



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Elko District Office
3900 East Idaho Street
Elko, Nevada 89801

http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/elko_field_office.html



In Reply Refer To:
4130 (NVE0300)

November 10, 2011

Dear Reader:

The Wells Field Office is proposing to renew the grazing permit for the Snow Water Lake and Warm Creek Allotments and consider an application submitted by the permittee to change the type of authorized livestock from cattle to domestic horses. The first step in this process is to prepare a Standards and Guidelines for Rangeland Health assessment of the two allotments, which will be released in draft form for public review when completed. The Wells Field Office invites interested parties to submit comments and any information or data that may be applicable to assist in completing this assessment.

The Snow Water Lake and Warm Creek Allotments are located twenty five miles south of Wells, Nevada. The attached Map 1 shows the locations of both allotments. The Snow Water Lake Allotment encompasses approximately 22,365 acres of land, of which approximately 18,049 acres are public land administered by the BLM and the remainder is private. This allotment is divided into five pastures, three of which (Pastures A, B, and C) are partially to completely seeded to crested wheatgrass and the remaining two (Creek and Lake Pastures) are native vegetation. Total permitted use amounts to 1,106 public AUMs. The Warm Creek Allotment encompasses approximately 1,537 acres of land, all of which are public administered by BLM. This allotment is not divided into pastures and contains only native vegetation. Total permitted use amounts to 118 AUMs. The attached Map 2 displays land ownership, current range improvements, and other detailed information. Livestock grazing use on both allotments is currently governed by the "Agreement for Implementation of Changes in Livestock Grazing Use on the Snow Water Lake and Warm Creek Allotments" dated 13 September 2001.

In December 2010, Tommy, L.L.C. purchased the base properties associated with the grazing privileges on the Snow Water Lake and Warm Creek allotments. The BLM Wells Field Office issued a grazing permit to Tommy, L.L.C. under Fiscal Year 2011 Continuing Resolution Appropriations Language.

On 29 July 2011, Tommy, L.L.C. submitted an application to change the type of livestock authorized on these two allotments from cattle to domestic horses, together with a proposal to change the grazing system on these allotments. No wild horses or burros will be authorized on either allotment.

The Wells Field Office is seeking comments on the proposed actions and any data or information on the two allotments that members of the public would like to see considered in the draft assessment. Comments and/or information may be mailed to the above address, faxed to (775) 753-0255, or e-mailed to “BLM_NV_ELDO_WarmCreekRanchGrazing@blm.gov”. All comments, data, and other information must be received in this office by **Friday, 9 December 2011**. Comments received in response to this letter and the draft assessment may be used to develop alternatives to be considered in the preparation of an analysis and disclosure of impacts to the human environment to be prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). BLM will evaluate the proposed change in type of livestock, carrying capacity, the proposed changes to the grazing system, and possible additional range improvement projects and/or redevelopment of existing range improvement projects in these documents. The permit renewal, along with any changes to permitted use on these allotments, would be implemented through a grazing decision.

If you have any questions please call Jeff Moore, Rangeland Management Specialist, at (775) 753-0359.

Sincerely yours,

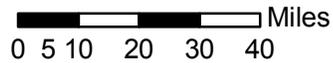
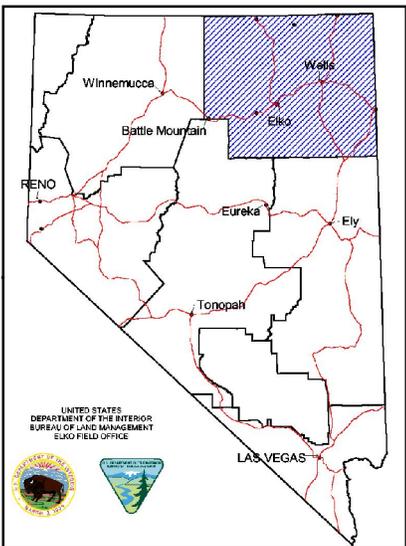
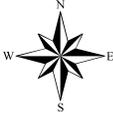
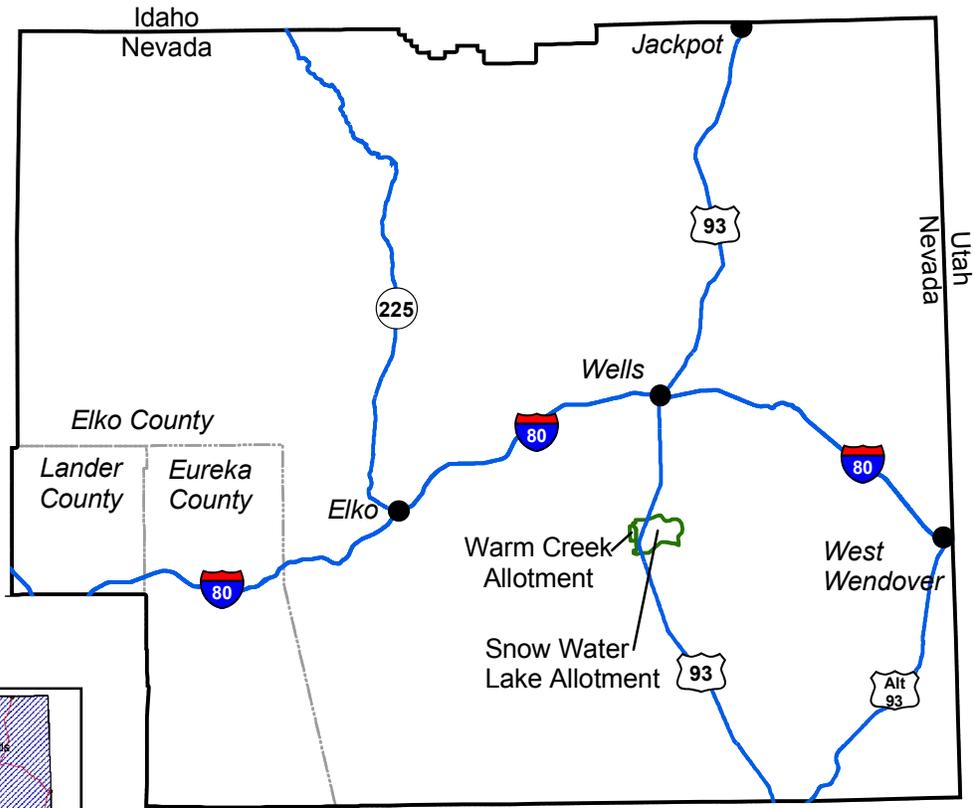
/S/

Bryan K. Fuell
Manager, Wells Field Office

Enclosures

cc: Tommy, LLC
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Resource Concepts, Inc.
Nevada Department of Wildlife
Western Watersheds Project
Nevada Cattlemen's Association
Wesley Bowlen
Elko County Commissioners
Natural Resources Management Advisory Commission
Bobbi Royle
Sustainable Grazing Coalition

Map 1
 Snow Water Lake and
 Warm Creek Allotments
 General Location Map



Legend

-  Major Roads
-  Elko District Office Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Grazing Allotment Boundaries

1:2,000,000



UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
 ELKO DISTRICT OFFICE
 NOVEMBER 2011

Data published in:
 North American Datum 1983 (NAD83)
 UTM coordinates, Zone 11, meters

"NO WARRANTY IS MADE BY THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT AS TO THE ACCURACY, RELIABILITY, OR COMPLETENESS OF THESE DATA FOR INDIVIDUAL USE OR AGGREGATE USE WITH OTHER DATA."



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ELKO DISTRICT OFFICE
NOVEMBER 2011

Map 2 Snow Water Lake and Warm Creek Allotments

