



File Code: 2210/2230

Date: May 22, 2014

Steve Lucas & Jean Thomas
Thomas Grazing LLC.
3300 Feed Lot Rd
Winnemucca, NV 89426

Dear Steve & Jean,

The following letter will document your meeting with Boyd Hatch, on May 22, 2013 and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the 2014 summer grazing season. The District Ranger must approve any changes to this AOI.

The grazing system on this allotment is rest and a deferred rotation. The scheduled dates of use are flexible but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made in the below dates, unless utilization is met and livestock need to be moved to keep from over utilization. The District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

**BUTTERMILK C&H
PERMITTED USE**

Permittee	Class	Number	Season
Thomas Grazing LLC	C/C	563	5/22 - 9/30
Peter Marvel	C/C	280	5/22 - 9/30
Vacant	C/C	818	5/22 - 9/30

**BUTTERMILK C&H
AUTHORIZED USE**

Permittee	Class	Number	Season
Thomas Grazing LLC	C/C	260	5/24 - 9/30
Thomas Grazing LLC	C/C	160	6/16 - 9/30
Peter & Kathi Marvel	C/C	280	5/24 - 9/30
UNITS			
Spring City	C/C	700	5/24 - 6/24
Buttermilk	C/C	700	6/25 - 8/20
Lye Creek	C/C	700	8/21 - 9/30
Blackridge	REST		
Buttermilk Meadows	No Livestock Will Be Authorized		

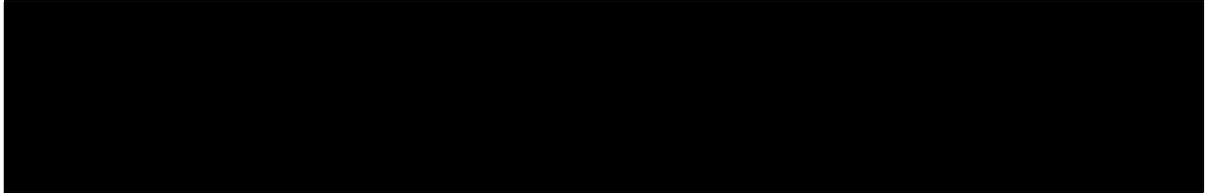
*C/C is cow calf.

There are 1098 cow calf pairs presently vacant within the Buttermilk allotment, I am authorizing Peter and Kathi Marvel to graze 280 Cow Calf pairs in order to reduce stress within the Wild Bill allotment due to drought conditions. Thomas Grazing LLC is authorized for resource protection nonuse for 57 C/C pair.



Permitted Livestock Brands:

Brands below are being registered with state brand office into the Thomas Grazing LLC. This has been verified with the state brand office.

**COMPLIANCE:**

This AOI is made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). The scheduled dates of use are flexible but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made in the below dates. Other situations may develop during the grazing season which requires changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions The District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

Invasive weeds are becoming a serious threat to the welfare of our rangelands. Your assistance is needed to identify new outbreaks of weed populations and to prevent the establishment of weeds on the forest. Pay particular attention to areas where stock are concentrated such as loading/unloading areas, water developments, and salting areas. We have implemented a Noxious Weed Free Hay order on the forest. This will require any hay that is brought onto the National Forest to be certified free from noxious weeds. All livestock entering the National Forest are recommended to be fed Certified Noxious Weed Free Forage for at least 2 days prior to entering the Forest.

IMPROVEMENTS:

Range improvements listed in part three of your grazing permit must be maintained before cattle enter the allotments. The maintenance standards listed in part three of your term permit must be followed when maintaining the improvements. As you're doing water trough maintenance please install wildlife ramps in all troughs that currently don't have them. We have several new ramps completed at the Paradise Valley Ranger Station. Please let Dave Kern or Boyd know when you are going to pick them up and they will make sure they are available.

