



File Code: 2210
Route To: Files

Date: June 8, 2001

Subject: Reply to Center for Biological Diversity letter June 5, 2001

To: Files

On June 6, 2001, I went to inspect the Montana Allotment areas of complaint in the June 5, 2001 letter from the Center for Biological Diversity.

1) Location 12R 0476948/ UTM 3479534 – Complaint was a clear violation of allowable use standards in California Gulch.

The area is located in the drainage of California Gulch and is not within a key area for the Ruby Pasture. Key areas are not suppose to be located within a ¼ mile from any water source. The livestock utilization was estimated about 45 to 55% and green with slight new grow occurring.

2) Location 12R 0477206/ UTM 3478677 – Complaint was a clear violation of allowable use standards in California Gulch.

The area is located in the drainage of California Gulch and is not within a key area for the allotment. This is a major water source for the Ruby Pasture. This area is the cement dam and dirt tank, which is located on a private land in holding.

3) Location 12R 0476168/ UTM 3472915 – Complaint that the Sonoran Chub enclosure in the California Gulch at the USA/Mexico International Boundary fence was down and recent sign of cattle were within the enclosure.

No breaks in the enclosure fence were noted at the time of inspection. A closed gate, which was within 10 feet of the UTM coordinates and could have been left open. The cattle use was all old sign prior to completion of the new enclosure International Boundary fence construction done in the summer of 2000. All cattle manure signs were at least a year old (they were all white in color). No cattle have been in Schumaker since last summer 2000, and no cattle have been in Warsaw pasture since summer of 1999 (scheduled for the Warsaw this summer grazing season 2001). According to the lack of recent signs and construction of the new international Boundary fence in 2000, the area indicates no livestock have been in the enclosure. This June 6, 2001 inspection indicated the best riparian condition since the fence was fixed. No recent sign of grazing within enclosure!

4) Location 12R 0476788/ UTM 3478677 – Complaint was that inspection revealed cattle in areas of flowering agaves had broken stalks.

My inspection indicated approximately four agaves with broken off stalks and removed from area.



5) Location 12R 0476588/ UTM 3480001 – Complaint was that inspection revealed cattle in areas of flowering agaves had broken stalks.

No agaves were noted in the immediate area. Numerous sotol were noted in the area. The livestock utilization in the area was about 55% primarily due to closeness of water seep source. This is not a key area designated for the Ruby Pasture.

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