

FOREST SERVICE
CALIFORNIA FOREST AND RANGE EXPERIMENT STATION,

FILE COPY
DIVISION OF RANGE RESEARCH
CALIFORNIA FOREST AND RANGE
EXPERIMENT STATION

CHIEF, FOREST SERVICE, Washington

May 3, 1950

STEPHEN N. WYCKOFF, Director

R-RESEARCH PROGRAM, Western Slope

AIR MAIL

Reference is made to your memorandum of December 21, 1949 to Region 2 and the Rocky Mountain Station regarding demonstration allotments.

The California Station, Regional Office, and the Lassen Forest are very much interested in establishing one of these allotments in California to serve the purposes outlined in your memorandum and to test the results of 14 years of research at the Burgess Spring Experimental Range.

We have been concentrating for about two years on preparing our Burgess Spring results for publication. These results have been digested and analyzed and we are now working on a manuscript designed for publication as a U.S.D.A. Circular. A plan of management for northeastern California mountain summer ranges has been derived from these studies. It calls for fenced management of grazing, periodic resting of a portion of the range each season for forage regeneration, and the application of cultural practices like artificial reseeding and weed and brush control, and it provides for efficient sustained forage and livestock production. For several years we have been looking forward to testing the Burgess Spring results on a national forest allotment scale. Accordingly, the plan has been applied on paper to the Harvey Valley allotment on the Lassen Forest. It looks practical and favorable from an economic standpoint. We have a long record of basic information about this allotment.

In view of your memorandum to Region 2, we thought it timely, even before our results are published, to discuss the possibilities locally of setting up a demonstration allotment in California to serve the purposes mentioned in your memorandum, as well as to test Burgess Spring results. On April 14 this matter was discussed at length in the Regional Office with Messrs. Joy and Wetzel from the Region; Supervisor Greeley and grazing staff man Lord of the Lassen Forest; and Talbot, Hornay, and Cornelius from the Station. Cronemiller also sat in part time.

It was the unanimous belief of the group that the Harvey Valley allotment would be a specially suitable area in this Region for a demonstration allotment. For one thing, Supervisor Greeley brought out the fact that the Harvey Valley allotment is used by only one permittee and it is Greeley's belief that this permittee will be reasonably satisfactory as a cooperator. Also important is the fact, so well known to Dutton and Chapline, that we have more basic information for this allotment (which includes the Burgess Spring Experimental Range) than for any other allotment in the Region.

As of course you know, Region 5 has been a strong supporter of the Burgess Spring work throughout its existence. Assistant Regional Forester Joy is

2-Chief, Forest Service, 5/3/50

anxious to make a special attempt to obtain the additional dividends that a demonstration allotment would provide. Supervisor Greeley expressed the definite desire to go ahead with the project. Since both men were leaving immediately for the field, I was requested to forward this report of our meeting to you with our combined recommendation that the Harvey Valley allotment be chosen as one of the western allotments for the things you had in mind.

This project was also discussed with Mr. Kotok during his visit here. At his request we have sent him copies of a set of work maps, type photographs and tables covering phases of the Harvey Valley development and the first cast-up of an economic analysis of the project.

STEPHEN W. WYCKOFF

~~Alb~~
MWTalbot:
SNWyckoff:ES

cc: ~~X~~Lassen National Forest
Region 5.
MWT

RR
MANAGEMENT
Ponderosa Pine Ranges
Burgess Spg. Exptl. Range
(Harvey Valley Range Allotment)

May 11 [19] 50

SUPERVISOR, LASSEN NATIONAL FOREST

FROM: A. L. HORMAY, Range Conservationist

Dear Art:

Under separate cover I am sending you the maps mentioned in Director Wyckoff's memorandum of April 26. Felt you could use these at this time to size up the possibilities of developing the Harvey Valley allotment along the lines discussed with you and Phil in the April Regional Office meeting.

During the week of June 12, Waldo Wood and I plan to set out some permanent sample plots to measure the present and future condition of the most important grazing types on the Harvey Valley allotment. These plots were designed specifically to measure the changes expected from intensified management of the area. The plots will also serve the purpose of the State-wide range condition and trend study carried on by K. W. Parker out of Washington. Parker is scheduled to be in Region 5 from June 16 to 30 and will no doubt spend the week of the 19th on the Harvey Valley allotment with us measuring the plots.

Would you be in a position to buy a little material for me and to make available two men and a stakeside truck for two or three days to establish the plots? We have the money to cover all expenses. All materials bills can be vouchered in Berkeley and you can bill us for the labor and equipment use. Some of the stakes on these plots have to be set permanently. The men are needed primarily to dig holes and mix concrete. I specifically need the following:

2 men (June 13, 14 and possibly 15).

