated combined use based on % of total AUMs used by horses and the recorded utilization of 32% prior to livestock turnout.
9 Horse utilization was calculated by multiplying the total percent combined utilization by the percent of total AUMs used by horses. For example, in 1986, 54 x .33 = 18%.
10 This utilization reading was read prior to livestock turnout. A reading was not recorded after livestock were removed.

ND = No Data
WCC = West Cherry Creek

Table 11. Taylor Canyon Unit / KA-05

YEAR	TOT. HMA POP.[1]	# OF HORSES IN WCC ALLOTMENT[2]	# OF HORSES ON TAYLOR CANYON UNIT[2]	# OF MONTHS HORSES ARE ON TAYLOR CANYON UNIT[2]	TOT. # OF AUMS USED BY HORSES	TOT. # OF AUMS USED BY COWS/SHEEP	TOT. AUMS USED	% TOT. AUMS USED BY HORSES	TOT. % COMBINED UTILIZATION	HORSE UTILIZATION[4]
1984	240	55	30	7	210	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
1985	316	73	39	7	273	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
1986	379[3]	87	47	7	329	270	599	55%	59%	32%
1987	443	102	55	7	385	578	963	40%	66%	26%
1988	532[3]	122	66	7	462	310	772	60%	ND	ND
1989	354	81	44	7	308	256	564	55%	56%	31%
1990	425[3]	98	53	7	371	263	634	59%	28%	17%
1991	507	116	63	7	441	222	663	67%	53%	36%
1992	589	135	73	7	511	180	691	74%	ND	ND

1 Mav-Med HMA; boundaries as revised by Wells RMP Amendment.
2 Based on census data and estimates derived from census data.
3 No census; # was derived by applying a 20% annual increase.
4 Horse utilization was calculated by multiplying the total percent combined utilization by the percent of total AUMs used by horses. For example, in 1986, 59 x .55 = 32%.

ND = No Data
WCC = West Cherry Creek

14. Precipitation

The normal growing season is from April to mid June. The growing season in the higher elevations extends through late June. The riparian areas both stream riparian and meadows) will normally continue growing through September. This may vary slightly from year to year depending on weather conditions and riparian conditions. The precipitation data from September of one year to June of the following year is used to calculate the "yield index" or "climatic adjustment factor" (CAF). This information is used to adjust current years production data to that which would expected to occur during an average precipitation year. A "yield index" or "CAF" of 1 is considered to be an average precipitation year, above 1 is above average, and below 1 is below average.

Table 12 summarizes the climatic adjustment factor (CAF) from 1981-1989. Calculations are based on the precipitation data from the Ruby Valley Recording Station.

Table 12. Climatic Adjustment Factors from 1984-1989 (Ruby Valley Recording Station).

Year	CAF
1981	.64
1982	1.34
1983	1.73
1984	1.97
1985	.98
1986	1.17
1987	.88
1988	.63
1989	.94
1990	.82
1991	.61
1992	.75

V. CONCLUSIONS

A. Allotment Management Objectives

This section examines whether or not the allotment objectives have been met.

1. General LUP Objectives

Attainment or non-attainment of these objectives are included under conclusions for allotment RPS, Cherry Creek HMP, AMP, and key area objectives with the exception of a riparian/stream habitat objective which is listed below.

a. Prevent undue degradation of all riparian/stream habitat due to other uses.

Satisfactory progress has not been made toward attaining this objective. One riparian/stream habitat survey station is located on the 0.2 miles of public land on upper Taylor Creek. Analysis of the data shows that the riparian/stream habitat condition of this portion of Taylor Creek has declined from 45.3% to 31.6%, but average riparian condition (an average of bank cover and stability) has improved from 50.0% to 77.5%.

Most improvement in average riparian condition was due to increased bank stability. At the time of the 1992 survey, active erosion of stream banks had declined considerably following the low stream flows associated with several years of drought. The decline in overall riparian/stream habitat condition resulted from marked declines in both the pool-riffle ratio and desirable bottom materials. This portion of stream was affected by the unauthorized channelization which occurred in 1989. The channelization resulted in excessive sedimentation from the disturbed stream banks, and a straightened, deeper stream channel. The channelization also altered the stream gradient resulting in an overabundance of pools.

Following channelization, desirable bottom materials, bank stability and bank vegetative cover declined. Rehabilitation of the affected reach was completed in October 1989. However, it is expected to take several years for the stream to return to pre-channelization conditions. A copy of the rehab plan and completion report can be found in the Cherry Creek HMP Third Annual Report.

2. RPS Objectives

a. Improve livestock distribution on the west bench of the Cherry Creek Mountains.

Evaluation of the existing data indicates that this objective has been obtained. There were three water developments proposed in the West Cherry Creek AMP on the west bench of the Cherry Creek Mountains to allow for better livestock distribution. Dry Canyon Tank was completed in 1989. Dry Troughs Reservoir and a well were proposed, but have not been constructed. However, during the construction of the Paris Seeding Pipeline and well, a trough was placed in the outer eastern boundary of the North Seeding and another trough was placed on the outer southern boundary of the East Seeding. These additional waters were constructed in lieu of the reservoir and well. These developments will provide water for the native range on the west bench of the Cherry Creek Mountains.

Another trough is currently proposed to be placed on the southeastern boundary of the Far East Seeding. This will provide yet another water source for this area.

b. Improve water distribution for domestic sheep in the Cherry Creek Mountains near Elko-White Pine County Line.

Evaluation of the existing data indicates that this objective has been attained. See discussion in a. above. In addition, the Cherry Creek Reservoir, located approximately 2 miles north of the Elko-White Pine County Line, was constructed in FY 1992. The reservoir was also proposed in the AMP.

c. Improve ecological status in the Dry Troughs Bench Unit and Taylor Canyon Unit (Main Camp Spring Area).

Evaluation of existing data indicates a change in management is needed in order to meet this objective. The data shows that condition and trend are declining. In summary, no progress has been made in Dry Troughs Bench Unit due to drought and no progress has been made in the Taylor Canyon Unit (Main Camp Spring) due to drought and livestock grazing. Following is a summary of conditions at each key area:

Dry Troughs Bench Unit (KA-02)
The production data indicates that there was a significant increase in total production while species composition indicated a decline in native grasses, slight increase in forbs, and slight increase in shrubs. The ecological condition rating remained static in mid seral (47% in 1984 and 49% in 1989).

The frequency data indicates a decline in frequency of occurrence of native grasses, slight increase in forbs, and no significant changes in shrubs.

A correlation exists between the production and frequency data, both indicating that conditions are declining. The short-term indicators can be analyzed to further assess condition and trend. Utilization at this key area has been slight to light with most of the use occurring between May and June. With more waters developed, use since 1990 has extended through July and on to October. It is also important to note that drought conditions existed from 1987 through 1992.

Evaluation of the data indicates that conditions are declining. The decline can be attributed to the drought conditions that have existed since 1987 as use levels have been slight to light. This use has been occurring during the early part of the growing season but are not significant enough to cause declining conditions.

Taylor Canyon Unit (Main Camp Spring Area - KA-06)
The production data indicates a significant increase in total production while species composition indicates a decline in native grasses, no significant changes in forbs, and slight increase in shrubs. The ecological condition rating remained static in mid seral (49% in 1984 and 35% in 1989).

The frequency data indicates an overall slight decline in frequency of occurrence of native grasses, significant decline in forbs, and no significant changes in shrubs.

The production and frequency data both indicate that condition and trend are declining. Evaluation of the short term indicators can be analyzed to further assess condition and trend. Again, it is important to note that drought conditions have existed since 1987 and it has contributed to part of the decline. Utilization and season-of-use can also be used to further explain the decline. In this case, utilization has been at or above the allowable use levels with most of the use occurring from July through mid October.

Therefore, evaluation of the existing data indicates that the drought conditions combined with high use levels is further contributing to the declining range conditions.

d. Maintain or improve ecological status in Snow Creek Unit (including Dry Trough-Upland), Odgers Creek Unit, and Taylor Canyon Unit (Mustang Spring Area).

Evaluation of existing data indicates that a change in management is needed in order to meet this objective. The data shows that condition and trend are declining. In summary, no progess has been made in the Snow Creek Unit due to drought, no progress has been made in the Odgers Creek Unit due mostly to livestock and wild horse grazing, and no progress has been made in the Taylor Canyon Unit (Mustang Spring) due to drought and grazing. Following is a summary of conditions at each key area:

Snow Creek Unit (KA-01 and KA-04)
KA-01
The production data indicates a significant increase in total production, while species composition indicates a decline in native grass species and overall significant increase in shrub species. The ecological condition rating declined from late seral (53%) to mid seral (40%). The decline in native grasses and increase in shrub species contributes to the increased production and decreased ecological condition rating.

The frequency data indicates an increase in the frequency of occurrence of native grasses, a decline in forbs, and no significant changes in shrubs. In summary, production data indicates declining conditions while frequency data indicates upward trend.

When a contradiction exists between the production and frequency data, analysis of the short-term indicators can be used to further explain what conditions are doing. As has been discussed earlier, it is important to note that drought conditions have existed since 1987. Utilization at this key area has been slight to light with most of the use occurring in June and July.

There has been some confusion on where the actual boundaries of the Snow Creek Unit lie. The permittee has reported actual use in the Dry Trough Bench Unit when the use was actually occurring in the Snow Creek Unit. A recommendation is being made to change the boundaries and make them more realistic. This will be discussed later. However, it is important to note this confusion because use in Dry Troughs Bench occurs as early as May, thus use at KA-01 is actually occurring during the early part of the growing season rather than June and July as noted by the actual use reports.

Therefore, evaluation of the data indicates that although the frequency data shows that there is still a high occurrence of native grasses, overall conditions are declining. Most of the decline can be attributed to the drought conditions as use has been below the allowable use levels.

KA-04

The production data indicates a significant increase in total production while species composition indicates an overall decrease in native grasses, increase in forbs, and no change in shrubs. The ecological condition rating declined from late seral (52%) to mid seral (41%).

The frequency data indicates that there was an increase in frequency of occurrence of native grasses, decrease in forbs, and no significant changes in shrubs.

A contradiction exists between the production and frequency data. Production data indicates declining conditions while frequency data indicates upward trend. Analysis of short-term indicators can be used to explain some of the differences.

The initial frequency reading was in 1981 and the second reading was in 1989. From 1981 to 1986 precipitation was above normal. Since 1987, precipitation has been below normal. It would be expected to have forbs and bluegrasses drastically decrease during drought. Shrubs (especially sagebrush) are not as prone to impacts from drought in such a short term (1987-1989) and thus changes are not expected. The data supports these conclusions.

Utilization has been recorded from slight to moderate with most of the use occurring in June and July. At these higher elevations, the growing season could extend into July, but could vary on any given year. However, because there is an increase in Columbia needlegrass while all other grass species and forbs show declines, it is concluded that the decline is possibly attributed to drought conditions. Up to 1986, conditions were ideal for key forage species. After 1987, Columbia needlegrass probably did not respond to the drought as rapidly as the other grass species. Furthermore, up to 1989, it was receiving only slight to light use.

Therefore, evaluation of the data concludes that condition and trend are declining due to drought.

Odgers Creek Unit (KA-03)

The production data indicates that total production increased while species composition indicates a significant decline in native grasses, no change in forbs, and drastic increase in shrubs. The ecological condition rating also significantly decreased from late seral (58%) to mid seral (29%).

The frequency data indicates that overall there was a slight increase in frequency of occurrence of native grasses and no significant changes in forbs and shrubs.

The production data indicates that condition is declining while the frequency data indicates a slight upward trend. A contradiction in production and frequency can be further assessed by analyzing the short-term indicators.

Utilization levels have exceeded the allowable use level annually. With increased use levels, a slight decline would be expected. Utilization was recorded high moderate to heavy during the same period that production and frequency data were measured. These utilization levels exceeded the allowable use level of 50%; however, total use from 1984 to 1988 included use by the permittees' livestock, trespass livestock from Odgers Allotment, and wild horses.

Historically, the permittee grazed this area from April or May through September. This is the same period that the trespass livestock have used this area. However, use by trespass livestock in 1986 and 1987 was minimal. The greatest impacts have been in 1988 through 1990, not only with trespass livestock, but also wild horses. With utilization levels exceeding the allowable use levels annually and the area historically receiving early use, a slight decline would be expected at this site.

With the trespass livestock situation resolved, use by the permittee's livestock may be expected to continue in the high moderate range. However, as per the recommended grazing system, scheduled use will be starting 8/1, after seed ripe.

Wild horse use will continue until removals are conducted to bring populations levels down to initial herd size. The wild horse issue is discussed in Section IV.B.9 and will be discussed later in the evaluation.

Evaluation of the data indicates that conditions are declining. Although frequency data shows a slight improvement in trend, continued use during the growing season and utilization levels exceeding the allowable use levels will result in a further decline of overall range condition. Deferring use until after seed ripe is expected to improve range condition.

Taylor Canyon Unit (Mustang Spring Area-KA-05)
The production data indicates a drastic decline in total production while species composition indicates a slight decrease in native grasses, significant increase in forbs, and slight decrease in shrubs. The ecological condition rating remained static in late seral (56% in 1985 and 53% in 1989).

The frequency data indicates an overall significant decline in frequency of occurrence of native grasses, slight increase in forbs, and no significant change in shrubs.

A correlation exists between production and frequency and it is concluded that conditions are declining. Evaluation of the short term indicators can be used to determine the cause of the decline. As has been discussed in the other key areas, drought has contributed to the decline of key forage species. Utilization levels have exceeded the allowable use levels with most of the use occurring in July and September. Drought conditions combined with high utilization levels has resulted in declining range condition.

e. Develop an AMP to be signed in FY86.

This objective has been attained. The West Cherry Creek AMP was signed on 5/19/86.

f. Manage for a wild horse herd size which will maintain a thriving ecological balance consistent with other multiple uses while remaining within the wild horse herd management area.

Some progress has been made toward attainment of this objective. Census data indicates that wild horse numbers fluctuate depending on the time of year. This is partly due to the availability of feed and water. During the summer months (July through September), the concentration of horses in the Odgers Creek area is significantly higher than in March and April. In 1991, intensive seasonal distribution flights were started in order to determine the location of horses at different times of the year. The results of the census flights can be found in Table 9.

A combination wild horse and trespass livestock grazing has resulted in extensive heavy use on the riparian areas in the Odgers Creek Pasture. Grazing in these critical riparian areas has been during a critical time of the year, that is, during the growing season (see discussion in Section V.A.2.d.).

Ecological status objectives for this pasture have not been met and utilization levels were exceeded the allowable use levels. Riparian/stream habitat is still in poor condition.

The trespass livestock problem was resolved with the completion of the Paris-Odgers Fence Extension, thus, any use in July should be representative of wild horse use. Further, the Wells RMP Wild Horse Amendment identified that horses would be reduced to initial herd size within the Maverick-Medicine HMA. Upon removal of horses, grazing pressure will be reduced on Odgers Creek and Taylor Canyon areas.

g. Improve or maintain all seasonal big game habitat in the West Cherry Creek Allotment to good or excellent condition to provide forage and habitat capable of supporting the following reasonable numbers:

1,717 mule deer: 2,294 AUMs

Evaluation of existing data indicates that a change in management is needed in order to meet this objective. Seasonal mule deer habitat conditions vary from poor to good. Available data indicates approximately 50% of the available summer habitat in the West Cherry Creek Allotment (Taylor Canyon area) is currently in fair condition and has shown a downward trend from excellent conditions measured in 1981. The remaining 50% of the available summer range (Snow Creek Unit) is currently rated in good condition. The most limiting factor on the summer range in the West Cherry Allotment is poor forage diversity. Available data indicates crucial winter habitat in the West Cherry Creek Allotment is rated in poor condition. The most limiting factor on this portion of the crucial deer winter range is the poor age class structure of bitterbrush.

Current (1988) habitat condition ratings show a substantial increase in the disturbance factor for crucial and/or reproduction areas in the Taylor Canyon portion of the deer summer range. Whether poor riparian habitat conditions existed in 1981 and were simply not considered in the overall habitat condition evaluation is unknown. The fact remains, habitat conditions are fair as a result of grazing impacts to forage diversity and important riparian area components of available habitat.

h. Facilitate big game movements by modifying existing fences to Bureau standards where necessary.

Evaluation of existing data indicates that this objective has been attained. The Wells RMP provides for 50 miles of fence to be modified within the Cherry Creek RCA. The Cherry Creek HMP was approved 9/30/87 and specifically identified 17.1 miles of fence to be modified with the remaining 32.9 miles to be added to the list at a future date. No fences in the West Cherry Creek Allotment were specifically identified as needing modification primarily because the allotment was basically without fences up until about 1986. All new fences within the allotment have been constructed to Bureau standards.

i. Improve, enhance, or develop 2 springs in the West Cherry Creek Allotment to good or excellent condition.

Evaluation of existing data indicates this objective has been attained. The Cherry Creek HMP proposes 25 spring improvement projects in the Cherry Creek RCA. The HMP specifically identified 19 springs and allowed flexibility in identifying the remaining 6. The HMP specifically identified 3 springs to be improved in the West Cherry Creek Allotment. These 3 springs are:

Source Name		Location
Unnamed	(B091)	T27N, R62E, S16, NESW
Unnamed	(B093)	T27N, R62E, S16, NWSW
Unnamed	(B207)	T27N, R62E, S12, NWNE

Exclosures were constructed around sources B091 and B093 in 1986. Livestock use has been totally excluded from these spring sources since 1987.

Source B207 has been dry since 1987. This source appears to be the resurfacing of subsurface flows from springs higher in the canyon. It is likely no enhancement/improvement work will be planned for this spring source.

A review of the 1980-81 Elko District wildlife habitat and water inventory data shows as many as 19 springs in the West Cherry Creek Allotment which are in poor to fair condition with the potential for improvement. In addition to the 3 springs listed above, the Bureau will identify and prioritize additional spring enhancement/ improvement projects within the West Cherry Creek Allotment based on this inventory in order to achieve RMP and HMP objectives for the Cherry Creek RCA. Projects will be completed as funding becomes available.

j. Improve crucial deer winter habitat by:
-cutting (thinning) 3,000 acres of pinyon and juniper.
-chaining or burning and seeding 250 acres of pinyon, juniper, and sagebrush.

Some progress has been made toward attainment of this objective. A pinyon/juniper selective cutting program began in the Cherry Creek deer winter range in 1986. No cutting has been initiated within the West Cherry Creek Allotment to date. However, a 10-year greenwood harvest plan for the Cherry Creek HMP area schedules selective cutting within the West Cherry Creek Allotment for 1994-96 (see attachment 4).

Approximately 1,500 acres burned along the western slope of the Cherry Creek Mountains in August of 1986 as a result of an escaped prescribed burn. Much of this fire was in crucial deer winter range, some of which was proposed to be burned and seeded in the Cherry Creek HMP. Therefore, approximately 100 acres was seeded with bitterbrush, prostrate kochia, and other species in October 1986. An account of this rehab project can be found in the Cherry Creek HMP First Annual Report. In addition, 2,400 bitterbrush seedlings were planted in March 1990. The remaining 150 acres proposed to be burned or chained and seeded within the West Cherry Creek Allotment will be identified at a future date, following evaluation of the 1986 project. This objective may also be met through rehabilitation of any future wildfires within crucial deer winter habitat.

k. Improve riparian/stream habitat to good or better condition on Taylor Creek and Odgers Creek. Satisfactory progress toward this long-term objective will be measured by a minimum improvement of 30% (from 1980 baseline data) by 1990.

Attainment or non-attainment of this objective will be discussed in Section V.A.3.e, f, h, and i below.

3. **Cherry Creek HMP Objectives**

a. Improve or maintain in at least good condition all deer use areas in the Cherry Creek RCA.

Evaluation of existing data indicates that a change in management is needed in order to meet this objective. Seasonal mule deer habitat conditions currently range from poor to good (see table 8). The evaluation of this objective is discussed in section V.2.g. above. Final evaluation of this objective will be conducted in 2000 and will consider all planned actions identified within the Cherry Creek HMP to achieve this objective.

b. Increase the combined percentage of seedlings and young plants in the Cherry Creek bitterbrush population to 10% by 2000.

Available data shows no progress has been made toward attainment of this objective. The 1988 data indicate a decline in the combined percentage of seedlings and young plants in the Cherry Creek bitterbrush population from 4.4% and 20% in 1979 and 1983 respectively to 0% (see Table 6). The statistical significance of this decline has not been determined. Final evaluation of this objective will be conducted in 2000.

c. Achieve annual utilization of the Cherry Creek bitterbrush population which does not exceed 45% of twig length by 2000 (maximum of 25% for livestock).

