

FOR INFORMATION

California Station

U. S. FOREST SERVICE - WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

NW  
MWT - letter

you start getting support  
for such a allotment in RS

Region 2 and Rocky Mountain Station

December 21, 1949

~~RE~~

Lyle F. Watts, Chief, Forest Service

By

~~DF~~

R-RESEARCH PROGRAM, Western Slope ✓  
G-STUDIES, Administrative, Methods of Management

~~OS~~

We have given considerable thought to the advisability of setting up a cattle allotment in Region 2 for demonstrating what can be accomplished by using the best available range management practices. We would appreciate Cliff and McGinnies giving this matter consideration to determine whether its early establishment is feasible either along the lines outlined as follows or as may seem appropriate in your field consideration.

JAS

The main objective of managing the allotment would be to restore the productivity of the range and then to obtain maximum forage production on a sustained basis and optimum livestock production from this forage. Intensive use of improved methods of grazing management, range reseeding, and range improvements in combination would be employed in reaching this objective. Such an allotment could serve to test the practicability of management methods being recommended by research, on an allotment scale, for extension purposes and to determine the advisability of setting up similar demonstration allotments in other regions or on other forests of Region 2.

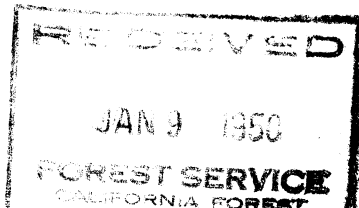
This project should be a cooperative effort using the combined knowledge and skills of research and administration of the Forest Service, the stockmen using the range, and others as may seem advisable.

Research would participate by assigning personnel as needed for the period of the project, assisting in planning the management practices to be applied, guiding and participating in the actual field management, and taking field data necessary to demonstrate effectively the results of the practices used. Full support and guidance of the Director and Washington Office would be needed.

Administration would need to provide time for participation by forest officers at the local, regional, and Washington Office level in the planning, action and extension phases of the project. It would also need to provide special financing for needed surveys, reseeding and construction of range improvements, in addition to providing time of forest officers who might be specifically assigned to the project.

The permittees using the allotment would need to be agreeable to the program and provide adequate handling of livestock on the range, or agree to such handling by the Forest Service.

See 2/9 state memo with  
sent to SAH via W.C.



2-Lyle F. Watts

December 21, 1949

Even though research participates actively, the project would not be looked upon as a research project where different practices are being compared. Rather it would be the employment on an intensive scale of the most up to date range management practices needed to obtain the objectives. It is anticipated, however, that many findings of value to research will become evident. Some shifting of current programs would undoubtedly be involved to provide the research personnel needed. This is in line with the recommendations of the Range Research Seminar.

It would seem appropriate to consider an allotment on one of the Western Colorado national forests and have the research features handled as a major part of the work of the Western Slope Research Center. In that case, the details and working plans then could be worked out cooperatively by the Regional Forester, Forest Supervisor and Forest Ranger for administration, and the Director of the Rocky Mountain Station and the research center leader of the Western Slope Research Center for research.

We can foresee many problems in setting up such an allotment, and realize that it could not be effected satisfactorily without the full support and cooperation of the forest officers upon whose forest and ranger district the allotment occurs, and of the permittees who own the cattle grazing the allotment. Consideration will need to be given to the advisability of using an allotment with a single permittee as compared with a group of permittees. We can see advantages and disadvantages in both. These and other problems would need to be carefully weighed before finally selecting a location.