

**West Bruneau,  
Copper Basin (North & South Copper & Copper Cottonwood),  
Tennessee Mountain and 76 Creek Sheep & Goat  
AND  
Bull Run Cattle & Horse  
Mountain City Ranger District  
Humbolt-Toiyabe National Forest**

**2015 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS**

**PERMITTEE:** Ellison Ranching Company  
**PERMIT #:** 60136; expires 12/31/2019

The following are your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the West Bruneau River S&G, Copper Basin S&G, Tennessee Mountain S&G, 76 Creek S&G, and Bull Run C&H grazing allotments as discussed. The permitted use stated in your Term Grazing Permit is listed below along with authorized use for the 2015 grazing season. The scheduled dates of use are flexible, but it is the permittees responsibility to notify the Forest Officer a minimum of five days prior to turnout, and a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made to the dates stated below. The District Ranger must approve any changes made in this planned use. Upon payment of fees, you are authorized to graze as follows:

**COPPER BASIN S&G, 76 CREEK S&G, WEST BRUNEAU RIVER S&G, TENNESSEE MOUNTAIN S&G, BULL RUN C&H**

**PERMITTED USE**

Allotment	Numbers/Class	Season of Use	Head Months
Copper Basin S&G	2000 ewe/lamb	JUL 1 – OCT	6707
	4 horse/mule	10	13
76 Creek S&G	1100 ewe/lamb	JUL 1 – OCT	3689
	4 horse/mule	10	13
West Bruneau River S&G	4400 ewe/lamb	JUL 1 – OCT	14755
	4 horse/mule	10	13
Tennessee Mountain S&G	2675 ewe/lamb	JUL 1 – OCT	8970
	4 horse/mule	10	13
Term Private Land permit West Bruneau River	321 ewe/lamb	JUL 1 – OCT 10	1076
Term Private Land permit West Bruneau River (trailing)	321 ewe/lamb	JUN 18 – OCT 24	Maximum 3 d, Dates variable
Trailing	10,175 ewe/lamb	JUN 18 – OCT 24	Maximum 3 d, Dates variable
Bull Run C&H	525 yearlings	JUL 1 – SEP 30	1588

**COPPER BASIN S&G, 76 CREEK S&G, WEST BRUNEAU RIVER S&G, TENNESSEE MOUNTAIN S&G, BULL RUN C&H**



**AUTHORIZED USE**

Allotment	Area	Numbers/Class	Season of Use	Head Months
Copper Basin S&G	Copper Basin / Cottonwood	850 ewe/lamb	7/1-10/10	5701
	Copper Basin / Coon Creek	850 ewe/lamb		
	Copper Basin	4 horses		13
76 Creek S&G	76 Creek	800 ewe/lamb	7/1-10/10	2683
		2 horses		7
West Bruneau River S&G	Martin Creek / Sweet Creek: run band with Private Land Permit	500 ewe/lamb	7/1-10/10	1677
	Martin Creek / Badger Gulch	800 ewe/lamb		2683
	Martin Creek / Badger Gulch / Little Cottonwood area (N.Copper)	500 ewe/lamb		1677
	Private Land permit West Bruneau River (run as 1 band) with Martin Creek	321 ewe/lamb	7/1-10/10	1076
	Private Land permit West Bruneau River (trailing: cross Bruneau and come back for shipping)	321 ewe/lamb	6/18-10/24	Max 3 d
	West Bruneau River	6 horses	7/1-10/10	20
Wickiup S&G	Wickiup Creek / N. Copper	2000 drys	7/15-10/10	5786
		4 horses		12
Tennessee Mountain S&G	Slate Creek / West Tennessee Mountain	750 ewe/lambs	7/3-10/10	2466
	Tennessee Gulch / Coffeepot / Lost Gulch	700 ewe/lamb	7/1-10/10	2347
	Tennessee Mountain	5 horses	7/1-10/10	17
Bull Run C&H	N/A	525 yearlings	7/1-9/30	1588

A. Actual turn-on dates will depend upon range readiness.

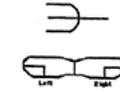
B. Authorized season of use dates are tentative, and actual moving times will depend upon forage and utilization levels.

