



✓  
Spruce Pequoop m

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COMMISSION FOR THE  
PRESERVATION OF WILD HORSES

50 Freeport Boulevard, No. 2

Sparks, Nevada 89431

(702) 359-8768

November 4, 1993

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

Dear Mr. Baker,

Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), we are hereby requesting the following information. We are requesting that this information be supplied within the next ten days, if there is a problem with any of this, please notify us as soon as possible.

1) The age and sex of all animals removed from the recent Spruce Pequoop gather in the checkerboard area. In addition to that, the age and sex of all animals released in the lower portion of the herd area.

2) The calculated carrying capacity of the lower portion of the herd area and current horse population including the released animals. Also, the actual use for that area by livestock.

3) A map showing the current fence and proposed fence projects within the herd area. Also, please include the topographical barriers that prohibit movement between the horse free area and the HMA.

We thank you in advance for this information.

Sincerely,

*Catherine Barcomb*

CATHERINE BARCOMB  
Executive Director

52% COTTON FIBER 12V  
11BE-EBV2E

could probably put this in  
document language  
documents pertaining to:

- ① herd plans & when decisions were made
- ② Any decisions for livestock
- ③ use pattern mapping
- ④ carrying capacity
- ⑤ See 7 Consultation (tortoise?)
- ⑥ data on recruitment rate
- ⑦ budget showing funds set aside for surveillance of livestock on Curlew
- ⑧ ~~data~~ biological assessment on the affect on the herd "viability" with only the older animals remaining

11/17/93



# United States Department of the Interior



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

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
1270/4710 (NV-015)  
FOIA-94-02

10/62 30 %  
9 and over  
6/62 10 %  
12 → 25 1993  
Recruit 5 %

NOV 17 1993

Commission For The  
Preservation Of Wild Horses  
Catherine Barcomb  
Executive Director  
50 Freeport Boulevard, No. 2  
Sparks, Nevada 89431

Dear Ms. Barcomb:

The following is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) dated November 4, 1993:

1. The age and sex of all animals removed from the recent Spruce-Pequop gather in the checkerboard area. In addition to that, the age and sex of all animals released in the lower portion of the herd area.

Response - The following table lists the age, sex and color of all horses caught in the Pequop Mountain area during the Spruce-Pequop Area Wild Horse Gather. Those horses with an \* next to their age indicates that they were relocated and released into the newly designated Spruce-Pequop Herd Management Area (HMA).

<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Color</u>
3	S	Black
4	S	Gray
3	S	Black
18*	S	Black
3	M	Albino
2	S	Buckskin
15*	S	Gray
10*	S	Gray
11*	M	Buckskin
2	M	Gray
10*	M	Gray
13*	S	Brown
10*	M	Gray
3	M	Blue Roan
6	M	Gray
10*	S	Gray
2	S	Buckskin
3	M	Bay
3	S	Bay
10*	M	Gray

\* only 6 horses of 62 lived past 11 yrs  
\* They released 13 ♂ & 5 ♀  
\* It is likely that only 4 horses released will be alive by 1995

2	S	Gray
5	M	Bay
3	S	Gray
25*	S	Gray
2	M	Black
3	S	Gray
4	S	Gray
9	M	Gray
2	S	Black
8	M	Gray
<1	F	Gray
11*	S	Gray
<1	F	Gray
5	M	Bay
7	M	Black
2	S	Black
4	M	Bay
10*	S	Gray
2	M	Bay
20*	S	Brown
7	M	Bay
1	M	Black
2	S	Gray
11*	M	Bay
5	M	Bay
7	S	Black
2	M	Gray
3	S	Gray
<1	F	Sorrel
6	S	Black
4	S	Bay
11*	S	Gray
7	S	Gray
11*	S	Gray
5	S	Gray
4	S	Black
10*	S	Gray
15*	M	Brown
7	S	Gray
2	S	Black
2	M	Gray
6	M	Black

TOTAL 19 Mares aged 9 and under.  
 22 Studs aged 9 and under.  
 6 Mares over age 9.  
 12 Studs over age 9.  
 3 Foals.

