

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

REGION 2
1701 NIMBUS ROAD, SUITE A
RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95670

(916) 355-7020

EL DORADO Co
~~Santa Co.~~
~~or Alameda Co.~~

Fish/12



September 7, 1993

Mr. Ron Stewart
Regional Forester
U.S. Forest Service
630 Sansome Street
San Francisco, California 94111

Dear Mr. Stewart:

The California Department of Fish and Game (Department), pursuant to 36CFR217, respectively requests the right to intervene on behalf of the Forest Service in appeals of the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Meiss Grazing Allotment Decision. The subject appeals were filed by allotment permittees Mr. Doug Joses and Mr. Elliot Joses, Mr. James Cuneo, Alpine County, Mr. Andrew Fischer and Ms. Eloise Fischer, and the Public Lands Council.

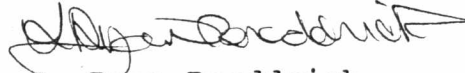
The subject allotment is situated in the Upper Truckee River watershed, an area with significant fish and wildlife resources. The upper reaches of the Upper Truckee River and adjacent Meiss and Round Lakes support established populations of Lahontan cutthroat trout, a federally-listed threatened species and brook trout, a forest plan management indicator species. The Upper Truckee River within its lower reaches is a significant spawning area for rainbow and brown trout residing in Lake Tahoe. The river also provides a major source of high quality water to the lake. The meadows and associated willow thickets along the Upper Truckee River provides fawning habitat and summer range for mule deer and potential willow flycatcher habitat.

Livestock grazing in the Meiss Allotment area has damaged trout habitat in the Upper Truckee River and Round Lake Creek. The Department submitted comments during the Meiss Allotment environmental assessment review process and recommended selection of the long-term rest alternative. The Department was pleased that Mr. Robert E. Harris, Forest Supervisor, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, selected this alternative. The Department continues to support long term rest for the Meiss Allotment as the best alternative for expeditious recovery of damaged fish and wildlife habitat.

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Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any specific questions, please contact Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Senior Fishery Biologist, at (916) 355-7090.

Sincerely,



L. Ryan Broddrick
Regional Manager

cc: Mr. Robert E. Harris
Forest Supervisor
Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit
870 Emerald Bay Road
South Lake Tahoe, California 96150

bc: Mr. Eric Gerstung
Inland Fisheries Division
Rancho Cordova, California

Mr. Russ Wickwire
Tahoe City, California

Mr. Dan Hinz
Camino, California

GERSTUNG:lr

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