

**Wood Gulch Cattle & Horse
Badger Creek Common Unit
Mountain City Ranger District
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest**

2016 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

I. INTRODUCTION

- PERMITTEE: John and Marjorie Vipham

**WOOD GULCH C&H and BADGER CREEK CU
PERMITTED USE**

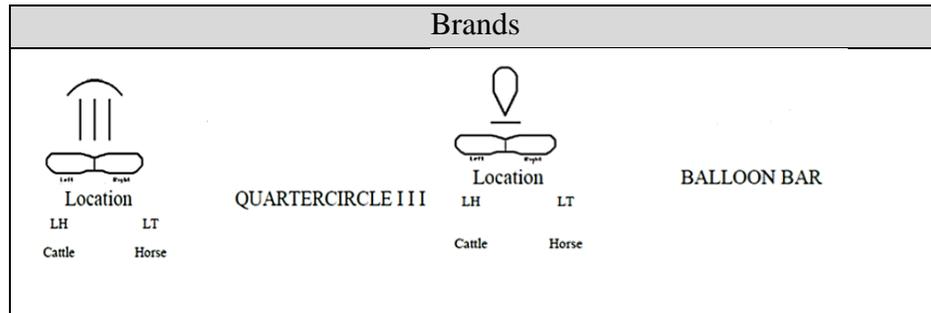
Allotment	Numbers/Class	Season of Use	Head Months
Wood Gulch C&H	210 c/c	MAY 5 – JUL 31	608
	(182) c/c	AUG 1 – SEP 15	275
	(210)	OCT 16 – NOV 30	318
	10 horse	MAY 16 – AUG 15	30
	2 horse	APR 1 – OCT 10	14
Badger Creek CU	(28)c/c	AUG 1 – SEP 15	42

*Bulls count as part of your permitted numbers.

**WOOD GULCH C&H and BADGER CREEK CU
AUTHORIZED USE**

Allotment	Unit	Number/Class	Season of Use	Head Months
Wood Gulch C&H	Lower Wood Gulch	105 c/c	*5/5-6/5	110
	Barn Gulch	105 c/c	5/5-6/5	110
	Upper Wood Gulch	210c/c	6/6-7/31	387
	Upper Road Canyon	182c/c	8/1-9/15	275
Badger Creek CU	Badger	28 c/c	8/1-9/15	42
Wood Gulch C&H	Lower Road Canyon	210c/c	10/16-11/30	318
	Barn Gulch	12 horses	5/16-10/30	66

- Permitted Livestock Brands



II. COMPLIANCE

- Upon signature, these Annual Operating Instructions supplement and are part of your Term Grazing Permit #____60194_____ consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(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 permittee convenience nonuse may be approved for no more than three consecutive years and not more than four years 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 time 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: Wood Gulch- Deferred Rotation
Badger Creel-Deferred Rotation

During EVEN numbered years livestock rotate counterclockwise thru the allotment;
during ODD numbered years livestock rotate clockwise

- Authorized use dates (turn –on & turn- off) are tentative and depend on rang 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 streambank restoration. If this is an objective at least 3-4 inches of herbaceous stubble height is needed on site during high flow periods.

ALLOTMENT: WOOD GULCH C&H

Category	Area Name	Key Species	Utilization
Class II	Lower Wood Gulch Lower Road Canyon Springs & Seeps	Desirable Grasses and Sedges	45%
Class IV	Gravel Creek	Desirable Grasses and Sedges	55%
Class V	Upper Wood Gulch	Desirable Grasses and Sedges	65%

	Upper Road Canyon		
Uplands	All units	Bluebunch wheatgrass Idaho Fescue	60%
Upland Browse	All units	Bitterbrush Aspen	35%
Riparian Browse	All streams	Willows	35%

ALLOTMENT: BADGER CREEK CU

Category	Area Name	Key Species	Utilization
Class II	Badger Creek	Desirable Grasses and Sedges	45% (total by sheep and cattle)
Class III	Cow Canyon	Desirable Grasses and Sedges	55%(total by sheep and cattle)
Uplands	All Units	Bluebunch wheatgrass Idaho Fescue	60%(total by sheep and cattle)
Upland Browse	All Units	Bitterbrush, Snowberry, Chokecherry, Aspen	35%(total by sheep and cattle)
Riparian Browse	All Streams	Willows	35%(total by sheep and cattle)

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.

Improvement	Type	INFRA #	Location	Maintenance Responsibility
Hanson's Fence	Water Dvlp-Trough	16302	SESE SEC 11 T44N R54E	Permittee
Hanson's	Water Dvlp-Trough	16303	NWNW SEC 13 T44N R54E	Permittee
Gravel Creek	Water Dvlp-Trough	16304	NWNE SEC 13 T44N R54E	Permittee
Wood Gulch #1	Water Dvlp-Trough	16314	SWNE SEC 22 T44N R53E	Permittee

Wood Gulch #2	Water Dvlp-Trough	16313	SWSW SEC 22 T44N R53E	Permittee
Barn Gulch	Water Dvlp-Trough	16314	NWNW SEC 10 T44N R53E	Permittee
Road Canyon	Water Dvlp-Pit Tank	16306	SESE SEC 23 T44N R53E	Permittee
Sidehill	Water Dvlp-Pit Tank	16307	SENE SEC 14 T44N R53E	Permittee
Rocky Bugger	Water Dvlp-Pit Tank	16308	SWNW SEC 24 T44N R53E	Permittee
Wood Gulch	Water Dvlp-Pit Tank	16309	SESW SEC 23 T44N R53E	Permittee
George's	Water Dvlp-Pit Tank	16300	SENE SEC 12 T44N R53E	Permittee
Spring Range	Water Dvlp-Pit Tank	16310	SESE SEC 9 T44N R53E	Permittee
Barn Gulch	Water Dvlp-Pit Tank	16311	NWNE SEC 9 T44N R54E	Permittee
Sharpshin	Water Dvlp-Pit Tank	16301	SESW SEC 12 T44N R54E	Permittee
Gravel Creek	Water Dvlp-Pit Tank	16305	NWSW SEC 18 T44N R53E	Permittee
Hanson Exclosure	Fence-Exclosure	16315	NWNW SEC 13 T44N R53E	Permittee
Wood Gulch*	Fence-Boundary	16317	SEC 21,27 T44N R53E	Permittee
Barn Gulch**	Fence-Interior	16318	SEC 9,10 T44N R53E	Permittee
Road Canyon	Fence-Division	16330	SEC 14,22,23 T44N R53E	Permittee
Beaver-Badger	Fence-Boundary	16319	SEC 24,26,27,34,35 T44N R53E	Permittee
Gravel Creek***	Fence-Boundary	16320	SEC 1,12,13,18 T44N R53E	Permittee
Upper Wood Gulch	Fence-Interior	16316	NE SEC 34 T44N R53E	Permittee

*Maintenance by adjacent Allied Allotment

**Maintenance shared with adjacent Van Duzer Allotment (Wood Gulch odd years, Van Duzer even years)

***Maintenance shared with adjacent Gravel Creek Allotment (Gravel Creek Odd years, Wood Gulch even years)

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

Improvement	Description	FS Contribution	Permittee Contribution	INFRA#

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, 2015.

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 phonologically 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

