ELK SPRINGS/DOG KNOBS

ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

1997

PREPARED BY Paul O. Webber DATE 11-04-97
Rangeland Management Specialist

REVIEWED BY Ronald Shuler DATE 11/4/97
Ecosystem Management Specialist

APPROVED BY [signature] DATE 11-10-97
District Ranger

AGREED TO BY: [signature] DATE 4/3/98
~~Permittee~~

I. Description of Allotment

The Elk Springs/Dog Knobs Allotment is located within the Chalender/Williams Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest. This allotment is permitted to graze 46 head of cattle for a 10 month period of time. During the remaining 2 months, the cattle are grazed on private land. Currently the Dog Knobs allotment is grazed in the winter months and Elk Springs is grazed during the summer months. Since one of the objectives of this plan is to allow for adequate rest to all of the pastures in both the Elk Springs and Dog Knobs, winter use in the Elk Springs portion of the allotment was suggested and agreed to by the present permittee. Although the Elk Springs portion of the allotment generally receives more snow than Dog Knobs, the permittees felt that they would like to be able to observe their cattle and feed them during heavy snow situations. This winter use of Elk Springs has been used in the past with success.

ELK SPRINGS

The Elk Springs portion of the Elk Springs/Dog Knobs allotment is located approximately 13 miles north of Parks, Arizona, in the Cataract watershed. Spring Valley wash is the only major drainage located on this portion of the allotment.

Terrain is mostly steep, north facing slopes in the southern portion of Elk Springs, becoming mostly flat to the north. Topographic features include R S Hill, Section Sixteen Hill and Connors Hump.

Ponderosa pine with mountain muhly, muttongrass and remnants of Arizona Fescue in the understory, is the major vegetation type in the southern portion of the allotment. The understory changes to blue grama and rubber rabbitbrush with minor amounts of spike muhly and muttongrass in the northern areas. Browse plants present are buckbrush, dwarf rabbitbrush, cliffrose and gray oak. Dense stands of ponderosa pine in the southern portion of the allotment inhibit the growth of understory plants. Most of these areas have been rated as potential capacity, meaning that no capacity was given to these areas when the 1994-1995 production/utilization was accomplished. There are several areas on the allotment that contain productive alluvial bottoms. On these bottoms mountain muhly, muttongrass, and various forbs are common. Forage production increases as slopes become more gentle in the northern half of the allotment.

The Elk Spring portion of the allotment is approximately 4,900 acres in size.

DOG KNOBS

The Dog Knobs allotment is located in the extreme northeast corner of the Chalender/Williams District. It is bounded on the north and east by the Kaibab/Coconino Forest boundary, and partially on the west by Forest Road 144. The Dog Knobs portion of the allotment is

approximately 4,900 acres in size.

Topography of this allotment varies from slightly sloping in the north to steeper slopes with several drainages in the south. Pinyon-juniper woodlands and grasslands are the dominant vegetation types. The climate is semi-arid, with a majority of the precipitation falling during the summer monsoons. A small portion of the allotment (about 300 acres) is located on the Coconino National Forest north of Red Mountain.

Dominant understory is blue grama, 3-awn, galleta grass and ring muhly.

II. Desired Condition - In the long term, range condition will be good with an unward trend. Grazing use will be less than or equal to grazing capacity for all pastures. There will be a balanced mix of warm and cool season grasses, and a minor forb component. (10%). Waters will be well-distributed and reliable. There will be no more than 40% grazing within any given area within the allotments, and no more than 20% average use within goshawk and spotted owl foraging habitat. Grazing will be managed so as to adequately protect turkey wintering habitat.

The Forest Service will continue to provide opportunities for viable livestock grazing operations consistant with good ecosystem principles.

III. AMP Objectives

The following objectives were developed for this specific proposal to move the allotments toward the desired condition.

