

MILL CREEK CATTLE & HORSE ALLOTMENT
ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN
NEWPORT RANGER DISTRICT
COLVILLE NATIONAL FOREST

PLAN PREPARED BY Davis R Pouch 4-1-80
ORA Date

PLAN PREPARED BY Mary Lou Driver 4-28-80
Permittee Date

PLAN RECOMMENDED BY George Lush 4-1-80
District Ranger Date

PLAN APPROVED BY Robert Steverson 5/15/80
Forest Supervisor Date

I. IDENTIFICATION

This plan provides direction for accomplishing and monitoring management objectives for the Mill Creek Allotment. It is a working tool for the Forest Service and the permittee. The plan is based upon the management objectives and decisions reached in the Environmental Assessment. The field work was completed by Cindy Talbott, Newport District Ranger Conservationist and Eric Colter, a senior at WSU studying range management. The plan was written by David Poucher with cooperation from the permittee, Mary Lou Driver, and Ken Draheim, Diamond International.

II. OBJECTIVES

These management objectives were developed by the District Interdisciplinary Team for the Environmental Assessment.

- A. Implement an intensive grazing system. Obtain management level D (FRES) for the Mill Creek Allotment by 1983.
- B. Minimize soil erosion due to grazing. Cattle will be turned on the high elevation meadows in August. Soil and vegetation will be ready for cattle use in the high elevation meadows by August.
- C. Maximize forage utilization without damage to resources.
All portions of the allotment will be grazed. Access to secondary range on lower portion of allotment will become available as Diamond builds its road system in this area.
- D. Maintain stability of local ranches.
The on date of cattle has been changed to July 1 rather than June 1. The number of head has increased for the shorter season.

5. Plan should be in agreement with private land owners' management plans. This system of grazing the lower portion of the allotment with an on date of July 1 is agreeable with Diamond International. They have suggested that during the 1980 and 1981 year that this portion of the allotment be rested. This will enable them to finish their logging and road building operation.

III. ACTION

A. Permitted use and Grazing Capacity

The term permit for the Mill Creek Allotment is presently 320 AUM's 80 head for a four month season, normally beginning on or about June 1 and ending September 30, based on range readiness and proper utilization. This season has been changed to a three month season normally beginning on or about July 1 and ending September 30 based on range readiness and proper utilization.

ESTIMATED GRAZING CAPACITY

Pasture	Type	Condition	Acres	Forage Production lbs/Acre	Proper Use	AUM's
* Lower portion of allotment	Timbered	Satisfactory	2212	150	.4	133
N. Baldy High Elev. Mdws.	Grass	Fair	371	1000	.5	186
						319

* Approximately 75% of this is secondary range now. With Diamond International road building and logging the above represents an estimate of what will be available from the 1982 season on.

Presently there are two permittees on the allotment. Mrs. Miller has taken three consecutive years of non use. If she forfeits her permit term numbers should be given first priority to Mrs. Driver who should be allowed to fill in to the recommended stocking.

A 1000 lbs. of feed was used to estimate an AUM.

Ownership breakdown by AUM's. Primary range and secondary range that will be primary after access is made available was considered in determining this breakdown.

	Total Acres	1 ^o now	1 ^o after access	AUM's
U.S.F.S.	7,890	332	315	185
Diamond International	7,360		1,529	92
Burlington Northern	3,290	39	119	27
State of Washington	1,440		77	5
Other Private	840		172	10
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*Estimate subject to change during the monitoring period.

The permittee presently has a lease with only Diamond International. The permittee currently has no desire to graze the other private ownership.

B. Management System

The first two years of this system (1980 & 1981) the lower portion of the allotment will be rested. This will allow the road construction and logging operations to go ahead unhampered by cattle. During this time the permittee will be looking at fence locations to stop cattle from getting off the range on the S.W. portion of the allotment. 80 head will be allowed on the allotment (No. Baldy portion) from August 1 - September 30.

