

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Slatt
Mar. 9 / 67

Ellen
File
please

TO : A. G. Hormay
Pacific Southwest F&R Expt. Stn.

DATE: March 2, 1967

FROM : Director, DSC

In reply refer to:
4112 (D-712a)

SUBJECT: Allotment Management Plans

Attached for your information is recent DSC correspondence regarding allotment management plans. In the past, the Service Center range management staff has informally commented on plans at the request of the district manager. However, now that the new manual on range allotment planning (Release 4-24, dated 1/17/67) has been published, we are required to formally review at least one proposal for each district. Districts will forward their first plan prepared after the manual issuance, through the State Office, to the range management staff of the applicable Service Center for review prior to implementation.

You will note that most of our review emphasis has been on plan content and quality without regard to the grazing system. This was because you had been closely associated with the grazing scheme. However, in newly developed plans you may or may not have had opportunity to review the aspects of the grazing system and some correlation between us may be necessary. Proposals may not necessarily be for rest rotation grazing.

We will plan on forwarding copies of correspondence regarding allotment management plan development and review.

Lowell M. Puckett

Attachments:

- (1) Esplin Allotment Management Plan Comments and Suggestions
- (2) Crago Brothers Allotment Management Plan Comments and Suggestions

McNeill

January 11, 1967

Memorandum

To: SD, Arizona

From: Director, BSC

Subject: Esplin Allotment Management Plan - St. George District

Following are comments and suggestions. The work done by the district was very good. It is realized that field problems may have dictated certain wordage and procedure. However, as experience is gained, deficiencies can be corrected in developing new plans.

The title of the plan should be referred to as a "livestock management plan" rather than a "ranch management plan." The latter is indicative of other agency planning, and allotment management plan better references BLM procedure.

Section I

Most of the history and status section is optional information but has little value in preparation or execution of an action plan. The most usable data is that outlining the current livestock operation which should also include a brief resume of the operator's qualifications. The plan should clearly state whether the operator is running at or below his class I or recognized qualifications.

Reference is made to the Dornig two-phase condition classification which is no longer a recognized BLM study procedure. Judgement needs to be exercised in quoting this type of data. At this stage, in referring to range condition or trend, it might be well to emphasize that opinions are based on visual observations and estimations only.

The wildlife information section only describes the big game and waterfowl use. There is no mention of the habitat, its condition, potential, or plans for future use. Notations on management of the habitat for wildlife, and considerations in relation to grazing by livestock should be included.

Section II

The objectives are well stated.

It was indicated that they wished to increase the grazing capacity by 25%, though the reason why the increase was needed is not shown. Federal expenditures for livestock forage production should be minimal unless objectives are to increase grazing capacity up to a class I level because of previous reductions and need. However, an expected increase in capacity as a secondary result of overall watershed treatment could generally be expected. Also see BLM Manual 1603, Program Guidance.

Cost for land treatment projects, contour furrowing, is not adequately justified in the text. In view of past BLM expenditures within this allotment it appears that good justification would be necessary. Costs over and above those needed to initiate the intensive grazing management program need further explanation.

Objective of establishing a resident antelope herd within the area is not stated. No mention is made of habitat conditions or potential.

Section III

The grazing system was recently discussed in detail by Gus Hornay. The grazing formula should be documented in the plan. Pertinent information concerning phenological development and physiological requirements of the selected key species would also be helpful.

Section IV

It might be well to have a stronger statement as to modification. For example, "This allotment management plan will remain in effect until such time as the District Manager determines a modification or change is required to meet the objectives outlined for the allotment."

The paragraph concerning cancellations at request of the allottee should not be used in future plans. Our long-range objective is to develop an allotment management plan for each use area, and management decisions will be made on the basis of these plans. Following full cooperative development of a plan whenever possible, livestock operators' future objections should, if necessary, go through regular appeal procedures.

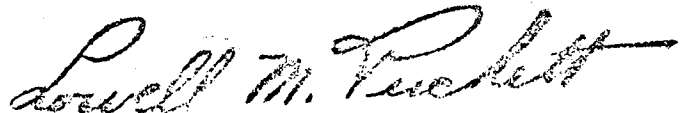
A stronger statement at the end of the plan as to agreement is suggested. Such a plan should be binding upon heirs, executors, assignees, or successors in interest.

The district is to be complimented on a superior and professional job of allotment management planning. No doubt there was considerable effort expended in development, and it is the type of plan needed to initiate a meaningful resource management program.

cc:
DM, St. George

CPMcCrillis:cjw 1/10/67

SCRF

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lowell M. Fickett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240
P. O. Box 245
Berkeley, Calif. 94701

4112

March 3, 1967

Mr. Robert J. Steward
Steward & Morrissey
c/o Keating Stage
Baker, Oregon 97814

Dear Mr. Steward:

I will be pleased to talk to the Baker County Livestock Association on grazing management as you describe and to visit the Goose Creek National Forest allotment and the Pritchard Creek B.L.M. allotment thereafter. Kindly let me know of final arrangements on the date of the meeting and the hours. I'm informing both the forest supervisor and district manager of this correspondence.

