BRACKEN CATTLE ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

REPUBLIC RANGER DISTRICT COLVILLE NATIONAL FOREST

REGION 6

| Plan prepared by_ | | Date |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Approval of Plan Recommended by | Jack Tranci District Ranger | Date 6-30-76 |
| Approval of Plan Recommended by | Xuymund d'Evreus Range Staff | Date_ 7/13/26 |
| Plan Approved By_ | Robert Supervisor | Date 7/23/96 |
| Plan Review By | Joseph Soils Permittee | Date 1/13/27 |

BRACKEN CATTLE ALLOTMENT

MANAGEMENT PLAN

I. INTRODUCTION

The Bracken Allotment encompasses approximately 7215 acres located in the area south of the North Fork of the San Poil River, Bracken Creek and the Middle Fork of the San Poil River, Ferry County, State of Washington. The range is composed of large grass parks, with open fir and pine stands. Dominant forage species are pinegrass, bearded bluebunch wheatgrass, fescue, and bluegrass.

Generally, the Allotment is in good condition, however, there are areas that are being improperly used. At the present, the main problem is obtaining uniform distribution. This is, in part, caused by improper salting, herding, and the need for some additional water developments.

Prior to 1970, the Allotment consisted of two allotments, Hoffman and Timber Ridge. The two Allotments were combined into one for the 1970 grazing season. The combining of the two Allotments provided for a large enough area to implement a deferred rotation grazing system which was later changed to a rest-rotation grazing system for the 1974 grazing season. The present allotment is currently managed under a rest-rotation system with four pastures all on National Forest lands. The permittee also has leases on State lands outside the National Forest boundary. A coordinated range management plan may be a possibility and will be looked into at a later date.

There are no known conflicts with other uses at this time, however, whitetail deer are on the increase in this general area. This does not affect the Allotment at present, however, it may be significant in the future.

II. INFORMATION SECTION

A. History of Range Use and Past Events

Since the present Bracken Allotment once consisted of two Allotments, each will be covered separately up to 1970 when they were combined.

Hoffman

a. General

No records for this Allotment can be found for periods prior to 1912. Existing records show that this range was used by both classes of stock, that is to say, sheep used the higher elevations and cattle the lower, with some use by both permitted and trespass horses. In 1912, what is now the Hoffman Cattle Allotment was part of the North San Poil Cattle Allotment, with the higher parks encompassed by the Lookout Sheep range. This situation is assumed to exist until 1916 when the lower areas were made part of the Sherman Cattle Allotment.

We see a definite shift of use in 1917 when all lands south of Copper Butte to the North Fork O'Brien Creek and west to the Forest boundary (except Cooke Mtn.) were thrown open to all stock. This may have been caused by this country's entry into World War One.

In 1919 there was a shift back to standard practices, that is, use by one class of stock. Again we revert back to the method of cattle using lower ranges and sheep using the higher parks. In 1919 the Hoffman area was part of the Sherman-Hoffman cattle range, the higher parks still remaining in the Lookout and Copper Butte Sheep ranges. This situation existed, for the most part until 1929. Permitted seasons varied during this period. Cattle were turned on from May 1 to May 15 and brought off from October 15 to November 30. (See Tabulation of Stocking in Appendix).

From 1929 to 1943, the situation remained, more or less, the same, with some changes in boundaries, numbers, classes, and allotment names. The Allotment was encompassed in the Hoffman cattle range with the higher portion still remaining in the Lookout sheep allotment. (For breakdown on numbers, see "Tabulation of Stocking" in Appendix). Numbers varied from 100 to 130 head. Established season varied from 5/1 - 10/31 to 5/16 - 10/31. By this time the "wild horse" problem had disappeared. This was accomplished by determined, cooperative efforts by the Forest Supervisors of the Colville and Chelan (later Okanogan) National

Forests. In 1943, the Colville National Forest was brought into Region One. The Region promptly initiated changes in management and determination of proper range readiness guides.

b. Important Changes in Use

In 1923-24 Mr. Frank B. Lenzie conducted range surveys and found the following:

- 1. A general lack of demand for cattle and sheep ranges, due, in part to lack of access to upper ranges.
- 2. Colville Forest considered understocked by 50% for cattle and 60% for sheep.
- 3. Lack of interest in proper livestock handling, due to general depression in area. This was probably caused by the 1917-23 drought.
- 4. Low range very heavily used due to early "on" dates and large numbers of trespass horses.
- 5. No consideration given to alienated lands in respect to carrying capacity.
- 6. Little to no water developments and drift fences; however, good salting procedures were practices on most ranges.

