

Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest – Spanish Fork Ranger District
LITTLE VALLEY ALLOTMENT RMU #00823
ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

2025



PERMITTED USE

Permittee	Permitted Use	Authorized Use
Ajax Cattle Company, LLC	246 Cow/Calf Pair June 6 to Oct. 15	246 Cow/Calf Pair June 6 to Oct. 15
Permittee	Permitted Use	Authorized Use
Jasperson Cattle, LC	19 Cow/Calf Pair June 6 to Oct. 15	19 Cow/Calf Pair June 6 to Oct. 15
Total	265 Cow/Calf Pair	265 Cow/Calf Pair



GRAZING ROTATION

The Little Valley Allotment has four pastures. Three are managed with a three-pasture rest rotation system. The riparian pasture is grazed first every other year and rested every other year. The grazing rotation for the 2025 season is listed below:

Pasture:	Livestock Numbers:	Dates of Use:	Days:
Sabie Bench	265 Cow/Calf Pair	June 6 to Aug. 10	66
Little Valley	265 Cow/Calf Pair	Aug. 11 to Oct. 15	66
Riparian	REST	REST	0
Redskin Knolls	REST	REST	0

Total Days:
132

- *The above rotation dates are flexible based on utilization standards listed below.*

FOREST PLAN AND ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN REQUIREMENTS

The Uinta National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, which was approved in 2003, and the Allotment Management Plan for the Little Valley allotment, which was approved on November 22, 1993, list the following standards, guidelines, and objectives:



Upland Forage Utilization

Standard: Limit grazing to meet the following utilization levels on non-riparian vegetation types based on the annual average of the current year's growth. However, through June 15 at Strawberry Reservoir Management Area and through June 1 at the Vernon Management Area, minimum canopy cover and height requirements for greater sage grouse habitat take precedence over the forage utilization standards in the following table:

Forage Utilization Standards

Vegetation type General Uplands and Winter Range	Forage Utilization Very Early to Early Seral	Forage Utilization Mid to Late Seral
Upland shrublands (sagebrush, snowberry, mountain mahogany species, cliffrose, bitterbrush, saltbrush, and mountain brush)	40%	60%
Vegetation type General Uplands and Winter Range Grasslands	Forage Utilization Very Early to Early Seral 45%	Forage Utilization Mid to Late Seral 65%

It is the permittee's responsibility to make sure allowable use standards are not exceeded. When utilization standards are met the permittee will be required to remove cattle from the entire pasture or allotment. Use of the rest unit will not be allowed.

Guideline: Manage approximately 80 percent of potential greater sage grouse breeding and winter habitat areas in the Vernon and Strawberry Reservoir Management Areas to support the percentages and heights of canopy cover listed in the table below. Breeding habitat should retain the given height levels of grasses and a diversity of forbs annually through June 1 in the Vernon Management Area and June 15 in the Strawberry Reservoir Management Area. Vegetation should be maintained in a mosaic of openings and shrubs.

Vegetation Requirements in the Vernon Management Area

Greater Sage Grouse Breeding Habitat



Vegetation type	Minimum % Canopy Cover	Minimum Height Canopy Cover
Sagebrush	15 to 25%	16 to 32 inches
Vegetation type	Minimum % Canopy Cover	Minimum Height Canopy Cover
Grasses	Greater than 15%	Greater than 6 inches
Vegetation type	Minimum % Canopy Cover	Minimum Height Canopy Cover
Forbs	Greater than 10%	Greater than 6 inches

- There are no minimum percent canopy cover or minimum height requirements for greater sage grouse winter habitat in grasses or forbs.
- Minimum height is measured as droop height, the highest naturally growing portion of the plant.

Riparian Forage Utilization

Standard: Limit grazing to meet the following utilization levels within Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA) based on the average current year's growth.