Progress is being made toward attainment of this objective. Data collected from 1987-1992 shows the average annual utilization of bitterbrush within crucial winter habitat in the West Cherry Creek Allotment is 43%. The average annual utilization of bitterbrush by livestock has been 21%, although the target utilization has been exceeded some years (see Attachment 1). Final evaluation of this objective will be conducted in 2000.

d. Maintain or increase the foliar coverage of the Cherry Creek bitterbrush population by 2000.

Available data is not sufficient to determine achievement of this objective. The 1992 data indicate a decline in the canopy coverage of the bitterbrush population represented by key area D(C)W-1-T-02 (see Table 7). The statistical significance of this decline has not been determined. Final evaluation of this objective will be conducted in 2000.

e. Improve 1.5 miles of lower Taylor Creek from 36.9% to 48.0% of habitat optimum (30% improvement) within the short-term (by 1992).
NOTE: The HMP objective was written for all of lower Taylor Creek. The specific objective for the West Cherry Creek Allotment should read: "Improve the riparian/stream habitat condition of 0.9 mile of lower Taylor Creek by a minimum of 30% (from 1980 baseline data) within the short-term (by 1992)."

Evaluation of the data shows the objective was not attained. A riparian/stream habitat survey has been established on 0.9 mile of lower Taylor Creek located on public lands within the West Cherry Creek Allotment. Three riparian/stream habitat survey stations are located on public portions of this stream reach, representing approximately 0.3 mile of stream per station. Analysis of the data shows that the riparian/stream habitat condition has improved by 30% on only 0.3 mile of stream. Average riparian condition was static or has improved at all survey stations.

Most improvement in average riparian condition was due to increased bank stability. At the time of the 1992 survey, active erosion of stream banks had declined considerably following the low stream flows associated with several years of drought. Also, less trampling and hoof shear of stream banks by livestock was observed in 1992. Desirable bottom materials declined throughout this stream reach. Excessive sedimentation resulted in more desirable bottom materials being covered and becoming unavailable for trout.

f. Improve 1.5 miles of lower Taylor Creek from 36.9% to at least 60% of habitat optimum (good condition) within the long-term (by 2000).
NOTE: The HMP objective was written for all of lower Taylor Creek. The specific objective for the West Cherry Creek Allotment should read: "Improve the riparian/stream habitat condition of 0.9 miles of lower Taylor Creek to good or better condition (60% or more of habitat optimum) in the long-term (by 2000)."

Sufficient progress has not been made toward attaining this objective. For further discussion, see Conclusions in Section V.A.2.e.

In addition, two exclosures (corridor fences) along approximately 1.0 mile of lower Taylor were proposed in the Cherry Creek HMP. Excluding livestock use along this portion of Taylor Creek would allow for improvement of the stream/riparian habitat and achievement of this objective for the West Cherry Creek Allotment. An agreement was made with the livestock permittee to not graze this portion of Taylor Creek as in the past. Historically, all of lower Taylor Creek had been grazed season long by the adjacent Odgers Allotment permittee because no allotment boundary fence

existed. In the fall each year, the West Cherry Creek Allotment permittee would allow cattle to drift out of Taylor Canyon onto lower Taylor Creek for 1-2 months before gathering. An allotment boundary fence was completed in 1991 and the West Cherry Creek Allotment permittee has agreed to gather cattle from Taylor Canyon and move directly to the Paris Seeding Pastures. Because livestock use can now be controlled to drastically limit use of the riparian area along this portion of Taylor Creek, the proposed corridor fences on Taylor Creek within the West Cherry Creek Allotment will not be constructed at this time; that is, exclusion of livestock use and riparian improvement objectives are expected to be achieved without corridor fencing.

g. Complete one comprehensive study of the relict dace by 1992.

Some progress was made toward attainment of this objective. A comprehensive study of the relict dace has not been completed to date. Current funding and manpower levels preclude conducting a study of this scope. Exclosure construction to protect relict dace habitat from livestock degradation is the first step in initiating the habitat requirements phase of such a comprehensive study. Two exclosures were constructed in 1986 and habitat trend studies began in 1987. In 1992, NDOW monitored population and distribution of relict dace. Although relict dace have been eliminated at some locales, the Odgers Creek population appears secure. No population estimates were prepared.

h. Improve 8.5 miles of Odgers Creek from 32.4% to 42.1% of habitat optimum (30% improvement) within the short-term (by 1992). NOTE: The HMP objective was written for all of Odgers Creek. The specific objective for the West Cherry Creek Allotment should read: "Improve the riparian/stream habitat condition of 4.5 miles of Odgers Creek by a minimum of 30% (from 1980 baseline data) within the short-term (by 1992)."

Evaluation of the data shows this objective was not attained. A riparian/stream habitat survey has been established on 4.5 miles of Odgers Creek located on public lands on the West Cherry Creek Allotment. Nine riparian/stream habitat survey stations have been established on public portions of the stream, representing 0.5 mile per station. Analysis of the data shows that the riparian/stream habitat condition has improved by 30% or more on only 2.5 miles of stream. Average riparian condition has improved at all survey stations.

Two of the five survey stations that showed a 30% or more improvement in riparian/stream habitat condition were located within exclosures. Riparian conditions also improved outside the exclosures, illustrating the tremendous recovery potential of this system. Eliminating trespass livestock use from the adjacent allotment has allowed for the improvement noted. The low stream gradient, consistent stream flows, and high sediment load create ideal conditions for recovery of the system, provided sufficient vegetation is in place on stream banks to trap out and stabilize sediment.

Although some improvement has occurred on Odgers Creek, it is important to note that all of the stream/riparian habitat is still in poor condition. Lack of stream bank vegetation along much of the stream is suppressing recovery.

i. Improve 8.5 miles of Odgers Creek from 32.4% to at least 60% of habitat optimum (good condition) within the long-term (by 2000).
NOTE: The HMP objective was written for all of Odgers Creek. The specific objective for the West Cherry Creek Allotment should read: "Improve the riparian/stream habitat condition of 4.5 miles of Odgers Creek to good or better condition (60% or more of habitat optimum) in the long-term (by 2000)."

Sufficient progress has not been made toward attainment of this objective. Although riparian/stream habitat condition improved by 30% on 2.5 miles of stream, riparian/stream habitat condition at all stream survey stations is still rated as poor. For further discussion, see Conclusions in Section V.A.2.f.

j. Improve 25 springs and wet meadows, presently in poor or fair condition, to good or excellent condition by 2000.
NOTE: Two springs are to be improved within the West Cherry Creek Allotment.

Evaluation of existing data indicates this objective has been attained. Evaluation of this objective is discussed in Section V.A.2.i.

4. **Allotment Management Plan (AMP) Objectives**

a. Maintain or improve the ecological status of all key areas to late seral within 10 years.

Evaluation of existing monitoring data indicates a change in management is needed in order to meet this objective. Evaluation of this objective is discussed in Section V.A.2.c and d.

b. Show a significant increase in percent frequency of occurrence of key species, as defined by Duncan's Multiple Range Test, within 10 years.

Some progress has been made toward attainment of this objective. Some frequency data has shown an increase in the frequency of occurrence of key species. However, analysis of the data indicates that overall conditions are declining. Evaluation of this objective is discussed in Sections IV.B.1-4 and V.A.2.c and d.

c. Manage for a wild horse herd size which will maintain a thriving ecological balance consistent with other multiple uses while remaining within the wild horse herd management area.

NOTE: The original AMP objective read "Ensure that wild horse populations are managed at the 1981 levels as per the Wells RMP/EIS." However, IBLA rendered a decision which clarified that a wild horse herd size is to be established based on the concept of maintaining a thriving ecological balance, thus the objective was reworded.

Some progress has been made toward attainment of this objective. Evaluation of this objective is discussed in Section V.A.2.f.

d. Maintain good or excellent habitat condition ratings in deer summer ranges in the Cherry Creek Mountains.

Available data shows some progress has been made toward attainment of this objective. Evaluation of this objective is discussed in Section V.A.2.g.

e. Improve the habitat condition rating for the deer winter range from the current rating of fair to good within 10 years.

Evaluation of existing data indicates that a change in management is needed in order to meet this objective. Evaluation of this objective is discussed in Section V.A.2.g.

f. Maintain the current good riparian habitat condition ratings along Taylor Creek and improve the aquatic habitat condition rating from poor to fair within 10 years and to good condition within 20 years.

Some progress was made toward attainment of the short-term objective and sufficient progress has not been make toward attainment of the long-term objective. Evaluation of this objective is discussed in Section V.A.3.e and f.

g. Improve current poor aquatic and riparian habitat condition ratings on Odgers Creek to fair condition within 10 years and good condition within 20 years.

Some progress was made toward attainment of the short-term objective and sufficient progress has not been made toward attainment of the long-term objective. Evaluation of this objective is discussed in Section V.A.3.h and i.

5. Key Area Objectives

For a complete discussion on attainment of the key area objectives refer back to Section V.A.2.c.

KA-01 - Dry Trough-Upland

a. Maintain or improve current late seral stage within 10 years.

No progress was made towards attaining this objective. Evaluation of this objective is discussed in Section V.A.2.d.

b. Manage grazing for maximum utilization of 50% on AGSP, ORHY, and POSC and 25% on PUTR2 by livestock.

Evaluation of existing data indicates this objective has been attained. Utilization on AGSP and POSC did not exceed 50% during the evaluation period. However, utilization on PUTR2 in 1992 was recorded at 47%. This reading represented combined use by both wildlife and livestock. The average use on PUTR2 by livestock between 1987 and 1992 was 21%.

KA-02 - Dry Trough-Loamy

a. Improve current mid to late seral stage within 10 years. This would require a slight increase in AGSP and other perennial grasses (ORHY, POSE, and POSC).

No progress was made towards meeting this objective. Evaluation of this objective is discussed in Section V.A.2.c.

b. Manage grazing for maximum utilization of 50% on AGSP, ORHY, and POSC.

Evaluation of data shows this objective was attained. Data shows that none of the key species were utilized above 50% in any year during the evaluation period.

KA-03 - Odgers Creek

a. Maintain or improve current late seral stage within 10 years.

Evaluation of existing data indicates that a change in management is needed in order to meet this objective. Evaluation of this objective is discussed in Section V.A.2.d.

b. Manage grazing for maximum utilization of 50% on SPAI, SPGR, and POA++.

No progress has been made toward attainment of this objective. 1984 was the only year that key species utilization did not exceed 50%. In 1986 one key species was recorded at 54% utilization while in 1987 and 1989 all key species had utilization recorded above 50%.

KA-04 - Snow Creek

a. Maintain or improve current late seral stage within 10 years.

No progress has been made towards meeting this objective. Evaluation of this objective is discussed in Section V.A.2.d.

b. Manage grazing for maximum utilization of 50% on STLE4, STCO3, AGOSE, and ERIOG.

Evaluation of existing data shows this objective was attained. Utilization was recorded at or below the allowable use level throughout the evaluation period.

KA-05 - Mustang Spring

a. Maintain or improve current late seral stage within 10 years.

Evaluation of existing data indicates that this objective has been attained. Evaluation of this objective is discussed in Section V.A.2.d.

b. Manage grazing for maximum utilization of 50% on AGSP, POSC, and STLE4.

No progress has been made toward attainment of this objective. Use exceeded 50% every year.

KA-06 - Main Camp Spring

a. Improve from current mid to late seral in 10 years. This would require a significant increase in HEKI, STCO3, and AGSP.

No progress has been made toward meeting this objective. Evaluation if this objective is discussed in Section V.A.2.c.

b. Manage grazing for maximum utilization of 50% on AGSP, STCO3, HEKI, and AGOSE.

No progress has been made toward attainment of this objective. Use has been recorded fairly close to 50% every year except 2. In 1984, use on STCO3 was recorded at 55%. In 1986, use on AGSP was recorded at 60%.

KA-07 - East Seeding

a. Maintain crested wheatgrass production at 3.0 acres/aum.

No progress has been made toward attainment of this objective. In 1986 when the seeding were put in, it can be assumed that the seedings would produce 3.0 acres/aum. In 1989, this seeding was rated at 3.6 acres/aum.

b. Manage grazing for maximum utilization of 55% on AGCR.

Evaluation of the data shows this objective has not been attained. In 1992 use was recorded at 61%. Between 1989 and 1991, use was recorded below the allowable use level.

KA-08 - East Seeding

a. Same as KA-07.

Same as KA-07 (a) above.

b. Same as KA-07.

Evaluation of the data shows this objective has not been attained. In 1992 use was estimated to be 61%. Utilization was not read at the key area but was estimated from the use pattern map, which showed heavy use.

KA-09 - Far East Seeding

a. Same as KA-07.

Evaluation of the data shows this objective has been attained. Refer to discussion in KA-07. In 1988, this seeding was rated at 2.9 acres/aum.

b. Same as KA-07.

Evaluation of the data shows this objective has been attained. In 1989 use was recorded at 40%.

KA-10 - North Seeding

a. Same as KA-07.

Evaluation of the data shows this objective has been attained. Based on the data collected in 1988, this seeding was rated at 2.7 acres/aum.

b. Same as KA-07.

Evaluation of the data indicates this objective has not been attained. In 1992, utilization was recorded at 65%.

KA-11 - North Seeding

a. Same as KA-07.

Evaluation of the data shows this objective has been attained. Based on the data collected in 1988, this seeding was rated at 2.7 acres/aum.

b. Same as KA-07.

Evaluation of the data shows this objective has not been attained. In 1990 and 1992, use levels were recorded at 70%, and 59%, respectively. In 1990, use was estimated from the use pattern maps as the key area had not been established yet.

KA-12 - North-South Seeding

a. Same as KA-07.

Evaluation of the data shows this objective has not been attained. Based on the data collected in 1989 and 1992, this seeding was rated at 4.7 acres/aum.

b. Same as KA-07.

Evaluation of the data this objective has not been attained. In 1991, utilization was recorded at 70%.

KA-13 - South-South Seeding

a. Same as KA-07.

Evaluation of the data shows this objective has not been attained. Based on the data collected in 1989 and 1992, this seeding was rated at 4.8 acres/aum.

b. Same as KA-07.

Evaluation of the data shows this objective has been attained. The highest recorded utilization was 57% in 1990. Use levels all other years was slight to light.

B. Carrying Capacity Analysis

The carrying capacity on the native range was calculated using the following formula (refer to TR-4400-7, Analysis, Interpretation, and Evaluation):

c.c. = [desired util. x actual use/KA util.]/CAF

A comparison of data was made between the years with and without the climatic adjustment factor (CAF). The reason that comparisons were made with and without the CAF is that prior to 1986 there was a wet cycle and the CAF

factors showed precipitation to be above normal. After 1987 a dry cycle is noted and precipitation levels are below average, except in 1989 when precipitation was close to normal. Comparing both figures will help to determine if a correlation exists between the years.

The CAF is used to normalize the data to the level of production expected during a median precipitation year. However, in many instances, the carrying capacity calculations using the CAF in the evaluation varied significantly between the years. The CAF didn't account for enough of the variability in forage production to give close correlations for carrying capacity between years. Therefore, the carrying capacity adjusted by the CAF will not be relied upon in this evaluation.

Key area utilization was recorded for the key species with the highest utilization during each year. Desired utilization is the maximum allowable use and is outlined in the Nevada Rangeland Monitoring Handbook and key area objectives.

1. **Snow Creek Unit and Dry Troughs Bench Unit**

Table 13. Pre- and Post-CAF Carrying Capacity Results for the Snow Creek Unit.

YEAR	Pre-CAF AUMs	CAF	Post-CAF AUMs
KA-01			
1986	1200	1.17	1026
1987	379	.88	430
1988	ND	.63	ND
1989	329	.94	350
1990	346	.82	422
1991	248	.61	407
1992	62	.75	83
Avg.87-91	326		402
Avg.6yrs.	427		453
KA-04			
1986	333	1.17	285
1987	331	.88	376
1988	ND	.63	ND
1989	196	.94	209
1990	294	.82	359
1991	ND	.61	ND
1992	ND	.75	ND
Avg.4 yrs.	289		307

The Snow Creek Unit is essentially divided into 2 subunits; Upper Dry Troughs Bench Subunit which includes KA-01 and Snow Creek Subunit which includes KA-04.

The West Cherry Creek AMP allowed for 369 AUMs in this unit. However, due to lack of water, the sheep have not stayed in this area long enough to remove the allowable AUMs. Actual use records indicate that no more than 240 AUMs were removed from this unit throughout the evaluation period.

Through the evaluation, it was determined that the Upper Dry Troughs Bench Subunit is not representative of use in the entire unit. When sheep use this area in the spring, they concentrate on the upper slopes utilizing snow for water. This results in the subunit receiving light use. This key area is more representative of use in the Dry Troughs Bench Unit (lower end).

The Upper Dry Troughs Bench Subunit is located within crucial deer winter range. This was a wildlife study plot also used for range studies. Bitterbrush is present and has been monitored to determine how much wildlife and livestock use is made. Average annual utilization of bitterbrush by livestock from 1987-1992 is 21%. Utilization on bitterbrush has been read in the spring and fall. Sheep use the area in the spring and there is not much use on bitterbrush this time of year.

Up to 1990, cattle use had not been observed this high up on the bench, that is, above the water troughs. This results in essentially no cattle use around KA-01. However, by 1992, the increased use in this area resulted in increased use on bitterbrush (recorded at 47% combined wildlife and livestock use). Most of the use occurred late in the fall.

The West Cherry Creek AMP allowed for 634 AUMs to be used in Odgers Creek and Dry Troughs Bench Units. It was calculated at 385 AUMs for cattle and 249 AUMs for sheep. Use in Dry Troughs Bench is conjunctive use by sheep and cattle while use in Odgers Creek is solely by cattle.

The Dry Troughs Bench Unit has received substantially less use by cattle. Prior to the seedings, water was hauled to the tanks along the bench around 8/1 in an attempt to move the cattle from Odgers Creek. With the seedings going in, scheduled use in Odgers Creek and Dry Troughs Bench Unit was deferred until 8/1. Conjunctive use in both units will continue with the implementation of the AMP.

Currently, the permittee uses the bench in the spring (mid May) with sheep prior to going up into Snow Creek and Taylor Canyon in mid June. It is used again in September when the sheep are brought down to ship the lambs. In October when the sheep come off the mountain to head back to the ranch, they spend some time in Dry Troughs Bench. The length of time is dependent on how much feed is still available in Taylor Canyon.

Table 14. Pre- and Post-CAF Carrying Capacity Results for the Dry Troughs Bench Unit.			
KA-02			
YEAR	Pre-CAF AUMS	CAF	Post-CAF AUMs
1986	3150	1.17	2692
1987*	5463	.88	6207
1987**	728	.88	827
1988	ND	.63	ND
1989	904	.94	962
1990	1092	.82	1332
1991	1307	.61	2143
1992	1038	.75	1384
Avg.6yrs.	2159		2453
Avg.87 UPM - 92	1014		1330
*Carrying capacity based on KA utilization. **Carrying capacity based on UPM results.			

The average actual use for the Dry Troughs Bench Unit from 1984 to 1992 was 559 AUMs (Appendix 2). The calculated carrying capacity based on the 1987 through 1992 data is 1014 AUMs. A correlation exists between the 1987 through 1992 data. Therefore, it was used to calculate the carrying capacity.

Because the grazing schedule outlined in the AMP has not been fully implemented, it is difficult to say how much livestock use is expected to increase or decrease. No use was made in 1989 and 1990 while very little use was made in 1991 and 1992. Most of the use in the past has been by sheep.

Evaluation of existing monitoring data indicates that overall conditions in the Dry Troughs Bench Unit is slightly declining. However, the decline can be contributed to the existing drought conditions since 1987 as the utilization levels have been below the allowable use level.

In the fall when sheep are trailed to and from the ranch, use has actually occurred in both Dry Troughs Bench and Snow Creek Units. This is based on where BLM has defined the boundary between both units. No interior fencing exists in these units. This has resulted in problems as to where the permittee defines the boundary and how he reports his actual use and how BLM defines the boundary and interprets the actual use reports. As a result, actual use in Snow Creek Unit may be somewhat higher and actual use in Dry Troughs Bench may be somewhat lower than what was calculated.

If we combine actual use for both units and calculate the carrying capacity using key area utilization of the key species with the highest utilization of the 3 key areas (KA-01, -02, -04), we see the following results:

Table 15. Pre- and Post-CAF Carrying Capacity Results Using Total Actual Use in Snow Creek and Dry Troughs Bench Units.

Year	Total Actual Use AUMs	Pre-CAF AUMs	CAF	Post-CAF AUMs
1986	681	946	1.17	809
1987	543	1697	.88	1928
1988	658	ND	.63	ND
1989	692	665	.94	707
1990	727	1346	.82	1641
1991	923	1538	.61	2521
1992	675	806	.75	1075
Avg.6yrs.		1166		1447

Analyzing the available data, the following conclusions can be made:

The limiting factor in the Snow Creek Unit is KA-04. This key area has received the highest use four out of six years. In 1991 and 1992, KA-01 received higher use indicating increased use on the benches, especially by cattle (Appendices 1 and 2). This key area is representative of the Snow Creek Unit. Actual use reflects the early use received by sheep. Therefore, the post-evaluation carrying capacity result for the Snow Creek Unit is 289 AUMs; this is based on the carrying capacity calculations for KA-04 (Table 13).

