



File Code: 2210/2230

Date: April 16, 2014

Dear Taylor Mountain Permittee:

This letter will serve as our Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Taylor Mountain Allotment during the 2014 grazing season. The following items were discussed and agreed upon at our Annual Operating Meeting on April 15, 2014 and will guide our management of the allotment this year.

Grazing Schedule

The scheduled dates below are to be used as guidelines. The amount of time spent in each unit will depend upon actual forage utilization and distribution patterns. It is the responsibility of the permittee to move cattle when allowable use standards are met. The dates proposed and the units scheduled are tentative and depend upon the availability of forage, water, and the effects of weather. We will follow the proposed schedule unless there is good reason to change. Please let us know in advance if you anticipate any variance from this schedule.

<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Kind</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Nonuse</u>	<u>Season</u>
Batty, Morgan and Linford	Cow/Calf	60	0	6/1-9/30
Jenkins, Cody	Cow/Calf	247	0	6/1-9/30
Jenkins, Jeffrey	Horses	3	0	6/1-9/30
Johnson, Dean, Clifta, Quentin	Cow/Calf	125	0	6/1-9/30
Johnson, Orson and Quentin	Cow/Calf	58	0	6/1-9/30
McCarrel, Scott and Rayma	Yearling	100	43	6/1-9/30
Murphy, Doug	Cow/Calf	235	0	6/1-9/30
Sowards, Leland N. Family	Cow/Calf	150	0	6/1-9/30

Grazing Schedule

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Sequence</u>	<u>Dates of Use</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Allowable Use</u>
The Face	1 st	6/1 - 6/14	14	≤ 50% of key forage species ≥ 4" residual stubble height of graminoids along the greenline
Point Springs	2 nd	6/15 - 6/30	16	
Merkley/Three Troughs	3 rd	7/1 - 7/13	13	
Grasshopper Flat	4 th	7/14 -7/24	11	
Oaks, Big, Trout Creek	5 th	7/25 - 8/21	28	
Grasshopper Flat	6 th	8/22 - 9/1	11	
Gibson	7 th	9/2 - 9/19	18	
Merkley/Three Troughs	8 th	9/20 - 9/30	11	



Proper Allowable Use

The maximum allowable forage use practices described in your permit will be implemented in each unit on the allotment. The grazed unit needs to be checked regularly by the permittee(s) to ensure that maximum allowable forage use levels are not exceeded. **When the maximum allowable forage use levels are met, permittees are expected to move cattle into the next unit immediately. If the maximum allowable forage use occurs on the allotment before the scheduled allotment off date, permittees will remove cattle from the allotment.**

The primary determining factor for moving livestock from one unit to the other is utilization. It is the responsibility of the permittee to move cattle when allowable use standards are met. Allowable use will be monitored at key areas on the allotment. Key areas are those rangelands or riparian areas on the allotment most preferred by livestock and are typically grazed first and receive the most concentrated use. When allowable use is met in key areas, cattle will be moved to the next scheduled unit or removed from the allotment, if it is the last scheduled unit to be grazed.

Allowable use levels were determined in the Allotment Management Plan for the Taylor Mountain Allotment. Allowable use is 50% in upland forage areas in all units. A four to six inch stubble height of riparian forage species, such as sedges, will be left in all riparian areas (i.e., stream corridors and wet meadows) at the end of the grazing season. Utilization cages, ocular utilization examinations, or stubble height measurement may be used to determine forage use by livestock in key areas.

Fees

Please ensure that your Bill for Collection for the upcoming grazing season is paid by the due date.

Range Improvement Maintenance and Construction

All allotment boundary fences, division fences, water developments, and other improvements of the first unit used will be repaired before livestock are allowed onto the allotment. All water developments, unit fences, and other improvements will be in good working order before cattle are permitted to enter the next scheduled unit in the rotation. We will be inspecting these fences and developments before livestock go on and also before they move into each unit. If these repairs are not done, you will not be allowed onto the allotment, or you may be required to come off the allotment early. Projects to be completed in 2014 are:

1. 1 ½ mile of fence replacement Grasshopper/Gibson pasture boundary fence from Davis Creek south to cattleguard (FS will supply with materials). Permittees will clear trees to facilitate fence construction and small equipment access to remove cut trees.
2. Maintain Merkley Spring enclosure as needed
3. Maintain Mud Springs enclosure (materials are available for reconstruction)
4. Maintain Bear Spring Pond Enclosure (several top rails on the log worm fence)
5. George D Pond Enclosure and pond maintenance (can do in 2015 if below project is approved).
6. Taylor Mountain ditch work if materials are available (1 mile of 4 inch PVC placed in existing ditch and buried according to specification in decision memo) in Three Troughs pasture north of cow camp
7. Point Springs Trough and enclosure maintenance (need field visit)

Proposed projects that need approval are (Priority is to fix the existing before proposed projects can be completed):

1. George D Pond Pipeline extension and trough
2. George D Pond Trough maintenance (move above pond)
3. Move Merkley Spring trough away from source

Weed Free Hay

Any hay or straw used in association with your grazing permit should be certified and tagged as noxious weed free as directed by Forest Service Order #04-00-097. Please make sure that any hay, straw or mulch used on the Forest complies with this order.

Records

Enclosed is a Grazing Use Record. Please use this form to keep track of your livestock movements into and out of pastures. Make sure that the information is correct and returned to our office **no later than October 30th**.

We look forward to working with you again this year, and appreciate your willingness to cooperate with us in the proper management of the Taylor Mountain Allotment. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Garry Brown at (435) 781-5168 or (435) 790-7030 cell.

Sincerely,

NICHOLAS T. SCHMELTER
District Ranger

Enclosure (2)
Grazing Use Record
Bill