

**ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST  
Roosevelt-Duchesne Ranger District  
North Fork Cattle Allotment  
2007 Annual Operating Instructions**

<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Number Permitted</u>	<u>Season</u>
Crystal Hackett, et. al.	20	June 16 to September 30
Robert Park	52	June 16 to September 30
Craig Thomas	52	June 16 to September 30
Max & Jake Fabrizio	<u>52</u>	June 16 to September 30
Total Herd Size	176	

**Grazing Schedule**

<u>Unit Name</u>	<u>Sequence</u>	<u>Dates of Use</u>	<u>Allowable Use</u>
Lower North Fork	1 <sup>st</sup>	6/16 – 7/10	50%
Middle Unit-Trail Hollow	3 <sup>rd</sup>	8/4 – 8/25	50%
Upper North Fork	2 <sup>nd</sup>	7/11 – 8/3	40%
West Slope	4 <sup>th</sup>	8/26 – 9/30	50%

Dates of use are to be used as guidelines. Cattle are scheduled to enter the allotment on June 16<sup>th</sup> and will enter the Lower North Fork unit first. The Upper North Fork unit will be used second and then cattle will move into the Middle Unit-Trail Hollow. At this time, an appropriate number of livestock will be put into Trail Hollow and Swift Creek and they will remain there until allowable use is met. The remainder will graze in the Middle Unit. The West Slope will be grazed last.

Grazing utilization guidelines are as follows: allowable use for upland forage species is 50% and a 4” to 6” stubble height for riparian forage species in The Lower, Middle, and West Slope units. In the Upper unit, a 40% allowable use and a 6” stubble height for riparian species are standard guidelines because of the High Uintas Wilderness Area. Permittees should closely monitor key areas. It is imperative that permittees do not allow cattle to graze to a point that the key areas have a “mowed” look to it (i.e. all grass seed heads have been removed from the stalks). Compliance of allowable use standards will be fully enforced.

Grazing fees are at a \$1.35 this year. Payments must be received in lockbox before cattle will be allowed on the Forest. Our resource clerk will monitor lockbox payments.

**Annual Operating Plan Meeting**

Meetings were held at the Craig Thomas residence on March 19, 2007 with Bob Park, Craig Thomas, Rosalynn Thomas, Max Fabrizio, Valona Fabrizio, and Amber Helmus present. The following was discussed:

1. The Mill Flat drift fence needs repaired this year. It requires annual maintenance.
2. The Forest Service still plans to burn the sagebrush flats in North Fork (Middle Unit) in the next 2 to 3 year. The burn will take place in the springtime. Craig indicated that there were dense sagebrush stands between Aspen Campground and Stone Face that needed burning as well. Amber spoke with Allen about the timeline for this burn and he said that it is a fuels reduction project and it is uncertain as to when this will take place.
3. The remaining 1/3 of the old fence on the West Slope of Blind Stream still needs to be removed. Permittees can talk to 2<sup>nd</sup> Nature about assistance with this project. Their number is 738-2040.

