

Land Operations

NAVAJO AREA OFFICE
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

MAF 0 7 1969

SEE MAPS

WR 106-111

Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Sir:

In investigation of reports and oral interviews with Navajo and Hopi people, the following information and maps were developed.

The present day usage by both Hopis and Navajos in the farm areas are as follows:

1. Allotments below the Moencopi Village were established in 1911 as shown on attached farm maps 1 and 2.
2. There are tracts called Murphy allotments. These were surveyed in 1911 by Murphy but on which no known trust patents were issued. Hopis have used these since their survey.
3. Pasture Canyon land located between the Tuba-Kayenta and Tuba-Window Rock Highways is used by Hopis. There are a few cultivated fields of approximately one acre each with some fruit trees while the rest is pasture land.
4. Water rights of 200 acre feet from the Pasture Canyon Reservoir is recognized for the Navajo and Hopi allotted lands below the Moencopi Village as shown on farm maps No. 1 and 2.

Present day grazing patterns of the Navajos and Hopis in the Moencopi Plateau are greatly intermixed. Due to the weather, water availability and forage the grazing patterns change.

There are two main boundaries mentioned in most reports. One is the western edge of Moencopi Plateau and the other is up the Moencopi Wash. How far along the rim and how far up the Wash, varied with the report. Example: Superintendent Walker's letter of February 5, 1930, states as follows:

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"The Hopis were to graze that section of the reservation out of the Moencopi Wash as far as their stock would naturally graze from the village. The western edge of the mesa on that side was agreed upon as the western boundary, but since the Hopis' Reservation lies to the east, it was not deemed necessary to consider that side of the range since they were informed that they might graze at will on that side."

It appears the key to this statement is: "As far as their stock would naturally graze from the village." Also, in most reports the main livestock mentioned were sheep which would tend to limit the distance grazed.

At the present time, the area south of the Moencopi Village to the lower edge of Moencopi Plateau is primarily Hopi use. The boundaries of the proposed area are: Starting at the village and running up the Moencopi Wash to Round Rock; thence, south to the lower edge of the Moencopi Plateau; thence, west along the lower edge of the Plateau, a distance of approximately 11 miles; thence, north to the Moencopi Wash; thence, up the Wash to the point of beginning.

The past grazing pattern is shown on attached Range Map 2. This map was prepared with information given by Frank Goldtooth of Tuba City. His entire statement is recorded on three tapes. A translation of these tapes (Attachment 1) was made by Messrs. Jonathan Hamstreet and Robert Begay who are familiar with the area.

The Page Report of 1937 totals 72,900 acres. The area is mixed use by Navajo and Hopi stockmen. A map attached to the report (See map attachment 3) serves as reference for Range Maps 1, 2, and 3.

This office, after thorough study and review, recommends that an area of approximately 54,809 acres be designated for Hopi. Our conclusions show approximately 44,569 acres included within and 10,240 acres outside the Page Report. This area is shown in blue on Range Map 4. It is intended that this area include all of the Hopi allotments, the Murphy allotments, the present Hopi Village site and the valley which lay between the Window Rock and Kayenta Highways. The grazing resources of the area is basically adequate for Hopi livestock range use at present. All reports studied show this area to be predominately Hopi use.

The information, maps, attachments, and conclusion are submitted for an early decision on removal of the restriction order as outlined in Commissioner's letter dated July 8, 1966. We believe the area outlined

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in blue on Range Map 4 most nearly fits the use of land by Hopis on July 14, 1934. The above in reference to the Act of July 14, 1934 (48 Stat. 960), popularly known as the "Boundary Bill of 1934."

We have not discussed the area recommended and shown on Range Map 3 with the Navajo. It is not likely they would agree with our conclusions. It is suggested that a task force from the Central Office review the enclosed material, other data available, field reconnaissance, and designate a specific area for Hopi. We desire that an early conclusion be reached.

Sincerely yours,

(S.S.) CRANFORD HODGKES

Area Director

Enclosures

cc:
Land Operations
M&F
Chrono
Reading file

LAND OPERATIONS:JRAY:HHARTER:OKWEAVER:tbs 3/7/69

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Portion of Range Map 4

