# JING AND CLASSIFICATION REPORT OF THE <br> PUBLIC DOMAIN LANDS IN THE <br> UPPER CHEYENNE RIVER BASIN 



## WYOMING

A MISSOURI RIVER BASIN INVESTIGATION
(For Administrative Use Only)

United States Department of the Interior

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& \text { UREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT } \\
& \text { Area } 3 \text { - Denver, Colorado } \\
& \text { April } 1957
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Area 3
Denver, Colorado

April 1957


This report was compiled as a feature of the program of the Department of the Interior for the development of the resources of the Missouri River Basin

PRESENT STATUS OF BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
STUDIES IN THE M!SSOURI RIVER BASIN
(LAND CLASSIFIGATION)
APRIL 30,1957


THIS REPORT

This report has been prepared as a feature of the comprehensive program of the Department of the Interior for development of resources of the Missouri River Basin. The data presented are based primarily upon field examinetion of public domain administered by the Bureau of Land Management and such associated lands as form parts of the natural management units. All agencies of the Department of the Interior concerned with development and administra~ lion of resources in the study area have furnished data. Other Federal agencies, State and local government units, and local livestock operators have also contributed data incorporated in this report.

During 1953, under the direction of R. D. Nielson, the land resource data were measured and collected by field crews of the Bureau of Land Management, composed of L. A. Merryfield, H. H. Hoyt, R. E. Cleveland, C. L. Hose, L. J. Keilman.

Report was prepared by H. H. Hoy and maps by John Kovacs. Staff members of the Wyoming State Office of the Bureau of Land Management contributed to the data presented herein.

These Studies are directed by Harold T. Tysk, Lands Officer, Bureau of Land Management, Area 3, Denver, Colorado.




Page No.
INTRODUCTION ..... I- III
GENERAL DESCRIPTION ..... 1
Location and Size. ..... 1
Topography ..... 1
Geology ..... 2
Soils ..... 3
Climate ..... 4
NATURAL RESOURCES ..... 4
Cropland ..... 4
Range ..... 5
Timber ..... 5
Wildlife ..... 5
Minerals ..... 6
General ..... 6
Leasable Minerals. ..... 7
Petroleum and Natural Gas ..... 8
Coal ..... 8
Non-leasable Minerals ..... 8
Uranium. ..... 9
Bentonite ..... 10
Gold-Silver. ..... 10
Pegmatite Minerals. ..... 10
Fullers Earth ..... 11
Minerals Subject to Disposal under Sale of Materials Act of July 31, 1947. ..... 11
Water Supply. ..... 11
Surface Water ..... 11
Drainage Unit. ..... 12
Ground Water ..... 12
HISTORY OF RESOURCE USE ..... 13
AREA ECONOMY ..... 13
LAND USE AND OWNERSHIP ..... 14
PROBLEMS AFFECTING PUBLIC DOMAIN LANDS IN THE UPPER CHEYENNE RIVER BASIN ..... 16
Sediment Contribution to Angostura Reservoir ..... 16
Cadastral Surveys. ..... 19
PROBLEMS AFFECTING PUBLIC DOMAIN LANDS IN THE DETAILED STUDY AREAS ..... 20
Land Use Problems. ..... 20
Multiple Use. ..... 20
Stock Driveways ..... 23
Public Water Reserves ..... 24
Other Uses ..... 25
Management Problems. ..... 25
West Detailed Study Area. ..... 25
East Detailed Study Area ..... 26
Administrative Problems ..... 29
PROBLEMS AFFECTING PUBLIC DOMAIN LANDS IN THE ISOLATED TRACT CLASSIFICATION AREAS. ..... 30
PROGRAMS AND PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS AFFECTING PUBLIC DOMAIN LANDS ..... 31
In the Detailed Study Areas ..... 33
In the Proposed Management Units ..... 34
In the Isolated Tract Classification Areas ..... 38
FIGURES

Figure No.

1. Coal-Resources of the Angostura Area (Upper Cheyenne River Basin) in Wyoming, South Dakota and Nebraska.... Opposite page 6
2. Metallic and Nonmetallic Mineral Resources of the Angostura Area (Upper Cheyenne River Basin) in Wyoming, South Dakota and Nebraska.

TABLES

Table No.

2. Summary of Isolated Tracts Described in Table 4.
3. Estimated Costs of Contemplated Improvements - Proposed East Management Unit - Upper Cheyenne River Basin Wyoming
4. Description, Area, Classification, Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain, by Counties Within the Isolated Tract Portion of the Angostura Area, Wyoming, Nebraska, and South Dakota, 1953.39-6!

## APPENDICES

A. Methods of Land Classification
B. Description of Range Sites in the Detailed Study Portion of the Angostura Area, Wyoming
C. Description and Definitions of Land-use Capability Classes
D. Description and Definitions of Soil Erosion Condition Classes
E. Type Numbers and Descriptions for Use in Mapping as Approved by Weston Inter-Agency Range Examiners
F. Principal Plants of the Upper Cheyenne River Basin
G. Technicians' Guide to Range Sites, Condition Classes, and Recommended Stocking Rates in Pine Bluffs, Lingle-Fort Laramie, North Platte, Goshen Hole Soil Conservation Districts, and Niobrara County, Wyoming
H. Technicians' Guide to Range Sites, Condition Classes, and Recommended Stocking Rates in the Laprele, Glenrock, and Casper-Aloova Soil Conservation Districts, Wyoming
I. Technicians' Guide to Range Sites, Condition Classes and Recommended Stocking Rates in Intermountain. Upper Cheyenne River Soil Conservation Districts and S. W. Corner Buffalo Belle Soil Conservation District, and Weston County

> MAPS
> (Map Jacket)
I. Vegetation, Capability, Erosion and Carrying Capacity
II. Proposed Land Use, Improvements and Management Units and Erosion Classification

Upper Cheyenne River Basın is an important sector of the Missouri River Basin for the developments, resources and problems it contains and also because of its relation to the Angostura and Oahe Reservoirs, and other downstream projects. This basin also is of great importance to the economy of the Midwest and to that of the entire nation. The area extends upstream from the mouth of Rapid Creek nearly to Douglas and Casper, in Wyoming. This basin has common divides with the Glendo, Niobrara, White, Lower Cheyenne, Belle Fourche and Powder River Basins. Reports are available for these adjoining areas of common interest as shown on the progress map which is the frontispiece of this report.

The preliminary land planning and classification report for the Upper Cheyenne River Basin was published by the Bureau of Land Management, Region III, in June 1950 under the title of the Angostura Area. That report identified problems relating to the public lands. It outlined certain parts of the area in which these problems and the relative density of public lands warranted the inclusion of all other associated lands in the detailed studies needed to determine the best future use and management of the public lands.

The detailed studies presented herein were completed in 1953, in accordance with plans outlined in the preliminary report and by methods outlined in Appendix A of this report. Joint consider* ation of the two reports and frequent reference to the accompanying maps will materially increase understanding of the problems involved. All lands have been classified in the detailed study areas, which include those portions of northwestern Converse, northern Niobrara and southeastern Weston Counties, Wyoming, in which there as the heaviest concentration of public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management. These public lands comprise approximately onesixth of the total area in these areas of over-all, intens:ve study as outlined on the map accompanying this report. In the remaining por tions of the study area only the public domain lands were classified.

This report and two of the accompanying maps present the findings of the detailed studies. These two maps show the West and East Study Areas of the Upper Cheyenne River Basın. One map shows vegetation, land use capability, degree and type of erosion and $-2$
the recommended carrying capacity. The symbols denoting these classification features and their application are given in appendices $A$ to $I$. The second of these two maps shows proposed land use, proposed improvements, proposed management units and erosion classification. This erosion classification has been adapted from a study made by Richard $F$. Hadley of the Water Resources Division of the U.S. Geological Survey published in July 1955, entitled "Reconnaissance Investigations, on Sources of Sediment in the Cheyenne River Basin above Angostura Reservoir." Both of these maps show land ownership, status, drainage and pertinent culture. The third map in the map appendix shows the entire basin area. with all political and administrative subdivisions, culture, drainage, and landownership. This map is titled, "Angostura Area Public Domain Map."

Relationships between the various classes of land ownership and the relative merits of present use and management are discussed in the report. Adjustments in use and management are proposed, where needed, in accordance with sound land management principles.

Primarily the report is concerned with problems affecting the public domain lands in the study areas, and with programs and adjustments designed to alleviate these problems. Responsibilities of the Bureau of Land Management for the proper administration of valuable public resources within the area are also considered. Improvements are proposed to promote proper use and conservation of the land resource.

Upper Cheyenne River Basin extends northward 102 miles into Wyoming and South Dakota from its southern extremity in the northwestern corner of Sioux County, Nebraska. From the most eastern point, on Sheep Mountain Table, south of Scenic, South Dakota, the basin extends westward 176 miles to the vicinity of Pine Tree and Casper, in Wyoming. Gross area of the basin is 11,314 square miles. Included are 1,116 square miles of the Black Hills National Forest, 216 square miles of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, 162 square miles of Custer State Park, 54 square miles belonging to Wind Cave National Park, 11 square miles within Badlands and Jewel Cave National Monuments, and 5 square miles comprising the Battle Mountain Sanitarium Reserve of the Veterans Administration. The remaining area of the basin covers 6, 240, 000 acres of public domain and land utilization land in Federal ownership, and private and State-owned lands. Public domain land is concentrated in two areas within the western portion of the basin which is in Wyoming. The detailed study maps cover these two areas only.


Upper Cheyenne River Basin includes portions of Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming. The largest area is in Wyoming, covering 63 per cent of the basin. This area includes portions of Campbell, Converse, Niobrara and Weston Counties. South Dakota contains 33 per cent of the basin in parts of Fall River. Pennington and Washington Counties, and all of Custer County. Nebraska includes 4 per cent of the basin, all of which is within Sioux County. Intensive aerial classification has been made in the public domain and associated lands in the two areas of concentration in Wyoming. Elsewhere in Wyoming and in Nebraska and South Dakota, classification has been restricted to the isolated tracts of public domain.

Present land use has been determined within the two study areas and proposals have been made for adjustments and changes in management. Multiple and conflicting uses of the public domain and associated lands have been considered. Problems of the enterprises in the area are presented. A detailed consideration of erosion and sedimentation problems by tributary basins within most of the area is presented in the work, "Reconnaissance Investigations, on Sources of Sediment in the Cheyenne River Basin above Angostura Reservoir" by Richard F. Hadley, U. S. Geological Survey Water Resources Division, July 1955.

Natural conditions in the area call for careful conservation operation and management by all enterprise operators within the basin. There is a great variability in range forage praduction due to cyclical variations in precipitation and other factors. The physical problems are severe for both range and herd preservation and conservation. Ample supplies of supplemental forage should be provided. These factors combine to demand skillful conservative operation of resource livestock and fiscal management on the part of all operators.

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

## Location and Size

The Upper Cheyenne River Basin includes approximately 11,314 square miles, located above the mouth of Rapid Creek in South Dakota. Drainage areas tributary to this part of the river include about 505 square miles in northwestern Nebraska, 3, 744 square miles in southwestern South Dakota and 7, 065 square miles in eastcentral
Wyoming. The detailed study areas, as shown on the two Land Classification Maps, lie entirely in Wyoming and include $1,304,958$ acres, or approximately 2,040 square miles in Converse, Niobrara and Weston Counties. The Converse County portion lies south and west of the Thunder Basin Land Utilization Project, on the headwaters of the Cheyenne River. The Niobrara County portion lies south and east of this land utilization project and includes most of the Cheyenne River. The remainder of the area is situated mostly east of this land utilization project in southeastern Weston County and lies almost entirely in the Beaver Creek drainage.

Drainage areas tributary to the Cheyenne River below the mouth of Rapid Creek are considered in the "Land Planning and Classification Report of the Public Domain Lands in the Lower Cheyenne River Basin", published by Region III of the Bureau of Land Management at Billings, Montana, in August 1953. The preliminary land planning and classification report for the Upper Cheyenne River Basin was published in June 1950 by the Bureau of Land Management. This report was titled, "Angostura Area"。 Other reports are available for adjacent basin areas as shown on the progress map which is the frontispiece of this report.

## Topography

The detailed study portions of the Upper Cheyenne River Basin lie in the Missouri Plateau. One minor portion in northeastern Weston County, is in the Black Hills Division of the Great Plains Province. Topography varies sharply from the sage and grass covered rolling plains and occasional badlands to the pine and grass mountainous terrain of the Black Hills. Elevations range from less than 4,000 feet where the Cheyenne River leaves the area on the South Dakota State Line to 6, 095 feet at Summit Ridge Lookout, less than 30 miles north. Along the Powder River Divide, over a hundred miles west, elevations are approxi-
mately 5,000 feet. The principal tributary drainages included are Beaver and Lance Creeks in Niobrara and Weston Counties, Antelope, Sand and Bear Creeks, as well as Dry Fork of the Cheyenne River are the principal headwater drainages included in northwestern Converse County.

