

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

*Send To Dunford*  
Department of Agriculture—Forest Service  
Berkeley, Calif. 94701

TO : E. G. Dunford, Asst. Director

File No. 4210(4300)

FROM : J. N. Reppert, Project Leader

Date: May 7, 1965

SUBJECT: Range Programs (Harvey Valley Plans)

Your reference:

As you know, for several years there has been talk of getting comparison livestock weights from an allotment outside of Harvey Valley. Now this is possible; in fact, surprisingly easy. This happened last week at a spring planning session for Harvey Valley. It was attended by Elwin Roney, Phil Lord, Fred Alberico, Jack Reppert, and Ray Ratliff. During the discussions Elwin Roney came up with a plan to get livestock weights from Gray's Valley using his cattle. The key is to exchange 30 head of replacement heifers for the summer with Mrs. Irene Jefcoat, Gray's Valley permittee. On April 29 Phil Lord and Fred Alberico found Mrs. Jefcoat agreeable to the plan, and in fact she requested her cattle be weighed too. Weighing only Elwin Roney's cattle from the two allotments would be valuable enough to justify the small amount of extra effort. Weighing 30 to 60 head of Mrs. Jefcoat's heifers will give even more valuable comparisons of two herds in both allotments. This can be handled at either the present Harvey Valley scales or at Mrs. Jefcoat's Butte Creek headquarters.

This interest and desire to effectively cooperate is viewed as a valuable adjunct to the Harvey Valley evaluation, present and future. We are making plans to incorporate this into our activities this June.

As you know, during the next few years we plan to maintain our comparable study plots for the year when they may be remeasured. We also want to continue collection of livestock records. If this idea for getting weights from Gray's Valley works to everyone's satisfaction, we will want to include it in future years.

Near the end of this field season, in October or November, we should come to some agreement about the next few years, and each of our commitments. As a start to this we would like to present a proposal, from the grass roots level, which shows the commitments of the Station, the Forest, and the Permittee. This proposal will be made by September 1965 and will include activities planned for the interim period at Harvey Valley (1966 on to next evaluation). Some of the subjects included would be plant measurements, livestock records, planned range improvements, range rider duties, and financial obligations.

cc: Doman      Lassen NF  
Parker      Roney  
DeNio

*Jack N. Reppert*

# Square Butte & Nichols Coulee

IN REPLY REFER TO:



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
District Office  
Box B  
Malta, Montana 59538

May 1965

May 24, 1965

Mr. A. L. Hormay  
Pacific Southwest Forest and Range  
Experiment Station  
P. O. Box 245  
Berkeley, California 94701

Dear Mr. Hormay:

We would like your review and comment on the following two enclosed rest-rotation grazing formulas. Both formulas are basically the same; however, season and degree of use vary somewhat.

We would especially like your comments on the following:

1. Do you feel much more could be gained by expanding the formula to a five pasture plan?
2. Inasmuch that our biggest livestock forage producer is a rhizomatous species (*Agropyron smithii*), will much be gained by waiting until seed ripe date in the second portion of the formula? By beginning to graze at the peak of flowering in Step 2, the grazing pressure could be lessened in Step 4.
3. A heavy deer population and a growing elk herd exists in the Nichols Coulee RCA system. This area's greatest value has been designated as wildlife habitat, but including balanced livestock use and having primary emphasis on soil stability. What is your opinion as to the effect this proposed livestock grazing system may have upon the wildlife browse species? Do you have an opinion on the effect the concentrated livestock grazing may have on game animal habits?

In accordance with the scheduled use and actual use already recorded, the following is the estimated percent forage to be removed in 1965:

SQUARE BUTTE SYSTEM

<u>Pasture</u>	<u>Present Use*</u>	<u>Scheduled Use -"65"</u>	<u>Percent Removed</u>
A	442 AUMs	-	-
B	327 AUMs	531 AUMs <u>1/</u>	65
C	394 AUMs	350 AUMs <u>1/</u>	36
D	<u>382 AUMs</u>	<u>627 AUMs</u> <u>2/</u>	66
Totals	1545 AUMs	1508 AUMs	

\* The past rate of grazing (surveyed capacity) has removed approximately 40% of the available forage (Table 4).

<u>1/</u>	650 cows w/calves	6/1-6/30	=	650 AUMs
	462 cows w/calves	7/1-7/15	=	<u>231 AUMs</u>
				881 AUMs
<u>2/</u>	627 cows	11/1-11/30	=	<u>627 AUMs</u>
	Total . . . . .			1508 AUMs

NICHOLS COULEE SYSTEM

<u>Pasture</u>	<u>Present Use*</u>	<u>Scheduled Use -"65"</u>	<u>Percent Removed</u>
A	3,000 AUMs	2,515 AUMs <u>1/</u>	36
B	3,450 AUMs	-	-
C	3,000 AUMs	4,500 AUMs <u>2/</u>	60
D	2,900 AUMs	492 AUMs (North) <u>3/</u>	62
		<u>4,102 AUMs (South)</u> <u>4/</u>	57
Totals	12,350 AUMs	11,609 AUMs	

\* The past rate of grazing (surveyed capacity) has removed approximately 40% of the available forage (Table 4).

<u>1/</u>	920 cows w/calves	6/11-8/31	=	2,515 AUMs
<u>2/</u>	1500 cows w/calves	9/1-11/30	=	4,500 AUMs
<u>3/</u>	180 cows w/calves	6/11-8/31	=	492 AUMs
<u>4/</u>	608 to 1429 cows w/calves	4/1-6/10	=	3,022 AUMs
	400 cows w/calves	6/11-8/31	=	<u>1,080 AUMs</u>
	Total . . . . .			11,609 AUMs

As you may notice, the 1965 heavy early grazing use will be on the smallest pasture of each system. Therefore, following years use is not expected to be as great on the remaining pastures, except in Pasture D of the Square Butte system in the fall of 1966.

We hope the submitted information is sufficient for you to make your review.

Sincerely yours,



Nyles L. Humphrey  
District Manager

Attachments

cc:

State Director, Montana  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
Robert L. Lund, Zortman, Montana  
Lazy J D Cattle Company, Zortman, Montana

*McGuire*  
*Handford*

*OK with me.*  
*RM*

*Normay*  
*Please reply*  
IN REPLY REFER TO



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

4412.3

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Idaho State Office  
Box 2237  
Boise, Idaho 83701

*Watt*

May 26, 1965

Mr. John R. McGuire, Director  
Pacific Southwest Forest & Range Experiment Station  
1960 Addison Street, Box 245  
Berkeley, California 94701

Dear Mr. McGuire:

We have an unusually complex vegetative and topographic range management unit on which we are planning to establish a rest-rotation grazing management system. We made a preliminary contact with Gus Hormay regarding the problems involved. We learned at that time that he had been ill, and also that looking the area over would be a prerequisite to his being able to give us any advice.

*Ego*

If you could spare Mr. Hormay from his assigned duties long enough to spend a few days with us we would surely benefit by his advice. The second week in June would be a good time since the livestock are on the range and vegetation is still easily identifiable. This week is not critical, but only preferable.

We hope that you will be able to spare his services and that Mr. Hormay's health will permit him to give us a hand.

Sincerely yours,

*Maurice W. March*  
Acting State Director