

**ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST
Roosevelt-Duchesne Ranger District
Lake Canyon Cattle Allotment
2007 Annual Operating Plan**

Permittee	Number of Cattle	Season of Use
Valley View Ranch	85	June 10 to October 5*

*Amber will go out and check the allotment to see if the range is ready to graze by June 10 and then notify Kenn of the outcome. If it is not ready, cattle will go on the allotment on June 21 and it is understood that it depends on the year as to if grazing can begin at an earlier date.

Grazing Schedule

Unit Name	Sequence	Dates of Use	Allowable Use
Right Fork Lake Canyon	3 rd	9/1– 10/5	50%
Bear Gulch-Bills Draw	1 st	6/21 – 7/20	50%
Left Fork Lake Canyon	2 nd	7/21 – 8/30	50%

The dates above are to be used only as guidelines. Livestock will enter the Bear Gulch-Bills Draw unit on June 10th. When allowable use is met in the key areas, livestock will then enter the Left Fork Lake Canyon unit. The draws with fences will be filled with appropriate numbers and gated. The Right Fork Lake Canyon unit will be used last.

The primary determining factor for moving livestock from one unit to the other is utilization. As stated above, allowable use is 50% in upland forage areas in all units. Permittees should closely monitor utilization. It is imperative that permittees do not allow cattle to graze to a point that the key areas 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. Compliance of allowable use standards will be fully enforced. If compliance is not met, permittees will be sent notices of non-compliance and associated requirements to address the violation(s).

Grazing fees will be \$1.35 per head month this year. Fees must be paid through Lockbox collection procures before livestock will be authorized to enter the National Forest.

Annual Operating Plan Meeting

The annual meeting was held on March 21, 2007 in the Duchesne Ranger District. Those in attendance included Kenn Miles and Amber Helmus. The following items were discussed:

1. Kenn mentioned he would like to add two tire troughs near the existing trough near Sleepy Spring in Left Fork Canyon. He would need approximately 500’ of pipe and he would like to bury the pipe. Amber talked with Allen and if Kenn buries the pipe, then NEPA needs to be done on it. However, if the pipe is not buried, Kenn could start working on this project. The EA would not be complete until the middle/end of this summer. **Kenn needs to contact Amber (781-5205) as**

soon as he makes his decision because a NEPA document for range improvements is currently being developed.

2. Kenn mentioned that he would also like to develop a new water source which would tap into the Meadow Spring in Right Fork Canyon. Pipe would be placed in the spring and then buried to a new water trough. Gravity flow would be used to move water from one place to another. A concrete structure would be built around a portion of the pipe in the stream.
3. A cattleguard has been requested for the boundary gate at Left Fork Lake Canyon. Amber informed Kenn that there is a shortage of cattlegurds and suggested he make one.
4. Kenn indicated that he had his new troughs flown in last year but he hasn't installed them yet. He plans to get them installed before the grazing season begins.
5. Kenn mentioned that there were small patches of musk thistle in Bear Gulch and Right Fork. Amber will inform the weeds crew about these patches. Kenn should contact Amber if he finds anymore patches or if patches increase.

Improvement Maintenance Responsibilities

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. When developments are reworked, when possible, remove materials (i.e. old troughs, broken pipe, wire, etc.) from the National Forest.

Improvement Maintenance Responsibilities

Improvement #	Improvement Name	Improvement #	Improvement Name
436566	Bear Gulch Spring	436553	Chokecherry Spring
436568	Highline Spring	436552	Puncher Spring
436571	Sleepy Spring	436559	Wildhorse Spring
436559	Wilbur Spring	436557	Cabin Spring
436567	Raspberry Spring	436551	Lost Spring
436555	Lower Bills Spring	436563	Big Spring
436569	Lake Canyon Water Line	43659	Pinto Spring
436570	Meadow Spring-headbox		

Weed Control

A concentrated effort is being made to control musk thistle, whitetop, giant whitetop, Russian knapweed, and other noxious weeds throughout the Roosevelt and Duchesne Ranger Districts, along with Duchesne county. Your help in controlling weeds is needed. If you find any of the above listed weeds, please report the location to Amber Helmus.

Actual Use Record

The actual use record maintenance report **needs to be filled out and returned immediately following the grazing season**. Actual use records need to be filled out completely, including dates on and off each unit. If anything comes up concerning the allotment or your permit, contact Amber Helmus at (435) 738-5205 or cell (435) 790-7058. Thanks for your cooperation and have a good summer.

Amber Helmus
Rangeland Management Specialist

