

October 2, 1981

Charles Neill
Gooseneck Ranger District
U.S. Forest Service
Mt. Hebron, CA 96066

Dear Chuck,

The color slide photographs I took on the Grass Lake Area turned out fairly well and could be used to show conditions on the area should weather prevent getting out on the ground during the up-coming meeting in November.

I agree that first action on the area is to change the method of grazing from continuous to rest-rotation grazing so further deterioration of plant cover and soil on areas grazed by livestock is stopped and restoration of these sites to full productivity is started.

The situation calls for a 3-pasture rest-rotation grazing system. The allotment encompassing these pastures should, if possible, take in the entire area draining into Grass Lake. A map showing the extent of the proposed allotment and the approximate location of pastures and pasture fences is enclosed.

It would be desirable to touch on the following points in your invitation to the parties you'd like to have attend the meeting.

The Forest Service recently acquired about 6 sections of land around Grass Lake, some 15 miles southwest of Mt. Hebron, from the International Paper Company through land exchange.

The area has wildlife, livestock grazing, recreation, timber, and other values.

The Gooseneck Ranger District is beginning to prepare a multiple-use land management plan for the area and would appreciate your council and

Charles Neill

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suggestions for working out a sound and practical plan.

Portions of the area, particularly in the Grass Lake basin, have been heavily deteriorated by livestock grazing. Vegetation and soil on these areas are continuing to deteriorate under the present method of continuous grazing. This problem is demanding first attention on the area. The Forest Service purposes to change to a 3-pasture rest-rotation system of grazing.

We plan to show concerned and interested parties over the area on November __?__, 1981. We would like to have you or your representative be present.

Plans for the day are as follows:

9:00 - 10:00 AM	Assemble at the Gooseneck Ranger District office on Highway 97 (near Mt. Hebron)
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Travel to Grass Lake area
10:30 - 12:00 noon	Tour area
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Sack lunch in field
1:00 - 3:00 PM	Continue to tour area
3:00 -	Travel to Deer Mt. lodge
3:30 - 5:00 PM	Discussion
5:00 PM	Dinner and adjourn

Chuck, I will bring slides to explain rest-rotation grazing at Deer Mt. lodge. I will need a 35mm Kodak Carousel projector with a zoom lens and a projection screen. Bring an extra light bulb for the projector. In addition I will need an easel and pad of paper (roughly 2'x3' sheets) and two or three felt tip black ink markers.

Inform the permittee that runs on the allotment on which you plan to change from a 5-pasture to a 3-pasture rest-rotation grazing system about the meeting and encourage him to attend.

I can have additional maps of the area run off if you can use them. Let me know how many you'll need. Also, make any changes in the map you see fit.

Let me hear from you when you settle on a meeting date.

Sincerely,

A. L. HORMAY

October 27, 1981

Charles Neill
Gooseneck Ranger District
U.S. Forest Service
Mt. Hebron, CA 96066

Dear Chuck,

The attached was abstracted from pages 253-256 of the Western Range Report, Senate Document 199, 1936. This may give you further ideas on conducting the "Grass Lake" meeting in November.

Try to round up information on the history of livestock grazing on the area to the present time-- numbers, seasons, light, moderate, heavy--and also on water fowl populations and hunting.

Sincerely,

A. L. HORMAY

Enclosure

ALHORMAY:ng

NOTE! The following was abstracted from pages 253--256 of the Western Range Report, Senate Document 199, 1936.

HORMAY

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES IN ADMINISTRATION

The broad aims and objectives in the administration of the national forests were laid down by Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson in a letter of February 1, 1905, to the Chief of the Forest Service in which he said:

You will see to it that the water, wood, and forage of the reserves are conserved and wisely used for the benefit of the home builder, first of all, upon whom depends the best permanent use of lands and resources alike. * * * All land is to be devoted to its most productive use for the permanent good of the whole people and not for the temporary benefit of individuals or companies. All of the resources * * * are for use, and this use must be brought about in a thoroughly prompt and businesslike manner, under such restrictions only as will insure the permanence of these resources. The permanence of the resources * * * is therefore indispensable to continued prosperity. * * * The continued prosperity of the agricultural, lumbering, mining, and livestock interests is directly dependent upon a permanent and accessible supply of water, wood, and forage * * * (made available) under businesslike regulations enforced with promptness, effectiveness, and common sense.

