United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

April 1, 1976

James S. Berlin, Supervisor
Lassen National Forest
Susanville, California

Dear Jim,

I'm sorry circumstances have prevented us from meeting. I hope to correct this situation the next time I'm in Susanville.

As you know, I was in Susanville last week and conducted a technical training session on rest-rotation land management for representatives of government agencies including the Forest Service, BLM, SCS, Extension Service and California and Nevada Fish and Game Departments. After the meeting I reviewed the situation on the Harvey Valley cattle allotment with Fred Alberico, Chet Cannon, Dave Kohut and George Marsters at Fred's request.

As you know, the allotment has been deteriorating at a rapid rate the last several years. Both the Forest and the permittee have been concerned and knew that an adjustment in management would have to be made soon. The range deteriorated primarily because it was not rested from use enough nor at the right time.

The Forest and the permittee have been thinking of shifting to a grazing system that was simpler and still provided adequate rest. Both have been thinking of a 3-pasture system. We discussed the formula for the system in depth. It fits the area. It provides adequate rest. I recommend it be used. Roughly half of the existing interior fences (10 miles) could be done away with in time in a 3-pasture set-up.

We briefly explored the possibility of forming three pastures with existing fences. The need is for pastures that are balanced in grazing capacity and are located so animals can move from pasture to pasture without crossing an intervening one. In the short time we had we did not come up with answers and it appeared that some 3 or 4 miles of new fence would be needed.
2.

Management could be started with pastures that have some imbalance in grazing capacities. Balance could be rectified later and more realistically than now following use of the pastures. Acceptable pastures to start the program can be formed with existing fences. One set-up is shown on the enclosed map. There are others. Choice of the two pastures to be used the first year could be left to the permittee.

I suggest you decide on a set-up, not involving new fences, and start with the 3-pasture program as soon as possible. Starting this spring, some two months from now, would not be too soon. Further land deterioration must be stopped as soon as possible.

I will be glad to help you any way I can to improve management on the Harvey Valley allotment. I would like to discuss the allotment with you on the ground.

Sincerely,

A. L. HORMAY
Range Conservationist

Enclosure

cc: FS R5 Range Management
BLM DSC 300
Memorandum

To: Gus Hormay, Range Conservationist

From: Acting District Manager, Billings, Montana

Subject: Mystic-Pryor Spur Multiple-Use Management Plan

Attached is the above-mentioned management plan you requested by memorandum dated February 19, 1976.

[Signature]

Attachment