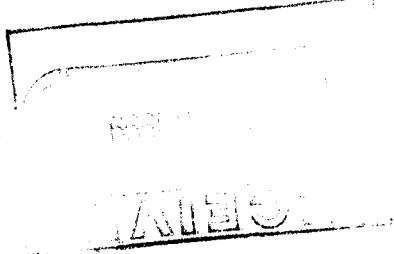


1-7-99



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Surprise Field Office
P.O. Box 460
602 Cressler Street
Cedarville, CA 96104
(530)279-6101 - (530)279-2171 FAX

In Reply Refer To:
4100 (CA-370) P
GR# 042640

January 7, 1999

CERTIFIED MAIL #P 954 727 176
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Stu Brown
Double Horseshoe Ranch, LLC
106 E. Adams, Ste. 212
Carson City, NV 89701

*CARTER
RES.*

Dear Stu:

PROPOSED DECISION

BACKGROUND

The grazing permits for 7Z Ranch LS Smith (Michael Stewart), Raymond Page and John Laxague for grazing use on the ~~Sand Creek~~ Allotment, No. #01012 expires on 02/28/99. On 11/04/98, Stu Brown has submitted an application for transfer of the Sand Creek Permit from John Laxague.

The Cowhead/Massacre Final Environmental Impact Statement was issued in 1980. This document established multiple use goals and objectives which provide management guidance for the public lands in the Sand Creek Allotment. This document designated the Sand Creek Allotment as available for grazing.

43 CFR 4130.2 requires the authorized officer to issue grazing permits or leases to qualified applicants to authorize use on the public lands that are designated as available for livestock grazing through land use plans.

Grazing use on the Sand Creek Allotment was analyzed in Plan Conformance/NEPA Compliance Record No. CA-370-99-07 and found to be in conformance with the applicable land use plan. In addition, a Rangeland Health Assessment was completed on 1/4/99, which indicates 1 of the 4 Standards are currently being met and the remaining three "are not met but progressing towards" in the Sand Creek Allotment under the current livestock stocking levels and season-of-use.

PROPOSED DECISION

Based on all information available to me, it is my decision to renew/issue a permit for Stu Brown, 7Z Ranch LS Smith (Michael Stewart) and Raymond Page to authorize grazing use in the Sand Creek Allotment, No. #01012. The permit shall be issued as follows:

Sand Creek Allotment #01012, Permit/Lease Renewal:

<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Livestock</u>					<u>AUMs</u>	<u>Active Preference</u>
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Kind</u>	<u>Season of Use</u>	<u>%PL</u>	<u>Type Use</u>		
Stu Brown	216	Cattle	04/16 to 07/15	100	Active	646	
	50	Cattle	07/16 to 09/15	100	Active	102	749
Ray Page	107	Cattle	04/01 to 05/15	100	Active	158	159
7Z Ranch LS Smith (Michael Stewart)	81	Cattle	04/16 to 09/30	100	Active	447	446

The term of the grazing permit shall be from 03/01/99 to 02/28/09, for Stu Brown and Raymond Page. For 7Z Ranch LS Smith (Michael Stewart) 03/01/99 to 12/31/05 (7 years to correspond with the term of the base property lease).

The following terms and conditions shall be incorporated in the permit:

“The terms and condition of your permit or lease may be modified if additional information indicates that revision is necessary to conform with 43 CFR 4180 (Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines)”.

AUTHORITY

The authority for this decision is contained in Title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which states in pertinent parts:

4100.0-8: “The authorized officer shall manage livestock grazing on public lands under the principles of multiple use and sustained yield and in accordance with applicable land use plans. Land use plans shall establish allowable resource uses (either singly or in combination), related levels of production or use to be maintained, areas of use and resource condition goals and objectives to be obtained. The plans also set forth program constraints and general management practices needed to achieve management objectives. Livestock grazing activities and management actions approved by the authorized officer shall be in conformance with the land use plan as defined at 43 CFR 1601.0-5(b).

