

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE

Safford Ranger District  
P.O. Box 709  
Safford, Arizona 85546

REPLY TO: 2210 Analysis and Plans

May 2, 1980

SUBJECT: Allotment Inspections: Deer Creek,  
Redfield and Bull Tank Allotments

TO: Files



On April 23, 1980, Walt Friauf and myself rode from Deer Creek Administrative Site to Powers Garden. Our route was on the Mud Springs Trail to the head of Sycamore Canyon, from there on, the Isley (Tortilla) Trail to Horse Canyon and on into Powers Garden. In all, only fourteen (14) cattle were observed on the ride and the only salt observed was in the lane along the Powers Garden Pasture.

The Isleys had added two house cats to the Garden, a slight pastoral enrichment.

The pipeline from the dam to the cabin has washed out and no running water was available to the cabin, trough, or pond. Surface water was running in Rattlesnake for about 500 yards before it "subbed" in the pasture. The pipeline will have to be repaired before summer. Ants are taking over the big pasture and should be controlled. Deer tracks were observed in the Mud around the pond at the cabin.

The next day, the 24th., we rode to Jackson Cabin by way of Rattlesnake and over Kielberg Saddle to Redfield Canyon. On the way we stopped at Knothe Cabin, Long Tom Mine, Cedar Springs, and Hooker Cabin. A profusion of new mining claims and exploration has been undertaken in 1980, between Powers Garden and Kielberg Saddle.

The weather turned to snow about the time we hit Long Tom Mine and continued to below Cedar Spring, whereupon it become clear again. The country from Kielberg Saddle to Cedar Spring has not been grazed for at least a year, and has from 250 to 450 pounds of forage per acre standing on the ground. In the area of the Sol Rhea fire, there is anywhere from 450 to 700 pounds of forage per acre standing on the ground.

The area around Jackson Cabin shows signs of past overuse, but has not been grazed since early last winter, and then the use was slight.

The production around Jackson Cabin averages 150 to 175 pounds per acre. The cabin has been recently improved and the only wildlife present in the cabin was a Pack Rat who ruled the kitchen.

On our way out, up Jackson Canyon, we observed a small grey fox trying to kill a large rock squirrel and our intrusion spoiled his success. We later observed four head of Whitetail deer near the head of Jackson Canyon.

The trail up from the cabin to the East Divide is barely discernable and a tough climb. The trail down the other side into the Ash Creek is even steeper, and tough on pack and saddle stock.

We were now on the Bull Tank allotment. As we got on down into the canyon, signs of past cattle use was observed, but no fresh sign was apparent.

Water was available at the storage and trough where the canyon forks, and we hit the jeep trail. Little fresh signs were observed from here on down, but grass production decreased appreciably to about 75 - 100 pounds per acre. We met Jerry Abram and Kathy Clark with the truck and trailer at about noon out on the Flats. No cattle were ever observed on the Bull Tank Allotment. Production out on the Flats is low, very few annuals and the grammas are greening up only slightly.



JOHN R. GARLAND  
Range Staff

JRG/ps