## Geology

Figures 1 and 2 contain a generalized geologic index map of the Angostura Area (see opposite page 6).

The central core of the Black Hills Uplift dominates the northeastern portion of the area. The domal uplift has brought above the general surface level an area of Precambrian crystalline rocks about which there is upturned a nearly complete sequence of the Paleozoic and Mesozoic rocks from Cambrian to Upper Cretaceous, all dipping away from the central nucleus. There are also extensive overlaps of Tertiary deposits in the western part of the basin area and to a lesser extent in the eastern and southern parts. The oldest sedimentary rocks within the basin area constitute an escarpment facing the crystalline rocks in the northeast, and each higher stratum passes beneath a younger one in regular succession outward towards the east, south and west margins of the basin.

The basin may be conveniently divided into five major units:
(1) The Central Core unit of the Black Hills, in the northeastern part of the basin comprises scattered rocky ridges and groups of mountains made up of Precambrian granite, gneiss, pegmatite, schist and quartzite.
(2) The Limestone Plateau unit, with its infacing escarpment, occupies a wide area fringing the central core unit and rises above the greater part of the nucleal area of Precambrian rocks. The plateau has a very broad flat surface to the west of the crystalline core area but narrows considerably to the south and east. Formations making up the plateau are the Minnekahta limestone, Minneluse formation, Pahasapa limestone and Englewood limestone of Carboniferous age, and the Deadwood formation of Cambrian age.
(3) The Red Valley unit is a wide depression within the "red beds" of the Triassic Spearfish formation, that extends more or less continuously around the Black Hills outward from the limestone plateau.
(4) The Hogback Range unit constitutes the outer rim of the Black Hills and nearly always presents a steep face toward the Red Valley. The hogback range is chiefly composed of Cretaceous Lakota and Dakota Sandstone.
(5) The Plains unit, which covers well over three fourths of the basin area, stretches away from the outer hogback range to the east, south and most extensively to the west. It is a region of gently undulating prairie and underlain by shale beds. Formations making up the Plains unit range from Cretaceous Graneros shale up through the Tertiary White River formation.

The east study area is underlain by Cretaceous sediments of the Plains unit except where narrow belts of the Red Valley and Hogback Range units traverse the extreme northeast portion.

The west study area is entirely underlain by Cenozoic sediments of the Plains unit.

## Soils

Solls in the Weston County portion of the detailed study area vary from the thin, residual mountain soils of the Black Hills to the deeper, alluvial soils of the main watercourse flood plains. Soils formed from underlying shale rock are generally shallow, poorly developed and unstable. Those formed on sandstone capped ridges are also shallow and poorly developed, but quite stable due to their pervious structure。

Soils of the headwaters portion of this area in northwestern Converse County are mostly poorly developed, sandy soils covering stabilized sand dunes. In other portions of the area soils are of varied type, depending on the underlying rock. None of the soils on public domain are suitable for sustained cultivation.

## Climate

Climate of the detailed study area varies between the open grass and sagebrush covered plains to the grass and pine covered mountains of the Black Hills. Precipitation at Ross, Wyoming, in Converse County, averages 11.47 inches annually, while at Newcastle, at the edge of the Black Hills, it averages 15.93 inches, an increase of 39 percent. Temperatures, length of growing season and precipitation are sufficient for limited production of hay and small grain on arable soils in the Black. Hills and on some of the best soils in the adjoining plains area.

## NATURAL RESOURCES

Cropland, range, timber, wildlife, water supply and minerals are the important natural resources of the detailed study areas.

Two hundred and six different types of range land and plant cover within the study areas are shown on the Vegetation, Capability, Erosion and Carrying Capacity Map, accompanying this report. The map shows the distribution of types of plant cover and range sites, including three principal plant species, type by aspect, condition of range resource, and recommended stocking rate, range site designation, land use capability, slope, degree and type of erosion, and major soil characteristics.

## Cropland

Production of cultivated crops is restricted to the best soils and is most successful under the higher precipitation of the Black Hills or on bottomlands where limited irrigation is possible. Crop production of 22,326 acres in the detailed study areas consists chiefly of hay or other forage crops, and is estimated (on the basis of three animal unit months per acre) to be 66,978 animal unit months. Cropland is most important as the source of essential supplementary
livestock feed, but such crops provide considerable complementary income for the livestock-farm enterprises.

## Range

Native forage, produced on the predominantly paor soils and topographically rolling to rough terrain of the semi-arid plains and foothills, is utilized by a vigorous livestock industry. Grassland and sagebrush types are widely distributed and include various kinds of grass, sagebrush and forbs. Greasewood grown on saline lowland is interspersed with various grasses and forbs. Cottonwood trees grow along most of the water courses and sometimes form an overstory for the common sagebrush and grass of the bottomlands. Limited grazing is provided by various kinds of browse and grass which grow under the pine and juniper covering the shallow soils and steep slopes of the Black Hills. Saltbrush and western wheatgrass are the principal plants which grwo on the shale soils of the plains areas.

Grazing capacity for the $1,282,632$ acres of range lands in the detalled study areas is estimated at 277,018 animal unit months and is shown by landownership class in Table l, under the Land Use and Ownership section of this report.

Timber

Western yellow pine and Rocky Mountain juniper cover many of the shallow, rocky soils and steep slopes in the Black Hills. Stands are extremely variable in extent, density, composition and quality. Timber stands possessing economic values of sufficient importance to warrant continued Federal management occur on public domain only in the Stockade Beaver Creek Area. This area is discussed in more detail under the Land Use Problems section of this report.

Total volume of merchantable timber and posts on public domain in this area is estimated at $8,510 \mathrm{M} . \mathrm{B}, \mathrm{F}$ 。 and 1, 766,000 posts.

## Wildlife

There is abundant wildife in the detailed study area,
especially in the Black Hills portion. Mule deer and antelope are probably the two most widely distributed and best known species of big game, although elk and black bear are not uncommon in the Black Hills portion. Fur bearers, such as racoon, weasel, mink, skunk, muskrat, beaver, badger, bobcat, coyote, fox and jack rabbits are present in varying numbers depending upon the character of the habitat in various localities.

Upland game includes several native species such as the dusky, ruffed, sharp-tailed and sage grouse, mourning dove, cottontail rabbit and the introduced Hungarian partridge and ring-neck pheasant. Numerous species of rodents are also present, the most injurious being mice, porcupine, prairie dogs, and pocket gophers. There are some trout in Stockade Beaver Creek and other fish, such as blue-gill, perch, croppies and bullheads, in some of the larger reservoirs.

Minerals
General

The relation of the mineral resources within the basin area to the public land can best be classified according to whether the minerals are leasable (Act of February 25, 1920, as amended, and supplemented, 30 U.S.G. I81) or locatable minerals (Act of May 10, 1872, as amended, 30 U.S.C. 26.33). Recent legislation for multiple mineral development allows for dual exploration and development of both leasable and locatable minerals. Other recent legislation which affects the mineral development and land utilization are Public Laws 167 and 357 of the 84 th Congress. Public Law 167 provides that the common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, etc, are no longer locatable but are subject to disposal under the Sale of Materials Act (Act of July 31, 1947, 43 U.S.C. 1185 \%. It further provides for more adequate measures for multiple use of surface and mineral resources. Public Law 357 provides for the exploration and exploitation, under the mining laws, of uraniferous coal deposits. Figure l shows that extensive beds of sub-bituminous coal underlie the western part of the basin. However, little or no activity is expected under Public Law 357 in this area, since none of these coal deposits are believed to be uranium bearing.



The importance of leasable minerals, especially oil and gas, in the Upper Cheyenne River Basin is shown by receipts of the Bureau of Land Management for rentals of public domann lands under the Mineral Leasing Act of February 25, 1920 (41 Stat. 437: 30 U.S.C. 181) as amended and supplemented. Since these receipts are segregated only by counties, it has been necessary to make adjustments according to the part of each county lying within the basin, except where the exact location of the leased property is known as with producing leases. Total receipts from nonproducing mineral lease rentals for each county which can be credited to this hasin is estimated for calendar year 1956 as follows:

|  | Producing <br> Oil \& Gas <br> Royalties | Non-Producing <br> Oil \& Gas <br> Rentals |  <br> Other | Total |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: |
| State \& County | (dollars) | (dollars) | (dollars) | (dollars) |
| Wyoming: |  | 51,419 | 8 | 51,427 |
| Campbell |  | 187,683 | 72 | 187,755 |
| Converse | 354,731 | 186,900 |  | 541,631 |
| Niobrara | 659,874 | $\underline{127,300}$ | - | 787,174 |
| Weston | $1,014,605$ | 553,302 | 80 | $1,567,987$ |
| Sub-Total |  |  |  |  |

South Dakota:

| Custer | 8,310 | 8,310 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Fall River | 12,880 | 12,880 |
| Pennington | 1,220 | 1,220 |
| Washington | - |  |
| Sub- Total | 22,410 | 22,410 |

Nebraska:

| Sioux | $\underline{143}$ | $\underline{143}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Sub- Total | 143 | 143 |

## Totals:

Wyoming, South
Dakota and
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { Nebraska } & 1,014,605 & 575,855 & 80 & 1,590,540\end{array}$

Figures 1 and 2 show the general location of known oil fields in the Upper Cheyenne Basin. Known reserves of crude oil and natural gas in the Basin area were estimated at 80 million barrels of oil and 90 billion cubic feet of gas on January 1, 1954, according to Bureau of Mines Preliminary Report No. 95 of October 1954 entitled "Petroleum and Natural Gas Resources and Development in the Cheyenne Division of the Missouri River Basin'. The above estimate is somewhat low as the discovery of new fields and proving of additional reserves has continued since, but later figures are not available.

Approximately 17 producing fields exist in Niobrara and Weston countıes, Wyoming, and about half of these are within the east study area. There are no known oil fields within the west study area.

Coal (Subject to Mineral Leasing)
Figure 1 shows the coal resources of the Upper Cheyenne River Basin. Sub-bituminous coal beds extend from the Powder River Basin eastward into Niobrara and Converse Counties, Wyoming. These coal beds underlie the entire west study area and extend into the southwestern part of the east study area. Most of the beds are less than 30 inches thick and there is no known production at present. There appears to be little or no chance of development in the foreseeable future.

Two small bituminous coal fields are located in Weston County, Wyoming, just north of Newcastle. The southern field is located partly within the east study field. No activity is expected in either field in the foreseeable future.

Non-leasable Minerals
The importance of non-leasable minerals in the Upper Cheyenne Basin is somewhat reflected in information obtained from County Mining Records. During 1954 through 1956 over 10,000 mining claims (mostly lode) were located within the Basin area. Over 95 percent of these were located for uranium. Only about 300 claims were located as placers and the majority of these were for uranum. The few remaining were chiefly bentonite placers. During 1956 approximately 2,700 affidavits of annual assessment work in the area were recorded. This is less than one-third of the 3 -year total of claims located and is a fair indication of a general decline in uranium activity throughout the area.

In the west study area, approximately 4,000 uranıum claims were located during 1954 through 1956. These claim locations covered most of the available public lands including lands patented with mineral reservations and L. U. repurchased lands. In 1956 only about 300 affidavits of annual assessment work, less than 1 percent of the claims located in the west study area, were recorded in the Converse County Mining Records. Speculative activity has practically ceased and most of the earlier claimed public land has reverted back to non-possessory status. Present activity is confined to 3 or 4 sizeable producers in the Monument Hill District in T. 37 N., R. 73 W., 6th P。M., Wyoming. These mines are chiefly on State and private land. Actual uranium production in the District is expected to increase somewhat during the next year or two, but no increased prospecting activity is expected. There are no other significant mineral resources within the west study area.

In the east study area in Niobrara and Weston counties, Wyoming, about 1,000 mining claims were located in the 3 -year period, 1954 through 1956. These were all uranium locations except for 10 to 15 bentonite claims. Only approximately 5 affidavits of annual assessment work were recorded in 1956 and these were for long standing, but inactive bentonite locations. Most of the uranium locations were in the Lance Creek District which is now inactive and has little or no future potential. Present uranium activity within the east study area is confined to two small mines in the Clifton area in T. 42 N. R. 60 W., 6th P. M. Wyoming. No increased actıvity is expected in this area. Several old, inactive bentonite deposits exist within the study area but no reactivation is expected in the foresceable future. Except for petroleum, which is discussed elsewhere, there are no other significant mineral resources within the east study area.

> Uranium (Subject to location under the U. S. Mining Law)

Figure 2 shows the areas of uranium interest. Uranium activity in the Upper Cheyenne Basin area was greatest during 1953 and 1954. Since then, there has been a steady decline as speculation ceased and interest was confined to proven areas. At present Lhe Edgemont District in Fall River County, South Dakota is the principal area of production in the basin. Essentially all the production comes from 3 or 4 mines chiefly located in the Black Hills Natıonal Forest and on private land.