There are no expenses to the Association for my trip. Counselling stockmen and other interested parties on grazing management is part of my job and is government business.

I am looking forward to the trip and to seeing you again.

Sincerely yours,

A. L. Hormay

A. L. HORMAY
Range Conservationist

File

4112

P. O. Box 245
Berkeley, Calif. 94701

March 3, 1967

Memorandum

To: John Rogers, Forest Supervisor, Wallows-Whitman N.F.
From: A. L. Hormay, Range Conservationist
Subject: Range Programs

Dear John:

Mr. Steward has probably been in touch with you on the matter covered in the attached correspondence. As you know, I am now a full-time employee of the Bureau of Land Management. So before replying to Mr. Steward's letter, I checked with both Bureau and Forest Service offices in Washington, D. C. on my participation in the meeting and got their approval. You no doubt were informed.

I'd like to talk to you about the forest allotment and related problems before meeting with the stockmen. I plan to be in Baker the afternoon before the evening session. Perhaps I can see you then. If there is need to come earlier or to spend more time, please let me know.

Encls.

A. L. Hormay

cc: DM, Baker
SD, Oregon
DSC, Portland

District Manager, Baker

Dear Chester: We can discuss any related Bureau matters at this time too. Please keep me posted of developments.

Uinta Development Company, Inc.

J. N. IGO, PRESIDENT
P. O. BOX 188
COKEVILLE, WYOMING 83114

JAS. A. HOOPER, SECRETARY
855 SOUTH FOURTH WEST
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84101

March 10, 1967

Mr. A. L. Hormay
Box 245
Berkley, Calif. 94701

Dear Gus:

We have gone over a few of the matters discussed in your letter of Feb 21st relative to the Cokeville Land using the pastures for 2 or 3 classes of livestock and trying to keep them separated. We have a BLM meeting set-up in Rock Springs March 22 at 9 AM for the purpose of trying to get our 1967 CL program set-up as well as trying to come up with a concrete proposal for the U.D.Co.

We (CL) are in the process of leasing an adjoining 600 acre hay ranch. It has a little pasture for summer use, but mostly hay and grain. We will utilize the pasture for our bulls, and then have all of the fall pasture for our cows and calves.

Our spring problem will be how to keep our yrlds, our 2s and their calves, and our older cow herd separated. We think with this hay ranch lease we will be able to work it out by using our 515 acre North ranch for the ~~yrlds~~, along with our other smaller fenced areas. 2s

We would use No. 1 for our yrlds and No. 3 for our main cow herd, and then follow the outline you suggested. Then our question is? Will such usage over the 5 year cycle be compatible with our over-all improvement program? If so, then we would probably want to adopt this change into the coming years usage.

We are enclosing our projected use based on the above, and following the 1966 program. Will appreciate your comments.

Our March 22nd meeting re the UD could involve quite a little more. We will see what we come up with.

Sincerely yours,

Jack
J. N. Igo

cc: BLM-RKS

COKEVILLE LAND & LIVESTOCK COMPANY
COKEVILLE, WYOMING

BEAR RIVER RCA GRAZING FORMULAE

KEY: A early and heavy use
B rest for vigor
C rest for seed production
D rest for seedlings
E light yearling use

May 1 start of grazing season
Jne 25 flowering time
Aug 15 seed ripe time
Sep 30 meadow use
Nov 1 range re-use

1 Sweetwater Pasture
3 Dy Hollow Pasture

2 North Shear Corral Pasture
4 Red Rock Pasture
5 Windy Peak Pasture

USE	5/1	6/25	8/15	9/30	11/1	12/31	PASTURE NO.	
A	////	////	////	////			2	
B		////	////	////	////	////	3	1967
C			////	////	////	////	4	
D							5	
E	////	////	////	////	////	////	1	
A	////	////	////	////			1	
B		////	////	////	////	////	2	1968
C			////	////	////	////	3	
D							4	
E	////	////	////	////	////	////	5	
A	////	////	////	////			5	
B		////	////	////	////	////	1	1969
C			////	////	////	////	2	
D							3	
E	////	////	////	////	////	////	4	
A	////	////	////	////			4	
B		////	////	////	////	////	5	1970
C			////	////	////	////	1	
D							2	
E	////	////	////	////	////	////	3	
A	////	////	////	////			3	
B		////	////	////	////	////	4	1971
C			////	////	////	////	5	
D							1	
E	////	////	////	////	////	////	2	

May June Jly Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
1	ED	E	A	B	C	D
2	E	A	B	C	D	E
3	A	B	C	D	E	A
4	B	C	D	E	A	B
5	C	D	E	A	B	C

