

NAVAJO AGENCY

OCT 12 1936

Western Navajo Agency,
Tuba City, Arizona.
October 8, 1936.

Following is a report on range conditions in District # 3.

It will be discussed by various sections for the sake of convenience.

GREY MOUNTAIN AND NEEDMORE.

This embraces all that country south of the Little Colorado River in District No. 3.

Good rains have fallen throughout this area and grass has made a good start in most parts.

Grey Mountain, as a whole, is in an overgrazed condition, grass growth being mainly to leaves, with little or no seed crop. Quite a lot of winterfat is found in the central part.

The country surrounding Poverty Tank, overgrazed to depletion as it is, has made very little improvement, with almost no seed. This includes practically all of the area off Grey Mountain except the Campbell-Frances Addition.

This portion is in very good shape, having been in good shape this past spring, and abundant rains have made good growth and a fine seed crop.

The Campbell-Frances Extension is the only part, in my estimation that will support any number of stock throughout the winter.

BIG CANYON VICINITY.

This area embraces that country west of Highway #89, North of Little Colorado River.

The feed in the western part of this area has made some growth, but no seed, due to the lateness of rains and to the fact that this area has been badly overgrazed. Most of the eastern portion is virtually wasteland.

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I do not believe that over 2000 head of stock can winter in this Area, it being probable that they will move north into the Bodaway Country of District No. 1 in early spring.

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COAL MINE MESA AND WARD TERRACE.

Coal Mine Mesa embraces the country south of Moencopi; and between the old Hopi Reservation Boundary and Kloy-I-Chee Rim. Ward Terrace is that country between the Rim and Highway 89 and Little Colorado River.

Feed is in excellent shape in virtually all of the Coal Mine Mesa country. This range has only been opened to grazing in the past year by construction of windmills. A good seed crop has resulted from abundant rainfall.

This range will support a great number of stock throughout the winter.

Ward terrace, is for the most part, wasteland. However, some small growth is noted in the Southern part near Black Falls; but no amount of feed has been produced.

RED LAKE, RED MESA AND BLUE CANYON.

The sandy country north and northeast of Tuba City to Red Lake has received quite a lot of good rains with a satisfactory growth of sacaton resulting. Considerable seed has been produced. Late winter feed may be expected.

This same obtains East of Red Lake along the foothills of Black Range North of Blue Canyon.

Near Cow Springs, the gramma grass made a good stand, but unseasonable grazing has caused loss of lot of seed.

The rains on the foothills of Black Mountain between Cow Springs and Blue Canyon were too late to start any amount of grass. Browse in this vicinity has suffered severe depletion in the past from overstocking and several years rest will be necessary to promote recovery.

No winter feed may be expected in this last vicinity.

R. L. Frazer

R. L. Frazer,
Dist. Supervisor.

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