- C. Grazing units will remain free of livestock before and after specified period of use. It is your responsibility to move your livestock when allowable use has been reached, even if this is prior to your scheduled move date.
- D. Complete livestock removal will be attained by the last date of the specified season unless modified by allowable use and/or the Forest Officer in charge.

**PERMITTED LIVESTOCK BRAND(S):**



*Pitchfork*



Location  
LH RH  
Cattle Horses

*Lazy Pitchfork*

**Ownership:** Cattle grazed under the Term Grazing Permit must be owned by the permittee of record and branded with brand(s) authorized by the permit.

**2015 ROTATION SCHEDULE:** *Deferred Rotation is used on these allotments by rotating clockwise/counterclockwise on alternate years.*

**76 Creek Band rotation:** *(counterclockwise)*

**Copper Basin Band rotation:** **Copper Basin/Cottonwood and Coon Creek** *(counterclockwise)*

**Tennessee Mountain Band rotation:** **Tennessee Gulch** *(clockwise)*  
**Slate Creek/West Tennessee Mountain** *(clockwise)*

**West Bruneau River Band rotation:** **Wickiup Creek** *(clockwise)*  
**Sweet Creek** *(counterclockwise)*  
**Martin Creek/Badger Gulch** *(clockwise)*  
**Martin Creek/Badger Gulch/Little Cottonwood area**  
**(N.Copper)** *(clockwise)*

**Trailing:**

Please notify us as to the exact dates before the trailing begins, duration of trailing is to be no more than 3 days per band. Return trailing will take a maximum of 3 days (trailing will begin approximately 6/27-6/28).

If the Bruneau River is too high when the band attempts to cross, you may bring them onto the Forest along the main Charleston/Jarbidge road to the allotment. When moving sheep from the West Bruneau River S&G allotment to the Coon Creek Unit of the Copper Basin S&G allotment, the band will be required to cross the allotments within a 2 day period. Band are not allowed to trail directly along the river. Trailing must occur away from the river and sheep will moved to higher ground at night.

- **76 Creek-** Sheep will trail from Prunty corral following the road North to 76 Creek.
- **Copper Basin-** Sheep will trail from Prunty corral and follow the road North to the Basin.
- **Copper Basin/Coon Creek-** Sheep will trail from Martin Creek to summit, and cross the Bruneau River North to Coon Creek.
- **West Bruneau River- Wickiup Creek-** Trail from Martin Creek to Martin Ridge to Summit

**Sweet Creek**-Trail from Martin Creek to summit, go South to Sweet Creek.

**Martin Creek/Badger Gulch**- Trail from Martin Creek summit, Southeast to Pine Mountain. Camp on summit; move camp every 4 days.

**Martin Creek/Badger Gulch/Little Cottonwood area (N.Copper)** - Trail West of Bruneau River, North of Prunty Ranch.

- **Tennessee Gulch**- Trail from Martin Creek ridge, camp on top of ridge, move North to Tennessee Mountain.
- **Slate Creek/West Tennessee Mountain**-Trail from Martin Creek, Northeast to Tennessee Mtn.

### **COMPLIANCE:**

Upon signature, these Annual Operating Instructions supplement and are part of your Term Grazing Permit #60136 consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a) of the General Provisions and Requirements. Please review your Term Grazing Permit prior to the 2015 grazing season and ask questions if any portion of these documents is unclear. Situations may develop during the grazing season, which require changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some parts of these instructions, contact the District Ranger and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions.

Your compliance with this instruction is essential for the proper management of National Forest System lands. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of your permit and this instruction will result in permit action, which can include suspension or cancellation of part or all of your Term Grazing Permit. All livestock must be removed from National Forest system lands within 72 hours of notification and controlled to prevent re-entry.

