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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
FIELD SERVICE
NAVAJO SERVICE
Window Rock, Arizona
April 6, 1938

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Mr. J. T. Rigden
Tuba City, Arizona

Dear Mr. Rigden:

I received your recommendations on the proposed boundary change between District #3 and District #1.

I personally believe that there is a lot of merit to your suggestion, but since it involves such a radical departure from our established policy, I have determined to make no decision or take any further action in the matter until I have an opportunity to talk to Mr. Fryer.

There is, however, an additional consideration which should be looked into. As you know, the maximum limit in District #4 is very low, and obviously there is going to be a necessity for making some adjustment in order to raise the carrying capacity of District #4. There are two alternatives that can be pursued: First, a resurvey of District #4 which may or may not increase the maximum limit. I personally feel that any increase obtained from this procedure would be rather small so that it will be necessary perhaps to increase the acreage of the district. That can only be done by changing the boundaries between Districts #4 and #3, #4 and #1, #4 and #2, #4 and #8, #4 and #10. As I remember it, the original boundaries of District #4 followed the escarpment of Black Mesa around to the boundary line between District #8 and District #9 where it joins the boundary of District #4. From a watershed standpoint this makes a logical boundary line and will undoubtedly add considerably to the carrying capacity of the district. However, there are other matters which must be considered such as the general drift of the stock, the number of people effected and the general attitude of the people effected.

Again it might only be necessary to anticipate a boundary change effecting District #4 that would follow the Black Mountain escarpment starting at a point on the boundary line between District #3 and District #1 and following the escarpment around to the boundary line between Districts #2 and #8. It might be

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possible to make a trade between the people of District #1 and the people of District #3 by eliminating the district line between #1 and #3 to make a change in the boundary line of District #4, bring it out to the Black Mountain escarpment.

I wish that you would investigate the possibilities of these suggestions and give me a report on the matter. I would like to have the report give the number of surface acres that would be added to District #4 and the increase in carrying capacity that would be secured and the decrease of carrying capacity in the other districts. Then with this report and the report that you have already handed in it may be possible for us to make an adjustment that will bring about the desired results.

Very truly yours,



H. E. Holman
Director of Land Use

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