It was felt that demand for range land would improve when access was improved. Likewise, not much could be done on stocking until demand was up. The persistent lack of interest would undoubtedly improve when the financial picture improved. Evidently, little was accomplished regarding heavy use, insofar as records indicate this situation existed until the 1940's.

Alienated lands are now given some consideration when estimating carrying capacity. Improvement programs were initiated. This phase of management is still being carried out, with permittee cooperation.

When the Colville National Forest was transferred into Region One in 1943, Mr. Tom Lammasson began collecting range data from the Spring of 1944 to the Fall of 1956, which showed the following:

1. Seasons of use did not correspond with vegetative readiness.

- 2. Allotments were unbalanced with respect to seasons of use.
- 3. Estimated carrying capacity too high.
- 4. Unsatisfactory distribution.

The master season was changed to May 21 through October 31. Boundaries were shifted to balance seasons of use, and carrying capacities altered to more realistic figures. The present master season and carrying capacity is felt to be quite adequate.

Timber Ridge

a. General

No history will be given for periods prior to 1953. Although it is interesting reading, it is not considered pertinent for the purpose of this plan. (See Appendix, Section 11, page 13.)

From 1953 to 1960 numbers remained constant at 53 head for 212 animal months, except for an increase of one head for an additional four animal months in 1959. Distribution and utilization was considered good. In 1958 logging commenced on the Timber Ridge timber sale. Although this interrupted grazing for a short period it opened up the Timber Ridge area and has subsequently increased available forage.

Permittees on the Allotment did not graze on the area in 1961-62. Permitted cattle were transferred temporarily to the Trout Creek Allotment. This period of non-use allowed both timber and forage reproduction to become satisfactorily established. No increases in numbers for the existing season is planned at the present.

This allotment was created from the Timber Ridge unit of the Cooke C&H Allotment in 1963.

B. Ranch Operations and Status of Permits

The permittee is engaged in farming along with his livestock operation. The livestock part is a cow-calf operation. At the present time, the permittee runs a total of 119 cattle on this Allotment with a season of 6/1 - 10/31 for a total of 595 animal months. The permittee depends on the National Forest to round out his ranching operation. Livestock are usually pastured on deeded and State lands when off the National Forest.

C. Current Status of Management

In 1974, a planned rest program of use was initiated. This planned rest-rotation program has been revised into a deferred rotation system comprised of the same units.

The change was instituted subsequent to a field mapping update indicating a lower or marginal potential capacity than anticipated. In spite of normal improvement attributed to the rest-rotation system together with favorable climatic conditions. Moreover considering the dominance of Pinegrass (Caru) of the forage composition it was deemed desirable to increase the forage land base to include all units annually until such time as future revegatation projects can be instituted to offset the pinegrass deterioration.

D. Condition and Trend of the Resource

Range allotment analysis was updated in 1975. A summary of acreages in various suitability condition and apparent trend classes on National Forest lands is shown.

TABULATION OF ACREAGES BY CLASSES

Acres by Suitability Classification 1975

| | Apparent | Suitable | Unsuitable | Unsuitable | 2 | |
|-----------|----------|----------|------------|------------|-------|--------|
| Condition | Trend | Range | Range | Range | Non | |
| Class | Class | Used | Used | Not Used | Range | Totals |
| Good | - | 400 | | | | 400 |
| Fair | 4 | 1180 | | | | 1180 |
| Poor | A | 3065 | | | | 3065 |
| Non-Range | | | | | | 2570 |
| Totals | 0.00 | 4645 | | | | 7215 |

The following table shows a tabulation of suitable acres by type.

