



File Code: 2210/2230

Date: July 3, 2013

Jean Thomas
Thomas Grazing LLC
P.O. Box 31
Paradise Valley, NV 89426

Dear Jean:

The following letter will document your meeting with Boyd Hatch, on April 5, 2013 and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the 2013 summer grazing season. The District Ranger must approve any changes to this AOI.

The grazing system on this allotment is rest and a deferred rotation. The scheduled dates of use are flexible but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made in the below dates, unless utilization is met and livestock need to be moved to keep from over utilization. The District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

**BUTTERMILK C&H
PERMITTED USE**

Allotment	Class	Number	Season
Buttermilk C&H	c/c	563	5/22 - 9/30

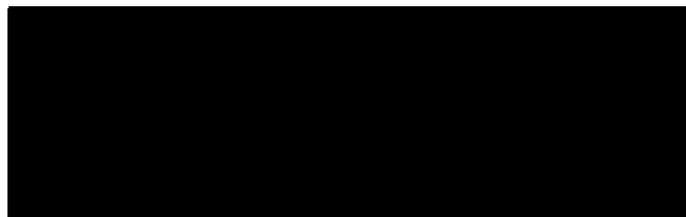
**BUTTERMILK C&H
AUTHORIZED USE**

UNITS	Class and #'s		Season
Spring City	C/C 155	Y 710	Rest with possible fall use.
Buttermilk	C/C 30	Y 480	6/5 - 7/30
Buttermilk	C/C 115	Y 230	6/21 - 7/30
Lye Creek	C/C 155	Y 710	8/1 - 10/18
Blackridge	REST		
Buttermilk Meadows	No Livestock Will Be Authorized		

*C/C is cow calf, Y is yearling

Permitted Livestock Brands:

Brands below are being registered with state brand office into the Thomas Grazing LLC. This has been verified with the state brand office.



COMPLIANCE:

This AOI is made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). The scheduled dates of use are flexible but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made in the below dates. Other 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 The District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

Invasive weeds are becoming a serious threat to the welfare of our rangelands. Your assistance is needed to identify new outbreaks of weed populations and to prevent the establishment of weeds on the forest. Pay particular attention to areas where stock are concentrated such as loading/unloading areas, water developments, and salting areas. We have implemented a Noxious Weed Free Hay order on the forest. This will require any hay that is brought onto the National Forest to be certified free from noxious weeds. All livestock entering the National Forest are recommended to be fed Certified Noxious Weed Free Forage for at least 2 days prior to entering the Forest.

BILLING:

Grazing fees remained unchanged from last year. The fee is now \$1.35 per head month.

IMPROVEMENTS:

Range improvements listed in part three of your grazing permit must be maintained before cattle enter the allotments. The maintenance standards listed in part three of your term permit must be followed when maintaining the improvements. As you're doing water trough maintenance please install wildlife ramps in all troughs that currently don't have them. We have several new ramps completed at the Paradise Valley Ranger Station. Please let Dave Kern or Boyd know when you are going to pick them up and they will make sure they are available.

PERMITTEE INSTRUCTIONS:

Dead livestock must be moved at least 100 yards from water, roads, and trails. Place salt at least ¼ mile from water sources and in areas lightly grazed to encourage an even distribution of utilization on the range. In situations where terrain does not allow proper placement of salt, please contact Boyd and he will determine a suitable location with your input.

REQUIRED REPORTING:

Actual use and range improvement maintenance forms have been included for you to complete and return at the end of the grazing season. Please return the forms following the 2013 grazing season by November 30, 2013.

STANDARDS AND GUIDES:

Drought is very likely this summer it will be essential that you keep in mind that timing for moving your livestock is determined by utilization or actual use. It is important not to put additional stress on the vegetation by over utilization/grazing. Please keep in mind that if the range does not receive more moisture to support the time frames discussed the livestock may need to come off early this year.

You are responsible for determining when allowable use has been reached and for moving your cattle to the next pasture or off the allotment when allowable use has been reached. The Forest Service is responsible for monitoring your compliance with allowable use standards. If you need assistance determining use levels or locating key areas, please contact Boyd. All riparian areas on the allotments are considered key areas.

RIPARIAN SITES:

Category 1 Riparian Areas	Key Species	Percent Utilization
N/A	Riparian grasses and sedges	45%
Category 2 Riparian Areas	Key Species	Percent Utilization
Top half of Alkali Creek, South Fork Dutch John Creek, Road Creek, Deep Creek, Round Correl Creek, Middle Fork Round Correl Creek, East Fork Round Corral Creek & Martin Creek	Riparian grasses and sedges	45%
Category 3 Riparian Areas	Key Species	Percent Utilization
Box Canyon Creek & bottom half of Alkali Creek	Riparian grasses and sedges	60%
Category 4 Riparian Areas	Key Species	Percent Utilization
Harvey Creek & Picket Corral Creek	Riparian grasses and sedges	60%
Category 5 Riparian Areas	Key Species	Percent Utilization
Antelope Creek, Spring Creek, Coal Pit Creek, Spring City Canyon/Dry Creek & Buttermilk Creek	Riparian grasses and sedges	65%
Uplands	Mt. Brome, bluegrass, needlegrass, squirreltail	65%
Upland Browse	Serviceberry, bitterbrush, snowberry	50% of current year's growth
Riparian Browse	Willow, aspen, cottonwood	35% of current year's growth

BILLING:

Grazing fees remained unchanged from last year. The fee is now \$1.35 per head month.

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

Type of Rotation: Rest Rotation.

REST UNITS: Blackridge and possibly Spring City, we will evaluate the recovery from the Tom Basin burn and determined if the area can be grazed after the growing season.

COORDINATION & COOPERATION:

If you spot a wild fire, report it immediately to the interagency dispatch center in Winnemucca, NV at (775) 623-3444 or 1-800-535-6076.

MAPS, FORMS & ATTACHMENTS:

Allotment map, signature page, actual use and permit maintenance forms have been attached.

As a reminder, approval of requests for permittee convenience nonuse is not automatic and the authorized officer should discuss the reasons for the nonuse request with the permittee. Approval of a request for permittee convenience non-use must be in writing by the authorized officer. Full or partial permittee convenience nonuse may be approved by the authorized officer for no more than three consecutive years and not more than four years in any ten year period.

If you have any questions or concerns this grazing season, please call Boyd at (775) 623-5025 x 119.

Sincerely,



For Acting for:
JEFF ULRICH
District Ranger

cc: Ron Cerri
Steve Lucas