

Uinta-Watach-Cache National Forest - Spanish Fork Ranger District
WEST COTTONWOOD ALLOTMENT
ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS
2016



PERMITTED USE

Permittee	FS Permitted Use	BLM Permitted Use	Authorized Use	Brand	Brand Location
Randy L. and Margaret H. Allinson	20 cow/calf 05/15 to 10/15	8 cow/calf	28 cow/calf 05/01 to 10/31	V4	RR
James R. Gowans Living Trust	55 cow/calf 05/15 to 10/15	20 cow/calf	75 cow/calf 05/01 to 10/31	69	LH
Onaqui Land and Cattle LLC	55 cow/calf 05/15 to 10/15	20 cow/calf	75 cow/calf 05/01 to 10/31	D	LH or RH
Total	130 cow/calf	48 cow/calf	178 cow/calf		

GRAZING ROTATION

The West Cottonwood Allotment has seven pastures. The Lower Oak Brush 7, Upper Oak Brush 7, Cottonwood 8 and South 10 pastures are on the Forest Service. The Upper Cottonwood 1, Lower Cottonwood 1 and South 2 pastures are on the BLM. Oak Brush 7 Pastures and Cottonwood 1 Pastures are managed together. The allotment is managed with a five pasture modified rest rotation. Three pastures are grazed and two pastures are rested each season. The number of grazing days has been modified temporarily from 05/15 to 05/01 and from 10/15 to 10/31 to facilitate studies for a proposed increase as the result of past wildfires. In addition, the rotation has been modified to rest the Upper Oak brush 7 Pastures that was burned in two separate wildfires in 2014. The grazing rotation for the 2016 season is listed below:

Unit	Livestock Numbers	Dates of Use*	Days
Lower Oak Brush 7	178 cow/calf	05/01 to 06/09	40
Upper Cottonwood 1	178 cow/calf	06/10 to 07/19	40
South 10	178 cow/calf	07/20 to 08/28	40
Cottonwood 8	178 cow/calf	08/29 to 10/07	40
Lower Cottonwood 1	178 cow/calf	10/08 to 10/31	24
Upper Oak Brush 7	REST	REST	
South 2	REST	REST	0
Total	178 cow/calf pairs		184

**The above rotation dates are flexible based on utilizations listed below.*



FOREST PLAN AND ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN REQUIREMENTS

The Uinta National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, which was approved in 2003 and the allotment management plan for the West Cottonwood Allotment which was approved on October 10, 1995 list the following standards, guidelines and objectives:

Upland Forage Utilization

Standard: Limit grazing to meet the following utilization levels on non-riparian vegetation types based on the annual average of the current year’s growth.

Forage Utilization Standards

Vegetation Type	Forage Utilization	
	Very Early – Early Seral	Mid – Late Seral
General Uplands and Winter Range		
Upland shrublands (sagebrush, snowberry, mountain mahogany species, cliffrose, bitterbrush, saltbrush, and mountain brush)	40%	60%
Grasslands	45%	65%

Riparian Forage Utilization

Standard: Limit grazing to meet the following utilization levels within Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA) based on the average current year’s growth.

Utilization Standards by RHCA Class

RHCA Class	Minimum Percent of Stream Length	Utilization Standard by Season of Use	
		Very Early – Early	
		Early	Late
Minimum Greenline Stubble Height¹			
Class III	70%	3”	4”
Forage Utilization Limits²			
Class III	70%	60%	50%
Willow Utilization²			
Class III	70%	N/A	35%

Note: There are no willow utilization standards for early season use.

¹ Height of key species (palatable, hydrophytic species indicative of mid to late seral riparian plant communities, or as indicated in the site-specific Allotment Management Plan). If acceptable “key species” are absent from a site, only utilization standards shall be used.

² Percent of total average annual growth.

It is the permittee’s responsibility to make sure allowable use standards are not exceeded, especially in riparian areas. Permittees are encouraged to herd cattle away from riparian areas since they are



generally the first areas utilized. If use along riparian areas reaches Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines, even if forage remains on the uplands, permittees will be required to remove cattle from the entire pasture or allotment. Use of the rest pasture will not be allowed.

