



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Manti-La Sal
National Forest

Moab/Monticello Ranger District
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File Code: 2210/2230

Date: May 5, 2011

Paul D. Redd
c/o Steven Redd
P.O. Box 624
Monticello, Utah 84535

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN
RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Dear Mr. Redd:

This letter will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the South Paradox, North Paradox and Deep Creek C&H Allotments for the 2011 grazing season. This AOI is made part of your Term Grazing Permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, item 8(a). A failure to follow these instructions is a violation of your permit. The AOI complies with the standards and guidelines found in the Forest Plan. **Please read your instructions thoroughly.**

AUTHORIZED USE FOR 2011

Allotment	Numbers	Kind	Class	Season	Permittee	Non-use	
						Resource protection	Personal convenience
South Paradox (Hop Creek and Two Mile Divisions)	950-1000	Cattle	Cow/Calf	Between 06/01 and 11/10	Paul D. Redd		
South Paradox (Pine Ridge Division)	16*	Cattle	Cow/Calf	11/01 to 06/10	Paul D. Redd		
North Paradox	214	Cattle	Cow/Calf	06/15 to 10/15	Paul D. Redd		
Deep Creek	23	Cattle	Cow/Calf	08/01 to 10/15	Paul D. Redd		

*Grazed in conjunction with adjacent BLM lands in the spring and fall equivalent to 16 c/c for a season from Nov 1 to June 10.



GRAZING SYSTEM AND SCHEDULE

South Paradox:

Pasture	Number	Kind	Approximate Dates
Hop Creek Unit	500	Cattle	06/01 – 06/22
Paradox Creek Unit	450	Cattle	10/19 – 11/10
Hang Dog Unit	250	Cattle	07/10 – 07/30
Hang Dog Unit	250	Cattle	07/25 – 07/30 (rest of herd trailing through)
Two Mile Unit	500	Cattle	10/01 – 10/10
Pine Ridge	16	Cattle	Between 11/01 and 06/10

North Paradox:

Pasture	Number	Kind	Approximate Dates
Roc Creek Unit	214	Cattle	06/15 – 07/10
West Carpenter Unit	214	Cattle	07/11 - 08/05
Buckeye Unit	214	Cattle	08/06 – 09/05
East Carpenter Unit	214	Cattle	09/06 – 10/15
Dry Point*	450	Cattle	10/19 – 11/10

*Dry Point will be used in conjunction with the Paradox Creek pasture of the South Paradox allotment.

Deep Creek:

Pasture	Number	Kind	Approximate Dates
Deep Creek	23**	Cattle	08/01 – 10/15

**This small allotment is used in conjunction with surrounding private lands. The use on the Forested portion is estimated to be equivalent to 23 c/c for a period of Aug 1 to Oct 15.

Permitted pack and saddle stock authorized on the allotment for livestock management will not exceed four head. This is separate from the 4 head that is on your permit and you are billed for.

Your allotment should be inspected for range readiness to determine forage growth and fence and water improvement conditions. **The pasture move dates shown above are an estimate, and may change on the basis of actual range conditions.** Situations may develop during the grazing season which 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.

PROPER GRAZING-USE INDICATORS

Utilization standards are tools used in achieving or moving towards desired rangeland conditions. Utilization standards are not the desired conditions or management objectives themselves, they are indicators. Desired conditions and objectives are discussed in the 1986 Forest Plan and/or the Allotment Management Plan.

Desired goals in the 1986 Forest Plan include:

- Bring livestock obligation in line with rangeland carrying capacity

- Maintain upward or stable trends in vegetation and soil condition.

Management Objectives in the 1990 South Paradox Allotment Management Plan include:

- Improve riparian condition along Hop Creek by stabilizing the banks and by increasing vegetation density and ground cover.
- Maintain the riparian condition along Twomile and Paradox Creeks.
- Increase ground cover density, improve desirable forage species composition and production.

Management Objectives in the 1967 North Paradox Allotment Management Plan include:

- Obtain maximum sustained yield use of the forage resource.
- Maintain adequate plant cover adequate to provide soil stability.

Management Objectives in the 1969 Deep Creek Allotment Management Plan include:

- Obtain maximum sustained yield use of the forage resource.
- Maintain adequate plant and ground cover for maximum soil stability.

