



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210

March 1977

• Memorandum

To : Director
From : A. L. Hormay, Range Conservationist
Subject: Perennial-type range research program

Dear Bob:

You no doubt are aware that I will be reaching mandatory retirement age in May. It is all too soon. I have not completed my research at the Station nor brought it to a satisfactory stage yet. This I would like to do with the help of the Station after I "retire."

I have considerable data in my files ready for casting into manuscripts. Several field studies could be concluded and others brought to a reportable stage with another set of measurements. Some of these studies span periods of 20 to 40 years. No one is likely to repeat them.

To date I have had opportunity to publish on only a portion of my work. A list of reports and publications is attached. Additional publications could be generated in the next few years. A list of prospective titles and probable manuscript completion dates is also attached. Likely, even more manuscripts would be produced.

The principal result of my research to date is rest-rotation grazing management, the first major advance in range management in over 50 years. A pilot test demonstrating rest-rotation grazing management principles on a practical scale is in effect on the Harvey Valley cattle allotment on the Lassen Forest. It was started in 1951 and is the first such effort. Harvey Valley is known throughout the United States and in some foreign countries. Many have come to see the results that have been obtained there.

Also, I have had special interest in bitterbrush, the most important livestock and big game browse in the western United States. I have made significant contributions to an understanding of its life history and management and have information on it that has not been published.

The Forest Service has led the way in developing better grazing and range practices in the United States. Rest-rotation grazing is the latest major contribution. I'm sure considerably more credit would fall to the Service in the area of range management with publication of more of my research work.

I estimate it will take at least three or four years for me to round out my program and get it in shape for others to carry on. I feel strongly that the work should be continued. There is no one around to take over, however.

You may wonder why I have such a large backlog of unfinished work at this late date. There are three main reasons:

1. Special assignments

Through the years I have been given several special assignments to carry on along with my regular work. These took about one-third of my time and seriously disrupted and hampered work on my main assignment.

2. Meager technical help

I have not had a permanent assistant or understudy to work with me or to carry on in my absence throughout my entire career.

3. Meager clerical and secretarial help

I have had only part-time and relatively little office help. So data, photograph and other files have not been maintained adequately.

The following outline of events in the history of range research at the Station and in my research project may give you a clearer picture of the present situation:

THE STATION PROGRAM

1931 Range research started

Appropriations

1. \$10,000 for developing proper management methods for annual-type (foothill) ranges
2. \$10,000 for developing proper management methods for perennial-type (mountain) ranges

Staff

M. W. Talbot, Division Chief
F. G. Renner, A. L. Hormay, Assistants

3.

1931-33 The Staff canvassed the State for range research problems and experimental areas.

1933 (September)

Renner was made leader of the annual-type range project. Main research area established for the project--The San Joaquin Experiment Range.

Hormay was made leader of the perennial-type range project. Main research area--The Burgess Spring Experimental Range, Lassen National Forest.

PERENNIAL-TYPE (MOUNTAIN) RANGE PROJECT

Main assignments and publications

1. Prepare a range problem analysis of northeastern California. Publication 9. See attached list.
2. Develop proper grazing and management methods for perennial-type mountain ranges. Publications 6, 7, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25.
3. Develop proper grazing and management methods for bitterbrush. Publications 11, 12.

Research on these assignments was carried on mainly from 1934 to 1960, a period of some 27 years. After 1960, I spent most of my time on extension work explaining rest-rotation grazing management to public and private wildland interests throughout the West. During this period, however, I kept in touch with my research and in fact completed an in-depth study of bitterbrush germination in the laboratory.

Chronicle of Project Events (1934-60)

1934-35 I located and established the Burgess Spring Experimental Range, started the range problem analysis of northeastern California and prepared plans for range studies.

