



File Code: 1300

Date: August 22, 2003

Mr. Dennis Parker
P. O. Box 1100
Patagonia, Arizona 85624

Dear Mr. Parker:

This letter responds to your Request for Correction No. 3008. The Request for Correction submitted by you pursuant to the Data Quality Act and filed on behalf of your client, Eddie Johnson, has been reviewed carefully by the Forest Service Data Quality Team. You requested the correction of data and information in the "Guidance Criteria for Determining the Effects of On-Going Grazing and Issuing Term Grazing Permits on Selected Threatened and Endangered Species, and Species Proposed for Listing and Proposed and Designated Critical Habitat."

Our review disclosed that the data you seek to have corrected does not meet the definition of "disseminated" under either the Department of Agriculture (USDA) or the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) information quality guidelines. The OMB guidelines describe dissemination to mean "agency initiated or sponsored distribution of information to the public (citations omitted)." The OMB description continues by noting that "dissemination does not include distribution limited to government employees...intra- or inter-agency use or sharing of government information..." 56 FR 49724. Similarly, the USDA guidelines provide that information "intended only for intra-agency or inter-agency use or sharing of government information, unless the receiving agency disseminates the information to the public" is not subject to the USDA information quality guidelines. The "Guidance Criteria for Determining the Effects of On-Going Grazing and Issuing Term Grazing Permits on Selected Threatened and Endangered Species, and Species Proposed for Listing and Proposed and Designated Critical Habitat" is for, and has been used as "intra- or inter-agency guidance." It has not been disseminated to the public.

Consequently, your request for correction is rejected.

If you have questions regarding your request for correction, please contact Glen Contreras at (202) 205-2938 or Rita Morgan at (703) 605-4910.

Sincerely,

/s/ Thelma J. Strong

THELMA J. STRONG
Director, Office of Regulatory
and Management Services