| B | racken C&H | | ALLOTMENT | |
|------------|-----------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| colville | NATIONAL FOREST | Republic | RANGER | DISTRICT |
| Compiled _ | 2/13/75 | By LBR | | |

| LTEM | NATIONAL FO | LIENATED RSHIP LAI | NDS | ALLOTHETH TOTAL LANGS | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------------|--|-------|----|
| Acres | Acres | 76 | Acres | . % | | Acres | |
| Uness | 7215 | 100 | | 100 | | 7215 | 10 |
| (Subject to) c. 680.E | | | | | | | |
| Desirable or UNSCITABLE | 2570 | 36 | , <u></u> , | , | | 2570 | 36 |
| SOLIABLE : | 4645 | 64 | | | | 4645 | 64 |
| PPIMARY | 3190 | 69 | . 426 | | | 3190 | 69 |
| (Tariffe,) (Fine/m.c.) | | | | | | | |
| EECORDARY | .1455 | 31 | | | | 1455 | 31 |

| VECETA' | LIVE | Ý | 1 | ΛC | RES BY FO | RAGE PRO | DUCTION/ | CONDITIO | N CLASS | 1 | } |
|--------------------|--|------|------|------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|------|--|
| TYPE | | 7% | Good | Fair | Poor | Good | Fair | Poor | Good | Fair | 8 |
| P1 | 30a | 1_1_ | 30 | | | | | | 30 | | |
| P6 | 3160a | 99 | 225 | 925 | 2010 | | | | 225 | 925 | 2010 |
| Subt. | 3190a | | 255a | 925a | 2010a | | | | | | |
| | | | 8% | 29% | 63% | | | | | | |
| S6 | 1455a | 100 | 145 | 255 | 1055 | | | | 145 | 255 | 1055 |
| Subt. | 1455a | | 145a | 255a | 1055a | | | | | | |
| | | | 10% | 17% | 73% | | | | | | 6 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 2 | | , | | | - | |
| | ractions rates (solution and | | | | | | | | | | |
| a store the manmen | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.31 | ne an analogical contract of the second of t | | | | | ., | | | 1 1 | | J. J |
| SUITABL | .E 4645а | T00 | 400 | 1180 | 3065 | | | | 400 | 1180 | 3065 |
| | | % | 9 | 2.5 | 66 | | | | 9 | 25 | 66 |

As a direct result of improved management by use of a planned rest system of grazing for the past two years, range conditions are starting to show a slight improvement. The end result may be an increase in carrying capacities at a future date. Sixty-six percent of the suitable range is classed as poor, twenty-five percent, fair, and nine percent as good.

E. Estimated Current Grazing Capacity

Difference

Shown below are tentative capacity estimates developed from the range environmental analysis survey. These figures are based only on suitable range and D&I forage production.

TENTATIVE BRACKEN GRAZING CAPACITIES

(Based on 1975 REA)

| UNIT 1 | | Acres | | AUM | * | Subtotal |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|----------------|---|----------|
| Good Fair Poor Total | | 155 (4) 215 (6) 780 (8) | | 39 36 97 | | 172 |
| UNIT 2 | | | | • | | |
| Good Fair Poor Total | | 115 (4) 365 (6) 780 (8) | | 29 61 97 | | 187 |
| UNIT 3 | | | | | | |
| Good Fair Poor Total | | 35 (4) 85 (6) 815 (8) | | 9 14 102 | | 125 |
| UNIT 4 | | ** | | | | |
| Good Fair Poor Total | | 20 (4) 300 (6) 355 (8) | | 5 50 44 | | 99 |
| Iotar | | TOTAL AU | M's | | | 583 |
| * | Permitted Available | d AUM's | 595 583 | | | |

Based on the system of rotation grazing, permitted and available AUM's are close enough for the present time. Actual use date tempored with impact studies, utilization studies, close observation, judgement and knowledge of the area and situations are excellent methods of determining proper stocking rates over the next three years for determining the final stocking rate. Following are actual use tabulations and carrying capacity estimates on the Allotment since 1920.

| The state of the s | |
|--|-----------------|
| Bracken | Allotment |
| ргаскеп | ALIOTMENT |
| Diacicii | · III I CITICAL |
| | |

