



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Ely Field Office
HC33 Box 33500 (702 N. Industrial Way)
Ely, Nevada 89301-9408
<http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en.html>



In Reply Refer to:
4110.3
(NV-04200)

Mr. Gracian Uhalde
P.O. Box 151088
Ely, NV 89315

Double U Livestock LLC
Mr. Wade West
HC 33 Box 33850
Ely, NV 89301

RECEIVED

NOV 02 2007

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
BUDGET AND PLANNING DIVISION

Dear Mr. Uhalde and Mr. West:

On July 6, 2007, the Tempiute Fire started and was ignited by lightning. The fire burned approximately 297 acres of BLM administered public land in the Tempiute range, northeast of Rachel, Nevada. The fire was declared contained on July 7, 2007. As a result of the burn, emergency stabilization rehabilitation of the area is required to maintain site suitability and vegetation establishment. Aerial seeding will occur in the fall of 2007. As a result of the Tempiute Fire, two grazing allotments were burned: 230 acres in the Crescent N-5 allotment and 66 acres in the Worthington Mountain allotment.

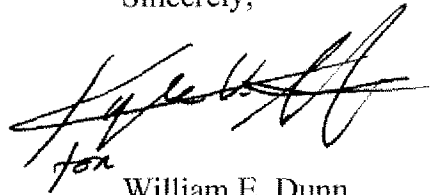
No enclosure fence is proposed at this time. The burned area will be closed to grazing until monitoring data indicates that vegetation recovery objectives have been met (an average of five or more permanently established desirable perennial plants per square-meter in both seeded and unseeded areas). Modes Spring and The Seeps are within a mile of the burn area and will remain available as water sources for livestock, but the closure area is to be avoided by livestock trailing to and from these water sources.

Enclosed you will find a copy of a location map and the Tempiute Fire Livestock Closure Agreement for your review and approval. A copy of this letter and a copy of the agreement are being sent to the interested public for review and comment as outlined in 43 CFR 4110.3-3 (a). Written comments are due by November 15, 2007. We will review and consider all comments received. Following the comment period and review of comments, the Tempiute Fire Livestock Closure Agreement will be issued and approved.

If you have any questions please contact Mindy Seal, Rangeland Management Specialist (SCEP) at (775) 289-1944. If you would prefer to discuss this matter in person, please call and set up an

appointment with us so that we may respond to any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. E. Dunn', with a stylized flourish at the end. The signature is written over the printed name.

William E. Dunn
Assistant Field Manager
Renewable Resources

2 Enclosures:

1. Map of Tempiute Fire Closure Area
2. Tempiute Fire Livestock Closure Agreement

CC:

George Andrus
Steven Carter
Steve Foree, NDOW
Brad Hardenbrook, NDOW-Southern Region
Curt Leet
Lincoln Co. Commissioners
Cindy MacDonald
Betsy Macfarlan, ENLC
Laurel Marshall
John McLain, Resource Concepts, Inc
Nevada Cattlemen's Assoc., Meghan Wereley
Nevada State Clearinghouse
Jerry Reynoldson
Mike Scott, NDOW
Katie Fite, Western Watersheds Project



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TEMPIUTE FIRE LIVESTOCK CLOSURE AGREEMENT

On July 6, 2007, the Tempiute fire started and was ignited by lightning. The Tempiute fire burned approximately 297 acres of BLM administered public land in the Tempiute range, northeast of Rachel, Nevada. The fire was declared contained July 7, 2007. As a result of the burn, the proposed treatment is to aerially seed approximately 292 acres with a lighter mixture of native and introduced grass, forb, and shrub seeds to inhibit the establishment of invasive, non-native annuals and promote the recovery of native grasses and forbs. The non-native invasive annual grass, cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*), is present in the vicinity of the burned area, and was present in low densities within the burned area pre-fire. It is likely that seeds of this species remained viable within the seedbank in the burned area post-fire. These invasive annual grasses often increase in abundance following fire, and cause burned areas to become more susceptible to future fires, promoting increased fire frequency and further degradation of the native plant community (D'antonio and Vitousek 1992, Brooks et al. 2004). Rock outcrops, significant unburned islands and one five-acre demonstration plot will be avoided by seeding treatments. Aerial seeding will occur in the fall of 2007.

