clerry-ben 3/29/96



## United States Department of the Interior 1

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Elko District Office 3900 East Idaho Street Elko, Nevada 89801

> In Reply Refer To: 4120 (NV-010)

MAR 29 1996

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 March 25, 1996, Bertrand Paris and Sons applied for a change in permitted use, requesting to graze 294 cows on the North South, Far East, and North Seedings in the West Cherry Creek Allotment starting 4/15/96. The permitted season of use for the West Cherry Creek Allotment as described in the Wells Resource Management Plan (RMP) and by the Area Manager's Final Multiple Use Decision for the West Cherry Creek Allotment dated 9-30-94, is 5/01 to 10/31. Applications for early turnout into the seedings in the West Cherry Creek Allotment have been approved the past few years. The permitted use in the West Cherry Creek Allotment is 2,674 AUMs, of which 1,246 AUMs is available for cattle use and 1,428 AUMs are available for sheep use. The existing terms and conditions for the Bertrand Paris and Sons permit allows for the use of scheduled sheep AUMs (396) in the seeded pastures by cattle. Although the application requests an early turnout, total AUMs of use would not exceed permitted use.

The West Cherry Creek Allotment is a medium sized cattle grazing allotment located in the northern portion of Butte Valley near the Elko County and White Pine County Line, approximately 70 miles south of Wells, Nevada. The North South, Far East and North Seedings are located in the southern portion of the allotment (see attached map). A portion of the Maverick/Medicine Herd Management Area (HMA) occurs within this allotment. Due to fences there is no use in the seedings by wild horses. The seedings are predominately crested wheatgrass. There are no streams or springs within the seedings. The permittee uses a pipeline and troughs in the seedings to water his livestock. Approval of the grazing application is consistent with multiple use objectives for this allotment.

In addition to the existing terms and conditions, the following term and condition will apply:

The early turnout (4/20/96 through 4/31/96) is authorized as temporary nonrenewable use, and will not result in a permanent change to your grazing permit.

If you have any comments regarding the approval or denial of this application, please provide them to this office within 15 days of the date of this letter.

