

**ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST  
Duchesne Ranger District  
Pole Creek Cattle Allotment  
2018 Annual Operating Instructions**

<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Numbers</u>	<u>Non-Use</u>	<u>Season of Use</u>
Marjorie Ridley	0	38	
Steve & Bob Ridley	<u>112</u>	<u>0</u>	July 6 to August 22
Total Herd Size	112	38	

**Grazing Schedule**

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Sequence</b>	<b>Dates of Use</b>	<b>Allowable Use</b>
Lower Pole Creek	1 <sup>st</sup>	7/06 – 7/16	50%
Frog Lakes	2 <sup>nd</sup>	7/17 – 7/27	50%
Upper Pole Creek	3 <sup>rd</sup>	7/28 – 8/09	50%
Uinta Canyon	4 <sup>th</sup>	8/10 – 8/22	50%

Since the passing of Marjorie Ridley, the Ute Tribe Business Committee has yet to allocate the 38 head assigned to the Pole Creek Allotment to another tribal member. Under these circumstances, only Steve and Bob’s 112 cow-calf pairs will be allowed to graze on the Pole Creek Allotment during the 2017 grazing season. When the Ute Tribe allocates the 38 head to a new permittee, the permittee will then be permitted to graze on the Pole Creek Allotment.

The dates above are to be used as guidelines. Cattle will graze the Lower Pole Creek Unit first. Cattle will then graze the Frog Lakes unit. Upper Pole Creek Unit will be grazed third. The Uinta Canyon Unit will be grazed last.

Grazing utilization guidelines are as follows: allowable use for upland forage species is 50% and in stream riparian areas, leave a 4” or greater stubble height of herbaceous species at the end of the grazing season between greenline and bank full of stream systems. When allowable use is met on each unit, the cattle need to be moved to the next unit. It will be the permittees’ responsibility to gauge utilization. A range technician will regularly visit the allotment throughout the summer to monitor permit compliance, forage utilization, and range improvements.

**Maintenance of Improvements**

All fences and water developments must be maintained before the cattle will be allowed to enter the allotment. Please contact the office when you have completed your maintenance. Do so at least **FIVE** days before the cattle go on to allow a forest officer time to inspect the improvements.

## **IMPROVEMENT CHECKLIST**

<b>Improvement #</b>	<b>Improvement Name</b>	<b>Improvement #</b>	<b>Improvement Name</b>
434681	Trail Spring Water Devel.	3144	Pole Creek Boundary Fence
3514	Harmston Canyon Spring	3104	Clover Creek Buck and Pole Fence

### **Annual Operating Planning Meeting**

The annual operating meeting was held April 16, 2018 at the Duchesne Ranger District Office. Steve Ridley, Katherine Ridley and Sandy Kaminski were present. The following items were discussed:

- 1 Steve indicated that he would maintain the Clover Creek fence, the boundary fence near the summer homes, and the boundary fence in lower Pole Creek. More poles are needed to finish repair of the Clover Creek fence.
- 2 In an effort to keep cattle from coming up onto the forest from Tribal Lands by crossing the Big Springs cattle guard Steve and Bob installed a metal gate next to the cattle guard in 2015. The Forest Service engine crew washed some of the dirt out of the cattle guard but it still needs cleaned. Cows are also walking the cattle guard where the sections join together. Sandy will continue talking to the Forest Engineering staff again about cleaning the cattle guard.
- 3 The Clover Creek fence cattle guard is full of sediment and needs to be cleaned out. Sandy will continue talking to the Forest Engineering staff again about cleaning it.
- 4 Steve mentioned that there is a high number of standing dead trees from the Neola North fire that are coming down each year and this combined with elk travel through the area is resulting in a lot of fence maintenance work.
- 5 Steve indicated Trail Spring doesn't run water very well. He would like to rebuild it this summer with a new head box and ¼ mile of poly pipe. Contact Sandy for materials.
- 6 Harmston Canyon water development needs the pipe replaced, Steve would like to work on it this summer. Contact Sandy for materials.
- 7 The gate south of Elk Knoll needs to be replaced. Steve will let Sandy know what type of gate and braces they want to install.

- 8 Sage Grouse Management Plan implementation was discussed. Adjustments were made to the habitat map this year based on field reviews. The Pole Creek allotment contains General Habitat Management Area in the lower portions of Uinta Canyon.
- 9 Drought conditions were discussed. Forage conditions will be monitored and livestock numbers or season of use will be adjusted as needed.
- 10 Forest Plan revision and range hot topics meeting were discussed. Notes from this meeting can be found on the Ashley National Forest web page.

### **Multiple Use Considerations**

A concentrated effort is being made to control musk thistle, Canada thistle, Russian knapweed, whitetop, and other noxious weeds throughout the Duchesne District and Duchesne County. Noxious weed control is everyone's responsibility. If you find any weeds please make an effort to dig them up and report the location to Sandy Kaminski. Musk thistle has been found below the Forest Boundary along the road on Tribal Lands. Please make an effort to control this weed as you find it, or report it to this office.

All hay and straw transported onto the Forest must be tagged as Certified Noxious Weed-Free as directed by Forest Service Order #04-00-097. Noncompliance with this closure order will result in a citation.

### **Actual Use Record**

The actual use record and maintenance report included with these operating instructions **needs to be filled out and returned immediately following the grazing season.** If anything comes up concerning the allotment or your permit, contact Sandy Kaminski at (435) 781-5221 or cell (435) 790-7011. Thanks for your cooperation and have a good summer.

Kristy Groves  
District Ranger

**2018 Actual Use Record**

ALLOTMENT NAME Pole Creek Allotment

NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK GRAZED \_\_\_\_\_

DATE ENTERED NATIONAL FOREST \_\_\_\_\_

DATE LEFT NATIONAL FOREST \_\_\_\_\_

HOURS WORKED ON MAINTENANCE OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

MONEY SPENT FOR MAINTENANCE OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

HOURS WORKED ON CONSTRUCTION OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

MONEY SPENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

**RECORD OF USE BY UNITS WITHIN ALLOTMENT**

Unit Name	Sequence	Dates Used	
		From	To
Lower Pole Creek	1st		
Frog Lakes	2nd		
Upper Pole Creek	3rd		
Uinta Canyon	4th		

LOSSES: NUMBERS \_\_\_\_\_ CAUSES \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: (Include needed range improvements and proposed changes in annual plan of use)

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