

ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

SNOWCAP ALLOTMENT

KETTLE FALLS RANGER DISTRICT  
COLVILLE NATIONAL FOREST

PLAN PREPARED BY: Diane L. Besand DATE: 30 April 1984  
Diane L. Besand, Range Conservationist

PLAN REVIEWED BY: Allen N. Garr DATE: June 5, 1984  
Allen N. Garr, Resource Assistant

PLAN RECOMMENDED BY: Lynn E. Andrews DATE: 6-7-84  
Lynn E. Andrews, Acting District Ranger

PLAN APPROVED BY: William D. Shenk DATE: 7-9-84  
William D. Shenk, Forest Supervisor

PLAN PREPARED IN  
CONSULTATION WITH: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry Gallo

\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mel Anderson

## I. OBJECTIVES

The following management objectives have been identified for the SNOWCAP ALLOTMENT:

### A. PROTECT SOILS ON LOWER NORTH BOULDER RIDGE.

Impacts will be minimized by maintaining proper stocking rates and maximum distribution, and by implementing other than season long grazing. Improvements necessary to protect the soil resource will be constructed as needed.

Cutbanks that are in need of protection may have to be fenced away from livestock.

### B. PROVIDE PROTECTION OF REFORESTATION AREAS.

Herding and distributing cattle by the permittee away from reforestation areas may be necessary should a problem of cattle "kegging up" in reforestation areas occur.

Temporary fences will be constructed for the protection of tree regeneration sites where the problem or the need has been identified in a multi-disciplinary review meeting.

### C. PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ADDITIONAL CARRYING CAPACITY WITH IMPROVED MANAGEMENT.

A grazing system other than season long will provide additional capacity through improved condition trend and productivity.

## II. ACTION

The following describes the management program necessary to meet the requirements as described in the preferred alternatives.

### A. PERMITTED USE AND GRAZING CAPACITY.

155 cow/calf pairs (698 AMs ) will graze the SNOWCAP ALLOTMENT from 6/1 - 10/15.

Summit pasture                      388 AMs

Lower Boulder pasture              310 AMs

698 AMs

With improved management and subsequent production/utilization surveys to provide verification of capacity estimates, increases may be granted.

B. MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

The alternative selected in the environmental assessment was a simple two-pasture DEFERRED ROTATION GRAZING SYSTEM. This system provides periodic deferment for each pasture in the same sequence each year. The deferred system is adapted to the physical characteristics of the allotment and is based on range readiness within each pasture. This may be shown graphically.

<u>PASTURE</u>	<u>SEASON</u>	<u>ANIMAL UNITS</u>	<u>AMs</u>
Lower Boulder	6/1 - 7/31	155	310
Summit	8/1 - 10/15	155	388
			698

Cattle will graze the lower elevation pasture first, moving to the upper pasture when range readiness has been reached and proper use guidelines have been met in the lower pasture.

A Deferred or Deferred Rotation may be accomplished with riding and salting. If not, fences and cattleguards will be used.

The above stocking rates and schedule are suggested as a foundation to begin with. They are meant to be flexible and should be changed when necessary to reflect the results of allotment inspections and production/utilization surveys.

C. LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT.

1. Salt

Salt will not be placed within or adjacent to cutting units during the critical growth period following tree planting activities. This time period will be coordinated with the District Silviculturist.

Salting should be done by the "drop salting" method. Posted salt grounds are not to be used. Salt should be placed away from areas of concentrated use and moved to "fresh feed" as proper use is approached adjacent to a salt ground. Salt should be used to the extent possible to achieve good livestock distribution. Salt should be distributed within a unit prior to moving stock in, and picked up before moving out. Salt should not be placed within 1,000 feet of any water source, or on or adjacent to roads, unless for a specific management purpose such as to increase utilization in the area or to aid in gathering livestock at the end of the grazing season. Avoid placing salt directly on the ground, by placing it on stumps, rocks, downed trees or portable salt boxes.

Salt is not to be placed in an area that was used for a salt ground the previous season. It can be placed in the general vicinity, but it should not be placed in previous years' concentrated use area.

2. MOVEMENT AND DISTRIBUTION.

The permittee should, without direction, insure that livestock are moved when utilization has reached prescribed levels. Livestock should be distributed over the pastures in small bunches. As proper use is approached in any one area, the permittee should, without direction, move the livestock to unused areas.

Proper use standards are based on vegetative conditions and are as follows:

<u>Condition Class</u>	<u>Proper Use</u>
Good	40-50%
Fair	25-40%
Poor	10-25%

D. RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

1. Proposed Range Improvements

- a. Fences - Other than the proposed pasture drift fence, only those fences needed to stop drift onto other allotments, the East Deer Creek watershed, or that are needed to plug pasture boundaries that may be broken by timber sales are planned. Fence will be constructed as needed.
  - 1) Pasture Fence and cattleguard - A fence and cattleguard may be required on the Boulder/Deer creek road to implement a deferred grazing system. Major reconstruction of the Boulder/Deer Creek road will take place in Fiscal 1986. Implementation of a grazing system would take place following reconstruction of the road.
  - 2) Approximately 1/2 mile of 3-wire drift fence will be constructed on the western edge of the allotment (sec. 18 & 19, T. 39 N, R. 35 E) to prevent cattle drift onto Republic Ranger District.
- b. Spring Developments -Springs will be developed in areas of little or no use to lure animals into those areas, and to improve livestock distribution. Spring developments will be built to Forest Service Specifications. Proposed springs will be developed as they are located and identified as needed.

2. Existing Range Improvements

- a. See allotment map and enclosed form (R6-2200-107) for existing and proposed range improvements.
- b. Spring developments that are no longer up to standards will be reconstructed.

3. Maintenance Program

Maintenance of range improvements is the responsibility of the permittee. Regular maintenance will keep the improvement in good condition and working order throughout its expected life. Heavy maintenance is necessary every five to ten years. Properly maintained improvements is a condition of the grazing permit. Range improvements will be maintained prior to turn on.

E. NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL.

Knapweed is a problem on the Snowcap and Boulder/Deer Creek Roads. We will treat the noxious weeds when effective technology is available.

III. MONITORING

A. RANGE READINESS.

Livestock should not be turned onto the allotment until after range readiness. Criteria for range readiness is as follows:

1. Vegetation

Bluebunch Wheatgrass - leaf length 6"  
Pinegrass - leaf length 4"  
Kentucky Bluegrass - boot stage

2. Soils

Soils should be dry and firm enough to withstand compaction from trampling.

3. Improvements

Range improvements will be maintained to working order prior to turn on.

B. Production/Utilization

Production/Utilization surveys will be completed to verify carrying capacity estimates.

C. Allotment inspections will be completed periodically or as needed.

## Forest Service

Snowcap

## Range Improvement Summary

Existing - Proposed

(Strike out one)

Imp. No.	Improvement Name	Location	Units	Kind of Construction	year Comp	Construction Maintenance Responsibility	Remarks
	✓ Dirty Shirt Water Dev.	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 30, T39N, R36E	1	Metal Trough 280 Gal.		Permittee	Needs recon- struction
	✓ Dilly Water Dev.	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 1, T38N, R34E	1	Metal Trough	1970	Permittee	Needs to be located
	✓ Buck Water Dev.	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 2, T38N, R35E	1	Wood Trough 150 Gal.	1950	Permittee	Needs to be located
	✓ Lightning Water Dev.	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 1, T38N, R35E	1	Wood Trough 150 Gal.	1950	Permittee	Needs to be located
	✓ Granite Water Dev.	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 4, T38N, R36E	1	Wood Trough 150 Gal.	1950	Permittee	
	✓ Switchback Water Dev.	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 32, T38N, R36E	1	Metal Trough 280 Gal.	1982	Permittee	
	✓ Meyers Spring	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 7, T39N, R35E	1	Wood Trough 150 Gal.	1950	Permittee	Needs to be located
	✓ Massie Spring	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 7, T39N, R35E	1	Wood Trough 150 Gal.	1960	Permittee	Needs to be located
	✓ Third Creek Spring	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 18 T39N, R35E	1	Metal Trough 280 Gal.	1970	Permittee	Needs to be located
	✓ Ranger Pauley Spring	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 18, T39N, R35E	1	Metal Trough 280 Gal.	1970	Permittee	Needs to be located
	✓ Tamarach Water Dev.	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 32, T38N, R36E	1	Metal Trough 280 Gal.	1981	Permittee	
	✓ Patten Water Dev.	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 31, T39N, R36E	1	Metal Trough 280 Gal.	1980	Permittee	

## Forest Service

## Range Improvement Summary

Existing - Proposed

(Strike out one)

Imp. No.	Improvement Name	Location	Units	Kind of Construction	year Comp.	Construction Maintenance Responsibility	Remarks
✓	Besand Water Dev.	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 31, T39N, R36E	1	Metal Trough 280 Gal.	1981	Permittee	
✓	Orient Boundary Fence	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 15, T39N, R35E	4 Mi.	3-Wire	1960	Permittee	
✓	South Fork Cattleguard	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 10, T39N, R36E	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 'x14' H-20		USDA-FS Wing Fence- Permittee	
✓	Goat Creek Cattleguard	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 23, T39N, R35E	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 'x14' H-20	1983	USDA-FS Wing Fence- Permittee	Fence will be construc- ted in Water- shed con- tract - FY 1984
✓	Bulldog Cabin Cattle- guard	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 4, T39N, R35E	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 'x14' H-20	1960	USDA-FS Wing Fence- Permittee	
✓	W. Deer Creek Cattle- guard	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 19, T39N, R35E	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 'x14' H-20	1950	USDA-FS Wing Fence- Permittee	
✓	Snowcap Corrals	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 2, T39N, R36E	1	Pole & Wire		Permittee	
✓	Third Creek Corrals	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 19, T39N, R35E	1	Post & Wire	1983	Permittee	
✓	E. Deer Creek Fence	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 16, T39N, R35E	.1 Mi.	3-Wire	1965	Permittee	