Based on the uncertainty of the boundary line between the Snow Creek Unit and Dry Troughs Bench Unit, it is difficult to establish an accurate carrying capacity on the Dry Troughs Bench Unit. Therefore, the post-evaluation carrying capacity result is 249 AUMs. This is based on the AUMs allocated in the AMP.

To further support the conclusion, the following information is offered. The grazing schedule outlined in the West Cherry Creek AMP has not been fully implemented. The permittee has indicated that they would like to use Dry Troughs Bench more than they have in the past. With the development of the seedings this will be possible. The seedings form somewhat of a boundary between Odgers Creek and Dry Troughs Bench allowing use on the benches. Evaluation of the existing data indicates that more AUMs are available. However, with the current declining conditions (even if the decline can be contributed to drought conditions since 1987), uncertainty of boundary line between units, and inaccuracies in actual use reports, an increase in carrying capacity cannot be justified.

3. Odgers Creek Unit

Table 16. Pre- and Post-CAF Carrying Capacity Results.			
KA-03			
Year	**Pre-CAF AUMs**	**CAF**	**Post-CAF AUMs**
1986	517	1.17	442
1987	435	.88	494
1988	ND	.63	ND
1989	432	.94	460
1990	391	.82	472
1991	540	.61	885
1992	ND	.75	ND
Avg.5yrs.	463		552

The 1989 carrying capacity calculations were based on taking an average of trespass cattle and wild horses observed in this pasture. An average of about 100 cows and 70 horses were observed in this pasture from July through September. There is no actual use data available for the trespass livestock that use the Odgers Creek Pasture. The construction of the Paris-Odgers Fence in 1984 is believed to have slowed down drift the first couple of years. There had been trespass livestock use from 1984 to 1990, but no livestock counts were conducted. With the completion of the Paris-Odgers Fence Extension in 1991, the problem was resolved.

The West Cherry Creek AMP states that 385 AUMs will be allowed for cattle. Current monitoring data indicates that conditions are declining.

The calculated carrying capacity for the Odgers Creek Unit is 463 AUMs. This is based on an average from 1986 through 1991. There was no data available in 1992. The post-evaluation carrying capacity result will be as outlined in the AMP, which is 385 AUMs.

An increase in carrying capacity cannot be justified because not all range and riparian objectives have been met.

The utilization objective was exceeded annually. This was the result of the permittee's livestock, trespass livestock, wild horses, and wildlife. The trespass livestock problem has been resolved. Additional data is needed to confirm wild horse use at this key area.

Since 1991, seasonal distribution flights to track wild horses were begun by the BLM. More wild horse data is available, but more data is still needed. As per the Wild Horse Amendment, horses will be reduced to establish an initial herd size of 389 horses, of which an average of 89 horses can be expected to use the West Cherry Creek Allotment with utilization of key forage species expected to be within objective levels. However, monitoring will need to continue to determine numbers

using the West Cherry Creek Allotment (see Wild Horse AML Analysis discussed in Section V.B.7).

4. Taylor Canyon Unit

Table 17. Pre- and Post-CAF Carrying Capacity Results.

Year	Pre-CAF AUMS	CAF	Post-CAF AUMS
KA-05			
Mustang Spring			
1986	229	1.17	196
1987	438	.88	498
1988	ND	.63	ND
1989	229	.94	244
1990	467	.82	570
1991	209	.61	343
1992	ND	.75	ND
Avg.5yrs.	314		370
KA-06			
Main Camp Spring			
1986	285	1.17	244
1987	274	.88	312
1988	ND	.63	ND
1989	395	.94	420
1990	ND	.82	ND
1991	305	.61	500
1992	ND	.75	ND
Avg.4yrs.	315		369

In determining the carrying capacity for the Taylor Canyon Unit, the unit was divided into 2 subunits: Mustang Spring and Main Camp Spring. Mustang Spring Subunit is represented by KA-05 and Main Camp Spring Subunit is represented by KA-06.

There are 45 AUMs of cattle use allowed in this unit as per the AMP. Most all cattle use occurred in Main Camp Spring, Tent Spring, and Taylor Creek. However, in separating the unit into subunits, the total cattle use was divided in half and one half applied to the Main Camp Spring Subunit and the other half to the Mustang Spring Subunit.

The West Cherry Creek AMP indicates that this unit is allowed 783 AUMs sheep use. Actual use data indicates that an average of 598 AUMs (297 AUMs on KA-05 and 301 AUMs on KA-06) have been removed annually from 1986 through 1992. The highest recorded actual use was 847 AUMs in 1987. Evaluation of existing monitoring data indicates that conditions are declining.

The post-evaluation carrying capacity result for the Taylor Canyon Unit is 629 AUMs. By subunit, this will allow for 314 AUMs in Mustang Spring Subunit and 315 AUMs in Main Camp Spring Subunit (Table 17).

Monitoring data in the Mustang Spring Subunit indicated that conditions are stable in late seral and trend is slightly declining. Monitoring data in the Main Camp Spring Subunit indicates that conditions have remained in mid seral and trend is declining.

5. Seedings

The carrying capacity on the seeded range was calculated using the actual use vs. utilization method and production method.

Tables 18 through 22 indicate the carrying capacity results of the actual use vs. utilization method on the seedings. Refer to Appendices 1 and 2 for utilization and actual use data.

Table 18. Pre-CAF and Post-CAF Carrying Capacity Results for the Far East Seeding Using the Actual Use vs. Utilization Method.

Year	Pre-CAF AUMs	CAF	Post-CAF AUMs
1988	319	.63	506
1989	62	.94	66
1990	77	.82	94
1991	ND	.61	ND
1992	ND	.75	ND
AVG. 3 yrs.	153		222
AVG. 1989 & 1990 yrs.	70		80

The overall fluctuations in carrying capacity calculated from year to year can be contributed to the different levels of use each year. For example, the seedings are scheduled for partial rest one out of three years. Partial rest means that the only use received was by the 50 head of dries, the 30 head herd, and used as the lambing pasture (refer to the grazing system outlined in the AMP). In some instances, these great fluctuations resulted in not using the data in the overall carrying capacity figures.

The Far East Seeding does not receive the partial rest as it is only used by the 30 head herd. However, the 1988 data was not used in the carrying capacity calculations as it was only lightly stocked prior to full implementation of the AMP in 1989. The post-evaluation carrying capacity result for the Far East Seeding is 70 AUMs.

Table 19. Pre-CAF and Post-CAF Carrying Capacity Results for the East Seeding Using the Actual Use vs. Utilization Method.			
Year	**Pre-CAF AUMs**	**CAF**	**Post-CAF AUMs**
1989	392	.94	417
1990	438	.82	534
1991	480	.61	787
1992	279	.75	372
AVG. 4 yrs.	397		528

The key area with the highest utilization was used to determine the carrying capacity for each year as there were two key areas. The post-evaluation carrying capacity for the East Seeding is 397 AUMs.

Table 20. Pre-CAF and Post-CAF Carrying Capacity Results for the North Seeding Using the Actual Use vs. Utilization Method.			
Year	**Pre-CAF AUMs**	**CAF**	**Post-CAF AUMs**
1988	2112	.63	3352
1989	658	.94	700
1990	328	.82	400
1991	ND	.61	ND
1992	283	.75	377
AVG. 4 yrs.	845		1207
AVG. 3 yrs.	423		528

The key area with the highest utilization was used to determine the carrying capacity for each year. The rationale for the 1988 data in the Far East Seeding also holds true for the North Seeding. The post-evaluation carrying capacity for the North Seeding is 423 AUMs.

Table 21. Pre-CAF and Post-CAF Carrying Capacity Results for the **North-South Seeding** Using the Actual Use vs. Utilization Method.			
Year	**Pre-CAF AUMs**	**CAF**	**Post-CAF AUMs**
1989	194	.94	206
1990	591	.82	721
1991	213	.61	349
1992	ND	.75	ND
AVG. 3 yrs.	333		425
1991	213		349

The South Seeding Cross Fence was completed in 1991, thus, the seeding was used separately thereafter. In this case, there was no data collected in 1992 and the post-evaluation carrying capacity for the North-South Seeding is based on the 1991 data of 213 AUMs.

Table 22. Pre-CAF and Post-CAF Carrying Capacity Results for the **South-South Seeding** Using the Actual Use vs. Utilization Method.			
Year	**Pre-CAF AUMs**	**CAF**	**Post-CAF AUMs**
1989	194	.94	206
1990	518	.82	632
1991	50	.61	82
1992	326	.75	435
AVG. 4 yrs.	272		339
AVG. 1991 & 1992 yrs.	188		260

As in the North-South Seeding, the South Seeding Cross Fence was completed in 1991, thus, the seedings were used separately thereafter. In this case, an average of the 1991 and 1992 data indicated an average carrying capacity of 188 AUMs. However, for both 1991 and 1992, the South-South Seeding was partially rested. Comparing this seeding to the other seedings, it is evident that the South-South Seeding can support more than 188 AUMs. Therefore, the post-evaluation carrying capacity for the South-South Seeding is 225 AUMs (professional judgment).

The formula for the production method is as follows:

c.c. = lbs./ac. x ac. x desired util. ÷ 800 lbs./AUM

The desired utilization was 55%. Acres for the above formula indicate total seeded acres within each seeded pasture.

Table 23. Carrying Capacity Results Using the Production Method.								
Pasture	Native Acres	Seeded Acres	Not Adjusted to CAF			Adjusted to CAF		
			Air Dry Wt. (lbs/ac)	AU Ms	ac/AU M	Air Dry Wt. (lbs/ac)	AUMs	ac/AU M
Far East Seeding	55	205	494	70	2.9	525	74	2.8
East Seeding	512	928	406	259	3.6	432	276	3.4
North Seeding	391	1069	542	398	2.7	861	633	1.7
North-North Seeding	325	535	308	113	4.7	370	136	3.9
South-South Seeding	180	570	300	118	4.8	358	140	4.1
Average					3.7			3.2

Comparing the capacities based on the actual use and utilization method to the production method, it is concluded that the actual use and utilization method shows more AUMs to be present than what the production method yields. Thus, the post-evaluation carrying capacities will be based on the actual use and utilization method.

6. Pre-AMP, AMP, and Post-Evaluation Carry Capacity Results

Table 21 summarizes the calculated capacities based on the best available data.

Table 21. Pre-AMP, AMP, and Post-Evaluation Carrying Capacity Results.			
Pasture	**Pre-AMP AUMs**	**AMP AUMs**	**Post-Eval AUMs**
Snow Creek	239	369	289
Dry Troughs	452	249	249
Odgers Creek	1198	385	385
Taylor Canyon	772	783	629
North-South Seeding	0		213
South-South Seeding	0	290	225
North Seeding	0	290	423
East Seeding	0	290	397
Far East Sdg.	0	45	70
Total	2661	2701[1]	2880[2]

[1] One seeding will be semi-rested every year; that is, it will be used for lambing and by the 30 head and 50 head herds of cattle (253 AUMs). Therefore, the total authorized use each year as per the AMP is 2664 AUMs.

[2] One seeding will receive the same treatment described under footnote #1. However, turnout date for the 30 head herd of cattle will be 5/1 resulting in a total of 261 AUMs. Therefore, the total maximum post-evaluation AUMs is 2880.

7. Wild Horse Appropriate Management Level Analysis

Currently, the data available for wild horses is census data, combined use utilization studies, and observations during trips to the allotment. Wild horse data was collected from 1989 through 1992 when the permittee took non-use or stocked light on Odgers Creek Pasture (the trespass livestock problem in 1989 and 1990 must be kept in mind).

From the aforementioned distribution flights, the BLM determined that an average of 23% of the Maverick-Medicine herd use the West Cherry Creek Allotment which would be 89 animals after reaching the initial management level of 389 horses given for the Maverick-Medicine HMA in the Wells Wild Horse RMP Amendment.

As per the data presented on Tables 10 and 11, when the population of the Maverick-Medicine HMA is between 350 and 380, the number of horses in West Cherry Creek Allotment is around 80-90 head. Actual utilization levels are within the goals established for each key area. Thus, these tables provide further documentation that the initial management level of the Maverick-Medicine HMA at 389 horses, as established in the Wells RMP Wild Horse Amendment, is correct, based on all available monitoring data.

Due to the wild and free-roaming nature of wild horses, there is no way to confine their use to a certain pasture or certain period. Upon conducting horse removals to reach the initial management level, continued monitoring will have to determine if a median around 89 animals is the correct AML. This will be accomplished by vigorous attempts to collect horse use only utilization data and by establishing key areas where livestock are known not to utilize.

VI. TECHNICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Modify the existing AMP grazing system. Refer to Appendix 3 for an outline of the recommended grazing system.

The proposed grazing system will allow for:

-deferred use until 6/15 in the Dry Troughs Bench Unit. The development of waters in this unit will allow for use later in the season, avoiding the early part of the growing season. Authorized use in the Dry Troughs Bench will not extend beyond 10/7 for sheep and 9/30 for cattle. Late use by cattle results in increased use on bitterbrush, crucial deer winter forage.

-deferred use until 6/15 in the Snow Creek Unit. The development of waters will allow for use later into the season, avoiding the early part of the growing season.

-deferred use until 8/1 on Odgers Creek.

-a rest rotation system for cattle and a deferred rotation system for sheep in the Taylor Canyon Unit in order to improve forage diversity on seasonal mule deer habitat.

Rationale. The Dry Troughs Bench Unit is not only used to monitor livestock use, but also crucial deer winter range. Use later in the season has resulted in more use on bitterbrush during a crucial part of the year. Any use later in the growing season should be avoided on the native range. The seedings could be used for later season use.

With the trespass livestock problem resolved, deferred use after seed ripe should allow for improved conditions on Odgers Creek. Wild horse monitoring data will continue to be collected to determine wild horse use made prior to livestock turnout, combined wild horse and livestock use, and make any necessary adjustments.

The Taylor Canyon area has shown a downward trend in summer mule deer habitat conditions since 1979. This decline can be directly attributed to heavy livestock use within terrestrial riparian habitat types. The same grazing cycle has been used year after year in the past and has partly contributed to the declining conditions. Heavy livestock use within aspen types, for example, has significantly affected desired age class structure and the ability of these habitat features to provide optimum cover and forage. Poor forage diversity is the most common limiting factor on mule deer summer range in the West Cherry Creek Allotment. An improvement of the overall average percent forb composition would significantly improve habitat conditions and meet big game habitat objectives, improve sage grouse and blue grouse nesting and brood rearing habitat, and improve range conditions within this portion of the West Cherry Creek Allotment.

2. The total active preference should remain at 2674 AUMs (2661 active AUMs and 13 FFR AUMs). The total AUMs authorized by pasture, as outlined in the recommended grazing schedule, is outlined below.

AUMs Authorized By Pasture.				
Pasture	**1994**	**1995**	**1996**	**1997**
Snow Creek	289	289	289	289
Dry Troughs Bench	230	230	230	230
Odgers Creek	385	385	385	385
Taylor Canyon	629	629	584	629
North-South Seeding	196	159	196	180
South-South Seeding	180	196	159	196
North Seeding	320	385	356	385
East Seeding	385	356	385	320
Far East Seeding	58	45	67	58
Total	2672	2674	2651	2672

Rationale. The post-evaluation carrying capacity results indicate that 2880 AUMs are available (Table 21). However, because not all multiple use objectives have been attained, an increase in active preference cannot be justified. As previously mentioned, the purpose of the seedings was to defer use on the native range until all multiple use objectives have been achieved. Increases in carrying capacity of the seedings will not result in increases in active preference, but rather increased use on seedings and reduced use, if not complete rest, on the native range.

3. Re-define the boundary between Dry Troughs Bench and Snow Creek Units. The new boundary will be at the tree line (see Map 6). Although there is not much difference, it is a more realistic boundary.

Rationale. There are no existing interior fences separating the Dry Troughs Bench and Snow Creek Units. The current existing boundary is a line across the bench, connecting the water troughs. Refer to Map 6.

The uncertainty of where the permittee defines the boundary and reports his actual use and where BLM defines the boundary and interprets the reported actual use has led to problems in over-estimating and under-estimating use in both units.

Re-defining the boundary and ensuring that actual use reports are as accurate as possible will help in better interpretation of the data. This, along with monitoring data will allow for a more accurate carrying capacity level to be established for the Dry Troughs Bench Unit.

In addition, the boundary change will place KA-01 (Upper Dry Troughs) in the Dry Troughs Bench Unit, which will be deferred until 6/15.

4. Continue to implement the West Cherry Creek AMP. The terms and conditions on the term grazing permit and AMP should be revised as follows:

> "Authorized grazing use will be in accordance with the West Cherry Creek AMP, as amended by the District Manager's Final Multiple Use Decision for the West Cherry Creek Allotment dated _____."
>
> "An actual use report showing use by pasture and class of livestock must be submitted within 15 days from the last day of scheduled use."
>
> "Supplemental feeding is limited to salt, mineral, and protein supplements in block, granular or liquid form. Such supplements must be placed at least ¼ mile from lives waters (springs, streams, and troughs), wet or dry meadows, and aspen stands."
>
> "All riparian exclosures, including spring development exclosures, are closed to livestock use unless specifically authorized in writing by the Wells Resource Area Manager."
>
> "Deviations from the grazing system will be allowed to meet the needs of the resources and the permittee as long as these deviations are consistent with multiple use objectives. Deviations beyond the limits of the flexibility outlined in the AMP, including deviations in the turnout date, livestock numbers and grazing system, will require an application and written authorization from the Wells Resource Area Manager prior to grazing use. The request must be applied for in writing, at least five working days prior to the proposed implementation date. The BLM will respond to such an application within five working days of receipt."
>
> "No livestock use (except trailing) will be allowed along lower Taylor Creek. Livestock will be gathered from Taylor Canyon and trailed directly to the next scheduled pasture, rather than be allowed to drift into lower Taylor Creek."

If control of livestock use in this manner cannot be accomplished, corridor fences will be constructed as originally proposed in the HMP and AMP.

Rationale. An evaluation of current grazing management practices has indicated multiple use objectives have not been achieved and changes are necessary.

Livestock use along Taylor Creek and Odgers Creek must be limited either by fencing, changes in the season of use, or reduction of livestock numbers to achieve riparian/stream habitat objectives. Continued implementation of the AMP will help achieve these objectives.

Corridor fences were proposed along this portion of lower Taylor Creek. With the construction of the new allotment boundary fence and proper movement/trailing of livestock, improvement of the riparian/stream habitat for this portion of Taylor Creek can be accomplished without fencing. This would meet the riparian/stream habitat objective for Taylor Creek within the West Cherry Creek Allotment.

5. Reduce to and maintain the Maverick-Medicine HMA to an initial herd size of 389 as per the Wild Horse RMP Amendment. This will allow for an initial AML of 89 in the West Cherry Creek Allotment.

Rationale. As per the Wild Horse RMP Amendment, wild horses will be reduced to initial herd size within the HMAs. As per Bureau policy, upon establishing an AML for each HMA, wild horses will be removed every three years and herds maintained at AML.

The recommended AML of 89 wild horses is based upon an average of 23% of the 389 initial herd size established in the Wild Horse RMP Amendment. Through seasonal distribution flights, it was determined that an average of 23% of the wild horses in the Maverick-Medicine HMA use the West Cherry Creek Allotment. Monitoring data will be collected to determine if the AML of 89 wild horses is correct. Any adjustments will be made accordingly as indicated by monitoring data.

6. Continue to gather seasonal distribution data on the Maverick-Medicine HMA.

Rationale. In 1991, intensive seasonal distribution flights were begun within the Wells Resource Area. These census flights have provided valuable information on horse movements and should continue until monitoring data indicates that the appropriate management level has been attained. Monitoring will have to be increased after the Maverick-Medicine HMA is reduced to initial herd size.

7. Read utilization at KA-03 (Odgers Creek) and KA-05 (Mustang Spring) prior to livestock turnout.

Rationale. Reading utilization at KA-03 and KA-05 prior to livestock turnout will provide additional wild horse monitoring data.

8. Continue to collect combined use utilization data and collect wild horse use only utilization data.

Rationale. More information is needed in areas which receive horse use and data needs to be collected prior to livestock turnout. Combined utilization data needs to be collected especially in areas which are known to receive horse use.

9. Ensure that the impacts of proposed management actions on threatened, endangered, or candidate species known to inhabit the West Cherry Creek Allotment are considered prior to their implementation as per Federal regulation and Bureau policy.

