

ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Allotment Name Tiger-Muddy

Ranger District
And Forest Sullivan Lake, Colville National Forest

Prepared by Range Conservationist Date

Accepted by Permittee Date

Recommended by District Ranger Date

Approved by Forest Supervisor Date

I. OBJECTIVES

The following management objectives were established for the Tiger-Muddy Allotment.

- A. Minimize damage to timber stand regeneration in plantations.
- B. Maintain riparian zones and water quality.
- C. Economics - cost effective.

II. ACTION

A. Permitted Use and Grazing Capacity

The term permit number for the Tiger-Muddy allotment is 174 pair for a four month season, or 696 AUMs. This allows for 669 AUMs on Forest Service land and 27 AUMs on private land. There is a potential for increase following a successful implementation and monitoring of a deferred rotation system. Several years will be needed to adjust and firm up grazing capacity estimates.

Implementation of a deferred rotation system is dependant on the construction of range improvements described under the proposed range improvement section of this report. Until such time as these improvements are installed, a season-long grazing system will be used. Grazing use will normally begin on or after June first, based on range readiness. Cattle will be released onto the Tiger Hill portion of the allotment and will range over both Tiger Hill and Muddy Creek. Around August first, 100 pair will be moved into one of the two pasture units in Tiger Meadows, and will remain for approximately one month, or until proper utilization is reached. At this time the 100 pair will be moved to the second pasture unit of Tiger Meadows and will be grazed for one month or until proper utilization is reached. Cattle will then be removed from the allotment.

B. Pasture Unit Grazing Capacities

Muddy Creek Pasture Unit Forest Service Land Primary Meadow

<u>ACRES</u>	<u>PRODUCTION</u>	<u>PROPER USE</u>	<u>AUMs</u>
100	850	.6	51
53	1000	.6	32
35	2300	.6	48
30	2000	.6	36
16	2350	.6	23
32	1180	.6	23

266

Primary Timber

639	200	.2	23
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State School Land
Primary Timber

25	200	.2	1
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Private Land
Primary Timber

98	200	.2	4
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	Total	243
Less 10% for Wildlife =		219 AUMs

Tiger-Hill Pasture Unit
Forest Service Land
Primary Meadows

<u>ACRES</u>	<u>PRODUCTION</u>	<u>PROPER USE</u>	<u>AUMs</u>
67	1000	.6	40
191	800	.6	92
4	400	.6	1
6	4000	.6	14
18	3000	.6	33
16	3500	.6	39

Primary Timber

335	200	.2	1
20	400	.2	2

State Land
Primary Meadow

13	1000	.6	8
19	800	.6	9

Primary Timber

14	200	2	1
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	Total	246
Less 10% for Wildlife =		222 AUMs

Tiger Meadows Pasture Unit
Primary Meadow
Forest Service Land

135	3500	.6	283
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	Total	283
Less 10% for Wildlife =		255 AUMs

C. Management System

The chosen management system for this allotment is a three pasture deferred rotation system. This system provides for alternating the time of use for each pasture unit. Cattle will be turned onto one pasture unit at range readiness and allowed to graze until proper utilization is reached. The cattle will then be moved to the second pasture unit, grazed until proper utilization is reached and then moved to the third pasture unit. When proper utilization has been reached in the third pasture, unit cattle will be removed from the allotment.

The following is a rotation schedule for this system. The dates are only examples of when the ranges are normally expected to be ready. Actual turn-on dates and movement of cattle will depend on range readiness.

	<u>Muddy Creek Pasture Unit</u>	<u>Tiger Hill Pasture Unit</u>	<u>Tiger Meadow Pasture Unit</u>
Year 1	6/1 - 7/7	7/7 - 8/15	8/15 - 9/30
Year 2	8/21 - 9/30	6/1 - 7/7	7/7 - 8/21
Year 3	7/15 - 8/21	8/21 - 9/30	6/1 - 7/15

III RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

A. Existing Range Improvements

1. Corral and loading chute NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 35 T37N, R42E
- Muddy Cr. 2. Drift fence SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 14 T38N, R42E
- " 3. Drift fence SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 15 T38N, R42E *not on computer print-out*
- " 4. Cattle guard NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 1 T37N, R42E
- " 5. Drift fence NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 1 T37N, R42E
6. Cattle guard SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 6 T37N, R42E
7. Drift fence SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 6 T37N, R42E
8. Cattle guard SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 30 T37N, R42E
9. Drift fence SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 30 T37N, R42E
10. Cattle guard SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 34 T37N, R42E
11. Drift fence SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 34 T37N, R42E
12. Cattle guard SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 27 T37N, R42E
13. Cattle guard NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 34 T37N, R42E
14. Cattle guard SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 34 T37N, R42E
15. Cattle guard NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 35 T37N, R42E
16. 5.5 miles of four strand barbed wire fence around Tiger Meadows, W $\frac{1}{2}$ Sec 35, E $\frac{1}{2}$ Sec 34 and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ fo SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec 26 T37N, R42E
17. Water development NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 35 T37N, R42E
18. ~~Cattle guard SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 3 T37N, R42E~~
19. ~~Drift fence SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 3 T37N, R42E~~
- Muddy Cr. 20. Corral & loading chute NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 1 T37N, R42E

B. Proposed Range Improvements

1. Drift fence E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ Sec 23 T37N, R42E
2. Cattle guard NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 3 T37N, R42E
3. Drift fence NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 3 T37N, R42E
4. Cattle guard SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 34 T37N, R42E

C. Improvements to be Removed

1. ~~Cattle guard SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 34 T37N, R42E~~
2. ~~Drift fence SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 34 T37N, R42E~~
3. ~~Cattle guard SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 34 T37N, R42E~~
4. ~~Cattle guard SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 27 T37N, R42E~~
5. ~~Approximately 1 mile of fence Sec 34 T37N, R42E~~
6. ~~Approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of fence dividing Tiger Meadows in S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 35 T37N, R42E~~

*Behind Fence
Lk.*

See figure 1 for location of these improvements.

D. Condition and Maintenance

All range improvements assigned to and used by the permittee must be inspected annually and maintained in workable condition throughout the expected life of the improvement. The Forest Service will cooperate in the reconstruction of improvements when normal maintenance will no longer keep the improvement functioning, or with the occurrence of a natural disaster. Lack of normal maintenance will not qualify the improvement for cooperation in reconstruction. "Heavy" maintenance of improvements, in addition to normal maintenance, will be completed at least once every five years. "Heavy" maintenance is designed to keep an improvement in the best possible condition throughout its expected life. This will include, as a minimum, the following work:

1. Corner post, gate, posts, stretch posts, and/or braces straightened or replaced if needed.
2. Rotten, broken, or bent line posts replaced or straightened.
3. Staples reset or replaced. Fence clips replaced on steel posts. Barbed wires may be wired to posts if staples will not hold.
4. Wires tightened and stays replaced.
5. New wires stretched if old wires are too rusty for further use.
6. Brush, snags, and down timber in fence right-of-way removed.
7. Barriers around stock tanks will be replaced as needed.

IV. MONITORING

A. Vegetation and Soil

1. Range Readiness

The range is generally expected to be ready around June 1. Indicators used in determining range readiness are:

Kentucky Bluegrass
Red Top
Dandelion
Snowberry

Panicle fully opened
In the boot *ie. seed head fully formed but still enclosed in a leaf sheath or boot*
Full bloom
Fully leafed, 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 sere.

3. Production and Utilization

Proper use on primary meadow types is 60 percent utilization. During the 1981 grazing season three key areas will be located and used for production-utilization studies and range readiness.

One permanent condition and trend transect is located in Tiger Meadows; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 35 T37N, R42E. Two or more permanent transects installed during the 1981 field season. These transects will be read every five years.

*Chuck
Didn't get done. Do you want more transects?*

4. Noxious Weeds

Location of spotted and diffuse knapweed, Canadian thistle, dalmation toadflap, hounds tongue, 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's noxious weed control program.

5. Streambanks and Water Quality

Inspection of riparian zones will be made once a year during or after the time the cattle are on the allotment. Trampling damage to streambanks, overgrazing, or other detrimental impacts will be documented.

V. LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

A. Salt and Supplement Locations

Salt will be placed in a box or in another structure off the ground in locations agreed upon by the Forest Service prior to the on-date of cattle.

B. Number and Distribution of Livestock

All livestock must be counted when entering the range unless such a count is waived by the District Ranger or Other Resource Assistant. The permittee will provide the Forest Service with at least five days advance notice of the date livestock will be moved onto the range.

Periodic checks will be made while the cattle are on the range. The permittee will be notified if the cattle need to be moved or scattered. The permittee, however, should not wait for such notification. If proper utilization has been met, the permittee should move the cattle on his own accord.