

March 2, 2016

Neil Kornze, Director
Bureau of Land Management
1849 C Street NW, Rm. 5665
Washington DC 20240

Dear Mr. Kornze

Ab Jenkins was my grandfather. More than any other person, he put the Bonneville Salt Flats "on the map" with his record breaking automotive pursuits. He campaigned & persuaded world renowned racing celebrities to join him on the world's best high speed facility for wheel driven vehicles. Together, through their competitions, they pioneered technological advances in automotive performance and safety. These activities continue today, but we are in grave danger of losing the Salt Flats as the ideal laboratory for speed trials.

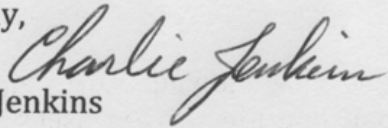
Speaking for the Jenkins family, I am appalled by the seeming lack of interest shown by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in protecting this "natural wonder", especially given the practical purposes for it's preservation. It is perplexing that the BLM designated the Salt Flats as an "area of critical environmental concern", but has allowed this National Historic Site to become severely damaged and approaching ruin. The people and organizations who have used the Salt Flats over the years for racing, filming movies and commercials, testing cars and advances in automotive engineering, have been good stewards. It has been private enterprises who have been allowed to deplete the resource and do no reclamation or remediation that have caused the damage.

It is a matter of course, that some things under organizational responsibility are neglected. My Father, Marvin Jenkins, learned this first hand when he acquired, repaired and restored his father's last race car, Mormon Meteor III, after years of organizational neglect by the state of Utah. Now, the Bonneville Salt Flats need to be restored before it is too late.

Few people are presented with an opportunity to truly make a tangible difference in the world that will affect a great many people in a positive way. I believe you have just that opportunity. That is to oversee the restoration of the Salt Flats to a pristine expanse of white salt in the Utah desert that mystifies and inspires generations to come.

Therefore, I respectfully request the BLM to engage in an effort to start an immediate restoration program and to continue with an ongoing remediation that will return the Bonneville Salt Flats to it's historically stable and usable condition. Thank you in advance for your effort to reverse the deterioration of the last 50 years. Who knows, maybe one day a descendant of yours will catch "salt fever" and be out there on the salt just to see "how fast will it go".

Sincerely,


Charlie Jenkins

CC: Sally Jewel, Sectary of the Interior; Kevin Oliver, West Desert District Manager; Gary Herbert, Governor of Utah; Mike Crawford, Mayor of Wendover; The Utah Alliance; Save The Salt Foundation; Save The Salt Coalition; Utah Salt Flats Racers Association; Southern California Timing Association; Bonneville Motorcycle Speed Trials; Cook's Land Speed Events.