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10/3/97

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Elko Field Office 3900 East Idaho Street Elko, Nevada 89801-4611

> In Reply Refer To: 4120 (NV-010) OCT - 3 1997

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 September 23, 1997, Bertrand Paris and Sons applied for a change in permitted use, requesting to graze 100 cows on the North Seeding from 10/19/97 to 10/31/97 and 250 cows on the North South and South South Seedings in the West Cherry Creek Allotment from 11/01/97 to 12/31/97. The utilization in the North Seeding this summer was light and utilization in the North South and the South South Seeding this past spring was moderate. 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 Temporary Non Renewable (TNR) use in 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.

Bertrand Paris and Sons are applying for an additional 522 AUMs above his permitted use in the West Cherry Creek Allotment. The application dated September 23, 1997, would be authorized as a temporary deviation from the grazing permit dates and as temporary non-renewable use above the permitted use of the Bertrand Paris and Sons grazing permit.

The West Cherry Creek Allotment is a medium sized 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 Seeding, North South and South South 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:

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 (10/19 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 (702) 753-0200.

Sincerely yours,

CLINTON R. OKE, Manager for Renewable Resources

Enclosure: As stated above

cc: Animal Protection Institute of America Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses Natural Resource Conservation Service Nevada Division of Wildlife Nev. Land Action Asso./Nev. Cattleman's Assoc. Bertrand Paris & Sons US Fish and Wildlife Service Wild Horse Organized Assistance Paul Bottari Resource Concepts, Inc. Nevada Woolgrowers Association Elko Board of County Commisioners Trout Unlimited, Sagebrush Chapter