Special assignments

1934 San Joaquin Range Survey. Annual-types. Placed in charge of field work. Duration 1934-35.

1936 Started field studies on range and grazing management, most on the Burgess Spring Experiment Range.

Special assignments

1936 Annual-type range project. Various phases. Duration 1936-48. Publications 4, 5, 8, 16, 20.

4.

1937 Western Range Survey. Placed in charge. Duration 1937-38. Publications 1, 2, 3.

1940 Started field studies on bitterbrush management

Special assignments

1941 Meadow management. Coop Lassen Forest, 1941-44. Publication 13.

1941 Utilization standards, annual-type ranges. Coop Agricultural Adjustment Administration, 1941-44. Publication 10.

1943 Interstate deer study. Coop California Department of Fish and Game, 1943-49.

1944 Post War Planning Reports. Publications 14, 15.

1945 Reseeding research project perennial-type ranges initiated at Station. Placed in charge. Participated 1945-52. Project to Cornelius in 1947. Publication 24.

1948 Parker 3-step range trend study. Coop Washington Office, 1948-55.

1951 Started Harvey Valley Demonstration Project

Special assignments

1951 Game Browse Restoration Project. Placed in charge. Coop California Department of Fish and Game, 1951-59. Project to Hubbard in 1957.

1956 Administration. Susanville Research Center. In charge, 1956-60. Assignment to L. Rader, 1960.

1960-77 Extension rest-rotation grazing, principal work. Transferred to BLM, 1966. Headquartered at PSF&RES, 1931-1977.

Full time technical help was available on the mountain range project for only three years from 1936 through 1938. After that only part-time, mainly student help was available and then only in some years. Special assignments and lack of adequate help had a devastating effect on the project disrupting the work and greatly reducing output. In spite of this, one of the most useful range management tools, rest-rotation grazing, developed in the United States emerged from the project.

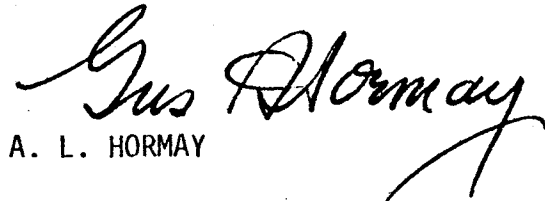
5.

The Harvey Valley demonstration of rest-rotation grazing has been neglected for a number of years especially the last 15 or so and so the area has deteriorated. Harvey Valley will always be known as the birthplace of rest-rotation grazing. People will continue to visit the area expecting to see results of a sound, if not ideal, rest-rotation grazing system. Management on the area should be realigned so rest-rotation grazing is properly demonstrated.

The Harvey Valley locality should continue to be a principal area for researching rest-rotation grazing and perennial-type range problems. Personnel should be provided to carry on this work.

The need at the present time to round out my work is for office space and support services including secretarial help and technical assistants to help compile and analyze data, write reports and publications and carry out field work.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this whole matter with you at your convenience.


A. L. HORMAY

PUBLICATIONS BY A. L. HORMAY

1. 1938 Report on cooperative Western Range Survey in San Benito Co. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta., Mimeographed.
2. 1938 Report on cooperative Western Range Survey in Madera Co. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta., Mimeographed.
3. 1938 Report on cooperative Western Range Survey in Merced Co. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta., Mimeographed.
4. 1939 Fluctuations in the annual vegetation of California. M. W. Talbot, H. H. Biswell, and A. L. Hormay. Ecology 20: 394-402.
5. 1940 Palatabilities of foothill range plants for cattle. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta., Research Note No. 25. 4 pp., Mimeographed.
6. 1940 Effect of logging on forage. Chronica Botanica 6(1): 6-7.
7. 1940 Automatic recording of salting and watering habits of cattle. J. R. Bentley. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta. 14 pp.
8. 1942 A key for identifying some important annual range grasses in the immature stage. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta., Research Note No. 26. 12 pp., Mimeographed.
9. 1942 An analysis of national forest range problems in northeastern California. Region 5 and CF&RES personnel. 49 pp. Mimeographed. Illus.
10. 1942 Standards for judging the degree of forage utilization on California annual-type ranges. A. L. Hormay and A. Fausett. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta., Technical Note No. 21. 13 pp. Multilithed. Illus.
11. 1943 Bitterbrush in California. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta., Research Note No. 34. 13 pp. Multilithed. Illus.
12. 1943 A method of estimating grazing use of bitterbrush. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta., Research Note No. 35. 4 pp. Multilithed. Illus.