The Monument Hill District is now second in production importance and a slight continued increase in production is expected during the next couple of years. However, overall activity is not expected to increase, since all production will probably be confined to a few large operations.

The only other uranium production in the basin comes from two relatively small operations near Turncrest in Campbell County，and Clifton in Weston County，Wyoming．No increased activity is expected in either of these areas．

Bentonite（Subject to location under the U．S．Mining Laws）
Figure 2 shows the areas containing bentonite deposits． Bentonite and bentoniferous clays are found in several upper Cretaceous formations flanking the Black Hills，both in Wyoming and South Dakota。 Workable deposits are confined chiefly to the Mowry formation．Present production within the basin comes from two large operations in the vicinity of Upton in Weston County，Wyoming．Both of these bentonite producers are within the east study area．At present about half of the actual mining is on unpatented mining claims．The remaining half is on patented claims and land owned by local ranchers．With the anticipated continuing high demand for bentonite，increased activity is expected，and more and more claims will probably be patented．However，with this increased activity， little conflict with other land use is likely，since nearly all the bentonite deposits are on lands unsuitable for agricultural purposes．

Although present production in the basin area is confined to the Upton region，it is probable that the immense deposits of low grade bentonite in the basin will later be valuable．

Gold－Silver（Subject to location under the U．S。Mining Laws．）
Numerous old inactive gold and silver mines exist in the Southern Black Hills region of Wyoming within the Black Hills National Forest．（Figure 2）However，no additional activity is expected in the foreseeable future

Pegmatite Minerals：Beryl Columbium－Tantalum，Feldspar， Lithium and Mica（Subject to location under the U．S．Mining Laws．）

Major quantities of Beryl，Columbium－Tantalum，Feldspar， Lithium and Mica are presently being mined from numerous pegmatites， accurring in the Precambrian granite，gneisses and schists in the Harney Peak area of the Southern Black Hills．Approximately 100 known pegmatite mines or prospects are located in the Harney Peak area．The pegmatite area is shown on Figure 2 and is located entirely within the boundaries of the Black Hills National Forest．No increased activity is expected in the fore－ seeable future。

Fullers Earth (Subject to location under the U. S. Mining Laws.)
Large indicated reserves of Fullers earth occur in the Tertiary Chadron formation near Fairburn in Custer County, South Dakota. (Figure 2) There has been no mining of the deposits for over 50 years and no activity is expected in the foreseeable future.

Minerals Subject to Disposal under Sale of Materials Act of July 31。1947.
Extensive gypsum deposits of economic thickness occur within the Triassie Spearfish formation in Pennington, Custer and Fall River Counties, South Dakota. (Figure 2) Production has been small and sporadic and no change is expected.

Reserves of limestone and deposits of sand and gravel are widespread throughout the basin area, but only small operations and sales to supply local needs can be expected.

## Water Supply

## Surface Water

Precipitation over the plains portions of the Upper Cheyenne River Basin, as previously mentioned, averages approximately 12 inches annually. In the Black Hills portion the annual average is nearly 16 inches. Runoff from the limited precipitation varies sharply with topography and the nature of the underlying rock formations. The Black Hills portion of the area is all tributary to Beaver Creek. Higher precipitation and higher channel gradients tend to increase runoff from this portion of the area, but much of it is utilized in irrigation and water spreading systems along the main channels after leaving the Hills.

Westward from Beaver Creek most of the area is underlain successively by the Lance, Fort Union and Wasatch formations mentioned earlier in this report. Average rates of infiltration for solls overlying these formations have been measured at 5.0 inches per hour, 1.3 inches per hour and 9.2 inches per hour respectively. 1/ Such marked differences of infiltration rates obviously have a tremendous effect upon the amount of runoff from drainage basins rising in or traversing these different formations.

1/ Reconnaissance Investigations on Sources of Sediment in the Cheyenne River Basin Above Angostura Reservoir, by Richard F. Hadley, U. S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Division, July 1955.

Records of runoff from the various portions of the basin prior to 1951 are fragmentary and inconclusive, but are available for the four year period ending with 1954. They were made as part of the cooperative studies of the U.S. Geological Survey and Bureau of Reclamation initiated in 1950 to "determine the general location of major sediment sources above the reservoir (Angostura) and particularly to evaluate the effect of the several thousand stock reservoirs located within the drainage basin on runoff and sediment movernent to the Cheyenne River."

The table below has been derived from unpublished data of the U.S. Geological Survey and shows the average runoff from the major portion of the basin for the past four years.

U. S. Geological Survey Circular 223, published in 1953, reported the results of the first season's field work under the cooperative studies mentioned above. It was found that the aggregate storage capacity of stock-water reservoirs existing on 49 per cent of the drainage area averaged 11.8 acre feet per square mile. Field data show that these reservoirs retain from 20 to 33 percent of the runoff depending upon the relative amount of precipitation; the higher percentage being retained in the years of lower rainfall.

## Ground Water

No studies have been made of ground water supplies in the drainage basin. Field observations indicate that the occurrence of ground water in the area is erratic, and reliance for stock-water is placed chiefly on reservoirs. Artesian water has been encountered during exploratory drilling for oil at a number of locations in the Osage Oil field, which is near the headwaters of Beaver Creek in northern Weston County。 Over the area as a whole, there are few
springs. Beaver Creek is the only perennial stream, Cheyenne River itself being dry much of the time over most of its length.

## HISTORY OF RESOURCE USE

Use of range and crop lands in the detailed study areas has followed the usual pattern of adjustment between ranchers seeking open range, stock-water and winter feed and farmers seeking arable soils from which to wrest a living. Appropriation of land under the various homestead laws during the period 1890 to 1930 resulted in passage to private ownership of over 80 percent of the land area. Withdrawals of public lands for stock driveways and public water reserves were not extensive. Farmers augmented their production with small numbers of livestock, and ranchers stabilized their operation by production of more winter feed on their own lands or by purchase of feed from neighboring farmers. Both grazed their livestock on the fast dwindling adjoining public domain. These factors have generally resulted in a well balanced livestock and farm economy.

## AREA ECONOMY

Livestock raising, with its complementary farming, and the development of the petroleum industry are the principal industries of the area. While a considerable portion of the farm land is devoted to the production of cash crops, most of the cash crop land is situated outside of the detailed study area, and livestock- farm operations are generally well balanced. In the detailed study areas about $19 \frac{1}{2}$ percent of the total estimated forage production is from crop lands and should be sufficient to carry range livestock through a $2 \frac{1}{2}$ or 3 month feeding period.

Development of the petroleum industry has expanded rapidly during the past four years. Exploration and proving activities have extended from Newcastle southwestward for 75 miles across Weston County and the Cheyenne River into northwestern Niobrara County. These activities are also extending eastward from the Sussex Field, in the Powder River Basin, onto the headwaters of the Cheyenne River. At the end of September 1953 there were about sixty large, rotary well drilling rigs and thirty small, service rigs operating in the Weston County area alone. Several large oil field supply firms have established branches and constructed warehouses in Newcastle, county seat of Weston County, during the past four years。 During this period the assessed valuation of property in Weston County increased from less than $\$ 7,000,000$ to more than $\$ 30,000,000$. Developments on the headwaters of the Cheyenne River will doubtless be supplied from Casper, in the adjoining North Platte Basin.

Mining, lumbering and tourist trade are also important in some portions of the Angostura Area. They are not important in the detailed study areas except at Newcastle where the effects of nation-wide increased travel are evident in the construction of several new motels and other tourist accommodations.

Rural population in the detailed study area has shown little growth since publication of the preliminary report in 1950. However, the population of Newcastle, Wyoming, the only important town in this part of the area, tripled in four years, being estimated at 6,000 in September 1953. Osage, fourteen miles north and west of Newcastle, at the edge of the Osage oil field and the site of the Black Hills Power and Light Company's generating plant has an estimated population of about 200. The only other organized community is Lance Creek in the oil $f_{1} e l d$ northwest of Lusk. It also has a population of about 200 .

## LAND USE AND OWNERSHIP

In the detailed study areas range and crop lands are segregated and the various forms of tenure for Federal lands are shown in Table 1 of this report. Acreages for various ownership and tenure classes are shown by counties, and the estimated grazing capacity is given in animal unit months of forage for each. These areas include nearly one-fifth of the total basin. Approximately one-sixth of all lands in these portions of the basin are administered by the Bureau of Land Management, the remainder being State and privately-owned. Of the 1, 304,958 acres included in the detailed study areas, only 22,326 acres, or about 1.7 per cent are wastelands in land-use capability class VIII. The remainder is in capability classes VI and VII and is used for grazing, except for approximately 5,000 acres or about three-tenths of one per cent which is utilized by highways, railroads and townsites.

Ownership as shown in Table 1 is as follows: Federal - 215, 435 acres or $16 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent; State - 99,521 acres or $7 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent; and private - 990,002 acres or 76 per cent; total $1,304,958$ acres.
Ownership Class Converse County Niobrara County Weston County Total
Acres A.U.M.'s Acres A.U.M.'s Acres A.U.M.'s Acres A.U.M.'s
35,278
114 3.401 38,793 5 38,798 23,027 24,002 $\begin{array}{r}215,193 \\ 66,003 \\ \hline\end{array}$ 281,196
343,996
 Table 1. - Acreage and Carrying Capacity of Lands by Ownership Class in the Detailed Ownership Class
Bureau of Land Management Lands:
Public Domain
Public Water Re Stock Driveway Withdrawal
Total B.L.M.
Other Federal:
Total Federal
State Lands:
Range Lands Crop Lands
Total State
Patented Lands: Range Lands Crop Lands
Total Patented
220,987 59,310
$294,47978,197$
124,340 unit months. An animal
Lance Creek, Wyoming.
of forage necessary to feed one cow for one month.
TOTAL LANDS

## PROBLEMS AFFECTING PUBLIC DOMAIN LANDS IN THE UPPER CHEYENNE RIVER BASIN

The importance of problems affecting public domain lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management depends to a great extent upon the relative amount of such lands as compared with other classes of land-ownership or tenure. Table 4 in the preliminary report on the Angostura Area shows that these public lands comprise only 4.1 per cent of the total basin area. Further analysis shows that in the Nebraska and South Dakota portion of the area they comprise only a little over one half of one per cent. In the Wyoming portion these public domain lands comprise about $6 \frac{1}{4}$ per cent, of which the U。S。Forest Service administers slightly over 10 per cent of the total. Lands administered by the Forest Service consist of public domain transferred to the Department of Agriculture, homestead relinquishments, and purchases of sub-marginal farm lands. All come under Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act of July 22, 1937 (50 Stat. 525), and all are located in the Thunder Basin Land Utilization Project, LU - WY - 21.

Sediment Contrıbution to Angostura Reservoir

This is the most serious problem affecting public domain lands situated in the tributary drainage area. The cooperative studies initiated by the U.S. Geological Survey and Bureau of Reclamation in 1950 and mentioned under Water Supply in this report were concluded in 1953 and 1954 with a reconnaissance examination of all subbasins in the drainage area. Results of these studies were reported in July 1955 under the title "Reconnaissance Investigations on Sources of Sediment in the Cheyenne River Basin Above Angostura Reservoir", by Richard F. Hadley, Water Resources Division, U. S. Geological Survey. Sediment gauging stations were set up in 1950 at four points to measure contributions from the three major tributaries, Lance Creek, Beaver Creek and Hat Creek and the entire basin above the reservoir.

The following tabulation has been derived from a supplement to the above report. The figures shown are averdges for the five year period 1950 through 1954, except for Hat Creek, which are averages for only the last four years.

|  | Drainage Area | Water Discharge | Sediment Discharge |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Name | Square Miles | Volume | Volume |
| (Acre - Feet) | (Acre - Feet) | (Acre - Feet) |  |


| Lance Creek | 2,070 | 18,912 | 621.0 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Beaver Creek | 1,320 | 14,710 | 92.4 |
| Hat Creek | 1,044 | 14,465 | 83.5 |
| All Remaining | $\underline{4,276}$ | $\underline{31,853}$ | $\underline{335.4}$ |
| Total Above | 8,710 | 79,940 | $1,132.3$ |

Reservoir

In terms of percentage the above tabulation would reveal the following:

| Name | Drainage Area <br> Square Miles <br> (Percent) | Water Discharge <br> Volume <br> (Percent) | Sediment Discharge <br> Volume <br> (Percent) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Lance Creek | 25 | 24 | 55 |
| Beaver Creek | 16 | 18 | 8 |
| Hat Creek | 12 | 18 | 8 |
| All Remaining | $\underline{47}$ | $\underline{0}$ | $\underline{29}$ |
| Total Above | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Reservoir |  |  |  |

The period of record is short. These measurements support the conclusions reached during field examination of the area. These conclusions may be summarized briefly as follows:

1. Lance Creek drainage is the major problem area with respect to sediment being carried to Angostura Reservoir.
2. The extreme western part of the basin, under lain by the Wasatch formation, does not present any serious erosion problems.
3. Beaver Creek drainage shows no evidence of being a high sediment contributor, although several of its minor tributary drainage areas show severe erosion.
4. The badlands in Hat Creek draınage are a major sediment source, but it is believed that channel and flood plain aggradation intercept much of the sediment before it reaches the main channel.

