

REPORT ON HOPI RANGE USE IN 1934  
OUTSIDE OF THE 1882 BOUNDARY

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August, 1987

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
INTRODUCTION	1
Herding Practices Relative to Animal Distribution	2
LIVESTOCK GRAZING IN THE MOENKOPI AREA	7
Documented Hopi Use Areas	10
Maximum Likelihood Hopi Use Areas	16
Probable Hopi Use Areas	22
USE OF THE 1934 RESERVATION AREA BY HOPI LIVESTOCK OWNED BY DISTRICT 6 RANCHERS	26
Documented Hopi Use Areas	26
Maximum Likelihood Use Areas	32
Probable Use Areas	34
CONCLUSIONS	35
REFERENCES	37

## INTRODUCTION

Hopi grazing use in the 1934 Reservation area originated from two distinct sources. The primary source was from livestock belonging to residents of the Moenkopi area, and nearly all of this use was within the boundaries of Land Management Unit 3 (LMU-3), with some animals grazing southward into LMU-5 and northward into LMU-4. The second source of Hopi livestock in the 1934 area involved animals that freely grazed or were herded southward from District 6, (LMU-6), crossing the 1882 boundary in LMU-5 and LMU-7. This report focuses on Hopi grazing south and west of the 1882 Reservation.

In 1934, geographic areas of use and the grazing patterns developed by livestock from these two sources were different. Also, government documents describing the rangelands used by these respective groups were prepared by different offices. Accordingly, this report consists of separate analyses of grazing use by Moenkopi livestock and by District 6 livestock, followed by a general summary of Hopi livestock use within the 1934 area.

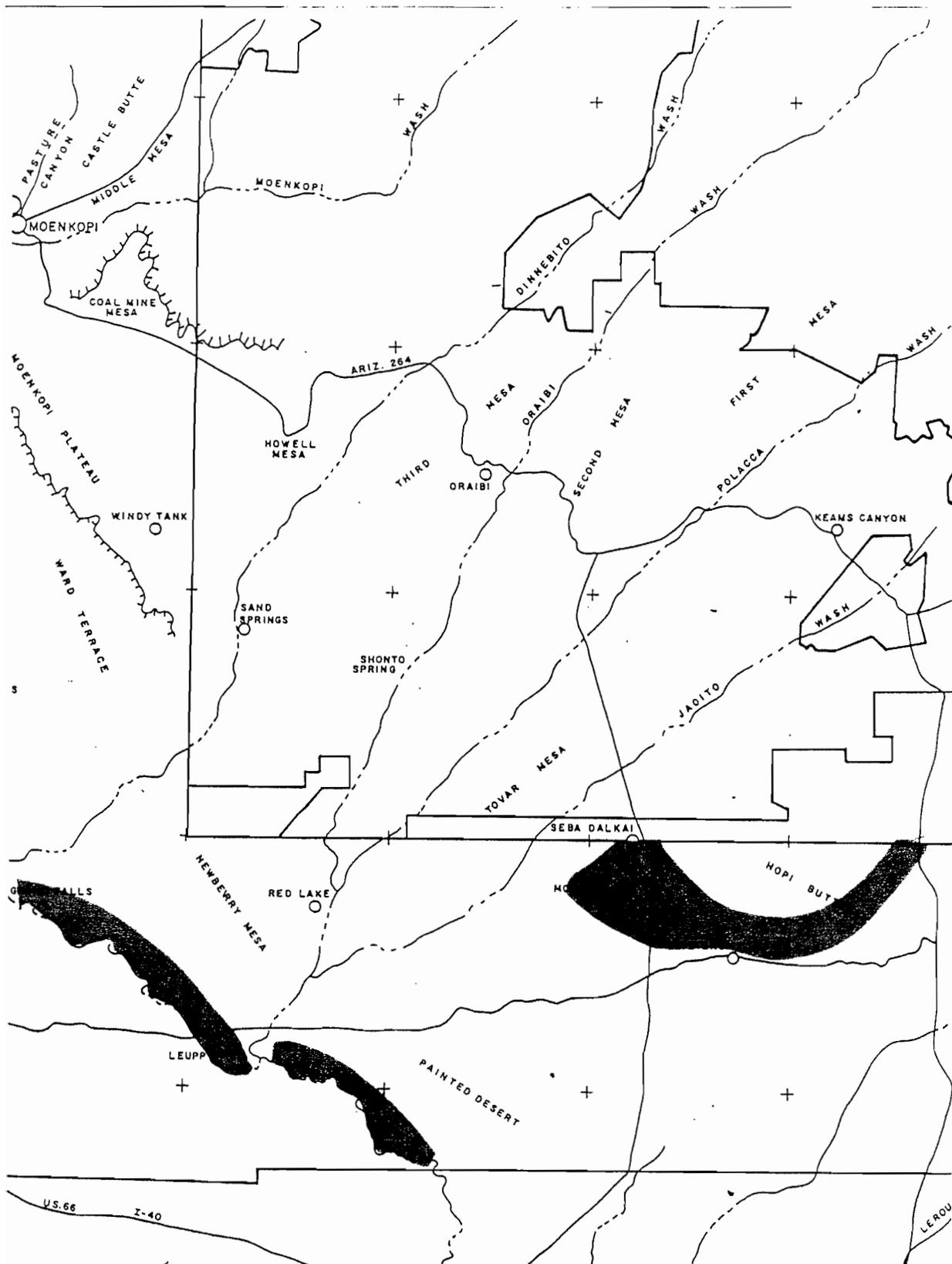
This analysis of Hopi grazing areas circa 1934 is based primarily on historical government documents. In an attempt to validate, clarify and provide a more detailed account of Hopi grazing areas, this author integrated this documentary information with what is known about the characteristics of the rangeland, the location of available stockwater and the behavior of livestock and graziers. This author also visited the area in question.