The 1990 Forest Plan Amendment for Range Proper-Use Criteria states proper use as ranging from 40-65% use of upland key species depending on the grazing system applied and from 30-60% use of riparian key species depending season of use. (see Forest Plan Amendment attached). This amendment kept the existing provision that proper use criteria are to be established on an allotment by allotment basis and as given in the AMP and AOIs. The proper use criteria listed in the box below are within the ranges identified in the Forest Plan amendment. However, these more specific criteria have been established in order to ensure plant recovery from grazing in the East and West Fork Hop Creek riparian areas and adjacent open meadows.

1. Forage Utilization on Key Species: Uplands			
<u>Maximum Forage Utilization</u>			
<u>Based on the Average Current Year's Growth</u>			
<u>(includes use by livestock and wildlife)</u>			
<u>Uplands</u>			
<u>Management System</u>	<u>Percent Use of Key Species*</u>		
	<u>June pastures</u>	<u>July-Aug pastures</u>	<u>Sept-Nov pastures</u>
<u>Season Long Use</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>
<u>Deferred Rotation</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>40-50</u>	<u>50</u>
<u>Rest Rotation</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>40-50</u>	<u>50</u>
Management systems that may be used on the allotment include but are not limited to those listed above.			
2. Browse Utilization on Key Woody Shrubs: Riparian and Upland (non-Aspen)			
Browsing hits on new leaders of key riparian (willow) and upland woody shrubs should not exceed 45%.			
3. Browse Utilization on Aspen Suckering			
Midseason browse should be avoided over consecutive years. Intensity of terminal leader browse should be minimized during mid- and late season. Repeat browsing of suckers within a growing season should be avoided.			

4. Forage Utilization on Key Species*: Riparian, Greenline, and Wetland**

<u>Vegetation Type</u>	<u>Percent Utilization by Season Used</u>			<u>Stubble Height</u>	<u>Comments</u>
	<u>June</u>	<u>July/Aug</u>	<u>Sept/Nov</u>		
<u>Greenline Hydric Species</u>	<u>< 45</u>	<u>< 45</u>	<u>< 40</u>	<u>4-5''</u>	<u>Utilization standard at the time livestock are in the pasture, stubble height, vegetation remaining at end of the growing season.</u>
<u>Hydric species in wetlands** not influenced by streams</u>	<u>< 45</u>	<u>< 45</u>	<u>< 40</u>	<u>4-5''</u>	<u>Utilization standard at the time livestock are in the pasture, stubble height, vegetation remaining at end of the growing season.</u>
<u>Non-hydric species in riparian areas</u>	<u>< 45</u>	<u>< 45</u>	<u>< 40</u>	<u>2-3''</u>	<u>Utilization standard at the time livestock are in the pasture, stubble height, vegetation remaining at end of the growing season.</u>

* The key species selected will depend upon the plant species in the present plant community, the present ecological status, and the potential natural communities for the specific sites monitored.

**Typically perennially wetlands are not grazed, this refers to seasonal wetlands.

5. Soil Disturbance

Riparian, Wetlands, Springs and Seeps

Stream bank alteration – *Current year stream bank alteration due to shearing, trampling and trailing – no more than an average of 30% of the **reach area monitored.

Wetland, spring or seep soils – No more than an average of 30% of the wetland, spring or seep area will be disturbed by *current year trampling or trailing.

*Current-year alteration is discernible from previous years' alteration because of weathering effects of freeze/thaw cycles, rain events, and erosion by stream flow or vegetative regrowth.

**A stream reach is the length of the stream selected for monitoring. A suitable size is usually no less than 100m long and ideally it should have a variety of flows.

Upland Soils –

Slopes 0-25% - No more than 30% soil disturbance*

Slopes 26-40% - No more than 20% soil disturbance*

Slopes over 40% - No more than 10% soil disturbance*

– Generally slopes over 40% are too steep for cattle and do not get used.

*This is current year disturbance attributed to cattle use within the key are monitored.

There is a difference between where percentage utilized is applied and where stubble height is applied to determine proper use in riparian areas. Percent utilized is used for plant species that are within the larger riparian area (the area that is influenced by the stream and the water table) but not along the greenline. The greenline is the first perennial vegetation on or near the stream's edge that is at least one foot wide. Stubble height measurements are used to determine proper use along the greenline. The plant species considered are typically water loving species (hydric species) such as sedges.

It is your responsibility as the permittee to recognize when proper use has been reached and promptly move all cattle as necessary. If you need some assistance, or methods and tools for determining proper use, please contact Tina Marian.

