

Resources *mm*

Willcox RD

1. Acres  
2. ~~Doran~~ *D*  
3. File

~~2230~~ 2210

Deer Creek

September 17, 1971

Mr. William I. Hamilton  
164 Brown Dr.  
Sierra Vista, Arizona 85635

Dear Bill,

Cotton and I recently spent seven days in the Galiuros measuring trails and inspecting the Deer Creek and Redfield Allotments. I offer the following on my observations and recommendations for the management of the Deer Creek Allotment:

1. Forage Conditions - Following the normal or possibly above normal rainfall during the past two months the grass production is very good except in the following areas: Rattle-Canyon from Pipestem to the well where the vegetation is primarily annual grasses and forbs. Mudspring area and portions of the home pasture have low production due to low plant density and vigor.
2. Water Availability - All tanks and dams which hold water are full. Practically all streams were running following good rains just prior to our September 9th to 15th inspection.
3. Cattle Distribution - Based on counts and observation of signs the estimated numbers for given areas are:

Kilberg	- 6
Holdout Spring	- 0
Rattlesnake above P.G.	- 8
Rattlesnake below P.G.	- 6
Grassy Ridge	- Not observed
Field Canyons	- " "
Mail Box	- " "
Maverick Mountain	- 5
Pipestem	- 5
Juniper Spring	- 8
Corral & Douglas	- Not observed
Horse Canyon	- 0
Lower Sycamore	- 0
Upper Sycamore	- 40
Mud Spring	- 30
Kennedy Park	- 0
Home Pasture	- 20

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We did not try to make accurate counts on upper Sycamore, Mud Springs and the Home Pasture so these figures may be off. You should have a more accurate count. Should the actual numbers vary considerably from those listed I would appreciate you advising me.

4. Salt - The only recently placed salt observed was in the upper Sycamore and Mud Spring pastures. All other pastures had none or small amounts left from last year.
5. Wildlife - The only deer or deer sign seen during our Spring and Fall travels have been from Mud Spring around to the ranch. Bear sign is seen on all trails. Lion sign was seen around Rhodes Peak and Maverick Mountain.

As I discussed with you on August 26th when Jack and I met you on the Paddys River Trail, you must move cattle away from the ranch and Mud Spring. You need to place salt over the entire allotment as cattle require greater amounts of salt while on green feed. You need to place cattle in such units as Holdout Spring, Kibberg, Lower Sycamore, Kennedy and close the gates.

I do not know what your plans are for gathering and shipping calves this fall but I can see no reason for keeping dry cows and cows with baby calves in near Mud Spring or the ranch. Unless you are able to obtain proper distribution over the entire allotment, we will be faced with the need to adjust the permit numbers according to the amount of range being used.

Now that we each have an opportunity to get acquainted with the allotment I would like to meet with you later this fall and prepare an allotment management plan.

We put a cow out of our horse pasture on September 15th.

Cotton and I may be at Deer Creek for a night or two on the 22nd or 23rd, if so we will stop by the ranch.

Sincerely yours,

*Harry G. Little*

HARRY G. LITTLE  
District Ranger

cc: 50 ✓