Memorandum

TO : E. G. Dunford, Assistant Director

FROM : Jack M. Reppert, Project Leader

FILE NO. 4210

DATE: Oct. 1, 1965

SUBJECT: Range Programs (Harvey Valley Evaluation)

M. J. Reed has agreed to help the Harvey Valley Evaluation along this fall by sending Stan Westfall up to help for 4 weeks starting October 11. I will charge all his per diem, plus personal vehicle expenses, from the San Joaquin Range to Harvey Valley and return to the Bunchgrass project. This help is badly needed and much appreciated.

cc: Reed, SJER

Jack M. Reppert
Irwin E. Bosworth, Forest Supervisor, Lassen  
H. P.  
Everett B. Benson, Assistant Regional Forester  
October 4, 1965

Analysis and Plans (Studies, Administrative  
Harvey Valley Demonstration Allotment)

I have discussed your September 27 memorandum with West, Beanbo and  
Daemm. I am essentially in agreement with the group consensus as  
outlined in points 1 through 7 of your memorandum. Points 3 and 4  
should be modified. It is not entirely proper to waive grazing fees to  
compensate for permittees cooperation. Also, I have committed the Forest  
Service to assist with a range rider to the extent that we require  
additional work not ordinarily required of range permittees.

In the discussion with the permittees I believe the following points  
should also be made:

1. The main phase of rest-rotation evaluation in Harvey Valley  
has been completed.

2. Preliminary evaluation data indicate that range condition in  
Harvey Valley is significantly better than adjoining range,  
so, therefore, propose to continue this management system.

3. The Experiment Station plans to maintain the paired plots,  
get annual utilization data, and sometime in the future (5 or  
10 years) re-examine the paired plots. We feel that this will  
help us up-to-date on range trends.

4. To strengthen evaluation data it is proposed to get weights on  
Roney's cattle on Harvey Valley and Grays Valley (about 30 in  
each place) for another two years.

5. Fence and other range improvement maintenance and range riding  
will be handled in accordance with Regional Policy as practiced  
on other forest allotments - permittees responsibility except for  
reconstruction or heavy maintenance.

Forest Service will assist with any additional riding and other  
work required in the weighing or shifting of cattle between  
Harvey Valley and Grays Valley.

6. Since the evaluation is essentially complete the cultural  
improvement program will be resumed in accordance with availability  
of funds, regional and forest priorities.
7. (This need not be discussed at the meeting with Rosay's). We should compensate Mrs. Jeffcoat for any expense involved in the cattle shift through means other than waiving grazing fees.

I appreciate your invitation to attend the meeting on October 22 and will plan to be there.

cc: WD (DeWitt & Parker)
    Exp. Station (Dunford & Beppert)
A. L. Hormay, Range Conservationist
U.S.D.A. Forest Service
Pacific Southwest Forest & Range Experiment Station
1960 Addison Street P.O. Box 245
Berkeley, California  94701

October 11, 1965

Dear Gus:

We certainly appreciated your sending the slides to us. The slides 6054, 6056, and 6076 were especially useful in helping the Range Users to understand why we had designed the rest-rotation system the way we did.

Our improvement crew will begin building fence this week in order to begin use of the system next year. At this point, we hope to construct 20 miles of fence to protect pastures V and VI during scheduled rest next year. While it would be desirable to complete all fencing prior to initiation of the system, it is impossible. For this reason, we will have some use in pastures II and IV prior to seed ripening time next year.

The Board of Directors of the Pleasant View Livestock Association have signed an agreement to manage their livestock on the rest-rotation system and have pledged their whole-hearted support to the system.

We would like to extend our thanks to you for all the time and effort you have spent in helping solve this problem. We expect the first year or two to be quite rough on livestock and have advised the users so that they are expecting lowered calf weights. They share our optimism that by having a couple of rough years, it will be greatly rewarded with improved range conditions and livestock production in the future.

