11/16/00

## United States Department of the Interior



## **BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

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

In Reply Refer To:

4120 (NV-012)

NOV 16 2000

## 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 November 13, 2000, Dave and Deanna McCall applied to graze 150 cows on the Lower Seeding in the North Butte Valley Allotment starting December 7, 2000 and ending December 31, 2000. The Lower Seeding was rested this past year. The Wells Resource Management Plan (RMP) describes the livestock grazing period of use in the North Butte Valley Allotment as May 1 to December 22. An allotment evaluation was completed in 1989, and a grazing agreement was signed on February 2, 1990. No modification was made to the period of use. The permitted use in the North Butte Valley Allotment is 1,645 AUMs.

Dave and Deanna McCall are applying for an additional 124 AUMs above their permitted use in the North Butte Valley Allotment. The application dated November 13, 2000, would be authorized as a temporary deviation from the grazing permit dates and as temporary non-renewable use above the permitted use of the Dave and Deanna McCall's grazing permit.

The North Butte Valley Allotment is a medium sized cattle grazing allotment located in the northern portion of Butte Valley, approximately 50 miles south of Wells, Nevada. The Lower Seeding is located in the northern portion of the allotment (see attached map). A portion of the Maverick/Medicine Herd Management Area (HMA) occurs within this allotment. This allotment receives only incidental to light use by wild horses. Crested wheatgrass provides most of the forage in this pasture and there are no streams or springs in this pasture. The permittee uses a well in the Lower Seeding to water their livestock. Approval of the grazing application is consistent with multiple use objectives for this allotment. Utilization will be monitored prior to the scheduled off-date. If use is below the objective levels outlined, additional use may be approved. Utilization will again be monitored at the end of the grazing period.

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

- a. Utilization of the key forage species will not exceed 65 percent. When 65 percent utilization is achieved, the cattle will be removed within 5 days.
- b. Submit an actual use report within 15 days of the end of grazing.
- c. The extension in period of use (12/07 through 12/31) is authorized as temporary nonrenewable use and will not result in a permanent change to the 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 (775) 753-0200.

Sincerely yours,

CLINTON R. OKE,

Assistant Field Manager Renewable Resources

Enclosure: As stated above

cc: Dave and Deanna McCall

Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses

Wild Horse Organized Assistance

Elko Board of County Commissioners

Nevada Cattlemen's Asso.

Nevada Division of Wildlife

Resource Concepts, Inc.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**HTT Resource Advisors** 

M. Jeanne Hermann

Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club

