

REGIONAL FORESTER

May 5, 1959

FOREST SUPERVISOR-Sierra, By

G-SUPERVISION-General

At the spring meeting of the Sierra National Forest Permittees Association (Grazing), there was discussion of systems of management on our forest range allotments, particularly rest - rotation grazing. This has also been a subject of discussion at the meetings of the Sierra National Forest Grazing Advisory Board and the San Joaquin Experimental Range Advisory Board.

We have been requested by the association and Advisory Boards to investigate the possibility of having the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station conduct a research program in grazing management on a high mountain grazing allotment on this forest.

We would appreciate your discussing this proposal with the Station people and replying. Neil Perkins, Chairman of the San Joaquin Experimental Range Advisory Board, has already mentioned this idea to Joe Woolfolk.

M. C. GREEN

**Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT**

TO : PACIFIC SOUTHWEST RANGE & EXPERIMENT STATION  
Attention: Joe Woolfolk

DATE: May 12, 1959

FROM : RANGE & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

SUBJECT: G--SUPERVISION-General

Attached is a copy of a memorandum we received from Max Green of the Sierra National Forest.

We think you are well acquainted with the permittees and the local grazing situation, and that you understand our problem of selling rest and rotation range management to some of these people. Therefore, before we reply we would appreciate your comments regarding the need, manpower, and financing for such a research program on range management in a high mountain allotment of the Sierra.

We are interested particularly in your thoughts regarding the necessity of having to establish the rest rotation principle on many of the different key perennial plants or sites. Your comments will be appreciated.

Attachment

cc: Sierra

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Max Green", is located in the lower right quadrant of the page.

R. M. DeNIO, ARF, REGION 5

2010/2220)  
May 15, 1959

E. J. WOOLFOLK, CHF. DIV. RANGE MANGT. RES.

RR-PSW, RESEARCH PROGRAM, General  
(G-SUPERVISION, General)

This acknowledges your memo of May 12, concerning the need for research in the high Sierra, which transmitted a memo on the same subject from the Sierra Forest. I have some knowledge of the Sierra situation and have received from several sources information concerning the local interest in research on some of the high ranges in that section. This, of course, is a good sign but it takes more than interest to get the job done.

In the development of the new program at the San Joaquin Experimental Range we have had in mind some future expansion that would include some phase of management on the adjacent national forest ranges. I think there is a strong need for research on these ranges. Possibilities have not been completely thought through because of the urgency in getting other phases underway in the annual type. Any one of a number of approaches might be taken. One that has received some attention in our thinking entails winter grazing on annual type range at the San Joaquin Experimental Range and spring and summer grazing on the Sierra National Forest. The summer phase should, of course, be on high elevation range. Something over 1500 acres on the San Joaquin Range not now involved in other studies could be made to fit into some such program.

In any case, new money would be needed to start research on high elevation ranges. This means at least \$35,000 annually on a continuing basis to put two men on the job and provide them some working tools. This is about the minimum from which satisfactory accomplishment can be expected. We have had some preliminary discussions with Dr. Harper and Mr. Parker concerning additions to our San Joaquin staff for this purpose.

Concerning the testing and demonstrating of rest-rotation grazing on many sites and kinds of range vegetation, I feel that it is neither necessary nor possible to do so. The job of record keeping alone precludes the possibility. Besides, this isn't research. We could better justify research on systems of grazing for annual type ranges (this is just now starting at the San Joaquin Experimental Range) and/or high elevation ranges in central California. Then we could make an effort to fit rest-rotation grazing to all or many situations. This need not preclude or

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interfere with the extension or selling of sound grazing management principles such as rest-rotation is based upon. A test demonstration in central California might be highly desirable but it should follow some ecological research on the key range species involved.

Attempts to use the rest-rotation system as developed at Burgess Spring on any or all ranges, especially annual type ranges, are not logical or wise. Some variation of the basic system might very well fit a perennial range, however, depending on the habits and particular requirements of the main species.

To summarize, it is encouraging to hear an expression of interest in additional range research in central California. Any program expansion, however, will require additional financing. I feel that it would be more rewarding to continue and expand our present research on grazing management systems and supplement it with ecological research on range types than to launch an extensive program of testing and demonstrating rest-rotation grazing.

Should this strong interest continue in the Sierra area and the need for a test demonstration on that forest become highly desirable or imperative we, of course, will do everything possible to help sell and operate the program.

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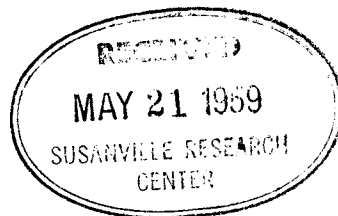
cc: WO

EJWoolfolk:mmm

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY  
DAVIS, CALIFORNIA

May 19, 1959



Mr. A. L. Hormay  
Research Center Leader  
Susanville Research Center  
California Forest and  
Range Experiment Station  
Susanville, California

Dear Gus:

As you know, for a long time I have admired the research you have been doing on the Harvey Valley Allotment on the development of a grazing system for Idaho fescue. I am enclosing a copy of a paper I gave ~~at~~ New Zealand on high country grazing in the western United States. You will note about the middle of page 11 a discussion of your research. This was taken from the brief paper you had in the Journal of Range Management in 1956. I am very happy that your miscellaneous paper No. 27 has now appeared.

I have been asked to write a revision of the chapter on Range in the book "Forages" edited by Professor Hughes et al. This chapter was written by D. A. Savage. The book appeared in 1952, I believe, and so you can understand that I plan to revise this chapter. One of the things I want to discuss is some examples of current research on range management, and I am anxious to write up in some detail your rest rotation grazing system and the research behind it.

We have been asked to use photographic material generously, and I would appreciate it very much if you would make available to me some of the photographs you have in your miscellaneous paper No. 27. I shall, of course, be happy to give full credit not only for the work but for the photographs to you and the Forest and Range Experiment Station.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Merton".

R. Merton Love  
Professor of Agronomy

RMJ:mch

Enclosure

DIRECTOR  
ATTENTION: E. J. WOOLFOLK

May 22, 1959

A. L. HORMAY

R-PSW-PUBLICATIONS, Production

The attached copy of a letter and a reprint of a paper on mountain grazing from Professor Merton Love of Davis are self explanatory. Are there any restrictions to supplying Professor Love with copies of the photographs he mentions or substitutes therefore? In my reply to Professor Love I would like to indicate when the main Burgess Spring manuscript, now in Washington, is likely to come off the press. Can you give me any information on this point?

Attach

ALH:AR