



**Annual Operating Instructions
Providence Cattle Allotment
2016
Logan Ranger District**



Permitted #	Permitted Season	Authorized #	Authorized Season
149 cow/calf	June 21-Sept 20	109 cow/calf	June 18-Sept 17

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.

Sequence	Unit	Dates
1 John's Cows	Dry Canyon	6/18-7/23 to Middle Fork
2	Welch's Flat	6/26-8/01 Until Seed Shatter
3	Middle Fork	8/02-9/20 After Seed Shatter
1	Providence Bottom	6/18-6/25

Dates for rotation are considered approximate; actual dates will be determined by utilization levels. When utilization levels are reached for a particular area or the allotment as a whole, the cattle will be moved to the next area or off the forest. Please review the attached Utilization Standards table prior to turning out.

TAGS: All cattle will be tagged with Forest Service (FS) ear tags prior to entering the forest. Replacement/lost tags will replace existing numbers assigned to each permittee. Numbers must be identified for replacement. Tags are 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).

GENERAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The on date for livestock entry onto the allotment for this grazing season is tentative. 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. General rangeland readiness indicators are attached for your use in working with my range staff to schedule the on date.

Drought conditions may develop. Please be prepared to remove your livestock from the Forest prior to the authorized off date.

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 **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.

Annual Management:

- Please keep cattle from trespassing on Providence Lake area and Ferry Springs as they are not within this allotment boundary.
- 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.
- Failure to completely remove livestock from a pasture by the off date may result in action being taken against the grazing permit(s).
- Extensions of the authorized grazing season, if desired, must be requested in advance of the off date to allow time for inspection and billing of additional grazing fees.

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. Make the effort to place these in the uplands and far from water to use all available feed.

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.

A rider will be required on the allotment once a week to manage the cattle and insure proper livestock distribution and adhere to the grazing sequence. All 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 utilization standards and guidelines described below 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.

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%
Riparian Class I (Greenline)	All	≥ 5"
Riparian Class II (Greenline)	All	≥ 4"
Riparian Class III (Greenline)	All	≥ 3"

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 construction on your allotment:

2015-2016

- Look at and plan to construct fence at Cattle Guard coordinated with FS and David Earl
- Reconstruct troughs at the top of Dry Canyon with FS and David Earl

2014 -Install cattle guard on Providence Rd-Complete

BILLING & NON-USE

The 2016 grazing fee is set at **\$2.11** 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/goto/uwcnf/AOI>

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.

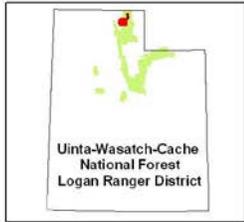
The District Ranger will verify the response in writing to the permittee. No changes in these instructions will be recognized without this verification.

State Website (Brands): <http://webapp.ag.utah.gov/brandWebApplication/>



Providence Cattle Allotment

This map shows the Providence Allotment and Pasture Boundaries



Legend

- Allotment
- Pastures
- Forest Boundary



0 1 2 Miles

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.