Riparian Habitat Conservation Area (RHCA)

Portions of *watersheds* where *riparian*-dependent resources receive primary emphasis and management activities are subject to specific standards and guidelines. RHCAs include traditional *riparian* corridors, *wetlands*, *perennial* and *intermittent* streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic *ecosystems*. There are three RHCA classes of varying widths offering varying levels of protection: class I with widths extending 300 feet from each edge of the waterbody (600 feet total); class II with widths extending 200 feet from each edge of the waterbody (400 feet total); and class III with widths extending 100 feet from each edge of the waterbody (200 feet total).

Additional Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines

Guideline: Maintain adequate ground cover to filter runoff and prevent detrimental erosion in Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAs).

Riparian Habitat Conservation Area (RHCA) Ground Cover Requirements

RHCA	Minimum Ground Cover Requirement	Minimum Percent of RHCA to Meet Requirement
Class III	80% of Potential	70%

Standard: Locate livestock salt grounds outside of Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAs).

Standard: Locate new livestock troughs, tanks, and holding facilities out of Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAs). For existing livestock handling facilities inside RHCAs, assure that facilities do not prevent attainment of aquatic Forest Plan management direction. Modify, relocate, or close existing facilities where aquatic Forest Plan management direction cannot be met.

Guideline: Minimize trailing livestock through Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAs). Close or relocate livestock driveways to minimize impacts to RHCAs.

Guideline: Subject to valid existing rights, free-flowing water and associated riparian vegetation communities should be retained at developed spring sites. If possible, existing spring developments should be modified to return water to riparian ecosystems within the source drainage.

Guideline: Avoid equipment operation in stream courses, open water, seeps, or springs. If use of equipment in such areas is required, impacts should be minimized.

Guideline: Limit equipment operation in Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAs). If the use of equipment in these areas is required, incorporate additional mitigation to minimize adverse impacts.

Guideline: Implement intensive grazing management that provides periodic rest designed to achieve and maintain desired vegetation community composition and structure.



Guideline: Maintain at least 70 percent of potential effective ground cover to provide nutrient cycling and protect the soil from erosion in excess of soil loss tolerance limits.

Standard: Provide wildlife escape ramps in all developed water sources.

Guideline: Provide for wildlife movement through and/or around structures or project sites such as fences, spring developments, guzzlers, roads, and ditches.

Guideline: Defer livestock grazing in areas disturbed by wildland fire or other natural events until vegetation has reestablished sufficiently, but for no less than two growing seasons.

Standard: Only certified noxious weed-free hay or feed is allowed on National Forest land, including hay or feed for use by recreational livestock. Any materials such as hay, straw, or mulch that are used for rehabilitation and reclamation activities shall be certified weed-free.

Allotment Management Plan Objectives

Reach at least the mid-seral ecological status on all vegetative sites including uplands and riparian areas.

Other Requirements

Actual Use: Please complete the enclosed actual use record form at the close of the grazing season and return to the Spanish Fork Ranger District before December 1.

Salt: Salt will be used as a tool to improve livestock distribution. Place salt where use is light, such as ridge tops and areas away from water. Avoid stock tanks, wet meadows, and creek bottoms. Place salt away from roads and developed trails.

State Livestock Health Laws: All owners of livestock must comply with state livestock health laws.

Dead Livestock: Livestock which die within 100 yards of public roads or live water will be disposed of in a manner approved by the District Ranger or his/her representative.

Off Road Vehicle Use: Off road vehicle use for reconstruction or maintenance of range improvements (when hauling materials only) listed in these operating instructions is hereby authorized. ATV's or trucks can be used to check water. ATV's or trucks can be used to haul salt on system and non-system roads or trails. No new trails or roads can be made. Use of off road vehicles is limited to periods of time when weather and ground conditions are such that rutting and soil movement will not occur. Any other off road vehicle use shall be approved in advance (location and time) by the District Ranger or his/her representative. Absent this approval, travel restrictions described in the Forest Supervisors Order of May 27, 2005 and in the Uinta National Forest Summer Travel Map (2007) apply.

Payment of Fees: The permittee will not allow owned or controlled livestock to be on Forest Service-administered lands unless the fees specified in the Bill for Collection are paid.



Compliance: The permittee is responsible for compliance with the terms and conditions of the grazing permit, allotment management plan, operating instructions and the directions of the Forest Officer in charge. Failure to meet these terms and conditions is violation of the grazing permit.

SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

- ✓ Onaqui Land and Cattle will maintain their portion of the allotment boundary fence between the West Cottonwood and Onaqui Allotments before their cattle can be placed on the allotment. The Forest will inspect the fence.
- ✓ The permittees will replace the fiberglass trough in Upper Oak Brush 7 that was destroyed by wildfire. The Forest Service will provide the material. If this trough is not installed this year, it will go to another allotment.
- ✓ The permittees will replace the South Oak brush Pipeline Trough #9 (Lime Tank) with two new 12 foot round fiberglass troughs. One will be located in the Lower Oak Brush 7 pasture and one will be located in the South 10 pasture. They should be at least 100 feet from the fence. The fence where the old trough is should be repaired to standard by the permittees. The Forest Service will provide the material. If these troughs are not installed this year, they will go to another allotment.
- ✓ Hopefully the BLM will repair the South Pine Spring this year, repair Skunky Spring and put a new valve in the main South Oak brush Pipeline at the Black Crook pipeline junction.
- ✓ The permittees will reinforce fences with pine poles where troughs are located. The Forest Service will supply the material (approximately 20, 21-foot poles).
- ✓ The permittees have removed all the abandoned troughs from the Forest except the one left in South 10. They will do that this summer.
- ✓ The Forest Service, BLM and permittees will work with GIP (Grazing Improvement Program) to fund the installment of new cattle guards at the fence between Upper and Lower Cottonwood 1 and the fence between Upper and Lower Oak Brush 7. A new larger cattleguard is also needed to replace the eight foot cattleguard at the Forest Boundary.

MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

The permittee is responsible for all improvements assigned in the term grazing permits and listed in these operating instructions. Maintenance shall mean the timely repair of management facilities to a condition adequate to perpetuate the life of the facility and to serve the purpose intended. All improvements will be maintained to the standard for which they were constructed. Maintenance includes permittee responsibility for furnishing the materials needed for repairs. Allotment boundary fences must be maintained before cattle enter the allotment. Pasture division fences and water developments must be maintained before cattle can enter each pasture. Improvements will be maintained to the following standards:

Posts, Poles and Bucks

Replace broken or rotten posts, bucks, brace poles and poles



Notch poles and attach to posts or bucks with spikes
Straighten and re-tamp loose wood brace and line posts
Straighten or replace bent steel posts

Wire

Replace broken wire if necessary
Splice wire with double strand 12-gauge minimum size barbed wire or smooth wire
Wrap end of broken wires back around itself to form eye
Place splicing wire through eye and wrap back around itself
Make at least three wraps in each eye
Make wraps adjacent to each other
Re-space wire where spacing has been altered
Measure spacing from ground line in inches
4-wire 16 24 32 42
3-wire 18 28 40
Re-stretch wires tight with consideration for contraction and expansion
Wire will not be twisted or kinked

Stays

Replace broken or missing stays
Straighten bent wire stays

Trees

Remove all fallen trees from fences
Do not use logs and/or brush instead of poles or wire
If wire is attached to trees, nail wood slab to tree and staple wire to slab

Gates

Stretch wire so gates will not sag, but easily open and close
Make gate loops with smooth wire

Wire Fasteners

Replace missing staples and steel post clip
Drive staples diagonally into bucks, braces and stays
Drive staples in wood posts, bucks and stays so wire can move
Drive staples in brace posts so wire cannot move

Water Developments

Keep troughs clean and free of debris
Repair leaks in troughs
Level water troughs
Replace broken trough braces
Replace or install small animal escape devices in troughs
Unplug pipelines if necessary
Replace trough plugs if missing
Replace broken pipes
Waterlines should be buried to protect from livestock
Clean and repair overflows
Maintain spring head fence according to above specifications
Clean spring boxes or debris and secure cover
Drain water troughs and pipelines at the end of the season
Maintain overflows from ponds, keep spillways clean and protected from washing out



Maintenance responsibilities are listed below and shown on the attached map:

Map #	Improvement	Description	Mainten ance	Infra #
1	West Cottonwood/ Onaqui Allotment boundary Fence	1.38 miles of steel posts with 4 strands barbed wire	Onaqui L&C	843033
2	West/East Cottonwood Allotment Boundary Fence	1.56 miles of steel posts with posts with 4 strands barbed wire and metal spiral stays	Gowans	843031
3	Upper Oak brush 7/ Cottonwood 8 Pasture Boundary Fence	0.6 miles of steel posts with 4 strands barbed wire	Onaqui L&C	843036
4	Upper Oak brush 7/ South 10 Pasture Boundary Fence	1.59 miles of steel posts with 4 strands barbed wire	Gowans	843030
5	Upper/Lower Oak brush 7 Pasture Boundary Fence	1.07 miles of steel posts with 4 strands barbed wire	Onaqui L&C	843032
6	Cottonwood 8/South 10 Pasture Boundary Fence (South Oak Brush)	0.19 miles of steel posts with 4 strands barbed wire with metal spiral stays	Gowans	843034
7	Cottonwood 8/South 10 Pasture Boundary Fence #2 (South Pine)	204 feet of steel posts with 4 strands of barbed wire	Gowans	843034-2
8	Lower Oak brush 7/ South 10 Pasture Boundary Fence	0.82 miles of steel posts with 4 strands barbed wire with metal spiral stays	Onaqui L&C	843035
9	Lower Oak brush 7/Upper Cottonwood 1 Pasture Boundary Fence (FS/BLM Boundary Fence)	0.74 miles of steel posts with 4 strands barbed wire	Onaqui L&C	843BLM13
10	South 10/South 2 Pasture Boundary Fence (FS/BLM Boundary Fence)	0.91 miles of steel posts and 4 strands of barbed wire and metal spiral stays. 0.37 miles of wood posts and 4 stands of barbed wire	Allinson	843BLM13

Map #	Improvement	Description	Maintenace	Infra #
11	South 10/Upper Cottonwood 1 Pasture Boundary Fence (FS/BLM Boundary Fence)	0.45 miles of steel posts with 4 strand of barb wire and spiral stays	Onaqui L&C	843BLM13
12	Upper Cottonwood 1/ Lower Cottonwood 1 Pasture Boundary Fence	1.4 miles of steel posts with 3 strands barbed wire and metal spiral stays.	Gowans	843BLM21
13	Upper Cottonwood 1/ South 2 Pasture Boundary Fence	0.87 miles of steel posts with 4 strands barbed wire and metal spiral stays.	Allinson	843BLM23
14	Lower Cottonwood 1/ South 2 Pasture Boundary Fence	Need to GPS. Approximately 1 mile steel posts with 4 strands barbed wire and metal spiral stays.	Allinson	BLM
15	Lower Cottonwood 1/BLM ABF #1	1 mile steel post with 4 strand barbed wire	BLM	843BLM22
		Need to GPS BLM Allotment Boundary Fences	BLM	Various Numbers
16	Cottonwood 8/South 10 Pasture Boundary Fence #2 Cattleguard (South Pine)	NEED TO GPS	FS	
17	BLM/FS cattle guard #1 (Black Spring)	Channel Steel 8'x 12' (Green)	BLM	843CG2
18	BLM/FS cattle guard #2 (South Oak Brush)	Channel Steel 8'x 8' with wings	BLM	843CG3
19	BLM/FS cattle guard #3 (South 2/Pasture 9)	Need to GPS and get info		?????
20	West Cottonwood/Onaqui Allotment Boundary Fence Cattle Guard	Channel Steel 8'x 8' (Yellow)		843CG1
21	West Cottonwood Corral	Steel Panel Corral	All Permittees	843BLM20