Utilization Standards by RHCA Class

RHCA Class	Minimum Percent of Stream Length	Minimum Greenline Stubble Height by Season of Use – Very Early to Early in Early Season	Minimum Greenline Stubble Height by Season of Use – Very Early to Early in Late Season
Riparian Class I (Vernon Creek, Lower Little Valley Creek)	90%	5 inches	6 inches



RHCA Class	Minimum Percent of Stream Length	Minimum Greenline Stubble Height by Season of Use – Very Early to Early in Early Season	Minimum Greenline Stubble Height by Season of Use – Very Early to Early in Late Season
Riparian Class III (Upper Little Valley Creek)	70%	3 inches	4 inches
RHCA Class	Minimum Percent of Stream Length	Forage Utilization Limits by Season of Use – Very Early to Early in Early Season	Forage Utilization Limits by Season of Use – Very Early to Early in Late Season
Riparian Class I (Vernon Creek, Lower Little Valley Creek)	90%	45%	35%
RHCA Class	Minimum Percent of Stream Length	Forage Utilization Limits by Season of Use – Very Early to Early in Early Season	Forage Utilization Limits by Season of Use – Very Early to Early in Late Season
Riparian Class III (Upper Little Valley Creek)	70%	60%	50%
Riparian Pasture	N/A	45%	45%
RHCA Class	Minimum Percent of Stream Length	Willow Utilization by Season of Use – Very Early to Early in Early Season	Willow Utilization by Season of Use – Very Early to Early in Late Season
Riparian Class I (Vernon Creek, Lower Little Valley Creek)	90%	35%	35%



RHCA Class	Minimum Percent of Stream Length	Willow Utilization by Season of Use – Very Early to Early in Early Season	Willow Utilization by Season of Use – Very Early to Early in Late Season
Riparian Class III (Upper Little Valley Creek)	70%	35%	35%

- *Note:* For minimum Greenline Stubble Height the height of key species (palatable, hydrophytic species indicative of mid to late seral riparian plant communities, or as indicated in the site-specific Allotment Management Plan). If acceptable “key species” are absent from a site, only utilization standards shall be used.
- *Note:* Forage utilization limits are based on percent of total average annual growth.
- *Note:* There are no willow utilization standards for early season use.

It is the permittee’s responsibility to make sure allowable use standards are not exceeded, especially in riparian areas. Permittees are encouraged to herd cattle away from riparian areas since they are generally the first areas utilized. If use along riparian areas reaches Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines, even if forage remains on the uplands, permittees will be required to remove cattle from the entire unit or allotment. Use of the rest unit will not be allowed.

Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA)

Portions of *watersheds* where *riparian*-dependent resources receive primary emphasis and management activities are subject to specific standards and guidelines. RHCAAs include traditional *riparian* corridors, *wetlands*, *perennial* and *intermittent* streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic *ecosystems*. There are three RHCA classes of varying widths offering varying levels of protection: class I with widths extending 300 feet from each edge of the waterbody (600 feet total); class II with widths extending 200 feet from each edge of the waterbody (400 feet total); and class III with widths extending 100 feet from each edge of the waterbody (200 feet total).

Additional Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines

Guideline: Maintain adequate ground cover to filter runoff and prevent detrimental erosion in Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAAs).



Riparian Habitat Conservation Area (RHCA) Ground Cover Requirements

RHCA	Minimum Ground Cover Requirement	Minimum Percent of RHCA to Meet Requirement
Class I (Vernon Creek, Lower Little Valley Creek)	90% of Potential	90%
RHCA	Minimum Ground Cover Requirement	Minimum Percent of RHCA to Meet Requirement
Class III (Upper Little Valley Creek)	80% of Potential	70%

Standard: Locate livestock salt grounds outside of Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAAs).

Standard: Locate new livestock troughs, tanks, and holding facilities out of Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAAs). For existing livestock handling facilities inside RHCAAs, assure that facilities do not prevent attainment of aquatic Forest Plan management direction. Modify, relocate, or close existing facilities where aquatic Forest Plan management direction cannot be met.

Guideline: Minimize trailing livestock through Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAAs). Close or relocate livestock driveways to minimize impacts to RHCAAs.

Guideline: Subject to valid existing rights, free-flowing water and associated riparian vegetation communities should be retained at developed spring sites. If possible, existing spring developments should be modified to return water to riparian ecosystems within the source drainage.

Guideline: Avoid equipment operation in stream courses, open water, seeps, or springs. If use of equipment in such areas is required, impacts should be minimized.

