



File Code: 2210

Date: 5/14/2008

The following letter will document your telephopne conversation with Amy Baumer on May 8, 2008, and serve as your ammended Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the 2008 grazing season on the Fourmile Allotment. Grazing use will be as follows:

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Days</u>
Fourmile	700	ewe/lambs	5/18-5/25	8

You cannot enter the allotment until your grazing fees are paid. Amy will notify you when we have confirmation payment has been made. You are authorized to graze the National Forest System lands within the Fourmile Allotment, west of Desert Creek. You cannot place your camp or bed/noon your sheep within ½ mile of the Sagegrouse Lekking areas identified on the attached map.

Allowable Use Standards

Upland Sites: 55% use of current annual growth of key grass species in sagebrush and salt-shrub plant communities and 30% use of current annual growth by twig length of shrub species in sagebrush and salt-shrub plant communities.

Riparian areas: 65% on herbaceous species (grasses and sedges), 35% on shrubs.

You are responsible for determining when allowable use has been reached and for moving your sheep to the next unit to be used or off the allotment when the last unit has been grazed. The Forest Service is responsible for monitoring your compliance with allowable use standards. If you need assistance determining forage use or streambank disturbance levels, contact Amy and she will help you.

If you have questions, or need additional copies of any of this information, please contact Amy.

General Management

Sheep may use a bedding/nooning area no more than **once** per season. "Good bedground management" was highlighted in your 1974 Sheep Management and Development Plan.

Place salt at least ¼ mile from water, roads, and trails. If there are specific areas that require salt placement outside these guidelines, you must obtain approval from this office prior to salting. Haul dead livestock at least **100** yards from roads, trails, and water. All garbage and debris associated with managing your livestock on Forest Service allotments must be removed from the National Forest.

If you or your employees spot a wildfire on any of your allotments, report it immediately to the



Interagency Dispatch Center in Minden, NV at **(775) 883-5995**. As a reminder, if the Bridgeport Ranger District enters into fire restrictions during 2008, this restriction applies to your operation as well.

Invasive weeds are becoming a serious threat to the welfare of our rangelands. Your assistance is needed to identify new outbreaks of weed populations and to prevent the establishment of weeds on the forest. Pay particular attention to areas where stock are concentrated such as loading/unloading areas, water developments, and salting areas. A Noxious Weed Free Hay order has been implemented on our Forest. This requires any hay that is brought onto the National Forest must be certified free from noxious weeds. All livestock entering the National Forest are recommended to be fed **Certified Noxious Weed Free Forage** for at least 2 days prior to entering the Forest. Pelletized feed is not affected by this order.

Allotment Summary Forms, for reporting actual use and maintenance costs are included. Please complete these forms and return them to this office by June 25, 2008. Thank you for returning last year's actual use and improvement maintenance forms in a timely manner.

As a reminder, approval of requests for permittee convenience non-use is not automatic and the authorized officer should discuss the reasons for the nonuse request with the permittee. Approval of a request for permittee convenience non-use must be in writing by the authorized officer. Full or partial permittee convenience non-use may be approved by the authorized officer for no more than three consecutive years and not more than four years in any ten year period.

Amy Baumer will continue to administer your permit. Please continue to use her as your contact on the district.

I trust that you will contact me any time you have a question so that we may keep our communication open. Thank you for continuing to work with us on the Bridgeport Ranger District. If you have any questions on the management of the above allotments, please feel free to contact myself or Amy at 760-932-5852.

Sincerely,

CHERYL F. PROBERT
District Ranger

Encl: actual use/improvement maintenance form