13. 1943 Observations on species composition in northeastern California meadows as influenced by moisture supply. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta. 6 pp. Mimeographed. Illus.
14. 1944 Post war development and conservation of California range lands. Range land section. U.S.D.A. report. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta. 22 pp. Mimeographed.
15. 1944 Post war development and conservation of California range lands. Research Section. U.S.D.A. report. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta. 34 pp. Mimeographed.
16. 1944 Moderate grazing pays on California annual-type ranges. U.S.D.A. Leaflet No. 239. 8 pp. Illus. (Revised Nov. 1960).
17. 1945 First season records of cattle weights from a pine-timber range and a mountain meadow range. M. W. Talbot and A. L. Hormay. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta., Research Note No. 44. 9 pp. Multilithed. Illus.
18. 1947 Forest grazing in California. Proceedings Society of American Foresters' Meeting, 1947.
19. 1949 Getting better records of vegetation changes with the line interception method. Journal of Range Management 2(2): 67-69.
20. 1949 The land-variability factor in cattle-grazing experiments. A. L. Hormay and J. R. Bentley. (In Proc. Berkeley Symposium of Mathematical Statistics and Probability, held in August 1945, and in January 1946.) pp. 465-467. Berkeley, 1949. University of California Press.
21. 1956 How livestock grazing habits and growth requirements of range plants determine sound grazing management. Journal of Range Management 9(4): 161-164.
22. 1958 Rest-Rotation Grazing...a management system for bunchgrass ranges. A. L. Hormay and A. B. Evanko. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta., Miscellaneous Paper No. 27. December. 11 pp. Illus.
23. 1961 Rest-Rotation Grazing...a new management system for perennial bunchgrass ranges. A. L. Hormay and M. W. Talbot. U. S. Dept. Agric. Forest Service. Production Research Report No. 51. October. 43 pp. Illus.

24. 1962 Experiences with 2,4-D spraying on the Lassen National Forest. A. L. Hormay, F. J. Alberico and P. B. Lord. Journal of Range Management 15(6):325-328. November. Illus.
25. 1970 Principles of rest-rotation grazing and multiple-use land management. A. L. Hormay. U.S. Dept. Agric. Forest Service; Training text-4 (2200). November. 26 p. Illus.

TITLES OF SOME PROSPECTIVE PUBLICATIONS
FROM MOUNTAIN RANGE STUDIES

Completed studies	Manuscript date
✓ 1. Bitterbrush seed germination	April 1978
2. Effect of logging on grazing capacity, pine type northeastern California <i>(include 4, 5, 6 below)</i>	June 1978
✓ 3. Effect of moving cattle between pastures on weight gains	September 1978
Uncompleted studies	
✓ 1. Reproduction in bitterbrush	January 1979
✗ 2. Effect of grazing and resting on the vigor and growth of bitterbrush <i>(cover in 7 below)</i>	April 1979
✓ 3. A method for appraising vegetation changes on range lands	September 1979
✓ 4. Effect of forest regeneration on grazing capacity, pine type northeastern California	January 1980
5. Effect of forest regeneration on bitterbrush and other shrubs, pine type, northeastern California	April 1980
6. Regeneration of conifers and shrubs following cutting in the mixed conifer type, northeastern California	September 1980
✓ 7. Management of bitterbrush	December 1980
✓ 8. <i>RIR Grazing</i> Other - the Harvey Valley Demonstration Area	
1. Revised plan	February 1978
2. Progress report (in service use)	June 1979

Berkolay, Calif
Mar. 1 1977

Dear Rex

I had hoped to hear from you by this time on how The Tuladad-Home Camp ES is faring. I hope you have it back to work over. It was hardly in acceptable shape when I saw it last in Swanville. Please let me know how far it has gone and the main reactions to it.

