



File Code: 2210/2230

Date: June 21, 2013

Fred Stewart
96 Ranch
P.O. Box 14
Paradise Valley, NV 89426

Dear Fred,

The following letter will document your meeting with Boyd Hatch and Jeff Ulrich, on May 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.

Until the 250 appeal is resolved we will be managing under the forest plan and amendment 2 standards.

A deferred rotation grazing system will be implemented on the Martin Basin C&H allotment. 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 it's necessary to move to the next unit or moving off the forest. The District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

Martin Basin C&H Permitted Use

<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Permitted #'s</u>	<u>Season of Use</u>
NINETY SIX RANCH	C/C	645	6/6 – 9/27
NINETY SIX RANCH	Horses	8	6/6 – 9/27
T FIVE RANCH	C/C	1290	6/6 – 9/27
T FIVE RANCH	Horses	17	6/6 – 9/27

Martin Basin C&H Authorized Use

<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Permitted #'s</u>	<u>Season of Use</u>
NINETY SIX RANCH	C/C	580	6/7 – 9/27
NINETY SIX RANCH	Horses	8	6/7 – 9/27
T FIVE RANCH	C/C	1043	6/7 – 9/27
T FIVE RANCH	Horses	17	6/7 – 9/27

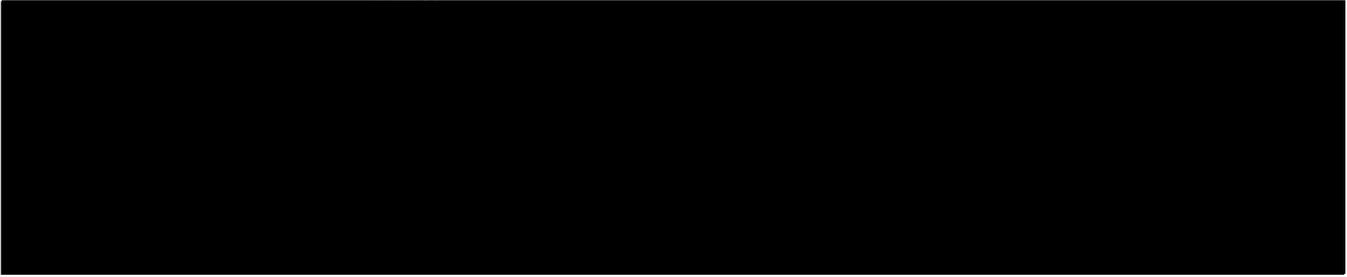
Pasture Rotation

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>SEASON</u>
Blackridge/Long Valley	6/7 – 6/25
Cabin Creek Riparian	6/26 – 7/15
Cabin Creek	7/16 – 8/10
Siard	8/11 – 9/1
North Fork	9/2 – 9/27
Cold Springs	9/16 – 9/27
(Horses) N/A	6/6 – 9/27

Resource protection non-use is approved for 247 C/C for T-5 Ranch and 65 C/C for 96 Ranch, due to drought.



Permitted Livestock Brands:



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 above 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, please inform the District Ranger, he 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.

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

Type of Rotation: Deferred Rotation.

STANDARDS AND GUIDES:

Drought is very likely this summer, and it will be essential that you monitor your utilization and move the livestock prior to meeting the utilization standards below. 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 unit in your rotation 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:

AREA	PERCENT ALLOWABLE USE
Category 5 Stocks Creek and Long Valley Creek	65% use on riparian grass, rushes/sedges
Category 4 Bradshaw Creek	55% use on riparian grass, rushes/sedges
Category 3 Alkali Creek	55% use on riparian grass, rushes/sedges
Category 2 Siard Creek, Road Creek, N. Fork little Humboldt, Martin Creek, N. Fork Cabin Creek, Cabin Creek, N. Fork Dutch John Creek, Dutch John Creek, and Lye Creek	45% use on riparian grass, rushes/sedges
Category 1 Long Canyon	45% use on riparian grass, rushes/sedges
all riparian shrubs such as Willows and Aspen	35% current year's growth

UPLAND SITES:

Use is 65% on upland sites. Key species are: mountain brome, basin wildrye, Sandberg bluegrass, bluebunch wheatgrass, squirreltail, and Idaho fescue. Use is 50% on upland browse species such as serviceberry, bitterbrush, sagebrush, and snowberry.

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, Boyd or Peter 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 Peter or Boyd and they 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.

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 form and permit maintenance forms are attached.

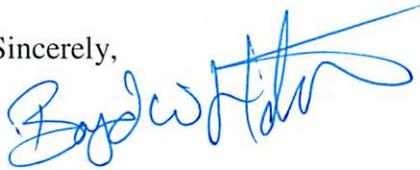
OTHER:

In the meeting we talked about the fence on Siard Bench and ensuring a water gap is made on the upper and lower ends. We also talked about possibly doing some fencing on Long Canyon around the LCT with a water gap between North Fork allotment and Long Canyon Pasture.

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,



Acting for:
JEFF ULRICH
District Ranger

cc: Bob Schweigert