

# ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

## NIOTCHE CREEK

2009

### RICHFIELD RANGER DISTRICT

### FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST

#### **On-Date**

Grazing for the 2009 season will begin on or near June 25, 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;

Cattle will be turned on the lower range and move up as the season progresses utilization levels will be as follows;

27% total forage, 50% key species, before seedripeness.

37% total forage, 60% key species, after seedripeness.

#### **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 1/2, 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**

Remember that all cattle should be removed by the off-date. If special needs are required in removal of your cattle due to the start of the elk hunt we can work this out up front.

### **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 thirty days before the on-date so this office will receive confirmation of your payment. Once we have received confirmation of your payment the District Ranger will send you a letter granting permission to enter the allotment. We will no longer be able to accept grazing payments at this office.

### **Cooperation**

We appreciate working with you, 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