1. Provide more balanced use on warm and cool season grasses within both allotments.

2. Reduce grazing periods to less than 60 days in each pasture

3. Allow for more rest within specific high-use areas within the Elk Springs portion of the allotment.

4. Improve livestock distribution through repair of existing waters.

5. Allow for more rest of forage plants within turkey wintering areas during winter use periods.

To accomplish the goals and objectives mentioned above, this management plan was designed to progress in two phases. Phase one is less intensive than phase two and will require the following range improvements before moving into phase two. These improvements are:

IV. Proposed Range Improvements

1. Repair Dog Knobs Trick-tank. - needs to be totally rebuilt
2. Reconstruct R.S. Tank. - done 2006-7
3. Install drinker in west portion of the R.S. pasture. - still could use this as permanent drinker; now they use temp. water haul.
4. Divide Dog Knobs South pasture with fence, creating two pastures. - need to flag, provide aveh clearance for backhoe use
5. Divide R.S. pasture with fence, creating two pastures.
6. Prescribe burn the Cadillac Push area to reduce invading P/J. - permittee think clipping would be better than burning
7. Reconstruct Webster Tank. - done ~ 2001

V. Allotment Key Areas

The key areas for the Elk Springs/Dog Knobs allotment have been identified in the 1994-1995 production/utilization study. These areas have been identified for each pasture of both allotments.

DOG KNOBS ALLOTMENT

KEY AREA	(1994/95 P/U STUDY) ALLOWABLE USE
UNIT DELINEATION NUMBER 1	35%
UNIT DELINEATION NUMBER 9	40%

ELK SPRINGS ALLOTMENT

R.S. PASTURE

UNIT DELINEATION NUMBER 5	40%
UNIT DELINEATION NUMBER 6	45%

MILLER PASTURE

UNIT DELINEATION NUMBER 2	30%

WEBSTER PASTURE

UNIT DELINEATION NUMBER 1	30%

W-TRIANGLE PASTURE

UNIT DELINEATION NUMBER 2 30%

FLANNIGAN PASTURE

UNIT DELINEATION NUMBER 3 30%

VI. MONITORING

Rangeland monitoring can be accomplished by inspecting these Key areas for utilization by ungulates. In addition to the key areas established in the 1994/1995 production/utilization study, utilization cages have been installed at two locations on the Dog Knobs allotment and three locations on the Elk Springs allotment. These cages are identified on the 1994/1995 production/utilization map. (See production/utilization map legend for location of cages).

When this AMP is revised, production/utilization and range analysis information should be conducted to obtain needed information concerning allotment capacity and range condition and trend.

ELK SPRING/DOG KNOBS ALLOTMENT
GRAZING SCHEDULE
REVISED 4/3/98

A. 1998

1. DOG KNOBS NORTH - APRIL 1 - MAY 15
2. DOG KNOBS SOUTH - MAY 16 - JULY 31
3. FLANNIGAN - AUGUST 1 - AUGUST 31
4. R.S. - SEPTEMBER 1 - OCTOBER 31
5. W-TRIANGLE - NOVEMBER 1 - DECEMBER 31
6. WEBSTER - JANUARY 1 - JANUARY 31

B. 1999

1. DOG KNOBS SOUTH - APRIL 1 - MAY 15
2. DOG KNOBS NORTH - MAY 16 - JULY 31
3. W-TRIANGLE - AUGUST 1 - SEPTEMBER 30
4. R.S. - OCTOBER 1 - NOVEMBER 30
5. WEBSTER - DECEMBER 1 - DECEMBER 31
6. FLANNIGAN - JANUARY 1 - JANUARY 31

