

Ruby Mountains Ranger District

2008 Annual Operating Instructions

PERMITTEE: 7H Ranch, LLC

ALLOTMENT: Road Canyon & Bruneau C&H

The following is your Annual Operating Instructions for the Road Canyon & Bruneau C&H Allotment(s), as discussed on March 12, 2008. These instructions supplement and are part of your Term Grazing Permit under Part 2, 8(a) of the permit. The year 2008 cost per Head Month is \$1.35. Payment must be received by the due date listed on the Bill for Collection. Upon payment of fees you are authorized to graze as follows:

Authorized Use and Routing

Allotment	Numbers	Class	Season	Days/Head Month
*Road Canyon C&H #00244				
Lower Pasture	114	Cow/Calf	05/15-06/15	32/120
Upper Pasture	114	Cow/Calf	06/16-08/14	60/225
Bureau C&H #00247	74	Cow/Calf	4/16-6/25	71/173

*Road Canyon Rotation Schedule: Stock lower pasture and graze until proper use is reached (about one month). Move cattle to upper pasture.

Forage Utilization Standards and Guidelines

- The permittee is responsible for tracking and complying with permitted forage use levels stated below and in your Term Grazing Permit.
- Once use levels have been reached movement to another unit or removal of livestock will be required regardless of time remaining in the grazing season or Head Months paid for.

Bureau C&H

Management Category	Area Name	Key Species	Utilization
Class IV Riparian	Water Canyon	Desirable Grasses & Forbs	50%
Class V Riparian	All other springs	Desirable Grasses & Forbs	55%
Upland Areas	All Units	Desirable Grasses & Forbs	55%
Upland Browse	All Units	Shrubs & Aspen	50%
Riparian Browse	All Streams	Shrubs & Aspen	35%

Road Canyon C&H

Management Category	Area Name	Key Species	Utilization
Class II Riparian	Springs & Seeps	Desirable Grasses & Forbs	35%
Class III Riparian	Springs & Seeps	Desirable Grasses & Forbs	50%
Class IV Riparian	Road Canyon	Desirable Grasses & Forbs	40%
Class V Riparian	Springs & Seeps California Creek	Desirable Grasses & Forbs	55% 40%
Uplands Areas	All Units	Desirable Grasses & Forbs	40%
*Upland Browse	All Units	Shrubs/Aspen	30%
*Riparian Browse	All Streams, Springs & Seeps, All Units	Shrubs/Aspen	30%

*Utilization based on current year's growth for browse and shrubs



General Range Management

- Salt and Supplement Placement: Place salt or supplement at least 200 yards from water sources, roads, trails and recreation sites. Place salt in areas lightly grazed to encourage an even distribution of utilization on the range. Salt will be removed from areas where maximum allowable use levels have been reached or at the end of the grazing season. Salt fed in loose form shall be contained in an approval receptacle that will keep it from spilling onto the ground.
- Riding and Herding: To improve livestock distribution and reduce resource damage we encourage the riders to breakup livestock concentrations and move them away from water or sensitive areas to areas with lighter use.
- Disposal of Dead Livestock: Dead livestock shall be moved to a location greater than 300 feet of any water source, out of view of roads or trails, and away from areas of significant public use.
- Noxious Weeds: Your assistance is needed in identifying new infestations of noxious weeds. Pay particular attention to areas where stock are concentrated such as loading/unloading areas, water developments, and salting areas. By USDA order 04-00-097, all non-pelletized hay, straw or mulch possessed, stored, or transported on National Forest System Lands, in individual bales or containers, must be tagged or marked as noxious weed free, or must have the original and current evidence of noxious weed free certification documentation present. All markings must meet the State and/or county standards for certification as noxious weed free. It is your responsibility to ensure that your livestock do not contribute to the transport of noxious weeds onto the allotment.

Vegetation Monitoring

We strongly encourage you to take utilization measurements (see the Nevada Rangeland Monitoring Handbook or Ranchers' Monitoring Guide <http://www.ag.unr.edu/nsrm>) in designated key areas of your pastures. Doing so will track when livestock need to be moved to ensure standards are met. We will work with you to ensure that you understand the monitoring methods and will assist in determining key areas. Monitoring forms are available at the ranger station. You are encouraged to send your monitoring data to your Rangeland Management Specialist to be kept in your permanent file.

Range Improvements

- All improvements will be maintained prior to livestock entering the allotment.
- If the allotment is in non-use status, you are still responsible for improvement maintenance.
- Improvements used in common will be maintained before either operator is scheduled to turn on.
- Please work with the Rangeland Management Specialist to develop a replacement schedule for large projects and troughs.
- All the improvements which you are responsible for maintaining are listed in Part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit.

Meeting Notes (Structural/Nonstructural Improvements, Rotation, etc.)

Rotation schedule has been changed due to a reseeding project. It is uncertain when implementation will occur. If fall 2008 then pasture will need to be rested 2009 and 2010.

Please remove the 2 troughs that were taken off permit.

I will get back with you on the Road Canyon Pipeline (1/4-1/2 mile of pipe needs to be replaced-need trencher).

Fences that are on ridges that have snow/hunter/deer issues need to be converted to let-down in specific locations that are being destroyed or disrupting deer migration. Also north portions of lower Road Canyon.

Need to extend ½ mile and gate at Long Hair Smith Drift fence past road to ridge-need Forest Service clearance before work starts.

Jack asked about the AUM's that Gardner had on the Bureau Allotment. Need to research this.

Jack also shows interest in acquiring the adjacent vacant allotments (Mica, Mayhew). We discussed the process. I will send an application.

Nonuse

Please remember that a request for nonuse must be made in writing in advance. Nonuse for permittee convenience can be authorized for no more than 3 consecutive years, and not more than 4 years in any 10 year period.

Grazing Use Record

Enclosed is a Grazing Use Record for the upcoming season. Please use this form to record the dates livestock spend on the allotment as well as other information such as livestock loss, grazing use, resource concerns, improvement needs, etc. The grazing use record should be submitted to the district office by December 31. Blank forms can be found at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/htnf/resources/range/index.shtml>.

Notice

The permittee will provide the Ruby Mountains/Jarbidge District with written notification of any changes or deviation he or she wishes to make in these Annual Operating Instructions. This includes changes in animal numbers, class of livestock, period of use (changes in entry or exit dates from unit to unit), or changes in pasture rotation. No changes in these instructions will be recognized without this verification.

We look forward to working with you and solicit your cooperation and involvement in bringing about sound range and livestock management practices that will enhance all of the allotment resources. If you have any ideas or suggestions that will improve the management of the allotment, we would like to hear from you. Please keep us posted about activities and conditions on the allotment. If you have any questions or concerns regarding management, please don't hesitate to contact Garry Brown at (775) 752-1714.

Permittee: _____ Date: _____

District Ranger: _____ Date: _____

Enclosures: Bill for Collection, Grazing Use Record