From a consideration of the foregoing tabulations it is apparent that for the period of record 29 per cent of the sediment was carried by the 40 per cent of runoff coming from the remaining 47 per cent of the drainage area above Angostura reservoir. Of this 47 per cent approximately 37 per cent lies above the mouth of Lance Creek and includes the extreme western part of the basin mentioned under conclusion number 2 above, as well as Black Thunder and Lodgepole Creek basins. Sediment contrıbutions from this portion of the basin have not been measured due to the extreme infrequency of runoff. The remaining 10 per cent of tributary area comprises Beaver Creek drainage below old highway 85 in Weston County, as well as the draınage areas of Pass Creek, Bennett Canyon and Cavern Canyon coming directly from the Black Hills. This last mentioned portion of the tributary drainage area is believed to contribute no signıficant amounts of sediment, although runoff is fairly heavy due to the higher precipitation and higher channel gradients of this portion of the basin. It seems reasonable to conclude that a large part, if not most, of the 29 per cent of sediment borne by 40 per cent of the runoff is derived from that portion of the western part of the basin underlain by the Fort Union formation. This area is situated almost entirely in the Land Utilization Project Area.

Table 5 of the sediment sources report classifies 39 sub-basins in the tributary drainage area according to degree of upland and channel erosion, sediment yield in acre feet per square mile of drainage area, erosion index number and sediment yield class. Drainage units with the most severe erosion problems and the highest potential sediment yield are Lower Walker Creek, Lower Dry Fork, Cow Creek, Twentymile Creek, Lower Dry Creek, Black Thunder Creek, Turner Creek, Little Lightning Creek and Iron Creek. On scales of increasing severity of one to five, these basins have upland erosion from two to three and channel erosion from three to four sediment yields range from one-fourth acre foot per square mile for Iron Creek to six tenths acre foot per square mile for Lower Walker Creek. Figures for these three measurements are multiplied together to produce an
erosion index number. These indices range from 2.5 for Iron Creek to 7.2 for Lower Walker Creek. These figures compare with indices of 1.0 to 1.9 in sediment yield class 2 basins, . 47 to. 80 in class $3, .33$ to . 46 in class 4 , and only . 17 to . 30 in class 5 sediment yield basins.

Five of the nine sub-basins with greatest sediment yield, Class 1, are located almost entırely within the Land Utilization Project Area. The other four are tributarıes of Lance Creek, and are mostly within the East Detailed Study Area outlined on two of the maps accompanying this report. Five of the nine sub-basins in sediment yield Class 2 are almost entirely within the Land Utilization Project Area; one, partially in each of these areas; and two are in the East Detalled Study Area mentioned above. The sub-basins situated in the East Detailed Study Area will be given further consideration in the discussion of that area。

This sediment sources report lists proposed sites in eleven trıbutary basins for the diversion of flood flows with waterspreading on adjacent bottom lands. These basins are Beaver Creek, Little Thunder Creek, Black Thunder Creek, Dry Fork, Old Woman Creek, Young Woman Creek, Little Lightning Creek, Twenty-mile Creek, Walker Creek, Dry Creek and Indian Creek.

## Cadastral Surveys

Many of the original cadastral surveys in the study area were made as early as 1873, and most of the native stone monuments and corners have been obliterated or destroyed. A number of re-surveys have been made in recent years in order to establish definite ownership lines required by the expanding petroleum industry, mostly in Weston County. A block of nine townships in Campbell, Converse and Natrona Countıes was set up for re-survey in 1954, in conformance with requests from the Geological Survey and various oil companies. About a third of this block lies on the headwaters of the Cheyenne River and the balance is in the Powder River Basin. All were completed by the end of the 1955 field season.

In most parts of the detailed study areas, division fences between livestock operating units vary from actual owner-
ship lines to conform with topographic features. In such areas the cost of re-surveys can be justified only by the development of mineral resources which requires defınite establishment of ownership lines. Rapid extension of petroleum exploration and development, as well as exploration for uranium and other minerals, will doubtless necessitate many additional re-surveys in the near future, since the original survey corners are virtually non-existent.

## PROBLEMS AFFECTING PUBLIC DOMAIN LANDS IN THE DETAILED STUDY AREAS

The two areas selected for detailed study, as outlined on two of the maps accompanying this report, include a total of $1,304,958$ acres, of which $16 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent or 215,355 acres are public domain lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management, as shown in Table l. These lands consist of tracts varying in size from 40 to 7,600 acres which are leased to owners of adjoining lands for grazing purposes under Section 15 of the Taylor Grazing Act (Approved June 28, 1934), as amended. They are the least desirable lands in this portion of the area, being the remnants of the Government land disposal program under the various homestead laws. They include the least accessıble, steepest, rockiest and roughest lands with the shallowest, most unstable, poorest and least productive soils. Generally, they have the least protective vegetative cover, the most rapid runoff rate and probably produce the greatest amounts of sediment per unit area as compared with lands of other ownerships in their vicinity. These lands also include the major portion of waste lands in capabilıty class VIII, although these are not extensive. Average productivity of public domain range lands, as measured in animal unit months of forage per acre, is 19 per cent below the average for all range lands in the detailed study areas.

Land Use Problems

## Multiple Use

1. Multiple use problems in the detailed study areas are intensified in the Stockade Beaver Creek area recommended for management in northeastern Weston County, as shown on the Proposed Land Use and Improvements Map accompanying this report. The
total proposed management unit land area in Sections 3, 4, 5 and 6, Township 42 North, Range 60 West, and Townships 43 to 47 North, inclusive, Range 60 West, is 65,118 acres, of which 4,237 acres are National Forest lands. Classification, ownership and estimated carrying capacities of range, timber and waste lands in this area, exclusive of the National Forest lands, are summarized in the following tabulation:

| Status | Crop | Range | Capability |  |  | Totals |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Class |  | Recommended |
|  |  |  | Timber | VIII | Area | Stocking |
|  | Acres) | (Acres) | (Acres) | (Acres) | (Acres) | (Aums.) |

Public

| Domain |  | 5,416 | 9,847 | 2,440 | 17,703 | 1,437 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| State | 10 | 1,349 | 2,270 | 770 | 4,399 | 477 |
| Private | 6,126 | 16,290 | 14,516 | 1,847 | 38,779 | 22,116 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Totals | 6,136 | 23,055 | 26,633 | 5,057 | 60,881 | 24,030 |

Production of crop land is estimated on the basis of three animal unit months of forage per acre in this tabulation.

Much of the above area is very rough and is broken by numerous limestone escarpments bordering steep canyons. Accessibility is limited to the Stockade Beaver Creek county road and a few jeep or truck trails. Fire protection for all lands is provided by the U. S. Forest Service as a necessary adjunct to the protection of valuable tımber stands and watersheds on the contıguous Black Hills National Forest. Acquisition of the 4, 237 acres of National Forest lands in this area by the Department of Agriculture was made in order to facilitate such protection. The Forest Servace is reimbursed by the Bureau of Land Management for fire supression on an actual cost basis for public domain lands involved. Most of the public domain and all of the National Forest lands in this area are located between Stockade Beaver Creek and the Wyoming-South Dakota State lines north of Township 42 North. These lands are in large, continuous blocks, as shown on the maps accompanying this report.

The 17,703 acres of public domain in this area are classified as shown in the following tabulation:

| Twp. | Range | Waste <br> Lands | Range <br> Acres | Lands AUM'S | Timber Lands |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 1,000 \\ & \text { Posts } \end{aligned}$ | Total Acres |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Acres | $A \cup M ' S$ | MBM |  |  |
| 42 N | 60w |  |  |  | 80 | 8 | 80 | 20 | 80 |
| 43 N | 60W |  | 540 | 73 | 4,050 | 406 | 2,439 | 899 | 4,590 |
| 44 N | 60 W | 923 | 2,466 | 237 | 1,354 | 139 | 380 | 199 | 4,743 |
| 45 N | 60W | 1.467 | 1,881 | 166 | 1,739 | 134 | 3,405 | 391 | 5,087 |
| 46 N | 60W | 50 | 399 | 20 | 1,624 | 160 | 1,041 | 185 | 2,073 |
| 47 N | 60W |  | 130 | 14 | 1,000 | 80 | 1,195 | 72 | 1,130 |
| Totals |  | 2,440 | 5,416 | 510 | 9, 847 | 927 | 8,540 | ,766 | 7,703 |

From the above tabulation it is apparent that resource values on these lands are predominantly of multiple use nature. All of these lands have high watershed values as well as considerable scenic and recreational values, although use of the latter is limited.

The total acreage of public doman and other Federallyowned lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management in this part of the basin does not warrant the establishment of a local office. The nearest existing officeis located at Casper, nearly 200 miles away with little intervening land requiring administrative attention. In this situation, adequate protection of public domain against fire by the Bureau of Land Management is clearly impossible, and efficient administration of timber sales and other public land uses is extremely difficult, often unsatisfactory to the public, and expensive.

Except in the Stockade Beaver Creek area, scenic attractions in the basin are negligible and the proximity of the Black Hills National Forest, just across the state line, detracts from the popularity of this area. Mallo Camp, at the extreme northern end of the area, provides excellent public recreational facilities for those who wish to stay in Wyoming.

There has been little opposition by ranchers to the free exercise of hunting privileges by the public in accordance with State laws. Access to public domain could be completely controlled in almost all cases by the surrounding patented lands, but few operating livestock units are posted against hunting or trespassing. The location and extent of public domain in the detalled study areas, as shown on the map, are such that its retention in Federal ownership could have little effect on the availability of hunting privileges to the public.

## Stock Driveways

2. There are two minor stock driveways in the detalled study areas. One, on the headwaters of the Cheyenne River, in northwestern Converse County, provides access to the shipping point at Orpha, Wyoming, on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad, in the adjoining North Platte Basin. The other, in southeastern Weston County, leads to the shipping point at Dewey, South Dakota, on the Lincoln- Billings line of the same railroad. Both traverse areas of predominantly patented lands, and both are used almost exclusively for market trailing by a few large operators.

The Orpha driveway crosses the west detailed study area for approximately 25 miles from Ross, Wyoming, to the North Platte Divide. It consists of seven separate parcels varying in size from 480 acres to 3,263 acres and including a total of 10,623 acres with an estimated 3,182 animal unit months of forage。 Except for two adjoining "forties" and two "eighties" of public domain, each parcel is entirely surrounded by state-owned or private land and each is traversed by the county road from Orpha to Ross.

Legitimate use on the twenty miles of this driveway in the North Platte Basin is estimated at 653 anımal unit months of forage. $1 /$ Use on the segment which traverses the detailed study area is about the same, indicating an excess of 2,529 animal unit months. Driveway lands are leased to adjoining livestock operators, subject to legitimate use by trailing livestock, but such use is insufficient to warrant retentıon of this driveway.

The Dewey driveway, in the east detailed study area, consists of five parcels of public land embracing a total of 1,560 acres, which produce an estimated 219 anmmal unit months of forage. The Morrissey County Road traverses four of these parcels, including 640 acres with 120 animal unit months of forage. The remaining 920 acres and 99 animal unit months of forage are in a single block, including 340 acres of capability class VIIl waste

1/ "Land Planning and Classification Report as Relates to the Public Domain Lands in the Glendo Area, Wyoming", Bureau of Land Management, Region III, Billings, Montana, October 1951.
lands. By following the old highway from its junction with the Morrissey Road to the top of the hill south of Beaver Creek, 140 acres and 14 anımal unit months can be reached. Access to 425 acres and 85 animal unit months is across a half mile of patented land from the same point. Distance from this point to Dewey is about five miles on the county road.

Use on this driveway is irregular. Some of the largest operators who trail the greatest distance occasionally ship from Douglas, Gillette, Moorcroft, or Upton, Wyoming. There are five principal users owning a total of about 3, 200 cattle and marketing about half that many each year. Distance trailed varies from 25 to 60 miles. The location of the driveway is such that cattle can stop on it only one night. For one night, 1,600 cattle would utilize about 53 animal unit months of forage, indicating an excess of 188 animal unit months on this driveway. There was formerly some occasional local use by sheep. Trespass use by adjacent operators ordinarıly leaves little forage for trailing stock. The principal users do not rely on the availability of driveway forage, customarily making their own arrangements for overnight pasture with owners of lands adjacent to their route of travel. This procedure is also followed in the adjoining land utilization project where no lands are set aside for driveway use. Present use of this driveway is not sufficient to justify its retention in Federal ownership.

Few small operators market sufficient numbers of livestock to warrant shipment by rail, most of them customarily trucking their own stock to local sales rings or delivering at the ranch direct to buyers. Most large operators in the study area prefer trailing and rail shipment to market rather than trucking. They maintain that it is less expensive and easier on the stock and consequently results in obtaining higher prices.