| Rep | ublic | Ranger District | | | | Colvil | Colville National For | | | rest | | |
|---------|-------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------|-------|------------|-----------------------|------|-----------|------|-------------|--|
| | Unit | Planned/Permitted Use | | | A | Actual Use | | | Proper Us | | | |
| Year | Key Area | Number | Dates From - To | AUM | % Use | Number | Dates From - To | AUM | % Use | AUM | % | |
| Hoffmar | | C&H | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1922 | | 150 | 5/1-11/30 | 1050 | | 104 | 5/1-11/30 | 728 | | | | |
| 1923 | | 243 | 5/1-10/15 | 1215 | | 241 | 5/1-10/15 | 1205 | | | | |
| 1924 | | 276 | - | 1380 | | 265 | | 1325 | | | | |
| 1925 | | 290 | | 1450 | | 152 | | 760 | | | | |
| 1926 | | 144 | | 720 | | 144 | | 720 | | | | |
| 1927 | | Data] | lacking | - | | | | | | | | |
| 1928 | | " | | - | | | | - | | | | |
| 1929 | | ш | | - | | | | | | | | |
| 1930 | | " | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1931 | | " | - | <u> </u> | | | | - | | | | |
| 1932 | - | 11 | | | | | | ļ . | | | | |
| 1933 | ļ | 130 | | 780 | | 98 | | 588 | | | | |
| 1934 | | 110 | - | 660 | | 109 | | 654 | | | | |
| 1935 | | 110 | | 660 | | 113 | | 678 | - | | | |
| 1936 | | 138 | | 828 | | 122 | | 732 | | | | |
| 1937 | | 103 | | 618 | | 120 | ļ | 720 | - | | | |
| 1938 | | 103 | - | 618 | | 109 | | 654 | | | | |
| _ 1939 | | 122 | | 732 | | 122 | | 732 | | | | |
| 1940 | | 122 | | 732 | | 122 | | 732 | ** | | | |
| 1941 | | 124 | | 744 | | 124 | | 744 | | | | |
| 1942 | | 128 | | 768 | | 128 | | 768 | | | | |
| 1943 | | 133 | 5/21-10/31 | 905 | | No dat | a | | | | | |

RECORD OF GRAZING USE

| Allotment |
|---------------|
| TILLO CHICILC |
| |

| Bracken | Allotment |
|---------|-----------|
| | |

Ranger District National Forest Planned/Permitted Use Actual Use Unit Proper Us or Year Dates Dates Key % Use Number % Use From - To AUM From - To AUM AUM % Number Area (Cont.) Hoffman C&H 200 315 59 1966 59 5/21-10/31 5/31-9/10 315 59 1967 59 5/28-9/30 235 Dry season 59 315 58 5/26-9/28 230 1968 295 1969 59 6/1 - 10/3163 6/7 - 10/11262 Combined with Timber Ridge Forming the present Bracken Timber Ridge 1920 1200 5/1-10/15 6600 Copper Butte S&G 1200 5/1-10/15 6600 1921 1922 1200 5/1-10/15 6600 5/1-11/30 1211 173 Hoffman 1200 6600 272 1904 Animals shown fro 1923 5/1-10/15 5/1-11/30 1922 thru 1932 were all ran on 1924 1200 5/1-10/15 6600 290 5/1-11/30 2030 Hoffman, no use c 1008 1925 1200 5/1-10/15 6600 144 5/1-11/30 Timber Ridge 1926 1200 6600 5/1-10/15 1 5/1-11/30 .0 1200 5/1-10/15 6600 0 1927 6600 65 5/15-10-15 325 1928 1200 5/1-10/15 20 100 6600 5/15-10/15 1929 1200 5/1-10/15 1930 1200 5/1-10/15 6600 41 5/1-10/31 246 594 1931 1200 5/1-10/15 6600 99 5/1-10/31 *200 Temp-Copper 1932 *1400 5/16-10/15 7000 1400 5/16-10/15 7000 Butte Copper Butte 1933 6600 1200 Lookout S&G 6600 1200 1934