Guideline: Limit equipment operation in Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAAs). If the use of equipment in these areas is required, incorporate additional mitigation to minimize adverse impacts.

Guideline: Implement intensive grazing management that provides periodic rest designed to achieve and maintain desired vegetation community composition and structure.

Guideline: Maintain at least 70 percent of potential effective ground cover to provide nutrient cycling and protect the soil from erosion in excess of soil loss tolerance limits.

Standard: Provide wildlife escape ramps in all developed water sources.

Guideline: Provide for wildlife movement through and/or around structures or project sites such as fences, spring developments, guzzlers, roads, and ditches.



Guideline: Defer livestock grazing in areas disturbed by wildland fire or other natural events until vegetation has reestablished sufficiently, but for no less than two growing seasons.

Standard: Only certified noxious weed-free hay or feed is allowed on National Forest land, including hay or feed for use by recreational livestock. Any materials such as hay, straw, or mulch that are used for rehabilitation and reclamation activities shall be certified weed-free.

Allotment Management Plan Objectives

Reach at least the mid-seral ecological status on all vegetative sites except Class 1 riparian areas.
Reach late-seral to PNC ecological status on all Class 1 riparian areas.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Actual Use: Please complete the enclosed actual use record form at the close of the grazing season and return to the Spanish Fork Ranger District before December 1.

Salt: Salt will be used as a tool to improve livestock distribution. Place salt where use is light, such as ridge tops and areas away from water. Avoid stock tanks, wet meadows, and creek bottoms. Place salt away from roads and developed trails.

State Livestock Health Laws: All owners of livestock must comply with state livestock health laws.

Dead Livestock: Livestock which die within 100 yards of public roads or live water will be disposed of in a manner approved by the District Ranger or his/her representative.

Off Road Vehicle Use: Off road vehicle use for reconstruction or maintenance of range improvements (when hauling materials only) listed in these operating instructions is hereby authorized. ATV's or trucks can be used to check water. ATV's or trucks can be used to haul salt on system and non-system roads or trails. No new trails or roads can be made. Use of off-road vehicles is limited to periods of time when weather and ground conditions are such that rutting, and soil movement will not occur. Any other off road vehicle use shall be approved in advance (location and time) by the District Ranger or his/her representative. Absent this approval, travel restrictions described in the Forest Supervisors Order of May 27, 2005, and in the Uinta National Forest Summer Travel Map (2007) apply.

Payment of Fees: The permittee will not allow owned or controlled livestock to be on Forest Service-administered lands unless the fees specified in the Bill for Collection are paid.

Turnout: Turnout will not occur prior to range readiness (8 (c) on permit). Range readiness is measured by soil moisture and plant growth. Soils may be damp but should be firm to avoid excessive compaction or hummocking due to livestock.

Inspections/Monitoring: Allotment/pasture inspections will be performed periodically throughout the grazing season by Forest Service personnel. Livestock distribution, correct livestock location, numbers



and identification, structural improvement maintenance, and utilization levels will be evaluated during these site visits. If you wish to accompany Forest Service personnel on these inspections, please contact the Rangeland Management Specialist.

Compliance: The permittee is responsible for compliance with the terms and conditions of the grazing permit, allotment management plan, operating instructions, and the directions of the Forest Officer in charge. Failure to meet these terms and conditions is violation of the grazing permit.

SCHEDED ACTIVITIES

- ✓ Permittees will repair fences on southwest allotment boundary damaged by heavy snow in winter of 2023.

MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

The permittee is responsible for all improvements assigned in the term grazing permits and listed in these operating instructions. Maintenance shall mean the timely repair of management facilities to a condition adequate to perpetuate the life of the facility and to serve the purpose intended. All improvements will be maintained to the standard for which they were constructed. Maintenance includes permittee responsibility for furnishing the materials needed for repairs. Allotment boundary fences must be maintained before cattle enter the allotment. Pasture division fences and water developments must be maintained before cattle can enter each pasture. Improvements will be maintained to the following standards:

Posts, Poles and Bucks

- Replace broken or rotten posts, bucks, braces and poles
- Notch poles and attach to posts or bucks with spikes
- Straighten and re-tamp loose wood brace and line posts
- Straighten or replace bent steel posts

Wire

- Replace broken wire if necessary
- Splice wire with double strand 12-gauge minimum size barbed wire or smooth wire
- Wrap end of broken wires back around itself to form eye
- Place splicing wire through eye and wrap back around itself
- Make at least three wraps in each eye
- Make wraps adjacent to each other.
- Re-space wire where spacing has been altered
- Measure spacing from ground line in inches:
 - 4-wire fence: 16 inches, 24 inches, 32 inches, 42 inches
 - 3-wire fence: 18 inches, 28 inches, 40 inches
- Re-stretch wires tight with consideration for contraction and expansion
- Wire will not be twisted or kinked



Stays

- Replace broken or missing stays
- Straighten bent wire stays

Trees

- Remove all fallen trees from fences
- Do not use logs and/or brush instead of poles or wire
- If wire is attached to trees, nail wood slab to tree and staple wire to slab

Gates

- Stretch wire so gates will not sag, but easily open and close
- Make gate loops with smooth wire

Wire Fasteners

- Replace missing staples and steel post clips
- Drive staples diagonally into bucks, braces and stays
- Drive staples in wood posts, bucks and stays so wire can move
- Drive staples in brace posts so wire cannot move

Water Developments

- Keep troughs clean and free of debris
- Repair leaks in troughs
- Level water troughs
- Replace broken trough braces
- Replace or install small animal escape devices in troughs
- Unplug pipelines if necessary
- Replace trough plugs if missing
- Replace broken pipes
- Waterlines should be buried to protect from livestock
- Clean and repair overflows
- Maintain spring head fence according to above specifications
- Clean spring boxes or debris and secure cover
- Drain water troughs and pipelines at the end of the season
- Maintain overflows from ponds, keep spillways clean and protected from washing out



Maintenance responsibilities are listed below and shown on the attached map:

Map #	Improvement	Description	Maintenance	Infra #
1	Little Valley/Sharps Valley Allotment Boundary Fence	0.86 miles of steel posts with 4 strand barbed wire and spiral stays.	Ajax	823001
2	Little Valley/Benmore #1 Allotment Boundary Fence (Red Skin Knolls/Bennion Canyon Pasture Boundary Fence)	South end is 1.82 miles of wood & steel posts with 4 strand barbed wire and metal spiral stays.	Ajax	823035
3	Little Valley/Benmore #2 Allotment Boundary Fence (Red Skin Knolls/East Dutch Pasture Boundary Fence)	0.25 miles of wood posts with 4 strand barbed wire.	Ajax	823040
4	Little Valley/Bennion #1 Allotment Boundary Fence (Sabie Bench/East Reservoir Pasture Boundary Fence)	0.48 miles of wood posts with 4 strand barbed wire.	Ajax	823012
5	Little Valley/Bennion #2 Allotment Boundary Fence Segment 1 (Ungrazed area/East Reservoir Pasture Boundary Fence)	0.058 miles of wood posts with 4 strand barbed wire. East segment.	Ajax	823013-1
6	Little Valley/Bennion #2 Allotment Boundary Fence Segment 2 (Ungrazed area/East Reservoir Pasture Boundary Fence)	0.111 miles of wood posts with 2 strand barbed wire. West segment.	Ajax	823013-2
7	Little Valley/Bennion #3 Allotment Boundary Fence (Red Skin Knolls/Vernon Reservoir Boundary Fence)	0.21 miles of steel & wood posts with 4 strand barbed wire.	Ajax	823011
8	Little Valley/Red Skin Knolls Pasture Boundary Fence	0.30 miles of steel posts with 4 strand barbed wire and spiral stays.	Ajax	823004
9	Red Skin Knolls/Riparian Pasture Boundary Fence	0.95 miles of steel posts with 4 strand barbed wire and spiral stays.	Ajax	823021