### Probable Hopi Use Areas

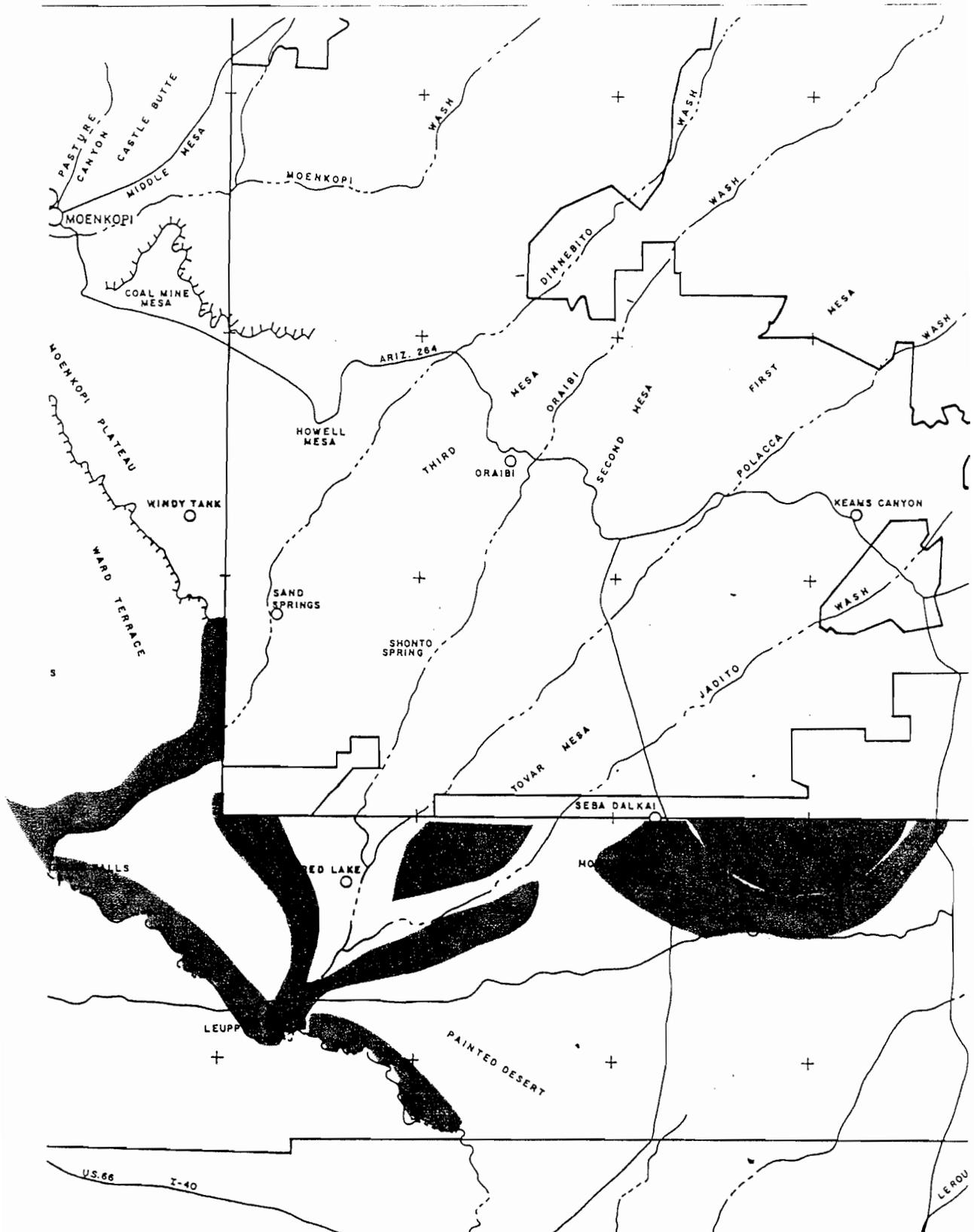
Because of the lack of natural boundaries and because of the presence of excellent forage and water, Hopi livestock in the Hopi Buttes area would have grazed out from the Cedar Springs area for approximately five miles in a radius east, south, and west from this central point (Map 7, area a) consisting of some 50,000 acres of suitable rangeland.

