

## RANGE INSPECTION

Deer Creek Allotment  
April 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 1969

Coronado N. F.  
Willcox R. D.

The Deer Creek Allotment was inspected the week of April 7-11, 1969. The permittee did not accompany.

No cow sign was noted in Mud Springs Pasture. This pasture shows improvement over past years especially in grass vigor. The browse definitely shows lighter use with good leader growth at present.

Twenty-one cows were counted in Sycamore Pasture well distributed over the area. From the amount of sign, the estimated numbers are 35-40 head in the unit. Utilization near waters is 35% with 20% over the remainder of the area.

There was no stock observed in the Horse Canyon Pasture and no recent sign. There was an abundance of water in the canyon with a big stream of water running down almost into Rattlesnake Canyon. Bullgrass and Lovegrass are green and 4 to 6 inches high. Good moisture in this entire area.

Fourteen cows were counted in the pasture immediately above Powers Garden with an estimate of 35 - 35 head in the unit. Gates all open between Rattlesnake and Kielberg Pastures. Heavy use in Kielberg Pasture around Powers Mine and up ridge to earthen tank. This tank is approximately 1/4 full. Heavy use in this area continuing through gate and down ridges into Rattlesnake Canyon. Intermittent running water in Rattlesnake starting above the well and down the canyon past the allotment boundary.

Very light use from Powers Garden to Old Tent Lookout. Counted six head of cows in Lower South Field Canyon. Stock using range all along top of ridge at head of South Field Canyon and on to Rhodes Peak. Counted 14 cows in this area. From Rhodes Peak to Maverick Mountain, no cow sign. Utilization along west crest trail in the head of South Field Canyon is 35%. Near the corral and water at base of Maverick Mountain, utilization is 50%. Five cows counted in head of Pipestem, twelve cows in area of Corral down Pipestem, counted four head on down Pipestem toward Rattlesnake. Pipestem Canyon is running water all the way down and into Rattlesnake.

Utilization 40% up Juniper Canyon and in area of Juniper Spring. All major canyons have running water.

Lower Rattlesnake Pasture not being used at present. The pasture immediately below Powers Garden is very lightly used with approximately ten head of cattle.

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The Corral Canyon area has moderate use in the lower portion with 25% with very light use above Corral Canyon Spring. The spring and pipeline have been repaired in Corral Canyon and are in good working order.

The Kennedy Saddle area is not being grazed. Checked the cement dam approximately 3/4 mile south of Kennedy Peak; it is full of water with no cow use.

Checked the pasture south of headquarters. Grass good in this area and counted eighteen cows. The permittee says there are twenty-two cows in this unit; utilization is 25%. Very light use in North Home Pasture, estimated ten head in this unit.

Overall the allotment appears in fair condition with average moisture for this season of the year. At present the cattle are well distributed. Water is definitely more plentiful on the allotment than during several past inspections.

As previously stated, the Corral Canyon Spring and Pipeline have been repaired. The joint division fence between Rattlesnake and Pipestem Canyons has been repaired. Other improvements, as mentioned in the annual range management instructions, remain as listed.

*Jack O. McCombe*

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