A- May 1 to June 25

B- June 26 to Aug 15

C- Aug 15 to Sep 30

D- complete deferment and rest

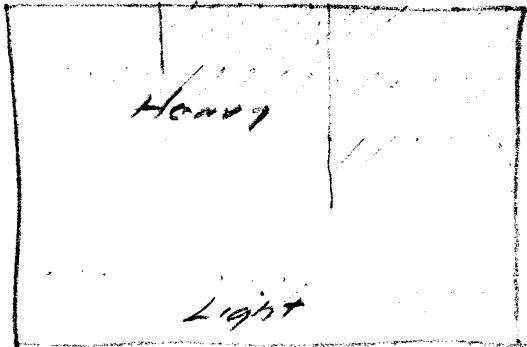
E- May 1 to Sept 30, light use with yearlings.

J. Igo

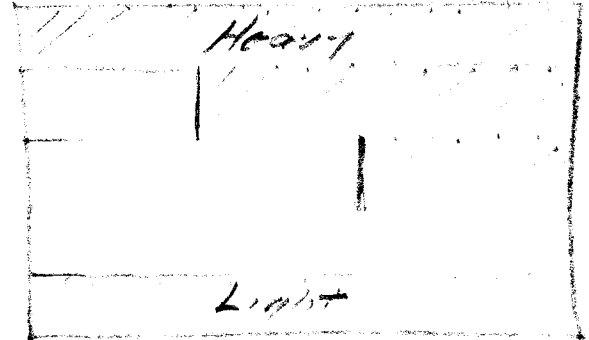
Mar. 10/67

Cokeville Livestock Co

old Semula

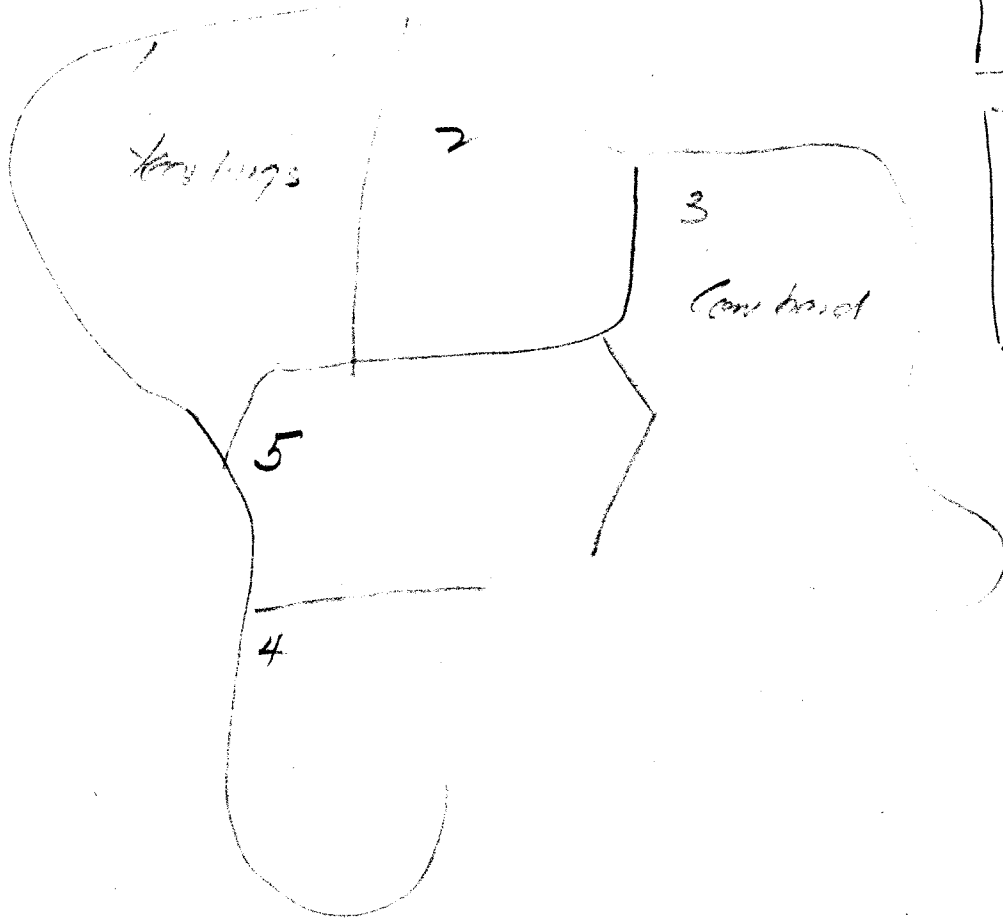


New Semula



Bear River RCA

1. Yearlings
2. Heifers & calves
3. Cows



600
lease
Full
Heifers

515 CL
25
Heifers

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Department of Agriculture—Forest Service
Washington, D. C. 20250

Memorandum

TO : Ken Parker, Director
Range and Wildlife Habitat Reserve

File No. 4210 (2210)

FROM : R. M. DeNio, Director
Division of Range Management

Date: March 13, 1967

SUBJECT: Range and Wildlife Habitat Programs

Your reference:

We have reviewed Reppert's January 9, 1967, report, transmitted via Director Price's January 17, 1967, memorandum.

