

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

Lassen National Forest
Eagle Lake Ranger District
1800 Main Street
Susanville, California 96130
December 7, 1978



Gus Hormay
1960 Addison Street
P.O. Box 245
Berkeley, CA 94701

Dear Gus:

Colin Aiken did not get the remainder of your plots measured. It stormed a day or so after you left and the snow is still on the ground.

In regard to the Lower Pine Creek Allotment, there was an agreement among the permittees on Lower Pine Creek and Budys Creek allotment on the location of the fence up Martin Creek. This set the boundry between the two allotments; for our planning purposes we will use the present boundry.

We all wish you a Merry Christmas!

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom".

THOMAS C. MOWER
District Ranger

12-7-78

GUS

Director's Sect'y is out
Sick. Do you HAVE A COPY
OF your letter to Director
RE your RESEARCH WORK plan.
I need ^{to make} ₁ copy to send to
GALE WALTERS.

THANKS
LORNE CALVERT
3171

BRUCE E. SUNDQUIST

210 COLLEGE PARK DRIVE

MONROEVILLE, PA. 15146

December 11, 1978

Dr. August L. Hormay
Pacific Southwest Forest & Range Expt. Sta.,
P.O. Box 245
Berkeley, California 94701

Reply attached

Dear Dr. Hormay:

You may recall that I corresponded with you in mid-1977 concerning a slide show on soil conservation that I was (am still) working on for the Sierra Club. In one of the books you sent me you mentioned that it is estimated that the capacity of western rangelands for grazing livestock has been reduced by half or more. I would now like to know of any estimates of the current rate of deterioration of western rangelands. Do you have any information that might provide an answer to this question? Needless to say, I would like the best available answer, but if a rough, professional judgement estimate is all that is available, I'll be happy with that. I want to use this information in the part of the narration that also talks about losing about 70 million acres of croplands per generation to urban developments and the equivalent of another 50 million acres of croplands per generation to soil erosion (out of a total croplands inventory of 400 million acres).

I also ran into the problem of reconciling your figure of 730 million acres of western rangelands (plus other data) with the fact that a sizeable acreage of deserts and above-timberline mountains exist in the U.S. Below is the essence of my dilemma.

<u>Land Classification</u>	<u>Total Acreage</u>	(millions of acres)
Urban Developments	100	
Forest (commerc.& non-com.)	700	(All figures are for
Range lands	730	conterminous U.S.)
croplands	400	
<u>Total</u>	<u>1,930</u>	

The total area of the conterminous U.S. is known to be around 1,900 million acres. Thus the above classification leaves no room for deserts and mountain-tops. Can you straighten me out?

Sincerely,

Bruce Sundquist

Bruce Sundquist

AGREEMENT FOR INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTARY SERVICES

(Act of May 18, 1972, P. L. 92-300)

NAME (Print - Last, first, middle initial)

HORMAY, AUGUST L.

ADDRESS (Street, city, State, ZIP Code)

1. Description of work to be performed:

Incidental Expenses

_____	Transportation
_____	Lodging
_____	Meals
_____	Total Cost Estimate

Project

1-1-79 — 12-31-79

Period of Service

Gale L. Walters
(Signature) Project Leader

2. All of the above-described work will be noncompensable. Except as otherwise provided, I understand this service will not confer on me the Status of a federal employee.

3. I understand that either the Forest Service or I may cancel this agreement at any time by notifying the other party.

I hereby volunteer my services as described above to assist the Forest Service in its authorized work.

August L. Hormay
SIGNATURE OF VOLUNTEER

12/14/78
DATE

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN, IF UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE

DATE

ACCEPTANCE FOR THE FOREST SERVICE TOTAL:

Incidental Expenses Approved

The Forest Service agrees while this arrangement is in effect to:

1. Finance your necessary incidental expenses, to the extent funds are available.
2. Consider you as a federal employee for the purpose of tort claims and compensation for work injuries.
3. Authorize you to operate federal motor vehicles when necessary; provided you qualify for and are issued a U. S. Government Operator's Identification Card.