4110.3: “The authorized officer shall periodically review the [specified livestock grazing use] in a grazing permit or grazing lease and shall make changes in the specified livestock grazing use as needed to manage, maintain or improve rangeland productivity, to assist in restoring ecosystems to properly functioning condition, to conform with land use plans or activity plans, or to comply with the provision of sub part 4180 of this part. These changes must be supported by monitoring, field observations, ecological site inventory or other data acceptable to the authorized officer.”

4130.2(a): "Grazing permits or leases shall be issued to qualified applicants to authorize use on the public lands and other lands under the administration of the Bureau of Land Management that are designated as available for livestock grazing through land use plans..."

4130.3: Livestock grazing permits and leases shall contain terms and conditions determined by the authorized officer to be appropriate to achieve the management and resource condition objectives for the public lands and other lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management, and to ensure conformance with the provisions of subpart 4180 of this part."

4130.3-1: "The authorized officer shall specify the kind and number of livestock, the period(s) of use, the allotment(s) to be used, and the amount of use, in animal unit months, for every grazing permit or lease. The authorized livestock grazing use shall not exceed the livestock carrying capacity of the allotment."

4130.3-2: "The authorized officer may specify in grazing permits or leases other terms and conditions which will assist in achieving management objectives, provide for proper range management or assist in the orderly administration of the public rangelands..."

PROTEST AND APPEAL PROCEDURES

In accordance with 43 CFR 4160.2, any applicant, permittee, lessee or other affected interest may protest this proposed decision under 43 CFR Sec. 4160.1., in person or in writing to the Authorized Officer at the following address: Susan T. Stokke, Field Manager, Surprise Field Office, P.O. Box 460, Cedarville, CA 96104. Any protest must be filed within 15 days after receipt of the decision. The protest, if filed, should clearly and concisely state the reason(s) as to why the proposed decision is in error.

In accordance with 43 CFR 4160.3(a), "In the absence of a protest, the proposed decision will become the final decision of the authorized officer without further notice unless otherwise provided in the proposed decision".

Any person whose interest is adversely affected by the final decision may file an appeal and petition for stay of the decision pending final determination of appeal. The appeal and petition for stay must be filed in the office of the Authorized Officer at the address stated above within 30 days following receipt of the final decision, or 30 days after the date the proposed decision becomes final.

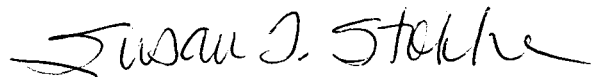
The appeal shall state the reasons, clearly and concisely, why the appellant thinks the final decision is in error.

Should you wish to file a motion for a stay, the appellant shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards, as required by 43 CFR 4.21(b)(1):

1. The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied,
2. The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits,
3. The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and
4. Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

As noted above, the petition for stay must be filed in the office of the authorized officer.

Sincerely,



Susan T. Stokke
Surprise Field Manager

Enclosure

Courtesy Copies:

Bob Schaefer, California Department of Fish and Game

By Certified Mail:

Cathy Barcomb,	Nevada Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses
Rich Heap,	Nevada Division of Wildlife
Rick Delmas,	Chairman, Modoc/Washoe Experimental Stewardship Committee
Scott Kessler,	Modoc County Land Use Committee
Steve Nelson,	Modoc County Cattlemen's Association
Don Koch,	California Department of Fish and Game

SURPRISE FIELD OFFICE
Plan Conformance/NEPA Compliance Record for Grazing Permit Renewal

NEPA Control No.: CA-370-99-07

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: GR #042640
GR #042645
GR #042654

Proposed Action Title/Type: **Grazing Permit Renewal/Transfer**

Location of Proposed Action: **Sand Creek Allotment # 01012**

Description of Proposed Action: **Transfer Grazing Permit to Stu Brown from John Laxague and renewal of 7Z Ranch LS Smith (Michael Stewart), Raymond Page on the Sand Creek Allotment #01012, Category I Allotment. The permits/leases will be renewed for a period of 10 years (1999 - 2009) for Stu Brown and Raymond Page. 7Z Ranch LS Smith (Michael Stewart) permit will be for 7 years (1999 - 2005) the period of the base property lease.**

