



Annual Operating Instructions
North Rich Cattle Allotment
2016
 Logan Ranger District



Permitted #	Permitted Season	Authorized #	Authorized Season
1260 cow/calf	June 16-Sept 30 (any 80 days)	913 cow/calf	June 16-Sept 11 (87 days)

Please review your Term Grazing Permit prior to grazing livestock on National Forest System (NFS) lands. Listed below are the topics we discussed and agreed to during your Annual Operating Meeting. 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 that requires changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, contact the District Ranger and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions.

TAGS: All cattle will be tagged with Forest Service (FS) ear tags prior to entering the forest for the 2016 grazing season. Tags will be available for pick up at the Logan Ranger District. Tags will be fastened to each mature cow with the tag number facing forward. The FS Symbol must be visible on the backside of each tag (do not place another tag adjacent to FS tags. Replacement tags will replace existing numbers assigned to each permittee. Lost tags must be identified by number to receive replacement.

ROTATION SCHEDULE

UNIT	ROTATION	COWS
Middle	6/16 -7/16	1st
South	7/16-9/11	2nd
North		REST

Dates are approximate. When utilization levels are reached for a unit, the cattle will be moved to the next unit or off the forest. Please review the attached Utilization Standards table prior to turning out.

GENERAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The on date for livestock entry onto the allotment for this grazing season is *tentatively* scheduled for **June , 2016**. You will need to contact the district's range staff at least five days prior to this turn on date to confirm that the rangeland is ready and that all required maintenance is complete.

REQUIRED BEFORE TURNOUT

- Hire 2 full-time riders. Forest personnel will meet the riders before the season begins. Provide FS with Riders Contracts.
- Sign and return Final AOI
- Any arrangements for counting livestock onto the forest will be coordinated with forest officer.

Turn Out: After a sufficient time for mothering up, livestock are to be distributed throughout the pasture on the same day as they are turned out. In no case is it acceptable to leave the livestock to distribute themselves. Livestock are not to be turned out onto areas of resource concern such as riparian areas, areas near concentrated public use, trailheads, and so forth. Coordinate with the range staff to ensure that we are not creating problems for ourselves.

Exit: All cattle must be removed from the forest by **the scheduled off date**. Again, if utilization levels are reached before this date you will be expected to remove all livestock from the allotment. The off date for a pasture is the date when the livestock are to be **fully** out of the unit, or in the case of the last pasture, **fully off National Forest System (NFS) lands**. It is your responsibility to ensure compliance with this requirement.

Drought conditions may develop this season given reduced precipitation levels. Please be prepared to remove your livestock from the Forest prior to the authorized off date.

- The Forest Service recognizes that moves from one pasture to another cannot usually be accomplished in one day. It is your responsibility to begin early movements of livestock to ensure that pastures are clean by the dates specified. Open gates 3 days prior to move date to allow livestock to drift. On the 4th day make a final sweep of the pasture and close the gates. Do not allow re-entry of livestock.
- Failure to completely remove livestock from a pasture by the off date may result in action being taken against the grazing permit(s).
- Extensions will not be allowed authorized this year.

Livestock remaining on the National Forest System lands after the end of the authorized grazing season must be billed for at the unauthorized use rate and may be cause for action to be taken against the grazing permit.

Livestock should be kept well distributed and drifted away from areas where they tend to concentrate. Keep livestock from drifting back into areas previously grazed.

Salt and mineral blocks must be placed at least ¼ mile away from canyon bottoms, roads, water, and areas where livestock tend to concentrate.

Livestock that die near roads, water, or trails will be moved at least 100 ft. from these areas.

Riding is critical to achieve uniform distribution across the allotment. Please take extra effort in distributing your livestock into the uplands and less desirable and hard to herd areas. Use all available methods to achieve this such as salt and mineral placement and extensive herding.

Riding is required on the allotment **7 days per week** to manage the cattle and insure proper livestock distribution and adhere to the grazing sequence. The permittees must take an active responsibility in livestock management, movement, and disbursement.

Stay alert for campfire restrictions or other special forest orders.

All hay or straw used on NFS lands must be tagged or marked as noxious weed free as directed by the USDA Weed Free Order.

