

3/13/97



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
ELKO FIELD OFFICE  
3900 E. IDAHO STREET  
ELKO, NEVADA 89801

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
4130/4710

MAR 13 1997

Commission for the Preservation  
of Wild Horses  
1105 Terminal Way, Suite 209  
Reno, NV 89502

Dear Ms. Barcomb:

Our office has received your letter dated January 16, 1997 regarding the Big Springs Permit Transfer. We apologize for the untimeliness of our response.

The transfer in question is one in name only as was explained in the letter sent to you on December 27, 1996. The grazing permit being offered to Parasol Ranching LLC has the identical terms and conditions as approved on October 4, 1996 to Larry and Antoinette Schutte. There were no comments from the public associated with approval of the October 4, 1996 grazing permit.

To answer your questions concerning the management of rangeland resources within the Shafter Pasture of the Big Springs Allotment within the Goshute HMA, we provide the following: the key area located at T34N., R67E., Sec. 13 was established to monitor livestock and wild horse use in a combined winter use area. The BLM has collected pre-livestock utilization data at this key area for the last 7 years. The wild horse specialist has also set out two utilization cages within the Shafter Pasture and utilization data has been collected at these cages for five years. In addition to utilization transects at the key area and cages, use pattern mapping data for the entire pasture has been collected on four occasions prior to the turnout of livestock to document wild horse use only.

The Elko Field Office is currently working on the Big Springs Allotment evaluation and multiple use decision. These documents will carefully analyze all available monitoring data in order to establish a carrying capacity for wild horses and livestock.

The Commission can expect to see the draft allotment evaluation sometime in early FY98. If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact Karl Scheetz or Kathy McKinstry at the above address.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clinton R. Oke", written over a horizontal line.

CLINTON R. OKE  
Assistant District Manager  
Renewable Resources



COMMISSION FOR THE  
PRESERVATION OF WILD HORSES

1105 Terminal Way  
Suite 209

Reno, Nevada 89502  
(702) 688-2626

March 17, 1997

Ms. Helen Hankins  
Elko District  
Bureau of Land Management  
3900 East Idaho Street  
P.O. Box 831  
Elko, Nevada 89803

Subject: Big Springs Authorization - Goshute HMA

Dear Ms. Hankins:

The Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses has reviewed the notice of leasing within the Big Springs Allotment. This allotment is within the Goshute and Spruce-Pequop Wild Horse Herds.

We are unaware of any multiple use decision, allotment management plan or functional equivalent for this grazing authorization. In accordance to 43 CFR 4120, additional information and consultation are required.

If this notification is considered a proposed decision, we submit a protest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine Barcomb".

CATHERINE BARCOMB  
Executive Director