

ALPINE LAKES RANCH POA

GRAZING INFORMATION

GRAZING DIRECTOR: LAURIE WHITE

The ranch is currently in the second grazing season of our 4yr. lease which ends Dec.31,2022. If the POA currently has your property's signed lease on file, it is valid until then. The grazing season, during a normal year, runs from May 1, through Oct.31st. The cattle are currently on their 3rd rotation over in Coyote Park. They will continue to rotate approximately every six weeks depending on water and grass supply. The POA secretary will send out an email notification prior to each rotation.

I work very closely with our ranchers Jim Bramwell and Phil Wiseman to ensure that the grazing program runs smoothly and in compliance with our POA lease agreement. The grazing program provides revenue for the ranch and allows all participating property owners the opportunity to claim agricultural classification for their property taxes. This is a savings of approximately \$1,000 to \$5,000 annually. Revenues from Grazing for 2020 were \$16,412.46

Colorado is a "fence-out" state meaning property owners must fence their entire property if they do not want livestock present. ALRPOA Covenants allow property owners to fence out up to 5 acres around a residence and still participate in the grazing lease. Please be sure access gates around these areas are closed when cattle are around. If you have questions about fencing requirements, please email me directly.

Please watch your speed on the roads, especially during grazing season. Cattle are often in the road and liability for cattle killed or injured lies with the driver. Also, all frost-free spigots should be protected if they are accessible to cattle, as they love to rub on the metal and may break your pipe.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service conducts a grazing study each year on the ranch. The goal is to maintain healthy native grasslands and prevent over grazing. Currently, we have 3 testing sites on the ranch. Last November, I spent a day with Shaan Bliss from NRCS to visit the sites and learn more about the program. Each fall, after grazing season, he takes grass clippings from in and outside the testing sites and sends them to be analyzed. He then submits a report to the county and to the POA. Shaan would like us to add 3 or 4 more test sites throughout the ranch for a better analysis. Our goal was to add the new testing sites which consist of a 4ft. square cage enclosed with hog wire, in the spring of 2020. The new testing sites would be added before our current grazing season to be included in the 2020 study. Due to Covid-19 we were not able to add the new sites, hopefully we can try again for next spring. The 2019 NRCS study did not show any evidence of overgrazing last year.

Lastly, feel free to contact me regarding any grazing questions or concerns. Please don't try to contact the ranchers! Thank you.

Laurie White

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