PASTURE	# HEAD	LENGTH OF TIME
Year 1 - 1980		
Lower Portion	0	0
No. Baldy Meadows	80	Aug 1 - Sept 30
Year 2 - 1981		
Lower Portion	0	0
No. Baldy Meadows	80	Aug 1 - Sept 30
Year 3 - 1982		
Lower Portion	80	July 1 - July 30
No. Baldy Meadows	80	Aug 1 - Sept 30

Range readiness and utilization will be carefully monitored. Cattle will be allowed to stay on the range later if forage is available. Number of animals will be adjusted to fully utilize the available forage while still improving range condition.

C. Range Improvements

1. Development Program

- a. In cooperation with the private land owners permittee will build a drift fence along a portion of the west boundary of the allotment where cattle are getting out.
- b. F.S. will continue ORV control fence at No. Baldy
- c. F.S. will fence five springs for protection of the water source up on North Baldy.

Nonstructural Improvements,

56 acres of the North Baldy Meadow will be fertilized by the F.S. to inhibit soil erosion. This is a continuation for the soil stabilization program that was started in 1978.

2. Maintenance Program

All structural improvements except cattle guards and wings are the maintenance responsibility of the permittees. This includes the buck and pole fences as well as wire fences,

3. Existing Range Structures

- a. Cattle guard and 0.3 mile of drift fence NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 28 T35N, R44E.
- b. Double wooden watering trough. SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 17, T35N, R45E.
- c. Double wooden watering trough SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 17, T35N, R45E.

IV. MONITORING

A. Vegetation and Soil

1. Range Readiness

Range readiness will depend upon the high elevation meadows. Cattle will be placed on the lower portion of the allotment first. They will graze that portion of the allotment until the high elevation meadows are ready. No cattle will be allowed to graze the high elevation meadows until after the flowering of

green fescue, Idaho fescue and bluebunch wheatgrass. This is anticipated to occur around the first of August.

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 Utilization Studies

The key areas that will be used for production utilization studies and range readiness determination are:

North Baldy High Elevation Meadow

T35N, R45E, Sec 17 NW 1/4 NW 1/4

T35N, R45E, Sec 17 NE 1/4 SW 1/4

Cattle will be removed when proper use on key species is reached.

Key Species

Proper Use

Green fescue

50%

Idaho fescue

50%

bluebunch wheatgrass

50%

4. Condition/Trend Photo Transects

There are three permanent photo transects. C2, T1 & T2 C3, T1 & T2 C4, T1 & T2. All three were read in 1979. These transects should be taken every five years.

5. Noxious Weeds

Location of spotted and diffuse knapweed, Canadian thistle, dalmation toadflax, houndstongue, plumeless thistle, oxeye daisy, or other weeds that are a concern in the range management program will be noted on a District weed map. Areas which require herbicide treatment will be included in the Forest noxious weed control program.

6. Soil Erosion

Continued monitoring of soil erosion on the North Baldy high elevation meadow will continue. Livestock numbers and utilization may vary due to this condition.

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 Forest Service and the permittee.

2. Numbers and Distribution of Livestock

Periodic checks will be made while cattle are on the range and the permittee will be notified if cattle are not in the designated pasture or over utilization is occurring.

C. Structural Improvements

1. Proposed Location

During the 1980 grazing season the proposed fence location along the S.W. boundary of the allotment will be located. An on going commitment is made to identify additional improvements.

2. Condition and Maintenance

Twice yearly checks for condition and maintenance on structural improvements will be made prior to the cattle on date and after the off date to see that improvements are ready for winter. Water troughs must be drained.