## Public Water Reserves

3. In the detailed study areas there are eight public water reserves embracing a total of 441 acres. Two of them, consisting of single "forties" located in the Osage oil field of Weston County, were withdrawn due to artesian water encountered in exploratory drilling for oil. A third reserve includes 120 acres in extreme northwestern Niobrara County and has a small reser-
voir. The others have no water. All are inside of fenced pastures and none of them are needed by the public, since ample watering facilities exist on adjoining patented lands.

## Other Uses

4. Mallo Camp, on Stockade Beaver Creek at the South Dakota State line in extreme northeastern Weston County, is county owned and operated. It leases, under Section 15 of the Taylor Act, approximately 55 acres of public domain located in Lots 2 and 3, Section 3, T. 47 N., R. 60 W.。6th Principal Meridian.

The town of Lance Creek, Wyoming, in west central Niobrara County, and located in the Lance Creek oil field includes approximately 40 acres of public domain, classified for development under the Small Tract Act of June 1938. There are 61 lots of various shapes, ranging in size from 0.076 acres to 4.047 acres. Nineteen leases are in effect for development as home and business sites. The original order provided for lease only, but has since been amended to provide for leasing and sale. This is a small oil field town and any future expansion is improbable.

## Management Problems

The importance of land management problems varies with the vulnerability of natural resources to damage through mis-use. Vulnerability of surface resources to damage depends to a large extent upon the soil and underlying geologic rock formations from which the soil has been derived. Tremendous differences in the importance of management problems exist between the East and West detailed study areas due to differences in soils and underlying rock formation mentioned in preceding sections of this report.

West Detailed Study Area
l. This area, located in extreme northwestern Converse County, includes 10,623 acres of stock driveway withdrawal, 241 acres of public water reserve, 33,065 acres of vacant public domain and 227,510 acres of State and privately owned lands, or a total of 271,439 acres. It includes portions of the headwaters of Wind, Antelope, Sand, Bear and Willow Creeks and Dry Fork of the Cheyenne River. The Lance formation underlies a variable
strip along the Powder River divide, and the Wasatch formation underlies the remainder. The high absorption rate of soils derived from these two formations and the low precipitation prevalling in this part of the area combine to reduce runoff and sediment contribution to a minimum. Upland slopes are gently rolling, and channels are generally shallow and sandy or poorly defined. Blowouts, caused by wind erosion of the sandy soil, are common and can easily be aggravated by over-use of the forage cover. This area presents no management problems which could justify permanent Federal management of the public domain lands.

## East Detailed Study Area

2. As shown on the map accompanying this report, this area extends almost all the way across the Upper Cheyenne River Basin in east central Wyoming. It includes 1,560 acres of stock driveway withdrawal, 169,746 acres of vacant public domain, 200 acres of public water reserve and 862,013 acres of State and privately owned land, or a total of $1,033,519$ acres. It includes major portions of Beaver Creek and Lance Creek drainages outside of the Land Utilization Project Area, as well as Snyder Creek, several minor drainages, and a portion of the main Cheyenne River.

In sharp contrast to the uniformity of geologic formations underlying the West Detailed Study Area, the formations underlying this area are extremely varied and include portions of every formation in the Wyoming portion, excepting the Wasatch, Ogallala and Arikaree formations. Consequently, vulnerability to erosion varies sharply from one drainage unit to another, and even between parts of a single unit where a change in the underlying rock formation exists.

The following tabulation has been derived from Table 5 of the report referred to under Sediment Contribution to Angostura Reservoir. Only those drainage units which are pertinent to this detailed study area are included。

| Name | Sq. Mi. | Degree of Erosion |  | Adj. Sed. Yield Acre Ft。Per Sq. Mi. | Eros. <br> Index <br> No. | Sed。 Yield Class |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Lower Walker Cr. | 56 | 3 | 4 | . 60 | 7.2 | 1 |
| Cow Cr. | 148 | 3 | 3 | . 50 | 4.5 | 1 |
| Twentymile Cr. | 208 | 2.5 | 3.5 | . 48 | 4.2 | 1 |
| Little Lightning Cr. | 74 | 2 | 3 | . 56 | 3.4 | 1 |
| Sheep Cr. | 40 | 2 | 2 | . 33 | 1.3 | 2 |
| South Beaver Cr. | 137 | 2 | 3 | . 19 | 1.2 | 2 |
| Lower Stockade |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Beaver Cr. | 57 | 2 | 1.5 | . 27 | . 80 | 3 |
| Blacktail Cr. | 38 | 2 | 1 | . 32 | . 64 | 3 |
| Fiddle Cr. | 40 | 1 | 2 | . 31 | . 62 | 3 |
| Snyder Cr. | 93 | 3 | 1 | . 10 | . 30 | 4 |
| Dogie Cr. | 54 | 3 | 1 | .10 | . 30 | 4 |
| Oil Cr. | 152 | 1.5 | 1 | . 19 | . 28 | 4 |
| Skull Cr. | 130 | 1 | 1 | . 20 | . 20 | 4 |
| Upper Stockade |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Beaver Cr. | 199 | 1 | 1 | .17 | . 17 | 4 |

The first four of the above named drainage units in sediment yield Class l, as well as Dogie Creek in sediment yield class 4 are all tributaries of Lance Creek. Snyder Creek drains most of the area between Lance Creek and the Cheyenne River. The major portions of both South Beaver and Fiddle Creek drainages are located in the Land Utilization Project Area. Drainage units in sediment yield Class 2 (Sheep Creek and South Beaver Creek and class 3 (Lower Stockade Beaver Creek, Blacktail Creek and Fiddle Creek) present some erosion problems, but they are much less severe than those in Class l, while those in Class 4 contribute very little sediment to the Cheyenne River, according to the report on sediment sources, previously mentioned. Other pertinent conclusions reached in that report are:

1. The construction of additional stock reservoirs was not considered as being an effective measure in reducing appreciably the sediment yield to the Cheyenne River or any major tributary.
2. Diversion of flood dlows on selected tributaries by low dams and water-spreading on the adjacent flood plains is the most feasible way to intercept and cause redeposition of sediment from upland sources.
3. If diversion of flood flows and water-spreading is initiated as a means of reducing sediment yield to the Cheyenne River, it must be done at
the cost of runoff．

4．Any type of water－spreading treatment that is undertaken must be carefully maintained so that renewed cutting does not begin in the artifici－ ally induced deposits．

Since the most feasible sediment control measures are diversion dams and water spreading on adjacent flood plains，it is evident that suitable locations can be found only along the main channels．Except in very isolated instances，such channels do not traverse public domain lands．It，therefore， follows that nearly all sediment control measures undertaken will be located on patented lands．The report on sources of sediment previously referred to，designated eleven sites in the Wyoming portion of the basin as being suit－ able for sediment control measures．Only two of these are in the east detail－ ed study area，and both are entirely on patented land．

A brief summary of erosion conditions existing on the four drainage units in sediment yield class l，as outlined in the report，is belleved pertin－ ent at this point．

1．Walker Creek－Sediment derived from sheet and gully erosion on steep uplands and stream bank erosion－only opportunity for sediment control is on about two miles of flood plain at extreme lower end．

2．Cow Creek－Sediment derived from sheet and gully erosion on steep uplands and raw channel－flood plain is narrow with deep，narrow channel，offering little chance for sediment control．

Sediment accumulation in acre feet per square mile of tributary drainage area for two reservoirs in the Cow Creek Basin was as follows：

Length of Record
Location
T． 39 N．，R． 66 W．，Sec． 27
T． 39 No，R． 66 W．，Sec． 33

Mean Annual Sediment
Accumulation
（Acreft．／sq．mi。）
（Year）
$10 \quad 1.50$

3．Twenty－mile Creek－Vulnerability of various sub－basins in this drainage and contribution to the main channel are variable．The best opportunity for sediment control is on flood plain in Sections 18 and 19 。 T． 36 N。，R． 66 W ．
4. Little Lightning Creek - Sediment derived chiefly from sheet and rill erosion and badlands with no severe stream bank erosion - the most feasible area of control is above the town of Lance Creek in the isolated tract classification area.

Vulnerability to upland erosion, as described in this report, is shown on the Land Use adjustments and Proposed Improvements Map accompanying this report.

The Land Classification Map accompanying this report shows the vegetative type 1 with key numbers referring to descriptive formulae, giving the three principal plant species, vegetative condition, grazing capacities, range site, land use capability class, slope, erosion condition and soil factors of all lands within the detailed study areas.

## Administrative Problems

The most difficult administrative problem in the Upper Cheyenne River Basin is the determination as to what public lands should be retaned under Federal management and what lands should be disposed of by public sale or other means to non-Federal agencies such as states, institutions or private enterprise. A brief glance at the Angostura Area Public Domain Map accompanying the Preliminary Land Planning and Classification Report on the Angostura Area, published by Region III of the Bureau of Land Management in June 1950, shows that the public land pattern is extremely variable. Areas for detailed study were outlined solely on the basis of density of public domain lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

Only $16 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the lands in these detailed study areas is Federally owned. Since these lands consist of tracts varying in size from 40 to approximately 7,600 acres, there is no sharp line of demarcation between areas in which continued Federal management is clearly justified and those in which it definitely cannot be justified. The situation is further complicated by the existence of large blocks of Federal land in the land utilization project area. LU-WY-21, previously mentioned, and lying immediately to the north and west of the east detalled study area. Obviously, the problems existing in the east detailed study area are very similar to those in the land utilization project area and should be accorded similar treatment by the two Federal agencies.

The Forest Service, administering lands in the Land Utilization Project Area, proposes holding these lands under continued Federal management in order to alleviate sediment contribution to Angostura Reservoir.

It would, therefore, be poor policy for the Bureau of Land Management to offer similar nearby lands for disposition to a state or private enterprise on the basis that they do not contribute to any erosion problem or constitute a public hazard.

Another aspect of this problem to be considered is the probable effect on the local economy of offering large acreages of public domain lands to the State or for public sale. During the past two decades most livestock operations んえve acquired a degree of stability virtually unknown to such enterprises prior to passage of the Taylor Act in 1934.

Many large operations have profited tremendously by the extremely low cost range afforded by the vacant public domain lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management. On the other hand, few small operations have enough such range for its low cost to have much effect on their net operating profits. Large operators are generally very much in favor of maintaining the status quo because they are not fearful of losing control of the range and because leasing it from the Bureau of Land Management costs so much less than ownership. Small operators are almost unanımous in their desire to purchase whatever public lands they have under their control, feeling that ownership constitutes their only real guarantee of continued availability of the range to them. This problem changes radically inside the Land Utilization Project Area where charges for the use of Federal range lands are on a much more realistic basis, being leased for approximately three times as much as for similar range lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

## PROBLEMS AFFECTING PUBLIC DOMAIN LANDS IN THE ISOLATED TRACT CLASSIFICATION AREAS

In the isolated tract classification portions of the Upper Cheyenne River Basin the pattern of public domain lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management is one of widely scattered tracts ranging in size from 40 to 1,960 acres. These lands are generally of better quality than the public domain in the detailed study area, but are not as good as the surrounding patented lands. They are suitable only for the production of permanent, native vegetation and apparently serve no purpose in any permanent management program of the Bureau of Land Management at present.

Each tract of public domain land within the isolated tract areas is shown in Table 4 of this report by legal description, acreage, and general land character with animal unit months of forage, present land use, land use capability, principal suitability and proposed management. A brief summary of Table 4, showing, by counties and states, the number of tracts, the total acreages, the animal unit months of forage and the aggregate acreage in each land use capability class follows in Table 2.

Table 2 - Summary of Isolated Tracts Described in Table 4

|  | No. of |  | Land Use Capability | Class (acres) | Total |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| State-County | Tracts | AUM'S $^{\prime}$ | VI | VII | VIII | Acres |


| Wyoming |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Campbell | 20 | 1, 049 | 120.00 | 5,680.50 |  | 5,800.50 |
| Converse | 87 | 2,924 | 3, 374.83 | 11,419.03 |  | 14,793.86 |
| Natrona | 1 | 180 |  | 720.00 |  | 720.00 |
| Niobrara | 169 | 3,362 | 2,792. 21 * | 13,623.65 | 1,747.19 | 18.163.05 |
| Weston | 43 | 1,013 | 1,090.00 | 3,809.63 | 1,096.14 | 5,995.30 |
| W yoming |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sub- Total | 320 | 8,528 | 7,377,04* | 35,252.81 | 2,843.33 | 45,472.71 |
| South Dakota, |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Custer | 62 | 1,436 | 1,303.66 | 5,509.43 | 185.16 | 6.998. 25 |
| Fall River | 64 | 1, 456 | 325.44 | 7,096.62 | 305.00 | 7,727.06 |
| Pennington | 4 | 123 | 150.00 | 290.00 | 20.00 | 460.00 |
| South Dakota |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sub-Total | 130 | 3, 015 | 1,779.10 | 12,896.05 | 510.16 | 15,185.31 |
| Nebraska |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sioux | 14 | 165 | 270.00** | 526.88 | 85.00 | 881.88 |
| Grand Total | 464 | 11,708 | 9,426.14 | 48,675.74 | 3,438.49 | 61,539.90 |

[^0]From the above tabulation it is determined that the average size of the 464 isolated tracts in this area is approximately 130 acres; that $15 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent is in Capability Class VI; 79 per cent is in Class VII; and $5 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent 1 s in Class VIII, or waste land. The acreage of land in Class $V$ is negligible.