Map #	Improvement	Description	Maintenance	Infra #
10	Sabie Bench/Riparian Pasture Boundary Fence	2.368 miles of steel posts with 4 strand barbed wire and spiral stays.	Ajax	823006
11	Little Valley/Riparian Pasture Boundary Fence	0.832 miles of steel & wood posts with 4 strand barbed wire and spiral stays.	Ajax	823003
12	Little Valley/Sabie Bench Pasture Boundary Fence	0.98 miles of steel posts with 4 strand barbed wire and spiral stays.	Ajax	823017
13	Ungrazed Area/Sabie Bench Pasture Boundary Fence	0.78 miles of steel & wood posts with 4 strand barbed wire and spiral stays.	None	823015
14	Ungrazed Area/Riparian Pasture Boundary Fence <i>(Needs to be removed)</i>	0.29 miles of steel posts with 4 strand barbed wire and spiral stays.	None	823019
15	Little Valley Drift Fence (Burn Fence)	1.33 miles of steel posts with 3 strand barbed wire and spiral stays.	Ajax	823033
16	Little Valley Drift Fence <i>(Needs to be removed)</i>	1.46 miles of steel posts with 4 strand barbed wire and spiral stays.	None	823030
17	Little Valley Riparian Drift Fence <i>(Needs to be removed)</i>	0.07 miles steel posts and barbed wire.	None	823045
18	Little Valley Riparian Exclosure	1.68 miles of steel posts and 3 electrical wires.	Ajax	823025
19	Little Valley Corrals	Railroad ties and steel panels.	Ajax	823046



Map #	Improvement	Description	Maintenance	Infra #
20	Forest Service/BLM Cattle Guard	Channel steel 18 feet by 8 feet.	Tooele County	823CG1
21	Little Valley/Private Land Cattle Guard #1 (North End Greens)	Channel steel. 16 feet by 8 feet.	Tooele County	823CG4
22	Little Valley/Private Land Cattle Guard #2 (South End Greens)	Channel steel. 14 feet by 8 feet.	Tooele County	823CG5
23	Little Valley/Private Land Cattle Guard #3 (Wolfs West End)	Channel steel. 14 feet by 8 feet.	Tooele County	823CG6
24	Little Valley/Private Land Cattle Guard #4 (Wolfs East End)	Two 8 foot cattle guards with cement base.	Tooele County	823CG10
25	Little Valley/Private Land Cattle Guard #5 (Ekker #1)	Channel steel. 10 feet by 8 feet.	Jim Ekker	823CG7
26	Red Skin Knolls/Private Land Cattle Guard (Ekker #2)	Need to describe and GPS.	Jim Ekker	823CG12
27	Little Valley/Benmore Cattle Guard #1 (Red Skin Knolls)	Channel steel. 15 feet by 7 feet.	Forest Service	823CG3
28	Little Valley/Benmore Cattle Guard #2 (Little Valley)	Channel steel. 14 feet by 8 feet.		823CG9
29	Riparian Pasture/Sabie Bench Pasture Cattle Guard #1 (Sabie Bench)	Channel steel. 12 feet by 8 feet.	Forest Service	823CG2
30	Riparian Pasture/Sabie Bench Pasture Cattle Guard #2	Channel steel. 16 feet by 8 feet.	Tooele County	823CG8



Map #	Improvement	Description	Maintenance	Infra #
31	Riparian Pasture/Sabie Bench Pasture Cattle Guard #3	Yellow channel steel. 14 feet by 8 feet. Cement supports.	Forest Service	823CG11
32	Little Valley/Sharps Valley ATV Cattle Guard	Rebar. 8 feet by 6 feet.	Forest Service Recreation	823CGATV 1
33	North Pond <i>(Abandoned with installation of new pipeline)</i>	Earthen pond.	None	823042
34	South Pond	Earthen pond.	Ajax	823048
35	Sabie Bench Water Development <i>(Needs to be removed)</i>	Half round sheet metal trough. 34 feet by 3 feet by 2 feet.	None	823041T
36	Sabie Bench Water Development	The first water collection area is collected with buried perforated pipe and gravel and enclosed with 208 feet of post and pole fence. The second collection area is collected with buried perforated pipe and gravel. Need to GPS. Enclosed with 120 feet of post and pole fence. Pipeline is 69 feet of 1.5 inch diameter polyethylene pipe. Need to GPS second line. Two 13 foot diameter tire troughs. Earthen overflow pond. 30 feet by 20 feet.	Ajax	823002S1 823002F1 823002S2 823002F2 823002P1 823002P2 823002T1 823002T2 823002PO