SIGNATURE

Robert E. [Signature]

TITLE Personnel Officer

UNIT PERSONNEL

DATE

12/14/78

TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT

Agreement Terminated on

MONTH, DAY, YEAR

SIGNATURE OF FOREST SERVICE OFFICER (Project Leader)

REMARKS:

MONTANA PUBLIC LANDS COUNCIL

Old West Rangeland Monitoring Project
2819 2nd Avenue N. - 306 Fratt Bldg.
Billings, Montana 59101
(406) 248-3030

20 December, 1978

Mr. Gus Hormay
U.S. Forest & Range Experiment Station
Berkeley, Ca. 94710

Dear Gus,

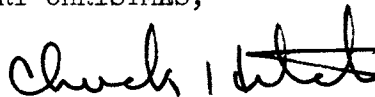
There has been some changes in order to carry out the project you started with the C.M. Russell Game Range users. I have been informed the remainder of the project will be under the Old West Regional Commission project that I am working with. The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Wilber Rehman, is to handle everything up to now. You and I will need a contract for the remainder. It should be no problem and can be taken care of on your next trip up this way.

Since Wilber is changing jobs, I have requested he give me a detail of what was agreed on and what has been done. You probably should get a bill into them soon for the part done.

Outside of Wilber leaving this should not change any of the people involved or the activity planned. Keep me informed on your plans for the group meeting.

The enclosed comments by the joint team that ran the site and condition survey for the CMR just came to my attention. Thought you might be interested since they are addressing things that had come to their notice while they were doing the job.

MERRY CHRISTMAS,


C. E. Hitch
Team Leader

xc: Bill Brown Jr.
Joe Etchart
Ole Ueland
Wilber Rehman
Joe Egan
Mons Teigan

CHARLES M. RUSSEL NATIONAL WILDLIFE RANGE

Comments from Range Site and Condition Survey team

A range site and condition survey was made on the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Range June through October 1978. The majority of the range is in the good and excellent condition classes. Where fair condition occurs distribution problems are common. Poor range condition is usually associated with prairie dog towns. There is an occasional old field in poor condition class. Some fields contain seeded tame grasses and were mapped as tame grassland rather than range.

Stock water developments appeared to be more numerous on the adjoining private and BLM lands than on the Game Range. There also appeared to be more wildlife on the adjoining lands in combination with livestock where water developments are evident. Areas properly grazed by livestock compliment grazing of deer, elk, and antelope because of increased nutritive value and palatability of vegetation. The value of stockwater developments and grazing management is equally important for both livestock and wildlife grazers and browsers. Waterfowl breeds appeared on most of the ponds during part of the summer. There appeared to be increased waterfowl use again in October. Large numbers of mourning doves were often observed watering at dams during the heat of the day. Other wildlife requiring free drinking water benefit from the ponded water. The ponds make possible better livestock distribution and better range management thus, better wildlife habitat. Well located livestock watering facilities are necessary for the establishment of effective grazing systems.

The exploding prairie dog populations provide a built-in mechanism for ecosystem destruction, if left unmanaged. Balance of nature, regardless of its presettlement effectiveness, is a myth when applied to most areas in developed countries.

RANGE MANAGEMENT

Range degeneration because of overgrazing and other abuses is legendary. Less well known or understood is range degeneration due to non-use. Relatively rapid degeneration could be expected to occur, because of non-use, on few sites on CMR. Such areas as the seeded and flooded areas along Fourchette Creek and Clay Flats receiving overflow water along Valentine Creek on the U.L. Bend can easily become infested with Canada thistle and other undesirables or comparatively low value plants when unused. Many refuges provide ample opportunity to observe stagnation, degeneration and conversion because of non-use or poor timing of grazing. Most common to this range would likely be gradual stagnation following a recovery time on some areas. Deterioration has occurred on rangeland on several wildlife refuges with comparable soils, plants and climate within the first twenty years of non-use. Managing rangelands for regeneration is generally more difficult than managing for maintenance of a higher condition. (Further information and discussion can be obtained from:

- Range Ecosystem Management for Natural Areas, Cosby, 1975
- Paper given at the 28th Annual Convention of the Society for Range Management at Mexico City
- Observations of Range Manipulation-field Trials, Cosby, 1972
- Unpublished Fish and Wildlife Service Report
- Altering Influences and Certain Management Effects On Range Ecosystems, Cosby and Berlinger, Unpublished Fish and Wildlife Service Report.
- Range Management Benefits Wildlife, Cosby, October, 1978
- Rangeman's Journal In Print)

Range management, to a very large extent, is grazing management. It can also include the use of fire and chemicals, where applicable. Their mis-use can be as detrimental as other kinds of mis-use.

