



File Code: 2210

Date: April 28, 2015

Mike and Tana Powell
2800 Sandhill Rd Suite 150
Menlo Park, CA
94025

Dear Mike and Tana

The following letter will document the meeting between Jeff Borsini and Aaron Coogan on April 20, 2015 and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions for the Nye Canyon C&H Allotment during the 2015 grazing season.

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 require changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, contact the District Ranger and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions.

PERMITTED USE

The Nye Canyon C&H Allotment is grazed season long under an on/off permit from June 16 to September 15. The permitted use for the National Forest portion of the allotment is 5 cow/calf pairs; the off portion is 40 cow/calf pairs. In accordance with the terms and conditions of your permit, no livestock are allowed on National Forest System lands outside of the above season of use.

AUTHORIZED USE

This season you are authorized to run a total of 23 cow/calf pairs from June 18 to September 18. The "on" portion will be 3 cow/calf pairs and the "off" portion will be 20 cow/calf pairs. The "on" cow/calf pairs must be owned by the permittee. The "off" cow/calf pairs are not required to be owned by the permittee.

The allotment will be in 50% non-use for resource protection. This non-use will not count against the permittee as permittee convenience non-use.

As a reminder, approvals of requests for permittee convenience non-use are not automatic and the authorized officer should discuss the reason for the non-use 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 non-use 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.



ALLOWABLE USE

The allowable use standards below apply to the National Forest portion of the allotment.

Riparian Sites (meadows):

Maximum of 55% use of the current year's growth of key grass and grass-like species

Maximum of 30% use of the current year's growth of shrub species

Upland sites (aspen, sagebrush, bitterbrush):

Maximum of 45% use of the current year's growth of key grass and grass-like species

Maximum of 40% use of the current year's growth of shrub species

It is your responsibility to monitor the level of utilization and make sure that the allowable use levels are not exceeded. Livestock must be moved to areas of light use or removed from the allotment when utilization levels approach allowable use. The Forest Service is responsible for monitoring your compliance with allowable use standards. If you need any assistance in determining use, please contact Aaron and he will assist you.

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

All range improvements on the Nye Canyon C&H Allotment listed in part three of your grazing permit must be maintained before livestock enter the allotment. The standards listed in part three of your permit must be followed when improvements are maintained.

REPORTING

I have included forms for recording your actual use and range improvement maintenance on the allotment. Please complete the forms and return them to my office no later than November 30, 2015. Failure to return actual use and improvement maintenance forms may result in **NON-COMPLIANCE** with the terms and conditions of your permit.

GENERAL MANAGEMENT

The Bar Seven L Bar is the only brand authorized under the "on" portion of your Term Grazing Permit.

Herd cattle into areas of light use and away from areas that are grazed more heavily. Place salt at least ¼ mile from water, roads, and trails on ridges and rock outcrops to encourage more even distribution and grazing utilization. If terrain does not allow salt placement under these guidelines, please contact Aaron and he will help you find a suitable location.

Haul dead livestock at least 100 yards from water roads and trails. If you spot a wildfire report it immediately to the Interagency Dispatch Center in Minden, NV at (775) 883-5995.

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 livestock are concentrated such as loading/unloading areas, water developments and salting areas.

We have implemented a Noxious Weed Free Hay order on our 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 two days prior to entering the National Forest.

The 2015 grazing fees have been increased from last year. The 2015 grazing fee is \$1.69 per head month.

Payment of your grazing bill is due five days prior to your earliest turnout date to allow time for processing. As a reminder the Forest Service is required to give permittees a minimum of 30 days to pay your grazing fees. The Forest Service is requesting that permittees schedule their AOI meeting a minimum of 35 days prior to their earliest on date to provide adequate time to plan for the upcoming grazing season.

TRAVEL MANAGEMENT

The Bridgeport Travel Management Record of Decision was signed March 5th, 2010. With the issuance of this decision, all roads and trails designated for motor vehicle use will be identified on a motor vehicle use map (MVUM). As detailed in 36 CFR 261.13; 36 CFR 212.51a the prohibitions on motor vehicle use will not apply to motor vehicle use that is specifically authorized under a written authorization issued under Federal Law or Regulation (e.g. Term Grazing Permit). During the 2015 grazing season you and your employees are authorized to travel on routes within the allotments in your permit or ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of your term grazing permit (e.g. improvement maintenance, dead livestock removal).

If you have any questions regarding management of the Nye Canyon C&H Allotment, please contact Aaron at (760) 932-5852.

Sincerely,

/Jeff Ulrich/

JEFF ULRICH
District Ranger