Mr. Reppert's January 9, 1967, progress report is a valuable summary of procedural deviations, weaknesses and strengths in the methodology of the three-step as used on the National Forests. The Division of Range Management will use it for planning purposes. Knowledge gained by Mr. Reppert in assembling the reported information should enable him to complete a well-focused study plan. We are looking forward to reviewing that plan.

When the Reppert study reaches the point of requesting data, we will originate the necessary requests from the Regions as agreed upon at the Denver March 5, 1966, meeting. We, of course, will want the Stations to provide specifications. We also will attempt to expedite the Stations' work on this study in such other ways as may be desirable.

Mr. Rummell has reserved the period April 24-28, 1967, to meet with Mr. Reid and members of his staff as required on the trend interpretations and the micro plot studies. We would appreciate knowing if a visit to the Station at that time would be productive.



R

L

Steward & Morrissey

QUALITY HEREFORD FEEDER CATTLE

523-2097
523-2082c/o Keating Stage
Baker, Oregon 97814

March 14, 1967

*Plat
Mar 20/67*Mr. A. L. Hormay
Bureau of Land Management
P. O. Box 245
Berkeley, California 94701

Dear Mr. Hormay:

Glad to receive your letter of March 3rd accepting the engagement here May 24th and 25th. The agenda at this point looks like this:

1. May 24th (Wed) 7:20 p.m. Baker Hotel
Talk and pictures on grazing management (projector to be supplied locally). Meeting sponsored by the Baker County Livestock Association, and open to all stockmen, range agency people, sportsmen and others interested.
2. May 25th - Assemble at Post Office Square, bring sack lunch. 8:00 to 8:30 a.m. Depart for Pritchard Creek community B.L.M. allotment - a new rest-rotation grazing program by permittees and B.L.M.

11:00 a.m. Assemble at Forshey Meadows, Goose Creek allotment, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. Lunch and discussion of area.

12:30 p.m. Begin tour of Units 1 and 2, contemplate dividing unit 3 to provide four pastures.

4:00 p.m. Leave forest at Gilkinson Burn and reseed-ing site. View crested wheat and intermediate wheat seedings made in 1964, 65, & 66 on B.L.M. and deeded land between forest boundary and Keating store.

5:00 p.m. Break-up discussion at Keating.

A room has been reserved for you at the Hereford Motel, in Baker, for the nights of May 24th and 25th.

Sincerely,

Bob
Robert J. Steward

copies to: Forest Service
B.L.M.
Livestock Ass'n
Sportsmen and Game Com.
County Agent, S.C.D. & A.S.C.S.



IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
PO Box 960
Miles City, Montana
59301

March 15, 1967

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

Dear Mr. Hormay:

Enclosed is a proposed rest-rotation grazing system for your review and comments.

This proposal is located approximately 35 miles northwest of Belle Fourche, South Dakota on the Montana side of the Montana-Wyoming state line. The rest-rotation system was developed by Vernon Taylor and Loyal Haun working under the supervision of Kenneth V. Rhea, our Powder River Area Manager.

Mr. Pierce is very anxious to start the system.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

L. M. Laitala

L. M. Laitala
District Manager

Attachments

P. O. Box 245
Berkeley, Calif. 94701

March 16, 1967

AIRMAIL

J. N. Igo, President
Cokeville Land and Livestock
Company, Inc.
Cokeville, Wyoming 83114

Dear Jack:

I am not sure I understand all of your new proposal for operating on the Bear River RCA. For example, you say that in 1967 you suggest grazing in pasture 1 with yearlings from May 1 to September 30 and in pasture 3 with cows from about June 25? (flowering time) on through the season. And you say the heifers and their calves will be grazed in the 515^{acre} North ranch area--I assume in spring. This is the way I visualize the distribution of the three groups of animals during the spring period. However, your formula also shows grazing from May 1 on in pasture 2. What animals are grazed here? Well anyway, the distribution of animals is not clear. But of course I see the change in the grazing formula.

If anything, the new formula--the one you are now suggesting--is somewhat better from the standpoint of the range than the one I proposed. So if you can graze in the manner called for by the formula--and with the new pastures in the picture you no doubt can--you will be doing a better job of range improvement than before.

Sincerely yours,

A. L. HORMAY
Range Conservationist

cc: DM, Rock Springs

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Forest Service
Washington, D. C. 20250

Memorandum

TO : Director, RM

4210
DATE: March 20, 1967

FROM : Kenneth W. Parker, Director
Range and Wildlife Habitat Research

SUBJECT: Range and Wildlife Habitat Programs

AIRMAIL

This is in response to Director Price's memorandum of January 17 to which were attached copies of Jack N. Reppert's report summarizing his activities and future plans for the Range Trend Study.

