

**ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST
Blind Stream Cattle Allotment
Roosevelt-Duchesne Ranger District
2018 Annual Operating Instructions**

Permittee	Number of Cattle	Season
Moon Ranch LLC	150	June 16 to October 15

Grazing Schedule

Unit Name	Sequence	Dates of Use	Allowable Use
Larsen Hollow	1 st	6/16– 7/10	50%
Swift Creek	2 nd	7/11 – 8/03	50%
Blind Stream East	3 rd	8/04 – 8/25	50%
Lake Basin	4 th	8/26 – 9/14	50%
Blind Stream West	5 th	9/15 – 10/15	50%

The dates of use above are to be used guidelines. Cattle will enter the Larsen Hollow unit first. About mid-July, cattle will move to the Swift Creek unit. From August 4th to the end of August, cattle will graze Blind Stream East. The Lake Basin unit will be utilized fourth. The Blind Stream West unit will be grazed last. When allowable use is met or on October 15th, livestock will leave the allotment.

The primary determining factor for moving livestock from one unit to the other is utilization. As stated above, allowable use is 50% in upland forage areas in all units. A 4” stubble height of riparian forage species (i.e. sedges) shall be left in all riparian forage areas (i.e. stream corridors and wet meadows) following the grazing season. Prior to July 20th, residual stubble height following grazing may exceed 4” (regrowth will occur prior to first hard freeze). After July 20th, grazing cannot exceed the 4” stubble height. Permittees should closely monitor key areas. When allowable use in the key areas is met in each unit, the cattle need to be moved to the next unit. Forest personnel will regularly visit the allotment throughout the summer to monitor permit compliance, forage utilization, and range improvements. Compliance of allowable use standards will be fully enforced. Please keep a record after moving cattle from each unit (including numbers of cattle and dates of use).

Salt will be placed away from water sources and riparian areas and placed on ridge slopes or other areas away from water (at least 100 yards but preferably further). The allotment gates that separates the West Slope unit of the North Fork Duchesne from the East Slope of Blind Stream need to be closed before livestock enter the Blind Stream West unit and periodically monitored.

Grazing fees will be \$1.41 per head month this year. *Fees must be paid through Lockbox collection procedures before livestock will be authorized to enter the National Forest.* It can take two to three week for payment to go through Lockbox so please pay your bill well in advance of your on date.

Annual Operating Planning Meeting

An annual operating meeting was held on May 11, 2018 at the Duchesne District Office. Gordon Moon and Sandy Kaminski were present.

- Drought conditions were discussed. Forage conditions will be monitored and livestock numbers or season of use will be adjusted as needed. Permittees need to watch utilization closely and move cattle before 50% use is reached.
- Forest Plan revision and range hot topics meeting were discussed. Notes from this meeting can be found on the Ashley National Forest web page.
- Gordon plans to complete the Blind Stream West drift fence and work on the NE Blind Stream (sagebrush ridge) fence this summer. Contact Sandy for materials.
- Sandy discussed the range improvements which were surveyed last summer.

Maintenance of Improvements

All water developments and fences need to be maintained before the cattle are allowed to enter the allotment. A range technician may randomly inspect improvements. If improvements do not meet Forest specifications following an inspection, cattle will not be allowed to enter the allotment until the maintenance is complete. When reworking developments, all discarded material (i.e. old troughs, broken pipe, etc.) must be removed from forest property.

Improvement Checklist

Improvement Name	Improvement #	Improvement Name	Improvement #
Lake Basin Spring #2	435112	Sagebrush Ridge Spring	435554
Larsen Hollow Spring	435679	NE Blind Stream Fence	004441
NW Blind Stream Fence	004442	Blind Stream Drift Fence	004215
West Slope Letdown Fence	004339	Blind Stream Division Fence	004775
Pine Knoll Reservoir	435687	Lake Basin Fence	4493

Multiple Use Considerations

A concentrated effort is being made to control Musk Thistle, Canada Thistle, Whitetop, Giant Whitetop, Russian Knapweed and other noxious weeds throughout the Roosevelt and Duchesne Ranger Districts, along with Duchesne and Uintah counties. Your help in controlling weeds is needed. If you find any of the above listed weeds, please report the location to Sandy Kaminski.

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 this plan need to be filled out and returned **immediately following the grazing season**. If there are concerns pertaining to 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 Blind Stream

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 (AS SHOWN ON MAP)

Unit Name	Sequence	Date Used	
		From	To
Larsen Hollow	1st		
Swift Creek	2nd		
Blind Stream East	3rd		
Lake Basin	4th		
Blind Stream West	5th		

LOSSES: NUMBERS _____ CAUSES _____

PLACE _____

SIGNATURE _____

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