Joseph Thorpe, Jr., Chairman
Fort Hall Business Council
Fort Hall Indian Reservation
P. O. Box 506
Fort Hall, Idaho 83203

November 5, 1969

Dear Mr. Thorpe:

Following are a few suggestions on the management of the rangelands and native meadow haylands on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation. With little more than one day on the ground, I am in no position to make very specific recommendations as you can well appreciate. So I wish you would interpret my comments as suggestions on possible approaches to the solution of some of the problems on the Reservation.

I believe that overall the rangelands are in good condition, although an appreciable acreage of spring-fall ranges is rather heavily deteriorated and needs improvement. Artificial seeding and perhaps spraying are needed on some areas. The first and main need, however, is for a grazing system that will insure maintenance of the range and yield maximum livestock, wildlife, and other range values. A rest-rotation grazing system will do this. Also I feel confident that application of rest-rotation management principles to cutting practices will increase the yield and quality of hay on the native meadow haylands.

Grazing Management

Several different rest-rotation grazing systems are being applied on the Reservation at the present time. Most of these appear to require considerable handling of the cattle. To minimize this and possibly effect better use and more rapid improvement of the range, I suggest the use of a simple 3-pasture grazing system on the different management areas.

The formula for this system is shown below. It calls for subdivision of a management area into three pastures. Two of the pastures are grazed and one rested in a given year. Different pastures are grazed and rested each year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grazing Treatments</th>
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Seed ripe season
Mannock Peak Management Unit

I suggest the use of two or three separate 3-pasture systems in this unit. Each system would be grazed season long with a separate group of cattle. One system would involve the Catchment, Starlite, and West Fork pastures in what I am calling Management Area A. See the attached map.

To set up this system, enlarge the West Fork pasture by adding a portion of the Mannock Peak pasture. Build a lane across the southwest corner of the Starlite pasture so there is a direct connection between the Catchment and West Fork pastures.

The Mannock Peak pasture would not be part of the 3-pasture system. It would stand alone and be grazed each year after seed-ripe time.

In such a pasture layout the cattle would probably move from one pasture to another during the season without herding.

Management Area B consists of Unit 22, Birch Creek-Battlesnake, and Cedars pastures. I understand that Unit 22 is used as a calving pasture each year. If the Birch Creek-Battlesnake and Cedars pastures can be used for calving as well, then I suggest these two pastures together with Unit 22 be managed under the 3-treatment formula. One year out of three when the Birch Creek-Battlesnake pasture is rested, some or all of the cattle in one of the other two pastures would have to be gathered and moved through or around the Birch Creek-Battlesnake pasture to another pasture at seed-ripe time.

If the Birch Creek-Battlesnake and Cedars pastures cannot be used for calving, I suggest setting up the area covered by these pastures in one 3-pasture system and Unit 22 in another. The Cedars pasture would have to be split into two pastures. These would be used along with the Birch Creek-Battlesnake pasture to make up a 3-pasture system. Unit 22 would have to be fenced into 3 pastures.

Northeast Management Unit

This unit takes in the Stevens Peak Buckskin Basin, Yandell Mt. Dunn Basin, Higham Peak, and Fortmeuf pastures. It encompasses spring-fall, intermediate and summer ranges. The situation here is quite complex. Much time will be needed in planning management.

I suggest using a 3-pasture system on each of the three types of seasonal range. Plan the pasture layout so the cattle can move progressively uphill from pasture to pasture in springtime and downhill in the fall. The scheme for this plan is diagrammed on an attached sheet.

Each year the cattle would be grazed as follows: In springtime when feed was adequate, all the cattle grazed on the management unit would be placed in
the spring-fall pasture getting treatment A. Later at a comparable growth stage, the cattle would be allowed to move first into the intermediate range pasture getting treatment A and then into the summer range pasture getting this treatment. Pastures in each type of seasonal range getting treatment B would be opened to use at seed-ripe time. At this time on summer range all six pastures scheduled for grazing during the year could be used. The cattle could be allowed to graze back downhill through all these pastures in the fall.

Reseeding

Artificial seeding is needed on several areas, particularly on previously cultivated sites on spring-fall ranges. But I would not reseed until the need is established after a period of grazing management. Adequate forage may develop under management alone.