_____Bracken Allotment

| Republ: | ic | l | Ranger Distr | ict | | Colvi | 11e | Natio | nal For | est | , |
|---------|-------------------|---------|--------------------|-------|-------|--------|--------------------|-----------|------------------|-------|--------|
| | Uni.t | Plani | ned/Permitte | d Use | • | A | ctual Use | | | Prop | er Us |
| Year | or Key Area | Number | Dates From - To | AUM | % Use | Number | Dates From - To | AUM | % Use | AUM | % |
| Timber | Ridge | (Cont.) | | | | | | | | | |
| 1935 | | 1200 | | 6600 | | | | | Lookou | t-S&G | |
| 1936 | | 1200 | | 6600 | - | | , | | 11 | | |
| 1937 | | 1200 | | 6600 | | | | · · · · · | -11. | | |
| 1938 | | 1000 | 5/16-10/15 | 5000 | | 2200 | 5/16-10/15 | 11000 | 11 | | |
| 1939 | | 1000 | 5/16-10/15 | 5000 | | 2200 | 5/16-10/15 | 11000 | 11 | | |
| 1940 | | NO DAT | ļ ŗA | | | | | | ₂₀ 20 | | |
| 1941 | | 11 | | | | | | | | | |
| 1942 | | . 11 | | | | | | | | | |
| 1943 | | 100 | 5/1-10/31 | 600 | | | | | | | |
| 1944 | | 167 | | | | | | | No use | on T | br.Rd; |
| 1945 | | 200 | 5/16-10/31 | |). | | | | | | |
| 1946 | | 30 | Cooke | 120 | | 30 | 6/1-9/30 | 120 | Young | on Tb | r. Rdg |
| 1947 | | 41 | | 157 | | 0 | | 0 | None o | n Tbr | . Ride |
| 1948 | | 41 | 6/1-9/30 | 157 | | 41 | 6/1-9/30 | 157 | Tbr. R | idge | , |
| 1949 | | 41 | 6/1-9/30 | 219 | | 41 | 6/1-9/30 | 229 | | | |
| 1950 | | 30 | 6/1-9/30 | 270 | | 20 | 6/1-9/30 | 71 | Tbr. R | idge | |
| 1951 | | 30 | 6/1-9/30 | 160 | | 20 | 6/1-9/30 | 90 | | | |
| 1952 | | 30 | 6/1-9/30 | 160 | | 30 | 6/1-9/30 | 155 | Tbr. R | idge | |
| 1953 | | 53 | 6/1-9/30 | 212 | | 53 | 6/1-9/30 | 211 | | | |
| 1954 | | 53 | 6/1-9/30 | 212 | | 53 | 6/1-9/30 | 212 | | | |
| 1955 | | 53 | 6/1-9/30 | 212 | | 53 | 6/1-9/30 | 213 | | | |
| 1956 | | 53 | 6/1-9/30 | 212 | | 52 | 6/1-9/30 | 224 | | | |

| Bracken | Allotment |
|---------|-----------|
| | |

| Republic | | Ranger District | | | Colville National Fores | | | | est | | |
|----------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----|-------------------------|--------|--------------------|-----|--------|--|-----|
| | Unit | 1 | | | | | Actual Use | | | Proper Us | |
| Year | or Key Area | Number | Dates From - To | AUM | % Use | Number | Dates From - To | AUM | % Use | AUM | % |
| Ţimber | Ridge | (Cont.) | | | | | | | | | , |
| 1957 | | 53 | 6/1-9/30 | 212 | | 53 | 6/1-9/30 | 216 | | | |
| 1958 | | 53 | 6/1-9/30 | 212 | , | 53 | 6/1-9/30 | 212 | | | |
| 1959 | | 54 | | 216 | | 53 | | 216 | | | |
| 1960 | | 54 | ļ | 216 | | 54 | | 185 | | | |
| 1961 | | No Us | e This Year | - | | - | | | | | |
| 1962 | | No Us | se This Year | | | | | - | | | |
| 1963 | | 54 | 5/21-10/31 | 288 | | 54_ | 5/23-10/25 | 281 | | | |
| 1964 | | 54 | 11 | 288 | | 54 | 6/4-10/31 | 270 | | | |
| 1965 | | 53 | 11 | 282 | | 53 | 5/23-9/17 | 208 | | | |
| 1966 | | 53 | . " | 282 | | 53 | 5/21-10/14 | 260 | | | |
| 1967 | | 53 | 11 | 283 | | 53 | 5/22-10/13 | 256 | Dry Se | ason | |
| 1968 | | 53 | 11 . | 283 | | 53 | 5/23-10/7 | 230 | | | |
| 1969 | | 53 | 6/1-10/31 | 265 | | 56 | 6/1-10/10 | 241 | | | |
| BRACKEN | | | | | | | | | | | · , |
| 1970 | | 119 | 6/1-10/31 | 595 | | 119 | 6/1-10/22 | 555 | | | |
| 1971 | | 125 | ,n | 595 | | 119 | 6/1-10/15 | 535 | | | |
| 1972 | | 119 | п . | 595 | | 119 | 6/1-10/4 | 492 | | | |
| 1973 | | 119 | iı | 595 | | 119 | 6/1-10/31 | 562 | | | |
| 1974 | | 119 | 11 | 595 | | 119 | 6/1-10/30 | 595 | | | |
| 1975 | | 119 | . 11 | 595 | | 119 | 6/1-10/25 | 575 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | v | | | | - | | The state of the s | |

The preceding actual use and carrying capacity dates indicate the Allotment is stocked between 100-102 percent of capacity. There is an improvement in condition of soil and forage generally with a few exceptions. Soil and vegetative trends in condition continue to improve.

