USDA United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest

Santa Rosa Ranger District
1200 East Winnemucca Boulevard
Winnemucca, NV 89445
775-623-5025

File Code: 2210; 2230
Date: May 1, 2015

Peter Ferraro
Five Finger Grazing Association
P.O. Box 130
Paradise Valley, NV 89426

Dear Peter,

This letter documents your meeting with Boyd Hatch, held April 15, 2015, and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the 2015 summer grazing season. The District Ranger must approve any changes to this AOI.

The grazing system on this allotment is a combination of rest and deferred rotation. The scheduled dates of use are flexible, but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made to the dates shown below. If utilization levels are reached prior to these dates, livestock need to be moved to the next unit or off the Forest to keep from exceeding utilization.

PARADISE C&H
PERMITTED USE

Allotment	Class	Number	Season
Paradise C&H	c/c	500	5/21 - 8/31

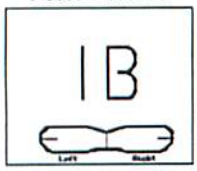
PARADISE C&H
AUTHORIZED USE 335 C/C

UNITS	Number	Season
Able Riparian	370	5/21 – 6/1
Trail through Able Seeding Unit	370	6/2 – 6/8
Singas	370	6/9 – 7/9
Able Seeding	370	7/10 – 8/10
Able	370	8/11 – 8/31
Stonehouse	Rest	
Wash O'Neal	Rest	
Provo	Rest	

I approve resource protection non-use of 130 c/c for the Paradise allotment due to the prolonged drought. It is critical that you intensively manage cattle this year to encourage even distribution of use. Riparian areas will need extra monitoring and when utilization is met, livestock will need to be moved to the next pasture or off the allotment.

Permitted Livestock Brands:

Five Fingers Assoc.
Peter Ferraro



Location LH

COMPLIANCE:
This AOI is made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). 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.

BILLING:
Grazing fees remained unchanged from last year. The fee is $1.69 per head month. You are able to pay your bill by check or money order sent to 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.

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.

RIPARIAN SITES:

AREA	PERCENT ALLOWABLE USE
Lower Abel Creek Riparian Pasture Upper Abel Creek, and within 300 ft. of Category 1 seeps and springs	**35%** use of grasses, rushes and sedges.
Singus Creek, Morey Creek, Wash O' Neal, Provo, upland riparian inside wilderness, and within 300 ft. of Category 2 seeps and springs	**45%** use of grasses, rushes and sedges.
Category 3 Stonehouse Creek, upland riparian outside the wilderness, and within 300 ft. of Category 3 seeps and springs	**60%** use of grasses, rushes and sedges.

UPLAND SITES:

AREA	PERCENT ALLOWABLE USE
All upland sites not listed	**65%** use of key species mountain brome, bluebunch wheatgrass, Idaho fescue, squirreltail.
Abel Creek (upper and lower)	**50%** use of key species mountain brome, bluebunch wheatgrass, Idaho fescue, squirreltail
Abel Seeding	**50%** use of crested and intermediate wheatgrass, bluebunch wheatgrass, and Idaho fescue
Upland Browse	**50%** of current year's growth snowberry, serviceberry, mahogany, bitterbrush

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 2015 grazing season by November 30, 2015.

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.

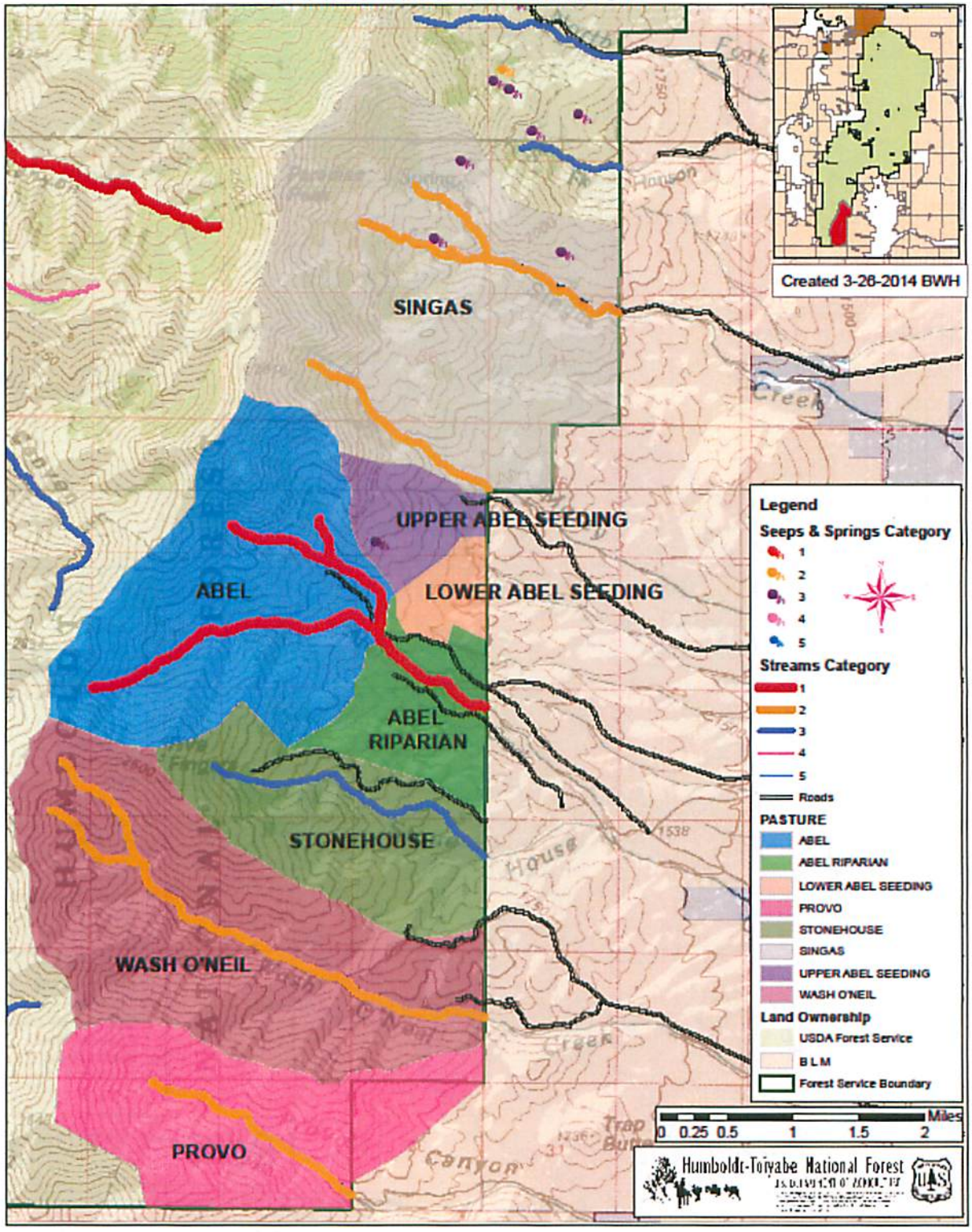
If you have any questions or concerns this grazing season, please call Boyd at (775) 623-5025 x 119.