In the meantime I suggest making one or two acre trial plantings with desirable species. Plant rhizomatous grasses as well as bunchgrasses. Some likely rhizomatous species are: intermediate wheatgrass, pubescent wheatgrass, western wheatgrass, and beardless wildryegrass. Plant 4 or 5 species in a mixture. Also try drilling areas with and without ground preparation or control of plant competition.

Hayland Management

The hayfields I saw were quite weedy. The better hay species, grasses in particular, appeared to lack vigor.

I believe both the yield and quality of hay can be increased by cutting a portion of a field at seed-ripe time. The plants on this portion will have an opportunity to recover vigor and reseed and thus to compete more effectively with less desirable plants.

I suggest trials in which one-third of a field is cut at seed-ripe time and two-thirds at regular hay stage. Cut a different third of a field at seed-ripe time each year and in orderly rotation.

During my visit on the Reservation, I took photographs of some of the people I met. I am enclosing prints of some of these photographs. I thought you might like to have them. One is for Joyce Miles, the competent and lovely secretary in the Agency range office.

Sincerely,

A. L. Horman

A. L. HORMAY
Range Conservationist

Enclosures

cc: Charles Rants, BIA
SD, Idaho
Geo. Lea, Wash., D.C.
Management Scheme
Northeast Unit

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<th>Spring</th>
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Spring-Fall-Intermediate-Summer

Fort Hall
Indian Reservation

Handwritten Notes:
Memorandum

To:       Max Bruce, District Manager, Burley, Idaho
From:    A. L. Hormay, Range Conservationist, Berkeley

Subject: Management, Jack Pierce range

Following are a few suggestions on the management of the Jack Pierce range. About 40,000 acres are involved--20,000 acres BLM, 9,000 acres National Forest, and 11,000 acres private. Jack expressed a desire to get the entire acreage, including his private lands, under rest-rotation grazing management. This speaks well for rest-rotation grazing.

If plans materialize fully this range will be an important demonstration area for rest-rotation grazing and multiple use land management. It will attract range users, land managers and others interested in wildland management. The permittee and representatives of BLM, Forest Service, and perhaps other agencies will be present to explain management results.

As you know, Jack has already worked out and is operating several good rest-rotation grazing systems on this range. The areas under management and the types of rest-rotation grazing systems used are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Type of rest-rotation system</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pastures 2, 3, 4</td>
<td>3-treatment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pastures 5, 6</td>
<td>2-treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastures X, Y, Z and A</td>
<td>3-treatment (Pasture A used in conjunction)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The formulas for the 2- and 3-treatment systems are the following:

Two-treatment formula

A

<table>
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<tr>
<th>B</th>
<th>Rest</th>
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</table>
The land ownership pattern, existing fences, location of water, topography and similar factors, as well as vegetation and animal requirements determined the type of system used on a particular area.

Pasture I, which covers 10,787 acres, is not under management yet. The entire acreage is on BLM land. Pastures D and E cover 5,300 acres. They are on the National Forest and under general management. Following are my thoughts on the management of these BLM and National Forest areas.

Pasture I (BLM)

I suggest this area be put under a 3-treatment rest-rotation grazing system as soon as feasible, so the entire range is under management. This area is suitable mainly for spring, fall, and winter grazing. It is heavily deteriorated. Dense stands of halogeton cover much of it. The principal vegetation types are greasewood, shadscale, and sagebrush.

No doubt an appreciable portion of this range will have to be reseeded in time. As soon as the fences are in and management is started, I suggest making one or two acre trial plantings in the pastures with promising species to determine which species are adapted and will grow under the grazing system and to develop adequate planting methods.

Plant rhizomatous species as well as bunchgrasses. Some likely grasses are: western wheatgrass, pubescent wheatgrass, intermediate wheatgrass, beardless wildryegrass, Russian wildryegrass, Indian rice-grass, and alkali sacaton. Plant several species on a site in a mixture. Drill areas with and without ground preparation or control of plant competition.

Pastures D and E

These pastures are on the National Forest and are used in summer after seed-ripe time each year. I believe that earlier and better use can be made of these areas and that the range can be improved more rapidly and protected better under a rest-rotation grazing program.
I suggest consideration be given to setting up two 3-treatment rest-rotation grazing systems on areas involving these and adjoining pastures. System I could be set up in pastures D and B and System II in pasture E, making use of pastures C and F or perhaps pastures C and X in conjunction. Pastures C and F or C and X would be managed under the 2-treatment formula. A layout of the two proposed systems and the location of new fences are shown on the attached map. Cattle in System I could be allowed to graze in System II in the latter part of the summer if desired. I hope practical 3-treatment rest-rotation grazing systems can be developed for these National Forest areas.