In those areas yet in poor condition, it is recommended that use be light and delayed as long as possible.

F. Existing Improvements

Following is a list of existing structural and non-structural improvements on the Allotment. All improvements are maintained by the permittee.

Bracken Existing Range Improvements June, 1976 IMPROVEMENT CONSTRUCTION RESPONSIBILITY FACILITY Date Number | Name and Location Material Equip. Labor Maint. Capacity 6 Type Quantity F.S. Lower Bracken Ck. CG F.S. F.S. Steel, Timber- Base F.S. H20 70 Timber Ridge Div. CG F.S. F.S. F.S. F.S. Steel, Timber Base H20 500 NW Sec. 26 T37N R34E 74 Upper Bracken Ck. CG F.S. F.S. F.S. F.S. Steel, Timber Base 600 H20 NE Sec. 29 T37N R34E 60 No Name Stock Trail F.S. F.S. F.S. Permittee 1.0 mi. 400 SW Sec. 25 T37N R33E 60 Hoffman Stock Trail F.S. F.S. F.S. Permittee 2.2 mi 800 Sec. 32 T 37N R34E 40 Timber Ridge Sp. #1 F.S. F.S. F.S. Metal trough Permittee 200 gal. 50(SW Sec.21 T37N R34E 40 Timber Ridge Sp. #2 F.S. F.S. F.S. Wooden trough(disrepair)200 gal. Permittee 500 NW Sec.28 T37N R34E 50 Timber Ridge Sp. #3 F.S. F.S. F.S. Permittee Metal trough (disrepair) 600 gal. 500 NE Sec. 27 T37N R34E 60 No Name Spr. F.S. Metal trough (redev-600 gal. Permittee Permittee | Permittee 50 SE Sec 25 T37N R33E 75) 40 Muck Spr. F.S. F.S. F.S. Permittee Wooden trough 400 gal 50 NE Sec. 32 T 37N R 34E 69 Ranger H.W. Hougland Spr. F.S. F.S. F.S. Permittee Wooden trough 50 300 gal NE Sec 32 T.37N R34E 70 Boiko Spr. F.S. Permittee Metal trough 400 Permittee Permittee 600 gal SW Sec. 20 T37N R34E 40 Log Spr F.S. F.S. F.S. Permittee Woodentrough 400 gal 500 NE Sec. 31 T37N R34E

| , | . | 8 4 × 1 | | RANGE DI | EVELOPMENT : | PROGRAM | * | 4 4 | 8 | |
|-----------------|----------|---|-----------------------------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|------|--|
| Bracken (Cont.) | | | Existing Range Improvements | | | | June, 1976 | | | |
| :e | Number | IMPROVEMENT Name and Location | CO! Material | NSTRUCTION 1 | RESPONSIBIL Labor | ITY Maint. | FACILIT Type | Y Capacity Quantity | Cos | |
| | | Boundary Fence NW Sec. 25 T37N R33E | F.S. | F.S. | F.S. | Permittee | Barbed Wire | 1.2 mi. | 600 | |
| ٧ - | | Jungle Bracken Fence NW Sec. 4 T36N R34E | F.S. | F.S. | F.S. | Permittee | Barbed Wire | .3 mi. | 300 | |
| | | Timber Ridge Div. Fence NW Sec. 28 T37N R34E | F.S. | F.S. | F.S. | Permittee | Barbed wire, steel pos | 1.0 mi. | 900 | |
| | | Log Sp. Bracken Fence SW Sec. 31 T37N R34E | F.S. | Permittee | Permittee | Permittee | Barbed wire, steel pos | 1.0 mi. | 1000 | |
| | 5. | Bracken Ck. Fence | F.S. | Permittee | Permittee | Permittee | Barbed wire, steel pos | .5 mi. | 700 | |
| | | N.Fk. San Poil Fence Sec. 25 T37N R35E | F.S. | F.S. | F.S. | Permittee | Barbed wire, steel pos | 1.2 mi. | 2500 | |
| = * | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | | | 110000 | | \$ 'Y | | | | |

G. Importance of This Range

The Bracken Allotment is used for a variety of services. The permittee depends on this area to round out his livestock operation. The area is important from the standpoint of timber production, producing quality water from the watershed, and providing recreation in the form of sightseeing, hunting, and some fishing. The allotment is tied socially and economically to Ferry County, the State, and the National.

