

**ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST
Duchesne Ranger District
Sowers Canyon Cattle Allotment
2010 Annual Operating Instruction**

Permittee	Numbers	Non-use	Season of Use
Jay Abbott	97	0	June 1 to October 15
Korey Abbott	98	0	June 1 to October 15
Russ Abbott	<u>98</u>	<u>0</u>	June 1 to October 15
Totals	293	0	

Grazing Schedule

Unit	Sub-Unit	Sequence	Approx. Dates of Use	Allowable Use
Deathtrap (Main Canyon)		3 rd	9/1 – 10/8	50%
	Corral Hollow	3 rd	9/1 – 10/8	50%
	Spring Hollow	3 rd	9/1 – 10/8	50%
	Y-Canyon	3 rd	9/1 – 10/8	50%
	Lower Bottom	3 rd	9/1 – 10/8	50%
	Head Canyon	3 rd	9/1 – 10/8	50%
Road Hollow (Main Canyon)		2 nd	7/16 – 8/31	50%
	Trapper Canyon	1 st	6/01 – 7/15	50%
	Broad Hollow	2 nd	8/21 – 9/22	50%
	Lance Canyon	2 nd	7/16 – 8/31	50%
	Road Hollow	2 nd	7/16 – 8/31	50%
Twin Hollow (Main Canyon)		1 st	6/1 – 7/15	50%
	Jolie Hollow	1 st	6/1 – 7/15	50%
	Clayburn Canyon	1 st	6/1 – 7/15	50%
	North Twin Hollow	1 st	6/1 – 7/15	50%
	South Twin Hollow	1 st	6/1 – 7/15	50%
Bull Pasture		1 st	6/1 – 7/15	50%

The dates of use above are to be used guidelines. Sub-units should be stocked first with the residue of livestock placed into the Main Canyons during their respected grazing periods. Cattle will not be allowed to graze two or more main canyon units simultaneously. Deviations from the grazing schedule need to have Forest approval before the change is made. Contact Amber if a change is needed.

The primary determining factor for moving livestock from one unit to the other is utilization. As stated above, allowable use is 50% in upland forage areas in all units. A 4” to 6” stubble height of riparian forage species (i.e. wiregrass) shall be left in all riparian forage areas (i.e. stream corridors and wet meadows). Permittees should closely monitor key areas – seeded areas containing smooth brome, crested wheatgrass, and Russian wildrye. It is imperative that permittees do not allow cattle to graze to a point that the seeded species (key areas) have a

“mowed” look to them (i.e. all grass seed heads and stalks have been removed from the plants), which indicates about 60% use or greater. When allowable use in the key areas is met in each unit, the cattle need to be moved to the next unit.

A range technician will regularly visit the allotment throughout the summer to monitor permit compliance, forage utilization, and range improvements. Compliance of allowable use standards will be fully enforced. If compliance is not met, permittees will be sent notices of non-compliance and associated requirements to address the violation(s).

Grazing fees will be \$1.35 per head month this year. Fees must be paid through Lockbox collection procedures before livestock will be authorized to enter the National Forest. Permittees can drop the checks off at the Forest Service office in Duchesne. Please make sure that one check is written for each bill. Please avoid writing one check for everything.

Maintenance of Improvements

Permittees are responsible for the maintenance of range improvements assigned below. Time spent and any material purchased and used in completing maintenance should be recorded and the information turned in at the close of the grazing season. Fences and water developments must be maintained prior to cattle entering each unit or sub-unit. Do so at least five days before the cattle enter the unit or sub-unit to allow us sufficient time to inspect these improvements. A Range technician may randomly inspect the improvements at any time.

Annual Operating Plan Meeting

An operating meeting was held April 15, 2010 in Duchesne, Utah. Russ Abbott, Korey Abbott, Jay Abbott, and Amber Helmus were in attendance. The following items were discussed:

1. Permittees installed the pipeline from the dead of Deathtrap and down through the side canyons. They also installed pipeline for the new wells that were installed in 2008. The Forest Service plans to buy another solar panel and pump for the allotment this summer. Permittees and Forest Service plan to finish the range improvement project this summer. Permittees still need one more tire for one of the wells. Contact Amber for materials. Also, Amber will set up a meeting with GIP to determine what money is left in the Sowers Canyon project.
2. Forest Service plans to have the Tribe to start constructing the Twin Hollow fence between Anrho and Sowers allotments this summer. Amber will contact the permittees so they can have input on where the fence will be constructed.
3. Russ mentioned that the Tribe needs to fix the fence between Clayburn Canyon and Wire Fence. Amber plans to add the fence to the list of improvements the Tribe needs to maintain.
4. Permittees plan to extend the pipeline in Corral Hollow. Contact Amber for materials.
5. Jay inquired about the status of the oil and gas project out in Sowers Canyon. Amber plans to talk to Dave Herron, who is in charge of the oil and gas projects on the forest, and send the information to Jay.

6. The private land near Clam Hollow and Quitchampau Canyon is still not fenced. The Duchesne District Ranger still needs to make a decision on what he wants to do. Amber will keep the permittees informed on this issue.

Noxious Weed Control

A concentrated effort is being made to control musk thistle, Russian knapweed, tall and regular whitetop, and other noxious weeds throughout the Roosevelt-Duchesne Ranger Districts and Duchesne County. Musk Thistle, whitetop, and Russian Knapweed have been found on the allotment. Your help is needed in finding and reporting all weed infestations. If you find weeds, please take contact Amber Helmus. Amber will talk to the weeds crew about avoiding spraying areas with cattle.

Salting

Salt needs to be used to help livestock distribution. Salting should not occur near key areas (seeded species and stream corridor) but on the alluvial fans that are vegetated with bullgrass. **Do not** salt in or near Sowers Creek and wet meadows.

Actual Use Record

The **actual use record and maintenance report** included with these operating instructions **needs to be filled out and returned immediately following the grazing season**. Permittees need to turn in separate actual use reports. If anything comes up concerning the allotment or your permit, contact Amber Helmus at (435) 781-5205 or cell (435) 790-7058. Thanks for your cooperation and have a good summer.

Amber Helmus
Rangeland Management Specialist

2010 Actual Use Record

ALLOTMENT NAME Sowers Canyon

NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK GRAZED _____

DATE ENTERED NATIONAL FOREST _____

DATE LEFT NATIONAL FOREST _____

HOURS WORKED ON MAINTENANCE OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS _____

MONEY SPENT FOR MAINTENANCE OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS _____

HOURS WORKED ON CONSTRUCTION OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS _____

MONEY SPENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS _____

RECORD OF USE BY UNITS WITHIN ALLOTMENT (AS SHOWN ON MAP)

Unit Name	Sub-Unit	Sequence	Number	Dates of Use
Deathtrap (Main Canyon)		3 rd		
	Corral Hollow	3 rd		
	Spring Hollow	3 rd		
	Y-Canyon	3 rd		
	Lower Bottom	3 rd		
	Head Canyon	3 rd		
Road Hollow (Main Canyon)		2 nd		
	Trapper Canyon	1 st		
	Broad Hollow	2 nd		
	Lance Canyon	2 nd		
	Road Hollow	2 nd		
Twin Hollow (Main Canyon)		1 st		
	Jolie Hollow	1 st		
	Clayburn Canyon	1 st		
	North Twin Hollow	1 st		
	South Twin Hollow	1 st		
Bull Pasture		1 st		

LOSSES: NUMBERS _____ CAUSES _____

PLACE _____

SIGNATURE _____

COMMENTS: (Include needed range improvements and proposed changes in annual plan of use on the back of this paper).