MONITORING AND KEY AREAS

It is the responsibility of the permittee to monitor livestock use and apply the attached utilization standards and guidelines to determine when livestock need to be removed to avoid excessive use. The Forest Service will coordinate inspection trips throughout the summer and review each pasture soon after the livestock leave. The following Key Areas have been identified on the allotment:

Long Term Trend Benchmarks		
Peter Sinks	South Sink	Temple Flat (State)
	Nebecker Spr.	

Key Areas		
Riparian Stubble Height		
Cheney Creek (4’)	Bear Wallow (5’)	South Sink (3’)
	Mill Hollow (4’)	
Upland Utilization (50%)		
Jebo Creek	Elk Springs	Mill Hollow

Grazing Utilization and Stubble Height Standards

Vegetation Type	Condition	Utilization or Stubble Height Standard
Upland and Aspen	Satisfactory	50%
Upland and Aspen	Unsatisfactory	40%
Riparian Class I (away from greenline)	Satisfactory	50%
Riparian Class I (away from greenline)	Unsatisfactory	40%
Riparian Class II & III (away from greenline)	Satisfactory	60%
Riparian Class II & III (away from greenline)	Unsatisfactory	40%
Upland/Riparian shrubs and trees (all classes)	All	50% current year’s growth
Riparian Class I (Greenline)	All	≥5”
Riparian Class II (Greenline)	All	≥4”
Riparian Class III (Greenline)	All	≥3”

- Please complete the attached Current Plan and Actual Use Record form throughout the summer and return it to the district within 30 days of your actual off date.

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS-MAINTENANCE

You are responsible for maintenance of all range improvements assigned to you in your grazing permit. Basic standards for maintenance are attached in the appendix. All assigned improvements must be maintained to standard whether grazing occurs or not.

- Fences
All exterior fences must be maintained to standard prior to the earliest turn on date of either yourself or your neighbor on the adjacent allotment. It is your responsibility to coordinate with your neighbor to ensure that the maintenance occurs on time. All interior fences must be maintained to standard prior to turning livestock against them.
- Water Developments
Water developments must be maintained to standard prior to livestock entering the pasture containing the development.

Failure to properly complete the assigned maintenance to standard and in a timely manner may result in action being taken against the grazing permit.

CONSTRUCTION/RECONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE

The following projects are scheduled for completion on your allotment: The forest service will issue a permit modification prior to any construction taking place.

2014

- Build 1 mile of the West Boundary fence, ½ mile north and ½ mile south at the end of the Slideout Fence.
- ¾ mile pipeline extension at Elk Spring. Both projects completed in 2014.

2015 As per the Settlement Agreement signed 6/12/2014

- Build 1 mile of the West Boundary fence. Location will be discussed collaboratively by both permittees' and a forest representative. It was decided during the annual meeting that we will monitor livestock distribution in response to the fence that was completed last season and determine if additional fencing is needed. This can be accomplished early in the season with the middle unit being grazed first.

2016 As per the Settlement Agreement signed 6/12/2014

- Build 1 mile of the West Boundary fence by June 1, 2017 based on the agreed modification to the Settlement Agreement.

BILLING & NON-USE

The 2016 grazing fee is not set at this time. It should remain the same or be close to last years **\$1.69** per head month. Payment is due in full 2 weeks before your On-Date. All fees must be paid, received, and processed before livestock can enter NFS lands.

Personal convenience non-use must be requested in advance of the permitted "on date". Approval of non-use is not automatic. In the absence of approved non-use, the permittee must place 90% or more of the permitted numbers on the allotment. Non-use applies only to numbers and not to dates. Personal convenience non-use will not normally be approved for more than three consecutive years or for more than four years in any consecutive ten-year period. A permit cannot be waived based on sale of permitted livestock if that permit is in personal convenience non-use status.

VIOLATIONS

Violations of the Terms and Conditions of your grazing permit, including these Annual Operating Instructions, will result in action being taken against your permit. If violations occur, you will be notified and informed of the violation, the remedy and timeframe required to correct the violation and the consequences if you fail to remedy the situation.

