

**Riffe Creek Cattle & Horse  
Mountain City Ranger District  
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest**

**2016 Annual Operating Instructions**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

- Permittee: Wildhorse Cattle Co.

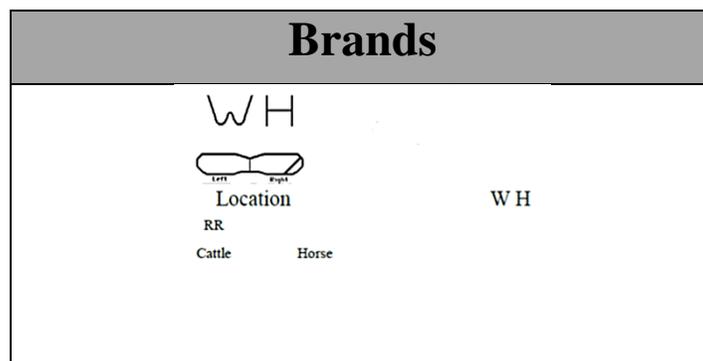
**Riffe Creek C&H  
Permitted Use**

<b>Allotment</b>	<b>Numbers/Class</b>	<b>Season of Use</b>	<b>Head Months</b>
Riffe Creek C&H	238 C/C	6/16-10/15	955

**Riffe Creek C&H  
Authorized Use**

<b>Allotment</b>	<b>Numbers/Class</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Season of Use</b>	<b>Head Months</b>
Riffe Creek C&H	212 C/C	Wildhorse	6/1-7/31	647
		Riffe Creek	8/1-10/1	

- Permitted Livestock Brands



## **II. COMPLIANCE**

- Upon signature, these Annual Operating Instructions supplement and are part of your Term Grazing Permit # \_\_\_\_\_60140\_\_\_\_\_ consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item8(a) of the General Provisions and Requirements.
- Situations may develop during the grazing season, which require changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some parts of these instructions, contact the District Ranger and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions.
- Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of your permit and this instruction will result in permit action, which can include suspension or cancellation of part or all of your Term Grazing Permit.
- By USDA order 04-00-097, all non-pelletized hay, straw, or mulch possessed, stored, or transported on National Forest System Lands, in individual bales or containers, must be tagged or marked as noxious weed free, or must have the original and current evidence of noxious weed free certification documentation present. All markings must meet the State and/or county standards for certification as noxious weed free.
- As a reminder, requests for nonuse of term grazing permits for personal convenience must be made annually by the permittee in writing sufficiently in advance of the start of the permitted grazing season, (normally 30 days). Full or partial convenience nonuse may be approved for no more than three consecutive years and not more than four year in any ten year period. As the term permit holder, you are responsible for the maintenance on all assigned improvements on your permitted allotments during the nonuse period.

## **III. 2015 GRAZING RESULTS**

## **IV. BILLING**

- Grazing fees for 2016 are \$2.11 per head month and the unauthorized use fee is \$10.68 per head month.
- Payment of your grazing bill is preferably due five days prior to your earliest turnout date, to allow timer for processing. As a reminder, the Forest Service is required to give permittees a minimum of 30 days to pay grazing fees. Placing livestock on the allotment

prior to payment is non-compliance with Part 2, Item 3 of the grazing permit and will be charged at the unauthorized use rate, and may include suspension or cancellation of the grazing permit.

## **V. LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT**

- Grazing System: Modified Deferred Rotation
- Authorized use dates (turn-on & turn off) are tentative and depend on range readiness, forage utilization and resource conditions during the entire grazing season. Livestock remaining on the allotment past the authorized use date will be billed at the unauthorized use rate.
- Permittees are responsible for monitoring forage utilization within the allotment. Before allowable forage use rates are met in identified key use areas, livestock will be herded to another area or removed from the allotment.
- Owners of permitted livestock must comply with State of Nevada laws and regulations.

## **VI. HUMBOLDT-TOIYABE LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (LRMP) STANDARDS AND GUIDES.**

- Allowable use is the degree of grazing specified for a particular area and/or plant(s). You are responsible for determining when allowable use has been reached. You should plan to move cattle to the next pasture or area in your rotation or off the allotment, before allowable use has been reached. This will be done regardless of the time remaining in the grazing season or how many Head Months you have paid for. If you need assistance determining use levels or identifying key areas, please do not hesitate to contact the Rangeland Management Specialist.
- Management will be directed toward having riparian areas in good or better ecological condition and stable or upward trend.
- Utilization is based on current year's growth for browse and shrubs. The utilization percentages represent the maximum that will be allowed based on current livestock practices and is measured as point in time. The following utilization standards will be the maximum utilization levels allowed for all herbivores on key vegetative species.
- **Amendment 2 of the Humboldt-Toiyabe LRMP Dated July 1990:**

- The maximum utilization levels would normally be used only where the plant community is at or near the desired future condition.
- The listed value is the maximum rate which can be prescribed unless otherwise approved by the Forest Supervisor.
- In most instances utilization would be lower for the higher value management categories; however, this can vary according to ecological conditions and key species.
- Key species can vary by range site and management systems.
- Proper use based on the utilization of shrubs will normally not exceed 35% of the current year's growth.
- Under the High Intensity short duration (early season), timing in relation to the period remaining for regrowth is key. The system is dependent upon sufficient regrowth to meet plant physiological needs and other resource values. Physical damage to the vegetative and soils resources needs to be considered.
- Sediment entrapment is essential to stream bank restoration. If this is an objective at least 3-4 inches of herbaceous stubble height is needed on site during high flow periods.