62 removed from the checkerboard area of the Pequops (this includes 15 horses caught in the checkerboard area of the Wood Hills). Two of the older mares (over the age of 9) were found dead of unexplained causes in the holding facilities and therefore were not relocated and released. A total of 16 older horses were relocated.

2. The calculated carrying capacity of the lower portion of the herd area and current horse population including the released animals. Also, the actual use for that area by livestock.

Response - By "lower portion of the herd area" we assume you are referring to the newly designated Spruce-Pequop HMA as designated in the Wells Resource Management Plan Wild Horse Amendment. The Amendment set initial herd size in the HMA at 82 horses; the initial carrying capacity is therefore  $82 \times 12 = 984$  A.U.M.s.

A census flight was conducted on October 25, 1993, in which 83 horses were found in the newly designated Spruce-Pequop HMA and an additional 16 older horses were released from the checkerboard area for a total of 99 horses in the HMA.

The most recent actual use data for livestock is for the grazing year 1992. This information was received by the range conservationist on November 1, 1993. A copy of the actual use statement and a use area map are enclosed.

3. A map showing the current fence and proposed fence projects within the herd area. Also, please include the topographical barriers that prohibit movement between the horse free area and the HMA.

Response - A map showing the current Rockland fence and the proposed Rockland fence extension as well as topographical barriers is enclosed. All other fences proposed in the Interim Spruce Allotment Management Plan (AMP) which are within the Spruce-Pequop HMA are on hold until the Spruce Allotment Evaluation and Multiple Use Decision (MUD) are final.

Sincerely yours,



RODNEY HARRIS  
District Manager

Enclosures

1. Actual Grazing Use Report
2. Use Area Map
3. Rockland Fence Map

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

FORM APPROVED  
OMB NO. 1004-0051  
December 31, 1988  
RECEIVED  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
ELKO DISTRICT OFFICE

ACTUAL GRAZING USE REPORT

1993 OCT 32 P 12:53  
11/1 J

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the terms and conditions of the permit or lease which authorizes your grazing use, please complete this form and return to the Resource Area Office within 15 days after completing your authorized grazing use (43 CFR 4130.6-2(d)). This information, along with other studies data, is needed to evaluate the effectiveness of present management. Use a separate line for every day that you either turn livestock in or take livestock out of an allotment or pasture. Your cooperation in providing accurate information will be appreciated.

Allotment				FOR BLM USE ONLY				
ACTUAL GRAZING USE				CALCULATION OF AUM'S GRAZING USE				
PASTURE	DATE (Mo., Day, Yr.)	NUMBER AND KIND OR CLASS OF LIVESTOCK		NO. AND KIND OF LIVE-STOCK	GRAZING PERIOD		% PL USE	AUM'S
		TURNED IN	TAKEN OUT		BEGIN	END		
Spruce - Spruce Herd								
D-3, D-2, D1	5-22-92	280	C.					
D-3, D-2, D-1	6/12/92	234	C.					
E-4-9 mile Can.	6/15/92	74	C.					
E-4- Standing Rock Can.	6/16/92	61	C.					
E-2-Coyote Can.	6/17/92	109	C.					
E-1-Fatham Can.	6/12/92	70	C.					
E-2-Parker Can.	6/20/92	93	C.					
E-2-E. Parker Can.	7/7/92	48	C.					
E-1-Monarch	7/8/92	39	C.					
E-4-Costal Can.	7/27/92	48	C.					
E-2-Sou. Coyote Can.	8/4/92	35	C.					
E-2-Spruce Sp.	8/18/92	16	C.					
D-1, D-2	9/4/92	Coming down to feeding						
C-2	11/2/92	429 C. over tunnel pass						
C-2	11/9/92	last of C. over Tunnel Pass						
C-3, J	11/26/92	began C. to 110.3 well						
C-4	1/2/93							

I CERTIFY That this is a complete and accurate report of my grazing use.