1 stakeside truck to haul materials to plot locations.

Cement - enough for 50 cubic feet of concrete. I believe we have enough sand-gravel mix at Burgess Spring to do the job. Will check on my first trip up - probably during the week of May 22 - and will let you know.

Tools and other materials needed to mix about 2 cubic feet of concrete at a time.

Please let me know as soon as you can whether or not you will be in a position to handle this for me so I can plan accordingly.

A. L. HORMAY

Enclosures - 3
cc for package

(Range Improvements for Basic Management Plan; Proposed Artificial Reseeding Treatments; Distribution of Three Species of Sagebrush)

ALHormay:ED

Files
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR - C.F.&R.E.S.
FROM : SUPERVISOR - Lassen
SUBJECT: G-IMPROVEMENTS - General

DATE: May 16, 1950

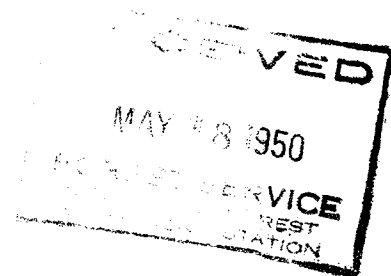
ATTENTION - A. L. HORMAY

Reference is made to Mr. Hormay's memorandum of May 11.

We will plan on having two men available for June 13, 14 and 15. We will purchase 12 sacks of cement and furnish all necessary tools for the job. When you are through here during the week of May 22, we can discuss final details of the job.

H. R. Williams

By: H. R. WILLIAMS, Acting

Report

Col. [unclear]

E. I. Kotok, Assistant Chief

May 18, 1950

W. R. Chapline, Chief, Division of Range Research

R(CAL) RESEARCH PROGRAM, General (Harvey Valley)

~~PLH~~
ALH
DRC

We have carefully reviewed the California Station proposal concerning the development of the Harvey Valley allotment as a demonstration unit.

I am glad to see the thinking of the Station carried through to the possibility of application of results of their Burgess Spring research. The material submitted, however, gives no sound basis for an effective consideration of the proposal here, even with your explanation, which I realize is based upon much more knowledge than is furnished in the material.

A project such as this will cost research \$8,000 to \$10,000 a year if the bulk of Hornay's time goes in on it, as it would appear to require. Such a project would require at least five years to get much value out of it in the form of demonstration values, and it may require ten years to get the main values. In other words, the five-year cost to range research will be somewhere between \$40,000 and \$50,000, and ten-year costs will be close to \$100,000. This, of course, is over and above the cost to administration in the way of fences, reseeding, facilitating administration, etc., which, according to the estimates submitted, appear as though they might be repaid through greater returns.

The expenditure of such an amount of the limited range research funds of the California Station and the tying up of Hornay's time for this period from other research or aid to administration justify much more adequate planning of the Harvey Valley project than is indicated in the material submitted. The main features which it seems to me are needed for this project are as follows:

- 1 - A concise statement of the management practices and principles developed and proven by research, at least on a small scale, and not yet accepted in application which this project proposes to demonstrate. A similar statement regarding range reseeding and shrub control procedures. In other words, the specific objectives of this demonstration project should be more definitely and effectively stated.
- 2 - A clear statement of the specific management to apply on the allotment and just how it or phases of it aim to demonstrate the practices and principles recommended in the objectives.
- 3 - A clear indication of how the management of the Harvey Valley allotment fits into the year-round ranch operation.

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2-E. I. Kotek-5/18/50

4 - A clear indication of how the results will be measured so as to be useful beyond the Harvey Valley allotment itself.

5 - The actual time required for research and administrative men and other expenses required in the handling of the project.

6 - Planned use to be made of the results.

In relation to this particular project, we should know what is the plan of the California Station for continuing other studies in national forest areas of California. In other words, will this mean closing up the type of studies which have been conducted at Burgess Spring in the past in order to make Hornay's full summer time available for this project?

Aside from the above, there are several points which can and should be raised on the material submitted, especially the economic analysis. I believe to raise them at this time, however, might result in emphasis on details rather than to have the broader over-all program outlined effectively.

If the region is ready and willing to proceed with such a project as this and agrees that the Harvey Valley allotment is suitable, there would, of course, be an advantage in administration's proceeding promptly with major control fences, needed water developments, and reseeding, provided research has actually proven the advisability of the reseeding proposed. The spraying results may be sufficiently far advanced to proceed as recommended, but I have not seen any presentation of such results.

cc Cal Stn.