Normally I do not recommend that cultural treatments be applied before grazing management is in effect for a period of years. However, I believe near future spraying of sagebrush is needed in the Y pasture to even up the grazing capacities of the X, Y, Z pastures.

I would like to see all the flexibility inherent in rest-rotation grazing management applied on this range. Jack has adequate knowledge of rest-rotation grazing to do this.

Under rest-rotation grazing livestock can be turned into pastures getting treatment A any time of the year. However, in springtime, turn-out much before the flowerstalks of the key grasses are in mid-boot will result in reduced grazing capacity for the season. About the only critical date is seed-ripe time. Try not to have livestock turned into pastures getting treatment B (in a 3-treatment formula) until seed is ripe in ravine bottoms at mid-altitude in the pastures. The user can handle his stock in the pastures any way he wishes, but should do what is reasonable and practical to reduce concentrated use and trampling.

I am enclosing a copy of this memorandum for the Forest Service.

R. L. Harms

Enclosures
Memorandum

To: State Director, New Mexico

From: A. L. Hormay, Range Conservationist, Berkeley

Subject: Rest-rotation training

I have marked the weeks of September 21 - October 2, 1970 on my calendar for a visit to New Mexico.

L. Hormay

cc: Geo. Lea (330) W.O.
November 7, 1969

Memorandum

To: Chief, Division of Range Management (330) Wash., D. C.

From: A. L. Hormay, Range Conservationist, Berkeley

Subject: Monthly Report, October 1969

As I reported last month I finished a series of rest-rotation grazing management training sessions in Utah, in Cedar City on October 3. From there I went to the Burley District in Idaho and visited the Jack Pierce range near Malta and the Goose Creek Allotment near Oakley.

The Jack Pierce range totals about 40,000 acres—20,000 acres BLM, 9,000 acres Forest Service, and 11,000 acres private. Mr. Pierce is working to get the entire acreage, including his private lands, under rest-rotation grazing management. Rest-rotation grazing systems are already set up and operating on a major portion of this range. I made suggestions on the management of the remainder of the range in a report to the District Manager this week. In another report I made suggestions on the management of the Goose Creek Allotment.

I returned to Berkeley on October 9 and since then spent most of my time writing reports. I sent you a copy of one I prepared for the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, Idaho.

Enclosure:
Travel Schedule
Mr. A. L. Hormay  
Range Conservationist  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
P. O. Box 245  
Berkeley, California 94701  

Re: 4112

Dear Mr. Hormay:

Thanks for your help in editing my story on rest-rotation grazing. I had to rework it in a hurry after I returned to the office but hope it is o.k. A copy of our November issue is enclosed for your information. The story appears on page 6.

Sincerely yours,

(Miss) Gladys Mike  
Associate Editor

P.S. You will note I did not use the photographs and am returning them to you, herewith.
Mr. August L. Hormay  
Range Conservationist  
c/o University of California  
Berkeley, California 94720  

Dear Mr. Hormay:

Curt McVee previously contacted you about scheduling a training session here in Alaska on the rest-rotation grazing system. Unfortunately, we have not been able to establish a date for the session before this because of the commitment of our men to fire and other emergency projects most of this year.

It appears at this time that a training session for the week of March 23 would work out well for us if it fits in with your schedule.

March would not be a suitable time to inspect our grazing areas because of snow cover and poor weather conditions. As we get further along in our planning, we would expect to invite you along on a field examination of our ranges.

Please advise if the suggested date for the training will fit in with your plans.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Acting State Director
Memorandum

To: State Director, Arizona

From: Director, DSC

Subject: Rest Rotation Range Management Workshop

As you know, "Gus" Hormay has been traveling throughout the Bureau for the past 3 years presenting an excellent workshop on the principles of multiple use management and specifically how proper formulation of livestock grazing systems will contribute to multiple use management. Many states in this service area as well as in the Portland service area have had him return for repeat performances as well as individual problem-solving cases. The progress most states are making in the Bureau's AMP program, quality of the plans prepared, and the remarkable results from management attest to the important value of these personal contacts with Gus.

