



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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



In Reply Refer To:  
4130 (NV-012)

NOV - 8 2006

### **Public Consultation Letter** **Temporary Change in Season of Use Application** **Chase Springs and Spruce Allotments**

Dear Reader:

On 30 October 2006, F. Scott Egbert filed a grazing application for use on the Chase Springs, Tobar, and Spruce Allotments. The applied for use on the Chase Springs Allotment falls partially outside the dates on Egbert's grazing permit, and Egbert does not hold a grazing permit on the Spruce Allotment.

#### **Background**

The Chase Springs Allotment lies approximately 25 miles south-southeast of Wells, NV. No management plans exist to govern grazing use on the allotment. The authorized season of use on this allotment is 1 April to 30 November annually. Total authorized active preference on the allotment is 2,586 AUMs. F. Scott & Laurel S. Egbert is the sole livestock permittee on the Chase Spring Allotment.

The applied for use in the Spruce Allotment is in the D-3 Use Area, which lies at the very northern tip of the allotment around Jasper Well. Grazing use on the Spruce Allotment is governed by a Final Multiple Use Decision (FMUD) issued on 30 January 1998. This decision allows grazing use in the D-3 use area for one week in the spring and one week in the fall in the process of trailing between spring and fall use areas. The FMUD set the active use level of this use area combined with two other adjacent use areas (D-1 and D-2) at 1,273 AUMs, but did not break this down by the three areas; actual use records show that approximately 119 AUMs of use have been made in this use area. Von L. and Marian Sorenson is the sole livestock permittee in the Spruce Allotment.

No fences or natural barriers separate the Chase Springs Allotment from the D-3 use area in the Spruce Allotment. The two areas are fenced on the north by right-of-way fencing along the north side of the railroad tracks and on the south by a drift fence that separates them from the rest of the Spruce Allotment. A map of the Chase Springs Allotment and Use Area D-3 of the Spruce Allotment is attached to this message.

#### **Proposed Action**

The proposed action as identified in the grazing application is to graze 150 cattle in the eastern end of this use area from 15 December 2006 through 31 March 2007 and 350 cattle in the western end of this use area from 15 January 2007 through 31 March 2007. The application contains additional planned grazing use that falls within the authorized period of use (Chase

Springs Allotment from 1 April 2007 to 31 May 2007 and Tobar Allotment from 15 November 2006 to 30 November 2006 and from 1 April 2007 to 31 May 2007). This proposed action is similar to changes in grazing use previously approved as within the intent of the grazing permit. F. Scott Egbert is currently not planning to graze livestock on these allotments between the end of May and next winter.

Due to the time frames involved with processing this application, the BLM is proposing to authorize the grazing use in the Spruce and Chase Springs Allotments beginning no earlier than 15 January 2006. The use applied for in the eastern end of these use areas between 15 December and 14 January will not be approved.

Approval of this application will result in the removal of less than 1,400 AUMs in the two allotments during the season of use that falls outside the permitted date range. Approval of this application coupled with the use included in the application that falls within the permitted date range will result in the removal of less than 1,900 AUMs. The applied for use will not exceed active preference in the Chase Springs Allotment, and the AUMs used on the Spruce Allotment will not be available to the Sorenson family. The BLM will require F. Scott Egbert and the Sorensons to provide an agreement covering the maintenance of Jasper Well before any use in the Spruce Allotment is authorized.

The BLM is seeking public comments on this application. All comments must be filed no later than **15 days** from the date of this letter.

If you have any questions please call the Elko Field Office at (775) 753-0200.