C. 2000

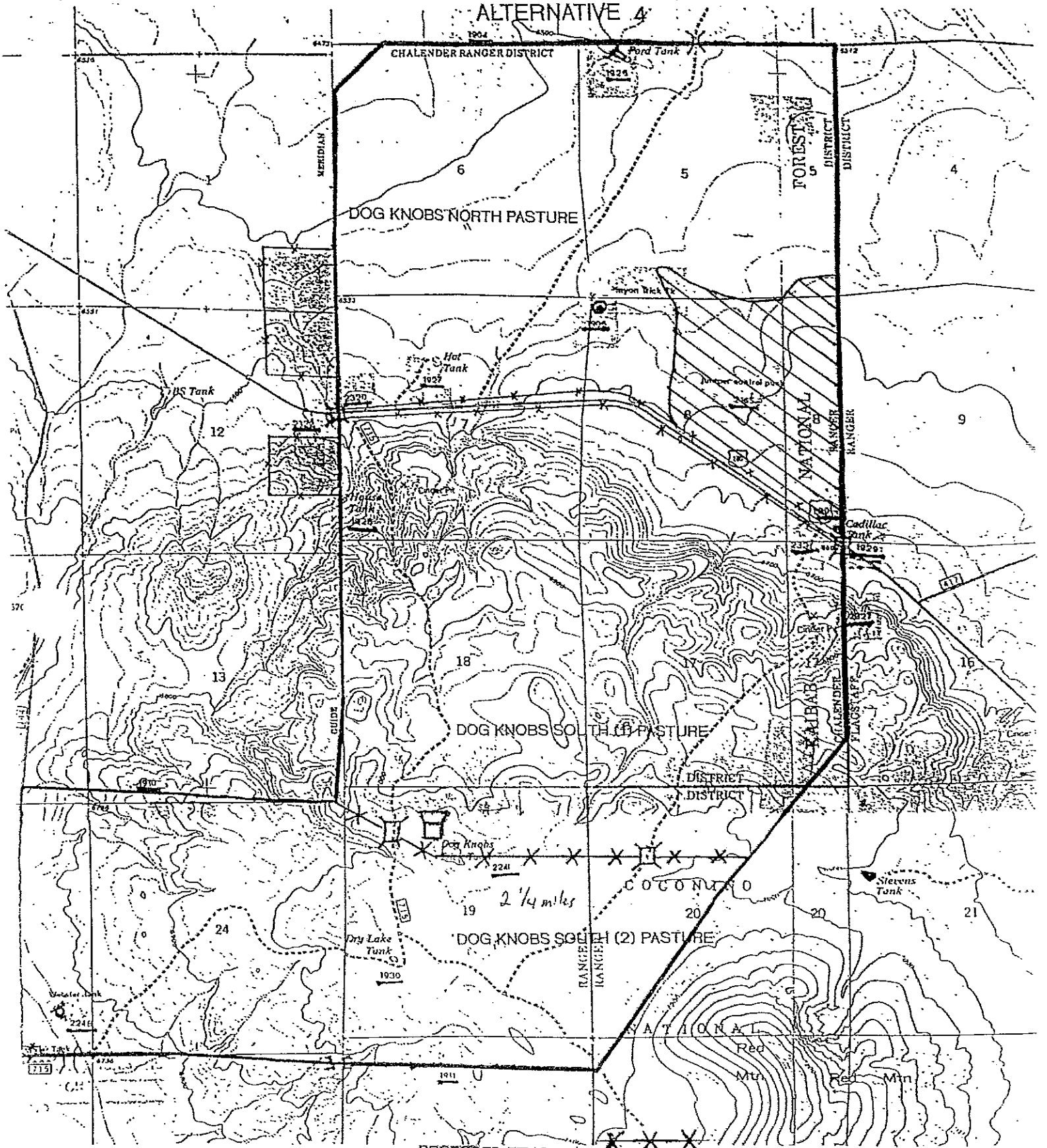
1. W- TRIANGLE - APRIL 1 - MAY 31
2. WEBSTER - JUNE 1 - JUNE 30
3. DOG KNOBS NORTH - JULY 1 - SEPTEMBER 15
4. R.S. - SEPTEMBER 16 - NOVEMBER 15
5. DOG KNOBS SOUTH - NOVEMBER 16 - DECEMBER 31
6. FLANNIGAN - JANUARY 1 - JANUARY 31

D. 2001

1. WEBSTER - APRIL 1 - APRIL 30
2. W-TRIANGLE - MAY 1 - JUNE 30
3. R.S. - JULY 1 - AUGUST 31
4. FLANNIGAN - SEPTEMBER 1 - SEPTEMBER 30
5. DOG KNOBS NORTH - OCTOBER 1 - DECEMBER 15
6. DOG KNOBS SOUTH - DECEMBER 16 - JANUARY 31