Rationale. The Endangered Species Act and Bureau policy for management of federal candidate and state-sensitive species obligates the Bureau to ensure actions authorized, funded, or carried out do not contribute to the need to elevate current T/E status or the need to list any candidate species as threatened or endangered.

10. Complete additional spring enhancement/improvement projects as needs are determined and funding becomes available.

Rationale. Completion of these projects will help achieve the wildlife habitat improvement objectives identified in the Cherry Creek HMP.

11. Continue to implement the planned actions identified in the Cherry Creek HMP.

Rationale. Completion of these planned actions within the West Cherry Creek Allotment will help achieve the multiple use objectives outlined in the Wells RPS, West Cherry Creek AMP, and the Cherry Creek HMP.

12. Establish 3 more key areas in the following locations:
-slopes of the Snow Creek Unit,
-Denton Canyon area,
-and on the west side of Odgers Creek.

Rationale. Another key area in the Snow Creek Unit in a Shallow Calcareous Loam site is needed to monitor sheep use on the slopes. The key area will also be used to read frequency, production, and ecological condition. One of the existing key areas (KA-01) in the Snow Creek Unit will be within the Dry Troughs Bench Unit upon adjustment of the boundary between the two units.

A key area in Denton Canyon would provide wild horse use only utilization data. The furthest north that sheep use the Taylor Canyon area is around Mustang and Trough Springs. Sheep use in the Mustang and Trough Springs area is usually limited by the amount of water in the springs. From 1989 to 1992, use by sheep was very limited due to drought conditions and dried up springs. Denton Canyon is located north of Mustang and Trough Springs and thus would provide only wild horse use.

A key area on the west side of Odgers Creek would monitor wild horse use. This area is not readily used by livestock due to the lack of water. However, wild horses do readily use this area as they come off of the Medicine Range to water in Odgers Creek.

13. The RPS objectives that have been attained will no longer be addressed. These objectives are as follows:

RPS Objectives

a. Improve livestock distribution on the west bench of the Cherry Creek Mountains.

b. Improve water distribution problems for domestic sheep in the Cherry Creek Mountains near Elko-White Pine County Line.

e. Develop an AMP to be signed in FY86.

h. Facilitate big game movements by modifying existing fences to Bureau standards where necessary.

Rationale. Tracking of objectives that have already been met is not necessary.

14. The HMP short-term objectives will no longer be addressed. The objectives are as follows:

e. Improve 1.5 miles of lower Taylor Creek from 36.9% to 48% of habitat optimum (30% improvement) within the short-term (by 1992). NOTE: The HMP objective was written for all of lower Taylor Creek. The specific objective for the West Cherry Creek Allotment should read: "Improve the riparian/stream habitat condition of 0.9 mile of lower Taylor Creek by a minimum of 30% (from 1980 baseline data) within the short-term (by 1992)."

g. Complete one comprehensive study of the relict dace by 1992.

h. Improve 8.5 miles of Odgers Creek from 32.4% to 42.1% of habitat optimum (30 percent improvement) within the short-term (by 1992).
NOTE: The HMP objective was written for all of Odgers Creek. The specific objective for the West Cherry Creek Allotment should read: "Improve the riparian/stream habitat condition of 4.5 miles of Odgers Creek by a minimum of 30% (from 1980 baseline data) within the short-term (by 1992).

Rationale. Final evaluation of the short-term objectives was 1992. The long-term objectives will continue to be monitored and evaluated.

15. Change all AMP objectives indicating that improvement will be made "within 10 years" to improvement will be made "by 2005." The objectives to be changed are as follows:

Allotment Management Plan

a. Maintain or improve the ecological status of all key areas to late seral by 2005.

b. Show a significant increase in percent frequency of occurrence of key species, as defined by Duncan's Multiple Range Test, by 2005.

e. Improve the habitat condition rating for the deer winter range from the current rating of fair to good by 2005.

f. Maintain the current good riparian habitat condition ratings along Taylor Creek and improve the aquatic habitat condition rating from poor to good by 2005.

g. Improve current poor aquatic and riparian habitat condition ratings on Odgers Creek to good condition by 2005.

Rationale. There is a need to standardize all of our objectives. The term of the land use plan is 2005, thus final evaluation of the AMP and key area objectives should also be 2005.

16. The key area ecological status objectives on the native range will be reworded as follows:

Key Area Objectives

Maintain or improve current late seral stage by 2005.

Key Area	1984 (baseline data)	1989
KA-01	53	40
KA-03	58	29
KA-04	52	41
KA-05	56*	53
*Baseline data read in 1985.		

Improve from current mid to late seral stage by 2005.

Key Area	1984 (baseline data)	1989
KA-02	47	49
KA-06	49	35

Rationale. There is a need to standardize all of our objectives. The term of the land use plan is 2005, thus final evaluation of the AMP and key area objectives should also be 2005.

The baseline data collected on the West Cherry Creek Allotment rated the key areas in either late seral or mid seral. Changes in management are recommended to achieve the multiple use objectives. Final evaluation will be in 2005. However, reevaluation in the interim will indicate if additional changes in management need to be made.

17. Reword seeding objectives to indicate carrying capacity levels in terms of AUMs versus acres/AUM. The objective will be reworded as follows:

Manage the seedings to provide at least the following AUMs of forage.

Seeding/Key Area	AUMs
East Sdg/KA-07 & -08	397
Far East Sdg/KA-09	70
North Sdg/KA-10 & -11	423
North-South Sdg/KA-12	213
South-South Sdg/KA-13	225

Rationale. The seeding production objectives are largely tied to the carrying capacity for livestock, which is referred to in terms of AUMs. Therefore, rewording of these objectives will equate more directly with the production of AUMs instead of acres/AUM. At this time, actual use and utilization data are considered the primary method of calculating carrying capacity. However, production data will continue to be collected to determine increases in shrub species, variations in production over the long-term, and possibly determine if any correlations exist between production and actual use and utilization.

18. The key area utilization objectives will be modified as follows:

Manage grazing to obtain an average utilization of 50% on all native grass species, while never exceeding 60% in any single year. The seedings will be managed to obtain an average utilization of 55% on crested wheatgrass, while never exceeding 65% in any single year. The maximum allowable use by livestock on PUTR2 is 25%. The key species to be monitored at each key area are as follows:

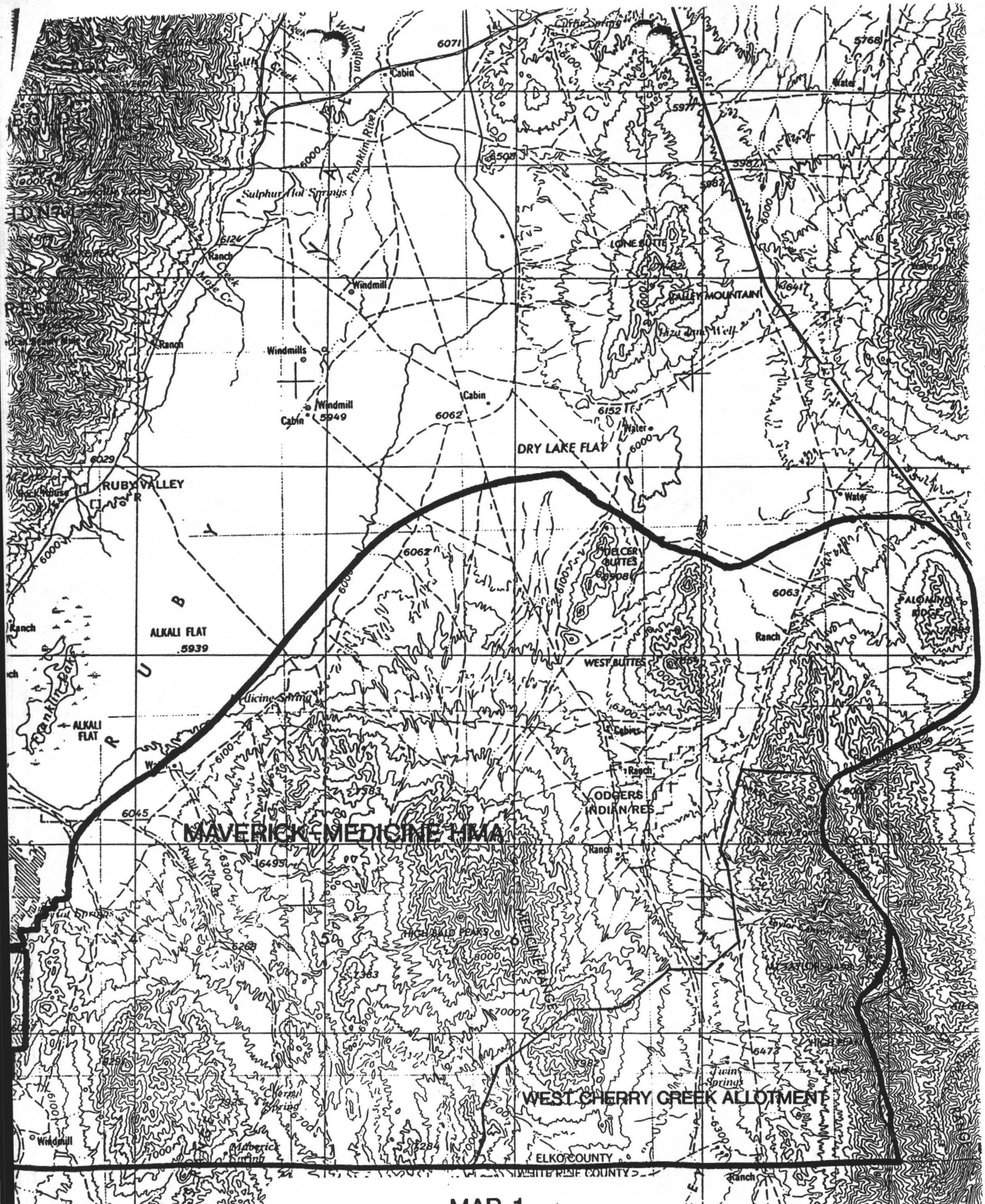
Key Area	Key Spp.
KA-01	AGSP
	ORHY
	POSC
	PUTR2
KA-02	AGSP
	ORHY
	POSC
KA-03	SPAI
	SPGR
	POA++
KA-04	STLE4
	STCO3
	AGOSE
	ERIOG
KA-05	AGSP
	POSC
	STLE4
KA-06	AGSP
	STCO3
	HEKI
	AGOSE
KA-07 through KA-13	AGCR

Rationale. The implementation of the recommended grazing system will result in intensive livestock management to allow the native grasses to meet physiological requirements. An average utilization over a period of time will allow for some flexibility as some years may result in less use while others may be slightly higher based on the grazing treatment. The same concept applies to the seedings. However, utilization figures on crested wheatgrass are slightly higher as studies on similar range sites have shown that 55%

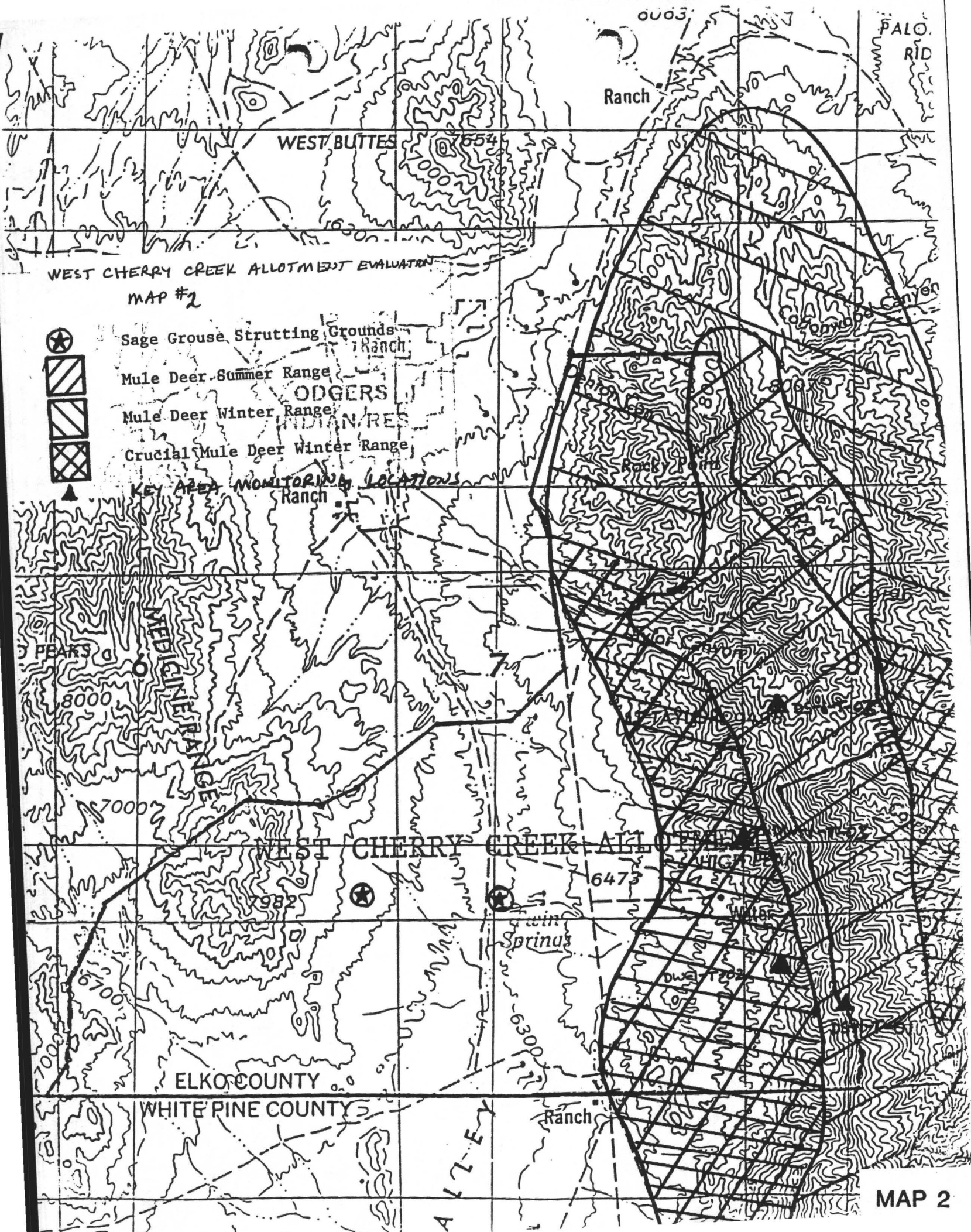
utilization levels will maintian the seeding production. Utilization on bitterbrush is limited to 25% use by livestock to ensure that enough forage is left for deer during the winter.

19. Continue to conduct the necessary monitoring studies and periodically evaluate the effects of grazing to determine if progress is being made in meeting the multiple use objectives. The West Cherry Creek Allotment will be reevaluated in accordance with priorities established in the Wells Resource Area Monitoring and Evaluation Schedule. If monitoring studies indicate a need to bring grazing use in line with capacity, necessary adjustments will be made.

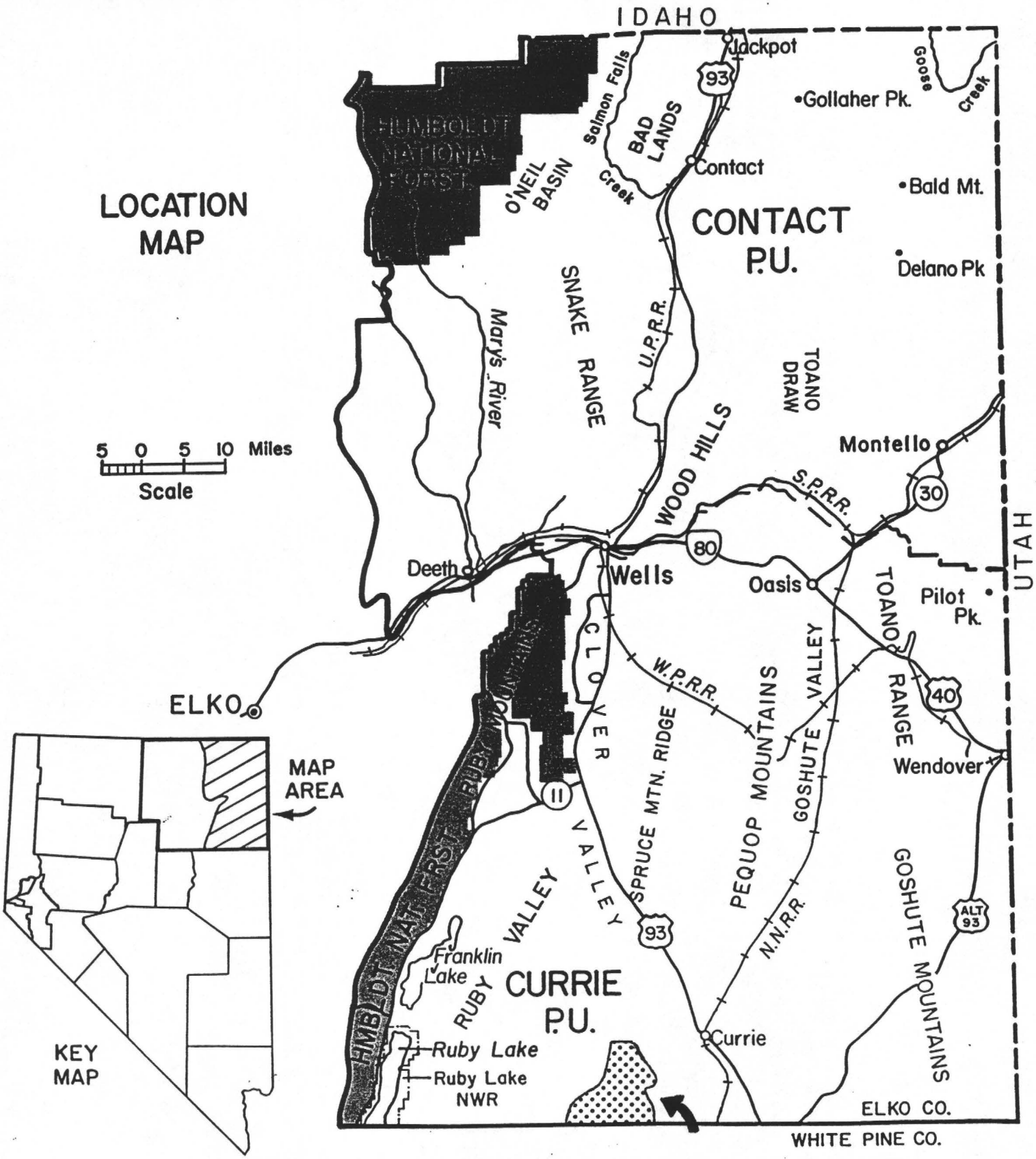
Rationale. Additional monitoring and analysis will be required to determine whether objectives are being met and to determine if carrying capacities need to be adjusted.


