



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Great Plains Regional Office
115 Fourth Avenue SE, Suite 400
Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401

IN REPLY REFER TO:
Natural Resources
MC-301

Dear Landowners, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Permittees and Other Interested Parties:

We are inviting you to participate in our decision concerning the grazing rental rate on allotted lands within range units on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation pursuant to 25 Code of Federal Regulation (C.F.R.) § 166.408. We are going to use the weighted Olympic average change process established in 2010. We request your input by August 7, 2026. After considering your comments, we will decide on the grazing rental rate for allotted lands on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation.

Using the weighted Olympic average change process established in 2010, there was a change in the allotted lands grazing rental rate for 2027 between \$18.47 per Animal Unit Month (AUM), the present rate, and \$19.20 per AUM, the present rate adjusted by the calculated weighted Olympic average percentage of 3.97 percent. The weighted Olympic average change is calculated from the annual United States Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistic Service (NASS) county level cash rent rates. This information is in the enclosed table, *Grazing Rental Rates for Cheyenne River Indian Reservation Allotted Lands*. The Olympic average is a five-year average with the highest and lowest values removed (Columns D and G). The percent change of the Olympic average from 2025 to 2026 is determined for each county (Columns E and H). The percent change of the Olympic averages is added based upon the proportional area of each county within the reservation to determine the weighted Olympic average percentage change (Column I).

Our decision of whether to adjust the grazing rental rate will be based upon trends in the livestock industry, other major events, and climatic conditions which could influence rental rates such as blizzards, drought, financial market episodes, etc. We welcome your input on these factors, including the addition of others you deem important.

Please do not hesitate to contact Todd Hauge, Safety of Dams Engineer, Division of Natural Resources, at (605) 226-7621, if you have any questions or comments, need additional information, or would like a meeting to discuss our decision on adjusting the grazing rental rate for allotted trust lands on your reservation.

Sincerely,

Raymond Hart
Acting Regional Director

Enclosure

cc: Superintendent, Cheyenne River Agency