Applicant (if any): **Stu Brown, 7Z Ranch LS Smith (Michael Stewart) and Raymond Page**

Remarks: **On February 28, 1999, John Laxague Grazing Permit for the Sand Creek Allotment #01012 will expire. On November 4, 1998 Stu Brown submitted an application for the Sand Creek Permit.**

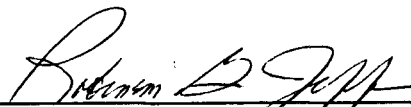
PART I: PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW

The Proposed Action is subject to the:

- Tuledad/Home Camp Management Framework Plan
- Cowhead/Massacre Management Framework Plan
- Carter Reservoir Herd Management Area Plan

The Proposed Action has been reviewed for conformance with the checked plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM MS 1617.3).


Surname(s) of Reviewer(s) 1-4-99
Date



Surname(s) of Reviewer(s) 1/4/99
Date

Remarks: **No significant changes from the existing situation would occur. Livestock grazing would continue to be managed as prescribed in the Cowhead/Massacre MFP EIS/Record of Decision.**

PART II NEPA REVIEW

- A. Existing EA/EIS Review. This proposed action is addressed in the following existing BLM EA/EIS: **Cowhead/Massacre Grazing EIS** Date: **1980**

- B. Rangeland Health Assessment. **A Rangeland Health Determination has been completed for the Sand Creek Allotment #01012, and 1 of the 4 standards are currently being met and the remaining three "are not met but progressing towards" in the Sand Creek Allotment under the current livestock stocking levels and season of use. (See Attachment - 2)**


Surname(s) of Reviewer(s) 1-4-99
Date

**ATTACHMENT - 1
PLAN CONFORMANCE/NEPA COMPLIANCE RECORD**

Information in this review is based on the review outlined in the attached Form from BLM Manual Release 1-1547 dated 10/25/88.

Part 1: PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW

Sand Creek Allotment #01012, Permit/Lease Renewal:

<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Livestock</u>		<u>Season of Use</u>	<u>%PL</u>	<u>Type Use</u>	<u>AUMs</u>	<u>Active Preference</u>
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Kind</u>					
Stu Brown	216	Cattle	04/16 to 07/15	100	Active	646	749
	50	Cattle	07/16 to 09/15	100	Active	102	
Ray Page	107	Cattle	04/01 to 05/15	100	Active	158	159
7Z Ranch LS Smith (Michael Stewart)	81	Cattle	04/16 to 09/30	100	Active	447	446

Cowhead/Massacre Land Use Plan:

Area 3A * Cattle 04/15 to 09/30 **5,821 AUMs

* The Cowhead/Massacre Land Use Plan did not specify numbers.

** The difference between the Land Use Plan 5,821 AUMs and the 1,354 Application AUMs are the AUMs allocated to the other permittees in Sand Creek Allotment and in Sub Unit 3A.

PART 2: NEPA REVIEW

B. Existing EA/EIS Review

1. **Yes. Proposed stocking levels, season-of-use, kind of livestock are all in conformance with the Record of Decision (ROD) for the 1980 Cowhead/Massacre Grazing EIS.**

2. **Yes. A reasonable range of alternatives was analyzed in the Cowhead/Massacre Grazing EIS. Alternatives include: 1) No Action (Continue Present Management), 2) Eliminate Livestock Grazing, 3) Proposed Action with Economic Adjustments, 4) Livestock Operator Management Plan, 5) Extensive Cultural Treatments, 6) Grazing Systems, 7) Alternative Method for Determining Stocking Levels, 8) Optimized Non-Consumptive Uses.**

3. **Yes. There has been no significant change in circumstances or significant new information germane to the proposed action.**