MAVERICK-MEDICINE HMA
WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT
DRY LAKE FLAT
RUBY VALLEY
ALKALI FLAT
LONE BUTTE
VALLEY MOUNTAIN
WEST BUTTES
PALOMINO RIDGE
ODGERS INDIAN RES
HIGH BALD PEAKS
ELKO COUNTY
WHITE PINE COUNTY
Sulphur Hot Springs
Windmill
Windmills
Cabin
Ranch
Water
Cabins

MAP 1

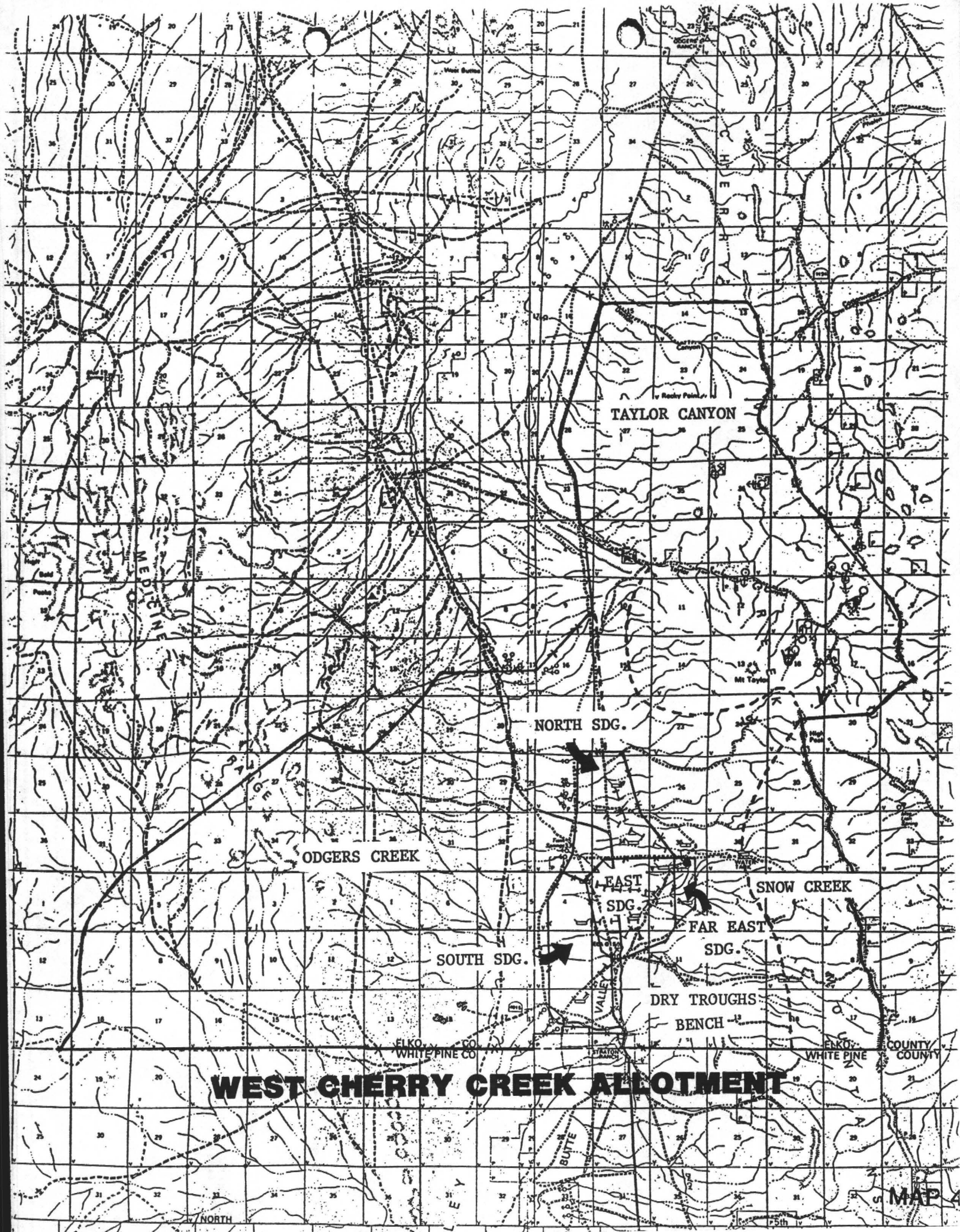

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT EVALUATION
MAP #2
Sage Grouse Strutting Grounds
Mule Deer Summer Range
Mule Deer Winter Range
Crucial Mule Deer Winter Range
KEY AREA MONITORING LOCATIONS
WEST BUTTES
7554
Ranch
RODGERS
INDIAN RES
Rocky Point
CHERRY
MEDICINE RANGE
PEAKS
8000
7000
6700
6300
WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT
7982
6473
Twin Springs
ELKO COUNTY
WHITE PINE COUNTY
Ranch
MAP 2

WELLS PLANNING AREA
ELKO DISTRICT NEVADA

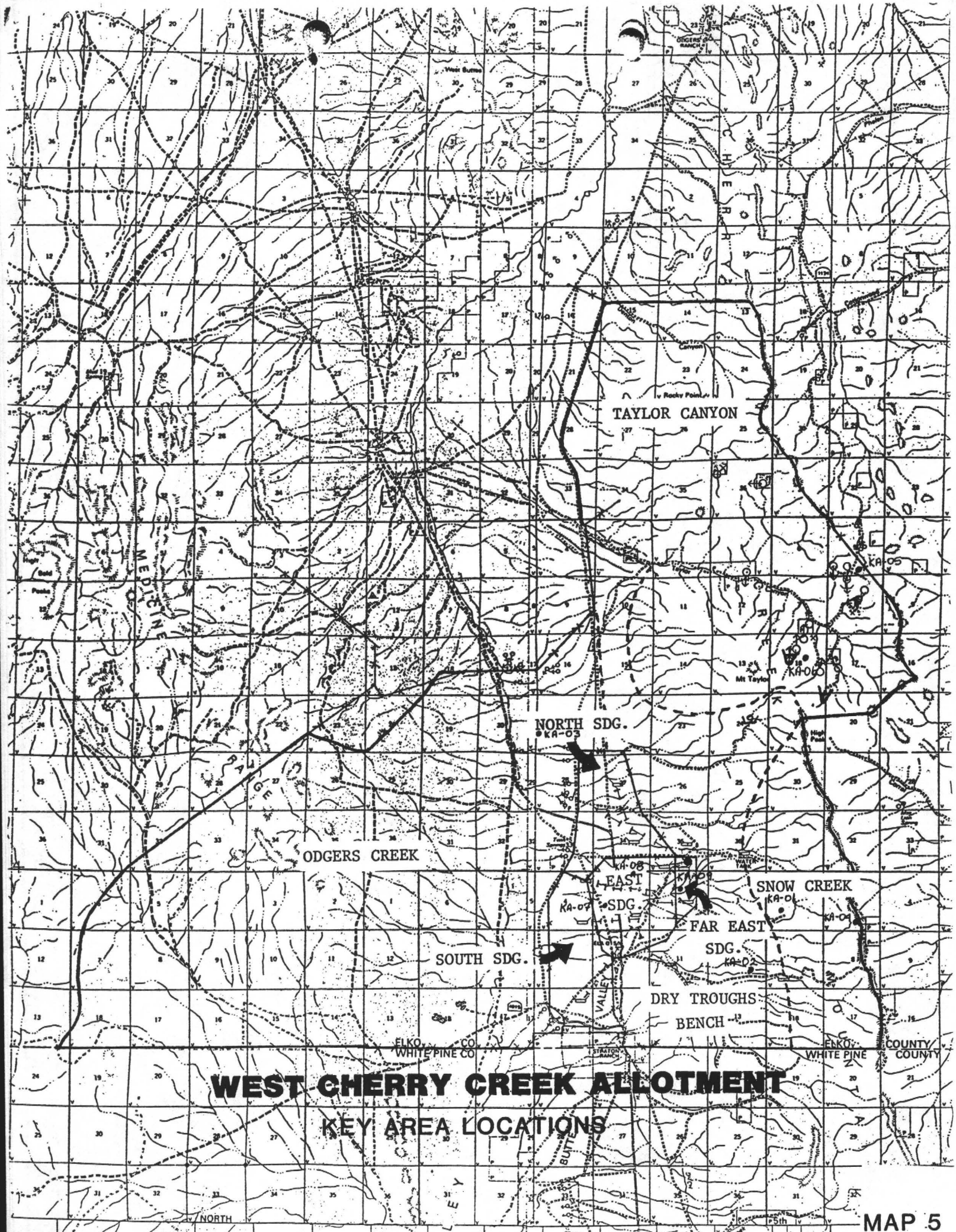


WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT

MAP 3



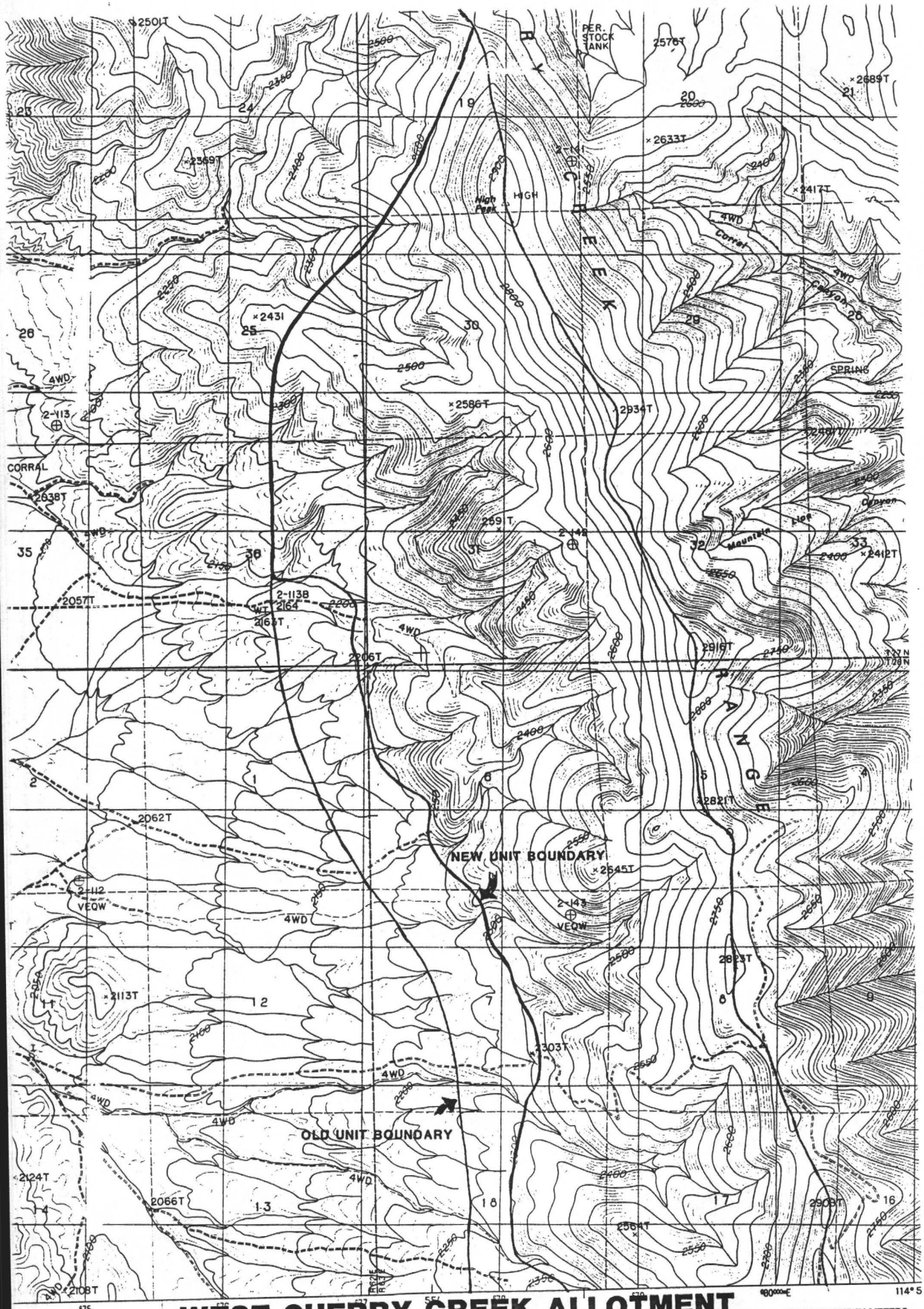
WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT



WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT

KEY AREA LOCATIONS

MAP 5



WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT

SCALE 1:24 000

CONTOURS AND ELEVATIONS IN METERS

DRY TROUGHS BENCH UNIT AND SNOW CREEK UNIT BOUNDARY

ROAD LEGEND

Improved Road

Unimproved Road

CHERRY CREEK HMP DEER WINTER RANGE
BITTERBRUSH UTILIZATION STUDIES

		GROWING SEASON 1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	AVERAGE
DW-1-T-01 (CALF CANYON)	FALL	56%	37%	28%	35%	21%	42%	37%
	SPRING*	68%	82%	48%	41%	37%		55%
DW-1-T-02 (WEST SLOPE)	FALL	11%	21%	16%	16%	16%	47%	21%
	SPRING*	37%	45%	63%	53%	16%		43%
DW-1-T-CU17 (MCDERMID)	FALL	68%	71%	84%	88%	39%	0%	58%
	SPRING*	86%	90%	92%	98%	43%		82%
ANNUAL AVERAGE CATTLE USE	(FALL)	45%	43%	43%	46%	25%	30%	39%
ANNUAL AVERAGE TOTAL USE	(SPRING)*	64%	72%	68%	64%	32%		60%
ANNUAL AVERAGE DEER USE	(SPG-FLL)	19%	29%	25%	18%	7%		21%

NO UTILIZATION BY CATTLE (1992)

*=SPRING OF FOLLOWING YEAR

ATTACHMENT 1

Riparian/Stream Habitat Survey Data For Public Land Portions of Streams

Station	Year	Pool:Riffle % Optimum	Quality Pools	Bottom Materials	Bank Cover	Bank Stability	Riparian Condition	Habitat Condition
TAYLOR CREEK								
2	1980	84.2	0	42.1	53.1	46.9	50.0	45.3
2	1987	18.4	0	9.2	65.6	75.0	70.3	33.6
2	1992	0	0	3.0	72.5	82.5	77.5	31.6
5	1980	77.0	0	92.3	93.8	75.0	84.4	67.6
5	1987	66.2	44.7	61.2	81.3	87.5	84.4	68.2
5	1992	76.0	0	18.0	100	100	100	59.0
6	1980	50.0	0	25.0	34.4	25.0	29.7	26.9
6	1987	45.8	0	4.2	28.1	40.6	34.4	23.7
*6	1992	96.0	0	15.0	50.0	97.5	74.0	51.7
7	1980	0	0	60.0	100	81.3	90.7	48.3
7	1987	41.8	0	0	50.0	46.9	48.5	27.7
7	1992	70.0	0	27.0	85.0	92.5	89.0	54.9
ODGERS CREEK								
1	1980	79.0	0	50.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	35.8
1	1987	90.0	0	55.8	25.0	25.0	25.0	39.2
1	1992	42.4	0	47.0	25.0	45.0	35.0	31.9
2	1980	58.0	0	58.1	25.0	25.0	25.0	33.2
2	1987	69.8	0	11.1	25.0	25.0	25.0	26.2
2	1992	10.0	0	4.0	47.5	75.0	61.0	27.3
3	1980	33.8	0	0	25.0	25.0	25.0	16.8
3	1987	43.4	0	0	34.4	34.4	34.4	22.4
*3	1992	39.0	16.2	0	45.0	87.5	66.0	37.5
4	1980	70.0	0	0	25.0	25.0	25.0	24.0
4	1987	37.8	0	0	25.0	25.0	25.0	17.6
4	1992	54.0	0	6.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	30.0
5	1980	34.4	0	0	25.0	25.0	25.0	16.9
5	1987	13.4	0	0	50.0	50.0	50.0	22.7
*5	1992	44.0	0	0	50.0	50.0	50.0	28.8
6	1980	70.0	0	0	25.0	25.0	25.0	24.0
6	1987	41.2	0	0	46.9	37.5	42.2	25.1
*6	1992	74.0	0	7.9	50.0	50.0	50.0	36.0
A1	1980	9.0	0	63.6	25.0	25.0	25.0	24.5
A1	1987	88.0	0	8.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	29.2
*A1	1992	72.0	0	30.0	42.5	47.5	45.0	38.4
B1	1980	36.4	0	63.6	25.0	25.0	25.0	30.0
B1	1987	72.8	0	20.4	43.8	62.5	53.2	39.9
*B1	1992	84.0	0	14.0	50.0	90.0	70.0	47.6
B2	1980	96.0	0	0	25.0	25.0	25.0	29.2
B2	1987	46.4	0	0	28.1	25.0	26.6	19.9
B2	1992	36.0	0	0	45.0	47.5	46.0	25.7

ATTACHMENT 2

ATTACHMENT #3

CHERRY CREEK
TEN YEAR SALE PLAN
PREPARATION SHEET

Proposed year for harvest: 94/95

Harvest Objectives:

Selectively harvest 200 acres to produce 600 Christmas trees.

Selectively harvest 110 acres from 16 units for the production of firewood and posts.

Cutting Unit Name: Taylor

Cutting Unit Location: _____

Harvest Prescriptions:

Access needs:

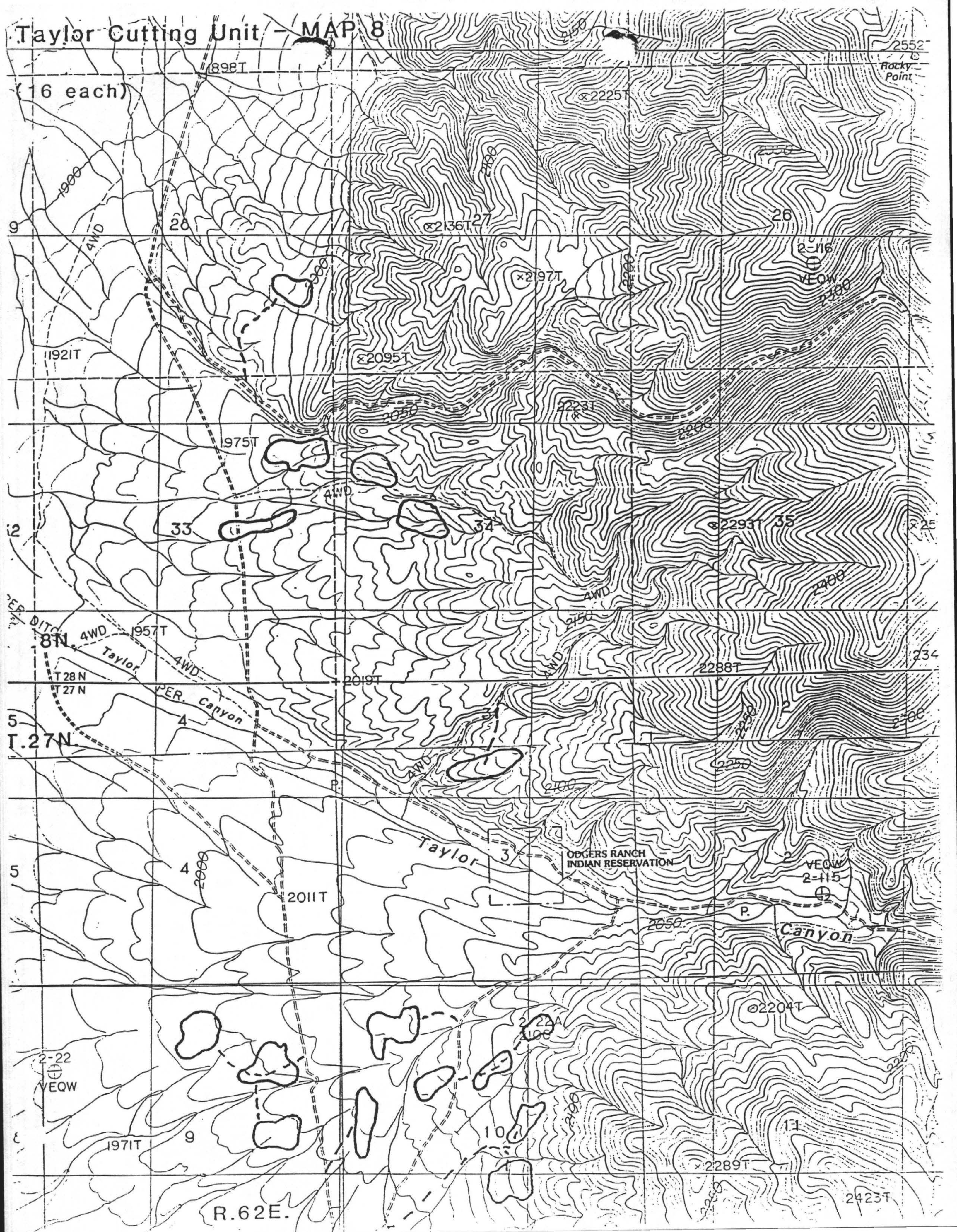
Road Maintenance: 10 miles.
Trail Construction: 2.4 miles. (temporary, includes brush removal)
Road Construction: .3 miles.

Notes: (completion dates, etc.)

ATTACHMENT 3

Taylor Cutting Unit - MAP 8

(16 each)



CHERRY CREEK
TEN YEAR SALE PLAN
PREPARATION SHEET

Proposed year for harvest: 95/96

Harvest Objectives:

Selectively harvest 200 acres to produce 600 Christmas trees.

Selectively harvest 120 acres from 25 units for the production of firewood and posts.

