

Handwritten signatures and initials:
1. A signature that appears to be "Culver".
2. A signature that appears to be "Rex".
3. The initials "FM".

Reply to: 2210

Date: JULY 11, 1988

Subject: DEER CREEK INSPECTION, FRONT CONTRY -D4

To: FILES

An inspection of the front portion of the Deer Creek Allotment was conducted by Allison Culver on July 6, 7, and 8, 1988. The purpose of the inspection was to confirm that all the cattle had been moved out of the back country and into one herd. Michael Culver assisted in the inspection as a volunteer. He covered the Lower Home Pasture and Upper State Pasture by foot.

Wednesday July 6, 1988 Michael Culver and I confirmed that there were no cattle in the Lower Home Pasture. The following day I saw four (4) cows and three (3) calves in the Oak Spring Pasture. These cattle were apparently watering at Mud Springs as the gate between the two pastures has been left open. I saw a lot of fresh sign in the Mud Springs Pasture east of the tank, although I did not see any cattle in this pasture.

The gate between the Mud Springs and Upper Sycamore Pastures was closed. I did not see any cattle or fresh sign in Sycamore Pasture. Chuck Duncan did see one cow in Upper Sycamore when he was riding out on July 8, 1988. There are approximately six (6) head of cattle in the Kennedy Peak Pasture according to Rex McQuin, the ranch hand. I saw sign of cattle in this pasture although I did not see any cattle.

I observed one cow in the Upper Home Pasture. There was also a dead cow on the east side of the ridge. Apparently this cow was in poor condition and died after being moved with the rest of the herd. Upper State and Lower State did not have any cattle either. Currently there are 250 head of cows and thirteen (13) bulls, according to Rex in the Limestone Pasture. I saw approximately one hundred cows when Rex and I rode through Limestone. Grazing the cattle in Limestone Pasture at this time is in accordance with the updated grazing flow chart for 1988.

During this inspection I noted that Mud Springs and Kennedy Peak Tanks are not holding water. The Mud Springs tank is obviously leaking due to the amount of moisture I saw around the west and north sides of the tank. This tank was holding approximately 5 inches of water and the trough held 2 inches of water. The majority of this pipeline has not been covered with rock, although someone has just recently begun working on that project.

The Kennedy Peak tank or Double Springs tank is holding approximately one foot of water and the trough is two thirds full. I was not able to determine if this tank is leaking due to the amount of moisture on the ground from the rainstorm the previous

night. Chuck Duncan inspected the Sycamore Tank and reported that it is not holding water.

On July 8, 1988 I was able to ride with Rex through the Limestone Pasture. We rode over to the Limestone Spring which is in fair to poor condition. It is obvious that this spring has not been maintained in some time. Rex was unaware that the spring existed. He plans to repair the spring and push cattle onto that hillside over the next weekend. The Limestone Pasture is in good condition and there is an abundance of feed of the east portion of the pasture. Both Rex and I felt that the cattle herd could remain in this pasture for longer than fifteen days if the herd was pushed into the into these areas of high production and low utilization. Rex also mentioned that he will be moving the stray cattle out of Kennedy Peak and Oak Springs Pasture this weekend.

Rex and I also rode up to the allotment boundary fence on the south side of Limestone Pasture. This fence is in poor condition and needs to be rebuilt soon. Currently the cattle do not appear to be crossing the fence, although as cattle are forced to make better use of the pasture this may become a problem.

During our ride we also discussed many of the Forest Service regulations. I informed Rex of the salting policy. He said he was unaware of those regulations and showed me where he had placed salt blocks next to a water source. Moving these blocks away from the waters will be another project that he intended to complete throughout the weekend. Rex was previously informed that the ranch personnel does not have the authority to use the horse pasture at Powers Garden. He was also told that there is a priority rating for using the cabin at Powers. He was of the understanding that the ranch personnel was not allowed to use the cabin if the forest Service was there and that the campers and hikers were not allowed to use the cabin if the ranch personnel was using it. I was unaware of both issues and told Rex I would confirm the validity of each statement and communicate my findings with him.

