

Lost Creek Grazing Allotment
Allotment Management Plan
Sullivan Lake Ranger District
Colville National Forest

Plan prepared by

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Date

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Mar 26, 1980
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3-27-80
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6/23/80
Date

I. OBJECTIVES

These management objectives were developed for the Environmental Assessment Report.

- A. Protect fisheries habitat.
- B. Maintain or improve range conditions.
- C. Maintain the stability of ranches and farms affected.
- D. Protect threatened and endangered plants and animals.
- E. Minimize investment cost.

II. ACTION

A. Permitted Use and Grazing Capacity

The total capacity for the Lost Creek Allotment is 153 AUM's. The grazing will normally begin on or after June 1, based on range readiness, and end on or before August 31, based on proper utilization. Thus 51 cow/calf pair for a three month season *will graze on the allotment*

UPPER PASTURE UNIT

<u>FOREST SERVICE LAND</u>	<u>ACRES</u>	<u>PRODUCTION</u>	<u>PROPER USE</u>	<u>AUM's</u>
Meadows	30	1500	.5	22
Timber	80	230	.2	3
<u>STATE LAND</u>				
Meadow	70	1500	.5	52
Timber	215	230	.2	10
Total=				88

LOWER PASTURE UNIT

FOREST SERVICE LAND

Meadow	90	1500	.5	67
Timber	380	230	.2	17
Total =				82

Total AUM's for allotment 171

10 percent available AUM's reserved for wildlife - 17 AUM's

Total AUM's available to cattle - 154

The grazing permit prior to this plan allowed 39 cow/calf pair on Forest Service owned lands, 8 cow/calf pair on State owned lands and 3 cow/calf pair on Burlington Northern owned lands for a four month season.

Summarized

Forest Service	156	AUM's
State	32	AUM's
Burlington Northern	12	AUM's

Total 200 AUM's

Through range analysis, it has been determined that the State land is actually supporting 60 AUM's where as Burlington Northern is supporting 0. It is therefore recommended that the permittee maintain his state lease and drop the Burlington Northern lease.

C. Management System

The management system to be applied is a deferred rotation system. The following is a schematic diagram based on 153 AUM grazing capacity.

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>UPPER PASTURE</u>	<u>LOWER PASTURE</u>
1	June 1 - July 15	July 15 - August 31
2	July 15 - August 31	June 1 - July 15
3	June 1 - July 15	July 15 - August 31

D. Range Improvements

1. Structural Improvements

<u>DATE</u>	<u>IMPROVEMENT NAME & LOCATION</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>	<u>CONST. RESPONSIBILITY</u>			<u>FACILITY</u>	
			<u>EQUIP.</u>	<u>LABOR</u>	<u>MAINT.</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>SIZE</u>
1972	Allotment Bdry. fence W $\frac{1}{2}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ through SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 2 T36N, R42E.	USFS	Permittee	Permittee	Permittee	Barbed Wire	.7 mi.
1978	Drift fence and fish pole gate, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 7 T36N, R43E.	USFS	USFS	Permittee & YACC	Permittee & YACC	Barbed Wire	.5 mi.
1979	Drift fence extension, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 7, T36N, R43E.	USFS	USFS	Permittee & YACC	Permittee & YACC	Barbed Wire	.25 mi

2. Maintenance Program

A. All structural improvements are the maintenance responsibility of the permittee.

B. There are no ^{additional} structural improvements planned for this allotment.

III. Monitoring

A. Vegetation and Soil

1. Range Readiness

The development of the following species will indicate the earliness or lateness of a spring season. These growth stages represent the earliest that use can begin on the range.

Common Name

Grasses

Kentucky bluegrass

Poa pratensis

panicle fully opened

Red top

Agrostis alba

in the boot

Forbs

Dandelion

Taraxacum officinale full bloom

Shrubs

Service berry

Amelanchier alnifolia in bloom

Snow berry

Symphoricarpos spp fully leafed and budded

2. Soil Readiness

Sites that are normally dry should be fairly dry and firm. Wet meadows should have most of the area dry enough to carry stock without breaking the sod and destroying the cover.

3. Production and Utilization Studies

In key areas within each pasture unit, production and utilization measurements will be taken. Sixty to seventy percent use on Kentucky bluegrass will be considered proper use.

When proper use is reached, livestock will be moved to the next pasture unit.

4. Stream banks

Inspection of riparian zones of Lost Creek will be made once a year during or after the cattle are on the allotment. Trampling damage to streambanks, overgrazing, or other detrimental impact will be reported.

5. Noxious Weeds

Locations of spotted and diffuse knapweed has invaded the dry ridges and roadsides in the northeast corner of the allotment. Hounds tongue and Canadian thistle appear to be increasing in the bluegrass meadows. These and other weeds that are a concern to the range management program will be noted on a district weed map. Areas which require treatment will be included in the forest noxious weed control program in 1981.

6. Condition and Trend Photo Transects

Two permanent transects, one in the upper pasture and one in the lower pasture unit, will be set up in 1980. These will be measured and photographed every five years.

B. Livestock Management

1. Salt and Supplement Locations

Salt will be placed in a box or other structure off the ground in locations agreed upon by the Range Conservationist and permittee.

2. Numbers and Distribution of Livestock

Periodic checks will be made while cattle are on the range. The permittee will be notified if cattle are not in the designated pasture.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT INVENTORY

LOST CREEK ALLOTMENT

COLVILLE NATIONAL FOREST

Imp. No.	Name & Kind of Project	Location	Units	Year & Kind of Construction	Condition	Main-tenance	Owner-ship
1	drift fence	T36N, R42E Sec 2 W $\frac{1}{2}$		1972 barbed wire fence	Good	permittee	Forest Service
2	drift fence	T36N, R43E Sec 6 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$		1978 barbed wire drift fence	Good	permittee	Forest Service