Timber Gulch Cattle & Horse Allotment
Mountain City Ranger District
Humbolt-Toiyabe National Forest

2015 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

PERMITTEE: Estella or Ray Morse
PERMIT #: 60111; expires 12/31/2015

The following are your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Timber Gulch C&H grazing allotment. 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:

TIMBER GULCH C&H
PERMITTED USE

Allotment	Numbers/Class	Season of Use	Head Months
Timber Gulch C&H	40 c/c	4/1-12/31	362
	5 horses	4/1-5/31	10
	5 horses	11/1-11/30	5

Bulls count as part of your permitted numbers.

TIMBER GULCH C&H
AUTHORIZED USE

Allotment	Number/Class	Season of Use	Head Months
Timber Gulch C&H	54 c/c	*4/25-9/25	273
		10/10-12/01	94
	5 horses	**4/25 – 6/25	10

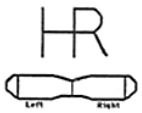
A. *Actual turn-on dates will depend upon range readiness. **Horses will be placed in allotment for 60 days during the grazing season.

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):



Location

LH LST

Cattle Horses

HR Combined

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.

COMPLIANCE:

Upon signature, these Annual Operating Instructions supplement and are part of your Term Grazing Permit #60111 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 in 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 2015 are $1.69 per head month and the unauthorized use fee is 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.

Extensions of the authorized and paid for grazing season, if desired, must be requested at least 21 days in advance of the off date to allow time for inspection, billing and subsequent payment of additional grazing fees.

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: Season-long

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 cattle 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 Rangeland Management Specialist.

STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES:

ALLOTMENT: TIMBER GULCH C&H

Category	Area Name	Key Species	Utilization**
Class II	Trail Creek Hutch Creek Timber Gulch	Desirable Grasses and Sedges	35%
Class IV	Spring Creek Twin Creek	Desirable Grasses and Sedges	50%
Class V	Maggie Gulch Alexander Creek	Desirable Grasses and Sedges	55%
Uplands	All Units	Bluebunch wheatgrass Idaho Fescue	55%
*Upland Browse	All Units	Aspen	50%
*Riparian Browse	All Streams	Willows	35%

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS:
Range improvements listed in your permit must be maintained to standards listed in part three of your Term Grazing Permit prior to livestock entering the allotment(s). The following table lists improvements on your allotment(s) as identified in part three your Term Grazing Permit-Responsibilities for Construction and Maintenance of Structural Improvements or for Range Rehabilitation.

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 the Rangeland Management Specialist to develop a schedule for large projects.

PERMITTEE INSTRUCTIONS:
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:
Enclosed you will also find a Grazing Use Record form, Bill for Collection, and Allotment map.

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.

Prepared by: _____
Rangeland Management Specialist Date

Signed by: _____
Permittee Date

Approved by: _____/s/ Kathryn W. Fuell_____
District Ranger Date

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