4. **Yes. The methodology and analytical approach used in the Cowhead/Massacre Grazing EIS is appropriate. A proposed action and alternatives were developed, the affected environment was described and the environmental consequences of each alternative was analyzed.**
5. **Yes. The application is for the same use analyzed in the Cowhead/Massacre Grazing EIS.**
6. **The application does not introduce any new issues or actions not analyzed in the Cowhead/Massacre Grazing EIS.**
7. **Yes. There is no new action proposed, and the Cowhead/Massacre Grazing EIS was completed using appropriate public involvement. The draft EIS was sent for review to 9 Federal Agencies, 7 State Agencies in California, 5 State Agencies in Nevada, 7 Local Agencies in California, 5 Local Agencies in Nevada, all grazing permittees, and 22 Other Organizations. Copies were made available at other public locations, several open house meetings were held and the public was notified of availability of the EIS through the media.**
8. **The season of use, livestock numbers, class of livestock and grazing system are appropriate to provide for a balance of resource uses that occur within the Nut Mountain Allotment.**

**BLM - SURPRISE FIELD OFFICE
Sand Creek Allotment #01012**

**DOCUMENTATION FORM FOR DETERMINATIONS:
ACHIEVEMENT OF FALLBACK RANGELAND HEALTH STANDARDS,
CONTRIBUTING FACTORS AND APPROPRIATE ACTION PRIORITIES**

■■■■■■■■■■

THIS FORM DOCUMENTS, FOR THE INDICATED AREA: (1) DETERMINATIONS AND SUPPORTING RATIONALE REGARDING IF FUNDAMENTAL RANGELAND HEALTH CONDITIONS CITED IN 43 CFR 4180.1 EXIST IN THESE AREAS; (2) DETERMINATIONS, IN CASES WHERE ONE OR MORE CONDITIONS OF FUNDAMENTAL RANGELAND HEALTH DO NOT EXIST, REGARDING THE STANDARD(S) THAT IS (ARE) NOT ACHIEVED; (3) DETERMINATIONS, IN THOSE CASES WHERE ONE OR MORE STANDARDS ARE NOT ACHIEVED, REGARDING THE CONTRIBUTING FACTOR(S) THAT IS (ARE) PREVENTING STANDARD(S) ACHIEVEMENT OR IS (ARE) PREVENTING SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS TOWARDS ITS (THEIR) ACHIEVEMENT; AND, (4) THE INFORMATION THAT WAS EXAMINED THAT SUPPORT THESE DETERMINATIONS.

■■■■■■■■■■

Indicate the date(s) or period the information review occurred: 1989 - 1998 Grazing Season

PART I - IDENTIFICATION OF RELEVANT AREA

A. Indicate area where these determinations and rationale apply:

- 1. **Site:**

- 2. **Management Unit: Sand Creek Allotment #01012**
Approximate size in acres: Total: 76,492 acres, BLM - 66,712 acres, Private - 9,780 acres.

- 3. **Landscape**

- 4. **Other Stratification:**

PART II - IDENTIFICATION OF INFORMATION REVIEWED

The following information (e.g. monitoring, literature, personal communication, etc.) was considered to determine standards attainment and, if applicable, contributing factor(s) to their non-achievement and failure to make significant progress towards their achievement. (if more room is needed to document the type of information reviewed, label and attach sheets as needed)

A. Information relevant to the Fallback SOILS HEALTH STANDARD:
FALLBACK (43 CFR 4180.2(f)(1)(i)):

Upland soils exhibit infiltration and permeability rates that are appropriate to soil type, climate and landform.

Indicator(s) Observed

Information Reference (i.e. identify the information source used by type and date)

Utilization

The 2 use areas/2 pastures grazing system is designed to provide deferred use on the Carter Reservoir Pasture. Under this grazing system, utilization over the past 5 years were observed as slight/light on the majority of the lower use areas native range and light/moderate Carter Reservoir Pasture. Utilization on the 49 Seeding averaged moderate/heavy and is rested every other year to provide for plant vigor. Areas near water sources such as springs, seeps, lakebeds, pit reservoirs and intermittent drainages received moderate/heavy use but was restricted to 1/2 - 1 mile radius of the sources. During the last 5 years, Sand Creek Enclosure has had unauthorized use with moderate/heavy utilization. This grazing system has resulted in residual forage being left on the lower use areas native range and the seeding (every other year) after the grazing season.

Condition

Professional judgement concludes the Sand Creek Allotment both the native range and the seeding is in an slight upward trend.