No enclosure fence is proposed at this time. The permittees will be responsible for ensuring that their livestock stay out of the closure area through herding and/or water management. The fire burned across two grazing allotments burning 230 acres (0.62%) in the Crescent N-5 allotment (allotment number 01062), and 66 acres (0.08%) in the Worthington Mountain allotment (allotment number 11021). Cattle and sheep grazing is permitted on the Worthington Mountain allotment and sheep grazing is permitted on the Crescent N-5 allotment, however, the primary use on these two allotments is by sheep. The burned area will be closed to grazing until monitoring data indicates that vegetation recovery objectives have been met (an average of five or more permanently established desirable perennial plants per square-meter in both seeded and unseeded areas). Modes Spring and The Seeps are within a mile of the burn area and will remain available as water sources for livestock, but the closure area is to be avoided by livestock trailing to and from these water sources.

For protection of the soil and vegetation, due to the Tempiute fire, I hereby close to livestock grazing on public lands, as designated in the following paragraph, those public lands located within the Tempiute Fire Closure Area. This area is located in Lincoln County, Nevada within the Ely District. This Livestock Closure Agreement is effective immediately and will remain in effect for a minimum of two years and/or until the emergency stabilization rehabilitation objectives have been met. A description of the closure area is as follows:

Portions of T 02S, R 57E, Sections: 23, 26, 27.

The closure includes that portion of the Crescent N-5 allotment and Worthington Mountain allotment that are within the 297 acres of the Tempiute Fire Closure Area. This closure does not pertain to any other portions of these allotments.

Since less than 1% of each allotment was burned, no livestock grazing animal unit months (AUMs) will be placed in nonuse under this agreement within the Crescent N-5 allotment and Worthington Mountain allotment.

The primary goals to be accomplished through this livestock closure agreement are:

1. Restoration of vegetative communities.
2. Watershed stabilization and protection.
3. Control of erosion.
4. Provide rest and recovery period for the reestablishment of vegetation.
5. Provide rest and establishment period for seeded species.
6. Provide and protect forage and cover for wildlife species.
7. Provide sustained forage for livestock.

The Bureau of Land Management will monitor the recovery of the burned and/or treated areas to see if the goals and objectives of the closure are being achieved. The area will be monitored to determine that sufficient cover of perennial vegetation has been reestablished before authorized grazing may resume. An assessment will be made to determine if the following objectives have been met:

1. An average of five or more desirable perennial plants per square-meter will be permanently established in the burned area.
2. Resprouting vegetation will have good leader growth, will provide vertical and horizontal cover appropriate for the site, and will show resistance to damage from grazing by pulling or tearing of the vegetation.
3. Newly sprouting vegetation, including seeded species, with young root systems will resist disruption when pulled indicating grazing will not impair established root systems.
4. Native vegetation will show vigor, health and evidence of reproduction.

Monitoring sites would be established within one year following the fire and measured yearly.

Failure to keep livestock out of a burned area may result in suspension of grazing privileges on the affected allotment for the duration of the closure period.

This closure agreement is issued pursuant to Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 4110.3-2 (a) Permitted use may be suspended in whole or in part on a temporary basis due to drought, fire, or other natural causes, or to facilitate installation, maintenance, or modification of range improvements.

A location map of the closed area is attached to this agreement.

