

**ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST
Duchesne-Roosevelt Ranger District
Cottonwood Cattle Allotment
2025 Annual Operating Instructions**

Permittee	<u>Number of Livestock</u>	<u>Non-Use</u>	<u>Season of Use</u>
[REDACTED]	188	0	June 16 to October 15
[REDACTED]	<u>0</u>	138	June 16 to October 15
Total Herd Size (326)	188		

Grazing Schedule

Pasture/Unit	Sequence	Dates of Use	Allowable Use
Tabby	1 st	6/16 – 8/15	50%
Cottonwood	2 nd	8/16 – 10/15	50%

The dates of use above are to be used guidelines. The primary determining factor for moving livestock from one unit to the other is utilization. Grazing utilization guidelines are as follows: allowable use for upland forage species (i.e. bullgrass) is 50% and a 4" to 6" stubble height for riparian forage species. Permittees should closely monitor key areas (i.e. Kentucky bluegrass meadows). It is imperative that permittees do not allow cattle to graze to a point that the units have a "mowed" look to them (i.e. all grass seed heads and stalks have been removed from the plants), which indicates about 60% use or greater. When allowable use is met in each unit, the cattle need to be moved to the next unit. A range technician will regularly visit the allotment throughout the summer to monitor permit compliance, forage utilization, and range improvements.

Grazing fees will be \$1.35 per head month this year. Fees must be paid before livestock will be authorized to enter the National Forest. It can take two to three week for payment to go through Lockbox so **please pay your bill by the due date.**

Annual Operating Plan Meeting

The annual meeting was held April 1, 2025 at the Duchesne Office with [REDACTED] present. The following items were discussed:

1. Temporary electric fence was put in last year to divide Tabby pasture into 2 pastures which helped managed cow.
2. [REDACTED] mentioned the Cottonwood Guzzler east fence needs to be rebuilt. He would like to move the fence further to the east out of the snowbank. This will be looked at this summer.
3. [REDACTED] would like to look at a project to connect Government and Wildhorse water systems to Big Trough.
4. Discussed approved Range Improvement Project and timelines for implementation.
5. The Cottonwood Ridge cattleguard needs to be cleaned and new wings installed.
6. Drought conditions were discussed. Snowpack has been well below average for this area. If dry conditions persist through the spring and summer months livestock numbers may need to be reduced or livestock may need to come off the allotment early. Utilization levels will need to be monitored closely.

Maintenance of Improvements

All fences and water developments must be maintained before the cattle will be allowed to enter the allotment. Please contact our office when you have completed your maintenance. Do so at least **five** days before the cattle enter the allotment to allow us sufficient time to inspect these improvements. A Range technician may randomly inspect the improvements at any time. **Please contact our office five days before livestock enter the allotment to allow us ample time to inspect the improvements.** All discarded materials (i.e. old troughs, broken pipe, wire etc.) need to be removed from the National Forest.

Improvement Maintenance Responsibilities

Improvement Name	Improvement #	Improvement Name	Improvement #
Cripple Creek Boundary Fence (3.8 miles)	4206	Cottonwood Guzzler	4526
Big Trough Spring	435911	Cottonwood Drift Fence	4790
Government Spring	435914	Broad Spring	435920
Marshall Spring	435921	Upper Jolie Spring	435925
Potts Spring	435906	Big Trough Water Pillow	435911
Walker Spring	435909	Cottonwood Division Fence	4784
Wimmer Spring	435907	Abbott Spring	4289
Quitchampau Drift Fence	4103	Wilson Spring	4290
Cottonwood-Tabby Boundary Fence	4229	Wildhorse Spring	435913
Broad Hollow Drift Fence	4246	Cripple Creek Spring	437058
N. Lost Drift Fence	4248	Cottonwood Guzzler	4510

Multiple Use Considerations

Coordination with permittees on adjacent allotments along with wildlife, recreation, watershed and other National Forest uses is needed. Please notify the Duchesne office if you notice any unauthorized use or resource damage. A concentrated effort is being made to control musk thistle, Russian knapweed, tall and regular whitetop, and other noxious weeds throughout the Duchesne Ranger District and Duchesne County. Your help is needed in finding and reporting all weed infestations. If you find weeds, please take contact Sandy.

Actual Use Record

The actual use record and maintenance report included with these operating instructions **needs to be filled out and returned immediately following the grazing season.** If anything comes up concerning the allotment or your permit, please contact Sandy Kaminski at (435) 790-7011.

Thanks for your cooperation and have a good summer.

Kristy Groves
Forest Supervisor

Actual Use Record

Allotment Cottonwood **YEAR** 2025

To be completed by the Permittee showing actual use, cost and losses. Please complete one form for each allotment and mail or dropped off to the Duchesne Ranger District Office, 85 West Main Duchesne, UT 84021 by December 31st.

Pasture/Unit	Number Grazed	Date On	Date Off
Tabby			
Cottonwood			

ANNUAL COST RECORD

Activity	Hours	Material Costs	Other Costs (Labor, Travel, etc.)
New Improvements			
Maintenance			
Allotment Management			
Other:			

LOSS RECORD BY NUMBER AND TYPE (example: 3 calves, 1 bull, 2 cows)

Pasture/Unit	Poisonous Plant	Predation	Weather	Disease	Theft	Other (fire, vandalism, hit by a car)	Unknow
Tabby							
Cottonwood							

Remarks (needs, new projects, management suggestions): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____