



File Code: 2210

Date: April 4, 2008

Five Fingers Grazing Association, LLC.

Dear Peter,

The following letter will document your meeting with Peter Gula and Boyd Hatch, on March 18, 2008 and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the 2008 summer grazing season. The District Ranger must approve any changes to this AOI.

The grazing system on this allotment is rest rotation. The scheduled dates of use are flexible but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made in the below dates. The District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

**PARADISE C&H
PERMITTED USE**

Allotment	Class	Number	Season
Paradise C&H	c/c	500	5/21 - 8/31

**PARADISE C&H
AUTHORIZED USE**

UNITS	Class	Number	Season
Provo	c/c	300	5/21 – 6/10
Wash O’neal	c/c	300	6/11 - 7/5
Stonehouse	c/c	300	7/6 – 8/1
Abel Riparian	c/c	300	8/2 - 8/9
Lower Abel Seeding	c/c	300	8/10 – 8/23
Upper Abel Seeding	c/c	300	8/24 – 9/6
Abel Creek	c/c	300	9/7 – 9/26
Lower Abel Seeding	c/c	300	9/27 – 9/30
Singas	c/c	REST	REST

ALLOWABLE USE:

Resource protection non-use has been authorized for 200 c/c pairs to lessen grazing impacts on vegetation. The permitted head months for this allotment are 1693 HM's, authorized use this year will be reduced by 381 HM's. It will still be critical that you intensively manage cattle this year to encourage even distribution of use. Riparian areas will need extra monitoring and when utilization is met livestock will need to be moved to the next pasture or off the allotment.



You are responsible for determining when allowable use has been reached and for moving your cattle to other areas lightly used or off the allotment when allowable use has been reached. The Forest Service is responsible for monitoring your compliance with allowable use standards. If you need assistance determining use levels or locating key areas, please contact Peter or Boyd. All riparian areas on the allotments are considered key areas.

Riparian sites:

AREA	PERCENT ALLOWABLE USE
Lower Abel Creek Riparian Pasture Upper Abel Creek, and within 300 ft of Category 1 seeps and springs	35% use of grasses, rushes and sedges.
Singus Creek, Morey Creek, Wash O Neal, Provo, upland riparian inside wilderness, and within 300 ft of Category 2 seeps and springs	45% use of grasses, rushes and sedges.
Category 3 Stonehouse Creek, upland riparian outside the wilderness, and within 300 ft of Category 3 seeps and springs	60% use of grasses, rushes and sedges.

Upland sites:

AREA	PERCENT ALLOWABLE USE
All upland sites not listed	65% use of key species mountain brome, bluebunch wheatgrass, Idaho fescue, squirriltail.
Abel Creek (upper and lower)	50% use of key species mountain brome, bluebunch wheatgrass, Idaho fescue, squirriltail
Abel Seeding	50% use of crested and intermediate wheatgrass, bluebunch wheatgrass, and Idaho fescue
Upland Browse	50% of current years growth snowberry, serviceberry, mahogany, bitterbrush

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS:

Range improvements listed in part three of your grazing permit must be maintained before cattle enter the allotments. The maintenance standards listed in part three of your term permit must be followed when maintaining the improvements.

GENERAL MANAGEMENT:

Dead livestock must be moved at least 100 yards from water, roads, and trails. Place salt at least ¼ mile from water sources and in areas lightly grazed to encourage an even distribution of

utilization on the range. In situations where terrain does not allow proper placement of salt, please contact Peter or Boyd and they will determine a suitable location with your input.

If you spot a wild fire, report it immediately to the interagency dispatch center in Winnemucca, NV at (775) 623-1555 or 1-800-535-6076. Actual use and range improvement maintenance forms have been included for you to complete and return at the end of the grazing season. Please return the forms following the 2008 grazing season by October 30, 2008.

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. We have implemented a Noxious Weed Free Hay order on the forest. This will require any hay that is brought onto the National Forest to 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.

As a reminder, approval of requests for permittee convenience nonuse 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 nonuse 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

Grazing fee remained unchanged from last year. The fee is now \$1.35 per head month.

Payment of your grazing bill is due five days prior to your earliest turnout date to allow time for processing. As a reminder the Forest Service is required to give permittees a minimum of 30 days to pay you grazing fees. The Forest Service is requesting that permittees schedule their AOI meeting a minimum of 35 days prior to their earliest on date to provide adequate time to plan for the upcoming grazing season.

If you have any questions or concerns this grazing season, please call Peter or Boyd at (775) 623-5025 x 5.

Sincerely,

JOSE NORIEGA
District Ranger

Encl.

