



File Code: 2230/2210

Date: April 15, 2011

Scott Slaugh
4012 South, 2500 East
Vernal, UT 84078

Dear Permittee,

This letter references the annual meeting held in Manila, Utah on March 9th, 2011 with Glen Tinker, Brian Tinker, Scott Slaugh, and Aaron Zobell concerning grazing on the Sheep Creek Mountain Allotment. It will serve as your 2011 annual operating instructions (AOI) and become part of your permit as provided for in Part 1, Item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a) of your term grazing permit.

Situations may develop during the grazing season which permittees feel may require changes to these instructions. If you believe this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, contact Aaron Zobell and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions.

Only livestock branded according to the Certificate of Brand Registrations provided to the Forest Service by each permittee will be allowed to graze on the allotment. Confirmation of payment through the “lock box” process must be received before livestock will be allowed to graze on National Forest lands. Scott will tag his livestock with green ear tags and John Tinker Living Trust with yellow ear tags prior to livestock entering National Forest lands.

Table 1.0 Sheep Creek Mountain Allotment – Permitted Grazing Numbers, Kind, Class and Season of Use

Permittee	Numbers	Kind	Class	Season of Use
John Tinker Family Living Trust	145	Cattle	cow/calf	June 1 – September 15
Scott Slaugh	28	Cattle	cow/calf	June 1 – September 15

Table 2.0 Sheep Creek Mountain Allotment – Proposed Grazing Schedule and Utilization Benchmarks

Unit	Proposed Dates ¹	Utilization Benchmarks ²
Death Valley	June 1 – June 21	≤ 40% of key forage species
Lost Springs	June 22 – July 18	≤ 50% of key forage species ≥ 4” residual stubble height along the greenline
Scrapper Springs	July 19 – August 6	≤ 50% of key forage species ≥ 4” residual stubble height along the greenline
Elk Park	August 7 – Sept. 15	≤ 50% of key forage species ≥ 4” residual stubble height along the greenline

¹Dates are estimates and may vary based upon range readiness, drought, utilization benchmarks, and other factors. Permittees will need to verify with Aaron that range readiness has occurred prior to placing livestock on the allotment. ²Utilization will be monitored at key areas of the allotment. Key areas are those areas most preferred by livestock, are typically grazed first, and receive the most concentrated use (e.g. Scrapper Springs, Honslinger Creek, Hope Creek, Youngs Spring, Elk Park, etc.); ≥ 4 residual stubble height of herbaceous species along the greenline at the end of the grazing season.



Scott will truck his livestock into the yellow pine area of the Death Valley unit and John Tinker Family Living Trust will truck their livestock into the lodge pole trough area of the Death Valley unit on June 1st assuming range readiness has occurred. Livestock will be moved out of the Death Valley unit and each subsequent unit to be grazed when any utilization benchmark has been met or by the scheduled off date for each, whichever occurs first. Livestock will be removed from National Forest lands when any utilization benchmark has been met in the Elk Park unit or by September 15th, whichever occurs first. Every effort must be taken to completely remove livestock from National Forest lands when this occurs. For example, if it requires three days of riding to gather your livestock, then you should start riding three days prior to your scheduled off date). It is the permittees' responsibility to ensure utilization benchmarks are not exceeded.

Equal utilization of the range is the objective. This requires riding and salting be properly conducted throughout the entire grazing season. Rotate your salting areas during the grazing season and from year to year. Place your salt in good forage producing areas where livestock do not go by preference. Do not place your salt next to water, roads, trails, or in open meadows. Livestock will be kept in their appropriate units, properly distributed within those units, and moved from unit to unit as directed. Each permittee is responsible for keeping livestock spread out and not over utilizing the range.

Maintenance of all improvements shown in your term grazing permit and associated allotment management plan must be completed to the standards in your permit one week before your livestock enter the allotment. This allows time for the inspection of your improvements and addressing of any concerns, if any, prior to your livestock entering the allotment. If maintenance responsibilities assigned to you are not completed to the standards listed in your permit, your livestock will not be allowed to enter National Forest lands.

All labor and materials needed for maintenance are your responsibility. Any ATV use in the administration of your allotment is limited to existing roads or as described in your enclosed Ashley National Forest Travel Plan Variance permit. Off-road use of ATVs and UTVs for any other purpose besides for the maintenance of fences specifically shown in your Travel Variance Permit is strictly prohibited. The Travel Variance Permit is only for those individuals shown on the permit and must be carried when in use to be valid.

- ❖ Sheep Creek Mountain Dowd Hole Ponds Water Development: Two ponds will be constructed in the west side of Dowd's hole in the vicinity of F.S. road 10218. Another pond will be constructed in the east side of Dowd's hole. The F.S. completed the work necessary to receive approval for construction of the ponds and will provide personnel to assist in the construction of the ponds. John Tinker Family Living Trust will be responsible for constructing and maintaining the ponds. This includes providing any equipment necessary to construct and maintain the ponds. The ponds will be constructed as described in the annual permittee meeting and as shown in Appendix A. John Tinker Family Living Trust's term grazing permit will be modified to show these added responsibilities at a later date.