There are several reasons why we did not have a fairly acceptable draft ready for S.O perusal, the main one we did not take time to develop a suitable outline for the statement. We used an outline that applies to one area (allotment) when in fact we are dealing with several and this has led to complications and confusion of issues.

This got home to me when I read chapter III Impact of The proposal

(1)

action. A proposed action was not related clearly to a specific allotment. We were not meeting the principal edict of the court namely that a statement - "discuss in detail the environmental effects of the proposed livestock grazing and alternatives thereto in specific areas of the public lands which are or will be licensed for such use"

What this says is that the Tuleadad-Hove Camp statement should contain separate environmental statements, ^{one} for each of the grazing allotments, each statement to stand alone. If we heed this one point I believe we can prepare an acceptable statement in a reasonable time. As I see it, it is largely a matter of rearranging material.

A major heading outline for the overall statement could be as follows:

Title Environmental Statement on Domestic Livestock Grazing on Specific grazing Allotments on The Teledad - Home Camp Planning Units.

I Introduction

Statement background
Sketch of project area and the proposed action

II Description of project area

III Description of The proposed action

IV Impact of The proposed action on specific grazing allotments

V Impact of The proposed action on -
The socio-economic environment
Other agencies and groups

I believe the best way to get into this statement is to prepare the ESs for the individual allotments. For those use the outline you have been following in preparing the master ES.

Some of the subjects that would be covered in each ES are

A. The proposed action

1. Grazing systems and facilitating measures - fences, water developments
2. Artificial seeding and weed and brush control.

3. Special fenced areas

B. Management objectives and MFP decisions

C. Alternative proposed actions

D. Cost-benefit analysis

E. Etc.

After the individual ESs are prepared it will be easier to see what should be covered in chapters I, II, and III listed here.

I suggest you not mention to your crew that the foregoing suggestions have come from me. A few of them are somewhat resentful of my participation.

I left our last meeting on a sour note and regret it very much. I'm sure it would not have happened had I not been so dragged out. I hope you can understand that I was not reacting to you, even though you were asking me questions, but rather to the young man across the table from me. He has a way of baiting people and belittling them in the eyes of others. I have fended off his thrusts before. But he got to me this time. It is the last I assure you.

I have considerable information
on The Teledad-Home Camp Area on hand
now and will continue to work on
The statement as much as I can

Please let me hear from you

Gus

March 2, 1977

R. J. Bruning
Office of Land and Water Resources
U.S. Department of the Interior
"C" Street, between 18th and 19th
Streets NW
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear R. J.,

The time is drawing near. I will be retiring in May, officially and on paper that is. No, I will not be retiring from work. In fact, I will be getting my second breath and will be carrying on with work that I had set aside temporarily and also with new projects.

I have file drawers full of research findings that I plan to publish. I want to train some one to carry on my work. I have not had an understudy. I have some new research projects in mind that I'd like to see started. Also, I have personal projects that I have been anxious to get with.

These things and promoting rest-rotation grazing will keep me occupied. I will always be available to do whatever I can to further the cause of good on-the-ground land management. So if there is anything I can do to help accomplish this, please don't hesitate to call on me.

Greatest success in your important and responsible assignment.

Very best wishes,

AUGUST L. HORMAY
Range Conservationist

P.S.

Will you please send the enclosed to Chris. I do not have his address.

Enclosure

ALHORMAY:nlg

9552

March 2, 1977

Dear Chris,

Here you are just getting started on that long road and I am nearly at the end of it. Looking back I find the road has been short and that a half century is not a long time.