Hopi cattle that reached the Tolani Lakes area were not restricted from migrating to the Little Colorado basin near Leupp (Map 7, area b). It is probable that Hopi livestock belonging to at least four stockmen [26:112] grazed as far as that natural barrier and continued grazing for some distance up and down the east bank of the Little Colorado River. This is consistent with Page's description of the Hopi cattle's winter range. [3:11] The total area involved is likely about 30,000 acres along the north side of the river valley. However, it is possible that this use area extended downriver to the northwest, joining with the area of river valley probably grazed by the Moenkopi cattle (Map 3, area a).

The total area outside the 1882 Reservation probably grazed by District 6 livestock included the Hopi Buttes area on the east to the Little Colorado River on the southwest. Much of the range used by District 6 Hopis was shared with their cousins from Moenkopi (Map 8).



Map 7. Probable grazing areas used by the District-6 Hopis.



Map 8. Total estimated grazing area used by the District-6 Hopis.

## CONCLUSIONS

It is clear that in 1934 the Hopi were using established ranges beyond the 1882 boundary. Approximately 210,000 acres of suitable rangeland have been described as documented Hopi grazing areas, including the ranges in and near Moenkopi and Pasture Canyon Washes, Moenkopi Plateau, Coal Mine Mesa, and the Tolani Lakes/Jeddito Wash region (Maps 1 and 5). It is probable that the rangelands on Moenkopi Plateau and Coal Mine Mesa were exclusively used by the Hopis, as they had control of the water and were not disposed to share their resources. Navajos trespassing into the Hopi grazing area were promptly removed.

Beyond the documented Hopi use areas, approximately 270,000 acres of suitable rangelands would have attracted Hopi livestock to available water and forage (Maps 2 and 6). These maximum likelihood Hopi use areas are proximal to the documented Hopi areas and use of these ranges is inferred from what is known of livestock and stockman behavior and from the overstocked conditions that forced livestock and herders to seek greener pastures. A portion of the maximum likelihood area (Map 6, area c) was probably used exclusively by Hopi stockmen.

Because the Hopi considered that all of the rangelands discussed were theirs to use and because the livestock and herders were not restricted by fences or natural barriers, it is probable that Hopi livestock grazed beyond the areas described as documented and maximum likelihood use areas (Maps 3 and 7). Although

the exact extent of additional Hopi use in 1934 is difficult to specify, the 300,000 acres of suitable rangeland identified as probably used by the Hopi is somewhat conservative in that the area potentially grazed by Hopi livestock in 1934 is several times larger than the area where grazing was most probable.

The total surface area encompassed by all of the suitable and unsuitable rangeland areas referred to above in the foregoing summary of Hopi livestock use during 1934 is 1,752 square miles or 1,121,280 acres.