



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
STATELINE RESOURCE AREA
4765 VEGAS DRIVE
P.O. BOX 26569
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89126

IN REPLY REFER TO
4700
(NV-054)

Johnnie

Nevada Department of Transportation
1263 South Stewart Street
Carson City, Nevada 89712
Attn: Jerry Pieretti

AUG - 5 1993

Dear Mr. Pieretti:

It has been brought to my attention that the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) intends to initiate fence construction along both sides of Highway 160 north of Pahrump, Nevada to prevent wild horses and burro's from entering onto/crossing the highway. I understand that this fencing project is necessary because accidents involving wild horses and/or burro's and motor vehicles is a serious concern.

The BLM is responsible for managing wild horse and burro populations within herd management areas in such a manner that we maintain free-roaming behavior. I am concerned that this fencing project will negatively impact the free-roaming nature of the horse and burro population in the Spring Mountain Herd Management Area.

I believe that we can meet the needs of both your Department and my agency. I will be in the Carson City area next Monday. If you have a few minutes I would like to meet you and perhaps we can further discuss this matter.

Sincerely,

Marvin D. Morgan
Marvin D. Morgan
Area Manager



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
StateLine Resource Area

MARVIN "DAN" MORGAN
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LAS VEGAS, NV 89126



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Las Vegas District Office

4765 Vegas Drive
P.O. Box 26569
Las Vegas, Nevada 89126



In Reply Refer To:
4710
(NV-050)

June 9, 1994

Memorandum

To : State Director, Nevada (NV-961)

From : District Manager, Las Vegas

Subject : Last Chance/Mt. Stirling (Johnnie) Herd Management Areas Wild Horse and Burro Situation

As you are aware, Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) is currently constructing a safety fence on their right-of-way along State Route 160 from Highway 95 to just north of Pahrump. This fence will cut the Last Chance/Mt. Sterling (Johnnie) HMA approximately in half creating an adverse situation for the survival of the animals on the west side of the fence.

We conducted a census the week of May 16, 1994 to determine current use areas and animal numbers. Based on census and movement data from 1988 to 1994 we estimate that 1/5 of the horses and 1/2 of the burros in the HMA have established territories on the west side of SR 160 where they make extensive use of forage and shade. Naturally occurring water, is lacking on the west side of the highway. The only available water source is a small private pond supplied by a spring on the east side of the highway. The pond provides an insufficient amount of water to handle current animal numbers. Because of this lack of available water on the west side, animals rely upon water on the east side as their primary source. If animals are not able to get to water on the east side there is the potential for deaths; concentration of animals at the private water source; and/or movement of animals into the town of Pahrump or the Ash Meadows area, both undesirable locations.

The primary water sources (springs) on the east side are located on private land and at this time it is not known if it is feasible to acquire water rights and pipe water to the west side. We are working on this but even if the land owners are cooperative it would take several months to get anything going.

Water hauling to augment the private water source on the west side was considered as an option. This however is considered to be logistically prohibitive considering the number of animals involved.

At this time there does not appear to be a viable remedy to the immediate situation other than the removal of 100 to 150 burros and 20 to 30 horses from the west side. In combination with the removal we would relocate any additional animals to the east side and provide water for any stragglers. The NDOT has agreed to leave a four mile gap in the fence for a period of two to three weeks so we can get a gather in place.

Please disregard our previous request for a Full Force and Effect Decision (dated June 3, 1994) and consider this as our amended request.