I have not been worn out by the journey and will keep on working in various areas of my life-long interests-wildland management and livestock grazing management.

I will be busy but I will always be available if I can be of service to you.

I hope your new job is stimulating, and fulfilling.

Best regards,



AUGUST L. HORMAY
Range Conservationist

Berkeley, Calif
March 8 1977

Memorandum

To Romaine Morris
From A.L. Hervey

Will you please get the following
from the Federal Records Center for me.

Apr. 11/77

Kept
by ALH

1. SM (AS)-18 Container 47559. This
sent to Center July 17, 1962
2. SM (OS) Numbers 30, 31, 32, 33
and 34. Note. Number 33 is
372 102.

Thanks

A.L. Hervey

Public Domain
FRC

372102 SM(09) #33 24,7,662 Through 378241
1930-1935

Photographs Annual ranges & Public domain
SM(05) #30 Through #34

W51R Game Browse 306508 R-W 16

Harvey Valley Condition & travel study 1961

Pallet #39 R-W 1, 2 & 3
IBM Cards #

History of Experiment Station

Material at Federal Record Center

To Center July 17 1962

SM(AS)-18 Containers 47559

47559

W. H. Germany
Mar. 16/77

Boxes from Federal Record Center

#	Examined for contents	
30	Mar 16 1977	Foothill
31	" " "	Ranges
32	" " "	"
33	" " "	"
34	" " "	"

#56	Mar 16 1977	Watershead
#57	" "	



AMERICA'S NUMBER ONE SPORTSMAN'S MAGAZINE

383 MADISON AVENUE • NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

ADDRESS REPLY TO:

Ted Trueblood, Associate Editor
719 8th Avenue S.
Nampa, Idaho 83651

March 18, 1977

Dear Gus:

Carl Wilson was here to visit his mother recently and told me you'll be retiring soon. Congratulations!

I have long believed that each of us, in keeping with our ability, should make some contribution to our community, our state, or our country.

You can look back with satisfaction upon having made a great contribution, indeed.

Sincerely,

cc: Carl Wilson



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

MAR 21 1977

Mr. August L. Hormay
Range Conservationist
PSW Forest & Range Expt. Station
P.O. Box 245
Berkeley, California 94701

Dear Gus:

Let me add my words of congratulations to those from your numerous other friends and admirers.

The West is a richer place for your hard work in wildland management and livestock grazing management over the past almost half century.

I hope that your retirement years are rewarding and enjoyable. I have no doubt that you will keep busy.

Sincerely,

CECIL D. ANDRUS
SECRETARY



THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

201 OLD MAIN

UNIVERSITY PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 16802

Office of the President

March 22, 1977

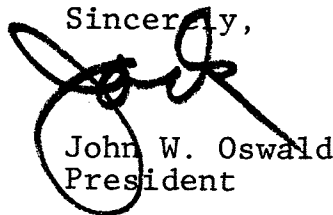
Dear Gus Hormay:

Our mutual friend Bob Bega has told me of your coming retirement, and from Pennsylvania I join your many friends and associates in sending you my very best wishes and congratulations.

I recall with Bob that in 1948 when I was a Professor of Plant Pathology at Davis we visited the Blacks Mountain Experimental Forest where you were the tall man in charge of the forest at that time. You talked about "overstory" and "understory" trees and it became a joke between the two of us because of our own very evident height differences.

I salute your "overstory" achievements of 49 years of service and send you best wishes for the years ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Oswald", written over a circular stamp or mark.

John W. Oswald
President

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST FOREST AND RANGE EXPERIMENT STATION
1960 ADDISON STREET POST OFFICE BOX 245
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94701

6130
March 24, 1977



Mr. August "Gus" Hormay
% Mrs. Roxie Dial
45 Whitaker Avenue
Berkeley, California 94707

Dear Gus:

I am very sorry I can't be at your retirement party at Spenger's on April 9. We had made prior plans which cannot be changed.