We believe that Reppert has made an excellent report. We have one comment on "Plans for the Immediate Future." In his comprehensive study plan now being prepared he will recognize, of course, that the transect clusters have been established as "benchmarks," within the important range vegetation types, and within each condition class of these types. During the range analysis process all of these are mapped for each allotment and usually sampled with additional paced transects for condition and trends.

Our comment is this---we suggest that ways and means be explored for examining the allotment analyses data on an acreage basis, to determine trends in condition over a period of time for all important western range vegetation types. Separations could also be made by regions as to allotments and range acreages utilized exclusively by cattle and sheep. Also what is happening on ranges long used by sheep that have in recent years been transferred to cattle use? We are not suggesting that this job be done---it is too big---but how it might best be done. Perhaps simple compilations are all that are needed, but we suspect there are pitfalls in doing this.

The infrared sensing and photography of selected areas on the Harvey Valley allotment---and mentioned in Director Price's memorandum of March 2---appears to be an exciting and worthwhile lead to follow up on. We will be interested to have information on this facet of Reppert and Ratliff's final Harvey Valley Report.

Enclosed are copies of Mr. DeNio's memorandum of March 13. Although we had no strong reservation in giving Reppert's January 9 memorandum regional distribution, we concur fully with Mr. DeNio---that for the time being it be utilized mainly for planning purposes.

Please note Mr. Rummell's plan to visit Ft. Collins April 24-23, 1967, to meet with Reid, Driscoll, Reppert, and Meredith Morris. We regret that no one from here in Research will be able to attend. You should write Mr. DeNio's office directly concerning this visit. We will also want to know of the final arrangements.

cc: PSW
DeNio



5010-106

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

4412.2 (712a)

March 21, 1967

Instruction Memorandum No. 67- 119
Expires 6/30/67

To: SD's, DM's, SCD's

From: Associate Director

Subject: Rest-rotation Grazing Test Program FD 4/3/67

With instruction memorandum 64-601, December 17, 1964, the Bureau started a field trial of rest-rotation grazing. The Bureau is interested in this grazing system from the standpoint of livestock production, but more importantly as a tool that shows much promise in multiple use land management. The Bureau undertook the test program to get first-hand information on the effectiveness and practicability of rest-rotation grazing under Bureau conditions. The program called for application of the system on at least one allotment in each grazing district by July 1966.

Status of the program, based on information from Mr. Hormay's files, is outlined in the attached table. Forty-four of 51 districts involved have submitted plans for review by Mr. Hormay. Twenty-eight allotments are in actual operation. Some districts have submitted more than one plan. Mr. Hormay has reviewed and offered suggestions on 64 plans. Additional information is needed from the field so that we may determine more clearly where the program stands. Please provide the information called for in the attached form and send it to Mr. Hormay in Berkeley, by April 3, 1967.

It is essential that rest-rotation grazing and not some other similar grazing system is applied on test allotments. To insure this, we will continue to have Mr. Hormay review allotment plans and offer suggestions on their application. Any major changes from a plan suggested by Mr. Hormay should be discussed with him before such changes are put into effect. Cooperating permittees should be fully informed on the program and reasons for deviations from usual practices.

Mr. Hormay is writing a procedure for annual appraisal of results of rest-rotation grazing. He plans to have the procedures ready by mid-summer. If the procedure is adopted, brief training in its use, probably one day, will be needed.

State _____
District _____
Allotment Name _____

Date _____

STATUS OF REST-ROTATION GRAZING ALLOTMENTS

Supplemental information on each rest-rotation allotment:

1. Is the rest-rotation system in operation? Yes ____ No ____.
2. Date of start of first grazing season _____.
(Actual date for allotments under management. Planned date for allotments not yet in operation.)
3. Is the form of management in effect or to be applied the same as the one reviewed or suggested by Mr. Hormay?
Yes ____ No _____. If not, supply the following information:
 - a. Diagram of grazing formula in use or planned.
 - b. Map showing pasture layout.
 - c. Map diagrams showing movement of livestock between pastures for one grazing cycle.

In cases where rest-rotation grazing has been in effect for one year or more, please comment briefly on the prospects, merits or deficiencies of the system. It is a little too early to fully judge the system, but your comments will be helpful in pointing up future grazing training programs.

Encl. 1

P. O. Box 245
Berkeley, Calif. 94701

March 23, 1967

Memorandum

To: Ross Ferris, Range Management
Reno State Office, BLM

From: A. L. Normay, Range Conservationist

Subject: Range Programs

Attached is a suggestion on your salt desert shrub management problem. All the rest indicated is needed to increase and maintain shrubs as well as grasses and forbs. You can hardly do with less than four treatments.

