

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

601 LOCUST STREET  
REDDING, CA 96001  
(916) 225-2300DEPT. OF INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

APR 6 1988

March 28, 1988

BUREAU OF LAND  
MANAGEMENT  
CEDARVILLE, CALIFORNIA

Mr. Lee Delaney  
Surprise Resource Area Manager  
Bureau of Land Management  
P. O. Box 460  
Cedarville, CA 96104

Dear Mr. Delaney:

The Tuledad AMP Evaluation 4130 (C-028) AMP File has been reviewed. This analysis is well done and thorough. We do have concerns about some statements, changes made and conclusions that we feel should be discussed as follows:

On page 2, a sheep turnout date of May 16 was planned, but because of feasibility problems for the operator a March 26 turnout was granted on a temporary basis. This early turnout was to be "evaluated" which apparently was not done. This modification seems ill-advised since range improvement objectives are not being reached on schedule and may not be reachable.

On page 5, Nature Range there appears to be a typo under N. Pasture, 1984 in the date i.e.: July 16 - June 30.

On page 11, item 5 it says that "the current active use is approximately correct" for livestock. On page 13, 3., it says "the current active stocking rate appears to be the appropriate level." These statements seem to lack substance when the objectives listed on page 3 and 4 are not being met on schedule and may never be achieved with the present grazing pressure.

The condition of the deer checked shortly after they reached the Smoke Creek/Buffalo Meadows winter range during the special antlerless hunt, in December 1987, was generally poor. This indicates that range conditions for these deer, some of which summer in and/or migrate through the Tuledad AMP area is not adequate.

We agree with the analysis on page 17, paragraph g, regarding bitterbrush use. Cattle and sheep will browse heavily on bitterbrush in the August-September period, when annuals dry and/or when grass is in short supply.

Mr. Lee Delaney

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It appears to us that if objectives are to be attained we will need to have a more reliable census of pronghorn and deer use in the area so that they can be managed within objective numbers. It also appears to us that livestock numbers and seasons of use need adjusting to facilitate reaching AMP objectives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Spiker".

A. E. Naylor  
Regional Manager  
Region 1

cc: Hall, Thayer, Curtis