Map #	Improvement	Description	Mainten ance	Infra #
22	South Oak brush Pipeline Spring #1	24 inch diameter galvanized culvert head box.	Onaqui L&C Gowans	843006S1
23	South Oak brush Pipeline Spring #2	24 inch diameter galvanized culvert head box.	Onaqui L&C Gowans	843006S2
24	South Oak brush Pipeline	6.40 miles of 2 inch diameter polyethylene pipe on Forest Service. 2.3 miles on BLM	Onaqui L&C Gowans	843006P 843BLM6P
25	South Oak brush Pipeline (Black Crook Spur) Trough #1	200 gallon torpedo trough	Onaqui L&C Gowans	843006T1
26	South Oak brush Pipeline (Black Crook Spur) Trough #2	200 gallon Powder River tough	Onaqui L&C Gowans	843006T2
27	South Oak brush Pipeline (Black Crook Spur) Trough, #3	200 gallon Powder River trough	Onaqui L&C Gowans	843006T3
28	South Oak brush Pipeline Trough # 4 (Off shoot trough) (South 10)	500 gallon Powder River trough	Onaqui L&C Gowans	843006T4
29	South Oak brush Pipeline Trough #5 (Upper Oak Brush 7)	1000 gallon, round fiberglass trough	Onaqui L&C Gowans	843006T5
30	South Oak brush Pipeline Trough #6 (Upper Oak Brush 7)	400 gallon steel, rectangular trough	Onaqui L&C Gowans	843006T6
31	South Oak brush Pipeline Trough #7 (South 10)	400 gallon steel, rectangular trough	Onaqui L&C Gowans	843006T7
32	South Oak brush Pipeline Trough #8 (Lower Oak Brush 7)	500 gallon, round fiberglass trough	Onaqui L&C Gowans	843006T8

Map #	Improvement	Description	Mainten ance	Infra #
33	South Oak brush Pipeline Trough #9 (Lime Tank) (Lower Oak Brush 7/South 10)	1500 gallon, round galvanized steel trough with concrete base	Onaqui L&C Gowans	843006T9
34	South Oak brush Pipeline Trough #10 (FS/BLM boundary) (Lower Oak Brush 7/Upper Cottonwood 1)	5000 gallon, yellow round metal band trough with concrete base	Onaqui L&C Gowans	843006T10
35	South Oak brush Pipeline Trough #8 (BLM) (Upper Cottonwood 1)	5000 gallon, yellow round metal band trough with cement base.	Onaqui L&C Gowans	843BLM6T11
36	South Oak brush Pipeline Trough Removal #4 (BLM)	300 gallon, half round trough.	None	843BLM6TR2
37	South Oak brush Pipeline Trough Removal #5 (BLM) (Lower Cottonwood 1)	700 gallon Powder River trough	None	843BLM6TR3
38	South Oak brush Pipeline Trough #9 (BLM) (Lower Cottonwood 1)	5000 gallon, yellow round metal band trough with cement base	Onaqui L&C Gowans	843BLM6T12
39	South Pine Canyon Pipeline Spring Source #1	Water is collected with buried perforated pipe and gravel.	Allinson	843009S1
40	South Pine Canyon Pipeline Spring Source #2	Buried water collection	Allinson	843009S2
41	South Pine Canyon Pipeline	2.23 miles of 2 inch diameter polyethylene pipe on Forest Service. 2.92 miles on BLM	Allinson	843009P 843BLM9P
42	South Pine Canyon Pipeline Trough Removal #1 (South 10)	100 gallon steel casing	None	843009TR

Map #	Improvement	Description	Mainten ance	Infra #
43	South Pine Canyon Pipeline Trough #2 (South 10)	1000 gallon, round fiberglass trough	Allinson	843009T2
44	South Pine Canyon Pipeline Trough #3 (South 10)	Powder River Trough 250 gallon	Allinson	843009T3
45	South Pine Canyon Pipeline Overflow Pond (South 10)	Earthen Dam 15' x 20' x 2'	Allinson	843009PO
46	South Pine Canyon Pipeline Trough Removal #2 (BLM) (South 2)	100 gallon steel metal casing	None	843BLM9TR1
47	South Pine Canyon Pipeline Pond (BLM) (South 2)	3500 gallon earthen pond.	Allinson	843BLM9PO
48	South Pine Canyon Pipeline Trough Removal #3 (BLM) (South 2)	100 gallon steel metal casing	None	843BLM9TR2
49	South Pine Canyon Pipeline Trough #4 (BLM) (South 2)	5000 gallon, yellow round metal band trough with cement base	Allinson	843BLM9T4
50	Skunky trough (BLM)	Spring source is buried perforated pipe. 5000 gallon, yellow round sheet metal trough with cement base. Old trough about 500 feet south east needs to be removed. (not GPSed).	Gowans	843BLM1S 843BLM1T
51	South Oak brush Pipeline Wildlife water improvement and protection fence (BLM)		BLM Wildlife	343BLMWL6G 343BLMWL6F

Changes in these annual operating instructions must be approved in advance by the Forest Service. We look forward to working with you this coming grazing season.