PERMITTEE INSTRUCTIONS:

Dead livestock must be moved at least 100 yards from water, roads, and trails. Place salt at least ¼ mile from water sources and in areas lightly grazed to encourage an even distribution of utilization on the range. In situations where terrain does not allow proper placement of salt, please contact Boyd and he will determine a suitable location with your input.

REQUIRED REPORTING:

Actual use and range improvement maintenance forms have been included for you to complete and return at the end of the grazing season. Please return the forms following the 2014 grazing season by November 30, 2014.

STANDARDS AND GUIDES:

Drought is very likely this summer it will be essential that you keep in mind that timing for moving your livestock is determined by utilization or actual use. It is important not to put additional stress on the vegetation by over utilization/grazing. Please keep in mind that if the range does not receive more moisture to support the time frames discussed the livestock may need to come off early this year.

You are responsible for determining when allowable use has been reached and for moving your cattle to the next pasture or off the allotment when allowable use has been reached. The Forest Service is responsible for monitoring your compliance with allowable use standards. If you need assistance determining use levels or locating key areas, please contact Boyd. All riparian areas on the allotments are considered key areas.

Actual Use/Utilization:

ALLOTMENTS/Pastures	HABITAT GROUP/PROPER USE CRITERIA																
	UPLANDS*			WYOMING BIG SAGE		ASPEN			STREAM RIPARIAN AREAS			MEADOWS**			COTTONWOOD		
	Ecological Condition	Utilization		Ecological Condition	Utilization	Ecological Condition	Utilization		Ecological Condition	Utilization		Ecological Condition	Utilization		Ecological Condition	Utilization	
		Herbaceous	Browse				Herbaceous	Browse		Herbaceous	Browse		Herbaceous	Browse		Herbaceous	Browse
BUTTERMILK ALLOTMENT																	
Black Ridge	F	50%	35%	F	40%	F	45%	35%	FR	35%	20%	FR	35%	20%	N/A		
Buttermilk	F	50%	35%	F	40%	F	45%	35%	F	45%	30%	F	45%	30%	N/A		
Lye Creek	F	50%	35%	N/A		F	45%	35%	F	45%	30%	F	45%	30%	N/A		
Spring City	FR	40%	25%	FR	30%	N/A			FR	35%	20%	FR	35%	20%	N/A		

BILLING:

Grazing fees remained unchanged from last year. The fee is now \$1.35 per head month. You are able to pay USDA Forest Service, C/O Citibank, P.O. Box 301550, Los Angeles, CA 90030-1550, online at WWW.FS.FED.US/BILLPAY, or at the district office.

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

Type of Rotation: Rest Rotation.

REST UNITS: Blackridge

COORDINATION & COOPERATION:

If you spot a wild fire, report it immediately to the interagency dispatch center in Winnemucca, NV at (775) 623-3444 or 1-800-535-6076.

MAPS, FORMS & ATTACHMENTS:

Allotment map, signature page, actual use and permit maintenance forms have been attached.

As a reminder, approval of requests for permittee convenience nonuse is not automatic and the authorized officer should discuss the reasons for the nonuse request with the permittee.

Approval of a request for permittee convenience non-use must be in writing by the authorized officer. Full or partial permittee convenience nonuse may be approved by the authorized officer for no more than three consecutive years and not more than four years in any ten year period.

If you have any questions or concerns this grazing season, please call Boyd at (775) 623-5025 x 119.