Date

William E. Dunn
Assistant Field Manager
Renewable Resources

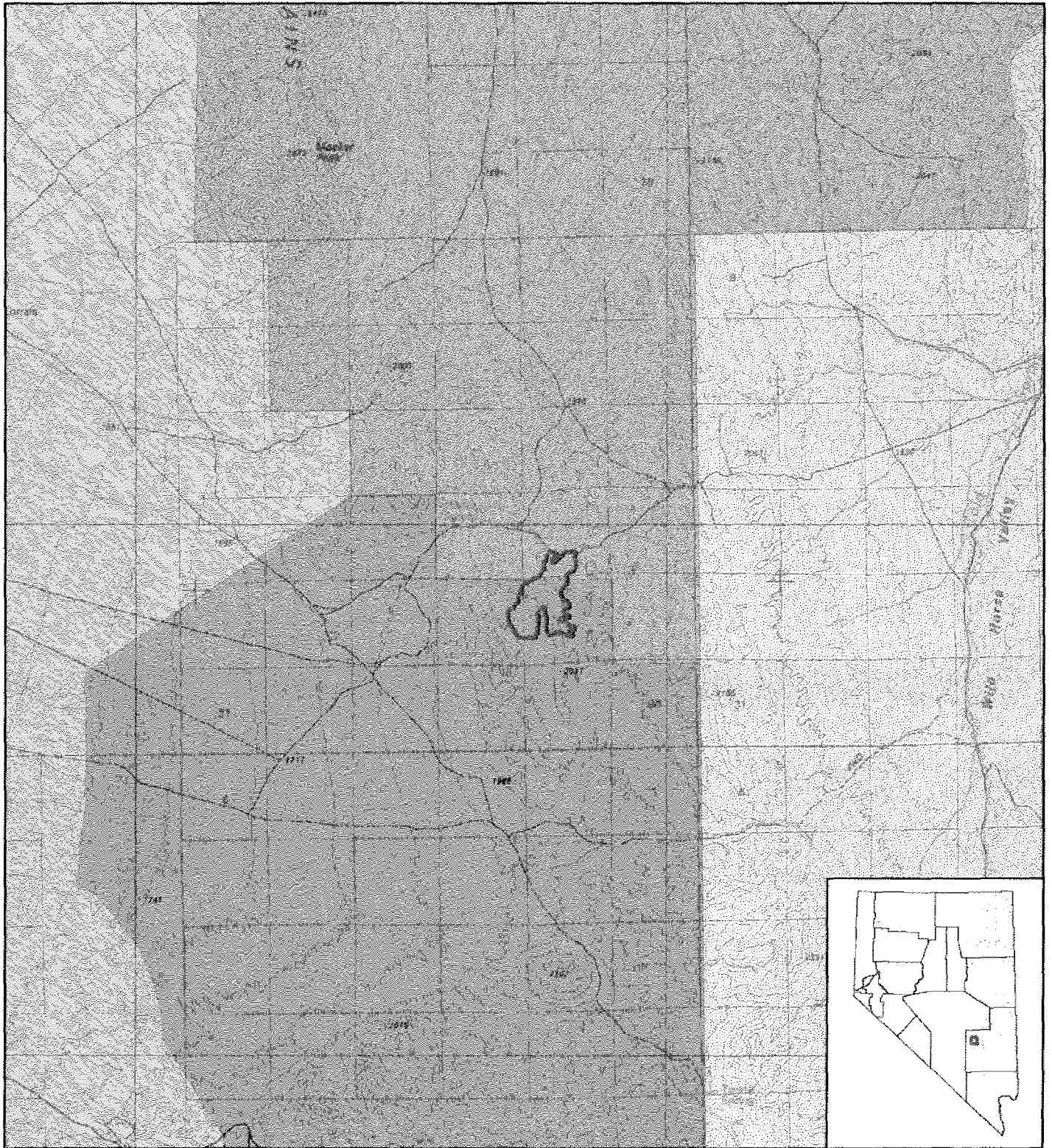
Date

Gracian Uhalde

Date

Wade West
Double U Livestock LLC

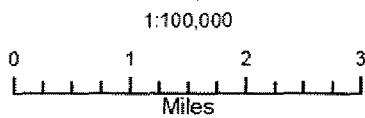
Tempiute Fire, DNL1, Allotments, HMA's







UTM Zone 11N
NAD 83

BLM Nevada
Ely District

07/11/2007



- 2007ires_BLM_ElyDistrict
-  HMA
 - allotments**
 - NAME**
 -  Crescent N-6
 -  Worthington Mountain



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