Forest Service obligation and objectives

Multiple-use management of renewable resources

High level, sustained yield production of resources in the best interest of present and future generations and the national goal.

Maintain land production capacity and the quality of the natural environment for perpetuity.
Grass Lake Klamath Forest acquisition
Renewable resource values
Timber, wildlife, livestock, recreation
and esthetic values
Grass Lake basin high value waterfowl production area
Game and wildlife on upland area
Deer, elk — — — —

Vegetation and soil condition on basin area and on upland cutover-trimber
Vegetation density and composition resulting from selective grazing
Indicator plants

First priority management action
Change method of grazing
- From continuous to rest rotation
RR grazing is designed to improve and maintain the vegetation cover on the ground.

Range condition resulting from past slides: grazing - continuous grazing

Results with RR

Meadow
Riparian
Upland
Grassland
Shrubs
Trees

RIR Theory

Formula for grass base
3 treatments (3 pastures)
Pasture layout and treatments area not used by livestock.
Before reg. on problem area

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Amount of rest needed for
1. Vigor 2 growing seasons
2. Seed prod. Until "seed-ripe time"
3. Reprod. estab. 1 year.

Number of pastures = number of treatments = 3
STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Office Memorandum

TO: All Regional Supervisors
FROM: Joseph L. Egan
SUBJECT: REST/ROTATION GRAZING AND MULTIPLE-USE LAND MANAGEMENT

DATE: November 13, 1981

Received about Nov. 16

You are aware that for the past several years I have been actively pursuing the implementation of a rest/rotation livestock grazing program as described by Hormay on lands in and adjacent to the CMR. Directors Wambach, Colbo and Flynn have officially supported this activity and have specifically approved my participation in this activity.

Without going into great detail, several important features of Hormay's rest/rotation system need to be mentioned. In all cases I am referring to the rest/rotation system described by Hormay. I am not talking about the prostituted "rest/rotation" systems that have usually been implemented. Those "systems" are not the system described by Hormay and demonstrate that very few people really understand his rest/rotation grazing and multiple-use land management.

One of the first mistakes commonly made when these prostituted versions of rest/rotation are contemplated is the notion that sagebrush must be sprayed because Hormay said so. On page 23, paragraph 6 of Hormay's 1970 publication, "Principles of Rest/Rotation Grazing and Multiple-Use Land Management" he states, "Before applying cultural treatments, manage the range [under rest/rotation] for a few years to determine the exact need for the treatments." During many recent conversations with Hormay--both in and out of the field--he has told me that he questions the use of cultural treatments at all.

Another generally misunderstood feature of rest/rotation is its primary objective, namely that "Under rest/rotation grazing management, all plants - forbs, grasses, shrubs and trees - are provided opportunity to grow and reproduce." In other words, the cow is simply the vehicle that helps existing soil, water and climatic conditions produce the kind of vegetation the site is capable of supporting. Rest/rotation won't produce the kind of vegetation that once grew on the area if the area has lost appreciable amounts of topsoil because of past livestock grazing abuses, or other detrimental practices. Rest/rotation is not capable of producing miracles. It is capable of promoting plant succession.

The primary feature of rest/rotation is to REST the plants on the area, whatever they are, so that they may carry out their growth and reproductive processes, taking into account and, in fact, providing for other uses on the area.
Plants must be rested (not grazed by livestock) for two (2) years during the green (growing) period following grazing. Two years rest requires a minimum of three pastures.

When rest/rotation as described by Horman is implemented, riparian areas need not be fenced to exclude livestock use. The Matador Livestock Company in Beaverhead County implemented a three-pasture system in 1975 or 1976. Bureau of Land Management lands are included in the system. I saw this land about 1965 or 1966. It was severely deteriorated because of past poor livestock management. Riparian areas were really in sad shape.

In the summer of 1980 I was on this area with Horman and others and the improvement in this entire range under rest/rotation management was incredible. The riparian areas had grown up with vegetation to the point the creeks were hardly visible. This improvement was accomplished without excluding livestock from the riparian areas!

Now then to get to the real intent of this letter. You recall in September of 1978 Horman, supported by the Grazing Districts Division of DNR, the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, the Montana Wildlife Federation, et al, presented at Glasgow, an abbreviated training session to a group of ranchers associated with livestock grazing in and around the CMR. A major objective of that meeting was to select about five representative grazing individuals and/or entities to conduct their operation under rest/rotation. In October of 1978, five such entities were selected and in that month Horman, representatives from BLM, CMR and myself visited these five ranches. They were: Wittmeyer Grazing Association (represented by Sever Enkrud), Gene Barnard Ranch, Weiderrick Brothers Ranch, Dan Rindall Ranch and Buffington Ranch. The first three are on the north side of the Missouri while the last two are on the south side. These operators use parts of the CMR, some BLM land, some state sections plus their own land in their grazing program and agreed to try rest/rotation in their operation.

In March of 1979 the group with Horman as their spokesman, presented the proposition to Messrs. Zaidlicz and Rounds (then State BLM Director and USFWS Area Manager respectively) asking they be allowed to at least try rest/rotation in their livestock operation including any BLM, CMR and/or state land involved in their operation.

Both Rounds and Zaidlicz were not expected to respond on the day the presentation was given (March 9, 1979) in Billings, but were expected within a couple of weeks to let the group know whether or not the proposition was acceptable.

In due time both Rounds and Zaidlicz responded which went approximately like this: "We understand rest/rotation and the proposition is altogether reasonable, however...," and the matter was dropped.
2977 Barbours Ln.
Redding 76 002
11-23-81

Dear Mrs. —

Here is a map which should furnish the Mc Plot info you need. Inclusive dates of their installation are 1938 thru 1947. Jim Tech in the Redding office has lots of copies in a B.W. file in his office. I would guess that there is a fairly good definition of the cutting methods in Mary Abbot's office in Berk.

I expect to see you on Thurs., Dec. 3, and Lydia and I would like to have you take dinner with us that eve. If you can't make that, how about lunch?

Regards — Don Gordon