R44E

R45E

T35N

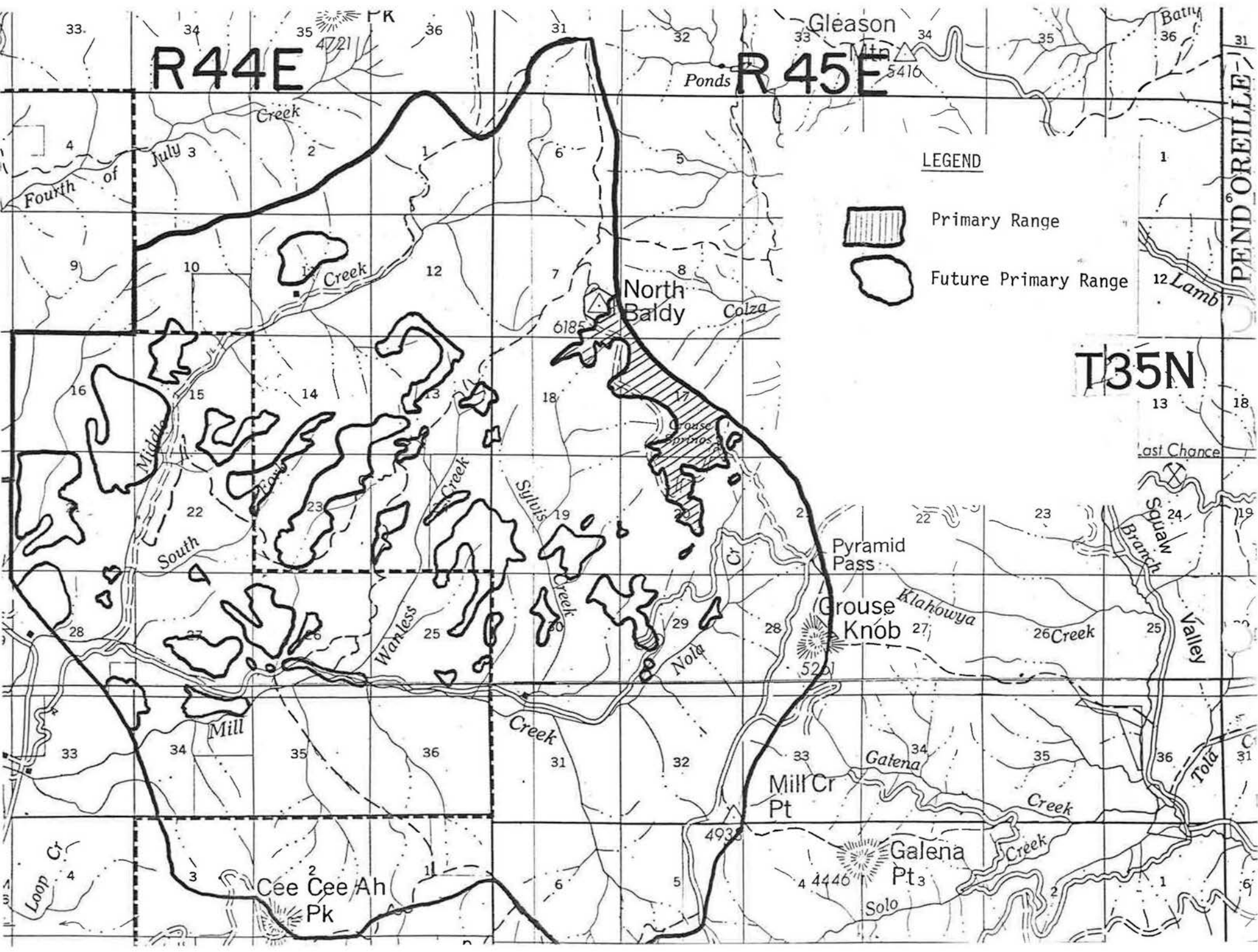
PEND OREILLE

LEGEND



Primary Range

Future Primary Range



Creek

Ponds

Gleason

Batty

Fourth of July

Creek

North Baldy

Colza

Lamb

Midale

South

Warless

Sillbis

Pyramid Pass

Grouse Knob

Klahowya

Creek

Squaw Branch

Valley

Mill

Creek

Mill Cr Pt

Galena

Creek

Tola

Cee Cee Ah Pk

Galena Pt