Comments / Remarks: **Answers to the following were based on professional judgement along with 10 years of management and observations on the Sand Creek Allotment.**

Criteria

1. IS ground cover (vegetation, litter, and other types of ground cover, such as rock fragments) sufficient to protect sites from accelerated erosion? **Yes, ground cover is sufficient enough to prevent accelerated erosion. The grazing system is resulting in more residual forage being left after the grazing season on the lower use areas and the seeding.**
2. IS evidence of wind and water erosion, such as rills and gullies, pedestalling, scour, or sheet erosion, and deposition of dunes either absent or, if present, does not exceed what is natural for the site? **Yes, very little surface erosion on the uplands is evident on the allotment.**
3. IS vegetation vigorous and diverse in species composition and age class, and does it reflect the PNC or DPC for the site? **No, for the lower use areas as herbaceous vegetation is mostly annuals. Yes, upland bunch grasses contain vigorous and diverse species but does not reflect PNC. The allotment is in a slight upward trend.**

B. Information relevant to the Fallback STREAM HEALTH STANDARDS:

FALLBACK (43 CFR 4180.2(f)(1)(iii):

Stream channel morphology (including but not limited to gradient, width/depth ratio, channel roughness and sinuosity) and functions are appropriate for the climate and landform.

Comments / Remarks: **Answers to the following were based on professional judgement along with 10 years of management and observations on the Sand Creek Allotment.**

Criteria

1. ARE gravel bars and other coarse textured stream deposits successfully colonized and stabilized by woody riparian species? **Partially, the four enclosure on Sand Creek have been less than fully successful. A lack of understanding how cattle would come down through the rims and a failure of the permittees to close gates have led continued hot season use that prevents the level of potential colonization. However, the upper enclosure has been relatively successful and indicates the potential for the entire stream.**
2. Is the stream bank vegetation vigorous and diverse, mostly perennial, and holds and protects banks during high stream flow events? **Partially, for the most part, the stream bank vegetation is perennial and is protecting the banks during high flow. Also there are large amounts of rock in the system that help dissipate energy during runoff events. However, potential increases in woody species has not been observed.**
3. DOES the stream water surface have a high degree of shading, resulting in cooler water in summer and reduced icing in winter? **No, continued summer grazing of herbaceous and woody vegetation precludes a high degree of shading.**
4. ARE portions of the primary floodplain frequently flooded (inundated every 1-5 years)? **Yes**

C. Information relevant to the Fallback RIPARIAN AND WETLAND SITES STANDARD:

FALLBACK (43 CFR 4180.2(f)(1)(ii) and SUSANVILLE RAC (Standard 4):

Riparian and Wetland areas are in properly functioning condition.

Comments / Remarks: **Answers to the following were based on professional judgement along with 10 years of management and observations on the Sand Creek Allotment.**

Criteria

1. IS riparian vegetation sufficiently vigorous, mostly perennial, and sufficiently diverse in species composition, age class and life form to stabilize stream banks and shorelines? **Yes, the shorelines of Carter Reservoir and Mud Lake are vegetated sufficiently to stabilize shorelines. No, the springs/seeps and associated stringer meadows in the Carter Reservoir Pasture receive moderate/heavy utilization seasonally by livestock and year long by wild horses.**

2. IS riparian vegetation and large woody debris well anchored and capable of withstanding high streamflow events? **N/A for large woody debris. Yes, Sand Creek is capable of withstanding high streamflow events due to the amount of herbaceous vegetative cover and rocks in the system.**

3. IS accelerated erosion (as a result of human related activities) evident? **Yes, accelerated erosion is evident on springs/seeps and associated stringer meadows as a result of hot season grazing from livestock and year long grazing from wild horses.**

4. ARE age class and structure of woody riparian and wetland vegetation appropriate for the site? **No, the woody component of Sand Creek is way below potential. This is due to the amount of unauthorized use in the exclosures.**

D. Information relevant to the Fallback BIODIVERSITY STANDARDS:

FALLBACK (43 CFR 4180.2(f)(1)(iv)):

Healthy, productive and diverse populations of native species exist and are maintained.

