



Bernot, Tim <tim_bernot@nps.gov>

elk stuff this week

1 message

Bernot, Tim <tim_bernot@nps.gov>
To: Dave Press <dave_press@nps.gov>

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Havent seen you much so here's a few interesting things happening with elk:

The main harem (plus radio collared male) are still on outer horick at the experimental ponds, I hazed them over there on friday the 8th, so its almost been 2 weeks solid! Karen gave the ok to fill elk water tanks again pending her checking levels again on the 50k, so I ran about 3k into them yesterday

yesterday the bachelor group (10 mixed) were on the ocean side of SFD near the E ranch driveway, the farthest north I have seen them wander, they've really been moving around alot the last couple of weeks

I did quite a bit of fence work on east D yesterday, one section was most likely elk damage, the rest was just some loose and weathered stuff that looked like it needed attention, may or may not be elk related, just doing it as per partnership with Nunes'...fixed the first feed gate (near the power meter and 50k tank on ED), it was loose off its hinges, this is a gate that John DG and I put in several years ago, Nunes' have been using it to feed hay to the heifers there (kind of unusual to see them feeding there, probably because of such a dry year, lots of hay trucks still going to outer point ranches)

I've seen up to 4 bulls on rogers, and up to 14 mixed elk along coast trail, including 3 spikes I hadnt seen previously, still all in small groups so no good census opportunity yet, still seeing the group of mid-20 at bottom of glenbrook and about 14 bulls at home ranch, did a pretty wide search tuesday, looked from top of vision, etc...muddy hollow creek is completely dry down in the alders, so the elk are probably finding other wet spots to disperse to

on tuesday I was out at the border between C and B ranches, heard a dog barking over towards D ranch, and saw the Spalettas little black dog chasing the bachelor group of 12 bulls around west D in circles, they were out there feeding hay, they must have brought the dog out with them... Later, all 12 bulls crossed drakes beach road and most of them used the elk crossing nearest the residence, got pics and videos...the couple that didn't use the crossings were panicked because vehicles were approaching as they made their crossing so they went for the nearest jump spot, but the rest were very deliberate about using the lowered areas...