Salmon-Challis National Forest Challis-Yankee Fork Ranger District HC 63 Box 1669, Hwy 93 N Challis, ID 83226 208 879-4100 fax 208 879-4199

File Code: 2230

Date: April 16, 2008

Circle Pi Ranch C/o Troy Olson H/C 62, Box 2295 May, Idaho 83253

### Dear Permittee:

This letter will serve as your 2008 Annual Operating Instructions for the Sulphur Creek C&H and Pahsimeroi C&H allotment and should be considered an extension of your Sulphur Creek, Pahsimeroi C&H term grazing permit. Grazing fee for this year is \$1.35.

# I. Permitted Use Sulphur Creek Allotment

Permittee	No. and Class	Permit Type	Season of Use	<b>Head Months</b>
Robert T Whitworth	102 Cow/Calf	Term	6/01 – 10/05	426
Circle Pi Ranch	150 Cow/Calf	Term	6/01 – 10/05	626

#### I. Permitted Use Pahsimeroi Allotment

Permittee	No. and Class	Permit Type	Season of Use	<b>Head Months</b>
Circle Pi Ranches	400 Cow/Calf	Term	6/06 – 9/28	1512
Bob Whitworth	274	Term	6/06 – 9/28	1036

## II. Authorized Use for 2008 for Sulphur Creek Allotment

Permittee	No. and Class	Permit Type	Season of Use	<b>Head Months</b>
Robert T Whitworth	102	Term	6/1 – 10/05	426
Circle Pi Ranch	150	Term	6/1 – 10/05	626

#### II. Authorized Use for 2008 for Pahsimeroi Allotment

Permittee	No. and Class	Permit Type	Season of Use	<b>Head Months</b>
Circle Pi Ranches	160	Term	6/06 – 9/28	605





Circle Pi Ranches	355	Term	07/18 - 09/28	852 (1457)
Bob Whitworth	274	Term	6/06 – 9/28	1036

# III. Pasture Rotation Sulphur Creek Allotment

Pasture	Number	Season
Sulphur Creek	102 Whitworth	6/1 - 8/01
	150 Circle Pi	
Camp Creek	102 Whitworth	8/2 – 10/05
	150 Circle Pi	
Trail Creek	Rest	Rest

## III. Pasture Rotation for Pahsimeroi Allotment

Pasture	Number	Season
Christian Gulch / Upper	434 (160 +	6/6 - 7/15
Road Unit	274)	
Mahogany Uplands	355	7/16 – 8/6
Spring Hill Uplands (Drake Draw)	434	7/14 – 8/7
Spring Hill Uplands (Carlson	<b>798</b> (160 +	8/7 - 8/30*
Lake/Buck Draw	274+355)	
Lower Road	798	8/31 – 9/6**
Spring Hill Flat	798	9/7 – 9/30

<sup>\*</sup> Cows that started in Upper Pahsimeroi will join rest of cows in the Spring Hills Uplands

# IV. Use Guidelines for Sulphur Creek and Pahsimeroi Allotment

Pasture	Uplands	Riparian Areas
Camp Creek	50%	4" Stubble Height
Trail Creek	50%	4" Stubble Height

<sup>\*\*</sup> Use Lower Road Pasture to wean calves, dry cows then will be placed on the Spring Hill Flats for the remainder of the grazing season.

Christian Gulch	50%	50%
Mahogany Upland	50%	50%
Lower Road	50%	50%
Upper Road	50%	50%
Spring Hill Uplands	50%	50%
Spring Hill Flats	50%	50%

The move-on date is only a guide since the on-date will be when range readiness occurs. Move dates should be when forage utilization indicates that moves need to be made.

#### V. Utilization Guidelines

- Utilization of herbaceous forage will not exceed 50% current growth on upland sites;
- Riparian areas should retain a minimum of 4" of stubble on herbaceous use vegetation by the end of the growing season.
- Woody browse use will not exceed 50% of new leader production.

## VI. Permittee Management Responsibilities

- Do not wait for the forest officer to tell you it is time to move. It is the permittee's responsibility to insure livestock are moved before utilization levels are exceeded and notify forest officers.
- Distribute cattle over the entire pasture being used. Make a concerted effort to use all grazable areas in a pasture. Please realize that it is in your best interest to keep cattle distributed throughout the pasture being used. Cattle will be moved out of a pasture when forage utilization in riparian and/or upland areas is at grazing standards.
- If cattle are allowed to concentrate in riparian areas and/or water developments without being pushed to unused areas, the grazing capacity of the pasture is diminished to those areas only. **Use of riparian areas needs to be carefully monitored**. The range personnel will monitor forage use in areas where cattle concentrate.
- The move-off date is the date you must have all cattle off the grazing allotment, not the day to start moving cattle off the allotment.
- If you move onto the allotment late and want to stay past your move-off date, then you must make arrangements earlier in the grazing season and obtain prior approval from the District Ranger or authorized officer.
- Place salt in areas where past and or present forage use is light. Salt should be used to spread utilization across the pasture being grazed. Place salt at least a ¼ mile from riparian areas. Salt should be picked up and moved when an area has been sufficiently used. Do not place salt in the same footprint areas used last year. Contact the Range

Specialist if you need suggestions. The permittee is responsible for using water and salt to achieve the best distribution of cattle throughout the pasture.