Cutting Unit Name: High Peak

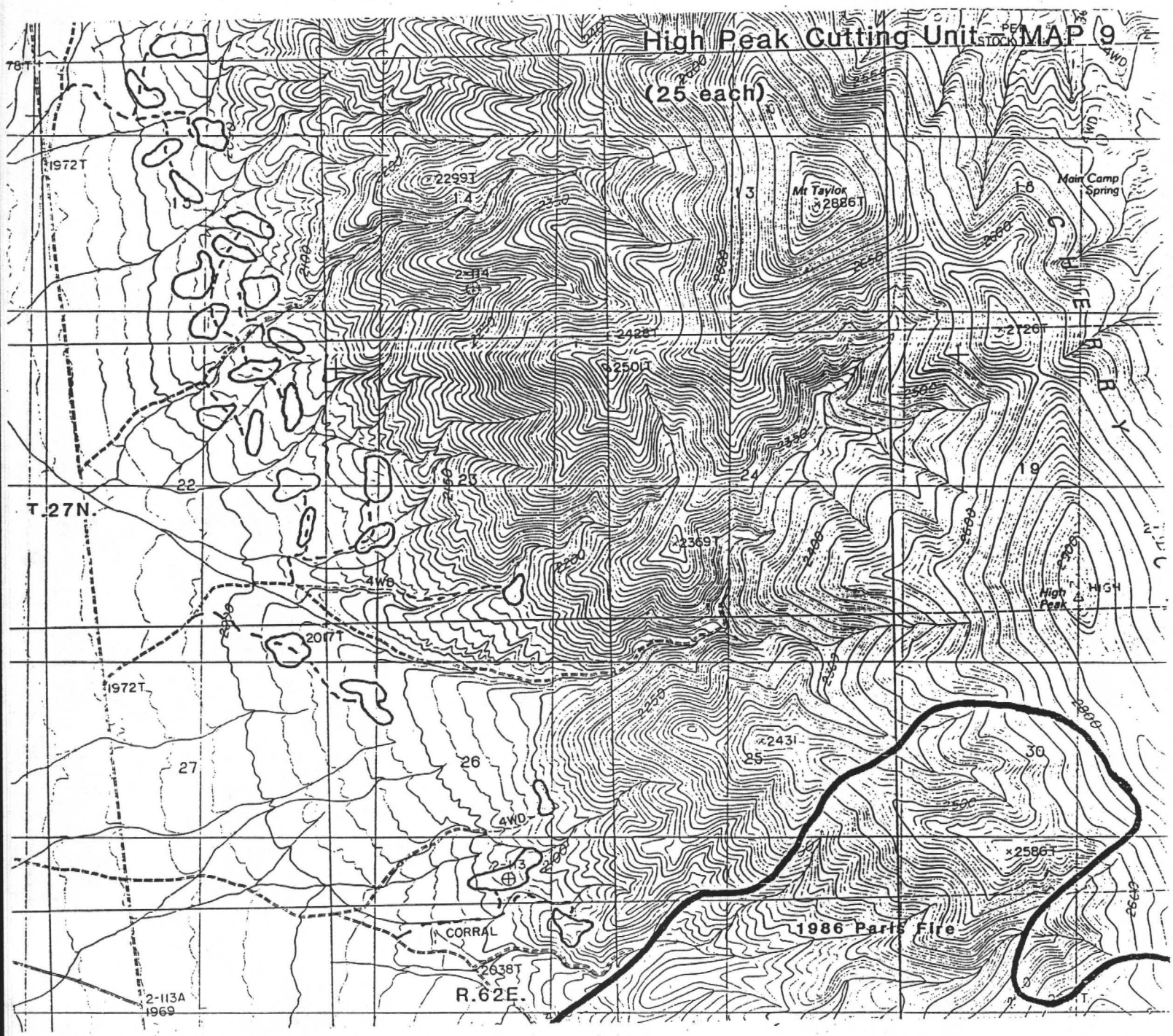
Cutting Unit Location: T.27N., R.62E.,

Harvest Prescriptions:

Access needs:

Road Maintenance: 3.5 miles.
Trail Construction: 4.4 miles. (temporary, includes brush removal)
Road Construction: .5 miles.

Notes: (completion dates, etc.)


High Peak Cutting Unit MAP 9
(25 each)
T.27N.
R.62E.
1986 Paris Fire
CORRAL
Mt Taylor
Main Camp Spring
High Peak
1972T
2299T
2428T
2501T
2369T
2017T
2431
2586T
2638T
2-113A
1969

CHERRY CREEK
TEN YEAR SALE PLAN
PREPARATION SHEET

Proposed year for harvest: 96/97

Harvest Objectives:

Selectively harvest 200 acres to produce 600 Christmas trees.

Selectively harvest 80 acres from 15 units for the production of firewood and posts.

Cutting Unit Name: Lasting

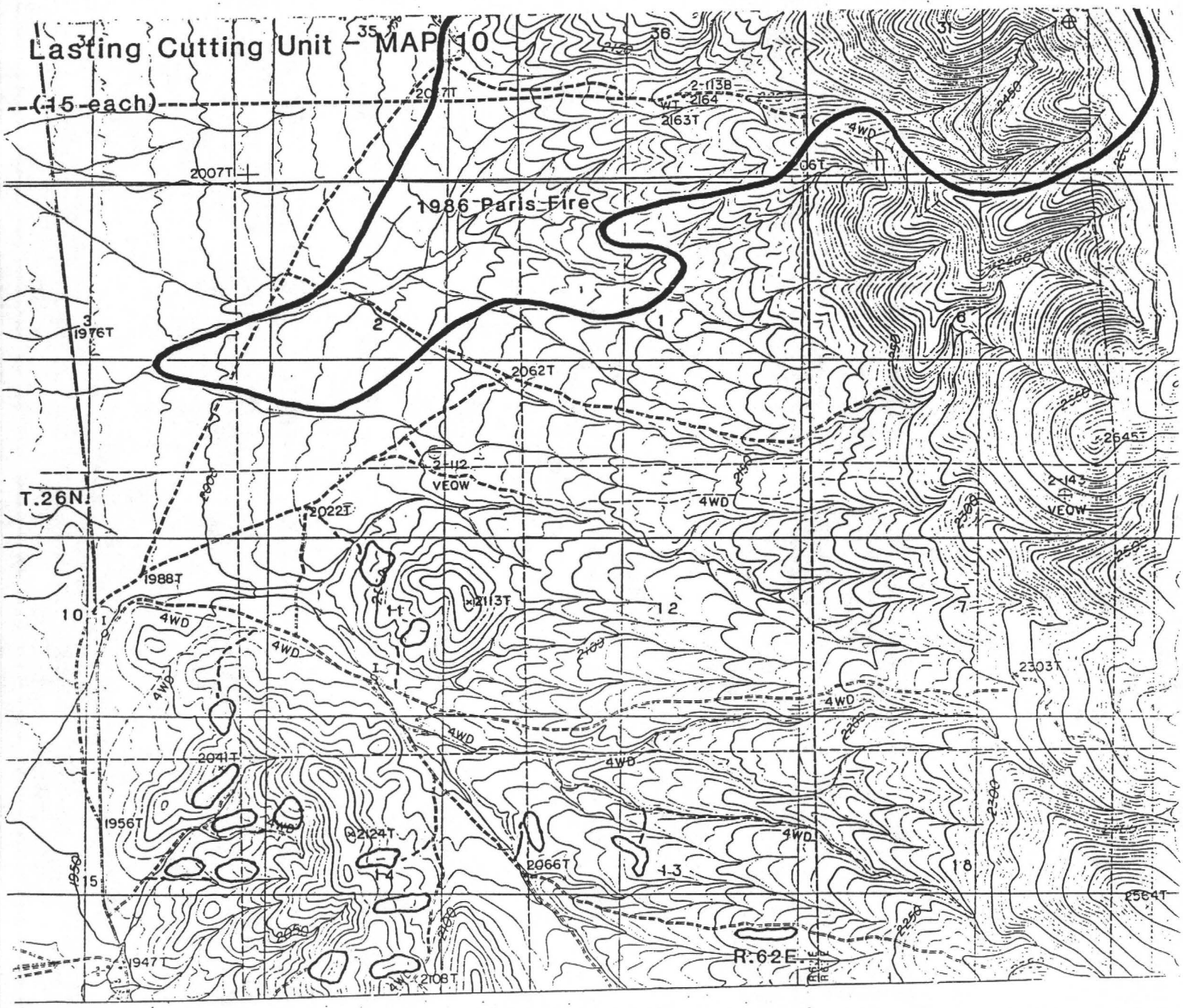
Cutting Unit Location: T.26N., R.62E.,

Harvest Prescriptions:

Access needs:

Road Maintenance: 4.5 miles.
Trail Construction: 1.7 miles. (temporary, includes brush removal)
Road Construction: 0 miles.

Notes: (completion dates, etc.)


Lasting Cutting Unit – MAP 10
(15 each)
1986 Paris Fire
T.26N.
R.62E.
2007T
2062T
2022T
1988T
2113T
2041T
1956T
2124T
2066T
1947T
2108T
2303T
2645T
2564T
1976T
2163T
2164
2-113B
2-112
2-143
VEOW
4WD
10
11
12
13
14
15
18
31
35
36

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT STUDIES SUMMARY MATRIX
Snow Creek Unit KA-01

Key Species: AGSP, ORHY, PUTR2, POSC

Year	Actual Use AUMS	Periods-of Use	KMA Util. (Percent)	Dates Read	KMA Use-Pat. Results	Dates Mapped	Pre-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	CAF	Post-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	Ecological Stat./Prod.	Key Species Frequency
1979	No Data	No Report	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	No Data	Not Calc.	Not Read	AGSP 57 ORHY 2 PUTR2 24 POSC 26
1983	No Data	No Report	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	1.58	Not Calc.	Not Read	AGSP 45(-12) ORHY 2(NSC) PUTR2 25(NSC) POSC 14(-12)
1984	No Data	No Report	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	1.97	Not Calc.	53 Late 769 lb/ac	Not Read
1986	240	6/6-7/3 9/15-9/16 9/19-9/21	27 (PUTR2) [10 POSC]	10/23	Not Mapped	N/A	1200	1.17	1026	Not Read	Not Read
1987	106	6/18-7/3	14 (AGSP)	11/3	Slight	10/8	379	.88	431	Not Read	Not Read
1988	84	6/15-6/26	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.63	Not Calc.	Not Read	Not Read
1989	204	6/14-6/27 8/27-9/6 9/13-9/15 10/18-10/25	31 (AGSP)	10/30	Light	10/30	329	.94	350	40 Mid 2974 lb/ac	AGSP 66(+21) ORHY 2(NSC) PUTR2 25(NSC) POSC 43(+29)
1990	159	6/17-7/7	23 (AGSP)	10/2	Not Mapped	N/A	346	.82	422	Not Read	Not Read
1991	139	6/15-7/3	28 (AGSP)	11/7	Not Mapped	N/A	248	.61	407	Not Read	Not Read
1992	52	6/16-6/12	47 (PUTR2) [42 AGSP]	10/9	Moderate	10/9	62	.75	83	Not Read	Not Read
AVE.	141		31(a)				427		453	1872 lb/ac	(b)

(a) This column indicates the key species with the highest utilization. The utilzation and key species in the [ ] indicates the key species which was used for the carrying capacity calculations. PUTR2 was not used in the carrying capacity calculations because use has been recorded below the objective level of 25% use by livestock in all instances, with the exception of 1992. The overall combined use by livestock and deer from 1987-1992 has been 21%. Furthermore, this key area is not representative of the Snow Creek Unit and is being recommeded to be part of Dry Troughs Bench.

(b) (+) = significant increase; (-) = significant decrease; NSC = no significant change.

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT STUDIES SUMMARY MATRIX
Snow Creek Unit KA-04

Key Species: STLE4, STCO3, AGOSE, ERIOG

	Actual Use AUMS	Periods-of Use	KMA Util. (Percent)	Dates Read	KMA Use-Pat. Results	Dates Mapped	Pre-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	CAF	Post-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	Ecological Stat./Prod.	Key Species Frequency
1981	No Data	No Report	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.64	Not Calc.	Not Read	STLE4 0 STCO3 0 AGOSE 69 ERIOG 9
1984	No Data	No Report	34 (STLE4)	9/12	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	1.97	Not Calc.	52 LATE 1094 lb/ac	Not Read
1986	240	6/6-7/3 9/15-9/16 9/19-9/21	36 (STLE4)	10/23	Not Mapped	N/A	333	1.17	285	Not Read	Not Read
1987	106	6/18-7/3	16 (STCO3)	10/8	Slight	10/8	331	.88	376	Not Read	Not Read
1988	84	6/15-6/26	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.63	Not Calc.	Not Read	Not Read
1989	204	6/14-6/27 8/27-9/6 9/13-9/15 10/18-10/25	52 (STCO3)	11/1	Moderate	11/1	196	.94	209	41 Mid 3956 lb/ac	STLE4 0(NSC) STCO3 60(+60) AGOSE 10(-59) ERIOG 6(NSC)
1990	159	6/17-7/7	27 (STCO3)	10/2	Not Mapped	N/A	294	.82	359	Not Read	Not Read
1991	139	6/15-7/3	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.61	Not Calc.	Not Read	Not Read
1992	52	6/6-6/12	0 - 5 (no transect)	11/5	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.75	Not Calc.	Not Read	Not Read
AVE.	141		33(a)				289		307	2525 lb/ac	(b)

(a) This indicates the key species with the highest utilization, which was also used in the carrying capacity calculations.

(b) (+) = significant increase; (-) = significant decrease; NSC = no significant change.

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT
Snow Creek Unit

Actual Use vs. Key Area Utilization

Year	Actual Use (AUMs)	KA-01 KA Util (%)	KA-01 Adj Util (%)	KA-04 KA Util (%)	KA-04 Adj Util (%)
1984	ND	ND	-	34	67
1986	240	27	32	36	42
1987	106	14	12	16	14
1988	84	ND	-	ND	-
1989	204	31	29	52	49
1990	159	23	19	27	22
1991	139	28	17	ND	-
1992	52	42	32	5	4

Actual Use - Actual use by sheep only.
KA Util. - Utilization of the key species with the highest recorded use.
Adj. Util. - Adjusted Utilization = KA Util. x CAF
ND = No data

Ecological Status

Key Area	Range Site	Ecological Status (% of PNC) 1984*	1984**	1989
KA-01	Shallow Loam 16"+	58 LATE	53 LATE	40 MID
KA-04	Loamy 16"+	46 MID	52 LATE	41 MID

*Original rating.
**Re-rating after changes in ecological site description by SCS.

0-25=Early Seral; 26-50=Mid Seral; 51-75=Late Seral; 76-100=PNC
PNC = Potential Natural Community

WEST CHERRY CREEK STUDIES SUMMARY MATRIX
Dry Troughs Bench Unit KA-02

Key Species: AGSP, ORHY, POSC

Year	Actual Use AUMS	Periods-of Use	KMA Util. (Percent)	Dates Read	KMA Use-Pat. Results	Dates Mapped	Pre-CAF Cap. (AUMS)	CAF	Post-CAF Cap. (AUMS)	Ecological Stat./Prod.	Key Species Frequency
1984	No Data	No Report	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	1.97	Not Calc.	47 Mid 420 lb/ac	AGSP 69 ORHY 7 POSC 11
1986	441	5/12-6/5 9/5-9/12 9/22-9/25 10/4-10/20	7 (AGSP)	10/23	Not Mapped	N/A	3150	1.17	2692	Not Read	Not Read
1987	437	5/14-6/17 8/26-10/9 9/10-9/21 10/19-10/22 10/24-10/27	4 (AGSP)	11/3	Light	11/3	5463 (728)(b)	.88	6208 (827)(b)	Not Read	Not Read
1988	574	4/21-5/19 5/15-6/14 7/27-9/1 9/4-9/11 10/11-10/17	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.63	Not Calc.	Not Read	Not Read
1989	488	5/16-6/13 8/16-8/26 9/9-9/12 10/8-10/17	27 (AGSP)	10/30	Light	10/30	904	.94	962	49 Mid 1521 lb/ac	AGSP 66(NSC) ORHY 1(-6) POSC 0(-11)
1990	568	6/2-6/16 8/18-9/13 9/8-10/2 9/14-9/23 10/22-10/24	26 (AGSP)	10/2	Not Mapped	N/A	1092	.82	1332	Not Read	Not Read
1991	784	5/17-6/14 6/7-6/8 7/4-7/13 8/2-9/9 8/27-9/13 9/16-10/6 10/10-10/10 10/22-10/24	30 (ORHY)	11/8	Not Mapped	N/A	1307	.61	2143	Not Read	Not Read
1992	623	5/28-6/5 6/24-7/11 8/1-8/31 9/3-9/26 10/15-10/19	29 (ORHY)	10/9	Light	10/9	1038	.75	1384	Not Read	Not Read
	559		21(a)				2159(c)		2454(c)	971 lb/ac	(d)

(a) This indicates the key species with the highest utilization, which was also used in the carrying capacity calculations.

(b) Carrying capacity calculations using 30% utilization; it was estimated from the UPM.

(c) Carrying capacity calculations for 1986 to 1987 were discounted because utilization levels were too low causing the figures to inflate.

(d) (+) = significant increase; (-) = significant decrease; NSC = no significant change.

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT
Dry Troughs Bench Unit

Actual Use vs. Key Area Utilization

		KA-02	
Year	Actual Use (AUMs)	KA Util (%)	Adj Util (%)
1984	ND	ND	-
1986	441	7	8
1987	437	4	4
1988	574	ND	-
1989	488	27	25
1990	568	26	21
1991	784	30	18
1992	623	29	22

Actual Use - Total actual use, includes both sheep and cattle.
KA Util. - Utilization of the key species with the highest recorded use.
Adj. Util. - Adjusted Utilization = KA Util. x CAF
ND = No data

Ecological Status

		Ecological Status (% of PNC)		
Key Area	Range Site	1984*	1984**	1989
KA-02	Loamy 10-12"	50 MID	47 MID	49 MID

*Original rating.
**Re-rating after changes in ecological site description by SCS.

0-25=Early Seral; 26-50=Mid Seral; 51-75=Late Seral; 76-100=PNC
PNC = Potential Natural Community

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT STUDIES SUMMARY MATRIX
Odgers Creek Unit KA-03

Key Species: SPAI, SPGR, POA++

Year	Actual Use AUMS	Periods-of Use	KMA Util. (Percent)	Dates Read	KMA Use-Pat. Results	Dates Mapped	Pre-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	CAF	Post-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	Ecological Stat./Prod.	Key Species Frequency
1984	No Data	No Report	21 (SPAI)	9/25	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	1.97	Not Calc.	58 LATE 326 lb/ac	SPAI 14 SPGR 66 POA++ 39
1986	558	4/23-10/7	54 (POA++)	10/23	Not Mapped	N/A	517	1.17	442	Not Read	Not Read
1987	470	4/27-9/26	60 (SPAI)	10/8	Moderate	10/8	392	.88	445	Not Read	Not Read
1988	342	4/21-8/2	50 (est.)	N/A	Moderate	11/10	342	.63	543	Not Read	Not Read
1989	0 (a)	Not Used	57 (SPAI)	11/1	Moderate	11/1	432(c)	.94	460	29 Mid 1233 lb/ac	SPAI 33(+19) SPGR 34(-32) POA++ 77(+38)
1990	0 (a)	Not Used	63 (SPGR)	10/11	Heavy	10/11	391(c)	.82	477	Not Read	Not Read
1991	80	8/2-9/8	72 (SPAI)	10/7	Not Mapped	N/A	55 540(d)	.61	90 885(d)	Not Read	Not Read
1992	40	8/1-8/23	32 (SPAI)(f)	7/30	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.75	Not Calc.	Not Read	Not Read
AVE	298		63(b)				355		410	780 lb/ac	(e)

(a) No use was made by the permittees livestock. Utilization recorded was the result of use by trespass livestock and wild horses.

(b) This indicates the key species with the highest utilization, which was also used in the carrying capacity calculations.

(c) Carrying capacity was estimated using 100 Cows and 70 Horses from 7/1-9/30 at 96% FR. (493 AUMs)
NOTE: Trespass livestock used this pasture annually to some extent throughout the evaluation period.

(d) Carrying capacity was calculated using combined cattle (80 AUMs) and wild horse (697 AUMs) actual use. The wild horse actual use was calculated using the 240 wild horses censused on 7/91, for a period of use from 7/1-9/30 at 96% FR.

(e) (+) = significant increase; (-) = significant decrease; NSC = no significant change.

(f) In 1992, utilization was read prior to livestock turnout. Utilization was not read after livestock came off.

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT
Odgers Creek Unit

Actual Use vs. Key Area Utilization

		KA-03	
Year	Actual Use (AUMs)	KA Util (%)	Adj Util (%)
1984	ND	21	41
1986	558	54	63
1987	470	60	53
1988	342	ND	-
1989	0	57	54

Actual Use - Actual use by cattle only.
KA Util. - Utilization of the key species with the highest recorded use.
Adj. Util. - Adjusted Utilization = KA Util x CAF
ND = No Data

Ecological Status

		Ecological Status (% of PNC)		
Key Area	Range Site	1984*	1984**	1989
KA-03	Dry Saline Meadow	43 MID	58 LATE	29 MID

*Original rating.
**Re-rating after changes in ecological site description by SCS.

