

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

WILLOW CREEK

2009

RICHFIELD RANGER DISTRICT

FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST

On-Date

Grazing for the 2009 season will begin on or near June 16. If the development of the grass is delayed or slowed then we will need to look at entrance on a later date.

If utilization levels are met in each unit prior to the end of the grazing season, the cattle will be removed from the allotment in a timely manner. A timely manner will be between 5 days to 2 weeks' from the time of notice from this office.

Grazing Sequence and Utilization Levels

Grazing sequence for the 2008 season and utilization levels as required by the Fishlake National Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines will be as follows;

Units;

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Jacks Flat/Anthony | 45% total forage, 70% key species |
| Ranger Pasture | 45% total forage, 70% key species |
| Clear Creek (after seedripe) | 55% total forage, 80% key species |

Rested Unit;

Cove

Utilization will be the key to movement of the livestock. When the above figures are met then the cattle will be moved into the next unit.

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.

A 1½ inch stubble height of Kentucky bluegrass.

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 the allotment, the permittee shall ensure that “all” structural improvements of your first two units, Jacks Flat, and the Ranger Pasture, are in operative condition. This includes all fences and water troughs in these units. 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 ask that you continue to help with the musk thistle and white top problems on the allotment. We will continue to spray the allotment, however if you find infestations please inform us so these areas can be treated.

Tagging

All cattle must be tagged before they enter the allotment. If you need replacement tags please call and we can have the tags ready for you to pick up at your convenience.

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 conformation of your payment. When we have received conformation from Los Angeles that your payment has been received then each permittee will receive a letter from the District

Ranger granting 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