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In March 2015, Allen Dobb, a highly respected registered professional agrologist, delivered the BC Treaty Range Strategy, an independent report commissioned by the Ministries of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR), and Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

The report provides government agencies with a better understanding of a complex issue and an overview of interests on Crown rangeland including those of ranchers, industry associations such as the BC Cattlemen's Association and the Guide Outfitters Association of BC, and First Nations. Although the report is helping to inform the development of policy on Crown rangelands related to treaty with First Nations, it does not necessarily reflect the views of government and is not government policy.

The Province is working with First Nations to reach long-term reconciliation of Aboriginal rights and title in ways that work for First Nations and benefit all British Columbians. Treaties bring certainty to the land base and unlock ongoing economic benefits, both to the treaty nation and surrounding communities.

MARR is as diligent as possible in selecting treaty land that avoids impact on rangeland and is developing specific approaches for mitigating any effects to the extent possible in cases where Crown land used for livestock grazing overlaps with proposed treaty land. We will continue further engagements with industry associations, potentially affected tenure holders and First Nations as we move through this process of treaty negotiation.

Our goal is to balance the interests of First Nations and ranching and guide outfitting industries and have clear understandings in place to provide certainty to all.

Sincerely,

Doug Caul
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Aboriginal Relations
and Reconciliation

Tim Sheldon
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Forests, Lands
and Natural Resource Operations