0-25=Early Seral; 26-50=Mid Seral; 51-75=Late Seral; 76-100=PNC
PNC = Potential Natural Community

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT STUDIES SUMMARY MATRIX
Taylor Canyon Unit KA-05 Mustang Spring Subunit

Key Species: AGSP, POSC, STLE4

Year	Actual Use AUMS	Periods-of Use	KMA Util. (Percent)	Dates Read	KMA Use-Pat. Results	Dates Mapped	Pre-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	CAF	Post-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	Ecological Stat./Prod.	Key Species Frequency
1984	No Data	No Report	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	1.97	Not Calc.	Not Read	AGSP 49 POSC 45 STLE4 23
1985	No Data	No Report	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.98	Not Calc.	56 Late 1309 lb/ac	Not Read
1986	270 153(a)	6/16-10/7 7/10-7/14 7/15-8/4(b) 8/5-8/9	59 (STLE4)	10/24	Not Mapped	N/A	229	1.17	196	Not Read	Not Read
1987	578 155(a)	6/13-10/9 7/4-9/8 7/10-7/15 7/16-7/27(b) 8/8-9/8 9/29-10/5 10/6-10/12(b)	66 (POSC)	11/3	Moderate	11/3	438	.88	498	Not Read	Not Read
1988	310 95(a)	6/10-8/1 6/27-7/26 7/9-7/14 7/15-7/20(b) 7/21-7/26 9/18-9/23 9/24-9/29(b) 9/30-10/5 9/12-10/10	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.63	Not Calc.	Not Read	Not Read
1989	256 51(a)	6/28-8/15 7/1-8/19 7/5-7/13 7/14-7/20(b) 7/21-7/27 9/23-9/28 9/16-10/7	56 (STLE4)	8/31	Moderate	10/26	229	.94	244	53 Late 678 lb/ac	AGSP 50(NSC) POSC 29(-16) STLE4 14(-9)
1990	263 0(a)	7/3-8/31 7/18-7/29 9/24-10/21	28 (POSC)	12/6	Not Mapped	N/A	467	.82	570	Not Read	Not Read
1991	222 0(a)	6/20-8/24 7/14-7/21 7/24-8/6 10/12-10/18	53 (POSC)	10/24	Not Mapped	N/A	209	.61	343	Not Read	Not Read
1992	180 0(a)	7/8-8/18 7/12-7/17 7/24-8/4 10/3-10-14	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.75	Not Calc.	Not Read	Not Read
AVE	297 114(a)		52(c)				314		370	994 lb/ac	(d)

NOTE: The Mustang Spring Subunit includes Tent Spring, Mustang Spring, and Trough Spring. Tent Spring actually represents KA-05. Therefore, actual use and periods of use for the areas around Mustang and Trough Springs is included to show what kind of use this area is receiving. Another key area is recommended in this area.

(a) This represents total actual use in the Mustang and Trough Springs area. It is a part of the use in the total subunit. For example, in 1986, total actual use in the subunit is 270 AUMs, 153 of those AUMs were used in the Mustang Spring area. From 1990-1992, virtually no use was made in the Mustang/Trough Springs area as the springs dried up.

(b) Same principle as in (a) applies here. However, this is periods of use in the Mustang and Trough Springs area.

(c) This indicates the key species with the highest utilization, which was also used in the carrying capacity calculations.

(d) (+) = significant increase; (-) = significant decrease; NSC = no significant change.

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT STUDIES SUMMARY MATRIX
Taylor Canyon Unit KA-06 Main Camp Spring Subunit

Key Species: AGSP, STCO3, HEKI, AGOSE

Year	Actual Use AUMS	Periods-of Use	KMA Util. (Percent)	Dates Read	KMA Use-Pat. Results	Dates Mapped	Pre-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	CAF	Post-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	Ecological Stat./Prod.	Key Species Frequency
1981	No Data	No Report	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.64	Not Calc.	Not Read	AGSP 72 STCO3 49 HEKI 0 AGOSE 24
1984	No Data	No Report	55 (STCO3)	9/26	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	1.97	Not Calc.	49 Mid 1439 lb/ac	Not Read
1986	342	6/16-10/7 7/4-7/9 8/10-9/4 9/26-10/3	60 (AGSP)	10/24	Not Mapped	N/A	285	1.17	244	Not Read	Not Read
1987	269	6/13-10/9 7/4-7/9 8/3-8/7 9/22-9/28 10/13-10/18	49 (STCO3)	11/3	Moderate	11/3	274	.88	311	Not Read	Not Read
1988	207	6/10-8/1 6/27-7/8 9/12-10/17 10/6-10/10	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.63	Not Calc.	Not Read	Not Read
1989	387	6/28-7/4 7/1-8/19 7/28-8/15 9/16-9/22 9/29-10/7	49 (STCO3)	10/26	Moderate	10/26	395	.94	420	35 Mid 1410 lb/ac	AGSP 27(-45) STCO3 15(-34) HEKI 0(NSC) AGOSE 0(-24)
1990	332	7/3-8/31 7/14-7/17 7/30-8/19 9/24-10/21	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.82	Not Calc.	Not Read	Not Read
1991	256	6/20-8/24 7/22-7/23 8/7-8/26 10/11-10/11 10/19-10/21	42 (STCO3)	10/24	Not Mapped	N/A	305	.61	500	Not Read	Not Read
1992	313	7/8-8/18 7/18-7/23 8/5-8/21 9/27-10/2	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.75	Not Calc.	Not Read	Not Read
AVE	301		51(a)				315		369	2925 lb/ac	(b)

(a) This indicates the key species with the highest utilization, which was also used in the carrying capacity calculations.

(b) (+) significant increase; (-) = significant decrease; NSC = no significant change.

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT
Taylor Canyon Unit

Actual Use vs. Key Area Utilization

KA-05

Year	Actual Use (AUMs)	KA Util (%)	Adj Util (%)
1984	ND	ND	-
1986	270	59	69
1987	578	66	58
1988	310	ND	-
1989	256	56	53
1990	263	28	23
1991	222	53	32
1992	180	ND	-

KA-06

1984	ND	55	108
1986	342	60	70
1987	269	49	43
1988	207	ND	-
1989	387	49	46
1990	332	ND	-
1991	256	42	26
1992	313	ND	-

Actual Use - Total actual use, includes both sheep and cattle.
KA Util. - Utilization of the key species with the highest recorded use.
Adj. Util. - Adjusted Utilization = KA Util. x CAF
ND = No Data

Ecological Status

Key Area	Range Site	Ecological Status (% of PNC) 1985*	1985**	1989
KA-05	Claypan 12-16"	50 MID	56 LATE	53 LATE
		1984*	1984**	1989
KA-06	Loamy 16"+	44 MID	49 MID	35 MID

*Original rating.
**Re-rating after changes in ecological site description by SCS.

0-25=Early Seral; 26-50=Mid Seral; 51-75=Late Seral; 76-100=PNC
PNC = Potential Natural Community

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT STUDIES SUMMARY MATRIX
East Seeding KA-07

Key Species: AGCR

Year	Actual Use AUMS	Periods-of Use	KMA Util. (Percent)	Dates Read	KMA Use-Pat. Results	Dates Mapped	Pre-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	CAF	Post-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	Non-Adj Air Dry (lbs/ac)	Adj Air Dry (lbs/ac)
1989	335	4/22-6/13	47	6/26	Moderate	6/26	392	.94	417	589	627
1990	239	4/18-7/2 5/15-6/5 10/5-11/1	11	11/1	Slight	11/1	1195	.82	1457		
1991	375	4/25-6/19 6/4-6/6	43	7/2	Moderate	7/2	480	.61	787		
1992	309	6/14-7/31	61	8/19	Heavy	8/19	279	.75	372		
AVE	315		41				384		525	589	627

The 1990 carrying capacity calculations were not included in the final calculations because there was no correlation with the data.

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT STUDIES SUMMARY MATRIX
East Seeding KA-08

Key Species: AGCR

Year	Actual Use AUMS	Periods-of Use	KMA Util. (Percent)	Dates Read	KMA Use-Pat. Results	Dates Mapped	Pre-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	CAF	Post-CAF Cap. (AUMS)	Non-Adj Air Dry (lbs/ac)	Adj Air Dry (lbs/ac)
1989	335	4/22-6/13	36	6/26	Light	6/26	512	.94	544	223	237
1990	239	4/18-7/2 5/15-6/5 10/5-11/1	30	11/1	Light	11/1	438	.82	534		
1991	375	4/25-6/19 6/4-6/6	39	7/2	Light	7/2	529	.61	867		
1992	309	6/14-7/31	61(est)	8/19	Heavy	8/19	279	.75	372		
AVE.	315		42				440		579	223	237
AVE. 2 KAs	315		42				412		552	406	432

The carrying capacity for the East Seeding is 397 AUMs. This is based on an average of the carrying capacity calculations of the years with the highest recorded utilization.

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT
East Seeding

Actual Use vs. Key Area Utilization

Year	Actual Use (AUMs)	KA-07 KA Util (%)	KA-07 Adj Util (%)	KA-08 KA Util (%)	KA-08 Adj Util (%)
1989	335	47	44	36	34
1990	239	11	9	30	25
1991	375	43	26	39	24
1992	309	61	46	61	46

Actual Use - Actual use by cattle only.
KA Util. = Key Area Utilization
Adj. Util. - Adjusted Utilization = KA Util. x CAF

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT STUDIES SUMMARY MATRIX
Far East Seeding KA-09

Key Species: AGCR

Year	Actual Use AUMS	Periods-of Use	KMA Util. (Percent)	Dates Read	KMA Use-Pat. Results	Dates Mapped	Pre-CAF Cap. (AUMS)	CAF	Post-CAF Cap. (AUMS)	Non-Adj Air Dry (lbs/ac)	Adj Air Dry (lbs/ac)
1988	58	8/2-10/1	10 (est)	N/A	Slight	11/10	319	.63	506		
1989	45	5/15-6/30	40	7/1	Light	7/1	62	.94	66	494	525
1990	42	9/1-10/2 6/1-6/30	30	10/11	Light	10/11	77	.82	94		
1991	90	9/9-10/30	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.61	Not Calc.		
1992	9	4/28-6/13	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.75	Not Calc.		
AVE	49		30				153		222	494	525

In 1988, utilization was estimated from use pattern map as key area had not been established yet.

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT
Far East Seeding

Actual Use vs. Key Area Utilization

Year	Actual Use (AUMs)	KA-09 KA Util (%)	Adj Util (%)
1988	58	10	6
1989	45	40	38
1990	42	30	25
1991	90	ND	-
1992	9	ND	-

Actual Use - Actual use by cattle only.
KA Util. = Key Area Utilization. Key areas established in 1989, thus, in 1988, utilization was estimated from use pattern maps.
Adj. Util. - Adjusted Utilization = KA Util. x CAF
ND = No Data

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLLOTMENT STUDIES MATRIX
North Seeding KA-10

Key Species: AGCR

Year	Actual Use AUMS	Periods-of Use	KMA Util. (Percent)	Dates Read	KMA Use-Pat. Results	Dates Mapped	Pre-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	CAF	Post-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	Non-Adj Air Dry (lbs/ac)	Adj Air Dry (lbs/ac)
1988	384	8/2-10/2	10 (est)	11/10	Slight	11/10	2112	.63	3352	542	861
1989	682	6/14-9/29	57	10/4	Moderate	10/4	658	.94	700		
1990	417	7/3-9/7	30 (est)	10/2	Light	10/2	765	.82	933		
1991	63	5/20-5/26 6/5-6/19 8/25-9/19	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.61	Not Calc.		
1992	335	4/23-6/13	65	6/22	Not Mapped	N/A	283	.75	377		
AVE	376		41				569		670	542	861

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLLOTMENT STUDIES MATRIX
North Seeding KA-11

Key Species: AGCR

Year	Actual Use AUMS	Periods-of Use	KMA Util. (Percent)	Dates Read	KMA Use-Pat. Results	Dates Mapped	Pre-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	CAF	Post-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	Non-Adj Air Dry (lbs/ac)	Adj Air Dry (lbs/ac)
1988	384	8/2-10/2	10 (est)	11/10	Slight	11/10	2112	.63	3352	542	861
1989	682	6/14-9/29	57 (est)	10/4	Moderate	10/4	658	.94	700		
1990	417	7/3-9/7	70 (est)	10/2	Heavy	10/2	328	.82	400		
1991	63	5/20-5/26 6/5-6/19 8/25-9/19	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.61	Not Calc.		
1992	335	4/23-6/13	59	6/22	Not Mapped	N/A	312	.75	416		
AVE	376		49				433		505	542	861
AVE 2 KAs	376		45				501		589	542	861

From 1988-1990, utilzation was estimated from transects done near the key area or from use pattern maps. Key area was established in 1991.

The carrying capacity for the North Seeding is 423 AUMs. This is based on an average of the carrying capacity calculations of the years with the highest utilzation.

The 1988 carrying capacity calculations were not included in the final calculations because there was no correlation with the data.

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT
North Seeding

Actual Use vs. Utilization

Year	Actual Use (AUMs)	KA-10 KA Util (%)	KA-10 Adj Util (%)	KA-11 KA Util (%)	KA-11 Adj Util (%)
1988	384	10	6	10	6
1989	682	57	54	57	54
1990	417	30	25	70	57
1991	63	ND	-	ND	-
1992	335	65	49	59	44

Actual Use - Actual use by cattle only.
KA Util. - Key areas established in 1991, thus, from 1988-1990, key area utilization was estimated from the use pattern maps.
Adj. Util. - Adjusted Utilization = Est. Util. x CAF

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLLOTMENT STUDIES MATRIX
North-South Seeding KA-12

Key Species: AGCR

Year	Actual Use AUMS	Periods-of Use	KMA Util. (Percent)	Dates Read	KMA Use-Pat. Results	Dates Mapped	Pre-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	CAF	Post-CAF Cap.(AUMS)	Not-Adj Air Dry (lbs/ac)	Adj Air Dry (lbs/ac)
1989	106	8/20-10/31	30 (est)	11/1	Light	11/1	194	.94	206	304	323
1990	537	4/19-7/2	50 (est)	7/17	Moderate	7/17	591	.82	721		
1991	271	6/20-8/1	70	8/14	Not Mapped	N/A	213	.61	349		
1992	117	4/28-7/7 5/17-5/31	Not Read	N/A	Not Mapped	N/A	Not Calc.	.75	Not Calc.	312	416
AVE	258		50				333		425	308	370

In 1989 a random clip was done on the South Seeding. In 1992, the production clip was done at the key area.

In 1991, utilization was read prior to establishing the key area. Utilization was estimated from a transect done near the area where the key area was later established.

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT
North-South Seeding

Actual Use vs. Utilization

Year	Actual Use (AUMs)	KA-12 KA Util (%)	Adj Util (%)
1989	106	30	28
1990	537	50	41
1991	271	70	43
1992	117	ND	-

Actual Use - Actual use by cattle only. This seeding was split in 1991, thus the 1989 and 1990 actual use data indicates actual use for the entire South Seeding.

KA. Util. - Key areas established in 1991, thus, in 1989 and 1990, utilization was estimated from use pattern maps.

Adj. Util. - Adjusted Utilization - Est. Util. x CAF

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLLOTMENT STUDIES MATRIX
South-South Seeding KA-13

Key Species: AGCR

Year	Actual Use AUMS	Periods-of Use	KMA Util. (Percent)	Dates Read	KMA Use-Pat. Results	Dates Mapped	Pre-CAF Cap. (AUMS)	CAF	Post-CAF Cap. (AUMS)	Non-Adj Air Dry (lbs/ac)	Adj Air Dry (lbs/ac)
1989	106	8/20-10/31	30 (est)	11/1	Light	11/1	194	.94	206	304	323
1990	537	4/19-7/2	57	7/17	Moderate	7/17	518	.82	632		
1991	27	5/1-6/4	30 (est)	8/14	Not Mapped	N/A	50	.61	82		
1992	77	8/19-10/1 10/8-11/30	13	6/22	Not Mapped	N/A	326	.75	435	295	393
AVE	187		33				272		339	300	358

In 1989 a random clip was done on the South Seeding. In 1992, the production clip was done at the key area.

In 1991, utilization was read prior to establishing the key area. Utilization was estimated from a transect done near the area where the key area was later established.

WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT
South-South Seeding

Actual Use vs. Utilization

Year	Actual Use (AUMs)	KA-13 KA Util (%)	KA-13 Adj Util (%)
1989	106	30	28
1990	537	57	47
1991	27	30	18
1992	77	13	10

Actual Use - Actual use by cattle only. This seeding was split in 1991, thus the 1989 and 1990 actual use data indicates actual use for the entire South Seeding.

KA. Util. - Key areas established in 1991, thus, in 1989 and 1990, utilization was estimated from use pattern maps.

Adj. Util. - Adjusted Utilization - Est. Util. x CAF

West Cherry Creek Allotment Actual Use Summary by AUMs. APPENDIX 2

Pasture	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
Far East Seeding	0	0	58 C	45 C	42 C	90 C	9 C
East Seeding	0	0	0	335 C	135 C 104 S	368 C 7 S	309 C
N-South Seeding	0	0	0	106 C	537 C	271 C	58 C 59 S
S-South Seeding						27 C	77 S
North Seeding	0	0	384 C	682 C	417 C	38 C 25 S	335 C
Taylor Canyon	90 C 522 S	113 C 734 S	50 C 467 S	47 C 596 S	62 C 533 S	60 C 418 S	34 C 459 S
Snow Creek	240 S	106 S	84 S	204 S	159 S	139 S	52 S
Odgers Creek	558 C	470 C	342 C	0	0	90 C	40 C
Dry Troughs Bench	441 S	49 C 388 S	27 C 547 S	488 S	107 C 461 S	154 C 630 S	103 C 520 S
Subtotals	648 C 1203 S	632 C 1228 S	861 C 1098 S	1215 C 1288 S	1300 C 1257 S	1098 C 1219 S	888 C 1167 S
TOTALS	1851	1860	1959	2503	2557	2317	2055

Taylor Canyon Subunits							
Main Camp Spring	45 C 297 S	57 C 212 S	25 C 182 S	24 C 363 S	31 C 301 S	30 C 226 S	17 C 296 S
Mustang Spring	45 C 225 S	56 C 522 S	25 C 285 S	23 C 233 S	31 C 232 S	30 C 192 S	17 C 163 S
Totals	90 C 522 S	113 C 734 S	50 C 467 S	47 C 596 S			

The South Seeding was split into the N-South and S-South Seedings in 1991 following construction of the South Seeding Cross Fence.

GRAZING SYSTEM FOR THE CATTLE OPERATION IN THE WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT. **APPENDIX 3**

PASTURE	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
North Seeding	Rest	200 c 5/1-6/30 (385)	50 c 10/1-10/31 (49) 30 c 7/11-9/30 (58)	200 c 6/1-7/31 (385)	Repeat Cycle
East Seeding	200 c 5/1-6/30 (385)	50 c 10/1-10/31 (49) 30 c 5/1-6/30 (58)	200 c 6/1-7/31 (385)	REST	
N-South Seeding	200 c 7/1-7/31 (196)	REST	200 c 5/1-5/31 (196)	50 c 10/1-10/31 (49) 30 c 5/1-6/15 (43)	
S-South Seeding	50 c 10/1-10/31 (49) 30 c 5/1-6/15 (43)	200 c 7/1-7/31 (196)	REST	200 c 5/1-5/31 (196)	
Far East Seeding	30 c 6/16-8/15 (58)	30 c 8/16-9/30 (45)	30 c 5/1-7/10 (67)	30 c 6/16-8/15 (45)	
Taylor Canyon	30 c 8/16-9/30 (45)	30 c 7/1-8/15 (45)	30 c REST	30 c 8/16-9/30 (45)	
Dry Troughs Bench	44 c 8/1-9/30 (85)	Annual Use			
Odgers Creek	200 c 8/1-9/30 (385)	Annual Use			
Total AUMs	(1246)	(1248)	(1225)	(1246)	

Legend: 200 c (# lvsk & kind) 8/1-9/30 (Period of Use) (385) (AUMs)

Taylor Canyon will receive one year of rest every four years by the 30 head of cattle. Use will be authorized after 7/1.

The native range (Dry Troughs Bench and Odgers Creek) will be deferred from cattle use until 8/1.

Cattle will come off of all the native range by 9/30 annually. Any authorized use after 9/30 will be in the seedings.

The grazing cycle will be repeated in 1998.

The total AUMs authorized for each pasture will not exceed maximum AUMs outlined in Technical Recommendation 2 and total licensed AUMs will not exceed the active preference of 2661 AUMs annually. However, deviations will be allowed as per Technical Recommendation 4.

