

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior

§ 168.6

the Project Officer in 1976-77) of livestock owned by persons having customary grazing use in the former Joint Use Area.

(s) *Settlement Act* means the Act of December 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 1712, as amended.

(t) *Life tenant* means a person who has applied for and been granted a life estate lease pursuant to section 30 of the Settlement Act, 25 U.S.C. 640d-28.

§ 168.2 Authority.

It is within the general authority of the Secretary to protect Indian trust lands against waste and to prescribe rules and regulations under which these lands may be leased or permitted for grazing. Also, under the Navajo-Hopi Settlement Act as amended, 25 U.S.C. 640d-8 and 18, the Secretary is authorized and directed to:

(a) Reduce livestock grazing within the former Joint Use Area to carrying capacity,

(b) Restore the grazing range potential of the resource to maximum grazing extent feasible,

(c) Survey, monument and fence the partition boundary,

(d) Protect the rights and property of individuals awaiting relocation or authorized to reside on life estates, and

(e) To administer conservation practices, including grazing control and range restoration activities on the Hopi Partitioned Lands.

§ 168.3 Purpose.

These regulations are issued to implement the Secretary's responsibilities mandated by the Settlement Act and subsequent U.S. District Court Judgement filed May 4, 1982, in the case, *Hopi Tribe v. Watt*, Civ. No. 81-272 PCT-EHC. This portion of the regulations apply only to lands partitioned to the Hopi Tribe within the former Joint Use Area.

§ 168.4 Establishment of range units.

The Area Director will use Soil and Range Inventory data to establish range units on the Hopi Partitioned Area to provide for a surface land management program to restore the land to its full grazing potential and maintain that potential to the maximum extent feasible. The establishment of range

units on Hopi Partitioned Lands is subject to the concurrence of the Hopi Tribe in accordance with §168.17 of these regulations.

§ 168.5 Grazing capacity.

(a) The Area Director shall prescribe the maximum number of each kind of livestock which may be grazed on land under his jurisdiction without inducing damage to vegetation or related resources on each range unit and the season or seasons of use to achieve the objectives of the land recovery program required by the Settlement Act.

(b) The Area Director shall review the stocking rate upon which the grazing permits are issued on a continuing basis and adjust that rate as conditions warrant.

§ 168.6 Grazing on range units authorized by permit.

Grazing use on range units is authorized only by permits granted under paragraph (a) or (b) of this section.

(a) *Grazing permits to Hopi tribal members on their partitioned lands.* The Area Director shall assign grazing privileges to the Hopi Tribe for lands within Hopi Partitioned Lands. The tribal government will then allocate use to their tribal members for permit periods not to exceed five years. Grazing use by Hopi tribal enterprises may be authorized. The Area Director will issue permits based on the determination of the Hopi tribal government.

(b) *Interim Grazing Permit for persons awaiting relocation.* Navajo Tribal members who have maintained both a permanent residence on Hopi Partitioned lands; a livestock inventory since enumeration; and meet all the criteria listed in §168.1(o), shall be eligible for an interim grazing allocation on Hopi Partitioned Lands under the following terms and conditions:

(1) The Area Director shall first verify that an applicant meets the criteria of the definition in §168.1(o) and will issue all permits.

(2) The permitted number shall not exceed either (i) 10 SUYL (See §168.1(1)) for each eligible family member, or (ii) the grazing applicant's livestock inventory reduced by voluntary sales as adjusted by reproduction, in accordance with procedures developed by the