

ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

EAST PINTO CATTLE ALLOTMENT

Pine Valley Ranger District

Dixie National Forest

Prepared by: Benton M. Smith Date 7/4/76  
Range Conservationist

Recommended for  
Approval by: W. J. [Signature] Date 6/29/76  
District Ranger

Recommended for  
Approval by: [Signature] Date JUL 8 1976  
Chief, Branch of Range Management

Approved by: Frank Jensen Date JUL 8 1976  
*acting* Forest Supervisor

I. INFORMATION

A. History and Past Management

Prior to 1965, the East Pinto Allotment formed part of the Pinto Allotment. That Allotment had remained practically the same, with respect to boundaries, since the establishment of the Forest Service. The Allotment did extend east to Woolsey Water and Birch Creek before the construction of the district boundary fence in the 1930's.

The Allotment had an early history of some sheep use. Wild horses were common on the Allotment and mule deer use was excessive for years.

Previous management plans indicate the Allotment was successively divided into smaller units. Each permittee or group of permittees was assigned a unit. Attempts were made to defer and alternate the use in each unit through herding, hauling water, fencing waterholes, and salting different areas. These efforts were only partially successful.

This table summarizes the grazing obligation during that period.

Year	Number	Season
1913-15	1288	04/15 - 11/15
1916-24	1140	06/01 - 11/15
1925-30	(1/3 permitted number)	05/01 - 11/15
	(2/3 permitted number)	06/01 - 11/15
1931-37	(1/3 permitted number)	05/01 - 10/15
	(2/3 permitted number)	06/01 - 10/15
1938-47	300	05/01 - 10/15
	607	06/01 - 10/15
1948-65	132	05/21 - 09/30
	546	06/01 - 09/30

In 1965, the Allotment was divided into the West Pinto and East Pinto Allotments. The East Pinto Allotment contained the old Iron Town Division and the Richie Flat Division. In 1975, the Old Iron Town Division was renamed the Iron Town Allotment and the Richie Flat Division became the present East Pinto Allotment.

Since 1965, the Allotment has been placed under intensive management. Approximately 2,683 acres have been revegetated, water distribution and supply have been improved, and fences were constructed to divide the Allotment into three pastures. The number of permitted cattle was reduced by 30% and the permittees took some non-use until the reseeding were established.

In 1968, a three-pasture rest-rotation grazing system was implemented. The system is working well.

In 1976, the grazing season was extended from 6/1-9/30 to 6/1-10/15.

The goals of the management plan prepared by Ranger Ted E. Cox in 1965 are being met. This Allotment is now under intensive management and range conditions are improving.

B. Permittees and Livestock Operations

The present permittees are engaged mainly in cow-calf operations. They do place a few steers on the Allotment. The Forest is used for summer grazing. The remainder of the year is spent on BLM or private land. Their base property is located in Pinto, Washington, and Santa Clara, Utah.

Permittee	Number	Season	Animal Months
<del>Arlo Hafen</del>	<del>6</del>	<del>6/1-10/15</del>	<del>27</del>
Keith Iverson	70	6/1-10/15	<del>315</del> 459
Malin Iverson	122	6/1-10/15	<del>549</del> 732
Total	198		891

C. Range Analysis Data

The range analysis was completed in 1963. It has been updated to reflect the improvement resulting from revegetation and intensive management.

<u>Suitability Classification</u>	<u>Acres by Condition Class</u>			
	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Totals</u>
<u>Suitable</u>				
S 1	1,553	410	0	1,963
S 4	0	57	0	57
S 5	0	267	539	806
S 9	0	0	2,062	2,062
Sub-Totals	1,553	734	2,601	4,888
<u>Unsuitable</u>				
U 9				7,104
U 4				1,884
U 5				1,561
Sub-Total				10,549
ALLOTMENT TOTAL				15,437

D. Grazing Capacity

The grazing capacity of the Allotment has been firmed up over the past several years. It is believed that the Allotment can support the present obligation of 198 cattle for 4 1/2 months without damage to the range resource or other resource uses.

E. Existing Improvements

A detailed list of the structural improvements on this Allotment is on file in the District office. A brief summary follows:

1. Fences

Approximately 8.5 miles of interior fences separate the Allotment into three pastures. Approximately 17.5 miles of fence divide the Allotment from adjoining allotments. The maintenance of these fences was turned over to the permittees as part of their term permits issued in 1976.