- Any carcass or animals remains will be moved at least 100 yards from live water, trails, and roads. Animal carcasses in highly visible areas need to be relocated to more remote areas.
- Fences will be checked and maintained before cattle enter a pasture or allotment. Range improvements should be kept to a standard of repair, which is functional, safe, and acceptable to the Forest Service. Any plans to reconstruct or build new improvements on the Forest should first be coordinated with the Range Specialist. Improvements are listed in your grazing permit and are shown on the allotment map.

## VII. Range Improvements Maintenance/Construction

Range improvements that will need to be inspected and repaired; and are necessary to manage and control livestock for the 2008 grazing season are the following:

- Maintain fences in the pastures, listed under "III. Pasture Rotation" of this document, as well as the boundary fences, that are Sulphur Creek and Pahsimeroi Permittee's responsibility, with adjacent allotments.
- Continue work on water developments in all pastures.
- No ground disturbing activities should be conducted on the Forest by the permittee or their personnel without approval from the Range Specialist or other specialist as assigned by the District Ranger.

## VIII. Billing Information

Grazing fees must be paid to USDA Forest Service P.O. Box 894183 Los Angeles CA 90189-4183 by the date specified on the Bill for Collection and in advance of livestock entry onto the Salmon-Challis National Forest. Grazing fees must be paid before livestock can be turned onto the Forest.

## IX. Forest Service Responsibilities

- Please notify the Range Specialist at 879-4100, before cattle are turned onto the Forest. Cattle move-on counts may be conducted on randomly selected allotments this year. Brands will be checked periodically throughout the grazing season.
- Range inspections may occur several times during the grazing season to check maintenance of range improvements, forage utilization, and compliance with the grazing rotation and standard requirements. You may be invited to participate in inspections conducted on the allotment. We will try to contact you a few days in advance to let you know when we will be looking at your allotment.
- Range staff will meet with permittee on the ground to see if feasible to continue pipeline from Spud Basin to link with pipelines that feed the lower Trail Creek Troughs.

### X. Special Considerations for the 2008-Grazing Season

- If drought conditions persist, you may be asked to remove livestock from the Forest earlier than normal this year if water and/or forage are limited.
- Because of increasing public use, gates are often left open and cattle stray into the wrong pasture. We realize this is a problem and an inconvenience. However, it is still the permittee's responsibility to keep their animals in the proper unit. Cattle found in wrong pastures should be removed and returned immediately to the correct pasture after notification by phone or letter. Early use or repeated use of grazing units could result in an early move-off date. Routine checks need to be made by you and your rider. This is a requirement of your term grazing permit.
- Install small animal escape ramps provided on all your Forest Service working stock tanks. The ramps maybe obtained at the Challis Ranger District please contact the Range Management Specialist to arrange for pickup.

Enclosed is a Year End Grazing Report for you to record Actual Use data and range improvement needs for the 2008 grazing season. You need to record the date and number of cattle turned onto the allotment, the dates the cattle are moved to and from each pasture, and the number and date cattle are removed from the allotment. Accurate records of these dates, maintenance work, and range improvement needs should be kept and returned to our office at the end of the grazing season. The Forest Service uses these records to help allocate Range Betterment Funds. These funds are used to purchase materials for improvement.

If you have any questions concerning these Annual Operating Instructions, please call David Morris, Barry Dopp, Range Management Specialist, or myself in Challis at 208-879-4100. Prior approval by the District Ranger is required to amend or change these instructions. We are looking forward to the grazing season and hope it will be productive.

Sincerely,

RANDY DRAEGER District Ranger

Cc: Carren Morgan, Challis BLM: 801 Blue Mtn. Rd., Challis, ID 83226

Enclosure: Year-End/Maintenance Report

Things that need to looked at for this grazing season on the Pahsimeroi Allotment and Sulphur Creek allotment with permittee and agreed to.

## Sulphur Creek:

- 1. Need to look at the Spud Basin Spring and see what is needed to attach Spud Basin spring area to the other two spring boxes to deliver water to the Trail Creek Pasture. Springs are located immediately down the draw below known enclosure and division fence.
- 2. Verify that Opal Springs fence receives necessary repairs for this grazing season prior to use.

#### Pahsimeroi:

- 1. Provide replacement troughs (4).
- 2. Provide necessary float valves to make the water system work like they were designed to.
- 3. Provide one new spring box for the Lower Spring Hill WD (Hi-pressure line)
- 4. Allow the permittee to place a portable electric fence with drive over, on the Carlson Road in the Spring Hills Flat pasture to keep cattle in the pasture.
- 5. Look at with the permittee a solution to cows moving off the uplands into Buck Draw and down to the lake (Possible temporary electric fence) till NEPA is completed.
- 6. Monitor Mahogany Creek key areas.