COOPERATION

In order to prevent small problems from becoming big problems, please work closely with the district range staff. Your Rangeland Management Specialists are Anthony VonNiederhausern, (435) 755-3636, and Ann Robins, (435) 755-3634. Our mailing address is: USDA Forest Service

1500 East Highway 89
Logan, UT 84321

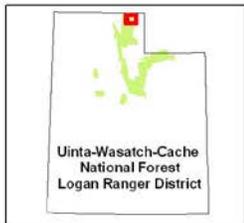
Web address to access AOI's: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/uwcnf>

The permittee will provide the District Ranger with written notification of any changes or deviation he or she wishes to make in these Annual Operating Instructions. This includes changes in animal numbers, class of livestock, period of use (changes in entry or exit dates from unit to unit), or changes in pasture rotation.

The District Ranger will verify the response in writing to the permittee. No changes in these instructions will be recognized without this verification.

North Rich Cattle Allotment

This map shows the North Rich Allotment Boundaries

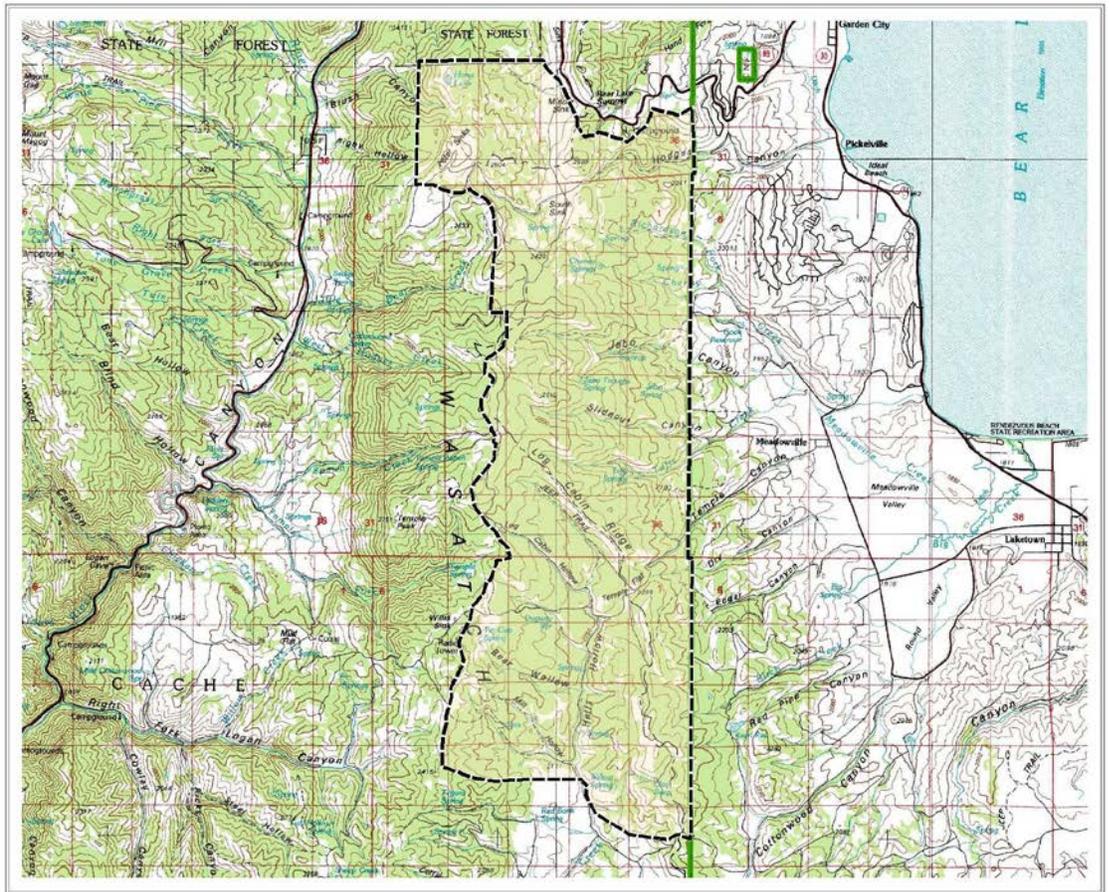


Legend

-  Allotment
-  Forest Boundary



The Forest Service uses the most current and complete data available. GIS data and product accuracy may vary. Using GIS products for purposes other than those for which they were created may yield inaccurate or misleading results.



Handwritten signature or initials.