In this plan the animals would graze on one half of the allotment from November until the start of growth. Thereafter they would be moved to a particular quarter of the allotment that has not been grazed for two seasons. This unit would have two years of old growth in it to go along with the new growth just starting.

The desire or need of ranchers to lamb on a particular area usually poses a problem. You have to work this problem out in each case as it arises.

Attachment

Grazing Formula

State Nevada Agency BLM District Ely

Allotment _____ Acres _____ Kind stock Sheep _____


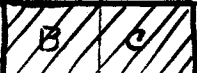




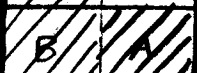
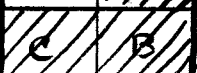
AUs _____ AUMs _____ Season Nov. 1 to April 30



Forage use _____% Key species Salt Desert Shrub

Plant develop. Start growth Flowering Seed ripe Regrowth (seed)

Date :

District Plan - Treatments

<p>Pasture Grazing Plans for four years for four unit plan</p>											
											
											
1967			1968			1969			1970		

 graze Nov to start of growth  graze after growth starts

O Rest

Formelq

Suggested Plan - Treatments

A						Livestock production lambs?
B		Grazed			Rest	Seed production
C		Trampled			Rest	Seedling estab.
D		Rest			Rest	Seedlings
						start of growth
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Febr.	Mar.	Apr.

Principal vegetation types _____

Topography _____

Date Mar. 21 1967

Elevation range _____ to _____ ft.

Name G. Normay

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Department of Agriculture--Forest Service

Memorandum

TO : Forest Supervisor, Lassen

File No. 2220

FROM : J. F. Hoefer, District Ranger, Susan River

Date: March 27, 1967

SUBJECT: Management of Range
Lower Pine Creek Allotment

Your reference:

An examination and review of forage conditions and management practices has been made of the Lower Pine Creek Allotment. The purpose was to determine what steps were necessary to correct the findings of the 1966 remeasurement of the C&T plots on the allotment which were established in 1956.

C&T Plot Measurements:

	<u>1956</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1966</u>
C-5 Timber type adjacent to Pine Creek Flat.			
Vegetation:	10 Fair	13 Poor-static	9 Poor-Down
Soil :	20 FAir	22 Fair-static	18 Fair-Down
C-6 Grassland type in Pine Creek Flat.			
Vegetation:	24 Fair	24 Fair-static	24 Fair-static
Soil :	19 Fair	23 Fair-up	22 Fair-static
C-7 Grassland type in Little Antelope Valley.			
Vegetation:	24 Good	25 Good-static	24 Fair-Down
Soil :	15 Poor	15 Poor-static	12 Poor-static

Characteristics of Allotment:

1. Over 50% of allotment is suitable for grazing.
2. Key areas are the grassland and sagebrush type in the large open flats.
3. Wet meadows exist along stream courses, but are limited in extent.
4. Boundaries of allotment are fairly well controlled by fences or timber barriers except north of Little Antelope Valley.
5. Interior fencing does not exist to aid in distribution.
6. Permittee does little or no riding to maintain distribution.
7. Salting is fair, however, improvements can be made to aid in distribution and to pull stock farther from water.

Utilization - General:

1. Cattle are placed on Pine Creek Flat at beginning of season. (June 15)
2. Distribution to other parts of allotment does not occur until about mid July.
3. Heavy utilization is made of wet meadow areas early in season before use is made of grassland, sagebrush and timber types.
4. Little Antelope Valley has had only light to moderate use for several years due to difficulty in holding cattle in the area. They drift north into Champs Flat even though ample feed is available on the allotment.

Utilization Checks:

9/16/65	Pine Creek Flat	% Proper Use = 93
"	Martin Creek	" " " = 270
"	Little Antelope Valley	" " " = 45
9/30/66	Pine Creek Flat	% Proper Use = 112
"	a) Sage Type	" " " = 112
"	b) Meadow Type	" " " = 184
"	c) Grass Type	" " " = 115
"	Little Antelope Valley	" " " = 63

Discussion:

Earliest and heaviest use has occurred on Pine Creek Flat, yet this area has held up quite well showing no downward trend. Less than proper use has been occurring in Little Antelope Valley, yet the area shows a downward trend. This seems inconsistent with accepted theory.

A fence is being constructed north of Little Antelope Valley to prevent drift and thereby better utilization of this key area. It will probably cause heavier utilization of the valley and surrounding area.

It is my conclusion that the downward trends appear to be caused by factors other than grazing, possibly the effects of reading during an exceptionally poor forage year.

Recommendations:

1. Continue management as stated in allotment plan.
2. Obtain proper use of all key areas.
3. Develop a five year action plan designed to improve range management practices, gain better permittee cooperation, and better documentation of the livestock management practices.



