United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
Bridgeport Ranger District
HC 62 Box 1000
Bridgeport, CA 93517
(760) 932-7070 Fax (760) 932-5899

File Code: 2210
Date: JUN 1 1 2013

Mike Powell
2800 Sandhill Rd Suite 150
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Dear Mike:

The following letter will document the meeting between Jeff Borsini and Rixey Jenkins on May 22, 2013 and serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Nye Canyon C&H allotment during the 2013 grazing season.

PERMITTED USE:

The Nye Canyon C&H allotment is grazed season long under an on/off permit from June 16 to September 15. The permitted use for the National Forest portion of the allotment is 5 cow/calf pairs; the off portion is 40 cow/calf pairs. In accordance with the terms and conditions of your permit, no livestock are allowed on National Forest System lands outside of the above season of use. For the 2013 grazing season, the authorized use is the same as the permitted use.

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 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.

ALLOWABLE USE:

The allowable use standards below apply to the National Forest portion of the allotment.

Riparian sites (meadows):

Maximum of 55% use of the current year's growth of key grass and grass-like species
Maximum of 30% use of the current year's growth of shrub species

Upland sites (aspen, sagebrush, bitterbrush):

Maximum of 45% use of the current year's growth of key grass species
Maximum of 40% use of the current year's growth of shrub species

It is your responsibility to monitor the level of utilization and make sure that the allowable use levels are not exceeded. Livestock must be moved to areas of light use or removed from the allotment when utilization levels approach allowable use. The Forest Service is responsible for monitoring your compliance with allowable use standards. If you need any assistance in determining use, please contact Rixey and he will assist you.

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS:

All range improvements on the Nye Canyon C&H allotment listed in part three of your grazing permit must be maintained before livestock enter the allotment. The standards listed in part three must be followed when improvements are maintained.

GENERAL MANAGEMENT:

The Bar Seven L Bar is the only brand authorized under your Term Grazing Permit.

Herd cattle into areas of light use and away from areas that are grazed more often. Place salt at least ¼ mile from water, roads, and trails on ridges and rock outcrops to encourage more even distribution and grazing utilization. If terrain does not allow salt placement under these guidelines, please contact Rixey and he will help you find a suitable location.

Haul dead livestock at least 100 yards from water and roads and trails used by the public. If you spot a wildfire on the allotment, report it immediately to the interagency dispatch office in Minden, NV at **(775)–883-5995**.

Actual Use and Improvement Maintenance Forms have been included with these instructions. Please complete the forms and return them to my office by **November 15, 2013**.

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 our 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.

The 2013 grazing fees are $1.35 per head month.

Payment of your grazing bill is due five days prior to your earliest turnout date to allow time for processing. As a reminder the Forest Service is required to give permittees a minimum of 30 days to pay your 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.

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 nonuse 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.

OTHER DISCUSSION:

Bridgeport Travel Management Record of Decision was signed March 5th, 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). During 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).

If you have any questions regarding management of the Nye Canyon C&H allotment, please contact Rixey at (760) 932-5850.

Sincerely,

MIKE CRAWLEY
District Ranger

encl: Actual use and Improvement Maintenance forms