

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

AT GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK  
GRAND CANYON, ARIZ.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

April 6, 1923.  
HMA/iih

Hon. Carl Hayden,  
Representative in Congress,  
Phoenix, Arizona.

My dear Mr. Hayden:

(Referring to our conversations on our recent trip, with reference to the grazing of sheep belonging to Bankhead and Henderson on the Grand Canyon National Park, I have carefully read all of the records of the Park on this subject and I find your view of this situation confirmed in the following paragraph of letter from Director Mather to you dated May 19th, 1922:

"In view of the fact that this is merely an overflow from the Forest Service grazing area and in a country where there is no fencing or other delineation of boundaries, and the permit is issued merely to avoid what would otherwise constitute a trespass, it is my purpose this coming year to request the Forest Service to handle the entire grazing under their permit, with the understanding that a certain amount of overflow on to Park lands in that section during the life of the Forest Service permit would not be objectionable to us".

In accordance with my promise to you, I am writing Director Mather of the situation in view of his verbal instructions to the Acting Superintendent of Grand Canyon National Park issued late in February of this year, that no more sheep be permitted on Park lands. I wish, however, to call to your attention, as I am also calling to the attention of the Director, the following facts:

Bankhead & Henderson do not respect the spirit nor the letter of our authorization for grazing on Park lands. They graze more than one-twelfth of their sheep on the Park and they apparently make no serious effort to control the sheep. The overflow authorized should only be in the southwestern corner of the Park, but it appears that last year, the trespass occurred over a large area as far north and east as Bass Camp on the rim of the Canyon. Mr. Bass complained to the office that his Spring had been polluted by sheep.



It has always been contrary to Park policy to permit the grazing of sheep on National Park lands and just as soon as possible we have got to get rid of both sheep and cattle in Grand Canyon Park as these animals and tourists do not get along together. I am going to recommend to the Director that the Bankhead & Henderson permit be continued for the year 1923, but only on condition that both the letter and spirit of the permit be strictly observed, and that if the unsatisfactory conditions of previous years recur, our past understanding with reference to the conditions of this permit is to be no longer in affect.

We will be grateful to you if you will take up this matter with Bankhead & Henderson, as I know you will feel as we do, that promises to you as well as the National Park Service have not been kept. To a lesser degree, what I have said about and with regard to the sheep also applies to the cattle, Trespassing on Park lands all along the south boundary. Since I have been here, I have seen cattle in the railroad yards and the day we went to Grandview you will recall observing cattle all along the Long Jim Canyon road well within the Park. Also, since I have been here, there have been cattle on the pavement in front of El Tovar Hotel, during the night time, however. There have also been cattle in the Camp Grounds. You can well imagine the criticism that will be brought upon the National Park Service, if grounds about the Hotel and Camps are polluted by cattle manure.

It will cost a tremendous amount of money to fence the south line against trespass and we have so many other things to do in that Park that we do not feel like asking for an appropriation to fence the Park line. I have lived in the cattle country most of my life and I know that conditions here can be remedied by cattle and sheep men themselves, simply if they will go to the expense of providing an extra herder or two. We are trying very hard to be kind and liberal toward the stockmen south of the Park and we want to continue this policy, but we are rapidly coming to the point where we will have to change the policy, because to protect the interests of a few who do not cooperate with us, we are injuring the interests of the many who come here to enjoy the Park.

I am asking the Supervisor of the Tusayan National Forest to send you a list of the permittees owning cattle and sheep south of the Park, and we will be grateful to you, if you will take the trouble to write these people, urging them to respect the interests of the people who visit the Park and to take pains to cut down the trespass of cattle and sheep to the minimum, consistent with the topography of the country.

If you will send us a draft of your letter, together with some letter-heads, we will be glad to have the typewriting done here and the letters returned to you. We feel that your aid in this mat-



ter will be very effective, yet we realize that we are asking you to go quite afield from your official duties to assist us.

I expect to leave here Friday, so letters should be addressed to George C. Bolton, Acting Superintendent.

I might say also, that in regard to the permit for Bankhead & Henderson, we have been corresponding with Mr. C. W. Isham, Cashier of the Arizona Central Bank at Flagstaff.

Sincerely yours,

*Horace M. Albright*  
HORACE M. ALBRIGHT,  
Field Assistant to the Director.