File Copy

P. O. Box 245
Berkeley, Calif. 94701

March 27, 1967

Memorandum

To: Lee M. Leitala, District Manager
Miles City, Montana

From: A. L. Hornay, Range Conservationist

Subject: Range Programs (Rest-rotation Grazing Plan)

The plan you have worked up for the Pierce allotment near Belle Fourche, like others I have seen from you, has been well thought out. Considering your survey estimate of grazing capacity, proposed stocking, and range requirements, I do not think you can get along satisfactorily with less than the 5 pastures you plan.

Your formula is sound but I think you can provide more rest for vigor and seed production and perhaps get trampling closer to seed-ripe time on species that depend primarily on seed for reproduction--the Stipas, Koeleria, Atriplex, etc. These species ripen seed by about August 1 and flower roughly a month earlier. So I suggest you consider opening the pasture getting treatment E about July 1 and the pasture getting treatment C about August 1.

You have adequate capacity in two fields to graze up to this time without opening the pasture receiving treatment B. I calculated use will be about 54% on August 1. Postpone grazing in the pasture receiving treatment B until it looks like the animals would be better off grazing there as well as in the other fields. This will provide more effective rest for plant vigor and promote greater production of viable seed the following year. Also delaying grazing until later in the season will increase the yield of seed of late maturing species in the field during that season. True, most of the species involved are rhizomatous and do not depend heavily on seed for reproduction, and the following year seedlings are given only a limited time to become established, but any additional vegetation is that much gain.

The suggestion I am making would make it necessary for the animals to funnel through the hub of the pasture setup from seed-ripe time (August 1)

on until the pasture receiving treatment B is opened to use. Thereafter the gates along the fences between the pasture receiving treatments A, B, and C could all be opened.

My suggested formula and some work sheets are attached. If the plan proves unworkable, proceed with the one you developed and consider setting seed-ripe time more nearly on the basis of non-rhizomatous species.

A. L. Hormay

Attachments

cc: SD, Montana
Denver Service Center

Grazing Formula

State Montana Agency BLM District Miles City
 Allotment Piorce Acres 7,882 Kind stock Cattle & sheep
 130 cattle 245

$$\text{AUS } \frac{200 \text{ Shrub.}}{1.5 \text{ Ratio}} \quad \text{AUMs } \frac{1000}{\text{Total } 1845} \quad \text{Season } \frac{\text{May 1} - \text{Nov 15}}{\text{June 15} \text{ to } \text{Nov 15}}$$

Forage use 38% Key species Stipos-virid; comata

Plant develop. Start germs Flowering Seed ripe Regrowth (seed)

Date : Apr \pm Early spp July 1 ? Aug 1
Late spp Aug 1 ? Sept 1 +

District Plan - Treatments

[illegible]

May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

Suggested Plan - Treatments

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded		
B				Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded		
C					Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded		
D												
E				Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded	Shaded		

Flowering — ↑ ↑ — Seed ripe

May June July Aug Sept Oct Nov

Principal vegetation types _____

Topography _____

Date Mar 24 1967

Elevation range 1 to ft. Name Hermay

Pierce Allotment

BLM Montana, Miles City Dist.

Bella Fourche (Sub Unit)

Work sheet

Hormay
Mar. 24, 1967

Grazing by pastures

640 AUMs/pasture

(640 total AUMs cap/pasture 100% use)

Pasture		Mos.	AVs	AUMs	
A	Cattle May 1 - July 1	2.0	130	260	
	Sheep June 15 - "	0.5	200	<u>100</u>	
				360	+230
E	Cattle July 1 - Aug 1	1.0	130	130	
	Sheep " "	1.0	200	<u>200</u>	
				330	+310
C	Cattle Aug 1 - Sept 1	1.0	130	130	
	Sheep " "	1.0	200	<u>200</u>	
				330	+310
B	Cattle Sept 1 - Nov 15	2.5	130	325	
	Sheep Sept 1 - Nov 15	2.5	200	<u>500</u>	
				825	-185

Use Left

360 280

330 310

330 310

825 900

1845 -185

715

1845
Total 2560

640 x 4 = 2560 Total available

AUMs in 4 pastures.

1845 = 72% use

2560

Estimated use

May 1 - Aug 1 $\frac{690}{1280} = 54\%$

Mar. 24/67
Hainan

Work sheet - Pierce Allotment - Montserrat

Phenology key species

Species		Date	
← July		Flowering	Seed ripe
Buchloa	clact.	Approx.	15
Koeleria		One month	30
Stipa	viridula Sym	earlier than	30 Key
Stipa	comata	seed ripe	1 Aug 1.
Atriplex	metallii		25
Chryso.	Rosa, Sarc		1
← Aug.			→ Key
Asm	Adas Rhiz		25 Sept 1
Bout	gracilis "	"	25 or seed not later imp.?
← Sept.			→
Calamo	long Rhiz		15 Prob. seed
Andro	scep Bunch	"	30 not imp.?
Spartina	Rhiz		30

Memorandum

To: Lary J. D. Cattle Company File, Nichols Coulee Date 3/28/67
R.C.A. File, and Nichols Coulee Studies File

From: Harry R. Cosgriffe, Range Conservationist

Subject: Modification of the Existing Grazing Formula for the Nichols Coulee
R.C.A. Rest Rotation Grazing System

On March 27, 1967, I met with Jess and Jim Robinson at Jess's ranch headquarters, to discuss the rest rotation grazing system in the Nichols Coulee R.C.A.

