



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

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: May 28, 2008

Gary and Jackie Ingram
HC 68 Box 320
Clayton, Idaho 83227

Dear Gary and Jackie:

This letter will serve as your Annual Operation Instructions for the Herd Creek, Pine Creek C&H Allotments for the 2008 grazing season and should be considered as an extension of the Herd Creek and Pine Creek C&H Permit # 30019. Grazing fees for 2008 are \$1.35.

I. Authorized Use

ALLOTMENT		
WARM SPRINGS (BLM)	481 C/c	5/8-9/30
ROAD CREEK (BLM)	96 C/c	5/16-6/15
HERD CREEK (BLM & FS)	636 C/c	6/16-9/30
PINE CREEK (BLM)	172 C/c	5/23-6/30
PINE CREEK (FS)	122 C/c	7/1-9/30
SPRING GULCH (BLM)	200 C/c	10/1- 11/15

II. Actual Use:

Pasture/Allotment	Actual Use	Head Months
Fox Creek FS	60 head	27
Herd Creek FS	60 head	179
	Total	206 hdmh

II. Pasture Rotation



II. P a s t u r e R o t a t i o n	Fox Creek BLM		June 16 – June 30
	Fox Creek FS		July 1– July 30
	Taylor / McDonald		August 1– September 30
	Sheep/Sagebrush Creek		August 1 – September 30
	Herd Lake		Rest
1	Lake Basin		Rest
2			
3			
4			

III. Use Standards

Allotment/Stream Area or Segment	Scheduled Use/ Utilization Criteria
Warm Springs: Spar Canyon and Corral	4 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline in Corral Basin
Road Creek: Road Creek	4 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline
Herd Creek Allotment:	
Taylor: McDonald Creek, Upper Taylor Creek	4 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline
Sheep Gulch and Sagebrush Creek	50 percent herbaceous by weight
Lower Taylor Creek, East Pass Creek	6 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline;
Herd Lake: Bull Gulch	50 percent herbaceous by weight;
Lake Creek-BLM Exclosure to Herd Lake	6 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline
Upper Lake Creek	4 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline.
Herd Creek in FS Exclosure,	6 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline;
Unit II : Herd Creek above East Pass, up to and West Fork Herd Creek	6 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline;
<i>East Fork Herd Creek</i>	
East Fork Herd above West Fork Division Fence	4 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline;
Lake Basin Creek & Hell Canyon	4 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline
Lake Basin Upland Areas	50 percent herbaceous by weight
Lower Herd Creek BLM	6 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline;
Spring Gulch Unit	50 percent herbaceous by weight
Pine Creek:	

Fox and Pine Creek (FS):	4 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline. 30% use on aspen (primary standard); 4" stubble height (Pine Creek)
Sheep Creek (FS), Pine Creek (BLM)	4 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline. 50 percent herbaceous by weight
Upland Ecosystems and other Riparian Woody Browse (designated habitat)	50 percent herbaceous by weight 30-50 % annual leader growth (twig count)

NOTE- 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.

Utilization of herbaceous forage will not exceed 50% current growth on upland sites; Riparian areas should retain a minimum of 4" or 6", (depending on location), of stubble on herbaceous use vegetation by the end of the growing season. Woody browse use will not exceed 50% of new leader production.

IV. Permittee Management Responsibilities

- The move-on date is only a guide since the on-date will be when range readiness occurs. Move dates should be within three days of the listed dates unless forage utilization indicates that moves need to be made earlier.
- 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 need to be moved prior to meeting riparian and upland grazing standards. If cattle are allowed to concentrate in riparian areas and water developments without being pushed to unused areas, the grazing capacity of the pasture is diminished to those areas only. Use of riparian areas need to be carefully monitored
- Your rider needs to push the cattle out of riparian areas at least three times a week or more. The move off date is not the day to start moving cattle it is the date you must have all cattle off of the grazing allotment or pasture.
- If you move on to 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. If possible 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 animal 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. Dead or sick animals receive close public scrutiny and should be dealt with quickly.
- A Forest Weed Free Hay Special Order #04-00-097 is in effect as February 11, 2003 – “Possessing, storing, or transporting, non-pelletized hay, straw or mulch on National Forest System Lands without having each individual bale or container tagged or marked as weed free, or having original and current evidence of weed free certification documentation present. All markings must meet the State and/or county standards for certification as weed free.
- **No streamside grazing after chinook presence/August 10 on critical streams**, which are: Herd Creek from the mouth up to the East and West Fork confluence, East Pass Creek from its confluence with Herd Creek up to Taylor Creek, Lake Creek from its confluence with Herd Creek up to the first culvert/road crossing; also no streamside grazing after initiation of bulltrout spawning (approx. August 15) on Herd Creek from the allotment boundary up to the confluence with the East Fork/West Fork of Herd Creek, West Fork Herd Creek and East Pass Creek

V. Range Improvements Maintenance/Construction

- Range Improvements that will be necessary to manage and control livestock for the 2008 grazing season are: Twin Bridges Fences Numbers 1, 2 & 3, McDonald Drift Fence, Sagebrush Unit Fence, East Pass Unit Fence, Upper Taylor Creek Fence (electric fence), and Taylor Creek Water Development and trough, McDonald Creek Water Development and trough, Lower Sagebrush Creek Water Development and troughs, Upper Sheep Creek Water Development and trough.
- No construction scheduled for the 2008-grazing season.
- No ground disturbing activities should be conducted on the forest by the permittee or their personnel without approval from the Range Specialist or other District staff. Under the Cultural Resource Settlement, costs to correct a damaged cultural site will be billed to the person who caused the damage. Ground disturbances can no longer be permitted, accepted or allowed to occur on National Forest lands without prior, proper clearance.

VI. 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.
- Please notify the Range Specialist, Barry Dopp 208-879-4161 before cattle are turned on the Forest.

VII. Forest Service Responsibilities

- Cattle move on counts may be conducted on randomly selected allotments this year. Brands will be checked periodically throughout the grazing seasons.

- Range Inspections will be made several times during the grazing season to check maintenance of range improvements, forage utilization, and compliance with the grazing rotation and standard requirements. You will 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.

VIII. 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 in to the wrong pasture. We realize this **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.
- 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 within 2-3 days of 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.

Enclosed is a Year End Grazing Report for you to record Actual Use data for the 2008 grazing season. You need to record the date and number of cattle turned on to the allotment, the dates the cattle are moved to and from each pasture on the rotation, and the number of cattle removed from the allotment. Accurate records of these dates should be kept. These records will be requested the end of the 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 Barry Dopp or David Morris 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: Kevin Lloyd, BLM, 801 Blue Mtn. Rd., Challis, ID 83226

Enclosures: Actual Use Report

