

Annual Operating Instructions

2016

Cottonwood Allotment

Beaver RD, Fishlake NF

Keith H. Anderton

Permittee- Keith & Pamela Anderton

4-4-16

Date

Kathleen Johnson

**Kathleen Johnson
District Ranger**

4-4-16

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2016
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This AOI is made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). Situations may develop during the grazing season which requires changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some or part of these instructions, contact the District Ranger and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions. Failure to follow these instructions is a violation of your permit.

| Permittee | Ear Tag Color & #'s | Permitted* | | | Authorized** | | |
|--|------------------------|------------|----------|-------------|--------------|----------|------------|
| | | Number | Class | Season | Number | Class | Season |
| Keith and Pamela Anderton | 01-30 | 30 | Cow/calf | 06/01-07/31 | 30 | Cow/calf | 6/1 - 7/31 |
| <small>*Permitted use is the livestock numbers and season of use listed on your grazing permit. **Authorized use is the number of livestock and season of use you are authorized for in the current grazing season and reflects stocking and/or season of use adjustments for the given year.</small> | | | | | | | |

Non-use: Livestock did not utilize the Cottonwood Allotment during 2015. You MUST apply for non-use if you're not planning on not running livestock. Non-Use for Personal Convenience must be applied for annually, not exceed 3 consecutive years and will not be authorized for more than 4 years in 10. Non-Use of 14 head will be taken for personal convenience during 2015.

Please be aware that nonuse in excess of 10% of your permitted numbers must be requested at least 30 days before the "on" date. Nonuse for personal convenience may be approved on a year-to-year basis for a maximum of three consecutive years and not more than four years in any 10-year period. Longer periods of nonuse for range protection will only be approved under a written agreement.

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

Grazing Schedule

| Unit (Pasture) | Tentative Dates* | Days/Unit | Number of Livestock |
|------------------|------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| Cottonwood Creek | 6/1 - 7/15 | 45 | 30 |

*The above schedule is an **estimate** and may be modified at any time if: utilization levels are met, water availability is inadequate, drought, delayed forage development or wet soil conditions.

Forest is concerned about this past winter's moisture and pending drought. A drought advisory letter may be issued to all permittees this year.

Allowable use levels are more important than tentative dates listed above. If allowable use levels are met early in the scheduled pasture, cattle will be required to be moved to another area of the pasture, moved to another pasture, or removed from the Forest. If early pasture moves occur, District range personnel or the District Ranger must be notified. Delayed pasture moves must be coordinated with District range personnel or the District Ranger prior to the scheduled move date.

Type of rotation: Deferred Rotation

All livestock must be removed from the Forest by the permitted off date listed above.

Previous year's grazing results: Range readiness conducted on the allotment prior to livestock turn out. Utilization and key area selected and monitored in the fall. No livestock sign or use present on the allotment for the 2014 grazing season.

| Allunite Pasture | % use | Key speices | UTMs |
|------------------|-------|---------------------|-----------------|
| CW-AP-01 | N/A | BRIN (smooth brome) | 390989, 4247844 |

Because livestock use did not occur in 2015 only photographs on key areas occurred. Range readiness as well as compliance inspections will occur again in 2016.

Notice of Non-compliance/Suspension Actions: None.

Additional instructions: Just a reminder that if you decide to not run livestock to inform the forest. Also ensure that livestock from neighboring allotments don't gain access to your allotment. If you see trespass livestock on your allotment please notify Reggie Swenson or myself at 435-438-2436.

UTILIZATION STANDARDS & MONITORING

Maximum Allowable Forage Use Criteria

| Vegetation Type | Stubble Height/Use | Comments |
|--|---|--|
| Riparian Hydric Species | 4" | Triggers the time to move livestock between units or off the allotment. |
| Riparian Emphasis Management Areas | 6" | Triggers the time to move livestock between units or off the allotment. |
| Non-hydric sod forming grass species in riparian areas | 1.5" | Primarily Kentucky bluegrass-Triggers the time to move livestock between units or off the allotment. |
| Wheatgrass seedings | 60% | Management option to exceed 60% use to maintain healthy seedings. |
| Riparian/upland browse: Sprouts and young-aged plants | ≤40% | # of current year's available twigs removed. |
| Riparian/upland mature browse | ≤50% | # of current year's available twigs removed. |
| Upland grass/forb | 40-60% of key species; varies by grazing system and desired condition | % of current year's growth. |
| Riparian ground cover | Maintain ground cover of at least 70% within riparian areas. | |

The above utilization standards take precedence over the tentative dates listed in the grazing schedule. You are responsible to monitor your livestock and comply with the listed utilization standards and to move livestock prior to any of the above standards being exceeded. Maximum allowable use for the Cottonwood Allotment is 50% of current year's growth on upland key species.