When proper use has been reached in the unit being grazed, your cattle are to be herded to the next scheduled unit. **When proper use is reached in the last unit grazed, all cattle are to be removed from the allotment, even if this date is prior to the end of your grazing season.** Cattle found on the Allotment before or after the permitted grazing season will be billed at the unauthorized use rate and permit non-compliance actions will be initiated.

You should be aware that Forest Service policy provides that “an authorized officer may require the permittee to monitor and report information on compliance with the grazing permit, allotment management plan and annual operation instructions as a term and condition of your permit.”

To facilitate livestock moves, gates may be opened a few days prior to the scheduled move date only when moving into an adjacent pasture. Gates must be closed and the grazed pasture entirely cleaned of livestock no later than five days following the scheduled move date. Grazed pastures must be kept clean of livestock following the pasture move.

IMPROVEMENTS

Thank you for completing your 2010 improvement agreements.

As discussed during your 2011 AOI meeting:

For 2011, you have agreed to clean out/repair three ponds in the Hop Creek pasture and one in Hang Dog as approximately shown on the map attached.

The archeologist/District ranger will clear you to clean several other ponds in the Hop Creek and Twomile units, however it will depend on condition of ponds on whether maintenance is needed and so these ponds are not part of the 2011 agreement that MUST be completed.

For 2011, you have agreed to evaluate and maintain if needed, the fence that is located in the South ½ of Sec 6 and North ½ of Sec 7 referred to as the Carpenter Ridge Unit fence in the permit. The approximate location of this fence is shown on the attached map.

For 2011, you agreed to maintain the Bear Wallow trough (Improvement # 44182 on permit) located in the SW ¼ of Sec. 31 T49N, R20W in the Roc Creek pasture, as shown on the attached map.

When you complete your fence and spring agreements you must fill out and sign the Improvement Agreement Form (pink) that is found in your folder. I suggest that you provide photographs of before and after conditions to assist in documenting compliance with maintenance requirements. I also encourage you to contact Tina when you complete your maintenance so she can schedule a timely inspection.

If you fail to bring the above agreed improvements up to standard in 2011 you will not be allowed to stock the allotment in 2012 until the agreement is fulfilled.

Range improvements are essential in ensuring that livestock are well distributed and that Forest standards and guides are met.

- Improvements are to be maintained to standard prior to livestock entering the pasture and that failure to do so is a violation of their permit and action will be taken when violations are documented.
- If improvements have not been maintained, then develop a schedule to bring them up to standard.
- Until all improvements are functional it is not appropriate to authorize full numbers or season of use, unless assurances can be made that utilization standards will not be exceeded.

The maintenance of all structural improvements listed under part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit, Special Terms and Conditions: *Construction and Maintenance of Structural Improvements* is a requirement and should be completed prior to your entry onto the Forest. The allotment permittee or permittees are responsible for the maintenance of all structural range improvements on this allotment. For allotments managed by an Association or Herd Manager specific maintenance responsibilities may be assigned to individual permittees by the Association President or Herd Manager.

If you wish to use forest products (trees and oak brush) from the National Forest to maintain your fences/spring enclosures on your allotment, you must receive authorization from either the Moab or Monticello Office prior to cutting.

NEPA and PLANNED PROJECTS

The South Paradox allotment is scheduled to have an environmental analysis completed in 2011 to meet the requirements of Public Law 104-19, Section 504(a): Establish and adhere to a schedule for the completion of National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) analysis and decisions on all allotments within the National Forest System unit for which NEPA is needed (PL 104-19 section, General Provision 1995). You were sent a scoping letter presenting the proposed action and have met previously with myself and Tina Marian regarding the environmental analysis.

MISCELLANEOUS

Refer to Special Terms and Conditions in Part 3 of Term Grazing Permit for specific instructions pertaining to maintenance standards for range stock water developments, range fences, corrals, and herding standards.

All permitted livestock must be branded with your registered brand as documented in your Term Permit before they enter the National Forest.

Place salt blocks away from water, roads, meadows and other open areas so as to draw livestock into areas that receive light utilization. When livestock leave a pasture move the salt out of the pasture as well.

You will furnish sufficient riders or herders to achieve proper distribution of livestock.

Certified Weed Free Hay must be used if you do any supplemental feeding of horses on the allotment while gathering or moving cattle.

If you find the need to use mechanical clearing (tractors, bulldozers etc.) of fence lines or to clean ponds or other water improvements, you must have proper archeological clearance and permission from the District Ranger.