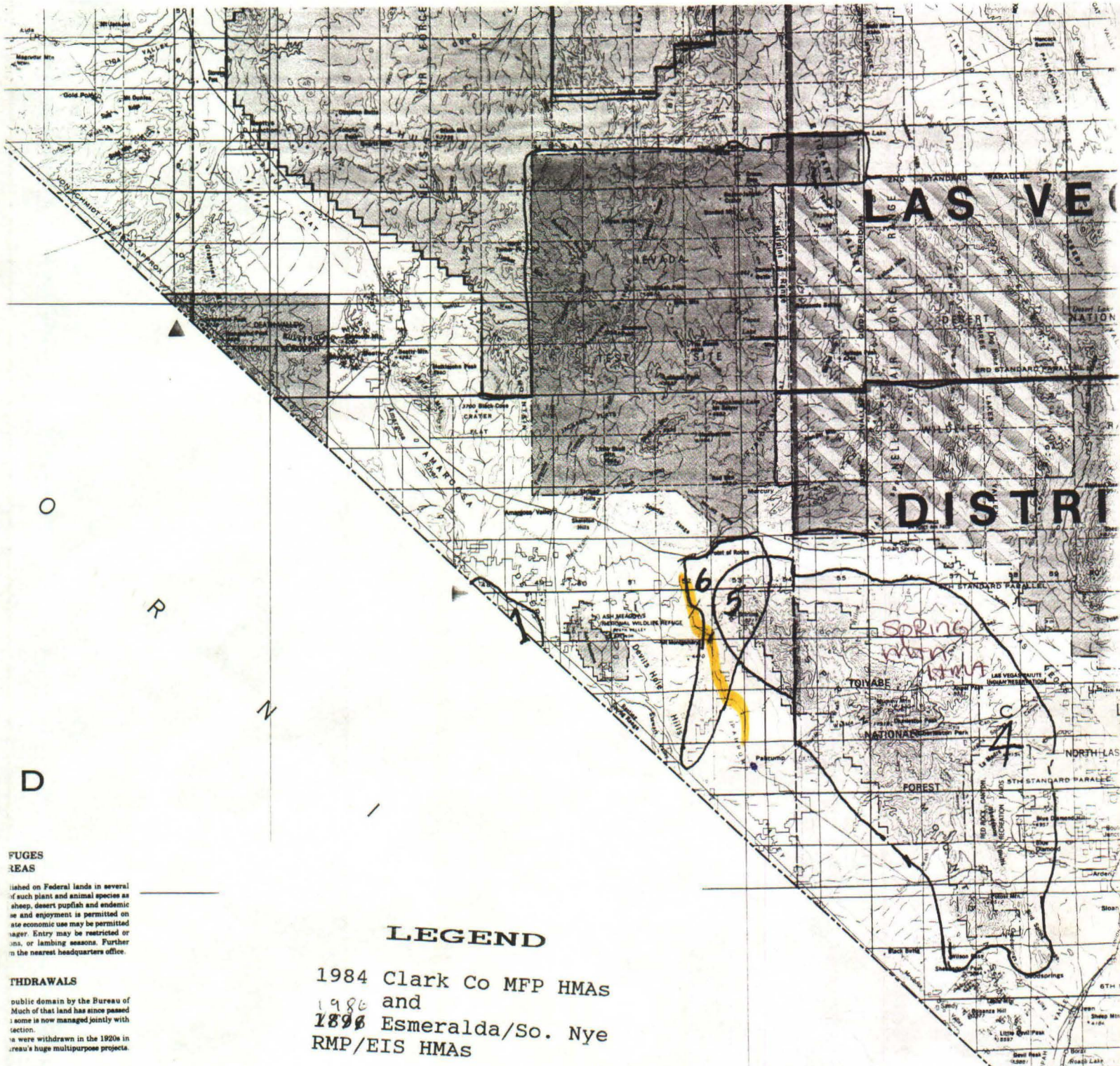
If you have any questions concerning this matter please contact Gary McFadden or Donn Siebert.



Gary Ryan
District Manager

Concurrence by:

Ron Wenker
State Director, Nevada



WILDERNESS AREAS

Established on Federal lands in several areas to protect certain plant and animal species as sheep, desert pupfish and endemic species and enjoyment is permitted on such lands. Entry may be restricted or prohibited during certain seasons. Further information is available from the nearest headquarters office.

LAND WITHDRAWALS

Public lands in Nevada are held in public domain by the Bureau of Land Management. Some of this land has since been withdrawn for other purposes and is now managed jointly with other agencies.

Approximately 10 million acres, is held in public domain by the federal government to the Central and Southern Nevada. The transcontinental rail line and free access to the Nevada State Office, Bureau of Land Management, is centered on the main line of the transcontinental Pacific. The Southern Pacific transcontinental line has been sold to other private owners.

Right to select certain lands to support agriculture. Withdrawal of valley lands in northern Nevada, and of which passed into private ownership, is included in urban areas, most of which are used for agricultural purposes. Additional acres were withdrawn as homestead, desert land entry and other agricultural uses.

Change. Recent changes in public land ownership information, maps covering Nevada State Office, Bureau of Land Management, and other responsible federal agencies.

1:100,000 scale Land Status Map of Nevada.

This publication is the first (1965) and is based on the edition on a completely revised interior Nevada State Office, Bureau of Land Management of a totally new land status base map. This map provides the base information on which the 1:100,000 scale maps are based. The maps with current protection diagrams are published.

Right-of-way and other land parcels are not identified on the map. The Nevada State Office, Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Bureau of Mines, The Nevada State Office, Bureau of Land Management, and developed the color separates.

LEGEND

1984 Clark Co MFP HMAS
 1986 and
 1988 Esmeralda/So. Nye
 RMP/EIS HMAS

1. Amargosa
2. Gold Butte
3. Muddy Mountains
4. Spring Mountains
5. Mount Stirling
6. Last Chance
7. Eldorado

- Wilderness area
- Built up area shown for towns over 5000 population
- County boundary
- Surveyed lines
- Protracted line
- BLM district boundary
- Township and range locator

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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