4. Permittees need to check the Swift Creek management fence prior to cattle entering the Middle Unit in order to hold about 30 head of cattle because need needs repair annually.
5. The West Slope let down boundary fence between Blind Stream and the West Slope needs more work in order to keep Blind Stream cattle off of the West Slope. Permittees need to work with Lamont and Gordon Moon to complete the maintenance. Amber mentioned this to Allen and he will talk to Lamont and Gordon in their annual spring meeting. It was mentioned that they would need between 1000' to 1400' of materials. The Forest Service will provide orange and white post. Steel gates will be available from the Forest Service if needed. Contact Amber for materials.
6. Permittees mentioned that there were trees down around Mine Campground and that the fence around the campground should be checked. Amber will talk to the trail or fire crew about removing the down trees and talk to Robert Jessen about fixing the fence around the campground.
7. Permittees mentioned that the trails from Mill Flat to Duchesne Tunnel and the trail up trail Hollow towards Rhoades Canyon needs to be improved. Amber will talk to the trail crew about getting their assistance with this project.
8. It was mentioned that unauthorized grazing of horses occurs annually in the 10 acre fenced off section in the Middle Unit. Forest Service is removing the fence to elevate this problem. Permittees should notify Amber if the horses are grazing this section or any other section on the North Fork allotment.
9. Permittees mentioned that several private properties do not keep their fence properly maintained along the North Fork allotment. The private properties are responsible for maintaining their fence but when cattle cross the fence, the permittees are the ones that get in trouble. Amber will find out what can be done about this situation. Permittees should call Amber when cattle cross into the private property so that she can help enforce the issue that it is the property owner's responsibility and not the permittees' responsibility to maintain the fence.
10. Max informed Amber that a portion of his cattle graze the Dude Ranch near the North Fork allotment so if she has any questions about where his cattle should or should not be she should contact him first. It was also mentioned that the Dude Ranch uses the trails on the forest land however they tend not to shut the gates and occasionally move the cattle from their grazing location. Amber will find out if they are permitted to use the area and talk to someone about trying to reduce cattle relocation.
11. Craig mentioned the permittees needed to add onto the existing fence around Sphine and above the dude Ranch along the boundary fence in the Upper Unit. It was estimated that they would need approximately 100' of fencing materials for each section. Contact Amber for the materials.
12. Craig mentioned that a fence needed to be reconstructed in Unit 1 in order to keep livestock on the slope and out of the bottom of the canyon. This is a future project for the North Fork allotment and permittees will work on this when time permits.
13. Amber again stressed the importance of following the grazing instructions for 2007. Allowable use in key areas will not exceed 50% outside the wilderness and 40% within the wilderness. When allowable use is achieved in the key areas, cattle need to be moved to the next scheduled unit. Key areas are those forage areas where cattle prefer to be and where allowable use is reached first in a respective unit. Key areas include the Siphon, the meadows above and below Iron Mine Campground, and the stringer meadows in the Upper unit. Also, cattle will remain in the assigned units of the grazing schedule. A range technician will regularly visit the allotment during the 2007 grazing season.

14. Below is the riding and maintenance schedule for the allotment. Responsible permittee will inspect and maintain water improvements, monitor vegetation and utilization, herd cattle to improve distribution, and insure that allotment operating instructions are followed and compliance is met.

<b>Allotment Units</b>	<b>Allotted Time</b>	<b>Responsible Permittee</b>
Lower North Fork	6/16 – 6/26	Crystal Hackett*
Lower North Fork-Upper N. Fork	6/27 – 7/28	Robert Park
Upper-Middle-West Slope	7/29 – 8/29	Craig Thomas
West Slope	8/29 – 9/30	Max and Jake Fabrizio

\*Robert Park will be responsible for Crystal Hackett’s allotted time.

**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 so that we will have time to inspect these improvements. A range technician may randomly inspect improvements on the allotment. Also, when reworking developments, all discarded material (i.e. old troughs, broken pipe, wire, etc.) must be removed from forest property.

**Improvement Checklist**

<b>Improvement Name</b>	<b>Improvement #</b>	<b>Improvement Name</b>	<b>Improvement #</b>
Right of Way Fence	004354	North Fork Boundary Fence	004220
Mill Flat Drift Fence	004218	West Slope Drift Fence	004219
Lower Swift Creek Drift Fence	004222	North Fork Drift Fence	004223
Swift Creek Manage. Fence	004241	West Slope Spring	435671
Siphon Spring	435670	West Slope Reservoir	435676
NW Blind Stream Fence	004442A	North Fork Boundary Fence	004233

**Actual Use Record**

The actual use record and maintenance report included in the back of this document needs to be **filled out and returned immediately** following the grazing season. If anything comes up concerning the allotment or your permit, contact Amber Helmus at (435) 781-5205 or cell (435) 790-7058. Thanks for your cooperation and have a good summer.

Amber Helmus  
Rangeland Management Specialist

**2007 Actual Use Record**

ALLOTMENT NAME North Fork Duchesne

NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK GRAZED \_\_\_\_\_

DATE ENTERED NATIONAL FOREST \_\_\_\_\_

DATE LEFT NATIONAL FOREST \_\_\_\_\_

HOURS WORKED ON MAINTENANCE OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

MONEY SPENT FOR MAINTENANCE OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

HOURS WORKED ON CONSTRUCTION OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

MONEY SPENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF RANGE IMPROVEMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

**RECORD OF USE BY UNITS WITHIN ALLOTMENT (AS SHOWN ON MAP)**

Unit Name	Sequence	Dates Used	
		From	to
Lower North Fork	1 <sup>st</sup>		
Middle North Fork	3 <sup>rd</sup>		
Upper North Fork	2 <sup>nd</sup>		
West Slope	4 <sup>th</sup>		

LOSSES: NUMBERS \_\_\_\_\_ CAUSES \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: (Include needed range improvements and proposed changes in annual plan of use)

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