



United States Department of the Interior  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
<http://www.blm.gov>



FEB 16 2011

The Honorable Dean A. Rhoads  
Chair, Nevada's Legislative Committee on Public Lands  
401 South Carson Street  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Dear Senator Rhoads:

Thank you for your December 3, 2010, letter to Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar regarding grazing permits on public lands. Secretary Salazar has asked me to respond to your letter.

I appreciate the work of your committee in listening to and conveying the concerns of stakeholders, including ranchers, across Nevada. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) values the stewardship of public land ranchers who use grazing permits to manage vegetation through livestock grazing.

The BLM recognizes that grazing permits on public lands are important to the livestock industry in Nevada and in other states. Any BLM decision to close allotments to grazing, or to eliminate grazing permits, would occur at the field office level and would be addressed in the Land Use Plan and the associated National Environmental Policy Act process with public participation.

Thank you for your interest in grazing on public lands. If you have further questions, please contact me at 202-208-3801.

Sincerely,

Robert V. Abbey  
Director