The permittee using this Allotment has a stable operation and his selling and transferring the permit is unlikely.

H. Special Problems and Conditions

A few critical areas yet remain on this Allotment. A planned deferred-rotation system of management as now being used, and permit administration should encourage regeneration of plant cover on these sites. These areas are primarily native range areas. The planned system of management described in the Action section of this plan will aid in improving these areas. However, this system will not substitute completely for good administration, methods of distribution, such as salting away from these areas, and dispersing animals by riding, when they congregate in these locations.

III. MANAGEMENT GOALS

The management objectives for this Allotment are to develope and manage the forage resources as follows:

- A. To Achieve site stability and maintain productivity potential:
 - Increase both plant density and litter in the open innerspaces on the used native range areas to prevent sediment discharge.
 - Design a system of grazing that will reduce livestock handling to a minimum.
- B. To obtain an appropriate mix of output values:
 - 1. Coordinate livestock grazing with potentials and objectives with timber management.
 - Achieve a distribution of livestock that avoids congregating on key areas, along streams, roads, and cattle-guards.
 - 3. Include wildlife numbers in future stocking levles.
 - 4. Deliver high quality water to the forest boundary.

- C. To capture available forage values after the above pre-requisites and constraints are met, the available forage will be used to maximize AUM's.
- D. Basic resource damage, vegetative resource damage and unauthorized livestock use will not be allowed or tolorated.

IV. ANALYSIS SECTION

A. Site and Use Requirement and Limitations

The management program for this allotment will take into consideration the physiological, and phenological requirements of plants. An opening date of June 1, subject to range readiness, should allow for adequate growth of all plants. By this time, development and vigor establishment would be well advanced. All suitable range areas should have a ground cover percentage between 60 and 70 percent, if possible. Soil disturbance should not be over 15 to 20 percent, Cattle should not lose weight while in any unit. These requirements can be observed while making range inspections, impact studies and by relying on the experience and observations of the rider.

B. Management and Development Opportunities

The grazing formula planned for this allotment is one of planned deferment. A rotating system of deferment is built into the system. Consideration has been given to the ease of livestock movement.

Reconstruction of water developments and the development of others and fence construction and reconstruction are opportunities remaining on this allotment. Some seeding possibilities may exist in some units.

C. Potential Grazing Capacity

The exact possible increase or decrease of carrying capacity will be determined by actual use studies associated with impact analysis and general observations over the next three years. The allotment appears to be between 100-102 percent of capacity at this time. Improvement of conditions and increased capacity is occurring annually on this allotment. With soil and moisture relationships as desirable as they are, potentials are very favorable for continued improved conditions.

D. Relationships with Other Uses and Activities

The environmental analysis report for this allotment describes these relationships and is found in the reference section of this plan.

E. Economic Analysis of Opportunities

Any future improvements requests will be accompanied with an economic analysis. Grazing of livestock on this allotment is economically justifiable as forage is a resource.

V. ACTION SECTION

A. Selected Management Prescription

1. The management system is a 4 unit, 2 year cycle deferred rotation system of 153 day grazing periods annually, June 1st to October 31st.

Unit Sequence by Periods

| Cycle Year | Early Summer | Mid- Summer | Late Summer | Fall Use |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| First | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Second | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

Repeat cycle

All cattle are to be in the same unit at the same time.

This system is not based on graphic formula as such, but is designed to meet the physiological requirements of plants. Each unit is deferred until seed-ripe or near seed-ripe time at lease one year in four. A few aspects of the proper use management made will be practiced such as range readiness and proper use on key areas. Topography and physical arrangement of the four units, including restrictions such as vegetative barriers (timber stands) render the allotment nearly impossible to manage, in other ways allowing for ease of handling, minimum of movement and balanced deferrment and use of the range.

It is hoped that maximum benefits to plants can be realized under this system. Trampling and soil distrubance should be less. Heavy demand on water sources and supply can be reduced. Overall, this system favors improvement of the allotment.

2. An alternative management system contingent on a successful seeding program to counterbalance the predominance of Pinegrass is designated as an unorthodox, 4 unit, 6 year cycle rest rotation system for a 153 day grazing period, June 1st to October 31st.