### **BILLING**

Grazing fees for 2014 are:

- Sheep-\$0.34 per head month and the unauthorized use fee is \$0.58 per head month.
- Cattle-\$1.69 per head month and the unauthorized use fee is \$2.89 per head month.

### **DUE DATE:**

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 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.

If you are required to delay turnout or leave the allotment early, you may request and be given credit against the next year's bill for collection for the unused head months. Requests need to be received by the end of the current years grazing season. The permittee will not be eligible for a credit if credit applications and grazing use records are received after December 31.

Livestock remaining on the National Forest System lands after the end of the authorized grazing season must be billed for at the unauthorized use rate, and may be cause for action to be taken against the grazing permit.

### **LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT:**

Grazing System: **Bull Run C&H**- *Seasonlong*

**West Bruneau River S&G, Copper Basin S&G, Tennessee Mountain S&G, and 76 Creek S&G:** *Deferred Rotation*

**STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES:**

Allowable use is the degree of grazing specified for a particular area and/or plant(s). Please review the following Utilization Standards table obtained from your permit prior to turning out as the use level stated is the maximum utilization allowed for the planned season of use.

You are responsible for determining when allowable use has been reached and for moving your livestock to the next unit in your rotation 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 identifying key areas, please do not hesitate to contact the District Rangeland Management Specialist.

**ALLOTMENT: COPPER BASIN S&G**

Management Category	Area Name	Key Species	Utilization**
Class II Riparian	Coon Creek Meadow Fork	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	45%
Class IV Riparian	Telephone Canyon Dead Horse Creek	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	55%
Upland Areas	All Units	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	60%
*Upland Browse	All Units	Shrubs/Aspen	50%
*Riparian Browse	All Streams, Springs, & Seeps	Shrubs/Willows	35%

**ALLOTMENT: 76 CREEK S&G**

Management Category	Area Name	Key Species	Utilization**
Class II Riparian	Seventy Six Creek	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	45%
Class III Riparian	Major Gulch Springs and Seeps***	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	55%
Class IV Riparian	Badger Creek	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	55%
Upland Areas	All Units	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	60%
*Upland Browse	All Units	Shrubs/Aspen	50%
*Riparian Browse	All Streams, Springs, & Seeps	Shrubs/Willows	35%

**ALLOTMENT: WEST BRUNEAU RIVER S&G**

Management Category	Area Name	Key Species	Utilization**
Class II Riparian	Meadow Creek Martin Creek Tennessee Gulch Springs & Seeps***	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	45%
Class III Riparian	Coffeepot Creek Badger Creek Rosebud Spring Complex Springs and Seeps***	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	55%
Class IV Riparian	Lost Gulch Trail Gulch Cornwall Creek	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	55%

Class V Riparian	Rocky Gulch Road Gulch	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	65%
Upland Areas	All Units	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	60%
*Upland Browse	All Units	Shrubs/Aspen	50%
*Riparian Browse	All Streams, Springs & Seeps	Shrubs/Willows	35%

**ALLOTMENT: TENNESSEE MOUNTAIN S&G**

Management Category	Area Name	Key Species	Utilization**
Class II Riparian	Tennessee Gulch Mill Creek Springs & Seeps***	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	45%
Class III Riparian	Big Bend Creek Coffeepot Creek Big Coffeepot Spring Springs and Seeps***	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	55%
Class IV Riparian	Tennell Creek Springs & Seeps***	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	55%
Class V Riparian	Lime Creek	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	65%
Upland Areas	All Units	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	60%
*Upland Browse	All Units	Shrubs/Aspen	50%
*Riparian Browse	All Streams, Springs & Seeps	Shrubs/Willows	35%