In any case, it seems as if I have known "Gus" Hormay forever. As I recall, you were with the California Station when Keith Arnold, Rudy Grah, John Zivnuska, and I were doing our graduate work. Arnold, Grah, and Zivnuska went on to become distinguished academicians. Wilson spent 30+ years with three branches of the Forest Service. But, Gus topped them all with a total of 49 years of Federal Service!!

I next remember you on the Lassen when I was at the Coppervale Ranger Station on Highway #36. You were working at Blacks Mountain and Harvey Valley, and you had to call through the Coppervale switchboard (bottleneck) to reach Susanville. Sometimes, we were there to "patch you through."

Hormay's "Rest Rotation Grazing System" has been the cornerstone of well-managed ranges for several decades. One of your best "press agents" has been our friend, Ted Trueblood of Nampa, Idaho. I gave Ted a copy of the announcement, and he said he would also like to be with you at the party. In any case, you can expect a letter from him.

Best wishes, Gus, for a happy and productive retirement. It won't be the same in Berkeley without you.

Sincerely,

CARL C. WILSON
National Fire Specialist

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND CONSERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

145 Mulford Hall
24 March 1977

To August "Gus" Hormay from a friend, Harold Biswell

Dear Gus:

Congratulations on your retirement! Knowing you as I do, I bet you will keep on with essentially the same sort of work that you have been doing for all these years but perhaps with a little more fishing and hunting on the side.

I remember that you were my first boss in the field at the Black's Mountain Experimental Range. Those were great days, and I owe you a lot for getting me off to a good start.

Not very many people have worked so long on a single research project as you have. You learned very early in your career how range plants grow and how they suffer or prosper under livestock grazing. You concluded that the better more preferred species always suffer from grazing pressure and that they need a period of rest and restoration if they survive at all. From this you developed the restoration system of grazing management. This system proved so biologically and economically sound that you became very enthusiastic about it, and you taught it, until finally it became adopted and is now practiced throughout the western range area. This is something you can be very very proud about.

I hope that our paths will continue to cross frequently and that we will have opportunity for "chats." I hope to come to your retirement party but if not then you can guess why--out burning, trying to save our forests and brushlands from destructive wildfires.

Best wishes in your retirement, and for many years.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Harold Biswell.

Harold Biswell

HB:rt

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station
1615 Continental Street, Redding, CA 96001

March 31, 1977



August L. Hornay

Dear Gus,

As Lowell Adams used to say, "Don't think it ain't been charmin'," having your friendship these many years.

Thanks so much for all the facts and lore about the eastside that you passed on. I wish I had had more time to learn the details of the small plants you know so well. And how did I ever escape pulling you out of the gooey ruts across some sagebrush flat? And, where were you when I got stuck?

Although we only worked in the field together for a few days, I'm sure we have a lot of common memories of vistas and people of that good eastside country. The familiar silhouettes of mountains like Crater, Bogard Buttes, Harvey, Blacks, Patterson, Cone, Cal; sooty terns winging over Poison Lake in the summer; building blinds at Ebey Lake in the fall; ol' Buck sluicing a couple of ducks from the dam at Ballard Spring; getting behind a truck on the Pittville Road, and not being able to get around it because of the dust; Roneys' cattle going out in the fall; Buster's gold front tooth smiling at you while he stuffed his "front shoes" in his pocket; the list could go on and on, but last but not least: How about Lulu's steaks and pies, and the "plain boiled rice" for dessert when no one had said something nice about her cookhouse pies for awhile? How did we ever manage to get our work done?

It was good to work with you at the Susanville Research Center, Gus. Looking back on it, I know we had a good thing there. Never before or since was I able to get so much worthwhile and satisfying work done.

Lydia joins me in wishing you well in the work you want to finish, and in having lots of fine times yet. Please come see us.

Your friends -

Lydia and Don
Lydia and Don Gordon