Unit Sequence by Periods

| Cycle Year | Early | Mid Season | Late | Rest |
|---------------|-------|------------|------|------|
| First | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Second | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| Third | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Fourth | 1 | . 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Fifth | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Sixth | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 |

Repeat Cycle

B. Opportunities still remain for fence construction and reconstruction and water development and redevelopment on the allotment. These projects are listed below:

Bracken

| 101 | racken | | r | Proposed | Improveme | ents | June | 1976 | • • | |
|---------|--------|---|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|-----------------------|------|--|
| | 1 | IMPROVEMENT | CONSTRUCTION RESPONSIBILITY | | | | FACILITY | | | |
| te — | Number | Name and Location | Material | Equip. | Labor | Maint. | Туре | Capacity- Quantity | Cost | |
| | | Redevelopment | | | | | | | | |
| | | Timber Ridge Sp.#2 | F.S. | Permittee | Permittee | Permittee | Steel trough | 600 gal. | 300 | |
| | | Timber Ridge Sp.#3 New Construction | F.S. | Permittee | Permittee | Permittee | Steel trough | 600 gal. | 300 | |
| | | Bracken Cr. Fence (S.26,27 &35) T37N,R34E | F.S. | Permittee | Permittee | Permittee | 4 wire, barbed/steel post | 1.0 mi | 2200 | |
| | | Upper N. FK. San Poil Cattleguard, Karamip RD NE S.21, T37NR34E | F.S. | F.S. | F.S. | F.S. | 8'x14' steel deck treated timber base | H 20 loading | 1200 | |
| | | Upper N. FK San Poil Fence (West of CG) | F.S. | F.S. | F.S. | F.S. | 4 wire barbed/steel post | 1.5 mi | 3300 | |
| | | Upper N.FK. San Poil (East of CG) | F.S. | F.S. | F.S. | F.S. | 4 wire barbed/ steel | 1.5 mi | 3300 | |
| | | Timber Ridge Spr.#4 S.26, T37N,R34E | F.S. | permittee | permittee | permittee | Steel trough, supply line, collection sys- | 600 gal | 800 | |
| | | Timber Ridge Spr.#5 S.25, T37N, R34E | F.S. | permittee | permittee | permittee | tem, concrete rings, concrete ramp. | 600 gal | 800 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| i de | 4 % | | | | | | | | | |
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1. Correlation with Other Use and Activities

Coordination with timber management is needed within the Allotment to make the system work. This is specifically outlined in the environmental analysis report found in the Appendix of this plan. All fences, corrals, cabins, and cattleguards, both present and proposed, should be studied carefully to make sure they do not conflict with other values and uses.

2. Administrative Action Needed to Implement the Program

- a. Use the prescribed system beginning in 1976
- b. Provide for herding, salting, and hauling of water (if needed to utilize secondary range) as instructed by the Forest Officer in charge under a planned rest system of grazing as outlined in the annual plan of use.
- c. Continue grazing follow-up studies.
- d. Refine grazing system as changes become necessary.
- e. Reconstruct and construct range improvements when necessary and as funds permit. Non-structural range improvements programs will be worked into the planned rest cycle.
- f. Improve permit administration.
- g. Do not allow unauthorized use, take immediate action when found.

VI. FOLLOW-UP SECTION

A. Examination and Studies

- 1. Annual record on Form $R-6\ 2200$ the actual impacts and observations for units grazed.
- 2. Annually prepare a range utilization map to show intensity and distribution of forage utilization on used units.
- Interpret use patterns and intensities; trend indicators, livestock responses, coordination requirements, and management goals.
- Determine need for program modification and/or structural improvements.
- 5. Note needed changes; incorporate into next year's annual plan of use.
- 6. Select and map study sites (key areas); establish or remeasure trend studies and utilization as necessary to confirm that management goals are being achieved.

B. Modifying and Improving the Program

Most programs can be improved. Desirable modification will become evident with application. Remarks to this effect should be made on inspection notes and incorporated into this management plan periodically.

<u>A P P E N D I X</u>

| 1. | ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS REPORT |
|------------|---|
| 2. | MAP |
| | Management Units Planned Improvements Key Areas |
| 3 . | COMPILATION OF GRAZING USE 19, 19 |
| 4. | AUTHORIZED LIVESTOCK NUMBERS 19 19 |
| 5. | STUDIES |
| | Three-step transects |
| | Quandrants |
| | Permanent Photo Trend Existing |
| | Proposed |