I have enclosed a set of duplicate slides taken during Glen Fulcher's trip the latter part of May and your June trip to the district.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Doyle J. Bibles
Assistant District Manager

Enclosures
Reproduce Kodachromes
3 slide each

A1H

1  6056  Food reserve trend
2  6067  Effect defoliatio - 1st stage
3  6054  Growth shoot-root
4  6253  Precip - temp.
5  6239  Problem Pleasant View Idaho
         Cattle in bottom + H2O
6  4613  R12 Theory
         Cattle - grazed range L.H.V
         1st rest  "  "  report
7  5303
8  5162  5th seed rope
9  3041  Trampling PN
10  2988  "  Seedlings
11  2805  5th seedlings
12  3093  Elymus trit.
13  3776  Pn H.V grazed
14  5301  "  "  grown being grazed
15  3467  Aspen topped
16  3499  Browse P4
Nyles L. Humphrey, District Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Box D
Malta, Montana 59538

Dear Nyles:

The attached suggested grazing formula for the Archambault allotment is self-explanatory. Your formula is superior from a range standpoint and the suggested one somewhat the better of the two from a livestock handling and livestock weight gain standpoint. Both should work well. At present apparently high stocking rate, you will probably have to use the vegetation in four of the five pastures.

The way I visualize stock handling under your plan is as follows:

On May 10 turn all stock into the treatment A pasture. On about June 15 open gates to the treatment B pasture. On August 1 (seedripe time) open gates to treatment B pasture. At this point the cattle will be grazing in three fields. Then open treatment D pasture to grazing after seed trampling in treatment B pasture is adequate or when the forage in D pasture is needed. Then graze in four fields until the end of the grazing season.

In the suggested plan the herd would be placed in treatment A and B pastures at the beginning of the season with gates between these pastures opened or closed as desired. At seedripe time open gates to treatment C pasture and between A and B if closed. Later open treatment B pasture if needed. I would not close any part of the herd in the pasture in which seed is produced to promote trampling. If the cattle are distributed as outlined above, you should get adequate trampling under present stocking. Hope you can get the cattle to move by themselves. The stockman may of course restrict the animals to any of the pastures he thinks is best from a stock production standpoint.
Use either of the two plans whichever is most practical to apply. You should get an answer to whether you are under- or overstocked in the first grazing season. The 60-70 percent average forage use figures indicate the situation is somewhat tight at present.

Sincerely yours,

A. L. Hormay

A. L. HORMAY
Range Conservationist

Enclosure

ALHormay:etr
October 12, 1965

Evan L. Rasmussen, District Manager
Bureau of Land Management
850 North Main Street
Richfield, Utah 84701

Dear Mr. Rasmussen:

I am glad to see you come up with such a simple grazing formula for the Hartnet cattle allotment. I trust the cattle will move or can be moved from one field to another as desired on such an extensive area.

With the range grazed almost entirely outside the growing season, there is no problem of maintaining plant vigor. However, the season is not ideal for getting reproduction mainly because the time between seed fall and the earliest trampling thereafter is several months. I am suggesting a slight change in your formula in order to reduce this time interval. The change consists simply of a transposition of your A and B grazing treatments. See attached sheet.

As I see it seed is produced under treatment A in your formula. It ripens during the period from June 15* (Oryzopsis) to September 15 (Bouteloua gracilis). It is trampled into the soil the following February some 5 to 8 months later. This period is narrowed to 1.5 to 4.5 months in the suggested plan.

Under the district plan some grazing and trampling of germinating seeds and seedling occurs in May under treatment B. Under the suggested plan there may be some interference with seed production under treatment A because of grazing in May. Probably only Oryzopsis would be seriously affected. Since apparently no effort is being made to capitalize on current green growth in the season used on this allotment, the season might be terminated two weeks to a month earlier to get around the adverse effects mentioned above. From a range standpoint the season could be started correspondingly earlier resulting in still further narrowing of the gap between seed fall and trampling. I appreciate considerations related to management of the livestock may preclude such adjustments.
Even without adjustments you should get reasonably satisfactory results with either formula. Start with the one you feel will give best results. Both plans provide two seasons of rest on seedlings and adequate rest for plant vigor. In the suggested plan hold livestock in the treatment B pasture until you are satisfied with the amount of seed trampling, then open the gates into the treatment A pasture and allow the animals to graze freely in both fields until the end of the season. Reduction in seed production and seedling establishment should not be serious. Or at the beginning of growth put all the stock in treatment A pasture.

Best of luck.

Sincerely yours,

A. L. Hormay

A. L. HORMAY
Range Conservationist

Enclosure
Grazing Formula

State: Utah  Agency: BLM  District: Richfield
Allotment: South Desert  Acres: 91,974  Kind: Stock Cattle
AUs: 355  AUyrs: 2488  Season: Nov 1 to May 31

Forage use: 50% Key Species: Oh, Boq, ATe

Plant development: Start growth, Flowering, Seed ripe, Regrowth

Date: April 1      June 15      Aug 1
      Aug 30      Sept 15

District Plan - Treatments

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Suggested Plan - Treatments

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Topography: gentle to steep

Date: Oct 1, 1965

Name: Hormann
Memorandum - San Francisco, California 94110

TO: Chas. A. Connaughton, Regional Forester
FROM: E. R. Doman, Assistant Regional Forester

DATE: October 25, 1965

SUBJECT: Studies, Administrative (Harvey Valley Demonstration Allotment)

A meeting was held at the Supervisors office in Susanville on October 22, 1965 to discuss current evaluation work by the F&W Station and plans for future management of the Harvey Valley Allotment.