Map #	Improvement	Description	Maintenance	Infra #
37	Iron Mine Spring Water Development	Water is collected with buried perforated pipe and gravel. Needs to be GPSed. Water collection area is enclosed with 140 feet of steel and wood posts with 4 strand barbed wire. Pipeline is 400 feet of 1.5 inch diameter polyethylene pipe. Need to GPS second line and spring. 650 gallon rectangular fiberglass trough. 14 feet by 4 feet by 2 feet.	Ajax	823007S1 823007S2 823007F 823007P1 823007P2 823007T
38	Choke Cherry Water Development	Water is collected with buried perforated pipe and gravel and diverted to a 30 inch diameter PVC head box. Head box is enclosed with 192 feet of steel posts with 4 strand barbed wire. Pipeline is 63 feet of 1.5 inch diameter polyethylene pipe. Need to GPS second pipeline. 650 gallon rectangular fiberglass trough. 14 feet by 4 feet by 2 feet.	Jasperson	823005S 823005P1 823005P2 823005F 823005T
39	Little Valley Pond (Abandoned)	Earthen pond.	None	823008



Map #	Improvement	Description	Maintenance	Infra #
40	Little Valley Water Development	Water is piped out of Little Valley Creek. Need to GPS point of diversion. 0.40 miles of 1.5 inch diameter polyethylene pipe. Need to GPS additional pipe to point of diversion. 1700 gallon, round fiberglass trough. 12 feet by 2 feet.	Ajax	823014S 823014P 823014T
41	Snow Hollow Pipeline	0.59 miles of 1.5 inch polyethylene pipe.	Ajax	823047P2
42	Snow Hollow Pipeline Trough #2	1140 gallon, round fiberglass trough. 10 feet by 2 feet.	Ajax	823047T2
43	Vernon Irrigation Company Trough #1	495 gallon Powder River trough. 46 inches by 20 inches by 12 inches.	Ajax	823018T1
44	Vernon Irrigation Company Trough #2	650 gallon rectangular fiberglass trough. 14 feet by 4 feet by 2 feet.	Ajax	823018T2
45	Red Skin Knolls Pond	Earthen pond. 30 feet by 30 feet by 6 feet.	None	823044
46	Little Valley Pipeline Spring Source	GPS proper location.	Mitchell Ajax Larson	823009S
47	Little Valley Pipeline Spring Exclosure	184 feet wood posts and net wire. Spring is buried in front of fence. Fence not needed.	None	823009F
48	Little Valley Pipeline	Approximately 2 miles of 2 inch diameter SDR buried fusion pipe from spring to storage tank. Need to GPS.	Ajax	823009P1



Map #	Improvement	Description	Maintenance	Infra #
49	Little Valley Pipeline Solar Pump, Solar Panels and Protection Fence	Need to GPS and describe.	Mitchell Ajax Larson	823009 Pump
50	Little Valley Storage Tanks and Protection Fence	Need to GPS and describe.	Mitchell Ajax Larson	823009 Storage
51	Little Valley Pipeline Trough #1	13 foot diameter rubber tire trough with cement base. Need to GPS.	Ajax	823009T1
52	Vernon Creek Fisheries Exclosure #1	155 feet of steel post and wire fence.	Forest Service Fisheries	8F18233
53	Sabie Bench Guzzler	Fiberglass guzzler.	Forest Service Wildlife	8WL8234A
54	Little Valley Guzzler	Fiberglass guzzler.	Forest Service Wildlife	8WL8231A
55	Red Skin Knolls Guzzler	Fiberglass guzzler. Enclosed with approximately 80 feet of fence.	Forest Service Wildlife	8WL8232B

We look forward to working with you this coming grazing season. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Linda Appel at 801-794-6767.