Indicator(s) Observed

Information Reference (i.e. identify the information source used by type and date)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community diversity | NRCS North Washoe Soil Survey, 1997 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> community structure (layers) | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exotic plants
(or invaders) | BLM, Nevada Division of Agriculture Noxious Weed Inventory and Eradication Program 1997-1998. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> plant vigor (production,
mortality, decadence) | Field Observations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> diversity of age classes | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> recruitment | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> wildlife life forms present
(obligate) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> special status species | BLM inventories since 1970's |

Comments / Remarks:

Criteria

1. DO wildlife habitats include seral stages, vegetation structure, and patch size to promote diverse and viable wildlife populations? **Partially, the landscape and soils combined with the grazing system provide for a generally diverse mix of plant communities that support a good range of Great Basin habitats on upland sites. On riparian sites structure and seral stages is substantially below potential.**
2. ARE a variety of age classes present for most species? **Partly, many brush stands are dominated by mature or older shrubs, which limit establishment of young brush and herbaceous species. In Sand Creek, mature woody species are lacking.**
3. IS vigor adequate to maintain desirable levels of plant and animal species to ensure reproduction and recruitment of plants and animals when favorable events occur? **Yes, the grazing system and stocking levels provides periods of deferment and rest that contribute to the vigor of all species on upland sites. On Sand Creek, vigor of palatable herbaceous and woody species is inadequate.**
4. DOES the distribution of plant species and their habitats allow for reproduction and recovery from localized catastrophic events? **Partly, the presence of large stands of mature Wyoming big sagebrush in the north western portion of the allotment with an understory of cheatgrass sets the stage for a conversion to a cheatgrass monoculture. The remainder of the allotment is at low risk of damage from catastrophic fires due the landscape and soils patterns.**
5. ARE natural disturbances, such as fire, evident, but not catastrophic? **Generally no, the few fires that have occurred are generally very small, often one juniper tree.**
6. ARE non-native plant and animal species present at acceptable levels? **Partly, as discussed in #4, there is a risk of conversion of thousands of acres to a cheatgrass monoculture. The remainder of the allotment contains no known stands of noxious weeds.**
7. ARE habitat areas sufficient to support diverse, viable, and desired populations, AND are they adequately connected with other similar habitat areas? **Partly, see #1 above.**
8. IS adequate organic matter (litter and standing dead plant material) present for site protection and decomposition to replenish soil nutrients and maintain soil health? **Yes, the grazing system and stocking levels provide adequate levels of residual vegetation for soil protection and organic matter incorporation.**

PART III - SUMMARY OF STANDARDS ACHIEVEMENT DETERMINATION AND RATIONALE

A. DETERMINATION ON STANDARDS ACHIEVEMENT

As of the date of the completion of this form, an examination of the information listed in Part II and recent field visits, if applicable, indicate the following with regard to standards achievement for the area identified in Part I:

<u>Standard</u>	<u>Determination on Standard Achievement</u> (check appropriate box for each standard)
Soils Health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met / <input type="checkbox"/> Not met but progressing towards / <input type="checkbox"/> Not met and not progressing towards / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Stream Health	<input type="checkbox"/> Met / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not met but progressing towards / <input type="checkbox"/> Not met and not progressing towards / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Riparian/Wetland	<input type="checkbox"/> Met / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not met but progressing towards / <input type="checkbox"/> Not met and not progressing towards / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Biodiversity	<input type="checkbox"/> Met / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not met but progressing towards / <input type="checkbox"/> Not met and not progressing towards / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A

B. RATIONALE SUPPORTING STANDARDS ACHIEVEMENT DETERMINATION (if additional room is needed, attach and label additional sheets):

Professional judgement along with 10 years of management and observations on the Sand Creek Allotment was used in the determination on the above "Standards Achievement".