Solo

R44E

R45E

T35N

PEND OREILLE

LEGEND

LAND OWNERSHIP



Primary Range



Future Primary Range



Forest Service



Diamond International



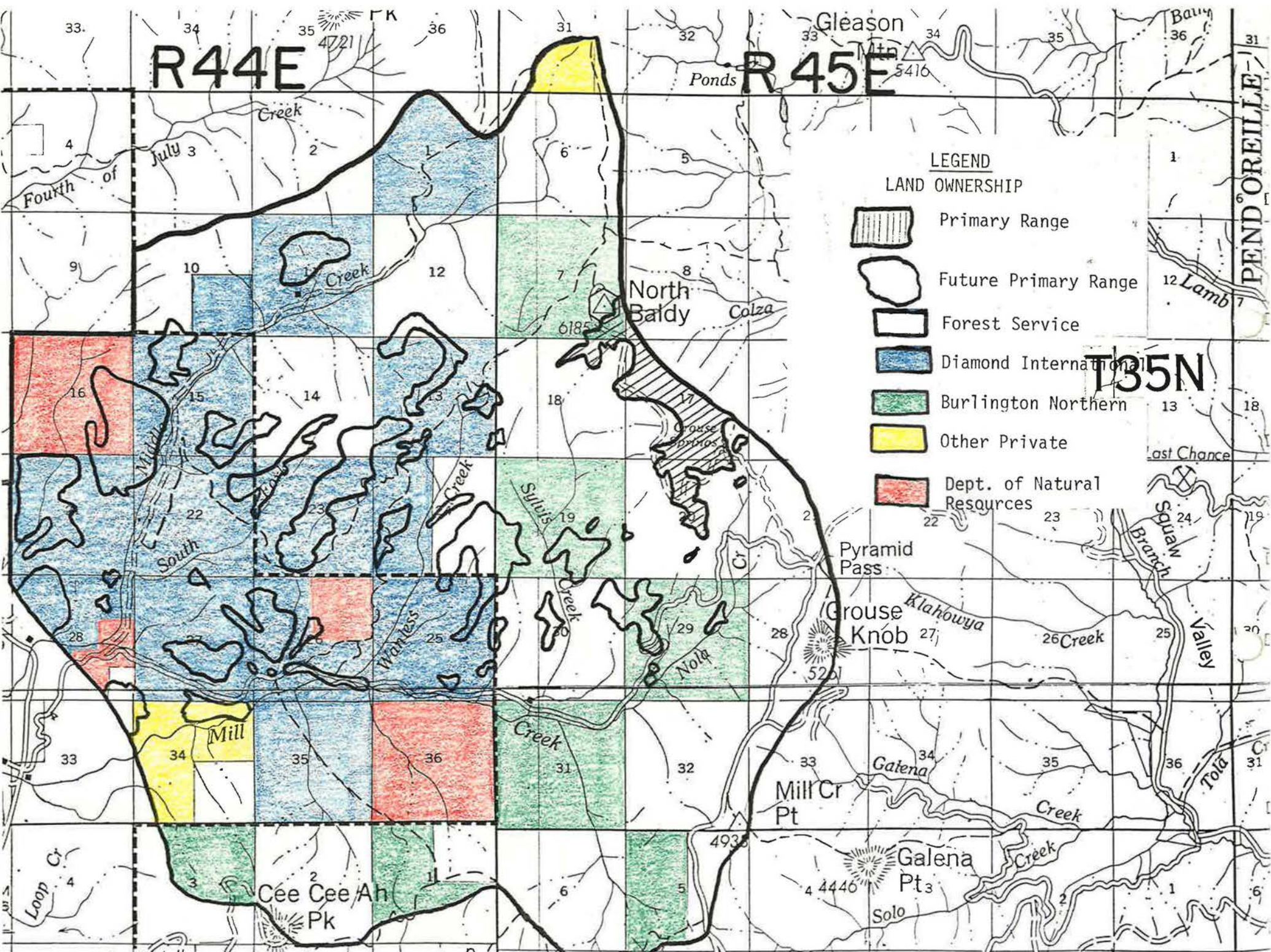
Burlington Northern



Other Private



Dept. of Natural Resources



R44E

R 45E

T35N

PEND OREILLE

LEGEND

IMPROVEMENTS



Primary Range



Future Primary Range