LITTLE VALLEY ALLOTMENT ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS 2025

SIGNATURES:

PERMITTEE

DATE

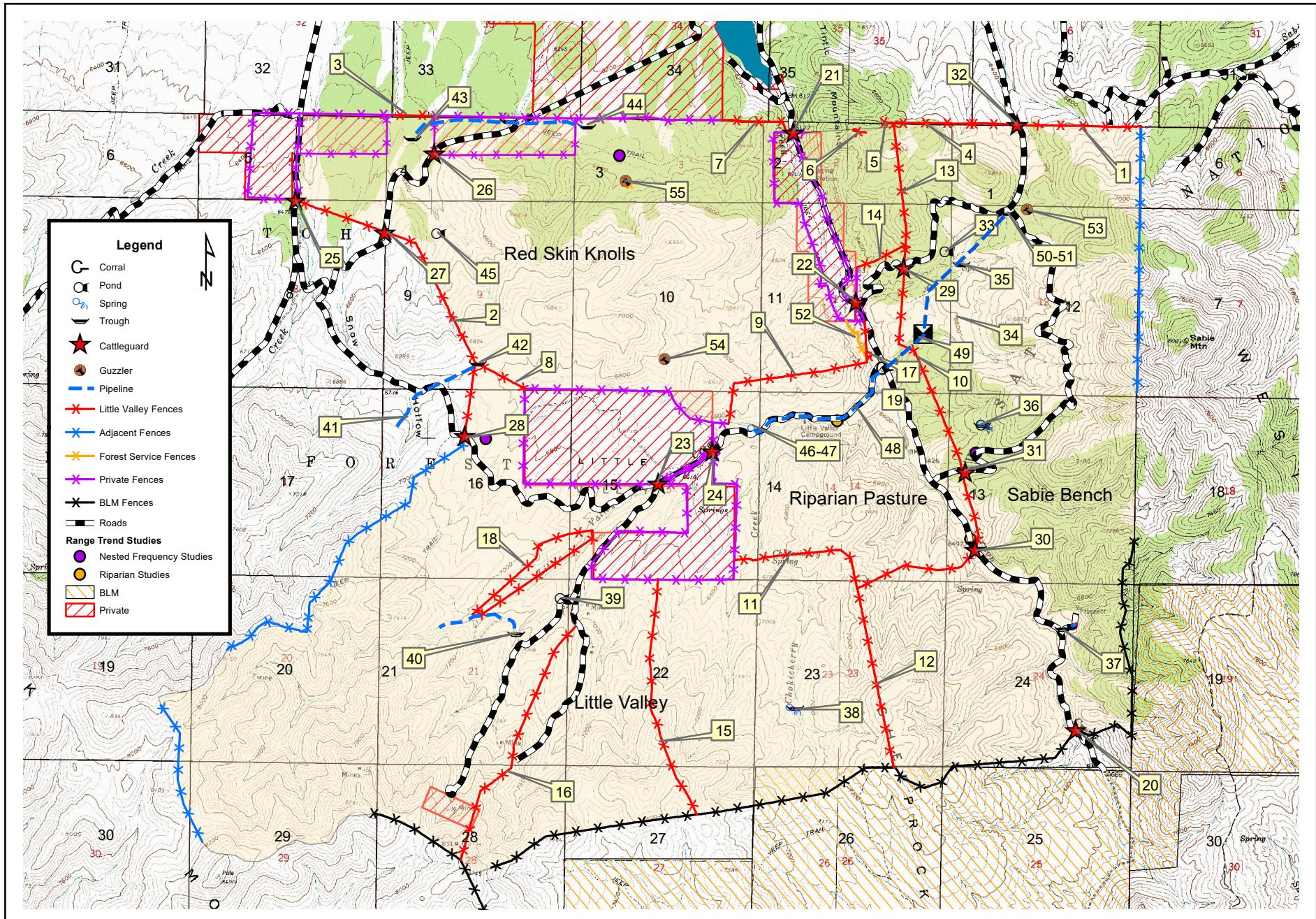
PERMITTEE

DATE

SPANISH FORK DISTRICT RANGER

DATE





Little Valley Allotment 2025



Uinta-Watach-Cache National Forest
Spanish Fork Ranger District

0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1
Miles