

Regarding the Scott Able Grazing Allotment Management
Lincoln National Forest, Sacramento Ranger District

As an owner of the Agua Chiquita Grazing Allotment and a neighbor to the Scott Able Grazing Allotment, we have previously commented on this analysis. However, I have objections to two of the new improvements which are included for the Scott Able Grazing Allotment. After the Scott Able Fire, our allotment lost important acreage when the forest service ordered moving the boundary fence located in B. Woods Canyon between our allotment and the Scott Able Allotment in Sections 15, 21, and 22. There was no consultation with the Agua Chiquita allotment owner regarding that change nor for the current proposed change. We did not agree with the first move because we do not own the private land in the bottom of the canyon; and if the owners fence their property, the new boundary will impede cattle movement up the canyon. Now, the proposal for the Scott Able Allotment improvements is to fence us off of a good grazing area in Section 21, and we do not agree with losing additional grazing land in this area. We object to the continuing encroachment of the other allotment into our allotment. The original boundary between the allotments before the Scott Able fire should be honored. However, part of that area would include the Lessentine Well which the Scott Able Allotment needs, and we recognize this. We strongly recommend a change in the forest service's procedures when changes to allotment boundaries are considered. This change for including discussions with allotment owners before considering changing boundaries would promote better relationships between allotment owners and the forest service, and it would make the process transparent which has been lacking.

Additionally, although it sounds good to share water sources with neighboring allotments, this proposal would potentially create a problematic situation. Therefore, we object to the project of installing a new trough in T18S R13E NW ¼ SW ¼ Section 22 (Agua Chiquita Allotment) to be fed by a storage tank on the Scott Able Allotment through a ¼ mile pipeline. We prefer to use a water source (trick tank) in that area that originates on the Agua Chiquita Allotment. We believe that allotments should be self-sufficient for their own water and not rely on other allotments for this vital resource.



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