United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest

Bridgeport Ranger District
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File Code: 2210
Date: JUN 11 2013

Ernie & Robin Paine
Hilton Family Trust
11 Pine Grove Rd
Yerington, NV 89447

Dear Ernie & Robin:

The following letter will document your meeting with Rixey Jenkins on April 26, 2013 and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) on the Nine Mile C&H (spring and fall use), Rough Creek C&H, Masonic C&H and Powell Mountain allotments for the 2013 grazing season.

PERMITTED USE

The following is a summary of your permitted use which expires on 12/31/2015:

Allotment	Class	Number (on/off)	Season
Nine Mile C&H (spring)	c/c	1076/22	Apr 1-May 31
Nine Mile C&H (fall)	c/c	102/2	Oct 1-Nov 30
Rough Creek C&H	c/c	33/6	June 1-Oct 15
Masonic C&H	c/c	80	July 1-Oct 15
Powell Mountain C&H	c/c	151	June 1-Oct 15

AUTHORIZED USE

Allotment	Class	Number (on/off)	Season
Nine Mile C&H (spring)	Non Use - Resource Protection		
Nine Mile C&H (fall)	c/c	102/2	Oct 1-Nov 30
Rough Creek C&H	c/c	33/6	June 1-Oct 15
Masonic C&H	c/c	80	June 1-July 15
Powell Mountain C&H	Non Use - Resource Protection		

This AOI is made part of your term grazing permit consistent with Part 1, Item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). Situations may develop during the grazing season which require changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, contact the District Ranger and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions.

MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Allotment maps and management requirements for those allotments you are permitted to graze have been provided to you.

The Flying M brand is the only brand authorized under your term grazing permit.

Range improvements listed under part three in your term permit must be maintained before livestock enter allotments. The maintenance standards, also listed in part three of your permit, must be followed when maintaining improvements. Range improvements must be maintained even when there is non-use on an allotment; for whatever reason.

Place salt at least ¼ mile from water, roads, and trails. If there are specific areas that require salt placement outside these guidelines, you must obtain approval from this office prior to salting. Haul dead livestock at least 100 yards from roads, trails, and water. All garbage and debris associated with managing your livestock on Forest Service allotments must be removed from the National Forest.

If you or your employees spot a wildfire on any of your allotments, report it immediately to the Interagency Dispatch Center in Minden, NV at (775) 883-5995. As a reminder, if the Bridgeport Ranger District enters into fire restrictions during 2013, this restriction applies to your operation as well.

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. A Noxious Weed Free Hay order has been implemented on our Forest. This requires any hay that is brought onto the National Forest must 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. Pelletized feed is not affected by this order.

The Bridgeport Travel Management Record of Decision was signed on March 5, 2010. With the issuance of this decision all roads and trails designated for motor vehicle use will be identified on a motor vehicle use map (MVUM). As detailed in 36 CFR 261.13; 36 CFR 212.51a the prohibitions on motor vehicle use will not apply to motor vehicle use that is specifically authorized under a written authorization issued under Federal law or regulation (e.g., term grazing permit). Through the 2013 grazing season, you and your employees are authorized to travel on routes within the allotments in your permit to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of your term grazing permit (e.g., improvement maintenance, dead livestock removal).

ALLOWABLE USE

The allotments must be grazed within the allowable use standards listed below for riparian and upland sites.

Riparian sites:

Maximum of 45% use of the current year's growth of key herbaceous species
Maximum of 20% use of the current annual growth of key shrubs (willows)

Upland sites:

Maximum of 45% use of current annual growth of key herbaceous species
Maximum of 40% use of current annual growth of shrubs (bitterbrush, aspen)

You are responsible for determining when allowable use has been reached and for moving your cattle to other areas lightly used 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 Rixey. All riparian areas on the allotments are considered key areas.

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 by **November 30, 2013**. As a reminder, return the forms from last year as soon as possible.

GENERAL MANAGEMENT

The grazing fees for 2013 are the base rate of $1.35 per head month.

Approval of requests for personal convenience and resource protection nonuse is not automatic and the authorized officer should discuss the reasons for the nonuse request with the permittee. Requests for non-use must be done in writing and the approval of a request for 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.

Payment of your grazing bill is due five days prior to your earliest turnout date to allow time for processing. The Forest Service is required to give permittees a minimum of 30 days to pay their grazing fees. The Forest Service is requesting that permittees schedule their AOI meeting ***a minimum of 35 days prior*** to their earliest on date to provide adequate time to plan for the upcoming grazing season.

If you have any questions regarding any of the allotments for which you have permits, please call Rixey at (760) 932-5850.

Sincerely,

MIKE CRAWLEY
District Ranger

Encl: Improvement Maintenance and Actual Use Records