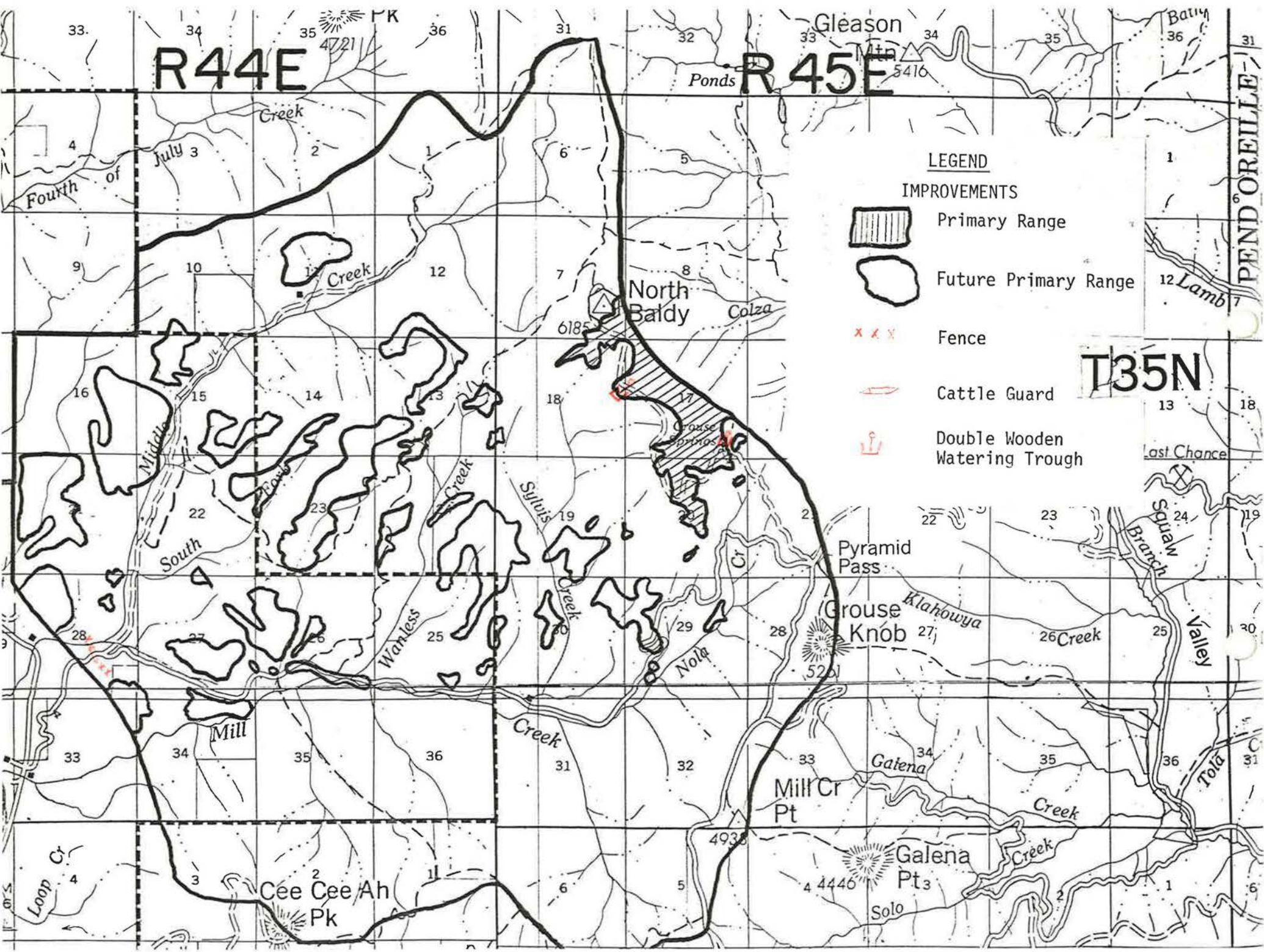
Fence



Cattle Guard



Double Wooden Watering Trough



Creek

July 3

Fourth of

Creek

North Baldy

Colza

16

15

14

South

23

22

25

Sylvia

Creek

29

Nola

Pyramid Pass

Grouse Knob

Klahowya

26

Creek

Last Chance

Square

Branch

25

Valley

Mill

Creek

Mill Cr Pt

Gatena

Creek

Galena Pt

Creek

Cee Cee Ah Pk

Solo

31

Tola

Creek