Sincerely yours,



Shane DeForest  
Assistant Field Manager  
Renewable Resources



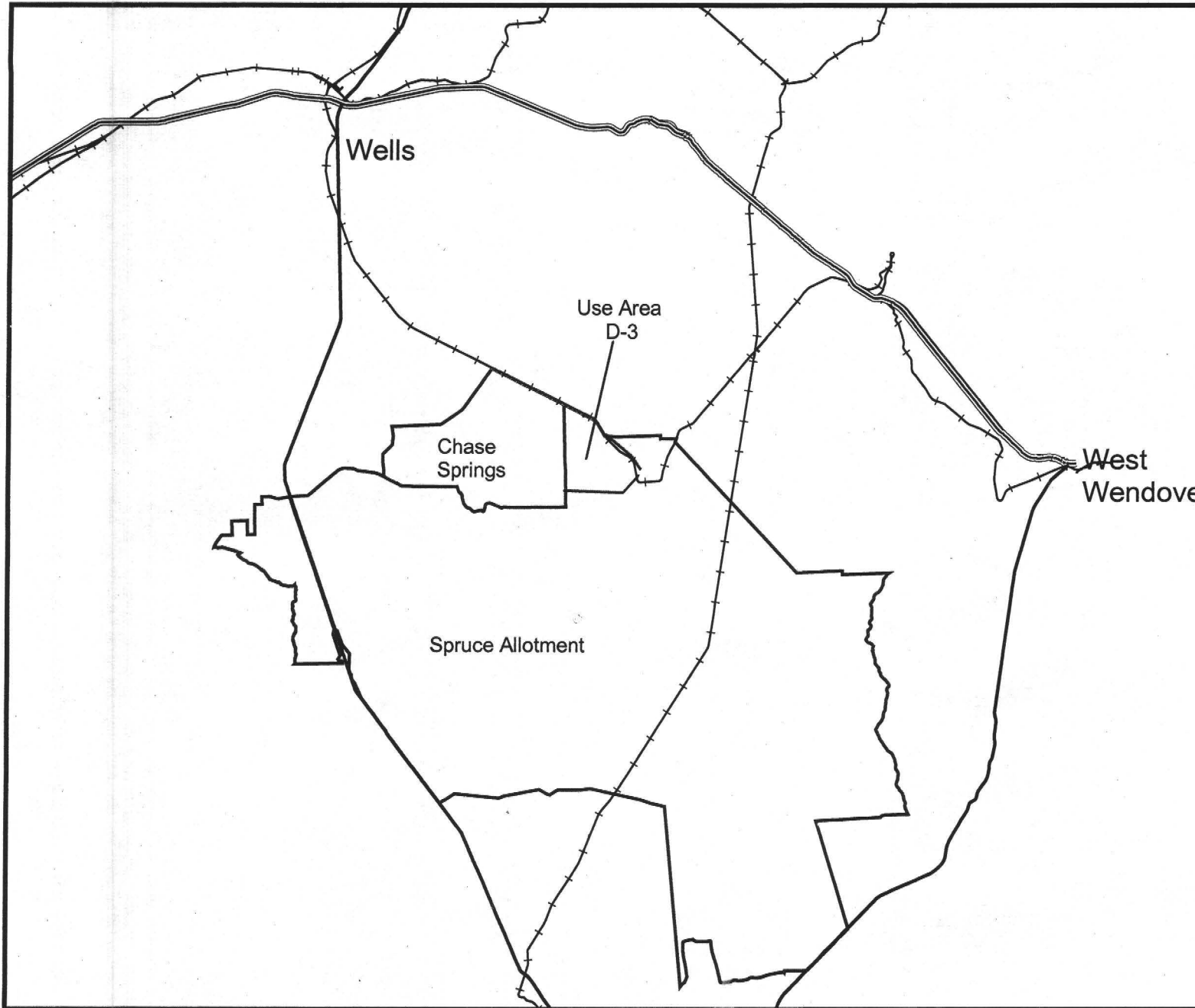
cc: F. Scott & Laurel S. Egbert  
Von L. & Marion Sorenson  
Martha P. Hoots  
Nevada Cattleman's Association  
Committee for the High Desert  
Western Watersheds Project  
Resource Concepts, Inc.  
Elko County Commissioners  
Nevada Department of Wildlife  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Karen Sussman  
Craig Downer  
Wild Horse Sanctuary

April McNeal  
Fund for Animals  
Wild Horse Organized Assistance  
Comm. for the Preservation of Wild Horses  
Colorado Wild Horse & Burro Coalition  
National Mustang Assn., Inc.  
American Horse Protection Association  
Animal Rights Law Center  
Animal Protection Institute of America  
National Wild Horse Association  
Kathryn Cushman  
Barbara Warner

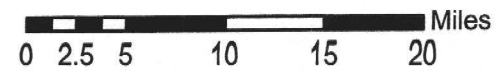


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# Chase Springs And Spruce D-3 Allotments Location Map