Rest rotation workshops presented by Gus are 3-day sessions for Bureau employees. At the present time his schedule is completely full through July 1970, but we urge you to make arrangements to have him present his workshop for Arizona District personnel at the earliest mutually convenient time. Since he will be in attendance at the Range Management Workshop in Santa Fe, November 17-21, this would be an opportune occasion for your personnel to discuss the matter with him.

cc: Director (330)

A. L. Hormay
MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF STATE GRAZING DISTRICTS

22ND ANNUAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 14-15, 1969
SIDNEY, MONTANA
HEADQUARTERS: LALONDE HOTEL

PROGRAM:

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14:

1 PM: TOUR:
NORTHERN PLAINS RESEARCH CENTER
HOLLY SUGAR PLANT
TENDERLOIN FEEDLOTS
RETURN TO SIDNEY 5 PM.

6 PM: SOCIAL HOUR AT LALONDE HOTEL BANQUET ROOM:
SPONSORS:
RICHLAND NATIONAL BANK, SIDNEY
SIDNEY NATIONAL BANK

7 PM: BANQUET, NO-HOST, AT LALONDE HOTEL
MASTER OF CEREMONIES, REG DAVIES & FEATURING BANQUET SPEAKER
BILL BELL, NORTHEAST MONTANA’S FAMOUS HUMORIST, RANCHER &
PLANETER. SUBJECT: "A FUNNY THING HAPPENED TO ME ON THE WAY TO
THE CORRAL."

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15:

8 AM: PLACE: LALONDE HOTEL
GUS HORMAY & REST-ROTATION GRAZING
Mr. Hormay, developer of the rest-rotation system of grazing
management, is with the Bureau of Land Management now, but
conducted his study over a period of 36 years while with the
Forest Service Forest and Range Experiment Station in North-
eastern California.

NOON: NO-HOST LUNCHEON, LALONDE HOTEL.

1 PM: BUSINESS MEETING (Includes election of 2 regular directors to
2 year terms and 1 director at large).

2:30 PM PANEL DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC LANDS PROBLEMS WITH REG DAVIES,
LEWIS ARCHAMBEAULT AND GENE ETCHART, ALL MEMBERS OF THE ANCA
PUBLIC LANDS COUNCIL.

3:30 PM: REPORTS FROM:
MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION
OTHERS.

4 PM: ADJOURN:

1969 Board of Directors: Elected Term Expires
Reg Davies, Chinook Pres. 1968 1969 (Hold-over Dir.)
Ronald Brady, Winnett Dir. at Large 1968 1970 ('70 Pres.)
Dean Kienlenberger, Dodson Director 1967 1969
John Grierson, Hysham " 1967 1969

THE SIDNEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE SMITH CREEK COOPERATIVE STATE GRAZING
DISTRICT HAVE BEEN A TREMENDOUS HELP IN SETTING UP THE 69 CONVENTION AND
SHOULD HAVE CREDIT FOR ITS SUCCESS. THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WILL BE SERVING
COFFEE AT THE 10 AM. COFFEE BREAK SATURDAY MORNING, AND ALSO HAVE MADE ALL
THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FRIDAY TOUR. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU IN SIDNEY!
Mr. Gus Hormay  
Range Management Advisor  
Bureau of Land Management  
Berkeley, California  

Dear Mr. Hormay:

The Association has asked me to express the thanks and appreciation of our group to you for making the trip up here to Montana to give us the presentation on grazing at Sidney last Saturday.

Everyone I talked to, including the board of directors felt they had learned a great deal in the short period of time you had for the presentation and our only regret is that we couldn't come up with a bigger audience for you, especially more of our younger members as they are the ones who need more tools for the future. I guess we should have told them the state districts were in grave trouble, we seem to get them out better if we scare them. But it has gotten so there are meetings and workshops of all varieties all winter long around the country and also some in the spring, so people get immune to meetings. We did put out several hundred of my reports on the training session I attended at Billings last year, and gave it a good airing on the convention program last year.

We hope you don't feel that your time and trouble was wasted and maybe like you say, it will take time to get the range back to a suitable climax, in time we will get the stock man educated in ways to do this. We certainly appreciated efforts.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Miriam Edmunds, Secy.
# Room Assignment List

## Range Management Workshop
November 17-21, 1969
La Posada de Santa Fe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Room No.</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Allen, Myron H.</td>
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