Range use should be checked with permittees. Key areas should be identified and used in degree of use determinations and other management.

PLANNED GRAZING SYSTEMS

Planned grazing systems are proving beneficial for range management. They can help range regeneration and managed maintenance. They can be used to provide varied choices and carry over residual cover for wildlife, Cosby 1978. The term Planned Grazing Systems is used because there is no one simple grazing system for all situations. The National Bison Range - strictly wildlife-in Montana has an effective Deferred Rotation System in use at present. Systems should be planned to meet the site requirements, local climate, wildlife, and livestock requirements. The grazing system example used in the above publication was planned for a particular refuge in the southwest and is not cited as a pattern for ONE. It is probable that a four pasture system would be desirable with three used within a grazing season and one rested the entire season. Other systems may be practical on the refuge. It may be desirable to have more than one effective system in operation.

There can be harm done by leaving spring grazing out of planned systems. This is especially true where such invader species as smooth brome grass, Kentucky bluegrass, annual brome grasses and others exist or are likely to invade. This has caused degeneration on numerous units in the Great Plains. Well planned systems can fail if herbivores are not balanced with the forage made available to them. The rule-of-thumb take half and leave half is practical even though there can be reason for occasional variation.

To plan and implement future grazing plans it will be necessary to carefully scrutinize and study each prepared grazing area, kind of wildlife, and livestock, involved ranchers needs and desires, fences, water development, rodent control, predator control, public input, etc.

To be successful any grazing system must be designed specifically for that particular grazing unit. It must be practical (hence: the rancher's input) and technically sound.

COMMUNICATION

Good communication is essential within an organization, between organizations, and with individuals if the organization is to function efficiently. Good communication requires knowledge of the subject. Ranchers are closely tied to the resource and their input is necessary to plan and carry out a good management program. Knowledge of rangeland and livestock, rangeland ecosystem functions, and the ranchers way of life are as important as knowing about wildlife in management of rangeland ecosystems and in communication about them.

Robert L. Ross
Claude C. Dillon
Philip E. VanCleave
Hugh Cosby

Thomas L. Judge, Governor

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & CONSERVATION

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD - CHAIRMAN CECIL WEEDING, J. VIOLA HERAK, DAVID G. DRUM,
DR. WILSON F. CLARK, DR. ROY E. HUFFMAN, WILLIAM H. BERTSCHE, CHARLES L. HASH

DNRC
Ted J. Doney, Director

December 26, 1978

Mr. August L. Hormay
Range Management Consultant
101 Acadia Street
San Francisco, CA 94131

Dear Mr. Hormay:

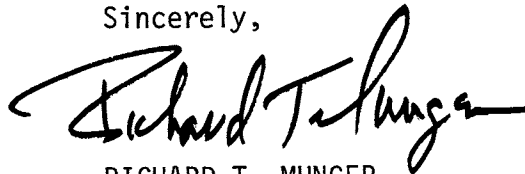
It has come to my attention that Mr. C.E. Hitch of the Public Lands Council BLM-EIS Monitoring Project has informed you that he is assuming leadership of the Rest-Rotation Demonstration project on the Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge.

I would like to advise you that Wilbur Rehmann has been transferred to the Department's Energy Division. Even though he has transferred to that Division I have assigned him as a temporary coordinator for the C.M. Russell Wildlife Refuge project.

Ole Ueland, Administrator of the Conservation District Division, will be hiring a replacement range specialist for the position vacated by Wilbur. Ole will also be involved in the project by serving on the CMR Planning Team Steering Committee.

Finally we hope to carry through with the project as originally conceived by our Department, the Department of Fish & Game, Montana Association of State Grazing Districts and yourself.

Sincerely,



RICHARD T. MUNGER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

RTM/bw

cc: W. Rehmann
C.E. Hitch
O.M. Ueland
Mons Teigen