- Legend
- Allotments
  - railroads
  - Major Roads
    - I-80
    - U.S. 93

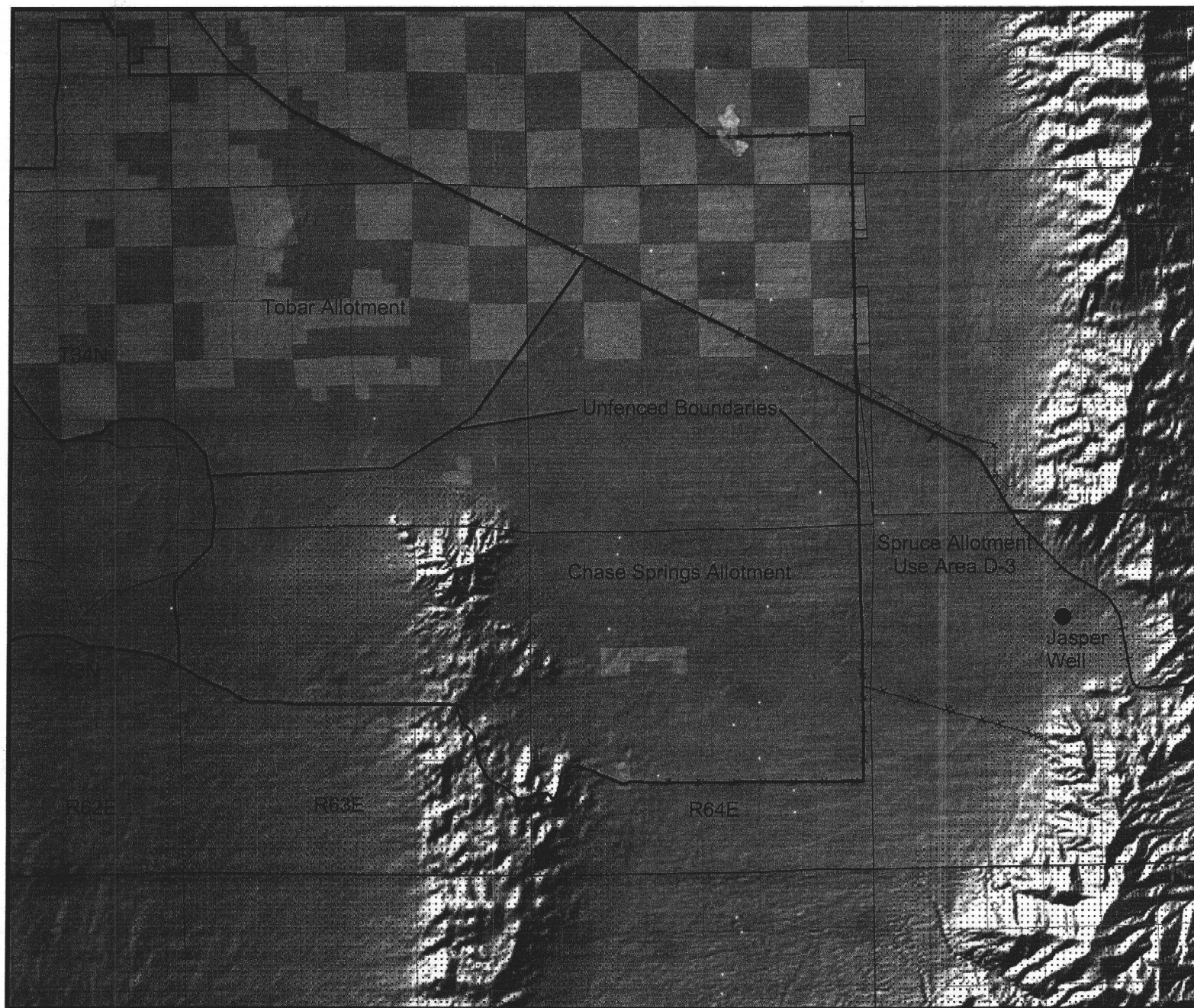


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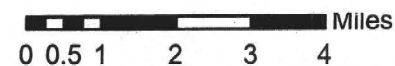


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# Chase Springs And Spruce D-3 Allotments Detail Map



- Legend**
- Township-Range
  - twprng\_dist region.trsr
  - Allotments
  - railroads
  - Public (Administered by BLM)
  - Bureau of Reclamation
  - Department of Defense
  - Native American Reservation
  - Private
  - U.S. Forest Service
  - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
  - USFS Wilderness Area
  - US Fish and Wildlife
  - Other Federal
  - Fences
  - Spruce-Pequot HMA



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