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Polacca, Ariz.

June 29, 1931

Mr H. C. Neuffer  
Supervising Engineer  
Albuquerque, N.M.

Dear Mr Neuffer:

Following is a report of my reconnaissance made of the Navajo country in company with Mr. Zeh of the Forestry service.

The object of this trip to the different reservations and their headquarters was to consult with the different superintendents and their field representatives relative to water development on their respective jurisdictions, this we felt necessary as there are many emergencies arising which demand immediate attentions due to the fact that the range is badly over-grazed and over-stocked adjacent to the present water supplies, and the urgent need for water in places where there is no water at present time, and where there is an abundance of feed.

The different superintendents recognize this fact and strongly urge that we adopt the proper plan of water development to make these above mentioned areas available, they offer as a argument in behalf of this request, the extreme need of feed as well as water to enable them to take care of the excess animals now on the reservation, they call our attention to the fact that during last *year* there was practically no market for sheep and that their crop of lambs of last year is equal to thirty percent

WR 11475

increase and was not sold and is now on the range, they also face another menacing condition of this years lamb increase which operates to further congest the range conditions.

Now since by far the large majority of good grazing is out on un-watered plateaus and where no natural water exists (such as springs to be developed, and where well drilling is impracticable) it automatically compels us to resort to surface reservoirs to be constructed in order to develop water in these sections, this method of water development can be followed only where sufficient funds are available for the purchase of necessary equipment for handling dirt by an economic method.

It is discouraging to attempt to formulate a plan that will meet the urgent needs with the small amount of money available, therefore, I would recommend in carrying out a plan conforming to the needs arrived at from this recent survey that we purchase machinery and equipment as follows.

Northern Navajo

Allotment \$ 14,960.

I recommend that we purchase a sixty horse power Caterpillar tractor, and transfer the scraper from the Eastern Navajo jurisdiction, also transferring Foreman Cravath and his help to this jurisdiction and construct earthen reservoirs on mesas east of Charco river, between Hogback and Pueblo Bonito country, in the event there is money available over and above what is required to construct these reservoirs for a period of twelve months it can be used in digging shallow wells on the Charco.

WR 11476

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Southern Navajo

Allotment \$ 20,025

We propose to sink shallow wells along the Pueblo Colorado river and its tributaries and developing springs in the Greasewood country and other parts of the southern section of this jurisdiction, and the continuance of the maintenance of wells, windmills, tanks and troughs on this reservation.

Eastern Navajo

Allotment \$ 14,500.

In order to carry out the recommendations of the superintendent and which seems to be as feasible a plan as could be worked out considering the amount of money available and the range to be served, it is recommended that a contract be let for the drilling of two wells at Canyon Gito and erecting windmills over same, and two wells which will likely be (Artesian or flowing) near the Military reserve at Wingate, north of the Santa Fe railroad which will develop a country equaling about five townships, this will consume the entire appropriation on this jurisdiction.

Eastern Navajo

Allotment \$ 14,500.

We propose to continue the construction of earthen reservoirs on this jurisdiction with the present equipment in the section of the country lying north of Tuba City, east of Echo Cliffs, south of the Copper Mine, and west of Red Mesa covering as much of this country as possible, which is also recommended by Capt. C. L. Walker of that jurisdiction, if there is any surplus of funds it can be spent in spring development work to good advantage in in other outlying countries.

WR 11477

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Allotment \$ 11,100.

With this allotment it is proposed to drill one or more wells near the west line of this reservation what is known as Canyon Diablo country, the estimated depth of these wells will be approximately eight hundred feet, other wells if funds will permit to be drilled adjacent to the above after purchasing and erecting windmills.

Contract should be let for this drilling, in the event that sufficient wells can be developed to serve this country without using the entire fund the surplus could be used in developing springs in the Castle Butte country.

Hopi

Allotment \$ 15,350.

There is an allotment of six thousand dollars included in the above for the maintainance of wells, windmills, tanks and troughs, two thousand three hundred and twenty five dollars of which is set aside for the purpose of developing springs, constructing concrete troughs for Hopi Indians, the balance of nine thousand three hundred and fifty dollars is set aside for Navajo Indians residing on the Hopi reservation exclusively, this will be used in the purchasing of a Tractor, Scraper and other equipment necessary in the construction of earthen reservoirs in that un-watered section of the country lying west and north of Pinon and east of Blue Canyon occupied by Navajos exclusively, with this plan it is estimated we can operate one reservoir construction party four months,

WR 11478

WR 11400

-5-

after purchasing equipment etc.

This program is based on actual needs of the reservations after taking into consideration the recommendations of the different superintendents and their field employees, together with what seems possible with the funds available, all of which is far short of what should be done to relieve the water shortage etc, but appears to be about all that can be contemplated during the coming year, even if this plan is adopted it may be necessary ( as has been in the past) to drop original plan temporarily and to take care of unforeseen emergencies that may arise from time to time, in view of this fact we should have sufficient leeway to meet those emergencies when they arise.

We are respectfully submitting this for your consideration and final decision.

Very truly yours

C-C to the  
superintendents.

WR 11479

WR 11480