

RESOLUTION
OF THE
GOVERNING BODY
OF THE
THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES
OF THE
FORT BERTHOLD INDIAN RESERVATION

WHEREAS, This Nation having accepted the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, and the authority under said Act; and

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes generally authorizes and empowers the Tribal Business Council to engage in activities on behalf of and in the interest of the welfare and benefits of the Tribes and of the enrolled members thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Three Affiliated Tribes is requesting to utilize the fees paid for the preparation of Range Unit Permits for activities associated with significant improvements to 100% Tribally owned lands located within Range Units for the permit period, December 31, 1994 to November 30, 1999; and

WHEREAS, the Natural Resources Committee concurs to the Grazing Utilization Plan developed by the Natural Resources Department; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this plan is to improve range management practices on reservation rangelands; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Tribal Business Council concurs with the Grazing Utilization Plan developed by the Natural Resources Department. A copy of the Grazing Utilization Plan is attached and made a part of this resolution.

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Tribal Resolution No. 96-221-DSB
Grazing Utilization Plan

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, hereby certify that the Tribal Business Council is composed of 7 members of who 5 constitutes a quorum, 5 were present at a Special Meeting, thereof duly called, notice, convened, and held on the 31st day of October 1996; that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of 5 members, 0 members opposed, 0 members abstained, 0 members not voting and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Chairman (voting) (not voting)

Dated This 31st day of October, 1996

Daylon Spotted Bear
Secretary, Tribal Business Council

ATTEST:



Chairman, Tribal Business Council

GRAZING FEE UTILIZATION PLAN
For
Permit Period
December 31, 1994 to November 30, 1999

By

Natural Resources Department
Three Affiliated Tribes

1. INTRODUCTION

The Three Affiliated Tribes is requesting to utilize the fees paid for the preparation of Range Unit Permits for activities associated with significant improvements to 100% Tribally owned lands located within Range Units.

For the permit period, December 31, 1994 to November 30, 1999, it is proposed that these fees be utilized primarily for two types of activities. The first activity would be to develop water sources within the Range Units. The second activity would be for boundary fencing of range units.

The Tribe will utilize said fees to take advantage of the County FSA or NRCS cost-share program. The Tribe will initiate the process for two years of the permit period.

The Natural Resources Committee has determined the Grazing Permit Preparation Fees will be utilized to pay 15% of the current 25% required cost share for water developments constructed on Tribal land, up to a maximum of \$3,500.00 per individual per grazing period. Ten percent (10%) will be the individual members' responsibility.

As of October 1, 1996, the traditional USDA cost share programs (ACP, LTA, and Great Plains) are being replaced with EQIP (the Environmental Quality Incentives Program). Though the formal policies and regulations have not yet been fully developed and published by the USDA, the general understanding is that EQIP will be somewhat similar to the previous Great Plains program. Producers will no longer be able to sign up for an individual practice, as they could in ACP. As in Great Plains, a comprehensive conservation plan for the management unit will be required. Additionally, the proposed practices must fall within a "priority area", which is yet to be defined. Further information will be made available as the NRCS and FSA work out the details at the national level.

Narratives for both activities follow.

2. WATER DEVELOPMENT

The purpose of this program is to improve range management practices on Reservation rangelands. Water developments will result in: better patterns of grazing distribution; better quality water for livestock nutrition; improved range conditions; potential increases in stocking rates; improved livestock production; and enhance wildlife habitat.

Cost-share is authorized for Tribal Members. Those approved will be assisted for water development such as: drilling wells; excavating dugouts; constructing dams; installing pipelines; and developing springs. Water developments will ONLY be cost shared with Preparation Fees when approved by NRCS and County Committee and Tribal Natural Resources Committee.

3. FENCING PROJECTS

Funds will be made available for 10% of the total cost of boundary line fences. At this time it is not certain that boundary fences will qualify for USDA cost share under EQIP, or what the percent of cost share would be.

4. SUMMARY

The use of Grazing Permit preparation fees by the Three Affiliated Tribes can accomplish two important items: 1) Will enable members of the Three Affiliated Tribes to develop much needed water sources. 2) Assist in fencing very important boundary fences for individual conservation plans and to keep non-member cattle off the reservation and to keep Indian-owned cattle on the reservation. The fees may also be utilized to assist in requests for emergency appraisals.

The estimated funds available annually for the program is approximately \$8,000.