- ❖ Fence #001076 Extension: This fence was extended across Carter Creek and parallel to the Carter Creek Bridge in 2010 by Scott. Inspections showed: 1) the fence was effective in limiting drift from Elk Park to the Lost Springs unit, and 2) the fence was built as directed with the exception that a 4" pole spanning the distance of the creek was not attached approximately 12-18" from the lowest wire (just touching and partially held up by the creek) and supported by at least 3-5 vertical wires (see figure 1.0). Scott will need to modify this fence to allow for this design adjustment prior to livestock entering the Elk Park unit. Scott will continue to be responsible for the maintenance of this fence including annually setting up the fence just prior to livestock entering the Elk Park unit and taking down the fence just after livestock have been removed from the unit. Scott's Slauch's term grazing permit will be modified to show this added maintenance responsibility at a later date.

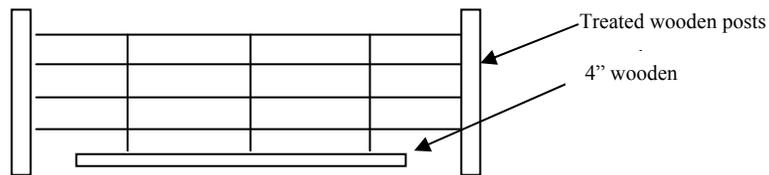


Figure 1.0 Carter Creek Crossing

- ❖ Dowd Hole Ponds: The possibility of developing several ponds within the Death Valley unit was discussed so that water would not have to be hauled into the unit and to allow for improved distribution of livestock. Discussions will continue regarding this possibility this summer. Viable options will be considered.
- ❖ Maintenance of the Carter Creek (10539—6.235) and Elk Park (10539—2.481) cattle guards: The road crew will be contacted and maintenance of this cattle guard should occur sometime this summer. This includes repairing the wing on the Carter Creek cattle guard.
- ❖ Lodgepole Spring Creek Fence (#001045) and Dowd Hole/Scrapper Springs Fence (#001075): Permittees informed Aaron portions of these fences damaged during logging activities and subsequently repaired by the logging contractor were not repaired to Forest Service specifications (i.e. #001045 west of the cattleguard on F.S. road 10093; #001075 from Summit Springs guard station south). The contractor has been contacted and these fences will be maintained by the contractor to Forest Specifications. Permittees are instructed to inspect these fences at least one week prior to turn on and relay any concerns to Aaron.
- ❖ Salting: Permittees are expected to know and salt according to salting standards listed in their permit and this letter. Not salting according to standards listed in your permit and as described in this letter is a violation of the terms and conditions of your permit.

Permittees will ensure utilization benchmarks within wet and mesic areas of the Lost Springs and Scrapper Springs unit are not exceeded. Particular emphasis should be placed at Honslinger and Scrapper springs. Livestock will immediately be removed from these units into the next scheduled unit to be grazed prior to utilization benchmarks being exceeded in these areas. Permittees will periodically check these units for livestock that may have been missed or drifted back into these units after the initial removal of livestock. Specific direction regarding these units is given below.

Scrapper Springs Unit: Utilization levels at Scrapper Springs continue to be a concern. Permittees will monitor utilization benchmarks at a Scrapper Springs and move livestock prior to the scheduled move date if utilization benchmarks are to be exceeded before the proposed move date. To aid in the distribution of livestock during the time they are in the Scrapper Springs unit: 1) several ponds in Dowd hole will be constructed this year; 2) permittees will herd livestock every two to three days with herding occurring various times in the day and starting when livestock first enter the unit; 3) permittees will not salt within ¼ mile of Scrapper Springs; and 4) John Tinker Family Living Trust will install a three-strand electric fence around the spring, adjacent willows, and old pond at Scrapper Springs prior to livestock entering the unit and remove the temporary fencing shortly after livestock are removed from the unit. Mitigation measures 2-4 have been implemented in previous grazing seasons and have provided for improved distribution of livestock. Mitigation measure 1 (pond construction) will provide for further improved distribution of livestock.

Lost Springs Unit: Utilization levels within various locations of the Lost Springs unit, including Honslinger, have been of concern in previous grazing seasons. However, monitoring shows recent changes in management and summarized here appear to have adequately resolved this concern. These changes include: 1) increased herding of livestock by permittees so that livestock are herded at least once every other day and at various times during the day with herding starting when livestock first enter the unit; 2) extending fence # 001076 across Carter Creek so drift of livestock from the Elk Park unit to the Lost Springs unit is minimized; 3) regularly checking the unit after grazing has been completed and promptly removing any livestock found in the unit; and 4) installing a three-strand electric fence around Hope Creek adjacent to the Sheep Creek Geological loop prior to livestock entering the unit and removing the temporary fencing shortly after grazing of the unit is completed. Permittees will work cooperatively on items 1-3 with particular emphasis being placed at Honslinger and a number of other smaller drainages in the unit. Scott will ensure item number 4 occurs (i.e. electric fencing).