## PROGRAMS AND PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS AFFECTING PUBLIC DOMAIN LANDS

Intensive management is recommended for an area extending northward from township 35 North to township 42 North and from range 63 West to range 68 West as shown on the Proposed Land Use and Improvements Map with this report. Total area of this proposed management unit is $655 \frac{1}{2}$ square miles. Three fourths of the area presents major erosion problems as shown on the map. This 75 per cent has a high sediment yield potential, 73 per cent being 5 to 25 per cent slopes with high sediment yields and 2 per cent are badlands. Only $l \frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the area has
slight erosion potential, $23 \frac{1}{2}$ per cert being classed as moderate. Distribution of these classes is shown on the Land Use and Improvements Map. The Badlands are in the Lower Creek and Walker Creek drainages. The balance of the major erosion areas are located in all ten of the drainages except Dogie Creek. Those with moderate sediment yield are in the Cheyenne River portion of the area, and within the drainages of Dogie, Lance, Walker and Little Lightning Creeks. The small area of slight erosion potential is within the Cheyenne River portion of the drannage in this area.

This proposed management area adjoins the land utilization area where erosion conditions are similar. It is proposed that land management of the two areas be coordinated.

The two proposed managemert areas in the extreme western and eastern portions of the study areas present no serious erosion problems. The western area is sandy loam land with good permeability. The eastern area is forest land with slight erosion and low sediment production potentials. The western area is recommended for continued management because it is adjacent to and contiguous with a large management area of public domain lands in the Powder River and North Platte Basins. The eastern management area on the Stockade Beaver Creek drainage is multiple use forest land adjoining the Black Hills National Forest. It is recommended that the public lands in this area be administered by the Forest Service.

The balance of the public domain lands outside of these proposed management areas is scattered tracts with no serious inherent problems which require corrective treatment by this Bureau. Neither do they have any significant multiple use values which would not apparently be served equally as well under private ownership.

The one remaining question, then, is what disposition can be made of these lands that will satisfactorily discharge the obligations of the Bureau of Land Management for the proper administration of a public resource? Sustained cultivation is not possible because of adverse climate, poor soil and unfavorable topographic features. So the lands are not sirbject to disposition under the homestead or desert land laws. Except for a few tracts. as noted in the preceding section of this report, the lands are not suitable for home, cabin, recreational or business sites because of their unfavorable location and the lack of scenic values. They are primarily grazing lands which are capable of supporting taxation, and since they serve no
purpose in any management program of this Bureau, there is no reason for retaining them under its administration.

It is, therefore, proposed that the following programs be initiated and carried out in the order listed:

## In the Detailed Study Areas

1. Administer the three management units to include areas designated (M) on the Proposed Land Use and Improvement Map, accompanying this report.
2. Transfer all public domain in the Stockade Beaver Creek Management area to the Department of Agriculture for administration in conjunction with contiguous Federal lands in the Black Hills National Forest. There are 17,703 acres of public domain lands in this area.
3. Revoke all withdrawals for stock driveways and public water reserves and restore to the status of vacant public domain. There are 12,463 acres of these lands.
4. Offer all remaining vacant public domain lands not included in the management units for disposal under the provisions of the Public Sale Law. Including the 12,463 acres of stock driveway and public water reserve withdrawals mentioned under 3 above, there are 96,766 acres of these lands in 340 tracts ranging in size from less than 40 acres to approximately 3,760 acres. They comprise about one-eighth of the total land area. It is essential that these lands be offered at public sale before offering them to the State of Wyoming in order to safeguard the stability of the existing local livestock economy to the greatest possible extent.
5. List all public domain lands not sold under the public sale offering with the State of Wyoming for:
(a) The satisfaction of any outstanding lien selections due that

State.
(b) In exchange for an approximately equal acreage of Stateowned lands within Federal grazing districts in Wyoming or within the proposed management units of the adjoining North Platte and Powder River Basins. There are over 200, 000 acres of State-owned range lands in the adjoining Upper Powder Management unit alone, much more than the total acreage proposed for offering at public sale in this entre drainage area.

1. West Management Unit - This unitincludes a total of approximately 45,135 acres, of which 15,370 acres or 34 per cent is public domain administered by the Bureau of Land Management. The remainder is state or privately owned.

Based chiefly on the high percentage of Federal land in this unit, it is proposed that these lands be retained under Federal management in conjunction with other Federal lands in the adjoıning Powder River and North Platte management areas. However, the boundary line of this management unit was arbitrarily established solely on the basis of density of Federal lands, and there sould be no hesitancy to comply with applications for the purchase of such lands under the provisions of the Public Sale Law. The entire area is in upland erosion Class 4, as shown on the Proposed Land Use and Improvement Map accompanying this report.
2. East Management Unıt - This unit ancludes a total of approximately 418,976 acres, of which 85,596 acres, or 20 per cent, 1 s public domain administered by the Bureau of Land Management. The remainder is state or, privately owned. Continued management by this Bureau is proposed for the Federal lands in this unit for the following reasons:
(a) To assist, as far as possible, in the alleviation of sedimentation of the Angostura reservoir by proper management of the public domain lands.
(b) To avoid possible disturbance of the local livestock economy which might be caused by disposition of these lands to private or state ownership.
(c) To cooperate with the Federal agency administering the public lands in the adjoining land utilization project area, LU-WY-21, in the determination of the best future use and administration of these lands.

The last mentioned reason involves a final decision as to what lands are to be kept permanently under Federal management, and what lands are to be disposed of by public sale or other means to the state or to private enterprise. This decision must be based on a careful consıderation of the effects of public land disposal in both the proposed management unit and the adjoining land utilization project area. The slze of livestock operations generally tends to increase with an increase in the density of Federal lands
in this part of Wyoming. The percentage of Federal lands in the Land Utilization Project Area is much higher than in the proposed management unit, as shown on the map accompanying the Preliminary Land Classification Report. 1/

Livestock operations in both areas are large. As stated previously, owners of large livestock operations are generally averse to the purchase of public lands where such lands are administered by the Bureau of Land Management on account of the extremely cheap rates charged for their use. However, where the rates charged are on more realistic basis, as in the Land Utilization Project Area, these operators are inclined much more favorable toward such purchase, since the cost of leasing is more often equal to, or in excess of, the cost of ownership.

When considered on the basis of the best possible future use and administration of the Federal lands in the proposed management unit, there are few valid reasons for retaining these lands under permanent Federal management. As stated under Problems Affecting Public Domain Lands in the East Detailed Study Area, the Geological Survey made a comprehensive study of the sedimentation problem, concluding the following: 2 /

1. Construction of additional stock reservoirs was not an effective measure in reducing appreciably the sediment yield to the Cheyenne River or any major tributary.
2. Diversion of flood flows on selected tributaries by low dams and water spreading on the adjacent flood plains is the most feasible way to intercept and cause redeposition of sediment from upland sources.

Eleven sites were designated as being suitable for sediment control measures in the entire basin. Only two of these are in this proposed management unit and both are entirely on patented land.

1/ Preliminary Land Planning and Classification Report - Angostura Area, Bureau of Land Management, Region III, Billings, Montana, June 1950. 2/ Reconnaissance Investigations on Sources of Sediment in the Cheyenne River Basin Above Angostura Reservoir, by Richard F. Hadley, U. S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Division, July 1955.

It is, therefore, apparent that the Federal lands in this unit will derive little benefit from continued Federal management that could not be derived under private ownership of the lands. Federal ownership of these lands has, in fact, been detrimental to them by barring them from participation in the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Programs of the Department of Agriculture and similar, preceding improvement programs during the past two decades. This feature has recently been changed so that improvements under these programs may now be placed on Federal lands: These programs and improvements programs under the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, approved August 4, 1954. 1/ are expected to be much more effective in the future.

It is also apparent that Federal lands are in no better vegetative condition than similar lands under private ownership. This may be due to the virtually complete lack of control exercised by the Bureau of Land Management over the use of these lands by lease under Section 15 of the Taylor Act, approved June 28, 1934, to adjoining livestock operators. More probably, it is due to the fact that good range management has become the rule rather than the exception, and is no longer an attribute solely of Federal land management.

It is, therefore, proposed that Federal lands in this management unit be made subject to disposal upon application under the Public Sale Law, but that no action by taken by this Bureau to put them on the public sale market by its own motion. It is also proposed that no range improvement and development program be initiated by the Bureau of Land Management pending final decision as to the ultimate disposition of these lands.

Improvements as shown on the Proposed Land Use and Improvements Map inside the proposed East Management Unit are contemplated in the event that a final decision is reached to retain these lands permanently under Federal management. Pending this decision it is proposed that the Bureau of Land Management participate actively by sharing in the costs of any development program initiated by local organizations under the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954 previously mentioned.

Estimated costs of the contemplated improvements in the Proposed East Management Unit are segregated for Federal and Non- Federal lands in Table 3. Estimated costs of the proposed improvements as shown on the map outside of the proposed East Management Unit are not included in this report. It is noted that less than 17 per cent of the proposed improve-ments in the East Management Unit are located on public domain lands.

[^1]


1. Complete transfer of 71 tracts with a total of $10,086.46$ acres and 1,977 animal unit months of forage in Custer and Fall River Counties, South Dakota, as listed in Table 2 under Proposed Federal Management to the Department of Agriculture for administration in conjunction with the adjoining Black Hills National Forest. These lands were selected by the Forest Service and have been classified as follows: 639.38 acres - land use Capability Class VI, 9, 072.08 acres - Capability Class VII, and 375.00 acres - Capability Class VIII, or waste lands.
2. List all remaining tracts of vacant public domain shown in Table 2 for disposal under provisions of the public sale law. There are 393 tracts with a total of $51,453.44$ acres of these lands. Land use Capability Classification of these lands is as follows: Class V - 70. 00 acres, Class VI - 8,716.76 acres, Class VII - 36,603.19 acres, and Class VIII - 3, 063.49 acres.

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Table 4.- Description, Area, Classification, Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain, by Counties, Within the Isolated Tract Portion of the Angostura Area, Wyoming, Nebraska and South Dakota, 1953 1/ Principal Proposed Private . Private



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[^2] Subdivision

Table 4.- Description, Area, Classification, Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain, by Counties, Private
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Table 4．－Description，Area，Classification，Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain，by Counties， Within the Isolated Tract Portion of the Angostura Area，Wyoming，Nebraska，and South Dakota， 1953 I／

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Table 4．－．Description，Area，Classification，Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain，by Counties， Within the Isolated Tract Portion of the Angostura Area，Wyoming，Nebraska，and South Dakota， $19531 /$ Private
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|  | 61 | 1 | SE $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{SW} \frac{1}{4}, \mathrm{~S} \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{SE} \frac{1}{4}$ |
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| 3333 | 62 | 14 | NW $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{NE} \frac{1}{4}$ |
|  | 63 | 2 | NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ |
|  |  | 7 | W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| 3333 | 65 | 19 | $\mathrm{NE} \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{SW} \frac{1}{4}$ |
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Table 4．－Description，Area，Classification，Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain，by Counties， Within the Isolated Tract Portion of the Angostura Area，Wyoming，Nebraska，and South Dakota， 1953 1／