Jess stated, that from the livestock production standpoint, the present grazing system is resulting in substantial financial losses to his company. During the two years the system has been in effect, calf weights have been abnormally low, number of dry cows has increased, and number of held over calves has increased. I pointed out that the 1966 climatic and forage conditions were below average. He agreed, but he stated that before the system was initiated calf weights averaged around 380#; the first year the system went into effect (1965), calf weights dropped to 345#, and in 1966 they dropped to an all time low of 318#. He felt the abnormal drop in 1966 plus the moderate drop in 1965 was due to something other than climatic and forage conditions. He stated that his company could not continue to absorb such losses.

I asked him where he thought the system was failing. He commented that the last pasture used in the fall was the first used the following spring. Since they turn into the pasture scheduled for maximum livestock production April 1st, they have to depend on old grass to maintain livestock condition. However, most of this forage is used in the fall leaving little available for early spring use, to compound this critical situation still further, the company calves their cows out in the early grazed pasture. Also, he felt that there isn't enough stockwater developed in the pastures to support the number of livestock the grazing system requires to obtain maximum utilization.

He again stated that they could not continue to operate under the present system. I expressed the thought that the grazing system could be modified and the major problem might be in the existing grazing formula. We could modify the formula so the livestock would spring graze a pasture with plenty of carry-over forage. Jess stated, that if they could springgraze the pasture receiving complete rest the year before, the company would try the system one more year.

Therefore, it is proposed to modify the system as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Pasture 3</u>	<u>Pasture 4</u>	<u>Pasture 2</u>	<u>Pasture 1</u>
1967	G ⁴ (April 1st)	REST ²	RS ¹	RR ¹³
1968	Rest for Reproduction (Sept. 1st)	G	REST	RS
1969	Rest for Seed Ripe (July 25th)	RR	G	REST
1970	REST	RS	RR	G

This company has cooperated well in the past; however, they are near a breaking point, both financially and emotionally. This modification is in line with the original management objectives, and should resolve the present livestock production problem.

Harry R. Cosgriffe

HRC:edr



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

STATE OFFICE

Post Office Box No. 11505

Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

4112.15

March 31, 1967

Memorandum

To: Director

From: State Director, Utah

Subject: Rest Rotation Planning - 50-Mile Mountain

At the time of Gus Hormay's visit to the Kanab District he and district personnel discussed the possibility of establishing a rest rotation grazing system on 50-Mile Mountain.

District personnel are planning a week-long trip to 50-Mile Mountain about June 1 to install precipitation guages, set up trend studies, and relocate utilization cages. If Gus could work such a field trip into his schedule he could give the district personnel some valuable assistance.

cc: Kanab DM

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P. O. Box 245
Berkeley, Calif. 94701

March 31, 1967

AIRMAIL

Memorandum

To: G. D. Fulcher, BLM, Wash., D.C. *Randy Smith*

From: A. L. Hornay, Range Conservationist

Subject: Monthly Report, March, 1967

1. Attended BLM State Advisory Board Meeting in Sacramento March 1.
2. Attended BLM wildlife workshop in San Francisco the entire week of March 6. Participated on March 7 by outlining the principles of rest-rotation grazing to the group. Talk, including presentation of slides took 5 hours. Reactions very favorable.
3. Finished revising rest-rotation grazing guide. Will send to Ken Parker and Reg DeNio, Washington Office, early next week for final okay and publication.
4. Furnished BLM, Reno Office, suggestions on rest-rotation management of salt desert shrub type. Information wanted in Ely District.
5. Reviewed rest-rotation grazing plan for Pierce allotment, Belle Fourche office, Miles City District, Montana.
6. Worked on range trend procedure for rest-rotation grazing management.

Future plans and commitments:

April

I will continue to work on the range trend method and probably will start outlining the procedure for planning and operating a rest-rotation grazing system.

I plan to spend about two weeks on bitterbrush research projects this month.

May

The trip to the bitterbrush allotment near Bishop, mentioned in the last *travel* report, probably will not be made until sometime in May because of a late season. No BIM travel is definitely scheduled for April now.

The trip to Baker, Oregon on May 24 and 25 you know about.

The Winnemucca District has requested on-the-ground review of rest-rotation grazing plans for the Disaster Peak and Pine Forest allotment. Trip probably will be made in the latter part of May. *21*

June

A trip to the Ely District requested by Ross Ferris of the Reno office is tentatively planned for the week of June 6.

July

I plan to attend a field meeting July 6 on the Pleasant View allotment, Idaho, at the invitation of the Burley District.