Annual Operating Instructions
2015
Hunt Creek/Cottonwood Allotment
Powell RD, Dixie NF

This AOI is made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). Situations may develop during the grazing season which requires changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some or part of these instructions, contact the District Ranger and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions. Failure to follow these instructions is a violation of your permit.

	Permitted*			Authorized**		
Permittee	**Number**	**Class**	**Season**	**Number**	**Class**	**Season**
Stanton Gleave, Jan Gleave, and Garrett Gleave	930	Ewe w/ lamb	6/6-9/30	930	Ewe w/ lamb	6/6-9/30

*Permitted use is the livestock numbers and season of use listed on your grazing permit.
**Authorized use is the number of livestock and season of use you are authorized for in the current grazing season and reflects stocking and/or season of use adjustments for the given year.

Please be aware that nonuse in excess of 10% of your permitted numbers must be requested at least 30 days before the "on" date. Nonuse for personal convenience may be approved on a year-to-year basis for a maximum of three consecutive years and not more than four years in any 10-year period. Longer periods of nonuse for range protection will only be approved under a written agreement.

Non-use requested: None

Previous year's grazing results: Monitoring was completed on East and West Hunt Creeks which indicated that stubble height standards were not exceeded.

Notice of Non-compliance/Suspension Actions: None

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

Grazing Schedule

Unit (Pasture)	Tentative Dates*
South Cottonwood	6/6-6/30
Prospect	7/1-7/8
West Hunt	7/9-7/23
East Hunt	7/24-8/7
North Cottonwood	8/8-8/18

*The above schedule is an **estimate** and may be modified at any time with the approval of District Range personnel or the District Ranger if: utilization levels are met, water availability is inadequate, drought, delayed forage development or wet soil conditions.

The sheep herd from the Deer Creek allotment will join this sheep herd about the fifth of July. Around August 19 the combined herds will then move to the Deer Creek Allotment and graze the Horse Valley or

Table Mountain Unit, depending on water and forage conditions. Grazing these two allotments with one herd for part of the grazing season will should help to improve riparian conditions by reducing the frequency of plant use in the units that will have a shorter period of scheduled use.

Allowable use levels are more important than tentative dates listed above. If allowable use levels are met early in the scheduled pasture, sheep will be required to be moved to another area of the pasture, moved to another pasture, or removed from the Forest. If early pasture moves occur, District range personnel or the District Ranger must be notified. Delayed pasture moves require prior approval by the District Ranger.

Type of rotation: Deferred Rotation

All livestock must be removed from the Forest by the permitted off date listed above.

Additional instructions: Increase use in the Center Creek Area to reduce use along East Hunt Creek.

UTILIZATION STANDARDS & MONITORING

Maximum Allowable Forage Use Criteria

Vegetation Type		Very Early	Early	Mid	Late	Comments
Riparian Hydric Species (i.e. rushes & sedges)		6”	6”	4”	4”	Stubble height remaining at end of growing season.
9B Intensive Riparian Management Areas		6”	6”	6’	6”	Stubble height remaining at end of growing season.
Hydric species in wet meadows not influenced by streams (i.e. rushes & sedges)		6”	6”	4”	4”	Stubble height remaining at end of growing season.
Non-hydric species in riparian areas (i.e. Kentucky bluegrass)		2”				Stubble height remaining at end of growing season.
Upland species		50%				Varying in specific unit from 40-60%.
Wheatgrass seedings		60%				Management option to exceed 60% to maintain healthy seedings.
Riparian browse		<50%				New leader production.
Streambank alteration		<20%				Sloughing, trampling, dislodged stones, & animal tracks.
Goshawk nest areas & post-fledging family areas (PFAs)	Grass & forbs	<20%				Average <20% by weight and not exceed 40% in any given area.
	Shrubs	<40%				Average <40% by weight and not exceed 50% in any given area.

The above utilization standards take precedence over the tentative dates listed in the grazing schedule. You are responsible to monitor your livestock and comply with the listed utilization standards and to move livestock prior to **any** of the above standards being exceeded. Two riparian areas (East Hunt Creek near Spring Creek and North Fork of Cottonwood) have been identified as having a Successional Rating of very early seral and early seral. As shown in the previous chart, any riparian area with a very early or early successional rating the stubble height remaining at the end of the growing season on hydric species should not be less than six inches.

Compliance monitoring inspections will be conducted by Forest Service personnel throughout the grazing season in key areas across the allotment. You are invited and it is recommended that you participate in these inspections.

Exceeding the utilization standards may be considered as non-compliance with your Term Grazing Permit and may be subject to suspension or cancellation of the permit.

BILLING

Your annual grazing bill must be paid and notification received in our office prior to turning livestock onto the National Forest. It may take 10 days or more from the time you mail your payment until we receive payment notification so plan accordingly.

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

You are responsible for maintaining the range improvements assigned to you in Part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit. All improvements are to be maintained to standard prior to livestock entering the allotment, even in the event of non-use. Standards are attached to this AOI. Livestock entry onto the Forest may be delayed if improvements are not maintained to acceptable standards.

Scheduled reconstruction for upcoming season: None

You must obtain prior written approval from the District Ranger before constructing/installing structural range improvements or using or applying any pesticide/herbicide.

Any improvement, which is no longer functional or no longer needed, will be removed from the allotment by the permittee. The removal of any improvement must have prior approval by the District Ranger.

Failure to maintain your assigned range improvements is considered as non-compliance with your Term Grazing Permit and is subject to suspension or cancellation of your permit.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

You will furnish sufficient riders or herders for proper distribution, protection and management of livestock on the allotment as required by the Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and/or Annual Operating Instructions (AOI).

You are required to submit actual use information for the allotment. Please complete the enclosed form and return it to the district office within 30 days of removal of livestock from the Forest.

Salt and other dietary supplements are a distribution tool, and as such, should not be placed within ¼ mile of riparian areas, water troughs and ponds; within 200 ft. of designated roads, trails, trail heads or camping spots which have frequent use. Avoid salting in or near tree plantations or regenerating aspen stands. Exceptions to these standards must have prior approval.

Salt will be moved from areas where feed has been used to standards.

Permit holders are allowed motorized access to permitted facilities or areas that may be closed to public use for administrative use only. Common sense and discretion must be used when operating motorized vehicles on/within closed roads or areas to prevent resource damage and reduce impacts. The Dixie National Forest Travel Plan must be followed when not managing livestock.

Livestock should be drifted instead of trailed wherever possible. Previously grazed units must have all livestock removed from them within three days of your scheduled move dates.

No nooning, shading, or bedding within 100 yards of any streams.

Only one night/one time use of bed grounds.

Do not bed sheep within 200 yards of designated campgrounds, trails, trailheads, or maintained roads.

Only once-over grazing is allowed.

Herder camp instructions: None

All livestock feed or straw brought onto the Forest must be certified weed free per Regional Forester's Order #04-00-058, dated March 26, 1996.

Dead livestock shall be moved at least ¼ mile from roads, water sources, and camping spots, which have evidence of frequent use.

All garbage resulting from activities associated with this permit should be removed from National Forest lands and disposed of properly.