



File Code: 2230

Date: June 3, 2008

Tom Demorest  
Diamond D Ranch  
P.O. Box 1555  
Boise, Idaho 83701

Dear Tom,

This letter will serve as your Annual Operation Instructions for the Loon Creek C&H Allotment for the 2008 grazing season and should be considered as an extension of the Loon Creek C&H Permit # 60002.

**I. Authorized Use**

Allotment	No. and Class	Permit Type	Season of Use	Head Months
Loon Creek	40 Horses	Term	6/1 – 10/31	201

**II. Pasture Rotation**

Pasture	Number	Season	Head Months
Salt Creek * (Unit #3)	40	6/1-7/14	100
Grouse Creek (Unit #1)	40	7/15-10/31	<b>101</b>
Deer Creek (Unit #2)	40	Rest	<b>Rest</b>

**III. Use Standards**

	Grouse Creek (Unit #1)	Deer Creek (Unit #2)	Salt Creek (Unit #3)
<b>Uplands</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Riparian</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>40%</b>



**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.**

#### **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 livestock 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 livestock distributed throughout the pasture being used. Livestock will be moved out of a pasture when forage use in riparian and upland areas is at grazing standards. If livestock 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. The range personnel will monitor forage use in areas where livestock concentrate.
- Your rider needs to push the livestock out of these areas at least three times a week or more. The move off date is the date you must have your livestock off of the grazing allotment, not the day to start moving livestock off of the allotment.
- 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. If possible, 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 livestock 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. 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.

#### **V. Range Improvements Maintenance/Construction**

- Range improvements must be maintained prior to placing livestock in a pasture. Improvements should be maintained as needed. Fences will be checked and maintained before livestock enter a pasture, they 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.
- 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. Grazing fees must be paid before livestock can be turned on the Forest.
- Please notify the Range Specialist, Barry Dopp 208-838-3300 before livestock are turned on the Forest.

#### **VII. Forest Service Responsibilities**

- Livestock 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 all 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. Please realize we are not out to police your allotment but livestock grazing is under close public scrutiny.

#### **VIII. Special Considerations for the 2008 Grazing Season**

- Because of increasing public use gates are often left open and livestock stray in to the wrong pasture. I realize this is a problem and an inconvenience. However, it is still the permittee's responsibility to keep their animals in the proper unit. Livestock in wrong pasture should be removed and returned immediately to the correct pasture within 24 hours 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.

I have enclosed 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 livestock turned on to the allotment, the dates the livestock are moved to and from each pasture on the rotation, and the number of

livestock removed from the allotment. Accurate records of these dates should be kept. In addition, please record labor and cost associated with maintaining the improvements on your allotment. 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 at 879-4161, David Morris at 879-4130 or myself at 879-4105. 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,

THOMAS A. MONTOYA  
District Ranger

Enclosure: Actual Use/Maintenance Report