Signature of Permittee/Leassee *Von Lorenzen*

Date *6/19/93*

Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, makes it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

RECEIVED  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
BLM DISTRICT OFFICE

1993 OCT 32 P 12: 53  
11/1 J

ACTUAL GRAZING USE REPORT

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Allotment				FOR BLM USE ONLY				
ACTUAL GRAZING USE				CALCULATION OF AUM'S GRAZING USE				
PASTURE	DATE (Mo. Day Yr.)	NUMBER AND KIND OR CLASS OF LIVESTOCK		NO. AND KIND OF LIVESTOCK	GRAZING PERIOD		% PL USE	AUM'S
		TURNED IN	TAKEN OUT		BEGIN	END		
C-3, J	3/24/93	493						
C-2	5/5/93	518						
D-3, D-2, D-1	6/19/93							

I CERTIFY That this is a complete and accurate report of my grazing use.  
Signature of Permittee/Leassee Van L. Sorenson Date 6/19/93

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UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
  
ACTUAL GRAZING USE REPORT

RECEIVED  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
ELMO DISTRICT OFFICE  
1993 OCT 32 P 12:52  
11/1 D

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the terms and conditions of the permit or lease which authorizes your grazing use, please complete this form and return to the Resource Area Office within 15 days after completing your authorized grazing use (43 CFR 4130.6-2(d)). This information, along with other studies data, is needed to evaluate the effectiveness of present management. Use a separate line for every day that you either turn livestock in or take livestock out of an allotment or pasture. Your cooperation in providing accurate information will be appreciated.

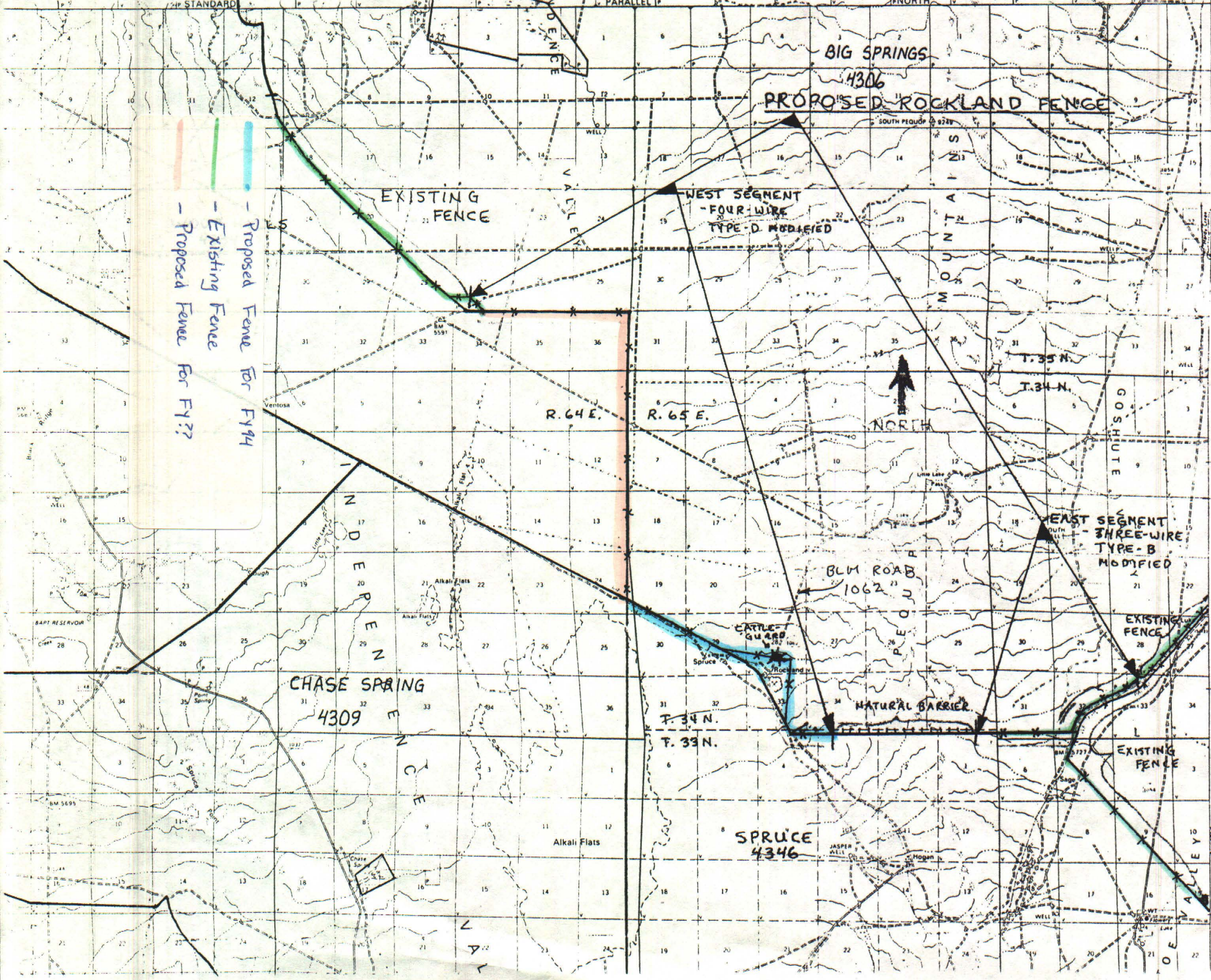
Allotment				FOR BLM USE ONLY				
S PRUCE - Secret Herd				CALCULATION OF AUM'S GRAZING USE				
PASTURE	DATE (Mo. Day, Yr.)	NUMBER AND KIND OR CLASS OF LIVESTOCK		NO. AND KIND OF LIVE-STOCK	GRAZING PERIOD		% PL USE	AUM'S
		TURNED IN	TAKEN OUT		BEGIN	END		
I	10/28/92	537C.					100	
H	10/29/92	537C.						
C-1	11/13/92	537C.						
K-1	5/30/93	171C.						
I	5/31/93	171C.						
to Private Land	5/33/93	171C.	171C.					
K-1	6/2/93	230C.						
I	6/3/93	230C.						
to Private Land	6/4/93	230C.	230C.					

