

**SHEEP CREEK C&H ALLOTMENT  
ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTION (AOI)  
2009**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this AOI is to provide direction for management of the Sheep Creek C&H Allotment during the 2009 grazing season. It is important that you fully understand this AOI including the grazing system, maintenance schedules, and forage utilization standards. You should also be familiar with all terms and conditions of your Term Grazing Permit. This AOI is made part of your Term Grazing Permit as outlined in Part 1, item 3, and Part 2, item 8(a). Situations may develop during the grazing season that requires changes to the AOI. If this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some part of the AOI, contact the range staff or District Ranger of the Powell Ranger District, Dixie National Forest, and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from the AOI.

**II. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

**A. Grazing Fees**

Grazing fees must be paid before livestock are allowed on National Forest System (NFS) lands. To prevent possible delays, prompt and early payment of fees is recommended.

**B. Livestock Accountability**

Livestock accountability is your responsibility. You are responsible for allowing only the numbers, kind, and class of livestock on the allotment during the period specified in the annual Bill for Collection and only in those units identified in this AOI.

All livestock that have attained the age of six months or older by the on-date are counted as part of the permitted numbers. For the June 11th on-date for this allotment, calves must have been born after December 11th or they will be counted as permitted livestock. Bulls are also counted as part of the permitted numbers.

Attached are Actual Use and Improvement Maintenance Record forms. Please complete these forms and submit them to the District office within 15 days after removal of your livestock from the allotment.

**C. Range Improvements**

Range improvements are available on the allotment primarily for the management of livestock. It is your responsibility to maintain assigned range improvements by the dates stated in the Scheduled Permittee Maintenance section of this AOI. This includes all boundary fences. Where maintenance is shared between two or more allotments, you must maintain your assigned facilities regardless of your or your neighbors grazing schedule. Maintenance also includes that you continue to inspect each improvement throughout the season to insure it remains in good condition and is operating properly. Please follow the maintenance standards and responsibilities that are attached. Maintenance must be completed to Forest Service standards.

<b>Scheduled Permittee Maintenance</b>	
All Exterior Boundary Fences & Gates	06/06
All Unit Interior Fences & Gates	06/06

**III. GRAZING MANAGEMENT**

**A. Permitted Use**

<b>Permittee</b>	<b>Livestock Number</b>	<b>Season</b>
Edgar L. Dunham and/or Krista L. Dunham	40	06/11 – 10/10

If you intend to take any non-use based on numbers, it must be approved prior to your permitted on-date to graze on NFS lands. Livestock will not enter NFS lands prior to June 11th. Any exceptions will need prior approval from the range staff and/or District Ranger.

**B. Grazing**

The order of unit grazing rotation as described in the Term Grazing Permit is outlined below. It is your responsibility to follow this grazing schedule. Prior approval must be obtained from the range staff and/or District Ranger before changes in the schedule are made.

Unit	Dates
Upper (West)	06/11 – 09/10
Lower (East)	09/11 – 10/10

**C. Allowable Forage Use**

Allowable use of forage is up to 50% on all species except crested wheatgrass reseedings where 60% forage use is allowed. Utilization of the current year’s growth on browse species in the riparian zone is 50%. Maintain ground cover of at least 70% within the riparian zone. Stubble height should be 4-6 inches on hydric species and 2 inches on the non-hydric species remaining at the end of the growing season in riparian areas. This is all described in your Term Grazing Permit, Part 3. The permittee has the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that these standards are not exceeded.

Allowable forage use will be evaluated on key riparian and upland areas. The dates in the grazing schedule are approximate for planning purposes. Actual use and length of stay will be based on forage phenology and allowable use as estimated on key areas for each unit. When a significant portion of the site, key area, or grazing unit has achieved any one of the three grazing standards (stream bank trampling, use of browse species, or use of herbaceous upland or riparian plants) livestock will be removed from the area or grazing unit.

**D. Livestock Distribution**

Herding and salting are essential to proper livestock distribution. Cattle must be moved away from stream bottoms and water on a frequent basis. Failure to do so may significantly shorten your grazing season. Salt should be distributed prior to placing stock in each unit. It should be placed in accessible areas away from the middle of meadows, roads, water, and other natural concentration areas.

The cattle should be properly distributed throughout each unit as scheduled. Each unit should be inspected regularly to ensure proper livestock distribution. Cattle should be herded away from heavily used areas. When herding, check adjoining units and allotments for strays, and if found, return them to their permitted allotment(s).

If called upon to do so, the permittee will provide for having livestock counted at the time they are placed on or removed from NFS lands.

When moving cattle between units, plan to have all stragglers moved within 5 days. When it is time to remove livestock at the end of the grazing season, be sure to start early enough that your livestock are removed from NFS lands by the last day on your Bill for Collection. No cattle are allowed on the allotment before the permitted on-date and all cattle must be removed by the permitted off-date.

**IV. FOREST SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

Allotments will be inspected for forage utilization, general management of the allotment, livestock distribution, maintenance of improvements, and unauthorized livestock use.

**V. MISCELLANEOUS**

ORDERS/SPECIAL ORDERS – An Order exists, signed by the Intermountain Regional Forester, covering all National Forests in the Intermountain Region concerning the use of noxious weed free hay. Any hay or straw

used in association with your Term Grazing Permit is required to be certified and/or tagged/marked as noxious weed seed free as directed by the order.

The District Ranger or his/her representative are willing to meet with you to hear and discuss any concerns or issues you may have in relation to decisions contained in the AOI.

**SHEEP CREEK C&H ALLOTMENT  
 VERIFICATION OF RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF  
 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTION (AOI)  
 2009**

I/We, the undersigned, verify receipt and review of the AOI and that the contained information agrees with the discussion(s) held at the AOI meeting and/or other locations/times. Any modification(s) to the AOI has/have been previously discussed with the range staff and/or District Ranger of the Powell Ranger District, Dixie National Forest, and has/have been, if approved, included in the AOI.

<b>INSTRUCTIONS:</b>		
Sign and date in the spaces provided to the right of your or your businesses name.		
<b>PERMITTEE NAME</b>	<b>PERMITTEE SIGNATURE</b>	<b>DATE</b>
Edgar L. Dunham and/or Krista L. Dunham		

The following is to be completed by an authorized Forest Service representative.

Signature	Date
Lori D. Wood, District Ranger	
Printed Name and Title	