

NATIONAL GRASSLANDS MANAGEMENT

A PRIMER

Appendix N



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

22 Jan 1993

DECISION MEMORANDUM FOR F. DALE ROBERTSON, Chief, USDA Forest Service¹

From: John H. Beuter (/s/ John H. Beuter)
Acting Assistant Secretary, NRE

Subject: National Grasslands Grazing Fees

I have determined that the National grassland grazing fee for 1992 is to be \$2.25 per animal unit month. This was determined by using the "Combined 17 State grazing fee" as forth in your May 18, 1992, briefing memorandum to me. Future fees are to be determined using the same approach. The fee for 1993 is \$2.04. This provides compatibility with the national forest grazing fee.

In implementing this change, the Conservation Program (CP) will be restricted to the same rules that apply to the Range Betterment Fund for national forests in the 16 Western States. Specifically these are to be (1) no more than 50 percent of the fee can be used for CP's and (2) the amount used for administration costs can not exceed 6 percent of the dollars available for CP's.

¹ Transcribed from original for legibility.



NEWS RELEASE

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GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES PUBLIC LAND 1993 GRAZING FEES FOR 16 WESTERN STATES

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 15 – The grazing fee for Western public lands administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service and U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will decline by 6 cents in 1993 under a formula set by Congress.

Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan said the new fee is \$1.86 per animal unit month (AUM) down from the current level of \$1.92. An animal unit month is the amount of forage needed to sustain one cow and her calf, one horse, or **five** sheep or goats for a month.

The annually adjusted fee, which takes effect March 1, is computed by using a 1966 based fair market value of \$. . .² per AUM month for livestock grazing on public lands in the 16 western states. The figure is then adjusted according to current private land lease rates, beef cattle prices and the cost of livestock production.

This fee applies to national forests and BLM land in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming and to national grasslands in California, Idaho, and Oregon.

In addition, Madigan announced the 1993 grazing fee for the national grasslands. Under the formula adopted for the 1992 grazing year to provide compatibility with the Western public lands grazing fee, Madigan said this fee will be **\$2** . . .³ per AUM, a 21 cent decrease from 1992.

This grazing fee applies to national grasslands in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming.

Both fees decreased this year because higher livestock production costs and lower beef cattle prices offset **set** increases in the private land lease rates. The fee formula, established by Congress in the 1978 Public Rangeland improvement Act has continued since 1986 under a presidential Executive Order.

The Forest Service manages about 191 million acres of federal land in 44 states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands for multiple public uses, including grazing. The BLM manages about 270 million acres of federal land in 11 Western states and Alaska for a variety of public uses such as grazing.

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² Unintelligible.

³ Unintelligible.