I CERTIFY That this is a complete and accurate report of my grazing use.  
Signature of Permittee/Leassee Von L. Sorensen Date 7/2/93

Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, makes it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations as to any matter within its jurisdiction.







Legend:

- Orange line: - Proposed Fence For FY94
- Green line: - Existing Fence
- Blue line: - Proposed Fence For FY94

BIG SPRINGS  
4306  
PROPOSED ROCKLAND FENCE

EXISTING FENCE

WEST SEGMENT  
- FOUR-WIRE  
TYPE-D MODIFIED

GOSHUTE

EAST SEGMENT  
- THREE-WIRE  
TYPE-B  
MODIFIED

CHASE SPRING  
4309

BLM ROAD  
1062

CATTLE  
GUARD

NATURAL BARRIER

EXISTING FENCE

SPRUCE  
4346

EXISTING FENCE

Cathy, the data sent to you from Rod Harris is the most useful from the perspective of an appeal or lawsuit. Age and sex data of gathered and release animals can be very damaging to the Bureau in regard to the "Strategic Plan".

The horse herd has not been gathered or "restructured" for many years; the recent gather of 77 horses from a population of approximately 160 animals is significant. The data shows that 30% of the herd are animals greater than 9 years and the 1993 recruitment was only 4.8%. It suggests that older age class animals are recruiting less than natural mortality under present conditions. The most significant aspect of the data shows that of the 13 horses released over 9 years of age, 8 were 10-11 year olds. The data shows that only one of these horses will live past 12 years of age. It is very unlikely that the one surviving horse will live to be 16 years old. Therefore, one of the horses released will be alive in 1995.

Assuming the next gather will be in 1995, the gather criteria will be 10% of winter forage, utilization will be greater (see appeal) and the Bureau will release only 9 year olds or greater; the Spruce-Pequob Herd will be extinct by 1998.

Your appeal argument concerning restructuring is valid.

Also, carrying capacity and initial stocking rate of the land use plan amendment issues are valid. Harris response to justify 82 horses has no biological or distribution rationale to support itself. BLM is no contest to your appeal.

Fences were are part of the Interim Spruce AMP and it influenced the land use plan amendment. It was an assumption of the appeal and Harris confirms this in their response. The appeal issue is valid.