

**Annual Operating Instructions
2015
Meadow Creek 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 |
| Jeff Loveless | White 1-125 | 125 | Cow/calf | 6/16-9/30 | 125 | Cow/calf | 6/16-9/30 |
| <small>*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.</small> | | | | | | | |

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

Grazing Schedule

| Unit (Pasture) | Tentative Dates* | Days/Unit | Number of Livestock |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| Meadow Creek Unit | Rested | 0 | 125 |
| Walker Canyon | 6/16-9/30 | 107 | 125 |

*We will begin grazing this year when the perennial grasses are into the flower head. We will inspect your allotment prior to the on date.

Once allowable use levels are met 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.

Type of rotation: Rest Rotation

All livestock must be removed from the Forest by the permitted off date listed above. This means if it takes you 5 days to remove your cattle from the forest you should begin September 25.

Previous year’s grazing results: Thank you for your effort in managements the allotment last year. We look forward to working with you again this year.

Notice of Non-compliance/Suspension Actions: NONE

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 and it is recommended that you participate in these inspections.

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

Additional instructions: Key areas for management are the riparian areas. The Meadow Creek Allotment does have some of this land type. Where it occurs, we need to monitor it closely for grazing use. Once the cattle have grazed these areas to proper use level, they will have to be removed from the unit or allotment. The key areas for the Meadow Creek Unit are the Meadow Creek Bench and the bottom of Meadow Creek.

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.

Scheduled reconstruction for 2015 season. ¼ mile of fence along the road in the head of meadow creek.

2014 season

| Water Improvements | Location |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Meadow Middle Bench Pond | |
| North Meadow Bench Pond | |
| Maple Spring Trough 1 | |
| Aspen Springs Trough | |
| Smith Hollow Trough | |
| Walker Canyon Spring Trough | |
| Lower Walker Canyon Spring Trough | |

| Fences | Length | Location |
|-----------------------------|------------|----------|
| White Pine Peak Fence | 2.25 miles | |
| Goat Spring –Broad Fence | 2 miles | |
| Maple Spring Unit Division | 1.5 miles | |
| Walker Canyon Unit Division | 1.5 miles | |
| Sunset Canyon Spring Zone | .2 miles | |
| Walker Canyon Spring Zone | .25 miles | |

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 will 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).

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, forest trails, trail heads or camping spots. 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 standard have been met

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

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.