DOG KNOBS ALLOTMENT

ALTERNATIVE 4



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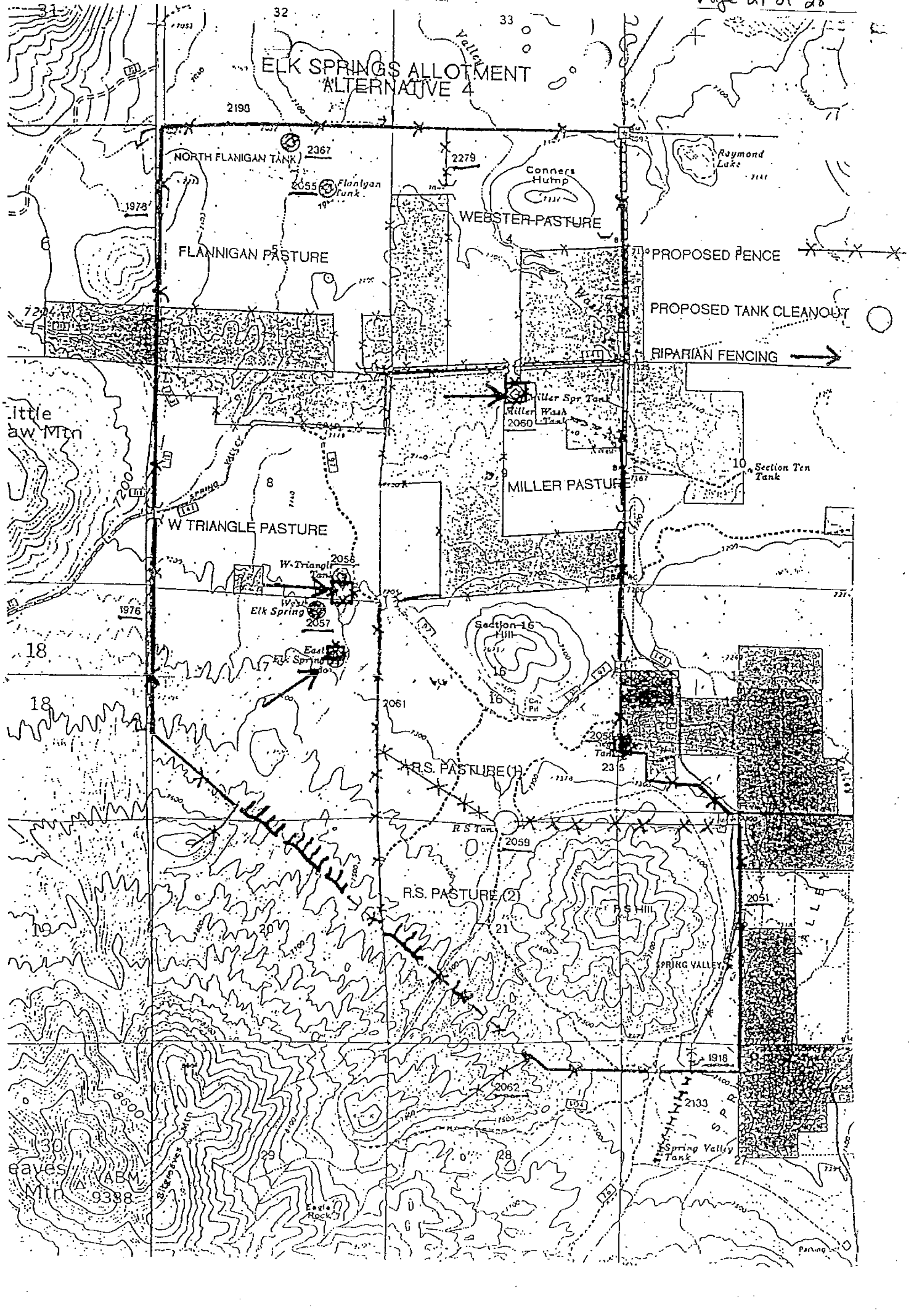
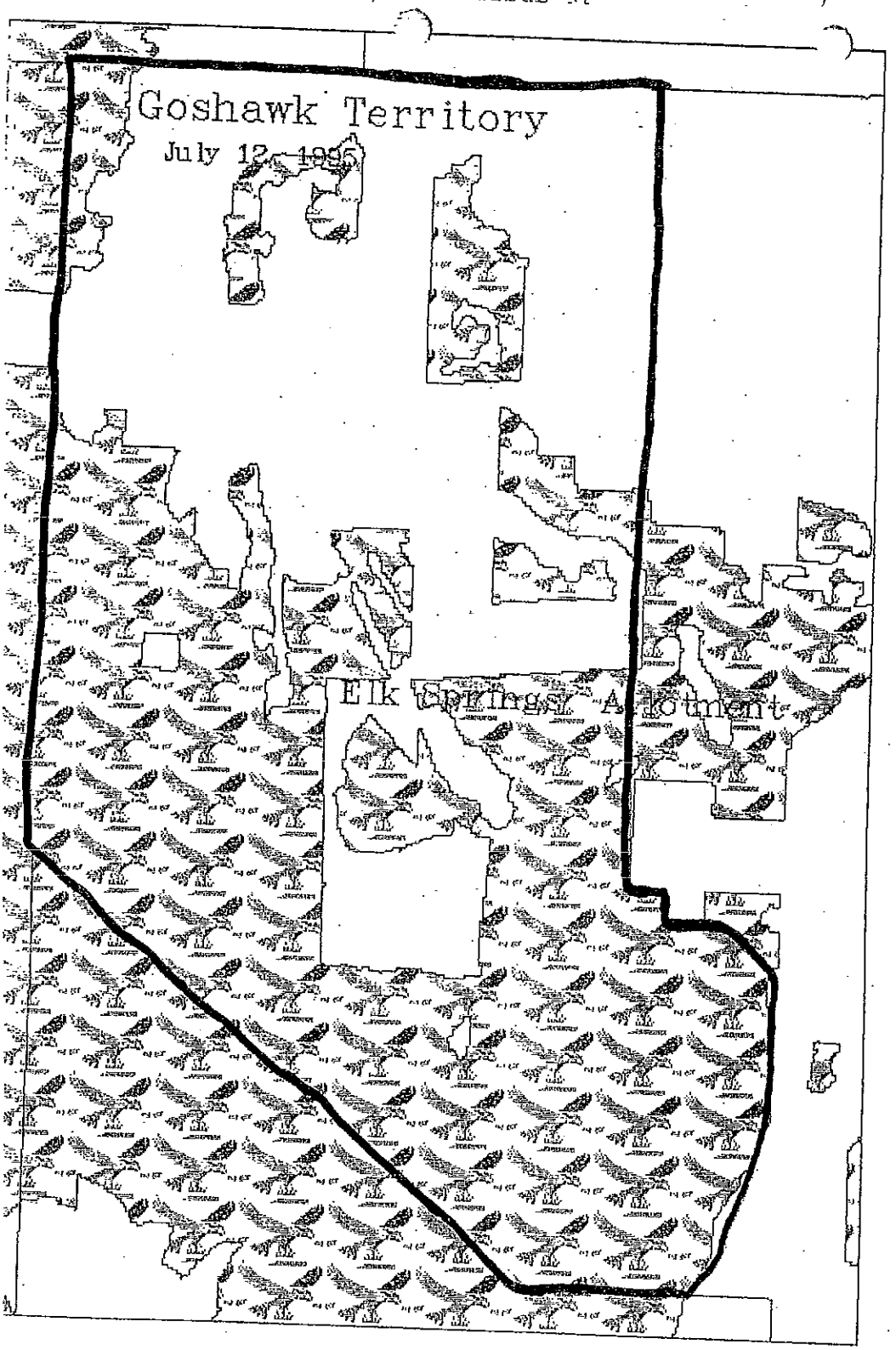
3.5 in. x


ELK SPRINGS ALLOTMENT
ALTERNATIVE 4
NORTH FLANIGAN TANK
2367
2279
Flanigan Tank
2055
Conners Hump
Raymond Lake
WEBSTER PASTURE
FLANNIGAN PASTURE
PROPOSED FENCE
PROPOSED TANK CLEANOUT
RIPARIAN FENCING
Miller Spr. Tank
Miller Wash Tank
2060
Little
aw Mtn
MILLER PASTURE
Section Ten Tank
W TRIANGLE PASTURE
W-Triangle Tank
2056
Elk Spring
2057
East Elk Spring
1976
1978
Section 16 Hill
2061
R.S. PASTURE (1)
R S Tank
2059
R.S. PASTURE (2)
R S Hill
2051
SPRING VALLEY
1916
2062
2133
Spring Valley Tank
Eagle Rock
eaves
Mtn
9388
2190
7204
7200
8600
31
32
33
6
8
9
10
16
17
18
19
20
21
27
28
29
30

LOCATION: Chalend ,RD - Kaibab NF



ALE: 1 : 33283

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GION: 408905 413705
3911910

rap (95permitissue)

Mexican Spotted Owl Areas

December 17, 1995