**Riffe Creek C&H**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Area Name</b>	<b>Key Species</b>	<b>Utilization</b>
Class II	Riffe Creek Springs & Seeps	Desirable grasses and sedges	45%
Class III	Springs & Seeps	Desirable grasses and sedges	55%
Uplands	All Units	Bluebunch wheatgrass Idaho Fescue	50%
Upland Browse	All Units	Bitterbrush & Aspen	35%
Riparian Browse	All Streams	Willow/Aspen	50%

**VII. RANGE IMPROVEMENTS**

- Range structural improvements will be constructed and maintained to facilitate proper use of the range resource.
- Range improvements must be maintained prior to livestock entering the allotment(s). Please be aware that it is necessary to plan projects with at least one-year lead-time to

allow for the required documentation and clearances. Please work with the Rangeland Management Specialist to develop a schedule for large projects.

**Riffe Creek C&H**

<b>Improvement</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>INFRA #</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Maintenance Responsibility</b>
Bad Luck	Water Dvlp-Pit Tank	016407	T44N R54E Sec. 36 SW ¼ SW ¼	Permittee
Fire Time	Water Dvlp-	016404	T43N R54E SEC 2. SE ¼ NW ¼	Permittee
Four Point	Pit Tank	016405	T44N R54E SEC 36 SE ¼ SW ¼	Permittee
Good Luck	Water Dvlp-	016408	T44N R54E SEC 36 SE ¼ NW ¼	Permittee
Long Walk	Pit Tank	016409	T43N R54E SEC 11 NW ¼ NE ¼	Permittee
Mark's Baby	Water Dvlp-	016403	T43N R54E SEC 2 SW ¼ SW ¼	Permittee
Rocky SOB	Pit Tank	016402	T43N R54E SEC 3 SE ¼ NE ¼	Permittee
Sloughing Side	Water Dvlp-	016406	T44N R54E SEC 36 NE ¼ NW ¼	Permittee
Unit Boundary	Fence		T43N R54E SEC 1,2,3,10	Permittee
Allotment Boundary	Fence		T43N R54E SEC 3, 4, 5	Permittee
Allotment Boundary	Fence		T44N R54E SEC 32,33,34,35,36,25	Permittee

**2016 Projects:** Listed below are agreed to maintenance and improvement projects that will be completed in the current grazing season.

<b>Improvement</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>FS Contribution</b>	<b>Permittee Contribution</b>	<b>INFRA #</b>

## **VIII. PERMITTEE INSTRUCTIONS**

- Place salt or supplement at least 200 yards from water sources, trailheads, roads, and key areas. Salt will be removed before maximum allowable use levels have been reached and at the end of the grazing season. Salt fed in loose form shall be contained to keep it from spilling onto the ground. Salt or supplement will be removed from a pasture when the livestock are removed.
- Your assistance in locating noxious weed sites and reporting them to your Forest Officer is greatly appreciated. If you are able and willing to assist in treating noxious weeds, please work with your Forest Officer to determine how best to help.
- If you spot a wildfire, report it immediately to the interagency dispatch center in Elko, NV at (775) 748-4000.
- The permittee will insure that all personnel performing on the ground livestock management are thoroughly familiar with the terms of the grazing permit and annual operating instructions.

## **IX. REQUIRED REPORTING**

- Enclosed is a Grazing Use Record for the upcoming season. Please use this form to record the dates livestock spend on the allotment as well as other information such as livestock loss, grazing use, resource concerns, improvement needs/maintenance costs, etc. The grazing use record should be submitted to the district office by December 31, 2016.

## **X. INSPECTIONS & MONITORING**

- Range Readiness-Livestock will not be placed on the allotment until soils are dry enough to prevent damage to vegetation or increase soil erosion, and when key plants are phenologically ready to be grazed.

## **XI. COORDINATION & COOPERATION**

## **XII. OTHER**

- In case of any deceased livestock, notify a Forest Officer, determine the impact to the public, move out of water to the first flood plain, and move away from trails, roads, etc.

### **XIII. MAPS, FORMS, & ATTACHMENTS**

- You will find attached to your AOI a Grazing Use Record

**XIV. SIGNATURE BLOCK**

Recommended by: \_\_\_\_\_

Rangeland Management Specialist

Date

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Permittee or Authorized Representative

Date

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

District Ranger

Date