

Ruby Mountains Ranger District
2009 Annual Operating Instructions

PERMITTEE: Pete and Rama Paris Family Trust

PERMIT #: 70205

ALLOTMENT: Corta S&G, Belmont C&H and Home Place C&H

The following is your Annual Operating Instructions for the Corta S&G, Belmont C&H and Home Place C&H Allotment(s), as discussed on April 14, 2009. These instructions supplement and are part of your Term Grazing Permit under Part 1 item 3 and Part 2 item 8(a) of the permit. The year 2009 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	Number	Class	Season	Head Month
Belmont C&H	100	Cow/Calf	6/1-9/30	401
Home Place C&H	25	Cow/Calf	6/16-9/30	88
Corta S&G				
Mitchell Creek/Green Mtn. Band	1100	Ewe/Lamb	6/1-9/15	3870
Lindsay/Brown Band	1050	Ewe/Lamb	6/15-9/15	3210
Cherry Spring Band	1000	Ewe/Lamb	6/20-9/15	2893
Smith Creek	950	Ewe/Lamb	6/27-9/15	2530
Dry Band (Cherry to Mitchell)	850	Dry	7/20-9/15	1621
Band 1 After Shipping	1300	Dry	9/16-10/23	1624
Band 2 After Shipping	1300	Dry	9/16-10/23	1624
Band 3 After Shipping	1300	Dry	9/16-10/23	1624
Total Sheep Head Months				18,996

Routing

Mitchell Creek/Green Mountain Band: This 1100 head band will enter the Forest June 1 in lower Mitchell Creek and trail up the North Fork of Mitchell Creek and the top of the Ruby Mountains. This band grazes through the higher elevations of the North Fork of Mitchell, Cass House, Lindsay, Brown, Pearl, Indian and Corral Creek. Then they trail across Harrison Pass and graze Green Mountain and then down McCutcheon Creek where the lambs will be removed for shipping. After shipping the ewes will join the Smith Creek band.

Lindsay/Brown Band: This 1050 head band will enter the Forest June 15 in lower Cherry Springs and trail 1-2 days to the top of Sherman Mountain on the back side of Burro Lake then to Hager snowbank and on to the main fork of Mitchell Creek. They move down Mitchell Creek to above the reservoir and on to Lindsay Creek and the north slope of the Corral Creek pasture then down Corral Creek to ship at the Lattin Ranch on 9/15. After shipping the ewes will join the Cherry Springs band. This band uses mostly the upper elevations and relies on the snowbanks.



Cherry Spring/Sherman Mountain Band: This 1000 head band will enter the Forest June 20 at lower Cherry Springs and grazes 1-2 weeks using developed water sources. Sheep will graze Burro Lake, through Willow Creek, Sestanovich Creek, Dames Springs, Sherman Creek, and down Mitchell Creek to the reservoirs area. Sheep will then be herded up the North Fork of Mitchell Creek to the lower elevations of Cass House Creek, South, Middle, and North Forks of Lindsay Creek, lower Rocky Canyon, lower Brown Creek, lower Pearl Creek and Corral Creek. Sheep will be moved off the Forest at the Lattin Ranch around September 15.

Smith Creek Band: This 950 head band will enter the Forest June 27 at Little Cottonwood Creek and graze up to the upper end of Gennette Creek using both Little and Big Cottonwood Canyons. Sheep will graze the upper Gennette Canyon, upper North Fork, Middle Fork, South Fork of Smith Creek and McCutcheon Creek. Sheep will graze back north utilizing the mid-elevations of South, Middle and North Forks of Smith Creek. Sheep will be removed at the Smith Creek Ranch at Gennette Creek around September 15.

Band 1 After Shipping: This band is made up of the 850 dry band plus additional sheep from the other herds to make 1300. This band uses Cherry Springs, Sherman Mountain and ships at Mitchell Creek Ranch. These sheep use many places left by the ewe/lamb bands in areas away from water.

Band 2 After Shipping: From the Lattin Ranch this 1300 head band is made up of the Lindsay/Brown and Cherry Springs bands. They graze the south side of Pearl Creek, Indian Creek, the north fork of Mitchell Creek and ship at the Mitchell Creek Ranch on 10/23.

Band 3 After Shipping: From the Smith Creek Ranch this 1300 head band is made up of the Smith Creek and Mitchell Creek/Green Mountain bands. They graze lower Cottonwood Creek, lower Gennette Creek, Corral Canyon, lower Brown Creek, lower Pearl Creek, Lower Lindsay Creek, Cass House Creek and ship at the Mitchell Creek Ranch.

Permitted Use

LIVESTOCK			PERIOD OF USE		GRAZING ALLOTMENT	
NUMBER	KIND	CLASS	FROM	TO		
100	Cattle	Cow/Calf	5/16	9/30	Belmont C&H	#201
25	Cattle	Cow/Calf	6/16	9/30	Home Place C&H	#256
1100	Sheep	Ewe/Lamb	6/16	10/15	Corta S&G	#243
1100	Sheep	Ewe/Lamb	6/16	10/15	Corta S&G	#243
1100	Sheep	Ewe/Lamb	6/16	10/15	Corta S&G	#243
1510	Sheep	Drys	6/16	10/15	Corta S&G	#243
Total Permitted Sheep Head Months-19,293						

Forage Utilization Standards and Guidelines

- The permittee is responsible for tracking and complying with permitted forage use levels stated 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.

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.

General Sheep Management Practices

- The permittee will make sure herders understand the standards, guidelines and herding practices outlined in these instructions and in the permit.
- Sheep will not noon, shade or bed within 100 yards of all streams, springs or riparian areas
- The same bed grounds will not be used for more than one night
- Bed grounds and noon bedding will not be within 200 yards of designated campgrounds, trails, trailheads, or maintained roads
- Sheep will be open herded and dogs will be used to a minimum to prevent heavy trampling
- Salt will be containerized or placed on rocky areas, preferably ridges.
- Only once-over grazing is allowed
- Graze rather than trail to water and do not water at same locations-use different routes if possible
- Route sheep to avoid steep slopes with loose soil, snowbanks areas, and active rills and gullies
- Avoid excessive impacts at shipping locations
- Highline, picket, or hobble pack and saddle stock
- Clean and repair all roads and trails to the condition prior to sheep impacts
- No salt in riparian areas, under trees, or within 200 yards of water or maintained roads.

- Herder camps will be kept clean. All Trash, litter, and refuse will be packed off National Forest System Lands.
- Vacated camps will be returned to a natural appearing condition.
- Exceptions to these practices will be documented annually in the Annual Operating Instructions.

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.
- All the improvements which you are responsible for maintaining are listed in Part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit.

Bighorn Sheep: For the purpose of location/data collection, NDOW requests that sheep permittees record observations of bighorn sheep in close proximity to their domestic sheep bands and inform NDOW of these sightings. When NDOW completes the process of updating their GIS data layer which includes bighorn sheep seasonal distribution on Forest Service administered lands, NDOW and FS personnel will meet to review domestic and wild sheep locations, and with the cooperation of sheep permittees, refine use areas to keep the species better separated.

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

-new routing maps need to be completed
-need to make sure travel management map is correct-access roads
-put in Mitchell Creek cattleguard 2009
-fix culvert

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/Jarbridge 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: Allotment Map, Bill for Collection, Grazing Use Record