

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Surprise Field Office PO Box 460 Cedarville, CA 96104 www.ca.blm.gov/surprise

In Reply Refer To: 4000 (CAN070) P

October 28, 2009

Cathy Barcomb Nevada Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses 885 Eastlake Blvd. Carson City, NV 89704

Dear Ms. Barcomb:

The Bureau of Land Management Surprise Field Office will be initiating the planning process to evaluate and renew the grazing permits for the Home Camp and Tuledad Grazing Allotments. We are writing to request your participation in Technical Review Teams (TRTs) which will be developed by the Modoc-Washoe Experimental Stewardship Steering Committee (ESP).

The Tuledad Allotment will be reviewed during the winter of 2009/10, and the objective would be for the TRT to complete its work by June 2010. The Home Camp Allotment will be reviewed during the fall/winter of 2010 and the objective would be to have the TRT work complete by the spring of 2011. A map of the two allotments is included for your consideration.

According to the bylaws of the Modoc-Washoe Experimental Stewardship group, the role of the Technical Review Team is:

- to review field-level data
- analyze resource needs
- propose management actions

Using these TRT and Stewardship committee recommendations, the BLM will prepare environmental review documents and select a management strategy.

The TRTs are intended to be composed of field-oriented personnel who have working knowledge of the area and/or resources. The ESP bylaws specify that the TRT will be comprised of a minimum of five individuals including: the affected permittee, state wildlife agency, Forest Service or BLM, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and environmental/conservation group. Additional representatives may be added as needed to address the issues.

The TRT workload is anticipated to be sporadic, but steady, as the data is compiled and reviewed and management solutions are developed. We anticipate at least one field visit and several face-to-face conferences along with a few phone conferences. The data will be shared electronically, and team members would be expected to review the data and work cooperatively to discuss the information and arrive at consensus. The team would prepare written recommendations and report to the Steering Committee or the ESP executive committee. If



group is unable to arrive at consensus, there would be opportunity to present the differing viewpoints.

Preliminary review indicates the following representation is needed:

Tuledad Allotment:

Nevada Department of Wildlife
California Department of Fish and Game
Permittee
BLM
NRCS
environmental/conservation interests
Wild horse interests

Home Camp Allotment:

Nevada Department of Wildlife
Permittee
BLM
NRCS
environmental/conservation interests

Please consider this opportunity to involve yourself in range management planning for two large and important management units. Our decisions will be greatly improved with your participation. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to give me a call at (530) 279-6101. You may also e-mail me if you are willing to participate. My e-mail address is shane-deforest@blm.gov. Thank you in advance for your help.

Sincerely,

Shane DeForest
Field Manager

Enclosures: 2

- 1. Map of Tuledad Allotment
- 2. Map of Home Camp Allotment

Cc: Rick Furman, President, Nevada Bighorns Unlimited
Roy Leach, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Cindy McDonald
David Edelson, Regional Director, Nevada Wilderness Society
Brian Beffort, Friends of Nevada Wilderness
Matt Drechsel, Natural Resources Conservation Service (Alturas)
Missy Merrill-Davies, UC Cooperative Extension (Alturas)
Cathy Barcomb, NV Comm. for the Preservation of Wild Horses
Gary Stacey, Regional Manager, California Dept. of Fish & Game
Michael O'Connor, CA Dir., Western Watersheds Project
Lani Estill, Washoe Livestock Water Company LLC

Raymond Page
Angela Iveson/Ryan Schliesser
Kurt Stodtmeister
Paul R. Choate
Scott Gooch
John Estill, Estill Ranches LLC
Robert Cockrell
Jim Cockrell
Link Grove, Grove Bros.
Betty Cockrell, Wm. Cockrell Est.