**ALLOTMENT: WICKIUP S&G**

Management Category	Area Name	Key Species	Utilization**
Class II Riparian	Coon Creek Springs & Seeps***	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	45%
Class III Riparian	Murphy Wash Red Bluff Wash Young American Creek Wickiup Creek Springs and Seeps***	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	55%
Class IV Riparian	Hoy Canyon	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	55%
Class V Riparian	John's Gulch	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	65%
Upland Areas	All Units	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	60%
*Upland Browse	All Units	Shrubs/Aspen	50%
*Riparian Browse	All Streams, Springs & Seeps	Shrubs/Willows	35%

**ALLOTMENT: NORTH COPPER S&G**

Management Category	Area Name	Key Species	Utilization**
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Class II Riparian	Coon Creek Miller (lower) Creek	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	45%
Class IV Riparian	Little Cottonwood Creek Miller (upper) Creek	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	55%
Upland Areas	All Units	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	60%
*Upland Browse	All Units	Shrubs/Aspen	50%
*Riparian Browse	All Streams, Springs & Seeps	Shrubs/Willows	35%

**ALLOTMENT: SOUTH COPPER S&G**

Management Category	Area Name	Key Species	Utilization**
Class II Riparian	Coon Creek Copper Creek	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	45%
Upland Areas	All Units	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	60%
*Upland Browse	All Units	Shrubs/Aspen	50%
*Riparian Browse	All Streams, Springs & Seeps	Shrubs/Willows	35%

**ALLOTMENT: COPPER BASIN S&G**

Management Category	Area Name	Key Species	Utilization**
Class II Riparian	Coon Creek Meadow Fork	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	45%
Class IV Riparian	Telephone Canyon Dead Horse Creek	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	55%
Upland Areas	All Units	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	60%
*Upland Browse	All Units	Shrubs/Aspen	50%
*Riparian Browse	All Streams, Springs & Seeps	Shrubs/Willows	35%

**ALLOTMENT: COPPER COTTONWOOD S&G**

Management Category	Area Name	Key Species	Utilization**
Class II Riparian	NF Cottonwood (lower) Creek Copper Creek Springs & Seeps***	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	45%
Class III Riparian	NF Cottonwood (upper) Creek SF Cottonwood Creek Deer Creek Springs & Seeps***	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	55%
Class IV Riparian	Fawn Gulch Fawn Creek	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	55%
Upland Areas	All Units	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	60%
*Upland Browse	All Units	Shrubs/Aspen	50%
*Riparian Browse	All Streams, Springs & Seeps	Shrubs/Willows	35%

**ALLOTMENT: BULL RUN C&H**

Management Category	Area Name	Key Species	Utilization**
Class II Riparian	Jack Creek	Desirable Grasses and	45%

	Chicken Creek Mill Creek Dorsey Creek Boyd Creek	Forbs	
Class III Riparian	Coffin Creek Schoonover Creek	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	55%
Class IV Riparian	Ott Creek Deep Creek	Desirable Grasses and Forbs	55%
Upland Areas	All Units	Bluebunch Wheatgrass Idaho Fescue	35%
*Upland Browse	All Units	Shrubs/Aspen	50%
*Riparian Browse	All Streams, Springs & Seeps	Shrubs/Willows	35%

**RANGE IMPROVEMENTS:**

Range improvements listed in your permit must be maintained to the standards identified in part three of your Term Grazing Permit prior to livestock entering the allotment(s). Improvements used in common will be maintained before either permittee is scheduled to turn-on. If the allotment is in non-use status, the permittee is still responsible for assigned improvement maintenance.

Please be aware that it is necessary to plan projects with at least one-year lead-time to allow for the required documentation and clearances. Please work with the Rangeland Management Specialist to develop a schedule for large projects.

**PERMITTEE INSTRUCTIONS:**

**Herder management practices:** The permittee is responsible to ensure the herders understand the standards, guidelines, and herding practices outlined in the grazing permit and the direction outlined in these instructions. All trailing will be within the approved season of use, be along varied routes, and kept to a minimum.