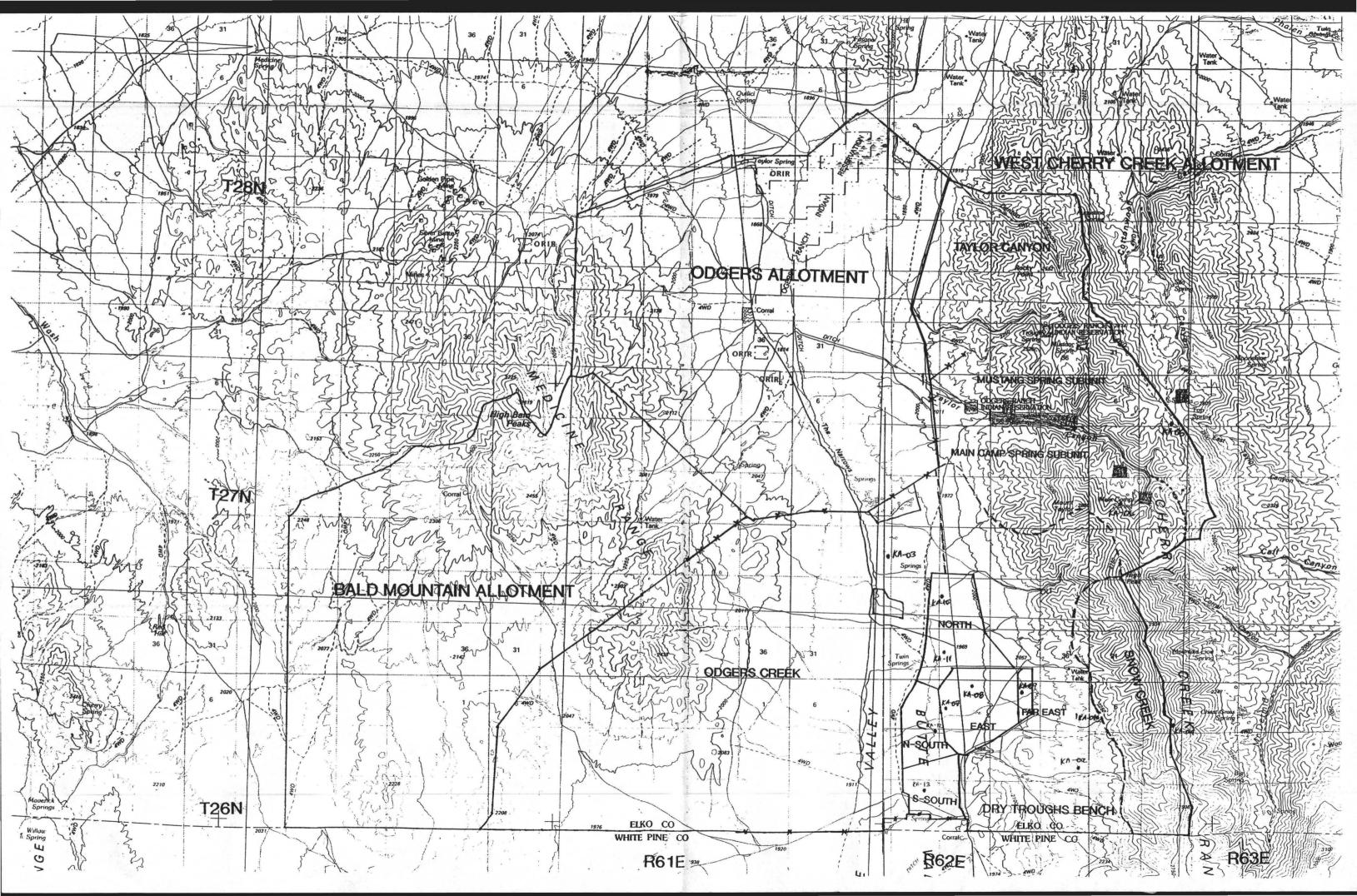
If you have any questions, please call Bruce Thompson at (702) 753-0200.

Sincerely yours,

RAYMOND G. LISTER, Acting Manager for Renewable Resources

## Enclosure: As stated above

American Horse Protection Association, Inc. cc: Animal Protection Institute of America Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses Kathryn Cushman Farm Credit Services Cliff Gardner Louise Lear Natural Resources Defense Council The Nature Conservancy Nevada Dept. of Agriculture Nevada Division of Wildlife Nevada Land Action Association Bertrand Paris & Sons Rutgers School of Law Sierra Club, Toiyabe Chapter US Fish and Wildlife Service Wells Res. Area Grazing Assn. Wild Horse Organized Assistance



BOB MILLER Governor

## STATE OF NEVADA

CATHERINE BARCOMB Executive Director



## COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF WILD HORSES

255 W. Moana Lane Suite 207A Reno, Nevada 89509 (702) 688-2626

April 8,1996

Mr. Raymond G. Lister Wells Resource Area Bureau of Land Management 3900 East Idaho Street P.O. Box 831 Elko, Nevada 89801

Subject: TNR - West Cherry Allotment

Dear Mr.Lister:

Thank you for consulting the Commission concerning the livestock grazing authorizations for the West Cherry Allotment. We cannot determine the actual management action nor its specific rationale within this notification.

We are pleased that the District did provide some information pertinent to wild horses. It is our understanding that wild horse use could not be measured on pastures affected the proposed decision. This allotment, as well as others, have not had the exhibited the usage portrayed in the Wells Wild Horse Amendment Environmental Assessment. It is our impression that wild horses are below their appropriate management levels; therefore, the District's continued authorizations for livestock temporary nonrenewable use within wild horse herd areas may be appropriate.

Sincerely,

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CATHERINE BARCOMB Executive Director

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