

CF&RES (Joe Woolfolk)

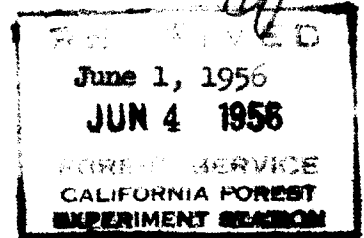
FOREST SERVICE

SAN FRANCISCO 11, CALIFORNIA

SUPERVISOR - LASSEN

ASSISTANT REGIONAL FORESTER

G-MANAGEMENT-Lassen-Harvey Valley Allotment
G-PERMITS-Lassen-C&H-Clayton, Tom



Reference is made to your memorandum of April 20 and my telephone conversation with Phil Lord on April 19 concerning Mr. Tom Clayton's non-use on the Harvey Valley Allotment.

As expressed in my telephone conversation with Phil, I agree with the action taken to grant Tom non-use again for the second consecutive year. It is unfortunate that each year it is necessary to have the period of uncertainty occur relative to Tom using the Harvey Valley Allotment. Under the circumstances, I am sure the best possible action has been taken both in granting the non-use and moving the Stephens' to the allotment for the coming season.

Gus Horney and Joe Woolfolk do not appear to be unnecessarily concerned about this change of operators and livestock for the coming season, and it probably will not be detrimental to the studies under way. However, I am sure that too frequent changing of operators certainly could have disadvantages to their work. Therefore, I am wondering if you think it would be possible to work out with Tom Clayton a mutually acceptable plan of future action relative to his use of Harvey Valley Allotment. Tom's operation is such that he has sufficient leeway to make decisions, regardless of his state of health, before the application for grazing permit period arrives.

I don't think we necessarily want to put undue pressure on Tom, he is entitled to the benefits of our non-use policy, but at the same time, we do have a considerable investment in Harvey Valley that we need to protect by having an operator that is more stabilized and dependent. From a public relations viewpoint, we gained from the first year's non-use with Tom. Continued non-use beyond a third year would be of little benefit. After the first or second year, it would be apparent that the system of use employed on Harvey Valley was not a factor necessitating the operator to request non-use. It would help, I am sure, if we could have an operator who had some enthusiasm for the principles involved and would do some selling to the livestock industry along with that we are doing. Also, it would be possible, with a stable operator, for the CF&RES to extend their work to include an analysis of the home ranch and its relation to the principles of grazing use on the forest allotments. They have indicated a desire to do this.

2-Supervisor, Lassen-6/1/56

You folks on the forest along with the CF&RES have done an excellent job in creating widespread interest in the Harvey Valley work throughout our own organization and the local livestock industry. I am sure we can secure more application of the principles of rotation and management involved if we can work out our obligation with Tom Clayton. I appreciate the extra effort required of the forest in administering this allotment and know you already have considered possible solutions to establishing a stable operator in place of Tom Clayton. I did want you to know that we are very willing to give any assistance you may want in attempting to pin Tom down in writing about 1957 plans.

Do you have in mind any change for the assignment and financing of Sanderson this coming season? Should we plan on providing you the same financing along with the CF&RES as last year? I haven't discussed this with Joe Woolfolk or Gus Hornay but assume you have.

I regret that we were unable to give you financial assistance in the heavy maintenance job necessary this spring on the Harvey Valley Allotment facilities but we had allotted all our project funds at the beginning of the fiscal year. In this regard, I hope that the improvement plan for the Allotment (the one reviewed with C. A. Joy last September) has been brought up to date and it will be possible to give Bill Hurst a copy when we visit the Forest in June. As you will recall, Joy indicated a desire to give us all assistance possible in completing our improvement program but as yet I don't think we have made a formal presentation of our needs. We can do this when we are there with Hurst. Perhaps you can, if you haven't already, use the surplus range inventory and plans money to get this part of the Harvey Valley management plan revised. Gus Hornay, I understand, will be at Black's Mountain this coming week and could assist if need be.

cc: CF&RES (Joe Woolfolk)

JUN 14 1956
FOREST SERVICE
LASSEN NATIONAL FOREST
EXPERIMENT STATION

June 5, 1956

~~019~~
10/11/56
AF

R. M. DeNIO, ARF, RO

E. J. WOOLFOLK

RR-CAL, ~~RESEARCH PROGRAM~~, Harvey Valley Allotment
(G-MANAGEMENT-Lassen-Harvey Valley Allotment)

This will acknowledge your memo of June 1 to the Lassen regarding numerous management aspects of the Harvey Valley set-up. All your points are well taken and a few warrant further comment.

As pointed out we did not become greatly disturbed by the last minute switch in permittees because we were confident that the Lassen was doing the best they could under the circumstances. We do, of course, need a permanent cooperator who appreciates our objectives and is willing to take advantage of opportunities to improve his operation as they are worked out. Such a cooperator could sell research and good range management to the industry and we all know there is a selling job to be done. The more we delay in settling Clayton's status and getting a good cooperator on the ground, the longer it will take to realize some of the objectives.

Properly handled, the data and information from Harvey Valley can give us answers to range management and livestock problems on both the national forests and private ranches that are not now available and cannot be gotten any other way. Operation aspects such as breeding, wintering, marketing, balance between classes of cattle in the herd, and the advantages and management aids which accrue to ranch and national forest range management can be directly benefitted through the Harvey Valley study. An early start on many of these items is desirable.

On the matter of finances we intend to again contribute \$1,000 toward Sanderson's salary for F. Y. 1957. This, of course, assumes that our 1957 appropriation will be at least equal to the 1956 level.

During this F. Y. which ends June 30 we have spent an additional \$1,325 for labor and materials at Harvey Valley. This is over and above the \$1,000 contributed toward Sanderson's salary. Most of this amount was for completing application of the 5-unit system on the allotment rather than for research purposes.

2-RMDeNio-6/5/56

In summary, it is important that the permittee question be settled as soon as possible. Until then, assuming that everything possible is done to expedite the situation, we are prepared to ride along doing whatever is possible under prevailing conditions. As I have mentioned before, however, certain individuals in the Washington Office are already somewhat critical of the Harvey Valley set-up so any progress we can show will strengthen our position for continued research effort.

EJWoolfolk:am