Graze the allotment using open herding in a once over pattern. Do not bed or noon sheep in aspen stands or in the same place more than once during the grazing season. Do not bed or noon sheep within 200 feet from water or meadows. Salt must be placed at least 200 yards from water, meadows, trails, and roads used by the public.

Herder's camps must be kept clean at all times. All garbage and debris associated with managing your sheep on the National Forest must be removed. Dead sheep must be moved at least 100 yards from water, roads and trails. If your herders spot a wild fire please report it to the Interagency Dispatch Center in Elko.

**Salt and Supplement Placement:** Place salt or supplement at least 200 yards from water sources and away from trailheads, roads, and key areas. Place salt in areas lightly grazed to encourage an even distribution of utilization on the range. Salt will be removed from areas where maximum allowable use levels have been reached or at the end of the grazing season. Salt fed in loose form shall be contained in an approved receptacle that will keep it from spilling onto the ground. Unless otherwise agreed to by the Forest Officer, salt or supplement shall be removed from a pasture when the livestock are removed.

**Disposal of Dead Livestock:** Dead livestock must be moved at least 300 feet from any water source, out of view of roads or trails, and away from any areas of significant public use.

**Noxious Weeds/Invasive Species:** By USDA order 04-00-097, all non-pelletized hay, straw, or mulch possessed, stored, or transported on National Forest System Lands, in individual bales or containers, must be tagged or marked as noxious weed free, or must have the original and current evidence of noxious weed free certification documentation present. All markings must meet the State and/or county standards for certification as noxious weed free.

If livestock are being fed hay prior to coming on to the Forest, please see to it that they are fed weed free hay at least 2 days prior to entering the Forest.

Any equipment used in the transport of livestock, including horse trailers and stock trucks, should be washed before coming onto the allotment if they have been used in areas where noxious weeds are present. Your assistance in locating noxious weed sites and reporting them to your Forest Officer is greatly appreciated. If you are able and willing to assist in treating noxious weeds, please work with your Forest Officer to determine how best to help.

**REQUIRED REPORTING:**

Enclosed is a Grazing Use Record for the upcoming season. Please use this form to record the dates livestock spend on the allotment as well as other information such as livestock loss, grazing use, resource concerns, improvement needs/maintenance costs, etc. The grazing use record should be submitted to the district office by December 31, 2015.

**COORDINATION & COOPERATION:**

If you spot a wildfire, report it immediately to the interagency dispatch center in Elko, NV at (775)748-4000.

**NONUSE:**

As a reminder, requests for nonuse of term grazing permits for personal convenience must be made annually by the permittee in writing sufficiently in advance of the start of the permitted grazing season (normally 30 days). Full or partial permittee convenience nonuse may be approved for no more than three consecutive years and not more than four years in any ten year period.

As the term permit holder, you are responsible for the maintenance on all assigned improvements on your permitted allotments during the nonuse period.

**MAPS, FORMS, & ATTACHMENTS:**

You will find attached to your AOI a Grazing Use Record, Annual Bill, and Allotment map(s).

**NOTICE:**

The permittee will provide the Mountain City Ranger District with notification of any changes or deviation he or she wishes to make in these Annual Operating Instructions. This includes changes in animal numbers, class of livestock, period of use (changes in entry or exit dates from unit to unit), or changes in pasture rotation. No changes in these instructions will be recognized without this verification.

We look forward to working with you and solicit your cooperation and involvement in bringing about sound range and livestock management practices that will enhance all of the allotment resources. If you have any ideas or suggestions that will improve the management of the allotment, we would like to hear from you. Please keep us posted about activities and conditions on the allotment. If you have any questions or concerns regarding management, please do not hesitate to contact the Rangeland Management Specialist at (775)778-6166.

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Permittee

Date

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_/s/ Kathryn W. Fuell \_\_\_\_\_  
District Ranger Date

Enclosures: Bill for Collection, Grazing Use Record, Allotment Maps