Local questions will be decided upon local grounds; the dominant industry will be considered first, but with as little restriction to minor industries as may be possible.

Regarding this letter it has been said (28):

A careful perusal of the above is commended, not so much because of its terse common sense as because of its continuous existence to the present moment as the standing general orders under which the forest work of the country has gone and still goes forward.

The administration of the national forests provides for the following:

1. *Conservation and use.*—Perpetuation of all of the resources through wise use, protection, and development.
2. *Multiple use.*—Correlation in management and use of the different resources in order to obtain the highest net benefits from the combined resources of the land.

MULTIPLE USE OF RESOURCES

The national forests contain a variety of resources or values, including timber, water, range forage, game, fishing, and recreation. Rarely is there an instance where two or more of these values are not associated on any given tract of land. Some one may be dominant but others are nearly always present in an amount sufficient to require consideration in land management. This association of resources injects the necessity for "multiple use" management—or management which will yield the highest social and economic benefit from all of the resources combined. Accomplishment of multiple use is one of the important objectives of national-forest land management. Obviously its attainment involves due consideration for local and present-day needs, as well as long-range planning to meet the future requirements.

Ordinarily multiple use has been accompanied with only minor sacrifices in the use of any one resource. Exclusion of other uses is unnecessary and undesirable except where the highest public good can be attained in no other manner.

One of the chief requirements in multiple-use management has been to foresee the needs and gradually adjust the various uses to meet them. Livestock seldom can be removed on short notice without sacrifice by the dependent user. However, sudden adjustments have rarely been necessary.

ADMINISTRATION OF RANGE USE

CONTACTS WITH THE USER

For prompt and efficient handling of business to promote the solution of local problems upon local grounds, the Forest Service is organized on a basis of decentralized authority. Forest officers are located among the people they serve in order to be constantly in touch with local conditions. The actual job of administration of the range and other resources rests in the forest supervisor and his rangers assigned to each of the 105 national forests in the Western States. The people in the local communities transact their business with either the forest ranger or the forest supervisor. Only remote users must deal by letter or by occasional contact. "Our ranger" is a term applied by many people in western communities in referring to the Forest Service official with whom they deal.

Under national-forest policy, users are entitled to exercise freedom in the use of the national forests in accordance with the established rules and regulations, and to be heard on all matters affecting their own or the public welfare. Through the free exchange of ideas most problems are harmoniously settled on the ground.

Range users, however, are usually outnumbered by others interested in watershed protection, recreation, wildlife, timber, mineral development, and a variety of minor uses, upon which a substantial part of the support of many communities is dependent. The people so involved are as fully entitled to a voice in national-forest administration as are the stockgrowers. Recognition of these interests is also provided for in the national-forest regulations. Counsel and assistance are also invited from city, county, and State governments concerned either directly or indirectly with national-forest administration.

With so many interests involved it becomes the task of the Forest Service, as the public agency concerned, to harmonize conflicts and arbitrate differences between groups or individuals. The Forest Service also has the duty and the responsibility to protect the public interest whenever there is difference of opinion regarding established national-forest policy. Many of the latter cases arise out of the inclination of some users to disregard the requirements for range conservation in order to satisfy their immediate needs. In such instances the Forest Service proceeds on the basis of the best information available and, with due consideration of all the circumstances, adopts the procedure which will lead in the direction of the "greatest good to the greatest number in the long run."

It is the aim of the Forest Service always to settle locally all matters submitted for consideration. However, appeal may be taken successively from the decision of the forest ranger, forest supervisor, regional forester, and Chief of the Forest Service to the Secretary of Agriculture, with whom final regulatory authority rests.