



File Code: 2210/2230-3

Date: May 7, 2007

Scott McCarrel
4556 US Highway 40
Vernal, UT 84078

Dear Scott,

This letter is in reference to the annual meeting you, your wife Rayma, and Aaron Zobell attended on April 20th in Manila concerning your grazing on the Birch Creek-Little Hole and Little Davenport Allotments. This letter will serve as your 2007 Operating Instructions and will become a part of your term grazing permit as provided for in Part 2, Number 8(a) of the term permit. Your 2007 Operating Instructions are as follow:

Birch Creek - Little Hole C&H Allotment

<u>Numbers</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Date</u>
74	West	July 15 – Sept. 20
74	East	July 15 – Sept. 20

Little Davenport C&H Allotment

<u>Numbers</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Date</u>
9	Grazed in conjunction with BLM allotment	To be determined by the BLM

As shown above, you have requested to postpone your permitted on date of June 1st to July 15th this year to utilize other leases you have negotiated with the BLM. Since you have requested to reduce your permitted time on the allotment by half, you have also requested to double your numbers from 74 to 148 cow/calf pairs. The Forest Service will allow this to occur. On July 15th please put half (74 pair) of your permitted cattle into the West unit and the other half (74 pair) into the East unit. It is important that your cattle are evenly distributed across both units and that you check your cattle often to make this plan work. This is especially important as this grazing plan eliminates the option of moving your cattle into a different unit if utilization standards are met or exceeded. Consequently, if key areas within either unit meet or exceed 50% forage utilization, you will be asked to remove your cattle from the allotment before your planned off date.

I also understand there is a slight possibility that you may want to enter the allotment on July 1st instead of July 15th. Please let Aaron know if this occurs. Should cattle enter the allotment on July 1st your off date will move from September 20th to the 5th of September.

Your Forest Service term permit for 9 cows on the Little Davenport Allotment is part of an on-



and-off provision that is managed as a natural grazing unit consisting of Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and private lands. Only 12% of the land within this natural grazing unit is under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service; therefore, under an interagency Memorandum of Understanding (FSM 1531.12b) the Forest Service has given the BLM the authority to manage federal land within this natural grazing unit. You should coordinate your season of use of the BLM and Little Davenport on-and-off allotments with Dylan Tucker of the BLM this year. However please make sure your cattle are removed from Forest Service lands before the 15th of September.

You should keep track of the dates, numbers, and any other facts that may be pertinent for the Birch-Creek Little Hole and Little Davenport Allotments on your attached Grazing Use Record form and let Aaron know as they occur.

Please remember that the maintenance of all your improvements must be done before your cattle enter the allotment this year, as cattle will be grazing both units during the same time period. Maintenance must be completed to the standards listed in your permit. You are responsible to provide all of the materials and labor needed to complete your maintenance requirements. You have requested and filled out a permit for the use of an ATV to be used for fence and water development maintenance on your allotment. I have approved this once from June 1st through November 15th (weather permitting) within the West unit. I have approved your ATV use in the East Unit from June 1st to August 14th and again from November 16th to November 30th (weather permitting). I have not approved ATV use to occur within the East unit from August 15th to November 15th due to a seasonal road closure that occurs at and beyond the Pipe Creek gate. This permit allows you to use your ATV to travel along existing fences and water developments to maintain them where this use has previously occurred. ATVs should not be used to travel cross-country. Salt should not be placed closer than ¼ mile from water or 300 feet from adjacent roads or trails. Other item(s) specifically discussed that need to be addressed before cattle enter the allotment include the following:

- ❖ Wild Horse Springs water development: The Wild Horse Springs enclosure needs to be extended approximately 40 feet to the north as was originally marked in the field with you, Aaron Zobell, and Ross Catron. Additionally, metal t-posts need to be pounded down to appropriate depths, brace posts that are leaning need to be repaired, trash needs to be properly disposed of, and if water is not flowing at the desired flow to the trough, reconstruction of the headbox may be necessary. Please contact Aaron and he will assist you in accomplishing these tasks. Also, please remember that these tasks need to be completed before your cattle enter the allotment.
- ❖ Antone Spring water development (Antone Stock Pond): You mentioned that there is a need to maintain the Antone Stock Pond. Please make sure that this pond is maintained to the standards listed in your permit (page 11 of 17).

We can provide you with a sign reminding users of the gate to please close the gate after using it. to help with the management of livestock on Pipe Creek Gate. Please call Aaron if you are interested in picking up a sign. Additionally, as planned, Pipe Creek Gate is to remain locked after the 15th of August. Please let Aaron know if you have any more compliance issues concerning this gate.

We also need your help to control noxious weeds. We have recently have began retreating a spotted knapweed site on your allotment. Aaron provided you with the location of this site and showed you a mounted specimen of this plant. Should you observe this plant or any other “new” weeds in other areas of your allotment please let Aaron know so that we can immediately treat those sites. Additionally, control of musk thistle remains a concern. By removing musk thistle seed heads before they flower and then cutting down the plant at its base, the spread of this plant can be controlled.

Finally, we sent out a letter in December to all permittees discussing the drought situation. Since December the Flaming Gorge Ranger District has continued to receive needed precipitation. If the current trend continues into the rest of the spring and summer, I do not plan on reducing permittee permitted animal months. However, should the weather pattern change and we receive little to no precipitation between now and your on date, I expect that I will need to adjust your permitted animal months to better reflect forage that is available for consumption by your livestock and to protect rangeland resources. Please have a contingency plan ready in case this occurs.

I look forward to working with you on the Birch Creek-Little Hole and Little Davenport Allotments. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Aaron Zobell at (435) 781-5279.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jeff E. Schramm
JEFF E. SCHRAMM
District Ranger

Enclosures (2)
Grazing Use Record
Travel Variance Form