

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

FIELD SERVICE

Hopi Indian Agency
Keams Canyon, Arizona
July 30, 1942



Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Commissioner:

Mr. W. R. Centerwall has completed his recommendation for the adjustment of the District 6 of the Hopi Indian Reservation. His report is a result of painstaking efforts and field research and those acquainted with the problem and its difficult complications feel that this report is an accomplishment. The chairman of the Tribal Council has approved it as indicated by his signature.

I feel sure that an increase in the area of less acreage would not receive the approval of the Hopis and that there will be many who will feel that there should have been much more added. However, it is believed that most Hopis would not disapprove of the area recommended by Mr. Centerwall for land management unit.

As has been previously reported all suitable farm lands on District 6 are in cultivation and there are many Hopis who do not have adequate farm lands to produce sufficient crops for their needs. The hard rock irrigation project was constructed for the Hopis and since it was off the District they were reluctant to occupy and till the land. In addition to the irrigated area there is also some good farm land west of the Oraibi Wash below Otto's farm. It is believed that if the Oraibi valley below hard rock dam is included within the district boundary as recommended by Mr. Centerwall that it would be dry farmed by the Hopis and would answer the immediate needs of some groups for additional farm land. This land could be placed under ditch from the dam when moneys become available. The valley contains about two square miles of dry farming land. Most of this land would require very little clearing as it is almost bare from heavy use in distant past. This land is of very limited value for grazing purposes but would add several hundred acres which would be above the average of Hopi farming lands and would contribute materially to the

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subsistence of the Hopis.

It is felt that to facilitate administration and range management that there should be no on or off grazing permits on District 6. There will be many adjustments of the individual Indians' grazing areas along the district line since the line intercepts individual grazing areas of both Hopi and Navajo but it is felt that the personnel of the Navajo and Hopi ~~jurisdictions~~ are willing and anxious to cooperate in the effort necessary. The advantage to administration, range management planning, the livestock industry, and the economic welfare of the Indians will more than compensate for the slight turmoil during the period of adjustment. Range management on the Hopi has been carried almost as far as possible due to the uncertain land status as has existed during the past six years. Rapid progress is expected as soon as a definite area has been established.

The Hopis and personnel are anxiously awaiting your decision on the proposed boundary of District 6.

Sincerely yours,

Burton A. Ladd
Burton A. Ladd
Superintendent

BAL:nmd

cc: Navajo Service
Regional Office