



File Code: 2210
Date: April 29, 2010

Diamond X Bar Ranch
C/O Leonard Merkley

Dear Leonard,

The following letter will document your meeting with Peter Gula on April 27, 2010 and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the 2010 summer grazing season on the Gilbert Creek C&H allotment.

The grazing system on this allotment is rest rotation. The scheduled dates of use are flexible but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made in the below dates. The District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

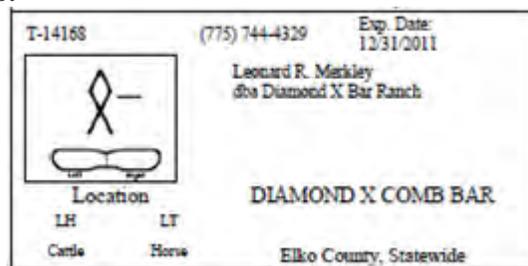
**GILBERT CREEK C&H
PERMITTED USE**

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Permitted #</u>	<u>Season of Use</u>
Gilbert Creek	c/c	100	5/16 – 9/30

**GILBERT CREEK C&H
AUTHORIZED USE**

<u>UNITS</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Season</u>
Woodroad	c/c	50	5/16 – 6/1
Lower McCutcheon	c/c	100	6/2 – 7/1
Lower Gilbert	c/c	100	7/2 – 9/15
Upper Gilbert	c/c	100	9/16 – 9/30
Upper McCutcheon	Rest	Rest	Rest

Permitted Livestock Brands:



COMPLIANCE:

This AOI is made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). The scheduled dates of use are flexible but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made. Other situations may develop during the grazing season which requires changes to these instructions. If



this becomes necessary or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions The District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

Invasive weeds are becoming a serious threat to the welfare of our rangelands. Your assistance is needed to identify new outbreaks of weed populations and to prevent the establishment of weeds on the forest. Pay particular attention to areas where livestock are concentrated such as loading/unloading areas, water developments, and salting areas. We have implemented a Noxious Weed Free Hay order on the forest. This will require any hay that is brought onto the National Forest to be certified free from noxious weeds. All livestock entering the National Forest are recommended to be fed Certified Noxious Weed Free Forage for at least 2 days prior to entering the forest.

BILLING:

Grazing fees remained unchanged from last year. The fee is \$1.35 per head month.

Due Date:

Payment of your grazing bill is due five days prior to your earliest turnout date to allow time for processing. As a reminder the Forest Service is required to give permittees a minimum of 30 days to pay your grazing fees. The Forest Service is requesting that permittees schedule their AOI meeting a minimum of 35 days prior to their earliest on date to provide adequate time to plan for the upcoming grazing season.

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

Type of Rotation: Rest Rotation.

STANDARDS AND GUIDES:

You are responsible for determining when allowable use has been reached and for moving your cattle to the next unit in your rotation or off the allotment when allowable use has been reached. The Forest Service is responsible for monitoring your compliance with allowable use standards. If you need assistance determining use levels or locating key areas, please contact Peter or Andy. All riparian areas on the allotment are considered key areas.

RIPARIAN SITES: Gilbert Creek C&H

AREA	PERCENT ALLOWABLE USE
McCutcheon Creek(from point of ditch diversion east) and within 300 ft of Category 1 and 2 seeps and springs	45% use of grasses, rushes and sedges.
Gilbert Creek, McCutcheon Creek (from point of ditch diversion west) and within 300 ft of Category 3 and 4 seeps and springs	50% use of grasses, rushes and sedges.
Riparian browse	35% of current year's growth of riparian shrubs such as willows, cottonwoods, and aspen.

UPLAND SITES: Gilbert Creek C&H

AREA	PERCENT ALLOWABLE USE
All upland sites herbaceous	50% use of key species mountain brome, bluebunch wheatgrass, basin wildrye, Sandberg bluegrass, Idaho fescue, squirrtail. 60% use of crested wheat.
Upland browse	40% of current year's growth snowberry,

	serviceberry, mahogany, bitterbrush.
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IMPROVEMENTS:

Range improvements listed in part three of your grazing permit must be maintained before cattle enter the allotments. The maintenance standards listed in part three of your term permit must be followed when maintaining the improvements.

PERMITTEE INSTRUCTIONS:

Dead livestock must be moved at least 100 yards from water, roads, and trails. Place salt at least ¼ mile from water sources and in areas lightly grazed to encourage an even distribution of utilization on the range. In situations where terrain does not allow proper placement of salt, please contact Peter or Andy and they will determine a suitable location with your input.

REQUIRED REPORTING:

Actual use and range improvement maintenance forms have been included for you to complete and return at the end of the grazing season. Please return the forms following the 2010 grazing season by December 31, 2010.

COORDINATION & COOPERATION:

If you spot a wild fire, report it immediately to the interagency dispatch center in Elko, NV at (775)-748-4000.

MAPS, FORMS & ATTACHMENTS:

Allotment map showing pasture rotation and approximant rotation dates has been attached to your AOI. The scheduled dates of use are flexible but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made in the below dates. The District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

As a reminder, approval of requests for permittee convenience nonuse is not automatic and the authorized officer should discuss the reasons for the nonuse request with the permittee. Approval of a request for permittee convenience non-use must be in writing by the authorized officer. Full or partial permittee convenience nonuse may be approved by the authorized officer for no more than three consecutive years and not more than four years in any ten year period.

If you have any questions or concerns this grazing season, please call Peter or Andy at (775) 752-3357.

Sincerely,

GAR ABBAS
District Ranger

Encl.