PART IV - FOR THOSE STANDARDS NOT ACHIEVED, SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTING FACTOR(S) DETERMINATION AND SUPPORTING RATIONALE

A. DETERMINATION ON CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

As of the date of the completion of this form, an examination of the information listed in Part II and recent field visits, if applicable, indicate that the following are contributing factors for failing to achieve the standards as indicated in Part III for the area identified in Part I:

Non-achieved Standard (s) (from Part III): **Stream Health, Riparian/Wetland and Biodiversity**

<u>FLPMA Principal or Major Uses</u>	<u>Information Reference (what data was reviewed - type and information date)</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Domestic Livestock Grazing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> actual grazing use <input type="checkbox"/> grazing "licenses" <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> utilization records <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> field notes / photographs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other
<input type="checkbox"/> Fish and Wildlife Development and Utilization	<input type="checkbox"/> utilization
<input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Exploration and Development	<input type="checkbox"/> road building
<input type="checkbox"/> Rights-of-way	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> road building
<input type="checkbox"/> Timber Production	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

Field tour with permittee and consultant 11/5/98.

Existing hunting roads in riparian areas.

Other Events or Circumstances Considered Information Reference (what data was reviewed - type and information date)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wild horse and Burro use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> census/distribution data: LUP 20-30, current estimated numbers as of 10/98 - 48 horses.
<input type="checkbox"/> exotic plant presence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other
<input type="checkbox"/> insect impacts	Field tour with permittee and consultant 11/5/98.
<input type="checkbox"/> abnormal fire frequency or lack of fire	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> abnormal climatic events	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other _____	_____

CONTRIBUTING FACTOR(S) (LIST):

- Grazing: Livestock hot season grazing on riparian areas.**
- Outdoor Recreation: Roads in riparian areas.**
- Wild horses: Wild horse year long grazing on riparian areas.**

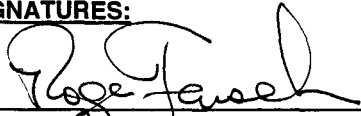
PART V - BLM STAFF WHO REVIEWED THE INFORMATION AND RECOMMENDED PRIORITY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF APPROPRIATE ACTION TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE STANDARD(S)

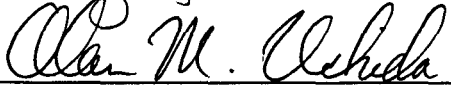
The following staff have participating in examining the information listed in Part II and in making the standard(s) achievement and contributing factor determination(s).

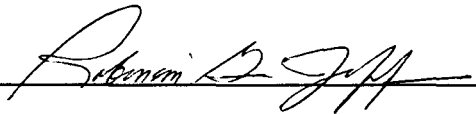
Roger Farschon, Ecologist
Alan Uchida, Watershed Specialist
Rob Jeffers, Sup. Natural Resource Specialist/Wild Horse Specialist

SIGNATURES:

TITLES:







Ecologist
Watershed Specialist
Sup. Natural Resource Specialist/Wild Horse Specialist


PART VI - DOCUMENTATION OF THE INVOLVEMENT OF PERMITTEES, STATE AGENCIES AND THE INTERESTED PUBLIC IN MAKING STANDARDS CONFORMANCE DETERMINATION AND CONTRIBUTING FACTORS DETERMINATION

Indicate the occurrence of public participation (e.g. permittee, interested public, other Federal or State /local agency), or opportunities for public participation that pertains to the review of standards achievement and contributing factors (who, when, and conversation or meeting summary): **This documentation form was completed by BLM staff because we are only renewing the 10 year grazing permits for the allotment. Management changes will include close monitoring of the Sand Creek Enclosures for unauthorized use and evaluating the effects of roads in riparian areas. We will still operate under the existing AMP and MFP.**

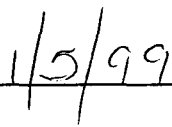
PART VII - AUTHORIZED OFFICER'S DETERMINATION AND PRIORITY FOR APPROPRIATE ACTION DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

I have reviewed and concur with the determinations and supporting rationale regarding the achievement or lack thereof of rangeland health standards documented herein and, in the cases where standards are not achieved, the determination and rationale regarding the contributing factor(s) for failure to achieve the standards. I have determined that the priority for developing and implementing appropriate action to achieve significant progress to achieve standards for the area identified in Part I is (check one)

high medium low .



SURPRISE FIELD MANAGER



DATE

COMMENTS: