



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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JUL 26 2013

In Reply Refer To:
4120.3-1
(NV-030.04)

Dear Interested Party:

The Black Rock Field Office (BRFO), Winnemucca District (WD) has prepared the Rough Canyon Drift Fence in the Paiute Meadows Allotment Preliminary Environmental Assessment (PEA). This PEA analyzes the environmental effects of building approximately 1.07 miles of new permanent fence on the Allotment. The fence is located within the Paiute Meadows Allotment, T. 41N, R. 27E, section 14.

The proposed fence would reduce livestock drift from the North Paiute Low Elevation use area into North Paiute High Elevation use area during the hot season, which is also the season of non-use (7/1 to 10/6). The fence would limit livestock access through Rough Canyon and the subsequent drift of cattle along Battle Creek and Bartlett Creek. The North Fork of Battle Creek is occupied habitat for the federally listed threatened species, Lahontan cutthroat trout (LCT).

The Paiute Meadows Allotment permittee, Paiute Meadows Grazing Association, LLC, has proposed to maintain the proposed drift fence. A cooperative agreement would be issued to the permittee prior to the construction of the fence.

The PEA can be viewed by following the links from the WD NEPA webpage at http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo/blm_information/nepa0.html. The BLM BRFO would like to receive your input and/or comments to this proposal by the close of business August 25, 2013. Comments can be sent to the BLM-Winnemucca District Office (Attn: Angie Arbonies) at this address: 5100 E. Winnemucca Blvd. Winnemucca, NV 89445. Comments may also be submitted by email to: wfoweb@nv.blm.gov. Email comments should reference "Rough Canyon EA" (A.Arbonies) in the subject line.

Public comments submitted for this project, including names and addresses of commenters will be available for public review at the Winnemucca District Office during regular business hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment -including your personal identifying information -may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

If you have any questions please contact Angie Arbonies, Rangeland Management Specialist at (775) 623-1545.

Sincerely,

Gerald Dixon
Field Manager
Black Rock Field Office