

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

FLAT TOP

2009

RICHFIELD RANGER DISTRICT

FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST

On-Date

Grazing for the 2009 season will begin on or near June 15, depending on vegetative conditions.

Grazing Sequence and Utilization Levels

Grazing for the 2009 season and utilization levels as required by the Fishlake National Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines will be as follows;

Early Unit;

East side of Flat Top 45% total forage, 70% key species

Rested Unit;

West side of Flat Top

Late Unit;

Poison Unit 37% total forage, 60% key species (after seedripe)

When the proper utilization levels are achieved on the early unit cattle will be moved to the late unit. The dixie harrow project will be completed this spring on your lower range, you are requested to keep your cattle off of this area so that the vegetation will have an opportunity to develop.

Riparian and Browse Utilization Levels, Utilization in riparian areas will be limited to the following:

Riparian hydric species will be limited to a 4, inch stubble height.

Kentucky bluegrass will be limited to a 1 ½, inch stubble height.

40 percent of current years available twigs removed on sprouts and young aged plants.

50 percent of current years available twigs removed on mature browse.

Riparian areas will receive considerable attention over the next few years. We need to work together to ensure these areas are not over utilized.

Grazing Permit Part 3 Requirements

The permittee is responsible for maintenance of all improvements on the allotment. Before allowing livestock to enter a unit of the allotment, the permittee shall ensure that all structural improvements of that unit are in operative condition. The permittee shall maintain the operative condition of the improvements while livestock are present. The following specifications are part of these maintenance responsibilities:

Water Troughs. All water troughs or open water tanks must be modified to allow safe access to and from the water by mammals and birds.

Fences. All wire fences shall be maintained at a top wire height not to exceed 42 inches measured at the post.

Any improvements, which are no longer functional and/or no longer needed will be removed from the allotment by the permittee. Please report removal of any improvements to the District Ranger annually.

Salt and other dietary supplements shall not be placed within one-half mile of riparian areas, water troughs, ponds, or tanks; within one-fourth mile of roads or camping spots which have evidence of frequent use; or within tree plantations.

Dead livestock shall be moved at least one-fourth mile away from roads, water sources, and camping spots, which have evidence of use.

All garbage resulting from activities associated with this permit by depositing it into receptacles or at places provided for such purposes.

General Information

We are hoping that salting and watering will keep the cattle in the proper unit on the north end. With the dixie harrow work that was completed on the top of the allotment we request that you again keep the cattle off so the new seedlings can get established.

Grazing Fees

All grazing fees must be paid prior to entry of livestock on the allotment. Since the payment will be sent to Los Angeles we suggest you send it thirty days before the on-date so this office will receive confirmation of your payment. After this office has received confirmation that your fee has been paid you will receive a letter from the District Ranger giving you permission to enter the allotment. We will no longer be able to accept grazing payments at this office.

Cooperation

We appreciate working with your association, and look forward to working with you this summer. If you have any questions please contact District Ranger Fred Houston, Vince Pace, or Bob Tuttle at the District office, 115 East 900 North, Richfield, phone 896-9233.

FRED HOUSTON
District Ranger