



Reference: 273978

July 5, 2023

VIA EMAIL: bccattle@cattlemen.bc.ca

Brian Thomas, President
British Columbia Cattlemen's Association
4-10145 Dallas Drive
Kamloops, British Columbia
V2C 6T4

Dear Brian Thomas:

Thank you for your letter of March 20, 2023, to Minister Ralston, regarding the status of grazing licence renewals in the Peace River Natural Resource District. I have been asked to respond and I apologize for the delay.

Regarding grazing license RAN074995 for Crystal Springs Ranch, the replacement was offered, signed, and returned by Christa and Eckbert Weitzel and Georg Weitzel on June 15, 2023. This grazing license has been granted an exemption for a renewed Range Use Plan to allow range use by the license holders during the 2023 grazing season. Over the course of this summer, Peace District staff and the Range Branch will be working with the license holders and First Nations to develop a renewed Range Use Plan for approval by the district manager.

Peace District staff are working to find efficiencies for replacing grazing licenses coming up for renewal as well as updating associated Range Use Plans to address First Nations concerns, ensure continued stewardship of the range resource, and support livestock producers that rely on access to Crown range. If you have further questions or concerns, I encourage you to contact Chris Cooper, Director, Range Branch, by email at Christopher.cooper@gov.bc.ca or by phone at (250) 787-6785.

Again, thank you for writing and sharing your concerns.

Sincerely,

Richard Manwaring, R.P.F.
Deputy Minister

pc: Honourable Bruce Ralston, Minister of Forests
Chris Cooper, Director, Range Branch
Christa and Eckbert Weitzel
Georg Weitzel