Participants at the meeting were Irwin Bosworth, Phil Lord, and Fred Alberico of the Lassen Forest; E. G. Danford, Mert Reed, Jack Beppert, and Ray Ratliff from the F&W Station; Elvin Roney Harvey Valley grazing permittee; and E. R. Doman, Regional Office.

Beppert brought the group up-to-date on progress of the current evaluation work. Field work of evaluation is almost complete and will be finished by early November. The evaluation report will be out by June 1966. The Station plans to put their Harvey Valley research on a "standby" or "maintenance" basis. The researchers feel that a "re-run" of the evaluation plots at some future date, possibly in five or ten years will yield more valuable information regarding range management under the rest-rotation system. They propose that "stand-by" work include:

1. Continuation of the rest-rotation system in the Harvey Valley Allotment.
2. Annual check of herbage utilization on all sets of comparable plots.
3. Keep up weather data at 7 stations.
4. Continue exchange of cattle between Grey Valley and Harvey Valley for 2 more years to obtain weight gain data.
5. Coordinate any cultural work with maintenance of evaluation plots.

After discussion of the above proposal the following course of action was agreed to:

1. Five pasture rest-rotation management will be continued on the allotment. Tight control (different from other allotments) will not be required; riding will be the permittee responsibility as it is on other forest allotments. Additional weighing will not be done except as stated below. (Item 6.).

2. The District will keep as accurate records as possible regarding use on the various units. This will include a. class of stock, b. number of stock, c. dates of use.
3. Forage utilization work at the evaluation plot sites by the Station and regular allotment utilization inspections by the Forest will be coordinated as much as possible.

4. The grazing season and class of stock in 1966 will be essentially the same as in 1965 as worked out between the District and the permittee.

5. Within the next three months the Lassen and the permittee will get together and agree to numbers and season for 1967. Within a year from now a long-time plan of use will be worked out. (The Forest thinking is to go back to the regular A.U.K. basis).

6. If comparable weights can be obtained through exchange of use with a neighboring allotment, this will be done on about the same extent as in 1965 (30 head exchange) for two more years.

7. The permittees (Harvey Valley and adjacent allotments) will continue maintenance responsibility for all exterior allotment fences. The Forest will maintain interior fences (fences between units). To compensate the permittee for extra work of weighing (if weighing is done) the Forest will maintain the holding pasture fence. Forest will send R.O. an estimate of funds needed over and above the ordinary maintenance base.

8. From 12/1 to May 1 the Forest will make monthly measurements at 2 rain gauges and will cooperate with research on other weather collection data to extent possible.

9. Cultural treatment within the allotment will be resumed in line with forest priorities except that no cultural treatment will be given in unit five prior to the next research evaluation. Forest will coordinate cultural treatment with maintenance of evaluation plots.

10. Resume demonstration trips to the allotment on a limited basis as requests are received and time permits.

cc: Lassen MF (3) (one for permittee)
    WO DeNio
    WO Parker
    FSW (2) 17.0 Report
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<th>Name</th>
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Philip B. Lord, Range & Wildlife Staff Officer

Inspection - Lower Pine Creek Allotment

On October 20, I went over a large part of the Lower Pine Creek Allotment.

This allotment from an ocular standpoint appears to be used quite heavily.

The capacity figures in the plan show a little slack and the last C&T readings, 1961, show a more or less static trend. Lacking recent C&T readings, it appears that the fact that this entire permit is made up of pairs may account for the heavy use. Another C&T reading is needed.

Twenty-one head of cattle had been left, 16 of which were at Martin Spring on the Bridge Creek Allotment. The permittee was notified.

In many places around the foot of Antelope Mtn., there is evidence of much deer use. So much, in fact, that some browse plots are indicated for this area in order to have some measure of use. This area is in the summer range of the Mineral Blacktail Herd. However, it is so close to the boundary of the Eagle Lake Herd Unit that there is bound to be some intermingling.

If time permits this fall, Bill Sanderson will be available to install these plots with some help from the district. Otherwise, this work should be done next spring.