

ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Heward Canyon C & H Allotment

Panguitch Ranger District, Dixie National Forest, Region 4

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I. MANAGEMENT GOALS

The management goal for this allotment is to secure maximum suitable forage utilization on a sustained yield basis for the production of live-stock products without deterioration of the basic resource. This objective will conform with the Panguitch Ranger District Multiple Use Plan and the Multiple Use Management Guide for the Intermountain Region.

Cattle management will be directed toward properly utilizing those areas which are suitable for cattle grazing. Special emphasis will be placed on protection of the soil and watershed. The goal is to produce a maximum amount of forage on suitable range through increased plant vigor and soil stability.

II. HISTORY AND CURRENT STATUS

a. Past Actual Use

The past use of the Heward Allotment is difficult to determine. Prior to 1971 this allotment was contained within the Willis Creek C&H Allotment. The Willis Creek Allotment was utilized by 1000 plus sheep up to 1945. In that year cattle were substituted for sheep at the ratio of 1 to 5. Present day use does not compare to use in the 1940's or earlier as in those times Bryce Canyon National Park was grazed in conjunction with National Forest land. From 1951 to 1959 Silas H. Munson has grazed 13 head in Heward Canyon. In 1960 Munson's permit was lowered to 7 head. In 1961 Munson signed a Memorandum of Understanding for 3 to 5 years of non-use. This involved his entire permitted number while the Sheep Creek cooperative watershed project was being conducted.

b. Past Management

Since 1951 the Heward Canyon Allotment (Willis Creek Allotment) has been grazed with an on-off system of management in conjunction with private land belonging to the permittee, Silas Munson. Past records show that overgrazing has resulted on the heavy use areas of the allotment. Non-use periods as well as a reduction in permitted live-stock numbers have been tried to help better the range condition. No programmed reseeding has been done on the allotment, however Silas Munson reseeded his own land to crested wheatgrass as part of the Sheep Creek watershed project. In the bottom of Heward Canyon it is possible that some crested wheatgrass may have been accidentally seeded on National Forest land.

c. Ranch Operations

The present permittee is engaged in a cow-calf operation. The permittee rounds out summer grazing on his own land by supplement grazing

on adjacent National Forest land. Silas Munson owns the major portion of the bottom land in Heward Canyon (185 acres). Suitable National Forest range of approximately 71 acres is within the Heward Canyon Allotment. Munson is presently permitted 7 livestock from June 16 to September 30 on a term permit.

d. Range Condition and Trend

The allotment analysis was completed in 1966. Following is a summary of present acreages in various suitability and condition classes inside the National Forest boundary.

Areas By Suitability Classification

Condition Class	Suitable Range Used (Primary)	Unsuitable Range Used	Non Range	Private	Totals
Fair	71	295			366
Poor		333			333
---			729	185	914
Totals	71	628	729	185	1613

Much of the Heward Canyon Allotment is currently classified in poor condition. Geologic and some accelerated soil erosion is evident in most areas in the allotment. The trend of the vegetation over the whole allotment is one of improvement while soil stability is static.

III. ESTIMATED GRAZING CAPACITIES

The following table shows tentative grazing capacity of the primary range for the Heward Canyon Allotment. This tentative capacity is computed from usable forage production.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Tentative Grazing Capacity in AUM's</u>
Primary Range	22

IV. MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

a. System to be Used

The management system to be used will divide the existing allotment into two separate units by construction of a fence across Heward Canyon at the approximate middle of Silas Munson's property within the allotment. A rotating two pasture system will then be used to provide for seed ripe and seed trampling as well as partial plant rest. The tentative carrying capacity is 22 AUM's and the months of use will be from June 1 to September 30 as divided by the following chart.

Year	Pasture	
	East Heward	West Heward
1	A	B
2	B	A

Repeat Cycle

A - Graze 6/1 - 7/31

B - Graze 8/1 - 9/30 (Seed ripe time)

b. Action Program

In order for this management system to work, close contact with the permittee and full permittee cooperation will be necessary. The fence separating the two pastures will have to be built across the permittee's own land as well as onto the National Forest. In the East Heward pasture, water will have to be secured from the permittee's property. Munson's 7 livestock term permit should be changed to read 22 AUM use on National Forest lands.

c. Alternate Management System

In case of noncooperation of the permittee to the above plan an alternate plan is to fence the side draws so that use of national forest lands can be regulated. Approximately .9 miles of fence would be required to do this job.

V. RANGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

a. Existing Improvements

Project Name	Type of Improvement	Size	Location	When Constructed	Maint. By
Boundary Fence	Fence Std. 4-wire	.6 mi.	Sec. 35 T37S, R4W	--	F.S.
Heward Creek	Earth Fill Reservoir	Small	Sec. 3 T38S, R4W	1972	F.S.
Heward Spring	Spring and Trough	120 gal.	Sec. 3 T38S, R4W	--	F.S.

b. Proposed Improvements

Type	Distance	Location	Year
Fence	.6 mi.	Fence to run N-S across Heward Creek in west half Sec. 35, T37S, R4W	1974

Because of the cost-benefit ratio of building a 3-pasture rest-rotation system for 22 AUM's it is felt that at the present time it is not worth the added investment of fencing and water developments.

The proposed fence for the two pasture system is planned to be built as a cooperative venture between the Forest Service and the permittee.

VI. CORRELATION WITH OTHER USES

Grazing on this allotment will be correlated with other land uses as outlined in the R-4 Multiple Use Management Guide and the Panguitch District Multiple Use Plan. The allotment is within two zones; Lower and Intermediate. Following are specific coordinating actions for each zone:

a. Lower Zone

- (1) Watershed. Most of this allotment is in unsatisfactory watershed condition. This is due primarily to geologic erosion. These unsatisfactory areas are not used for livestock grazing. These areas are generally steep, broken, hillsides and are typed as non range or unsuitable range. The 71 acres that are classed as primary range are in fair to good condition.

- (2) Wildlife. The allotment is within the Paunsaugunt Deer Herd Unit (60A). It is generally in intermediate range used for approximately seven months a year.

Deer use ranging from heavy to light is evident throughout the allotment. Browse plants in areas unavailable to domestic cattle use are in an upward trend because of deer population reductions.

- (3) Timber. There are no commercial stands of timber.
- (4) Recreation. The allotment is in the "seen area" for some primary overlooks in Bryce Canyon National Park. However, due to distance the grazing in this allotment will have no effect on esthetics. The allotment is not used for hiking or camping at the present time.

b. Intermediate Zone

Very little domestic livestock grazing occurs in this zone because of the lack of suitable forage and the steepness of slope. All of this zone is classified as unsuitable or non-range.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS

Permittee cooperation must be obtained in putting the management plan and grazing system into action and following it through. The permittee must understand and realize the advantages of the outlined system of management to conserve the basic resource of soil and vegetation.

VIII. ALLOTMENT INSPECTION

a. Bench Marks

There are no bench marks established on the allotment. It will be necessary to establish one photo point on each pasture of the primary range.

The following studies will be made on each pasture:

1. Range Readiness Checks - A check on vegetative readiness will be made each spring that grazing will occur. The grasses should be in the third leaf stage or about 6" in leaf length. The browse should be fully leafed. Most years the allotment will be ready about June 1.

2. Unit Inspection Record (R4-2200-15) - Inspection of the allotment will be recorded on the Unit Examination Record. Inspections will be made before entering individual pastures, several times as pastures are being grazed and after the pastures are grazed.
- b. Check on Livestock Numbers

All livestock will be counted before going on the allotment. Periodic checks for unauthorized use will be made during pasture inspections.