

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cortez and Coronado Expeditions</b></p> <p>Spanish explorers, Cortez and Coronado, first introduced livestock to North America. Cortez explored central Mexico and Coronado visited areas in the southwestern U.S.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lewis and Clark</b></p> <p>Meriwether Lewis and William Clark traveled through the northern part of what is now Idaho. They made peaceful contact with many Indian tribes and discovered many new plants and animals. Lewis and Clark believed that the West was so big and wild that it would take thousands of years to settle and develop it.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Taylor Grazing Act</b></p> <p>This act sought to “stop injury to public grazing lands and provide for their orderly use, improvement, and development.” It did this by leasing the public grazing lands to ranchers who could provide hay and water on their nearby private lands</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act</b></p> <p>The government responded to its citizens’ changing demands on public lands by passing this act. It directed that national Forest lands be managed for “outdoor recreation, range, timber, watershed and wildlife.”</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Native American Land Managers</b></p> <p>The first people to live in Idaho were the Native Americans or “Indians.” They managed the rangeland by gathering wild plants, setting fires, pasturing horses, and hunting.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Forest Service</b></p> <p>The Forest Service was created. Today, it manages the 68.3 million acres of National Forest lands we have in the United States today.</p>

<p><b>Beginning of Range Management</b></p> <p>First science-based grazing management was conducted by Arthur Sampson as director of the Great Basin Experiment Station. Many consider Arthur Sampson to be the “father of range management.”</p>	<p><b>Range Wars</b></p> <p>Large areas of good grazing land were never claimed under the Homestead Act because they were not suitable for farming. These lands were known as the “open range.” People destroyed livestock, hay, and corrals, fought and even killed each other over the control of these valuable grazing and water rights.</p>
<p><b>Homestead Act</b></p> <p>The U.S. Government passed the Homestead Act which granted 160 acres of land to any resident who lived on a piece of land for 5 years and improved it. Through several laws were passed to try to adapt the legislation to the conditions in the arid west, many homesteaders failed and had to return their land to the government.</p>	<p><b>First College Degree in Range Management</b></p> <p>The agricultural colleges that became the University of Idaho and Montana State University became the first institutions to offer college degrees in Rangeland Management.</p>
<p><b>Birth of Rangeland Ecology</b></p> <p>Frederick Clements and John Weaver, both professors at the University of Nebraska, developed the first theories on plant succession. Dr. Clements addressed ways to reduce rangeland deterioration.</p>	<p><b>The Oregon Trail</b></p> <p>Hundreds of pioneers traveled the Oregon Trail through the West. Some of them stayed and began to build ranches and farms.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stock Raisers Homestead Act</b></p> <p>This act increased the area of public land given to settlers for ranching to 640 acres, which is equivalent to the modern “section” of land.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Soil Conservation Act</b></p> <p>This act was enacted to reduce soil erosion, largely in response to the Dust Bowl Era. Subsequent changes to this act lead to increased emphasis on rangelands and the creation of the Soil Conservation Service, or now called the Natural Resource Conservation Service.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>National Environmental Policy Act</b></p> <p>The government responded to increasing public awareness of environmental issues. This act allowed U.S. citizens to offer suggestions or complaints on how public land was managed.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Gold Rush</b></p> <p>After gold was discovered Idaho’s population grew quickly. Miners staked their claims and panned for gold. The “boom towns” that sprung up provided a demand for the products of farmers and ranchers.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bureau of Land Management</b></p> <p>The General Land Office merged with the U.S. Grazing Service to become the Bureau of Land Management. The BLM now manages about 245 million acres in the U.S.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Endangered Species Act</b></p> <p>This act was passed by Congress to require landowners and managers to manage land in a way that will limit damage and lead to the recovery of populations of endangered plants and animals.</p>