

File Code: 2210/2230-3

Date: March 10, 2011

Bob Slagowski
Box 445
Manila, UT 84046

Dear Bob,

This letter references the annual meeting held March 8th, 2011 in Manila with you and Aaron Zobell concerning your grazing on the Henry's Fork Bottom Allotment. It will serve as your 2011 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) and will 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 you 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 Registration provided by you to the Forest Service 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.

Table 1.0 Henry's Fork Bottom Allotment – Proposed Grazing Schedule, Numbers, & Utilization Benchmarks

Numbers	Unit	Date ¹	Utilization Benchmark
8 horses	Unit 1	May 1 – July 31	≥ 4" Irrigated Portions ≤ 50% non-irrigated portions
8 horses	Unit 2	Aug. 1 – Sept. 30	≤ 50%

¹ *You will need to contact Aaron 3-5 days before you plan to place your horses on the allotment to ensure range readiness has occurred.*

Utilization benchmarks for the Henry's Fork Bottom Allotment are presented in table 1.0. Utilization will generally be monitored at key areas of the allotment. Key areas are those areas most preferred, are typically grazed first, and receive the most concentrated use. Horses will be removed from Unit 1 when utilization benchmarks are met or by July 31st, whichever occurs first. Horses will be removed from the allotment when utilization benchmarks are met in Unit 2 or by the proposed off date, whichever occurs first. Horses will not be allowed to access the Henry's Fork-Avocet Pond Enclosure area during the time they are permitted to graze on the allotment. This includes when they are brought into the allotment, moved between units, and removed from the allotment. It is your responsibility to ensure benchmarks presented in table 1.0 are not exceeded.

The productivity of unit 1 continues to depend upon your fertilization (≈ 90 lbs/acre of ammonium nitrate) and irrigation of this pasture. Should you cease to fertilize and/or irrigate



this pasture or inadequate fertilization and/or irrigation occurs, your permit and/or future AOIs will be modified to reflect this change.

Drift of your cattle into unit 1 remains a concern. Not only is this excess use which could result in permit action, but it also reduces the number of AUMs available for your horses to use during the time they are permitted to be on the allotment. Cattle will need to be kept off the allotment throughout the year (e.g. prior to, during, and after your permitted horse grazing season).

Equal utilization of the range is the objective. Rotate your salting areas during the grazing season and from year to year. Place your salt in good forage producing areas where your horses do not go by preference. Do not place your salt next to water, roads, or trails. Horses need to be kept in their appropriate units, properly distributed within those units, and moved as previously discussed.

Maintenance of all your improvements must be completed 1 week before your horses enter the allotment to the standards listed in your permit. This will allow Aaron time to inspect your improvements and address any concerns before your horses enter the allotment.

Management changes as a result of the 1996 decision and implemented in the 2009 Henry's Fork Bottom Allotment Management Plan (AMP) have occurred. Continue to familiarize yourself with this AMP and contact Aaron should you have any questions regarding these changes or your new maintenance responsibilities. A brief summary of some of these changes is outlined below for your convenience.

- Henry's Fork-Avocet Pond Enclosure Area: This area contains Avocet Pond and the area surrounding the pond. This area is now excluded from livestock grazing. The triangle area northeast of the pond is not excluded from livestock grazing (see your AMP for a map of the area discussed).
- Triangle Area: Recent monitoring indicates the strategy implemented in 2009 has been successful in allowing the triangle area to be grazed while excluding access to the Henry's Fork-Avocet Pond enclosure area (e.g. construction of the Unit 2/Triangle Enclosure Fence; reconstruction/maintenance of fence #001516; and removal of the fence running north to south including t-posts). Monitoring will continue to occur to ensure this is an effective strategy. Should future monitoring indicate horses are accessing the enclosure area via the Triangle Area, further adjustments in management will occur.
- West Henry's Fork Avocet Enclosure Boundary Fence: Recent monitoring indicates the strategy implemented in 2009 has been successful in allowing the bench area to be grazed while excluding access to the Henry's Fork-Avocet Pond enclosure area (e.g. extending this fence so that it ties into fence #019402). Monitoring will continue to occur to ensure this is an effective strategy. If monitoring indicates your horses are accessing the enclosure area via the bench, further adjustments in management such as extending this fence may need to be taken to ensure your horses do not access the enclosure area.
- Henry's Fork Bench pole fence: Maintenance of the short pole fence on the northwest end of the allotment will need to continue to occur to limit livestock's access to the bottom areas of Henry's Fork and Henry's Fork itself.

- HWY 530 Right of Way Fence #001515 and gate: A close the gate sign has been placed on the gate adjacent to HWY 530 to limit your horses' access to the highway and provide for public safety. Please make sure this sign continues to remain in place. Contact Aaron should you find the gate continues to be left open and other actions will be taken to ensure the gate remains closed during the time your horses are in the area.

A concern was raised regarding utilization levels within portions of the triangle area. Horses will need to be removed from the allotment when prescribed utilization levels have been met within the triangle area regardless of utilization levels elsewhere in unit 2.

A concern was raised regarding the non-irrigated portions of unit 1 (e.g. bench area east of the return ditch). You indicated concerns may be alleviated by adjusting irrigation practices to allow for improved irrigation east of the return ditch. This would include reworking existing ditches as well as constructing several small lateral lines. I have discussed these activities with our cultural resource department and have received clearance for these activities to occur. Use of heavy equipment should be limited as much as possible to existing ditches as should the depth of any lateral lines constructed. It is important the reconstructed ditch system not allow water to flow over the edge of the bench as this may result in further slumping and erosion of the area. Any water used to irrigate the bench including areas currently east of the return ditch, will eventually need to return to the original irrigation system. Contact Aaron before commencing any work so that the area may be reviewed in the field together.

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 to Aaron by December 31st.

Thank you for your efforts in managing the Henry's Fork Bottom Allotment. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Aaron at (435) 781 -5279.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure (1)
2011 Grazing Use Record

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