GRAZING SYSTEM FOR THE SHEEP OPERATION ON THE WEST CHERRY CREEK ALLOTMENT. **APPENDIX 3 (CON'T)**

Pasture	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
North Seeding	1800 s 5/1-5/14 (159) 1500 s 5/15-5/31 (161)	REST	1500 s 5/15-5/31 (161) 1000 s 6/1-6/14 (88)	REST	Repeat Cycle
East Seeding	REST	1500 s 5/15-5/31 (161) 1000 s 6/1-6/14 (88)	REST	1800 s 5/1-5/14 (159) 1500 s 5/15-5/31 (161)	
N-South Seeding	REST	1800 s 5/1-5/14 (159)	REST	1000 s 6/1-6/14 (88)	
S-South Seeding	1000 s 6/1-6/14 (88)	REST	1800 s 5/1-5/14 (159)	REST	
Taylor Canyon	1000 s 7/1-9/30 (584) Main Camp deferred until 8/1.	1000 s 7/1-9/30 (584) Main Camp deferred until 8/1.	1000 s 7/1-9/30 (584) Mustang Spring deferred until 8/1.	1000 s 7/1-9/30 (584) Mustang Spring deferred until 8/1.	
Dry Troughs Bench	1000 s 6/15-9/30[1] (101) 1000 s 10/1-10/7 (44)	Annual Use			
Snow Creek	1000 s 6/15-9/30[1] (289)	Annual Use			
Total AUMs	(1426)	(1426)	(1426)	(1426)	

Grazing Treatment for Taylor Canyon:

Taylor Canyon Unit will be divided into 2 subunits; Main Camp Spring and Mustang Spring. In 1994 and 1995, use in Main Camp Spring will be deferred until 8/1. When moving sheep into Taylor Canyon, 2 days use will be allowed in Main Camp Spring for watering, then sheep must be moved into Mustang Spring Subunit. Use after 8/1 will be allowed in both Main Camp Spring and Mustang Spring Subunits.

In 1996 and 1997, use in Mustang Spring will be deferred until 8/1. Use after 8/1 will be allowed in both Main Camp Spring and Mustang Spring Subunits.

The native range (Dry Troughs Bench and Snow Creek) will be deferred from sheep use until 6/15 and deferred until 7/1 in Talyor Canyon. Use from 5/1-6/14 will be in the seedings.

The grazing cycle will be repeated in 1998.

Sheep use on Taylor Canyon will be limited from 7/1-9/30 annually.

[1] Sheep use will be authorized in Dry Troughs Bench and Snow Creek Units from 6/15-9/30 annually, with trailing use in Dry Troughs Bench Unit limited from 10/1-10/7 annually, so as long as the total authorized use does not exceed 145 Sheep AUMs in Dry Troughs Bench and 289 Sheep AUMs in Snow Creek.

The total AUMs authorized for each pasture will not exceed maximum AUMs outlined in Technical Recommendation 2 and total licensed AUMs will not exceed the active preference of 2661 AUMs annually. However, deviations will be allowed as per Technical Recommendation 4.

WHOA!

WILD HORSE ORGANIZED ASSISTANCE
INC.
A Foundation for the Welfare of
Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros

P. O. Box 555
Reno, Nevada 89504
Telephone 323-5908
Area Code 702

WHOA Files
Ely / Elko

February 13, 1987

Mr. Rodney Harris, District Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Post Office Box 831
Elko, Nevada 89801

Dear Mr. Harris:

It has come to WHOAs' attention that your district intends to capture more wild horses in the Cherry Creek/Goshute gather than had originally been planned. I understand this 20% is covered in the existing contract. I can understand a small percentage of animals not showing up on the census, but one would think that an increase of several hundred horses would have been noted in the pre-census, unless of course, the animals between districts are being double-counted.

I respectfully request notification of the post-census count. I am sure you can understand our concern for the true number of wild horses to remain on the public rangelands. In the event no post-census count is planned, we request notification of that fact.

Most sincerely,

Dawn Y. Lappin (Mrs.)
Director

cc: Board of Trustees
David A. Hornbeck
E. F. Spang, State Director
Ken Walker

WHOA!

WILD HORSE ORGANIZED ASSISTANCE
INC.
A Foundation for the Welfare of
Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros

P. O. Box 555
Reno, Nevada 89504
Telephone 323-5908
Area Code 702

February 13, 1987

COPY

Mr. Ken Walker, District Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Star Route 5, Box 1
Ely, Nevada 89301

Dear Mr. Walker:

It has come to WHOAs' attention that your district intends to capture more wild horses in the Cherry Creek/Goshute gather than had originally been planned. I understand this 20% is covered in the existing contract. I can understand a small percentage of animals not showing up on the census, but one would think that an increase of several hundred horses would have been noted in the pre-census, unless of course, the animals between districts are being double-counted.

I respectfully request notification of the post-census count. I am sure you can understand our concern for the true number of wild horses to remain on the public rangelands. In the event no post-census count is planned, we request notification of that fact.

Most sincerely,

Dawn Y. Lappin (Mrs.)
Director

cc: Board of Trustees
David A. Hornbeck
E. F. Spang, State Director
Rodney Harris

Ely / Elko

IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

4700 (NV-013)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ELKO DISTRICT OFFICE
3900 E. Idaho Street
P.O. Box 831
Elko, Nevada 89801

FEB 23 1987

WHOA
P.O. Box 555
Reno, Nevada 89504

Dear Mrs. Lappin:

The Cherry Creek-Goshute-Antelope Wild Horse Gather was completed on 2/15/87. The contract was for 493 head based on a 1985 census. During and after gathering in concentration areas, it was determined that horse population levels were well above authorized management levels. We, therefore, utilized the 20% clause in the contract to remove another 98 horses for a total removal of 591 head.

The results of our post census are shown as follows:

Herd Area	Authorized Management Level	1985 Census	No. gathered 1987	1987 Post Gathering Census
Antelope	131 to 164	268	349	366
Goshute	96 to 120	257	145	221
Cherry Creek	51 to 64	103	48	13*

* The Cherry Creek herd area was gathered first and horses from this herd area moved out of the area during the gathering operation. We estimate at least 40 or 50 moved into adjacent herd areas such as the Maverick-Medicine herd area to the west as well as the Antelope herd area on the east. There are no fences or barriers between these herd areas.

The post census counts were coordinated between the Ely and Elko Districts to minimize double counting. This is also done during regular scheduled census.

We feel that the discrepancy between the 1985 census and the current post gather census, in addition to the 1986 colt crop, is because many horses were across the state line in Utah at the time of the 1985 census and therefore,

were not counted. In checking with the Utah BLM they indicate that while they have no herd management area adjacent to these areas, they are aware that horses do cross back and forth along the state line.

You will note that we are still not down to authorized management levels in the Antelope and Goshute herd areas. These areas are not scheduled for additional gathers in the current fiscal year, however, we do plan to propose gathering down to AML in fiscal year 1988.

If you require further information please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely yours,

Rodney Harris

RODNEY HARRIS
District Manager

June 4 5:30-8:30 Bowers 1/19/94

{BOB MILLER Governor}

STATE OF NEVADA

COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF WILD HORSES

50 Freeport Boulevard, No. 2
Sparks, Nevada 89431
(702) 359-8768

CATHERINE BARCOMB
Executive Director

COMMISSIONERS

Paula S. Askew, *Chairperson*
Carson City, Nevada

Steven Fulstone, *Vice Chairman*
Smith Valley, Nevada

Michael Jackson
Las Vegas, Nevada

Dan Keiserman
Las Vegas, Nevada

Dawn Lappin
Reno, Nevada

January 19, 1994

year. HMP.

Bill Baker, Manager
Wells Resource Area
BLM-Elko District Office
3900 E. Idaho Street
Box 831
Elko, Nevada 89801

Olgas-dell/bowers

Subject: West Cherry Creek Allotment Evaluation

Dear Mr. Baker,

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the West Cherry Creek Allotment Evaluation.

Our findings were as follows:

ok **Page 6, C** This is quite a long term objective that could be attained much quicker. 2000 HMP.

ok **Page 21** The statement of livestock use on bitterbrush and combined use (livestock - deer), does not match with much heavier use shown on attachment 1.

ok **Page 28** Unauthorized channelization - needs more clarification, who, what, where, when?

ok **Page 35** What was the success of the bitterbrush seeding done in 1986?

HMP-1992 short term objective

Page 35 Cherry Creek HMP objectives with some management action before the year 2000. ok

Page 61 Objective 18 is written so that allowable utilization on native range every year is 60% and 65% on seedings. This objective has to be rewritten. Maximum allowable use 50% on native 55% on seedings. average-

There is no mention of allocation of any forage to wild horses! If there is a total of 2880 AUMs and cattle and sheep will use 2674 and horses will use a minimum of 630 AUMs. We believe the

Horses June-Sept Oggds- 54-57% 1989 no cattle 1990 1991 1992 340+ 90 AUMs

actual use

(O)-1074

K=95%

01-19-94 12:37PM P001

allotment is overallocated. You have not considered what will be done in the interim until this plan is in place. With the Strategic Plan for Wild Horses what will be done if horse numbers can not be reduced to the 389 level? With excess horses on the allotment will you continue to license over carrying capacity? The mandate of the Bureau is to manage the habitat for a thriving natural ecological balance aw well as by law you must maintain the habitat within carrying capacity. Please advise us of your intentions.

You also have two projects to complete and have not set a time frame or schedule or even identified the projects and locations.

The time frame for meeting your objectives seems to be all long term. Without short term objectives your plan will not work.

If you plan to protect your riparian areas through continued implementation of the AMP, your track record thusfar is not very promising. You have spent tremendous time and money collecting and analyzing data and then were severly lacking when it came to the technical recommendations. The public expects the Bureau to protect the entire array of resources within this area.

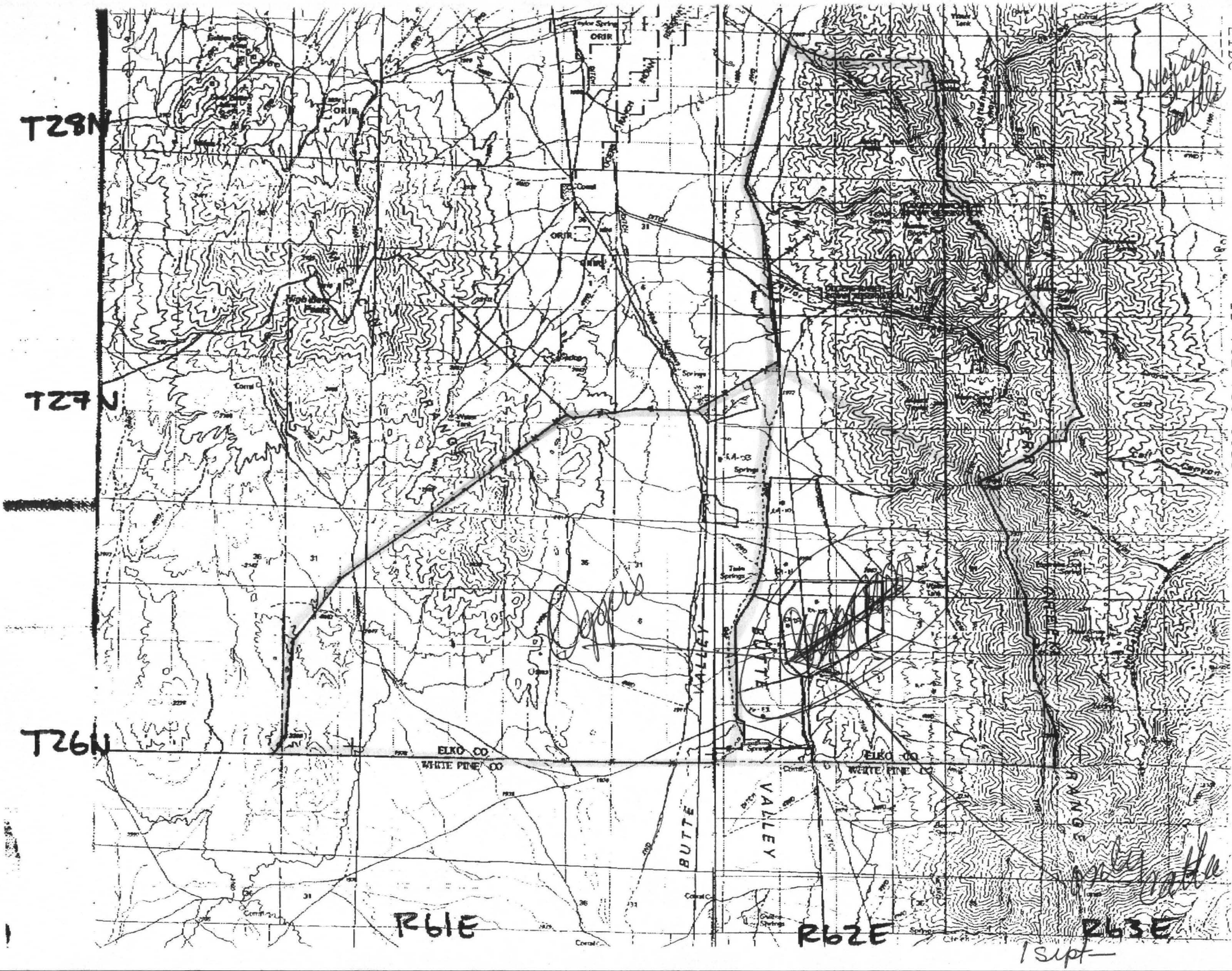
The Commission has worked long and hard with the Elko District for management of the public lands for protection of the habitat that will benefit all users. We hope you will take our constructive suggestions and use them where appropriate. We look forward to working with you in the future on this allotment. If you have any questions or would want to discuss this further please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Catherine Barcomb

CATHERINE BARCOMB
Executive Director

West C Creek
Bald Mtn
Maverick
Bald
Odgers
Ruby 9
Spruce
N. Butte Valley


T28N
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WHITE PINE CO
BUTTE VALLEY
BUTTE VALLEY
RANGE
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Springs
Twin Springs
Water Tank
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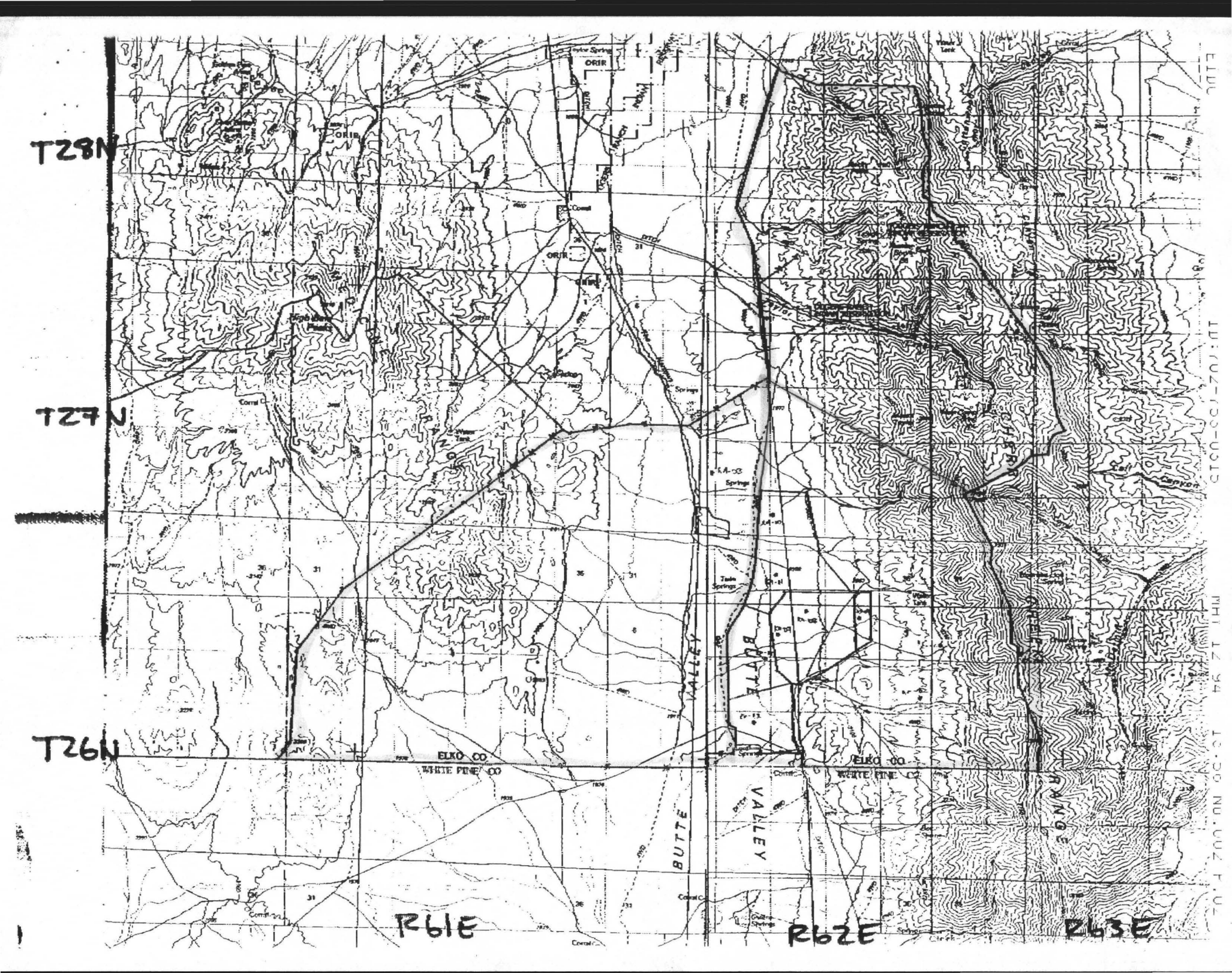
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ELKO CO
WHITE PINE CO
ELKO CO
WHITE PINE CO
BUTTE VALLEY
BUTTE VALLEY
RANGE
ORIR
ORIR
ORIR

1/1/94

WHOA

January 1, 1994

Bill Baker, Manager
Wells Resource Area
BLM-Elko District Office
3900 E. Idaho Street
Box 831
Elko, Nevada 89801

Subject: West Cherry Creek Allotment Evaluation

Dear Mr. Baker,
Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the West Cherry Creek Allotment Evaluation.

Our findings were as follows:

Page 6, C This is quite a long term objective that could be attained much quicker.

Page 21 The statement of livestock use on bitterbrush and combined use (livestock - deer), does not match with much heavier use shown on attachment 1.

Page 28 Unauthorized channelization - needs more clarification, who, what, where, when?

Page 35 What was the success of the bitterbrush seeding done in 1986?

Page 35 Cherry Creek HMP objectives with some management action before the year 2000.

Page 61 Objective 18 is written so that allowable utilization on native range every year is 60% and 65% on seedings. This objective has to be rewritten. Maximum allowable use 50% on native 55% on seedings.

There is no mention of allocation of any forage to wild horses! If there is a total of 2880 AUMs and cattle and sheep will use 2674 and horses will use a minimum of 630 AUMs. We believe the

allotment is overallocated. You have not considered what will be done in the interim until this plan is in place. With the Strategic Plan for Wild Horses what will be done if horse numbers can not be reduced to the 389 level? With excess horses on the allotment will you continue to license over carrying capacity? The mandate of the Bureau is to manage the habitat for a thriving natural ecological balance aw well as by law you must maintain the habitat within carrying capacity. Please advise us of your intentions.

You also have two projects to complete and have not set a time frame or schedule or even identified the projects and locations.

The time frame for meeting your objectives seems to be all long term. Without short term objectives your plan will not work.

If you plan to protect your riparian areas through continued implementation of the AMP, your track record thusfar is not very promising. You have spent tremendous time and money collecting and analyzing data and then were severly lacking when it came to the technical recommendations. The public expects the Bureau to protect the entire array of resources within this area.

WHOA has worked long and hard with the Elko District for management of the public lands for protection of the habitat that will benefit all users. We hope you will take our constructive suggestions and use them where appropriate. We look forward to working with you in the future on this allotment. If you have any questions or would want to discuss this further please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

DAWN Y. LAPPIN
Director

Comments on West Cherry Creek Allotment Envl.

Page 6-7 - ~~Etc are redundant should one be Tolper Creek & one be West Cherry Creek.~~

Page 6- C- This is quite a long term objective that could be attained much quicker through obvious means.

Page 21 The statement of livestock use on bitterbrush and combined use (livestock-deer) does not match with much heavier use shown on attachment 1.

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Page 35 Cheney Creek HMP objectives with some of the objectives not being met, you should take some management action before the year 2000.

Page 61 Objective 18 is written so that allowable utilization on native range every year is 60% and 65% on seedings

this objective has to be rewritten Maximum allowable use 50% on native 55% on seedings.

There is no mention of allocation of any forage to wild horses! If there is a total of 2880 AUM's and cattle and sheep will use 2674 and horses will use a minimum of 630 AUM's I believe the allotment is over allocated.

You have not considered what will be done in the interim until this plan is in place. With the strategic plan for Wild Horses what will be done if horse numbers can not be reduced to the 389 level. With excess horses on the allotment will you continue to license over carrying capacity. You have 10 projects to be completed and have not set a timeframe or schedule or even identified the projects and locations.

The timeframe for meeting your objectives seems to be all long term. Without short-term objectives your plan will not work.

If you plan to protect your riparian areas through ~~fencing~~ continued implementation of the AMP your