

L 12/3/01

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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

Radacavich Creek

12/03/2001

Memorandum

To: Carol Evans, Fisheries Biology Specialist

From: Aric Krueger, Biological Technician

Subject: Winter's Creek 2001

Before performing stream survey data collection on Winter's Creek you contacted Ellison Ranching to see if one of their representatives would like to attend. I was told to pick up Mr. Radacavich at the Spanish Ranch Office on the way to the creek. Nycole Burton and I picked up on the way to the stream as we discussed. The conditions at Winter's Creek were very poor due to overuse by livestock. While performing stream survey data collection on Winter's Creek Mr. Radacavich told me that the ranch hands were out yesterday and today moving cattle on the creek. This was on 11/06/2001. I have since found out that the cattle should have been out on 06/30/2001.

Aric Krueger

12/3/2001

I, Nycole M. Burton, concur that the above were made by Mr. Radacavich to myself and Aric Krueger on 11/06/2001 during stream survey assessment of Winter's Creek.

Nycole M. Burton

12/

To: Clint Oke, Chris Robbins, Ray Lister, Karl Scheetz, Pat Coffin
From: Carol Evans
Subj: Winters Creek
Date: 12-7-01

Since 1998, we have been working with Ellison Ranching Co. to try to improve habitat conditions on Winters Creek. Winters Creek supports redband trout, a BLM sensitive species (or at least it did prior to the 1994 Mahogany Springs Fire). Following the 1994 fire, grazing was initiated the following season with disastrous results to the stream. With little or no protective bank cover, Winter's Creek essentially became a gully with a nearly complete sedimentation of the streambottom. Fire closure criteria did not consider condition of riparian areas prior to reauthorization of grazing. It is unknown whether trout survived the combination of fire and overgrazing. None have been seen in recent years.

With the construction of the Mahogany Springs EFR fence, an opportunity existed to limit the season of use for the purpose of improving stream and riparian habitat conditions. Ellison Ranching Co. supported a proposal for early use (6/30 off) which was implemented in 1998.

Excellent results for both burned aspen stands and for Winters Creek with the application of early grazing between 1998 and 2000 (refer to the attached photo).

In 2001, Ellison Ranch indicated they did not want to be limited to early use in the pasture although they agreed to a 3/25/01 to 6/30/01 use date on the license (attached). It is my understanding cattle continued to be present until around mid July. Chris Robbins checked the field at this time and I believe cattle were removed on or around July 15th at BLM's request.

In November 2001, I sent Aric Kruegar and Nicole Burton to Winters Creek to complete a stream survey. Jay Dee Radacavich, an employee of Ellison Ranching Co., accompanied them. From the stream survey data it was apparent cattle had been present beyond mid July (see attached photo). Mr. Radacavich also confirmed cattle were present in the pasture through the first week of November.

It is frustrating for me to see such backwards movement in terms of riparian management. Unfortunately, this situation was the rule rather than the exception in 2001.

Winters Creek



Winter's Creek. S-2. 6/30/99. Stream response following conversion of season of use from hot season to early (6/30) off starting in 1998 and continuing through 2000.



Winter's Creek. S-2. 11/6/01. Stream response following reinitiation of seasonlong grazing in 2001. Cattle were licensed from 3/25/01 until 6/30/01. Although a BLM compliance inspection revealed cattle were removed by approximately mid July, field surveys on 11/6/01 and 11/7/01 and discussions with a ranch employee indicated cattle returned to the pasture and were present through the first week of November.

BILL NUMBER:

HORSESHOE SEEDING	544	C	04/01/01	06/30/01	100	A	1628	\$1.35	\$2
HORSESHOE SEEDING	15	H	04/16/01	11/30/01	100	A	113	\$1.35	
ROCK CREEK SEEDING	20	C	04/16/01	04/16/01	100	A	1	\$1.35	
ROCK CREEK SEEDING	95	C	04/17/01	04/24/01	100	A	25	\$1.35	
ROCK CREEK SEEDING	135	C	04/25/01	04/30/01	100	A	27	\$1.35	
ROCK CREEK SEEDING	185	C	05/01/01	05/19/01	100	A	116	\$1.35	
ROCK CREEK SEEDING	120	C	05/20/01	05/31/01	100	A	47	\$1.35	
ROCK CREEK SEEDING	20	C	06/01/01	06/30/01	100	A	20	\$1.35	
ROCK CREEK SEEDING	115	C	09/01/01	10/31/01	100	A	231	\$1.35	
NATIVE	663	C	03/16/01	04/04/01	77	A	336	\$1.35	
NATIVE	973	C	04/05/01	04/09/01	77	A	123	\$1.35	
NATIVE	1195	C	04/10/01	04/18/01	77	A	272	\$1.35	
NATIVE	2195	C	04/19/01	04/19/01	77	A	56	\$1.35	
NATIVE	2895	C	04/20/01	04/21/01	77	A	147	\$1.35	
NATIVE	3495	C	04/22/01	04/22/01	77	A	88	\$1.35	
NATIVE	3680	C	04/23/01	05/01/01	77	A	838	\$1.35	\$1,1
NATIVE	3795	C	05/02/01	05/19/01	77	A	1729	\$1.35	\$2,3
NATIVE	3895	C	05/20/01	05/30/01	77	A	1085	\$1.35	\$1,4
NATIVE	3995	C	06/01/01	09/01/01	77	A	9405	\$1.35	\$12,6
NATIVE	3505	C	09/02/01	09/15/01	77	A	1242	\$1.35	\$1,6
NATIVE	2705	C	09/16/01	10/01/01	77	A	1096	\$1.35	\$1,4
NATIVE	1505	C	10/02/01	10/05/01	77	A	152	\$1.35	\$2
NATIVE	605	C	10/06/01	10/31/01	77	A	398	\$1.35	\$5
NATIVE	505	C	11/01/01	11/15/01	77	A	192	\$1.35	\$2
NATIVE	70	C	11/16/01	11/30/01	77	A	27	\$1.35	\$
FENCED FEDERAL RANG	12	C	03/01/01	02/28/02	100	D	144	\$1.35	\$1
01023 SPANISH RANCH									
WINTERS CREEK	500	C	03/25/01	06/30/01	77	A	1240	\$1.35	\$1,6
NATIVE	500	C	03/25/01	03/31/01	77	A	89	\$1.35	\$12
NATIVE	666	C	04/01/01	04/01/01	77	A	17	\$1.35	\$2
NATIVE	1106	C	04/02/01	04/04/01	77	A	84	\$1.35	\$11
NATIVE	1906	C	04/05/01	04/19/01	77	A	724	\$1.35	\$97
NATIVE	2026	C	04/20/01	05/09/01	77	A	1026	\$1.35	\$1,38
NATIVE	2076	C	05/10/01	06/30/01	77	A	2733	\$1.35	\$3,68
NATIVE	2576	C	07/01/01	09/01/01	77	A	4108	\$1.35	\$5,54

BILL NUMBER: G27152993 ELLISON RANCHING CO.

ALLOT

PASTURE	LIVESTOCK NUMBER	K	BEGIN PERIOD	END PERIOD	%PL	T U	AUM'S	AUM COST	FE AMOI
01023 SPANISH RANCH									
NATIVE	2076	C	09/02/01	09/15/01	77	A	736	\$1.35	\$993
NATIVE	1376	C	09/16/01	10/15/01	77	A	1045	\$1.35	\$1,410
NATIVE	376	C	10/16/01	11/01/01	77	A	162	\$1.35	\$218
NATIVE	76	C	11/02/01	11/30/01	77	A	56	\$1.35	\$75
FENCED FEDERAL RANG	13	C	03/01/01	02/28/02	100	D	36	\$1.35	\$48
01001 ANDRAE									
	750	C	04/04/01	04/06/01	100	A	74	\$1.35	\$99
	869	C	04/07/01	04/08/01	100	A	57	\$1.35	\$76
	1079	C	04/09/01	04/10/01	100	A	71	\$1.35	\$95
	1140	C	04/11/01	04/30/01	100	A	750	\$1.35	\$1,012
	1340	C	05/01/01	07/01/01	100	A	2731	\$1.35	\$3,686