

TUSHAR ALLOTMENT COLLABORATION

Ten Mile Fences

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The present Ten Mile cattle allotment was historically a sheep allotment until the 1961 grazing season. On September 9, 1960 the Forest Service and Martel Anderson entered into a cooperative agreement in which the Forest Service would construct several fences (5 miles total) and five water developments; the permittee would be allowed to convert from sheep use to cattle and also would assume full maintenance responsibility for the listed improvements. In addition, a portion of the allotment on the Beaver County side would be closed to grazing and 1000 acres of re-seeding accomplished in the Upper and Lower City Creek pastures.

Fences are required on the Ten Mile allotment in order to control livestock movement both between pastures and between neighboring allotments. Until recently, it was not uncommon to find a few cattle in almost every pasture at any time during the grazing season. Without effective control no management scheme can be effective.

The Ten Mile allotment now has approximately 15 ½ miles of both boundary and interior pasture fencing. The earliest fence, Cougar Spring, appears to have been built in 1961, with the Gold Gulch allotment boundary fence (north boundary) being built in 1975. The City Creek allotment boundary fence (Ten mile drift #0304545, and City Creek Drift, #03-4568) appears to have been built in the early 1960's to control livestock both to and from the Circleville allotment. The remaining interior fences were constructed in the 1960's through the 1970's.

Priority #1 03-4546 Ten Mile fence. Over the course of at least the last fifteen years, the allotment has had poor livestock control. Livestock have been able to easily gain early access to the Ten Mile pasture as soon as livestock enter the allotment in the spring and then access the Little Park and Crystal Basin areas to the north. This summer it was determined the pasture fence between the Price and Ten Mile pastures needs to be extended to the west. This fence must be priority #1 for any heavy maintenance work.

Priority #2 03-4526 Gold Gulch Division fence. The Allotment boundary fence on the Gold Gulch ridge is priority #2. The Ten Mile pasture is very large but the 1966 Range analysis identified little suitable range and limited water. This fence is intended to control livestock movement from the Ten Mile pasture to the old Cottonwood S&G allotment that has been closed to grazing since about 1983. Recently a new fence and cattle guards were installed around the Little Park pond and meadow. A recent Forest Supervisor decision requires a pump and pipeline to be installed at Little Park pond that will provide water into the Ten Mile pasture.

Priority #3 Order Spring Fence (no INFRA number). The majority of the suitable range occurs in the Price/cougar pasture and then the Upper City Creek and Lower City Creek pastures. For some time, an old fence separating the Price and Cougar pastures has not been maintained and the two pastures have been used together. This year some additional work was invested in the fence in order to make it functional. This fence is needed to provide better time and use intensity control between the pastures.

Sometime in the mid 1970's the lower area of Order Canyon was the focus of watershed improvement. Several rather large dams were constructed in the main channel and about three smaller dams built in a small drainage tributary below Order Spring. One of the larger dams has trapped a large amount of sediments and is now a wet meadow complex (site of study TM-PC-03). Just as with cattle gaining access to Ten Mile, a number of cattle also gain access to Order Canyon immediately after the allotment turn out date. Some cattle can be found on this meadow at any time during the grazing season. This fence must be maintained and better livestock control achieved.

Priority #4. 03-4524, Cougar Spring fence. This fence appears to have been constructed in 1962 and creates the Upper City Creek and Lower City Creek pastures and separates them from the current Price/Cougar area. The fence consists of two main segments that run north-south to cougar Pond and also west to east from Cougar Spring to the eastern slope of the main canyon. This fence is still in good repair and typically only needs minor maintenance each year. The west end of the fence terminates near Cougar Spring and includes a short segment that prevents livestock from gaining access to the spring itself and the upper reaches of Cougar Canyon. At the center of the east-west segment is Cattle Guard, and newly constructed water lot or large corral around the Cougar Spring pond.