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November 19, 1930

MEMORANDUM FOR REGIONAL FORESTER

Attention Mr. Nelson

Reference Mr. Nelson's memo "G Supervision" of October 14, 1930.

*Prepared by Davis*

The article referred to in the Monthly Report was not intended as criticism of the range administration in general or that of the Stanislaus area in particular. It would be presumptuous to suggest general modifications from the small amount of research that has been done on the relation of grazing to silviculture. The point I wished to make is that we have been studying isolated factors without much correlation. Development of natural reproduction has been observed and development of forage has been observed but seldom have these two subjects been studied on the same area. We have some extremists who consider grazing uniformly detrimental and some who consider it beneficial or neutral. Neither attitude is correct except locally as conditions vary.

In the particular case referred to, we could not have foreseen at the time of cutting the results the small fenced areas are showing even though it were possible to manage the stock as suggested. I merely wished to emphasize the indicated value of much more work of the kind which has been started with the help of your office, so that such opportunities can be realized in the future. We, of course, know that you have always been heartily in favor of this type of work. So have I, but the small amount of work so far possible has suggested possibilities not fully appreciated before.

We have tried to get started a little coordinated study of forest and forage around the Stanislaus center in advance of the general range research program to take advantage of opportunities resulting from present cutting which will not exist after next season. I hope this work can be extended next season before the operation ceases.

We have been planning for some time a meeting with your office and the Stanislaus to work out plans for the range around the Stanislaus Branch Station. Present plans provide for restocking this range with Mr. Adams' cattle next spring. This means that we must decide at once which areas are to be kept free from grazing and draw up a detailed plan of plot fencing,

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drift fences, holding pasture or withholding of permits that will be most acceptable to all concerned. Before going ahead, we are trying to determine what our future needs will be around this station. As regards silvicultural work this is not difficult, but what additional areas will be desirable with an increased grazing research program, extension of Lowdermilk's work, continued Blister Rust work, and the results of Dunston and Wieslander's recommendations as to experimental forests and reserves is harder to foresee. As soon as we have our recommendations in the form of maps and figures, we shall take the matter up with you. In fairness to the stockmen, this will have to be done soon.

*E. I. Kotok*

E. I. KOTOK,  
Director