We need your help to control noxious weeds. We are especially concerned about Dyer's Woad, knapweed, and any other "new" weeds. Please let Aaron know of any new noxious weed infestations so we can keep them from becoming established.

Please keep track of the dates, numbers and any other facts that may be pertinent to your grazing on the allotment this year and let Aaron know as they occur. Note these items on the Grazing Use Record form attached below and return them by the 31st of December.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter or grazing on the allotment, contact Aaron Zobell at (435) 781-5279. Thanks for your help in the management of this allotment.

Sincerely,

/s/ Marcia L. Pfleiderer
MARCIA L. PFLEIDERER
District Ranger

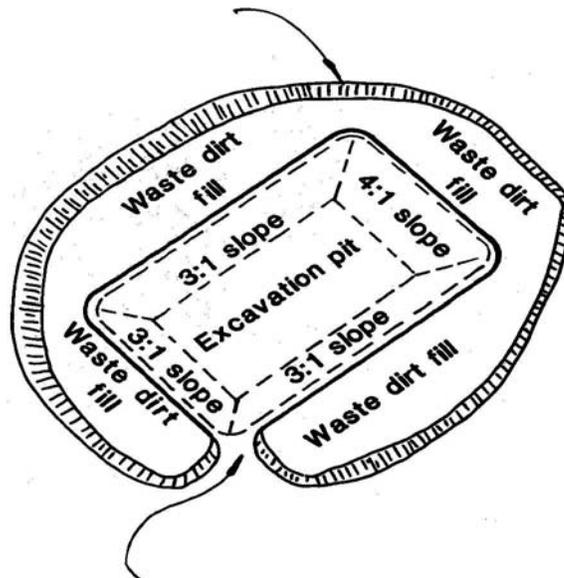
Enclosures (3)
Appendix A
2011 Grazing Use Record
Travel Plan Variance Permit

Appendix A: General Specifications for Dowd Hole Ponds

Specifications— The size and depth of stock ponds are important because the amount of water used by livestock is minor compared with losses from evaporation and seepage. A deep pond with minimum surface area will have noticeably less evaporation than a shallow one. Livestock will drink from ponds with relatively steep sides, but usually will not wade in the water. Stock ponds designed to provide direct access for livestock to the water should have at least two sides with slopes no greater than 3:1; a 4:1 slope is preferred. Water should be at least 8 feet deep, or deeper to minimize evaporation loss.

Pit tank or dugout—Pit tanks should have three sides with a 3:1 slope; the fourth side should have a 4:1 slope (fig. 79). Extracted material is used to build an embankment around the excavation except for the spillway area. The spillway should lead water back to a natural stream course. The distance between the high-water level of the tank and the top of the fill should be at least 3 feet. Each layer of excavated dirt should be packed as it is deposited. An alternative design is to place all the excavated material on the downhill side of the excavation to form a small dam. This method is commonly used in small drainages to catch and store surface runoff. Pit tanks can also be constructed next to streams such that the overflow channel provides an inlet to fill the pit tank during high flow.

Site must be scarified before excavation or fill. Each layer of fill must be compacted before another layer is added. Side slopes will be a minimum of 3:1 and one slope 4: 1.



Spillway must drain into existing natural channel or vegetation to avoid erosion. Freeboard (distance between spillway and top of fill) shall be 3' minimum. Freeboard 3'

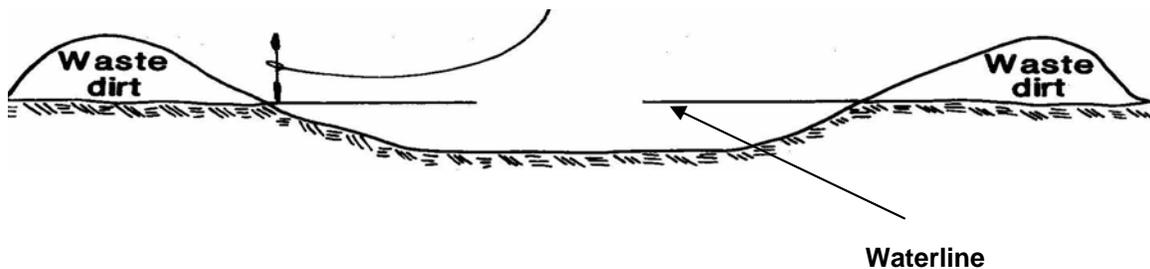


Figure 79—Specifications

2011 GRAZING USE RECORD
FLAMING GORGE RANGER DISTRICT

This form should be completed in detail, signed, and returned immediately following the grazing season to this office. Use back of sheet if necessary.

PERMITTEE _____

ALLOTMENT _____ YEAR _____

ACTUAL USE

UNIT IN ORDER GRAZED	TOTAL LIVESTOCK NUMBERS	DATE ENTERED	DATE LEFT	DATE <u>ALL</u> LIVESTOCK REMOVED FROM UNIT	NOTES

NOXIOUS WEEDS

SPECIES	LOCATION	OTHER

OTHER

Improvements maintained and/or visited

Improvements in need of repair

NOTES

SIGNATURE

DATE