Enclosed in your AOI folder you will find an Actual Use Record sheet. As your 2011 grazing season progresses, please fill out this form in detail and return it promptly at the end of the grazing season. There are also extra sheets included in the folder where you are encouraged to document management on your allotment.

PAYMENT OF FEES

The permittee will not allow owned or controlled livestock to be on Forest Service-administered lands unless the fees specified in the Bill for Collection are paid and confirmation of payment through the "lock box" process is received prior to livestock entering NFS lands.

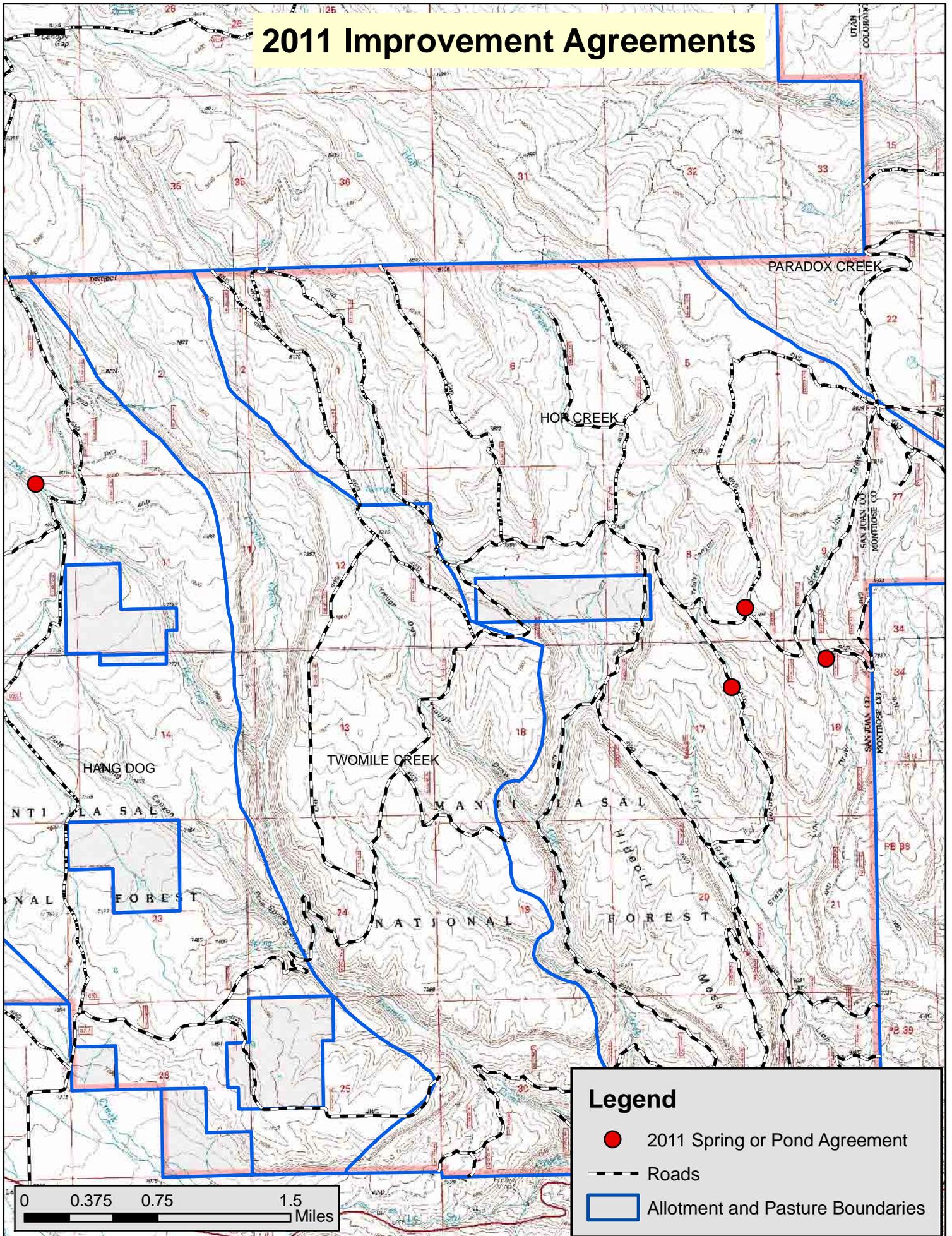
I am looking forward to working with you this summer. Please don't hesitate to call Tina Marian (435-636-3368) if you have any questions or if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Diem".

MICHAEL DIEM
District Ranger

2011 Improvement Agreements



2011 Improvement Agreements