Sincerely,

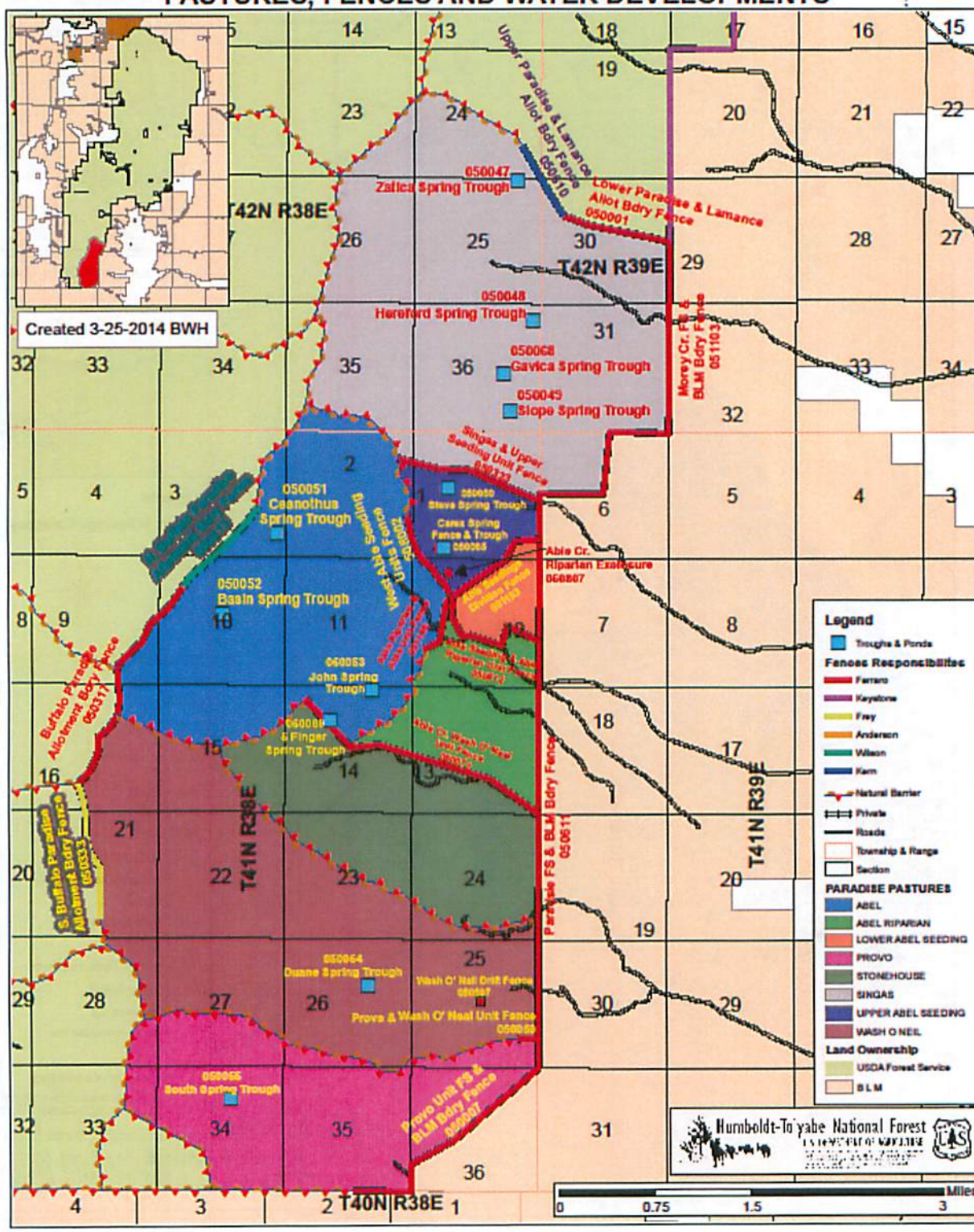
JOSEPH GARROTTO
District Ranger

cc: file

PARADISE C&H ALLOTMENT
AMENDMENT 2 STANDARDS MAP



PARADISE C&H ALLOTMENT
PASTURES, FENCES AND WATER DEVELOPMENTS



ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

2015

PARADISE C&H

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.