

**USDA Forest Service  
Ashley National Forest  
Roosevelt-Duchesne Ranger District  
P.O. Box 127  
Roosevelt, Utah 84066**

Contact: Allen Huber  
(435) 781-5226

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**LEGAL NOTICE  
Roosevelt-Duchesne and Vernal District Grazing Allotments  
Request for Comments**

The Roosevelt-Duchesne and Vernal Ranger Districts propose to reauthorize grazing on 10 allotments on the Ashley National Forest. Allotments from the two districts are being scoped together to enhance efficiency. The purpose and need for the proposed action is to provide forage for domestic livestock. Following public scoping, an environmental analysis for these grazing allotments will be prepared and made available for public review. The allotments being reviewed are Farm Creek, Dry Gulch, Pole Creek, Yellowstone, Petty Mountain, Mule Creek On/Off, Lake Fork, which are administered by the Roosevelt-Duchesne District; and Mosby Mountain, Whiterocks Canyon, West Whiterocks On/Off, which are administered by the Vernal District.

As a part of reauthorizing livestock grazing, the proposed action would incorporate an adaptive management strategy. The strategy was developed by an interdisciplinary team of resource specialists and is a planning and monitoring process that identifies desired resource conditions and establishes benchmarks and management standards that would maintain or move toward desired condition on 205,061 acres. The benchmarks identified below will form a basis for monitoring - to compare the allotment conditions with the specified benchmark. These would be incorporated within existing livestock grazing permits and revised Allotment Management Plans and would compliment existing Forest-wide standards and guidelines currently found therein.

The Roosevelt-Duchesne and Vernal Districts have determined that an Environmental Assessment (EA) will be sufficient to analyze the potential environmental effects of the proposed actions. At a minimum, the following alternatives will be described and analyzed: 1) Continue grazing with an adaptive approach to livestock management; or 2) No livestock grazing.

The District Rangers as the responsible officials for the allotments will: 1) Decide whether to authorize continued livestock grazing on the allotment; 2) If livestock grazing is authorized, decide under what parameters livestock grazing will be implemented; or 3) Decide whether the selected alternative may have significant effects and whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

In making the decision, the Forest Plan and other relevant direction, available scientific and other technical information, issues raised by resource specialists, public scoping input, and public comments on the proposed action, environmental effects, and other relevant information will be considered. We will decide whether or not to implement the proposed action or another alternative developed by the Forest Service in response to specific resource issues. We may choose one of the other alternatives or may select components from among the proposed action and alternatives.

The public is invited to offer substantive comment at this time. Substantive comments are those within the scope of, are specific to, and have a direct relationship to the proposed actions, and include supporting reasons that the Responsible Official should consider in reaching a decision. Comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this project. Send your written comments to: John R. Kirkaldie, District Ranger, Roosevelt-Duchesne Ranger District, at 650 W. Highway 40, P.O. Box 127, Roosevelt, Utah 84066. Comments may also be hand delivered to the above address during regular business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, excluding federal holidays; or submitted electronically to [comments-intermtn-ashley@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-intermtn-ashley@fs.fed.us). It would be most useful for the Forest to receive your electronic comments in MS Word (\*.doc) or rich text format (\*.rtf). All comments should be received by November 14, 2008.

For further information concerning this proposal, please contact Allen Huber at the Roosevelt Ranger District, 650 W. Highway 40, P.O. Box 127 Roosevelt, Utah 84066, by phone at (435) 781-5226, or by e-mail at [ahuber@fs.fed.us](mailto:ahuber@fs.fed.us).