



File Code: 2210; 2230
Date: March 26, 2018

Dear Permittee,

This letter will serve as your 2018 Annual Operating Instructions for the Lonesome Park Allotment and will become part of your Term Grazing Permit #00235A. The annual operating meeting was held on March 12th, 2018 in Vernal with Rancho Escondido ranch manager Morgan Beal and hired hand Josh, along with rangeland management specialists Garry Brown and Cherette Bonomo.

Lonesome Park Allotment:

Below in Tables 1 and 2 you will find the Lonesome Park Allotment grazing schedules and utilization benchmarks for the Vernal Ranger District (VRD) and the Flaming Gorge Ranger District (FGRD). The scheduled dates below are to be used as guidelines depending on range readiness, precipitation, forage production, utilization, permittee needs, and adaptive management. The movement of livestock will depend upon available water and forage. It is your responsibility to ensure utilization benchmarks are not exceeded and to move livestock when allowable use is met.

Table 1: VRD-Lonesome Park Allotment Grazing Schedule and Utilization Benchmarks

Unit	Kind/Class	Numbers	Proposed Dates	Utilization Benchmarks
East Dyers Park	Cattle (Cow/Calf)	100	June 20 - Sept. 25	≤ 50% Key Forage Species ≥ 4" RSH Graminoids along Greenline

Table 2: FGRD-Lonesome Park Allotment Grazing Schedule and Utilization Benchmarks

Unit	Kind/Class	Numbers	Proposed Dates	Utilization Benchmarks
Dowd Mountain	Cattle (Cow/Calf)	200	June 20 - July 26	≤ 50% Key Forage Species ≥ 4" RSH Graminoids along Greenline
Eagle Basin			July 27 - Sept. 15	

¹Dates are estimates and may vary based upon range readiness, drought, utilization benchmarks being reached prior to the move date, and/or other factors. ²Utilization will be monitored at key areas of the allotment. Key areas are those areas most preferred by livestock, are typically grazed first, and receive the most concentrated use (e.g. East Park and Round Park meadows, Kane Hollow, etc.); RSH = residual stubble height.

The Allotment Management Plan (AMP) requires a full-time rider to ensure proper livestock distribution patterns and utilization levels. Please make sure that the rider understands the importance of moving cattle away from riparian areas because utilization levels achieved in these areas will determine how long you are allowed to stay on the allotment. Review your full time



rider's camping location with your Rangeland Management Specialist before you set up camp so that the site can be approved. This letter is your authorization to camp there the length of the grazing season or until required to move. Please note that you are required to keep a clean and orderly camp.

Livestock need to be kept in their appropriate units, properly distributed within those units, and moved from unit to unit when needed. This requires riding and salting be properly conducted throughout the entire grazing season. Do not place your salt next to water, roads, trails, or in open meadows.

When livestock are within the Eagle Basin Unit, highway safety measures as stated in the AMP will be followed to provide for continued highway safety.

You are responsible to maintain all allotment fences, water developments, and other range improvements in a serviceable condition as listed in Part 3 of your term grazing permit and associated AMP one week prior to your scheduled on date. This allows for the inspection of your improvements and any potential concerns to be addressed before your livestock enter the allotment. If your maintenance responsibilities have not been completed to the standards listed in your permit, livestock will not be allowed to enter the allotment. All labor and materials needed for maintenance is your responsibility. Any OHV use in the administration of your allotment is limited to existing roads unless permission is otherwise obtained.

Grazing fees are \$1.41 per head month this year. Your Bill for Collection payment for grazing fees must be paid before livestock are allowed on National Forest lands (due date 10 days prior to turn on date). Payments can be made by mail or in person at any Forest Service Office (bill number required). Bills can also be paid online at www.fs.fed.us/billpay. Please include a copy of your bill with your payment and allow 4 business days for payment processing.

Other items discussed:

- Permit renewal: Your permit will expire 12/31/2018. Permit renewal paperwork will be sent out this summer.
- UGIP applications: East Park Hollow Drift Fence-start work this summer.
- Highway 44 cattleguard by Red Canyon: Ritchie Anderson said he will talk to the UDOT about having them deepen the bottom in the cattleguard so cattle won't be able to cross. He will also talk with UDOT about getting some more permanent livestock crossing signs along Hwy 44.
- Prescribed fire: Forest Service fire crews will be implementing prescribed fire on the North Slope of the Unitas beginning in April through this fall dependent on weather. The only planned area on the Lonesome Park Allotment falls within the Eagle Basin Unit in the vicinity of the Carter Creek bridge on Highway 44. See attached map for planned prescribed fire within the Lonesome Park Allotment.

Find enclosed is your grazing use record form to be returned by December 31st, 2018 and 2018 grazing season bill to be paid by the due date. Please continue to keep us informed on what's happening on your allotment and thank you for your cooperation in the proper management of the Lonesome Park Allotment. If you have questions, changes or comments, please contact

Garry Brown, Rangeland Management Specialist-VRD, at office: (435) 781-5168 or cell: (435) 5279 or
or Cherrite Bonomo, Rangeland Management Specialist-FGRD, at office: (435) 781-

Sincerely,



Rowdy Muir
District Ranger

cc:
cc: