

Annual Operating Instructions

2015

Joe Lott Fish Creek Allotment

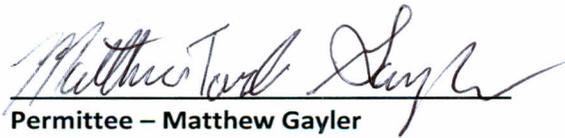
Beaver RD, Fishlake NF



Permittee – Missouri Flat LLC
c/o Noel Charlson

4/9/15

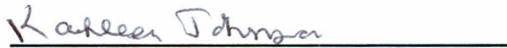
Date



Permittee – Matthew Gayler

4-10-15

Date



Kathleen Johnson
District Ranger

4/9/15

Date

**Annual Operating Instructions
2015
Joe Lott Fish Creek Allotment
Beaver RD, Fishlake NF**

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 which requires changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some or part of these instructions, contact the District Ranger and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions. Failure to follow these instructions is a violation of your permit.

Permittee	Ear Tag Color & #'s	Permitted*			Authorized**		
		Number	Class	Season	Number	Class	Season
Missouri Flat (Clear Creek Herd)	01-444 Yellow	444	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30	444	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30
Missouri Flat (Fish Creek Herd)	1-300 Green	300	Cow/calf	6/16-9/30	300	Cow/calf	6/16-9/30
Matthew Gayler	445-484 Yellow	40	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30	40	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30

*Permitted use is the livestock numbers and season of use listed on your grazing permit.
 **Authorized use is the number of livestock and season of use you are authorized for in the current grazing season and reflects stocking and/or season of use adjustments for the given year.

Non-use: None.

Please be aware that nonuse in excess of 10% of your permitted numbers must be requested at least 30 days before the "on" date. Nonuse for personal convenience may be approved on a year-to-year basis for a maximum of three consecutive years and not more than four years in any 10-year period. Longer periods of nonuse for range protection will only be approved under a written agreement.

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

Grazing Schedule

Unit (Pasture)	Tentative Dates*	Days/Unit	Number of Livestock
***North Cedars	9/1 – 9/30	30	Gathering
Lower Shingle Creek	6/16 -7/5	20	300
Upper Shingle Cr./Sawmill Bench	7/6 – 9/30	95	300
Fish Creek Meadows	7/6 – 9/30	95	340
Lower Sargent Mountain	6/11 – 7/1	20	144
**Sargent Mountain	7/2 – 9/30	91	144
Mud Springs	6/11 – 7/5	25	340
***Willow Springs	9/1 – 9/30	30	Gathering

*The above schedule is an **estimate** and may be modified at any time if: utilization levels are met, water availability is inadequate, drought, delayed forage development or wet soil conditions.

**Early removal from this pasture is planned by both forest and permittee. Once utilization levels are reached livestock will be removed.

*** Some gathering from the higher elevation pastures will occur within Willow Springs but this will only be while livestock are being gathered and removed from the allotment. Scheduled use will not occur during the 2015 grazing season.

Forest provided current drought conditions based on snonet sites on the Beaver Ranger District. Drought advisory letter may be issued to all permittees this year.

Allowable use levels are more important than tentative dates listed above. If allowable use levels are met early in the scheduled pasture, cattle will be required to be moved to another area of the pasture, moved to another pasture, or removed from the Forest. If early pasture moves occur, District range personnel or the District Ranger must be notified. Delayed pasture moves must be coordinated with District range personnel or the District Ranger prior to the scheduled move date.

Type of rotation: Deferred Rotation

All livestock must be removed from the Forest by the permitted off date listed above.

Previous year's grazing results:

Joe Lott Fish Creek 2014 Utilization		
Lower Shingle Cr.	% use	UTM
JLFC-LSC-01	34%	369154, 4271963
JLFC-LSC-02	33%	368291, 4272270
JLFC-LSC-03	31%	369066, 4271378
Upper Shingle Cr.		
JLFC-USC-01	N/A	
Sawmill Bench		
JLFC-SMB-01	18%	
Mud Spring		
JLFC-MS-01	34%	377622, 4267134
JLFC-MS-02	31%	374891, 4268413
Fish Creek Meadow		
JLFC-FCM-01	2%	375231, 4263052
JLFC-FCM-02	11%	374374, 4261569
JLFC-FCM-03	30%	375044, 4263794
North Cedars		
JLFC-NC-01	36%	377243, 4269691
JLFC-NC-02	35%	378479, 4269008
Sargent Mountain		
JLFC-SM-01	N/A	384374, 4262867
JLFC-SM-02	N/A	384014, 4264201
Willow Spring		
JLFC-WS-01	10%	373521, 4269007
JLFC-WS-02	24%	372151, 4269160

Additional utilization plots will be established within Fish Creek Meadows pasture, Mud Springs pasture, Sargent Mountain pasture and Sawmill Bench/Shingle Creek Meadows.

Notice of Non-compliance/Suspension Actions: None.

Additional instructions: Pay extra attention to livestock use on Fish Creek and Shingle Creek. If livestock “hang” on these two drainages they MUST be removed from the pasture.

Missouri Flats LLC will have a full time rider on the allotment throughout the summer. A special use permit will be issued to allow an exemption to the 16 day camp limit. Matthew Gayler also wants a full time range camp. These camps are for day to day operation of management of livestock, not for personal camping.

UTILIZATION STANDARDS & MONITORING

Maximum Allowable Forage Use Criteria

Vegetation Type	Stubble Height/Use	Comments
Riparian Hydric Species	4"	Triggers the time to move livestock between units or off the allotment.
Riparian Emphasis Management Areas	6"	Triggers the time to move livestock between units or off the allotment.
Non-hydric sod forming grass species in riparian areas	1.5"	Primarily Kentucky bluegrass-Triggers the time to move livestock between units or off the allotment.
Wheatgrass seedings	60%	Management option to exceed 60% use to maintain healthy seedings.
Riparian/upland browse: Sprouts and young-aged plants	≤40%	# of current year’s available twigs removed.
Riparian/upland mature browse	≤50%	# of current year’s available twigs removed.
Upland grass/forb	40-60% of key species; varies by grazing system and desired condition	% of current year’s growth.
Riparian ground cover	Maintain ground cover of at least 70% within riparian areas.	

The above utilization standards take precedence over the tentative dates listed in the grazing schedule. You are responsible to monitor your livestock and comply with the listed utilization standards and to move livestock prior to any of the above standards being exceeded.

Compliance monitoring inspections will be conducted by Forest Service personnel throughout the grazing season in key areas across the allotment. You are invited and it is recommended that you participate in these inspections.

Exceeding the utilization standards may be considered as non-compliance with your Term Grazing Permit and may be subject to suspension or cancellation of the permit.

Additional instructions: Pay close attention to use on aspen and riparian standards.

BILLING

Your annual grazing bill must be paid and notification received in our office prior to turning livestock onto the National Forest. It may take 10 days or more from the time you mail your payment until we receive payment notification so plan accordingly.

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

You are responsible for maintaining the range improvements assigned to you in Part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit. All improvements are to be maintained to standard prior to livestock entering the pasture, even in the event of non-use. Standards are found in your Term Grazing Permit or at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/fishlake/resources/rangemgt.shtml> . Livestock entry onto the Forest may be delayed if improvements are not maintained to acceptable standards.

Scheduled reconstruction for upcoming season:

- 1- Forest is going work on the 60" cattle guard in the narrows dropping into Fish Creek from Mud Springs.
- 2- Reconstruct the fence around the spring and collection box on Sawmill Bench.
- 3- Reconstruct the fence around Skinner Spring.

Forest Service will maintain to the best of their ability the following trails. These trails continually require maintenance and may not be passable at all times due to down fall and erosions.

- 1- 049 Service Berry
- 2- 046 Shingle Creek Meadows
- 3- 281 Shingle Creek to Shingle Creek Meadows
- 4- 203 Shingle Creek to Pine Creek Pass
- 5- 201 Shingle Creek
- 6- Snow Canyon in bottom of Shingle Creek.

You must obtain prior written approval from the District Ranger before constructing/installing structural range improvements or using or applying any pesticide/herbicide except for personal use of insect repellent.

Any improvement, which is no longer functional or no longer needed, will be removed from the allotment by the permittee. The removal of any improvement must have prior approval by the District Ranger.

Failure to maintain your assigned range improvements may be considered as non-compliance with your Term Grazing Permit and may be subject to suspension or cancellation of your permit.

Additional instructions: Your assigned improvements must be maintained to standard prior to livestock entering the pasture.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

You or the association will furnish sufficient riders or herders for proper distribution, protection and management of livestock on the allotment as required by the Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and/or Annual Operating Instructions (AOI).

You are required to submit actual use information for the allotment. Please complete the enclosed form and return it to the district office within two weeks of removal of livestock from the Forest.

Salt and other dietary supplements are a distribution tool, and as such, should not be placed within ¼ mile of riparian areas, water troughs and ponds; within 200 ft. of designated roads, trails, trail heads or camping spots which have frequent use. Avoid salting in or near tree plantations or regenerating aspen stands. Exceptions to these standards must have prior approval.

Salt will be moved from areas where feed has been used to standards.

The Fishlake National Forest Travel Plan must be followed while managing livestock unless approved in advance and in writing by the District Ranger.

Livestock should be drifted instead of trailed wherever possible. Previously grazed units must have all livestock removed from them.

All livestock feed or straw brought onto the Forest must be certified weed free per Regional Forester's Order #04-00-058, dated March 26, 1996 (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/fishlake/resources/rangemgt.shtml>).

Dead livestock shall be moved at least ¼ mile from roads, water sources, and camping spots, which have evidence of frequent use.

All garbage resulting from activities associated with this permit shall be removed from National Forest lands and disposed of properly.

Additional instructions: Contact Reggie Swenson or Kathy Johnson if questions or concerns arise during the grazing season.

Adequate livestock control on the allotment is becoming a more difficult task each year. It is in your best interest to frequently check gates within the pastures and ensure they are closed as needed. Report all situations to the Forest where livestock gain access to incorrect pastures as you become aware of them. When moving livestock from one pasture to another (or off the allotment) it is expected that the pasture be clean of livestock within 5 days of the initial move.

ACTUAL USE, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE 2015 GRAZING SEASON

Allotment: Joe Lott Fish Creek

Permittee: _____

Pasture	Sequence	Entry Date	Exit Date	No. Of Cattle

I maintained the following improvements this year: _____

Material Cost \$ _____ Labor Cost \$ _____

Number of days spent managing the Allotment: _____

Death Loss: _____ Cows, _____ Calves. Caused by: Poisonous plants _____
Disease _____

Comments: _____

Return form at end of Grazing Season

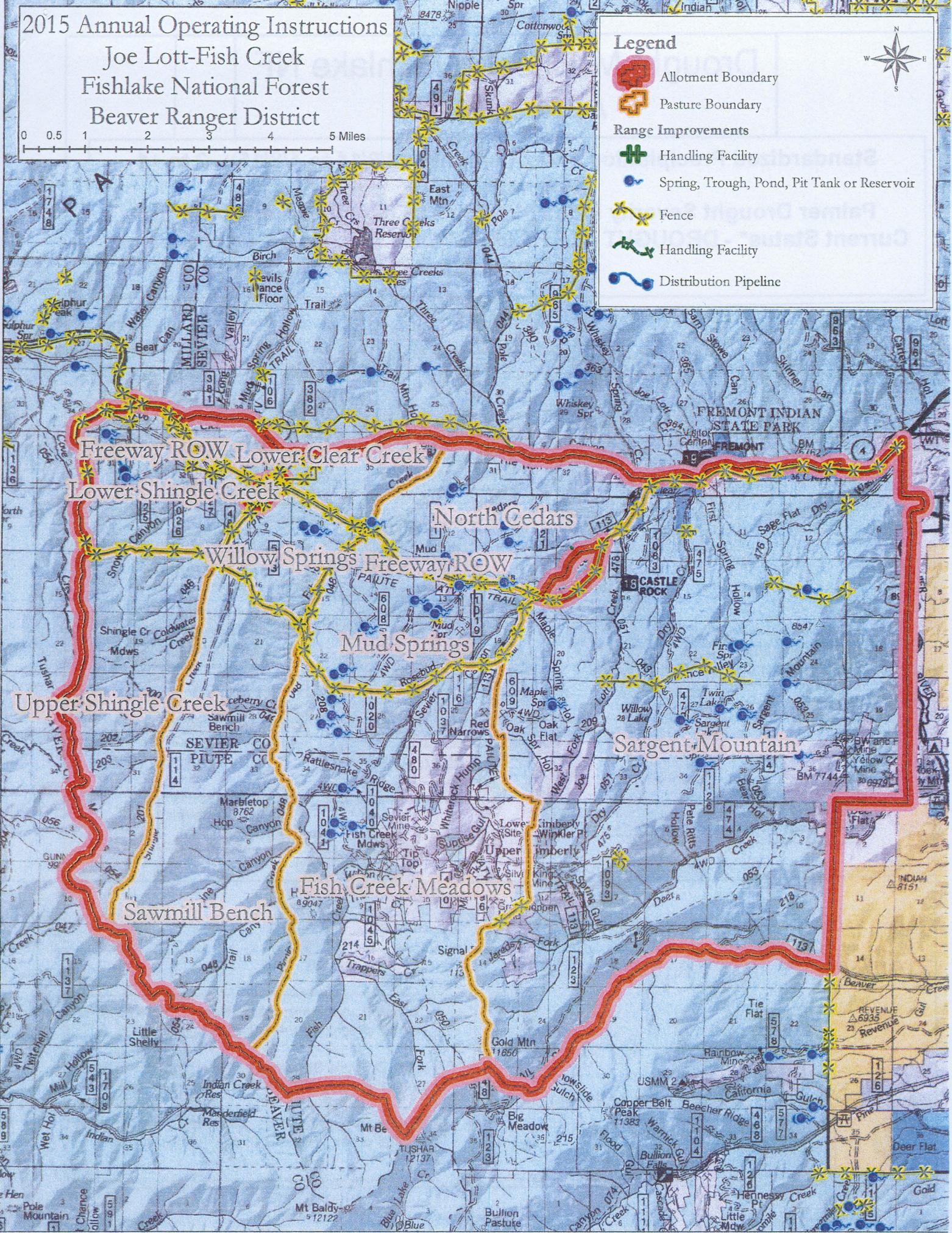
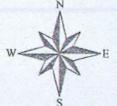
Return form to: District Ranger
PO Box E
Beaver, Utah 84713

2015 Annual Operating Instructions
 Joe Lott-Fish Creek
 Fishlake National Forest
 Beaver Ranger District

0 0.5 1 2 3 4 5 Miles

Legend

-  Allotment Boundary
-  Pasture Boundary
- Range Improvements**
-  Handling Facility
-  Spring, Trough, Pond, Pit Tank or Reservoir
-  Fence
-  Handling Facility
-  Distribution Pipeline

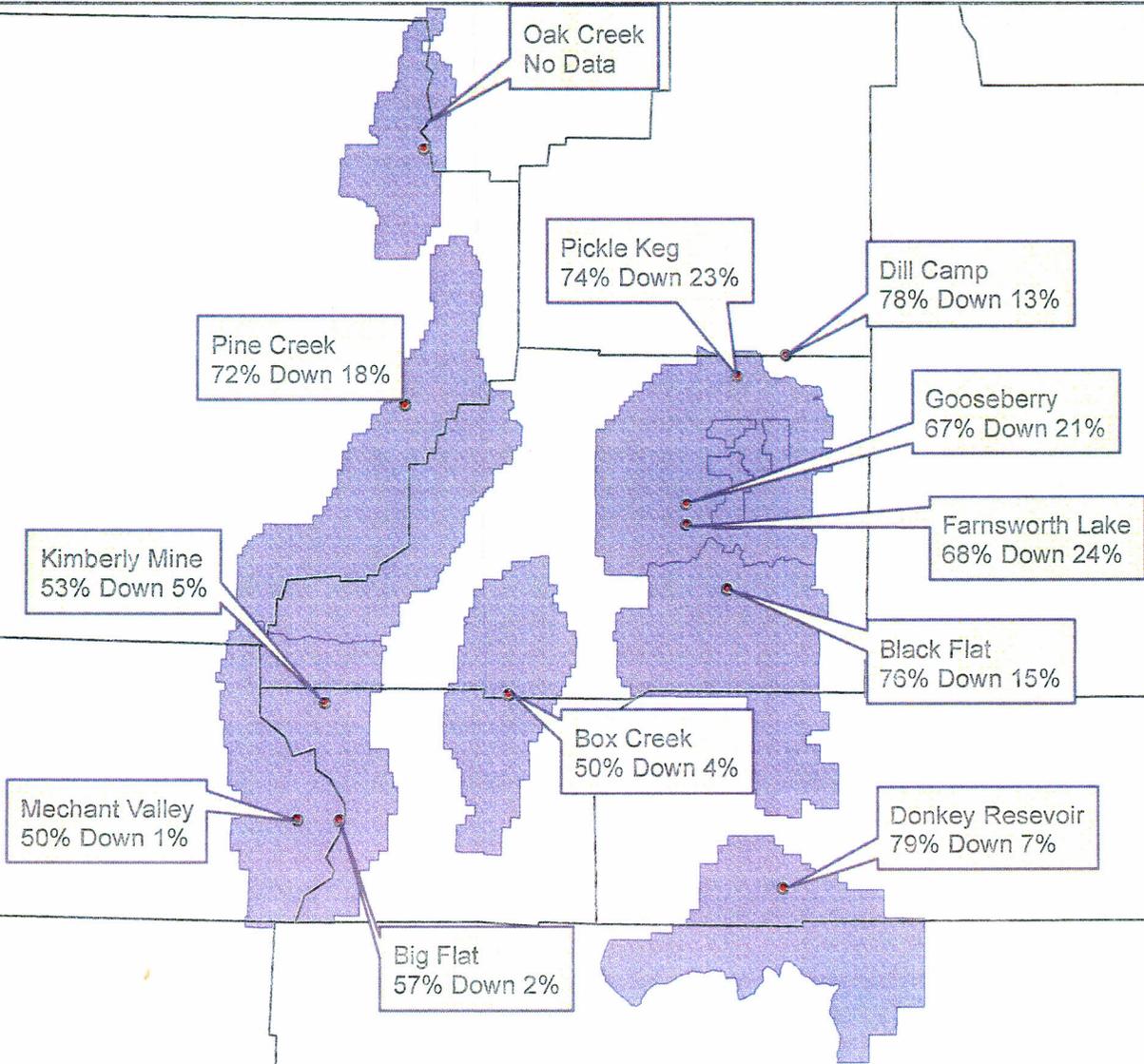


Drought Monitoring Fishlake NF

April 9, 2015

Standardized Precipitation Index (6 month 10/9/14 to 4/8/15): -2 to +1
(Normal to dry)

Palmer Drought Severity Index (4/4/15): -3.9 to -3.0 (Severe Drought)
Current Status* - DROUGHT ALERT (FILLMORE RD); No drought advisory on other districts



Legend

- Snotel Site (% of normal precip)
- Utah Counties
- Forest Boundary

*Drought Advisory after Feb 1 if: <75% of normal precip, SPI <-1.0 and Palmer <-1.5.

Alert Drought Status after March 15 if: <75% of normal precip, SPI <-1.5 and Palmer <-3.0.

Severe Drought Status after May 1 if: <75% of normal precip, SPI <-2.0 and Palmer <-4.0.

