

2016 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

LEADBELT ALLOTMENT

Permitted Cattle Numbers and Season of Use

Permittee	Cow/Calf Pairs	Season
Moj Broadie	540	7/07-9/21
Rich Wootan	320	7/07-9/21
Total	860	

These Annual Operating Instructions are made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8.

Authorized Cattle Numbers and Season of Use for 2016

Permittee	Cow/Calf Pairs	Non-Use	Season
Moj Broadie	540		7/07-9/21
Rich Wootan	320		7/07-9/21
Total	860		

Grazing Rotation and Estimated Days

Units
Lower Camp
Horsethief/ Deer Creek
Upper Camp
Leadbelt
Lower Camp & Sorting Pasture

There are no dates in the rotation schedule. Moves are based on meeting the utilization standards. When you have determined that it is time to begin moving from a unit to meet these standards your representative for the allotment must contact Birk Roseman, your assigned Range Management Specialist, with this information. If needed, contact can first be made by voicemail. A follow-up conversation with Birk, or a representative he identifies to you, is also required three, to no more than four days, after the move is initiated. Both this initial contact and the follow-up conversation is hereby required as Forest Officer instruction.

Utilization Standards

Unit	Upland % Use	Riparian Stubble Height inches	Riparian Woody Browse Use
Lower Camp	50%	4 inches	50%
Horsethief/ Deer Creek	50%	4 inches	50%
Upper Camp	50%	4 inches	50%
Leadbelt	50%	4 inches	50%

Designated Monitoring Areas (DMA's): DMA's are used to monitor riparian areas representative of livestock grazing within a unit to establish a record of utilization and

trend. The information from the DMA is also used to plan cattle moves, determine if end of season indicators are met, and to evaluate whether current management is effective or needs to be modified. Monitoring of the DMA's will now include bank stability which will determine if bank alteration standards are needed and at what level.

Cleaning Grazing Units:

Livestock need to begin moving from a unit prior to the stubble height standard being met to ensure allowable use standards are met. This is especially important during drought conditions. In most cases 7 days should be adequate to clean a pasture which does not mean that livestock are to remain in a pasture past the move date without prior approval from Forest personnel. Permittees should be prepared to assist range riders in checking that the unit cleaned stays clean. Range riders should keep permittees informed of problems cleaning grazed units. Frequent back-riding indicates there is a herd management problem. It is also the permittee's responsibility to correct problems caused by drift from other units.

Fence & Water Improvements: Please refer to Part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit. Allotment boundary fences should be maintained prior to cattle entering the allotment; interior fences should also be maintained prior cattle entering a new unit. Existing improvements should be maintained each year before requesting new improvements.

Responsibility for fence maintenance was determined at the November 15, 2002 meeting with the Leadbelt permittees. The rider will maintain all fences for the allotment prior to cattle entering the unit following the above listed agreement. If you need a copy of this agreement, please contact our office.

All current water troughs and associated spring fences need to be maintained according to the standards in your term grazing permits.

Any projects may require travel of motorized vehicles off of designated routes in order to transport materials to the construction site need authorization **IN ADVANCE**. Without this documentation you could be cited by law enforcement for travel plan violations.

Weed Free Hay: In accordance with State Law, please ensure that range riders bring hay that is certified and tagged noxious weed free.

Grazing Fees: The grazing fees for the 2016 season are \$2.11/head month. Your grazing fee payment will need to be received prior to turning livestock out on the National Forest.

Actual Use Report: An Actual Use Report will be mailed to you upon completion of the grazing season. This form is to be completed and returned to the Lost River Ranger District by December 31, 2016.

NEPA and Allotment Management Plans (AMP): Our office is in the process of completing an environmental analysis and documentation for livestock grazing in the Leadbelt Allotment and four others in the Antelope Creek drainage. Permittees will need to work closely with your rangeland management specialist and other Forest personnel to develop a proposed action for grazing management in conjunction with a long term grazing management strategy (AMP) for your allotment.

This work will include taking a hard look at historic and existing grazing activities to determine whether current management is adequate to comply with the Forest Plan and other laws and regulations that govern the management of public lands. This process will include several

meetings with permittees to discuss and agree on feasible and appropriate management goals and monitoring objectives on the allotment that will meet or move us toward the desired conditions for multiple resources on the allotment.

One example of this would be reviewing maps and other existing information on water developments to determine the functionality as livestock water and/or the necessity of converting stock ponds to troughs to provide adequate water while protecting the integrity of the spring source for wildlife, water and soil resources. We plan to include adjustments to your allotment boundary and construction of a boundary fence between Horsethief Creek and Antelope Creek drainages in this decision. Other fence issues should also be discussed. The ultimate goal of this analysis is to determine the existing condition and trend of those areas most likely to be affected by livestock grazing and develop a plan to minimize impacts through best management practices for livestock grazing. Your participation in development of the proposed action and AMP are crucial to the success of your operation and our long term management of the area.

Applications for refunds/credits for unused portions of your allotment must be requested and filed separately. Please contact our office if you need an application for refund/credit.

Questions and assistance regarding these instructions should be directed to Allison Jackson, District Ranger; Birk Roseman or Lans Stavast the Rangeland Management Specialists at (208) 588-3400.