WEST COTTONWOOD ALLOTMENT ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS 2016

PERMITTEE

DATE

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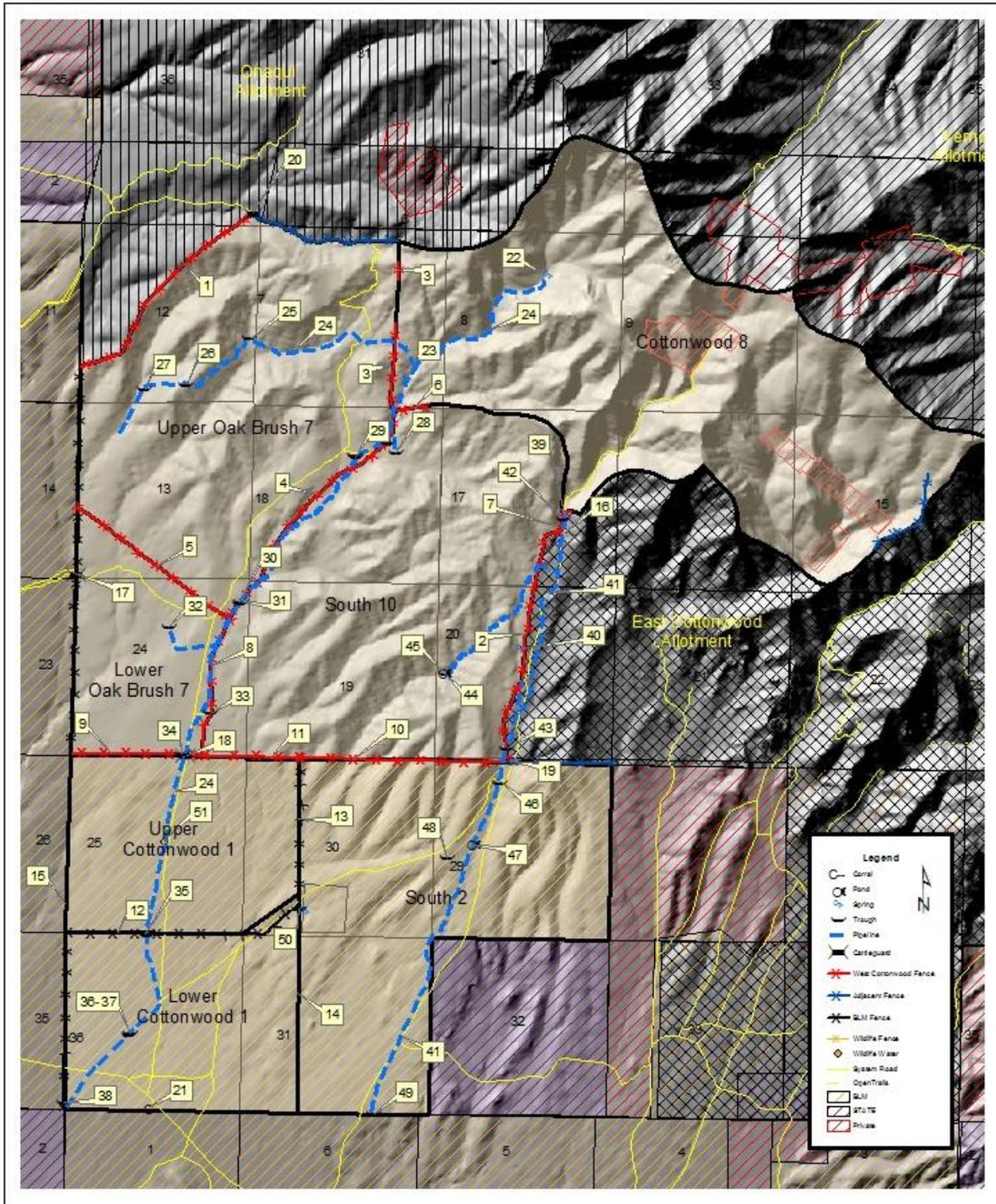
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SPANISH FORK DISTRICT RANGER

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West Cottonwood Allotment 2016


 Uinta-Watch-Cache National Forest
 Spanish Fork Ranger District

