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2000 JAN 28 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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



In Reply Refer To: 4120 (NV-012)

JAN 26 2000

Dear Interested Public:

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

On January 26, 2000, Cliff and Bertha Gardner applied for temporary non-renewable grazing use within the Harrison Allotment. They are requesting to graze 230 cows in Pasture B of the Harrison Allotment from February 10 to February 25. The permitted season of use for Cliff and Berth Gardner in the Harrison Allotment is from April 16 to December 31. Their request will amount to a total of 121 AUMs.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Harrison Allotment

Cliff and Bertha Gardner share the Harrison Allotment with Jack and Terry Bowers.

Use levels have not yet been observed in Pasture B of the Harrison Allotment for 1999. Utilization will be read prior to livestock turnout. Utilization of the key forage species in Pasture B will not exceed 50 percent. If utilization levels are reached during the requested period of use, cattle will be removed within 5 days.

The Harrison Allotment is located in the southern portion of Ruby Valley, northeast of the Ruby Marshes (see attached map). There are no streams or springs within this allotment. The allotment serves as summer range for pronghorn antelope. Pasture B is predominantly comprised of an alkali floodplain.

Cliff and Bertha Gardner's application for 121 AUMs is not expected to exceed the 50% utilization objective for the key forage species.

RATIONALE

It is recommended that Cliff and Bertha Gardner's application be approved. The livestock use outlined above should have little to no effect on pronghorn habitat in the allotment.

Cliff and Bertha Gardner's application would be authorized as temporary non-renewable use and would not result in a permanent change to their grazing permit. Approval of the grazing

application is consistent with multiple use objectives for this allotment. Utilization will be monitored prior to the scheduled off-dates. If use is below the objective levels outlined, additional use may be approved. Utilization will again be monitored at the end of the grazing period.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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

- a. Grazing use in the Harrison Allotment will be confined to Pasture B.
- b. Utilization of the key forage species in Pasture B will not exceed 50 percent. If utilization levels are reached during the requested period of use, cattle will be removed within 5 days.
- c. An Actual Use Report shall be submitted within 15 days of the end of grazing.

If you have any comments regarding the approval or denial of this application, please provide them to this office by February 9, 2000.

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

Sincerely yours,

CLINTON R. OKE, Assistant Field Manager Renewable Resources

Enclosure: As stated above

cc: Cliff and Bertha Gardner
Jack and Terry Bowers
Nevada Division of Wildlife
Nevada Cattlemen's Assoc.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Resource Concepts, Inc.
Elko Board of County Commissioners
Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses
Wild Horse Organized Assistance
Paul Bottari
Tony D. Zunino

