

From: Shawcroft, Melissa <mshawcro@blm.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 5:49 PM
To: Pendley, William P <wpendley@blm.gov>
Subject: Fwd: (BLM permittee)

Mr. Pendley,

It was great to have you come to our office today and to reach out to us all. Even though I was not made aware of this great opportunity to meet you today by my supervisor, I at least was able to say hello to you by phone. I want you to know that after 30 years of my experiences with the BLM, I think you are just what the BLM needs to be successful! I firmly believe you are the kind of person the BLM's needs to change its reputation around and make the Bureau accountable. I admire who you are and what you have stood for in your lifetime.....you are a great pick for the job! I would so like to meet you someday.

On another note, a comment came up today in our office discussion with you about livestock trespass and since it was not I who asked you the question I found it interesting that someone else raised the issue.....we are usually discouraged from talking about it in front of upper management. However, your answer sparked my interest because your reply was "we need to hold people accountable." I agree with that and have found that we don't do that very well.

I know you are unfortunately in a difficult situation right now to be bothered about this ongoing, maybe insignificant problem but this problem revolves around our permitted public and the ability to protect their grazing allotments from the free grazing public. This problem stems from years of total failure by those who are mandated and entrusted to protect public lands from the free grazing public....to act upon the situation. I have always been one who acts and have been retaliated for it because it goes against those who choose not to.

I am "speaking out" to you on behalf of this rancher and other ranchers who are complaining about the lack of management and law enforcement in this office and I am speaking out for our public lands that are being destroyed and over grazed, as we speak, by the free grazing public. I have been reprimanded as a result of my reporting the below livestock trespass and the others that occur in the valley but I don't do well in looking the other way when there is a wrong especially when the public is screaming at us to do something.

Please read these emails from just one of the recent permittees to management and who is now on the Grazing Advisory Board and is complaining about our lack of enforcement.

Thank-you for your time, Mr. Pendley. I don't expect a miracle down here but I just thought you should know that things are not RIGHT with the way we deal with these issues.

From: Shawcroft, Melissa <mshawcro@blm.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2020 11:39 AM
To: Garcia, Melissa K
Subject: Re: _____

Melissa,

I was down in that area on the evening of August 12, 2020 on my own personal time and with my own personal vehicle and personal camera as well. I did not volunteer my time to the BLM as you have stated loud and clear that I am not allowed to do and I did not converse with the public as you have instructed me not to do. However, I did come across the same herd of cattle that Dennis has been talking about in his emails below (cow with the bell, etc) and they appear to be impacting not only [____]'s South Valley allotment but the SLV Irrigation and Well Owners (leased to Lee Bagwell) Twin Lakes and Twin Lakes Individual #1 allotments as well as permittee, [____]'s Pinon (south pasture) allotment.

I took about 20 close up photos of the cattle which were about 1 1/2 miles south of the South Valley allotment entrance and many photos showing the cattle have been all over the East pasture of the Twin Lakes allotment, the Twin Lakes Individual allotment as well the south pasture of the Pinon allotment. Fresh signs were everywhere including along the main road. There is not a blade of green grass anywhere down in the Punche Valley and it looks pretty ugly and beaten down to me with heavy trailing everywhere from the past 5 months of continuous livestock trespass. I don't understand why we seem to condone this type of behavior in not taking action to get them off the public lands but you are the manager so it doesn't have to make sense to me, however, I do care about the health of the public lands and the message we are sending to our permittees when we don't take action as well as to the rest of the free grazing public.

I know that the consequences of my actions of looking into and reporting this livestock trespass to you and the others on this email could generate some type of backlash or personnel action against me or worse yet, result in my termination, however, I and I am sure others would definitely wonder why such action would be called for.

Melissa Shawcroft
BLM Range Management Specialist