2. Water Developments

Five springs are developed on the Allotment. The pipeline from Cottonwood Spring supplies very essential water to the North and South Richie Pastures. It was extended and a 20 foot bottomless ring installed in 1976.

The other four springs are used as the cattle range out from the reseeded areas. They all need to be repaired.

Thirty-two stock ponds have been constructed, most in conjunction with the chaining projects. Although the majority serve primarily as basins which control runoff and impound sediment, several of them provide water in critical areas. The pond known as the Pinto Canal Pond (EP-51), which is filled with the permittees' privately owned irrigation water, supplies the majority of the water in the Pinto Pasture.

3. Exclosures

Two exclosures are maintained by the Forest Service as study areas. They are located at Richie Flat and Iron Peg.

II. MANAGEMENT GOALS

- A. Provide adequate forage to meet the present grazing obligation or 891 animal months.
- B. Improve watershed conditions by increasing ground cover and reducing erosion.
- C. Improve range condition by maintaining the present grazing system and revegetating suitable areas.

### III. ANALYSIS SECTION

#### A. Erosion Control

Several large gullies on Richie Flat need to be treated to curb active erosion. This is a major undertaking, as the gullies are 10-15 feet deep and up to 40 feet wide. Funds should be allocated for this work as soon as possible.

#### B. Revegetation Rehabilitation

Young Pinyon and Juniper trees are invading the revegetated areas. Consideration should be given to controlling them within the next few years, as they will soon begin to curtail the forage growth.

#### C. Treatment of Pinyon-Juniper

Approximately 2080 acres of Pinyon-Juniper which is suitable for revegetation remain on the Allotment. Range condition in this type is poor, with the downward trend indicated in the range analysis data still evident. This acreage should be treated as funds become available.

IV. ACTION SECTION

A. Management System

The present three-pasture, rest-rotation grazing system is working well. The permittees cooperate very well in managing their cattle and maintaining the range improvements. The cattle do well on this range and are now accustomed to the system. There is no reason to change it at this time. It is as follows:

Year	Pasture		
	North Richie	South Richie	Pinto
1	R	A	B
2	A	B	R
3 1960	B	R	A

(Repeat Cycle)

A - Graze First (6/1-7/30) or until proper use is reached.

B - Graze Second (8/1-10/15) or until proper use is reached.

R - Rest Season Long (or graze the last few days of the season if needed.)

B. Proper Use Criteria

The rotation dates listed above are tentative.

The R-4 Range Analysis Handbook (Section 62.2) states that 50 percent utilization of the species being managed is all the use that should be made on most ranges. Therefore, proper use will be considered as 50% utilization of the palatable forage on the suitable range. The cattle will be moved when forage utilization reaches this level.

C. Action Program

- ✓ 1. Maintain present management system.
2. Initiate erosion control program as soon as possible.
3. Revegetate remaining suitable areas as funds become available.
4. Rehabilitate revegetated areas as needed.
- ✓ 5. Repair water developments as needed.

D. Proposed Improvements

The only improvement recommended at this time is approximately 2080 acres of double-chaining and aerial seeding.

V. COORDINATION WITH OTHER USES

This Allotment is in the Pinto Management Area of the Land Use Plan for the Enterprise Planning Unit.

1. Wildlife

Mule deer, cougar, coyotes and numerous species of small animals and birds inhabit the area. Wildlife ramps will be installed in the watering troughs. Excess water will be released into small ponds for use by wildlife.

2. Watershed

This management plan will improve watershed conditions on all areas.

3. Recreation

Recreation is limited mainly to hunting and sightseeing. The cattle will be removed before the deer season opens.

4. Timber

Free-use post permits will be issued in those areas to be chained. The public will be encouraged to remove the slash as firewood following the chaining. The cutting of Christmas trees will not be affected by this plan.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS

No administrative problems are foreseen at this time.

VII. FOLLOW-UP

A. Key Species

Since the majority of the forage is produced on the revegetated areas, crested wheatgrass will be the key specie. Management will be directed toward maintaining this specie in a healthy condition.

B. Bench Marks

Bench marks have been established in each pasture. They will be read periodically to determine range trend.

C. Allotment Inspections

Form R4-2200-15 will be completed on each pasture grazed each year.

D. Check on Livestock Numbers

The cattle will be periodically counted onto the Allotment. Spot checks will be made for unauthorized livestock throughout the year.