Compliance monitoring inspections will be conducted by Forest Service personnel throughout the grazing season in key areas across the allotment. You are invited and it is recommended that you participate in these inspections.

Exceeding the utilization standards may be considered as non-compliance with your Term Grazing Permit and may be subject to suspension or cancellation of the permit.

Additional instructions: None.

BILLING

Your annual grazing bill must be paid and notification received in our office prior to turning livestock onto the National Forest. It may take 10 days or more from the time you mail your payment until we receive payment notification so plan accordingly.

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

You are responsible for maintaining the range improvements assigned to you in Part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit. All improvements are to be maintained to standard prior to livestock entering the pasture, even in the event of non-use. Standards are found in your Term Grazing Permit or at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/fishlake/resources/rangemgt.shtml> . Livestock entry onto the Forest may be delayed if improvements are not maintained to acceptable standards.

Scheduled reconstruction for upcoming season: ¼ mile of fencing needs to be constructed along the northern boundary of the allotment. This fence will stop livestock from gaining access to the Marysvale Allotment. The forest will provide material. Permittee is responsible to construct the ¼ mile of fence.

The Forest Service started the redevelopment of Cottonwood Spring during the summer of 2015. This redevelopment will include a new protective fence around the spring, installation of new collection boxes, new pipe to the two troughs, replacement of the two trough, and installation of floats and valves to ensure pipeline can be turned off and drained when not in use. The forest will provide all materials. Labor to reconstruct the spring fence will be coordinated with the Utah Division of Natural Resources (Dedicated Hunters).

You must obtain prior written approval from the District Ranger before constructing/installing structural range improvements or using or applying any pesticide/herbicide except for personal use of insect repellent.

Any improvement, which is no longer functional or no longer needed, will be removed from the allotment by the permittee. The removal of any improvement must have prior approval by the District Ranger.

Failure to maintain your assigned range improvements may be considered as non-compliance with your Term Grazing Permit and may be subject to suspension or cancellation of your permit.

Additional instructions: None.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

You or the association will furnish sufficient riders or herders for proper distribution, protection and management of livestock on the allotment as required by the Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and/or Annual Operating Instructions (AOI).

You are required to submit actual use information for the allotment. Please complete the enclosed form and return it to the district office within two weeks of removal of livestock from the Forest.

Salt and other dietary supplements are a distribution tool, and as such, should not be placed within ¼ mile of riparian areas, water troughs and ponds; within 200 ft. of designated roads, trails, trail heads or camping spots which have frequent use. Avoid salting in or near tree plantations or regenerating aspen stands. Exceptions to these standards must have prior approval.

Salt will be moved from areas where feed has been used to standards.

The Fishlake National Forest Travel Plan must be followed while managing livestock unless approved in advance and in writing by the District Ranger.

Livestock should be drifted instead of trailed wherever possible. Previously grazed units must have all livestock removed from them.

All livestock feed or straw brought onto the Forest must be certified weed free per Regional Forester's Order #04-00-058, dated March 26, 1996 (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/fishlake/resources/rangemgt.shtml>).

Dead livestock shall be moved at least ¼ mile from roads, water sources, and camping spots, which have evidence of frequent use.

All garbage resulting from activities associated with this permit shall be removed from National Forest lands and disposed of properly.

Additional instructions: Adequate livestock control on the allotment is becoming a more difficult task each year. It is in your best interest to frequently check gates within the pastures and ensure they are closed as needed. Report all situations to the Forest where livestock gain access to incorrect pastures as you become aware of them. When moving livestock from one pasture to another (or off the allotment) it is expected that the pasture be clean of livestock within 5 days of the initial move.

ACTUAL USE, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE 2016 GRAZING SEASON

Allotment: Cottonwood Creek

Permittee: Keith & Pamela Anderton

| Pasture | Sequence | Entry Date | Exit Date | No. Of Cattle |
|---------|----------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

I maintained the following improvements this year: _____

Material Cost \$ _____ Labor Cost \$ _____

Number of days spent managing the Allotment: _____

Death Loss: _____ Cows, _____ Calves. Caused by: Poisonous plants _____
Disease _____

Comments: _____

Return form at end of Grazing Season

Return form to: District Ranger
PO Box E
Beaver, Utah 84713