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Table 4.- Description, Area, Classification, Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain, by Counties, Private Private Private Private N Private 0
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Table 4.- Description, Area, Classification, Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain, by Counties, Within the Isolated Tract Portion of the Angostura Area, Wyoming, Nebraska, and South Dakota, 1953 1/

| Twp. <br> North | Range West | Sec. | Subdivision | Acres | General Land Character | AUM's | Present Land Use | Land Capability Classification 2/ | Principal Suitability | Proposed Management |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Niobrara County |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 35 | 61 | 29 | $N W \frac{1}{4} N W \frac{1}{4}, E \frac{1}{2} N W \frac{1}{4}, S W \frac{1}{4} N E \frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ <br> Lots 2,3, $\operatorname{SE} \frac{1}{4} N W \frac{1}{4}, ~ E \frac{1}{2} S W \frac{1}{4}$ | 200.00 | Sloping to broken badlands | 30 | Grazing | VII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 30 | Lots $2,3, \operatorname{SE} \frac{1}{4} N W \frac{1}{4}, ~ E \frac{1}{2} S W \frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{SE}_{\frac{1}{4}}$ | 277.50 | Sloping to broken badlands | 32 | Grazing | VII | Grazing | Private |
| 35 | 62 | 1 | Lots $1,2, S E \frac{1}{4} N E \frac{1}{4}, S W \frac{1}{4} S W \frac{1}{4}$, $\mathrm{NE} \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{SE}^{\frac{1}{4}}$ | 205.08 | Very rough and broken | 23 | Grazing | 40/VII:165.08/VII | Grazing | Private |
|  | 63 | 10 | NW $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{NE} \frac{1}{4}$ | 40.00 | Very rough and broken | 6 | Grazing | VII | Grazing | Private |
| 35 |  | 19 | Lot 4 | 39.65 | Steep sandstone bluffs | 10 | Grazing | VII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 4 | S $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{NW} \frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{SE}^{\frac{1}{4}}$ | 280.00 | Rough | 40 | Grazing | 160/VII:120/VIII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 5 | $\mathrm{NE} \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{NW} \frac{1}{4}, \mathrm{SE} \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{NE} \frac{1}{4}, \mathrm{NE} \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{SE} \frac{1}{4}$ | 120.00 | Rough | 20 | Grazing | 80/VII:40/VIII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 8 | SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ | 40.00 | Very rough and broken | 4 | Grazing | VIII | Grazing | Private |
| 35 | 64 | 19 | W $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{NE}_{\frac{1}{4}}, \mathrm{E}_{\frac{1}{2}}^{1} \mathrm{NW} \frac{1}{4}$, Lots 3,4, $\mathrm{E} \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{SW} \frac{1}{4}, \mathrm{NW} \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{SE} \frac{1}{4}$ | 366.66 | Very rough and broken | 20 | Grazing | VIII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 26 | $\mathrm{NE} \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{SE} \frac{1}{4}$ | 40.00 | Steep sandstone bluffs | 10 | Grazing | VII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 30 | Lots 1,2, $\mathrm{E} \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{NW} \frac{1}{4}$ | 168.15 | Very rough and broken | 17 | Grazing | VIII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 18 | Lots 1,2,4, $\mathrm{NE}_{4}^{\frac{1}{4}} \mathrm{NW}_{4} \frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ | 213.02 | Rolling to rough | 27 | Grazing | VII | Grazing | Private |
| 35 | 65 | 19 | Lot 4 | 43.39 | Rolling to rough | 5 | Grazing | VII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 21 | E $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{SW}^{\frac{1}{4}}$ | 80.00 | Rough | 4 | Grazing | VII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 28 | NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ | 40.00 | Rough | 4 | Grazing | VII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 13 | S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ | 80.00 | Rolling to rough badlands | 10 | Grazing | 50/VII:30/VIII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 17 | SW ${ }^{\frac{1}{4}} \mathrm{SW} W^{\frac{1}{4}}$ | 40.00 | Rolling to rough badlands | 2 | Grazing | 20/VII:20/VIII | Grazing | Private |
| 35 | 66 | 20 | SEI ${ }^{\text {S }}$ S $\frac{1}{4}$ | 40.00 | Rolling to rough badlands | 2 | Grazing | 20/VII:20/VIII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 29 | $\mathrm{E} \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{NW} \frac{1}{4}, \mathrm{~N} \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{SW} \frac{1}{4}$ | 160.00 | Rolling to rough badlands | 6 | Grazing | 60/VII:100/VIII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 6 | E $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{SE}$ 㐌 ${ }^{\frac{1}{4}}$ | 80.00 | Rolling to rough | 12 | Grazing | VII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 8 | S $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{SW} \frac{1}{4}$ | 80.00 | Rolling to rough | 10 | Grazing | VII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 17 | NW $\frac{1}{4}$ | 160.00 | Rolling to rough | 22 | Grazing | VII | Grazing | Private |
|  |  | 19 | Lots 1,2,3,4, E $\frac{1}{2} W \frac{1}{2}$ | 324.40 | Rolling to rough | 50 | Grazing | VII | Grazing | Private |

Table 4.- Description, Area, Classification, Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain, by Counties,
Within the Isolated Tract Portion of the Angostura Area, Wyoming, Nebraska, and South Dakota, 1953 l/
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Table 4.- Description, Area, Classification, Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain, by Counties, Within the Isolated Tract Portion of the Angostura Area, Wyoming, Nebraska and South Dakota, 1953 1/
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Niobrara County

6th P. M
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Table 4．－Description，Area，Classification，Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain，by Counties，
Within the Isolated Tract Portion of the Angostura Area，Wyoming，Nebraska and South Dakota， 1953 i／
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| 16 | Grazing | Very rough and broken

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| 38 | 63 |
| 38 | 64 |
| 39 | 60 |
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| 45 | 67 |

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Table 4.- Description, Area, Classification, Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain, by Counties,
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 $\begin{array}{ll} & \text { Present } \\ \text { AUM's Land Use }\end{array}$ $\begin{aligned} 26 & \text { Grazing } \\ 17 & \text { Grazing } \\ 9 & \text { Grazing } \\ 38 & \text { Grazing } \\ 38 & \text { Grazing } \\ 49 & \text { Grazing } \\ 31 & \text { Grazing } \\ 8 & \text { Grazing } \\ 8 & \text { Grazing } \\ 129 & \text { Grazing } \\ 58 & \text { Grazing } \\ 20 & \text { Grazing } \\ 39 & \text { Grazing } \\ 16 & \text { Grazing } \\ 108 & \text { Grazing } \\ 24 & \text { Grazing } \\ 33 & \text { Grazing } \\ 21 & \text { Grazing } \\ 3 & \text { Grazing }\end{aligned}$
 $\begin{aligned} 80.00 & \text { Mountainous } \\ 120.00 & \text { Mountainous } \\ 80.00 & \text { Mountainous } \\ 160.00 & \text { Mountainous } \\ 120.00 & \text { Mountainous } \\ 40.00 & \text { Mountainous } \\ 80.00 & \text { Gently to steeply rolling } \\ 80.00 & \text { Gently to steeply rolling }\end{aligned}$
Acres Genral Land Character
Acres Genral Land Character $\quad$ AUM's Land Use

120.00 Steeply rolling rough
 Weston County
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Table 4.- Description, Area, Classification, Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain, by Counties, Private N品范 Private
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Table 4．－Description，Area，Classification，Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain，by Counties，

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160．00 Steep coulees and canyons

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| 64.77 | Steeply rolling |
| 120.00 | Steeply rolling |
| 80.00 | Steeply rolling |
| 40.00 | Steeply rolling |
| 200.00 | Steeply rolling |
| 255.51 | Steeply rolling |
| 40.00 | Steeply rolling |

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| Land Use |$\begin{array}{ll}40.00 & \text { Rough and broken } \\ 40.08 & \text { Rough and mountainous } \\ 40.00 & \text { Rough and mountainous } \\ 40.00 & \text { Rough and mountainous } \\ 40.00 & \text { Mountainous } \\ 36.60 & \text { Steeply rolling } \\ 40.00 & \text { Steeply rolling } \\ 80.00 & \text { Mountainous } \\ 40.08 & \text { Gently rolling }\end{array}$40.00 Steeply rolling

160.00 Steep coulees and canyons
120.00 Steeply rolling


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| 40.00 | Mountainous | 8 | Grazing |
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| 120.00 | Mountainous |  |  |
|  |  | 22 | Grazing |
| 40.00 | Mountainous | 8 | Grazing |
| 76.65 | Mountainous | 12 | Grazing |
|  |  |  | Grazing, |
|  |  | 80 | Wildlife |
| 400.00 | Coulees and cut banks |  | Grazing, |
|  |  | 40 | Wildlife |
| 200.00 | Steeply rolling, coulees,banks |  |  |
| 40.00 | Steeply rolling, coulees,banks | 8 | Grazing, |
|  |  |  | Wildlife |
| 39.98 | Steeply rolling, coulees,banks | 8 | Grazing, |
|  |  |  | Wildlife |
| 80.00 | Steeply rolling | 16 | Grazing |
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| 40.00 | Steeply rolling | 5 | Grazing |
| 120.00 | Steeply rolling | 15 | Grazing |
| 80.00 | Rolling to rough | 27 | Grazing |
| 40.00 | Rolling to rough | 13 | Grazing |
| 40.00 | Rolling to rough | 5 | Grazing |
| 73.51 | Rough and mountainous | 10 | Grazing |
| 40.00 | Rough and mountainous | 4 | Grazing |
| 40.00 | Steeply rolling | 8 | Grazing |
| 40.00 | Steeply rolling | 8 | Grazing |
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Table 4．－Description，Area，Classification，Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain，by Counties，
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Table 4．－Description，Area，Classification，Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain，by Counties， Black Hills P．M．
South Dakota
Twp．Range
South East Sec． Custer County
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Private －Continued Table $4^{-}$Description，Area，Classification，Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain，by Counties，
Isolated Tract Portion of the Angostura Area，Wyoming，Nebraska and South Dakota， 1953 I／
280.00 Gently to steeply rolling
120.00 Steep coulees

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159.72 \text { Rolling }
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| VII | Grazing | Federal |
| VII | Stock |  |
|  | Driveway | Federal |
| VII | Timber， |  |
|  | Wildlife <br> Stock | Federal |
| VII | Driveway | Federal |
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Table 4．－Description，Area，Classification，Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain，by Counties， Private
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| 40.00 | Rough badlands |
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| 40.00 | Gently rolling |
| 120.00 | Steeply rolling |
| 160.00 | Steeply rolling |
| 360.00 | Steeply rolling |
| 240.00 | Steeply rolling |
| 40.00 | Steeply rolling |
| 40.00 | Gently rolling to broken |

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Table 4．－Description，Area，Classification，Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain，by Counties， Within the Isolated Tract Portion of the Angostura Area，Wyoming，Nebraska，and South Dakota， 1953 1／




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Table 4．－Description，Area，Classification，Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain，by Counties，
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AUM＇s Land Use

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40．00 Rough and mountainous 120．00 Rough and mountainous 240.00 Broken badlands
158.94 Rolling，mountainous 160.00 Rolling，mountainous 80．00 Rolling，mountainous 40．00 Gently rolling $\begin{array}{ll}\text { 40．00 } & \text { Gently rolling } \\ \text { Mountainous，steep }\end{array}$ 200.00 Rolling，mountainous $\begin{aligned} 200.00 & \text { Rolling，mountai } \\ 40.00 & \text { Badlands } \\ 80.00 & \text { Steeply rolling } \\ 80.00 & \text { Steeply rolling } \\ 40.00 & \text { Badlands } \\ 120.00 & \text { Badlands } \\ 40.00 & \text { Badlands } \\ 40.00 & \text { Badlands }\end{aligned}$
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| 28 | SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| 29 | N $\frac{1}{2} N E \frac{1}{4}, \mathrm{SE} \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{NE} \frac{1}{4}$ |
| 35 | NE $\frac{1}{4}, \mathrm{E} \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{SW} \frac{1}{4}$ |
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| 11 | W ${ }_{2} \mathrm{NWW} \frac{1}{4}$ |
| 3 | SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| 18 | NE $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{SW} \frac{1}{4}$ |
| 34 | SE $\frac{1}{4} N W \frac{1}{4}, ~ N E \frac{1}{4}$ |
| 3 | SE $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{SE} \frac{1}{4}$ |
| 4 | E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW ${ }^{\frac{1}{4}}$ |
| 8 | N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW ${ }^{\frac{1}{4}}$ |
| 10 | $\mathrm{NE} \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{SE} \frac{1}{4}$ |
| 11 | W ${ }^{\frac{1}{2} N W \frac{1}{4}, ~ N W \frac{1}{4} S W \frac{1}{4}}$ |
| 12 | NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| 14 | SE $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{NE} \frac{1}{4}$ |

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$\mathrm{NE}_{\frac{1}{4}} \mathrm{NE}_{\frac{1}{4}}^{\frac{1}{4}}, \mathrm{NE} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{4}} \mathrm{SW}_{\frac{1}{4}}, \mathrm{~N} \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{SE}_{\frac{1}{4}}$ W $\frac{1}{2} N W \frac{1}{4}$
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Table 4．－Description，Area，Classification，Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain，by Counties， Within the Isolated Tract Portion of the Angostura Area，Wyoming，Nebraska，and South Dakota，1953 1／ Table 4. Federal $\pi$
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 200．00 Steeply rolling to mountainous 5


 $\begin{aligned} 40.00 & \text { Rolling pine hills } \\ 80.00 & \text { Rolling to rough } \\ 80.00 & \text { Rolling pine hills } \\ 80.00 & \text { Rolling pine hills } \\ 121.88 & \text { Rolling to rough and steep } \\ 40.00 & \text { Level to rolling } \\ 40.00 & \text { Rolling pine hills } \\ 40.00 & \text { Level to rolling }\end{aligned}$
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Table 4．－Description，Area，Classification，Suitability and Proposed Management of Unreserved Public Domain，by Counties，
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## Appendix A - Methods of Land Classifıcation

Land classification in the Angostura Area was based on delineation of various range sites, as defined by the Soil Conservation Service of the Department of Agriculture and described in Appendix B of this report.

