Annual Operating Instructions
2015
Cottonwood Allotment
Fillmore 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
South Division							
Charles Brown	Pink 1-78	80	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30	80	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30
David Brown	Pink 79 - 175	100	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30	100	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30
Brock Hansen	Pink 176 – 204	30	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30	30	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30
Kade Brown	Pink 205 - 260	58	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30	58	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30
Harvey G & Mary Ivie	Pink 261 - 283	24	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30	24	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30
North Division							
Buchanan Ranches	Purple 1 – 73	75	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30	75	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30
Sheldon Buchanan	Purple 74 - 131	60	Cow/calf	6/11-9/30	60	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:
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

2014 **Grazing Schedule**

Unit (Pasture)	Tentative Dates*	Days/Unit	Number of Livestock
South Division			
Big Hollow	6/11 until proper use is reached	Variable	292
Burnt Hollow	Based on proper use	Variable	292
Deer Creek	Based on proper use	Variable	292
Upper Cottonwood	Based on proper use	Variable	292
Goat Springs	Based on proper use	Variable	292
North Division			
Little Valley	6/11 until proper use is reached	Variable	90
Lower Willow creek	6/11 until proper use is reached	variable	45
Lower Cottonwood	Based on proper use	Variable	135
Mill Canyon	Based on proper use	Variable	135

2015 **Grazing Schedule**

Unit (Pasture)	Tentative Dates*	Days/Unit	Number of Livestock
South Division			
Burnt Hollow	6/11 until proper use is reached	Variable	292
Big Hollow	Based on proper use	Variable	292
Deer Creek	Based on proper use	Variable	292
Upper Cottonwood	Based on proper use	Variable	292
Goat Springs	Based on proper use	Variable	292
North Division			
Little Valley	6/11 until proper use is reached	Variable	90
Lower Willow creek	rested	rested	rested
Lower Cottonwood	Based on proper use	Variable	135
Mill Canyon	Based on proper use	Variable	135

*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.

If allowable use levels are met early in the scheduled pasture, cattle will be moved to another pasture, or removed from the Forest.

Type of rotation: Deferred rotation

Cattle should be kept in the proper pasture at all times, when proper use is met in the current pasture All cattle should be removed and not be allowed to return for the remainder of the season.

All livestock must be removed from the Forest by the permitted off date listed above. This means if it takes you 10 days to gather your cattle you should begin on Sept 20.

Additional instructions: Grazing will begin when perennial grasses reach the flower head stage in both the North and South Divisions.

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.	

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, it is recommended that you participate in these inspections.

Key areas for each unit are: **South Division;** Big Hollow**,** Area along road about half way between pond next to road and cattle guard between big hollow and Burnt Hollow Units. Goat Spring, Head of East Corn Creek and bottom of Pauls Canyon.

North Division; Deer Creek, Deer Creek bottom between cattleguard and pond, Mill Canyon, Head of mill Canyon and the head of Three Forks, Cottonwood, Bottom of Cottonwood and terraces in the head of Willardson Springs.

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

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 a 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.

Improvement type	**Number**	**Name**	**Length**	**Location**	**Maintenance Responsiblity**
Fence	010301	Big Hollow Fence,	6 mile,	N1/2 Sec. 4, T25S, R4W Sec. 21, N1/2, Section 28	Permittees South
Fence	010111	Cottonwood-Corn Creek Division Fence	1.5 miles	W1/4, Section 16, T23S, R4W.	Permittees South
Fence	010113	Meadow Creek Protection Fence	1.6 miles	Section 31, T22S R3W Section 4, T23S, R4W	Permittees North
Fence	010269	Hans Ridge Fence	2.8 miles	NE1/2, Section 16 & 15, NE1/4 Section 22, S1/2, Section 23, NE1/4 Section26, NW1/4, Section 25 T22S, R3W.	Permittees North
Fence	010380	Little Valley Unit Fences 2 cattleguards, upper & lower	1.5 miles	Section 25 & 19, T23S, R4W	Permittees North
Fence	010262	Deer Creek Fence	1.5 miles	section 14, 15, &16, T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Fence	010518	Deer Creek Ridge Fence	3 miles	Section 10, T23S, R3W	Permittees South
Fence	010493	Big Hollow-Burnt Hollow Unit Fence	1.75 miles	Section 28, 27, & 34 T23S, R4W	Permittee South
Improvement Type	Number	Name	Size	Location	Maintenance Responsiblity
Trough	010065	Mill Canyon Spring trough		Section 26, T22S, R3W	Permittees North
Trough	010068	Mud spring trough		Section 27, T22S, R3W	Permittees South
Diversion and Pipeline	010289	Little Valley spring & pipeline		SE1/4SW1/4, Section 23, T23S, R3W	Permittees North
Spring and Trough	010152	Goat Springs trough		SW1/4, Section 5, T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Trough	010291	Newts Spring trough		Section 23, T22S, R3W	Permittees North,Cedar Ridge
Trough	010035	Chidester Spring trough		Section 27, T22S, R3W	Permittees South
Trough	010375	Cottonwood pipeline & troughs		Section 3, T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Trough	010040	Deer Creek Spring trough (redview)		Section 14, T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Trough	010381	Paul Canyon Spring		Section 4, T23S, R4W	Permittees North
Trough	010085	South Three Forks Spring trough		Section 22, T22S, R3W	Permittees North
Trough	######	Willardson Spring trough		Section 28, T22S, R3W	Permittees North
Pipe line		Big Hollow -Mud Spring pipeline		Section 4, T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Troughs		Big Hollow -Mud Spring Troughs		Section 4, T23S, R4W	Permittees South

Well		Big Hollow -Mud Spring Well		Section 4, T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Pond	010122	Big Hollow Reservoir		NW1/4NW1/4, Section 25, T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Pond	010137	Burnt Hollow Reservoir,.		NW1/4NW1/4, section 23, T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Pond	010131	North Fork of Burnt #1 Reservoir		NW1/4NW1/4, Section 23, T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Pond	010132	North Fork of Burnt #2 Reservoir		NE1/4, Section 26, T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Pond	010130	North Fork of Big Hollow Reservoir		SE1/4, Section 34, T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Pond	010134	West Fork of Big Hollow Reservoir		SW1/4Section 22, T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Pond	010128	Middle Fork Burnt Hollow Reservoir, Section		27, T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Pond	010133	South Fork Burnt Hollow Reservoir		NW1/4SW1/4, Section 26, T23S, R3W	Permittees South
Pond	010326	Lower Middle Fork Burnt Hollow Reservoir		NW1/4, Section 26, T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Pond	010287	Deer Creek Reservoir		Section 10, T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Pond	010515	Hans Ridge Reservoir		Section 15, T22S, R3W	Permittees North
Pond	010516	Upper East Corn Creek Reservoir, Section 4		T23S, R4W	Permittees South
Pond		Little Valley Reservoir #1		Section 20, T23S,	Permittees North
Pond		Little Valley Reservoir #2		R3W Section 20, T23S, R3W	Permittees North

Scheduled reconstruction for upcoming season: ¼ mile reconstruction of fence in south side.
Installation of troughs and guzzler in Little Valley.
All improvement must be maintained to Forest Service standards.
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.

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). Additional herding may be necessary to have 100% compliance with the pasture rotation. Despite the additional workload it is crucial to keep cattle is scheduled pasture.

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 removed 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.

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.