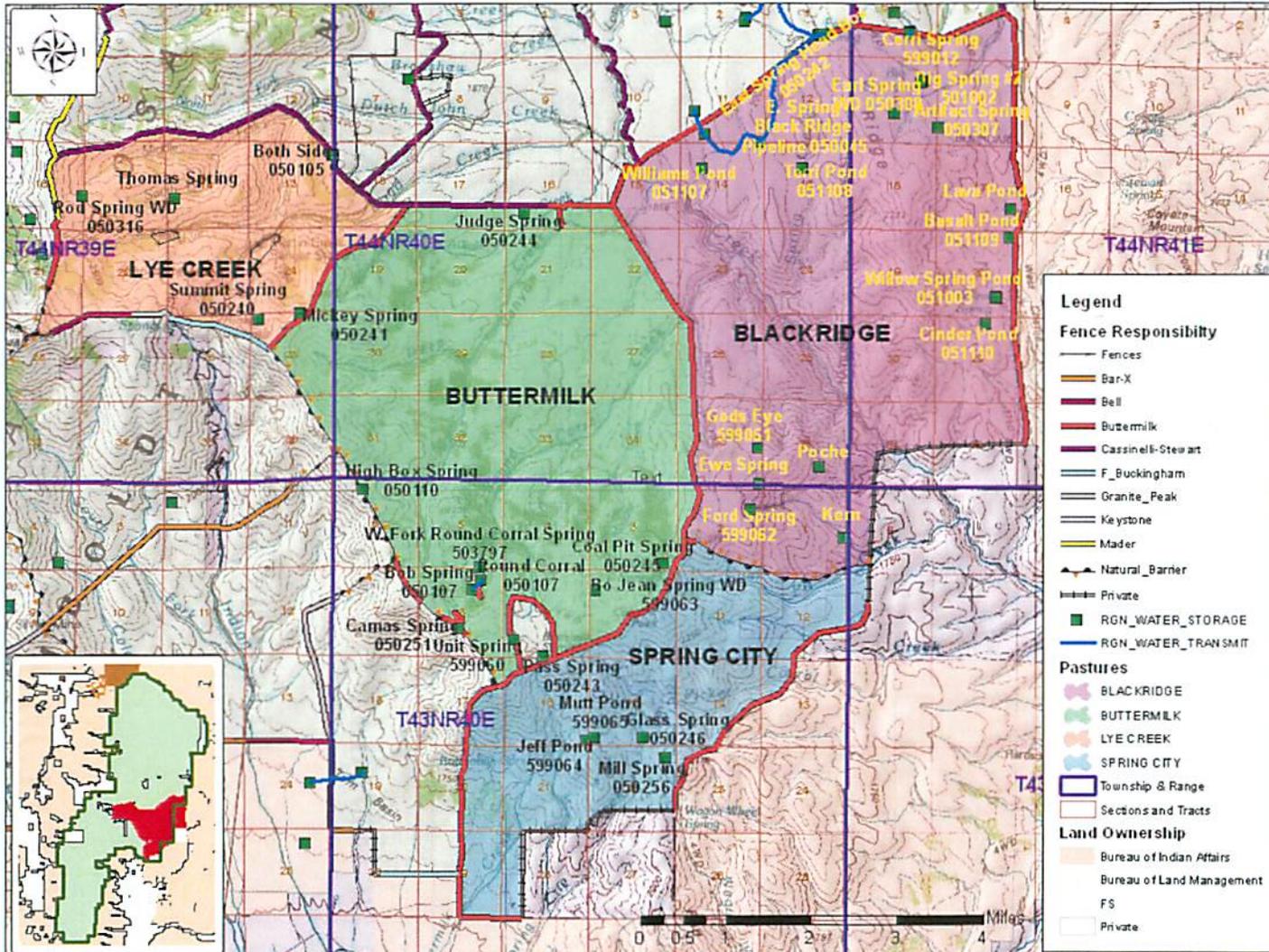
Sincerely,



DUNCAN LEAO
Acting District Ranger

BUTTERMILK C&H WATER AND FENCE MAINTENANCE

Map Created 6-7-2013 BWH



ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

2014

Buttermilk C&H Allotment

SANTA ROSA RANGER DISTRICT

Recommended by: _____ Date: _____
Rangeland Management Specialist

Accepted by: _____ Date: _____
Permittee

Approved by: _____ Date: _____
District Ranger

Please sign and date this cover sheet and return to my office. Upon signature by the District Ranger, these Annual Operating Instructions are hereby made a part of your Term Grazing Permit.

As permittee, my signature on these Annual Operating Instructions certifies that there is no change to my permitted livestock or base property ownership as described in my grazing permit.