On each site vegetative condition was determined by examination of the plant cover and comparison with the standards of composition shown in the applicable technician's guide, Appendix G, H or I, also developed by the Soil Conservation Service. Carrying capacity was then computed in animal unit months of forage per acre according to site, condition and rainfall belt, as shown in the guide.

Each range site is described on the Land Classification Map, accompanying this report, by a formula showing, in the numerator, the type, as described in Appendix E, symbols for the three principal plant species, as listed in Appendix $F$ and the vegetative condrtion and carrying capacity, as determined by the applicable technician's guide, Appendix $G_{0}$ $H$ or I. In the denominator are shown the range site (Appendix B), the land use capability class (Appendix C), the slope class and the erosion condition class (Appendix D). On land use capability class VI and better, a set of four symbols consisting of two numbers each, followed by a capital letter designating the soil factors of depth, texture, permeability and underlying material are also shown. Explanations of slope classes and soil factors are shown on the Land Classification Map accompanying this report.
season and
subirrigated．（Too wet for cultivated crops but highly productive under natural
cover．Not open water marsh．）
Nearly flat bottomlands bordering watercourses， 60 inches or more of very
heavy to moderately heavy soil．
Same as above，except for salinity－usually indicated by presence of grease－
wood
Usually gently rolling plains with light to very light sand at least 20 inches
n depth
Stabilized sand dunes with soils similar to above，＂Sands＂ Same as＂Sands＂above，but only moderately light soil
Medium to moderately heavy soils at least 20 inches deep on moderate slopes d Moderately heavy to very light soils at least 20 inches deep under scattered pine trees
Any textured soil from 10 to 20 inches deep on moderate slopes Medium to very light soils at least 20 inches deep stronger slopes Heavy to light soils less than 10 inches deep on any slope Uplands where rock fragments of gravel or small stone size occur in and on the soil．Coarse materials greatly reduce moisture retention and affect kind of native vegetation．A sharp－pointed spade cannot be forced into the soil．（Included here are some river terraces and outwash deltas．） Very heavy to heavy soils less than 10 inches deep over shale bedrock， usually occupied by saltbush，western wheatgrass and others
Appendix B Description
Name
Wet land
Lowland
Description
Wet land
Lowland
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Choppy sandhills
Sandy
Ordinary upland Clay Savannah Shallow
Coarse upland
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Appendix C - Description and definitions of land-use capability classes $\sqrt{d}$

| Class | Suitaile for | Topograpiy |  | Characteristic ::ative vcletation | Soil Characteristics |  |  |  |  |  | Vulnerability to Erosion | Requisite Special Practices |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Slope } \\ \text { (percent) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Character } \\ & \text { of Surface } \end{aligned}$ |  | Tcxture | Jepth | Relative Salinity | Fcrtility | Productivity | Drainage |  |  |
|  | Best type of farming land | 0 to 2 | Level or nearl leveI | Tall and mid-grasses, thrlfty sagebrusi, dcciduous trees | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Medium; } \\ & \text { Friable } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 12 " \text { or } \\ & \text { more; } \text { sub- } \\ & \text { soil } 34-1 \text { " } \\ & \text { or more } \end{aligned}$ | Negligible | H1gh | Good to iligh | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Cood to } \\ & \text { Fxccllent } \end{aligned}$ | Low | :'one to minor |
| II | Farming with simple conservation practices | 0 to 10 | Irregular | Tall, mid, and short crasses; big sagebrush, jeciduous trees | Light to licavy; Friable | $\begin{aligned} & 3^{\prime \prime} \text { or } \\ & \text { more; sui- } \\ & \text { soil } 3 \in{ }^{\prime \prime \prime} \\ & \text { or more } \end{aligned}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{aligned} & \text { :legligible } \\ & \text { to slight } \end{aligned}\right.$ | Good to lifh | :Soderate to iligh | Cood | Slight to moderate | :Unor to simple practices |
| III | Farmine with complex conservation practices | 0 to 10 | Irregular | Tall, mid, and short grasses; bis sagebrush, rabbitbrush, greasewood, coniferous, and deciduous trees | Light to Heavy; Friable | $\begin{aligned} & \epsilon^{\prime \prime} \text { or } \\ & \text { more; sub- } \\ & \text { soil } 2\langle " \\ & \text { or more } \end{aligned}$ | Slight to | Fair to Cood | Moderate to High with management | often poor; may be needed | Moderate to High | Complex practices essential |
| IV | Limited or occasional cultivation; best for parmanent hay or pasture | 0 to 15 | Irregular or stony | Tall, med, and short grasses; big sagebrush, rabbitbrush, greasewood, coniferous, deciduous trees, saltbush, winterfat | Sandy to Clay; porous or tight |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Negligible } \\ & \text { to } \\ & \text { critical } \end{aligned}$ | Door to <br> Good | Poor for row crops best for hay and pasture | Not Justiflable if needed | Moderate to High or nil | Complex and intensive practices with good management |
| v | Range or woodland; rarming only if irrigation water becomes avallable | 0 to 5 | Smooth to irregular; may be stony <br> or wet | Tall, mid, and short grasses; big sagebrush, rabbitbrush, greasewood, coniferous, and deciduous trees | Light to Heavy; Friable | Good permeability to $24^{\prime \prime}$ depth | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Wegi1gible } \\ & \text { to moder- } \\ & \text { ate } \end{aligned}$ | Cood to lifeh | Moderate to High | Usually not a problem | Low | None to minor or drainage |
| VI | Range and woodland only | 0 to 20 (greater only on good solls) | Irregular to rough or rocky | Tall, mid, and short grasses; big sagebrush, rabbitbrush, greasewood, coniferous, deciduous trees, saltbush, winterfat | Very <br> Light to Heavy | Shallow to moderate; perneability excessive to poor | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Negligible } \\ & \text { to } \\ & \text { moderate } \end{aligned}$ | Fair to Cood | Light to Moderate; | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \text { Not prac- } \\ \text { ticable } \\ \text { If a } \\ \text { problem } \end{array}$ | Moderate | Proper management with simple restrictions |
| VII | Range and woodland with severe restrictions | 0 to 100 | Rough, rocky, or eroded | Tell, mid, and short grasses; big sagebrush, rabbitbrush, greasewood, coniferous, deciduous trees, saltbush, winterfat, mountain browse and annuals | Any:隹y be tight clay or sand or gravel | Often shallow, poorly developed | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Megligible } \\ & \text { to } \\ & \text { critical } \end{aligned}$ | May be Poor | Poor to Light | Seldom a problem or not practicable | High | Proper management with complex restrictions and intensive practices |
| VIII | Watershed, wildilife and recreation | Cenerally <br> steep <br> or swanpy | Extremely rough, barren or inaccessible | often only annuals or scanty perennials; may be dense coniferous timber | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Usually } \\ & \text { poorly } \\ & \text { devellop- } \end{aligned}$ | Very shallow or nil | May be oxcessive for plant growth | $\begin{array}{\|l} \begin{array}{l} \text { Usually } \\ \text { very } \\ \text { Iow } \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array}$ | Usually very low or nil | orten poor;not justifiable if a problem | $\left\lvert\, \begin{aligned} & \text { High (unless } \\ & \text { a swamp) } \end{aligned}\right.$ | Complete protection |



Appendix D - escription and definitions or soil erorion condition clasees


2 The erosion condition anc proposed improvement map utilizes three numbers in series to show the degree of erosion in each of the three types of erosion in this order; sheet. wind. rully. An example vould be $3-2-1$.

Appendix E - Type Numbers and Descriptions for Use in Mapping As Approved by Western Inter-Agency Range Examiners

| Type No. | Type Characteristics | Remarks |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1- Grass | Bgr, Cfi, Bgr-Asm, Buffalograss, <br> etc., Asm, Kcr, Bunch grass, <br> Alpine grassland, etc. |  |
|  | Meadow sedges, moisture enduring | Grassland |
| 3- Wrasses and sedges |  |  |$\quad$ Wet or dry meadows


| 14- GreasewoodSarcobatus | Where Sarcobatus is dominant. Valley floors | Overflow areas, with saline soils |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 15-Winterfat | Where winterfat gives a characteristic aspect | Becomes a type in Utah and Nevada |
| 16- Desert ShrubGeneral Type | Coleogyne, Simmondsia, Acacia, Mimosa, Hopsage | Hopsage, Horse grush, Rabbitbrush, etc. |
| 17- Half Shrub | Gutierrezia, Aploppus, Erigonum, Artemesia Frigida | Seldom of sufficient size to type |
| 18- Annual Weeds | Annual weeds; cheat grass, six week fescue |  |


| Symbol | Scientific Name |  | Common Name |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Grass |  |  |
| Afu | Andropogon | furcatus | Big bluestem |
| Aha | Andropogon | halli | Sand bluestem |
| Apa | Agropyron | pauciflorum | Slender wheatgrass |
| ARI | Aristida | sp. | Perennial threeawns |
| Asc |  | scoparius | Little bluestem |
| Asm | Agropyron | smithi | Bluestem wheatgrass |
| Asp |  | spicatum | Bearded bluebunch wheatgrass |
| Bcu | Bouteloua | curtipendula | Sideoats grama |
| Bda | Buchloe | dactyloides | Buffalograss |
| Bgr |  | gracilis | Blue grama |
| Bte | Bromus | tectorum | Cheatgrass brome |
| Clo | Calamovilfa | longifolia | Prairie sandreedgrass |
| Dca | Elymus | canadensis | Canada wild rye |
| Dst | Distichlis | stricta | Inland saltgrass |
| Eco | Elymus | condensatus | Giant wildrye |
| Fid | Festuca | idahoensis | Idaho fescue |
| Fou | Festuca ouina | ouina | Sheep fescue |
| Kcr | Koelaria | cristata | Prairie junegrass |
| Mca | Muhlenbergia | cuspidata | Story hills muhly |
| Ohy | Oryzopsis | hymenoides | Indian ricegrass |
| Pca | Poa | canbyi | Canby bluegrass |
| Pcp | Panicum | capillare | Ticklegrass |
| Pfe | Poa | fendleriana | Muttongrass |
| Pna | Puccinellia | nutallı | Nuttal alkaligrass |
| Pse | Poa | secunda | Sandberg bluegrass |
| Sai | Sporobolus | airoides | Alkali socaton |
| Sco | Stipa | comata | Needleandthread |
| SPA | Spartina | sp. | cordgrass |
| SOR | Sorghastrum | sp. | Indiangrass |
| Svi |  | viridula | Green needlegrass |
|  | Grass-like plants |  |  |
| Cel | Carex | eleocharis | Needleleaf sedge |
| Cfi | Carex | filifolıa | Threadleaf sedge |
|  | Shrubs |  |  |
| Aca | Artemisia | cana | Silver sagebrush |
| Acx | Artiplex | canescens | Fourwing saltbrush |
| Agn | Artemisia | gnafaloides | Cudweed sage |

Symbol
$\frac{\text { Shrubs }}{\text { Atriplex }}$

Scientific Name
nuttallii
tridentata
lanceolatus
polyancantha
rotundifolius
vermiculatus

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Cmo
Ptr

Forbs
Artemisia
Chrysothamnus
Opuntia
Symphoricarpos
Sarcobatus

Eurotia
Eriogonum
Phlox

Trees
Cercocarpus
Populus

Common Name

Gardner saltbush Big sagebrush Lanceleaf rabbitbrush Plains pricklypear Roundleaf snowberry Black greasewood

Winterfat
Eriogonum Plox

True mountainmahogany Quaking aspen

## Appendix G－

TECHNICIANS＇GUIDE TO RANGE SITES，CONDITION CLASSES，AND RECOMAENDED STOCKING RATES












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## DECREASERS

Big bluestem
Sand bluestem Sand bluestem
Cordgrasses
Canada wildrye Prairie sandreed Sand lovegrass
Green needlegrass Bluebunch wheatgras Slender wheatgrass
Little bluestem Inttle bluestem Idaho fescue
Alkali sacaton Sideoats grama Canby bluegrass
Forb decreasers Forb increas

## Other woody increasers

（By Range Sites）
Needleandthread
Blue \＆Hairy grama
Prairie junegrass
Sandberg bluegrass
Sandberg bluegras
Inland saltgrass
Buffalograss
Dryland sedges
Sageworts
Sageworts






UNITEO STATES

## UPPER CHEYENNE RIVER BASIN MAP

## WYOMING

SHOWING
VEGETATION, CAPABILITY, EROSION, AND CARRYING CAPACITY

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[^0]:    * Includes 10.00 acres in Land Use Capability Class V.
    ** Includes 60.00 acres in Land Use Capability Class V.

[^1]:    1/ Public Law 566-83rd Congress - 68 Stat. 666

[^2]:    6th P. M.
    Wyoming
    Twp. Range
    Sec.

