

GAME MGT PLAN - MIDDLE FK GAME UNIT 1953?

Middle
Middle Fk mouth to Camas Cr ^{to} Meyers Cove
Peak deer population in 1934 = 4000, then
crash & carrying capacity = 1500, so start
hunting.

Elk steadily increasing over entire unit, mainly
located in Waterfall Cr.

Present #s of Big Game estimated:

Deer	2400
Elk	480
Mt Sheep	360
Mt Goats	124

One mgmt problem: Continue studies on sheep
& goats to determine cause of low survival
rate among lambs & kids.

GAME MGT PLAN - MIDDLE FK GAME UNIT 1950

Present #s about:

Deer	2800
Elk	460
Sheep	350
Mt Goats	100

Deer Biological Unit Mgt Plan 1967 Colbalt RD Salmon NF

Lower Middle Fk ground census 1937-1964
ranges from 475 deer in 1964 and 1900 in 1941

Helicopter deer count in 1966 = 864 deer

* Bitterbrush was planted in Reservoir & Flying B
exclosure in 1964.

Management - Boise (Forest) Middle Fk GAME Unit Salmon NF Mar 18, 1947

1942 census of deer on the Boise Forest portion
of the middle Fk area shows 5080 deer,
1946 = 3571 deer

Summer use of Boise For. by big game 1942 estimated #s;
Deer 3964 Elk 300 Sheep 25 Goats 50

GAME MGMT PLAN - Middle Fk Game Unit

Salmon, Id
3/10/44

Present # of game animals are about as follows:

Deer	1,500	Mt Sheep	300
Elk	400	Mt Goats	150

Section II GAME NUMBERS

Graph of Deer Counts 1937-1963 (Ground Count)

1937	1451	1952	660
1941	1900	1954	880
1942	1831	1955	1215
1945	1410	1956	1206
1947	1422	1957	1224
1948	1457	1958	1091
1949	1067	1959	1128
1950	1204	1962	1029
1951	881	1963	574

average = 1202 deer

Wildlife Trend Counts (Aerial) Salmon, Id 4/14/58 (IDFG)

Counted deer on lower Middle Fork:
 Warm Springs ^(7.5h) → Camas ^(1 sheep) + Bernard ^(5 sheep) + Pole Cr + Brush Cr
 + Sheep Cr + Warm Springs Cr + Reservoir Cr
 1091 deer 13 sheep 17 elk,

Management (Trend Count Lower Middlefork Game Herd) 3-31-64 IDFG
 Deer counts on ground 1962 1029 deer
 (Bernard-Short, Brush, Sheep 1963 574 deer
 Pole, Reservoir, Warm Spr, Aperejo-Camas 1964 475 deer
 High snowfall in winter 1964

Lower Middlefork Deer Count May 4, 1959
 Warm Spr ^(6 sheep) → Camas, Brush, Bernard, Sheep
 Reservoir, Warm Springs Cr 1128 deer 3 elk 16 sheep

W, Management, Salmon, Middlefork Deer Herd (USFS) 4/16/54

(Game Trend Count - Ground Obs.)
 Winter of 53-54 was normal

	Deer	Sheep	} mostly Bernard Short Cr.	Bernard-Short, Brush Cr, Sheep Cr, Bear Cr, Pole Cr, Reservoir Warm Spr, Aperejo-Camas
1950	1325	23		
1951	944	11		
1952	660	22		
1954	880	29		

Management (Trend Count Lower Middlefork Game Herd) (USFS)
 1964 count on ground 3-31-64
 1962 1029 deer 1963 574 deer 1964 475 deer
 1964 elk 0 (minus one area of 2/20+)
 1964 sheep 3

(Lower Middlefork Deer Count) IDF&G 5/4/59
 Wmspr - Camas, Brush, Deer 1128
 Bernard, Sheep, Reservoir, Wmspr Elk 3
 Warm Springs Sheep 16

Report of the 1951 Middlefork River Winter Range & Game Study
 Supplemental to the count (ride Mormon Rch → Wilson Cr) - IOFS
 Sheep 31 head @ mouth Soldier Cr.
 20 head Short Cr → Soldier Cr.
 Deer 14 head Short Cr → Wilson Cr.

W Management Middlefork Game Herd (USFS) 4/13/49
 1948 Deer 1609
 1949 Deer 1177 (Sheep 17)
 Sheep & Goat hunts closed in 1948 to build up herds.
 Light winter in 48'

Estimated Wildlife Census (Salmon NF - Yellowj Dist) 1948
 Estimates
 mule Deer 2800 Elk 460 Sheep 350 Goats 110
 Forsellesia eriogonum

W Management - Middlefork Salmon Deer Herd USFS 1/28/48
 1945 deer 1510 1947 1537

WL Management Middlefork Deer Herd (USFS) 4/14/42
 Sheep, Warm Springs, Aparajo, Camas Bar, Bear, Pole & Reservoir, Brush,
 Bernard & Short, below Short Creeks
 1942 1891 deer 1941 2106 deer

Report of The Middle Fork Game Study 2/11/35 USFS

Oct paunch analysis of 4 goats & 2 sheep indicate similar food habits. 2 sheep: 50% ninebark 10% juniper 20% sedge & grass 20% unclassified and 10% Forsellesia, 80% equisitum 10% unclassified
 Est. 400 sheep winter range w/in or adjacent MF winter range. Greatest losses apparently predation or disease, since sheep have wintered in good condition even during most severe winters.

Continued Report of The Middle Fork Game Study 2/1/35
Incidental obs of sheep.

During the past 2 years some sheep are afflicted with a disease resembling pneumonia or consumption. These were all young sheep from 1-2 years old. Two were known to have died, it is probable the others did not recover. The animals observed were very poor, remained by themselves and moved about very little, walking slowly & with apparent effort. When scared into action they would run a few yards, when they would be taken by fits of coughing, which apparently weakened them. During the last stages they were practically skeletons, staggering when forced to move.

Parasites of deer: winter ticks, ear ticks, lice, -Ornithodoros -Tricholipenrus
tape worms & cysts, nose fly larvae, wood ticks. -Cenophthirus
Goats: Est 175 goats range within or adjacent the MF game range. 50% kid crop in some areas

Mountain Sheep Studies on Salmon Natl. Forest Summer of 1938
Camp at Rees Cr. for 1 month (June 24 - July 2) Foster Robertson

Observe one group of ewes/lambs near a lick. ^{Lower Middle Fk E aspect}
Perfect health and rolling fat condition.
Ewes left lambs hidden in winter range & only came back to suckle lambs.
Lambs weighed 30 lbs & were 1 1/2 - 2 months old.
Lambs very playful. Total count in this group probably 20 or 25 ewes, 14 or 16 lambs, and 6 rams. (5 ewes were yearling or 2 year olds).
Range grassland areas.

Camp at Wilson/Waterfall Cr in Bighorn Crags
No salt licks - go to River for salt. Abundant food but different from Rees Cr. Mainly eat Sedges plus fescue, senecio, willow, rushes, arnica. These sheep poorer in condition than ^{shaggier} Rees sheep.
Sheep numbers in this area: 16 ewes, 16 lambs, 11 rams.

