

**File Code:** 2230  
**Date:** May 11, 2023

Dear Permittee:

On April 27, 2023, Andy and yourself met to discuss the 2023 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Sponseller and Ortega Allotments. The two allotments will continue to be run together by one herd. The pasture rotation and numbers authorized for the 2023 grazing season are listed below:

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Pasture</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Ortega	Woolhouse	400 Head	June 6 to June 23
Ortega	Bourdon	400 Head	June 24 to July 21
Sponseller	East Sponseller	400 Head	July 22 to August 18
Sponseller	South Sponseller	400 Head	August 19 to September 15
Sponseller	West Sponseller	400 Head	September 16 to October 6
Ortega	Woolhouse	400 Head	October 7 to October 31

The West Mormon, East Mormon, and Ortega Pastures will be rested this year. The 400 head will be made up of 380 cow/calf and 20 bulls. The desired utilization level for the 2023 grazing season will be 35% on average for all pastures. Utilization will be measured in key areas on key species for each pasture after livestock leave the pasture. Adjustments to this rotation may be needed during the grazing season. Any adjustments to the rotation need to be coordinated and approved by the Forest Service. When moving between pastures, livestock need to be completely moved out of the pasture within 3 days of the planned rotation date. You must notify the Forest Service if there is a need to deviate from the planned move date.

New projects requiring ground disturbance must be approved by the Forest Service and all clearances obtained before any work can begin. Please let us know if there are additional projects needed throughout the grazing season so that we can begin this process.

By this letter, I also authorize you or people working for you, to use or remove any trees needed for fence posts and stays for maintenance of structural range improvements within the Sponseller and Ortega Allotments. A copy of this letter must be in possession by you or them while engaged in any tree cutting.

If you have any questions, please contact Kendell, Allison, or Andy at the Lakeside office, (928) 368-2100, or at the Black Mesa office, (928) 535-7300. This letter will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions for the 2023 grazing year for the Sponseller and Ortega Allotments. If needed, I am willing to meet with the permittee to hear and discuss any concerns or issues related to these Annual Operating Instructions during the grazing season.

Sincerely,

/s CHARLES DENTON  
District Ranger (Detail)



