



Department Name
**United States
 Department of
 Agriculture**

Agency
**Forest
 Service**

Organization
**Salmon-Challis National Forest
 Challis-Yankee Fork Ranger District**

Organization Address Information
**311 North US Highway 93
 Challis, ID 83226
 208-879-4100
 FAX: 208-879-4199**

File Code: 2230
Date: April 28, 2016

Mile High Outfitters
 Travis or Brenda Bullock
 PO Box 1189
 Challis, ID 83226

Dear Travis or Brenda,

This letter serves as your 2016 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Eddy Creek Cattle and Horse (C&H) Allotment and is the part of your term grazing permit #20067 identified as Forest Officer instructions in Part 1, Clause 3 and Part 2, Clause 8.

Situations may develop during the grazing season which require changes to these instructions, such as delayed range readiness, early achievement of allowable use standards, unit rotation changes related to wildfire or other problems, or other management needs. **If changing unit move dates becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with any part of these instructions, contact your rangeland management specialist, Brianna Goehring, to obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions. Any extension of use outside the permitted season of use cannot be authorized.**

Term Permitted Use

Permittee	Allotment	No. and Class	Season of Use	Head Months
Mile High Outfitters	Eddy Creek (Sleeping Deer Unit)	22 Horses or mules	06/01 – 08/31	67

2016 Authorized Use

Permittee	Allotment	No. and Class	Season of Use	Head Months
Mile High Outfitters	Eddy Creek (Sleeping Deer Unit)	30 Horses or mules	06/01 – 08/07	67

2016 Unit Schedule

The dates below are approximate and depend on meeting allowable use standards. Initiate livestock movement so that all livestock are completely off the Forest no later than August 7, 2016.

Subunit	No. And Class	On-Date	Off-Date
Bear Creek	30 Horses or mules	06/01	07/04
Lower White Valley	30 Horses or mules	07/04	08/07
Upper White Valley	Rest		
Bear Creek Fish Protection	Nonuse		



Allowable Use

It is your responsibility to be aware of and to recognize utilization and streambank alteration use indicators (allowable use standards). Regardless of the Unit Schedule shown above, you must move your livestock to the next subunit planned or off the allotment prior to exceeding standards. The 2011 Biological Assessment for the Sleeping Deer Unit of the Eddy Creek C&H Allotment identifies these allowable use standards; see the table below for standards applicable to this year. Once livestock are removed from a subunit in accordance with allowable standards and/or subunit scheduling, they are not allowed to return. Use of riparian areas needs to be carefully monitored by you to know when it is time to move livestock to the next subunit and to avoid exceeding standards. Do not rely on Forest Service range personnel to notify you when it is time to move.

Allowable Use Standards for the Sleeping Deer Unit

Subunit	Average Greenline Stubble Height <i>Carex sp.</i>	Streambank Alteration	Woody Browse	Upland Utilization
Bear Creek	<i>Carex</i> species ≥4 inches	20%	≤30%	≤50%
Lower White Valley	<i>Carex</i> species ≥4 inches	≤20%	≤50%	≤50%
Upper White Valley	Rest			

Biological Assessment Requirements

Per the 2011 Biological Assessment for the Sleeping Deer Unit of the Eddy Creek C&H Allotment, the following conservation measures will be implemented to avoid and reduce potential impacts to ESA listed fish:

- Livestock will be kept out of the Bear Creek Fish Protection subunit and this subunit will be in non-use for the term of the permit.
- A three subunit rest-rotation system is proposed for the Bear Creek, Lower White Valley, and Upper White Valley subunits so that all riparian areas and streams in these subunits will be rested one year out of three.
- Horses will not be permitted to graze before June 1 or after August 7 to protect bull trout during the spawning and incubation periods.
- The permittee will use water and salt to achieve the best distribution of livestock throughout the pasture. Salt will be placed at least ¼ mile from streams and riparian areas where past and/or present forage use is light to spread utilization. Salt will be picked up and moved when an area has been sufficiently used.

Range Improvements

All range improvements listed as your responsibility in Part 3 of your term grazing permit must be maintained to the standards identified in Part 3 prior to livestock being placed in each unit. No ground disturbing activities or new construction should be conducted on the Forest by you or any of your personnel without prior approval from the District Ranger. Materials for reconstruction may be provided

by the Forest Service as funding allows. Provision of materials for normal annual maintenance is your responsibility.

Permittee's Management Responsibilities

1. Turnout of livestock prior to confirmation of payment is a violation of Part 2, Clause 3 of your term grazing permit. The grazing fee for 2016 is \$2.11 per head month. Payment of your grazing Bill for Collection (enclosed) is due ten days prior to your earliest turnout date to allow time for processing. You may make payment in one of three ways:

Mail your payment to:

USDA Forest Service
C/O Citibank
P.O. Box 301550
Los Angeles, CA 90030-1550

You must include the Bill Number and Payer Code number on your check.

Or, pay your bill online at: WWW.FS.FED.US/BILLPAY. Save your receipt of payment.

Or, pay your bill between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm at any Ranger District office or the Public Lands Center. Please bring a copy of your bill with you.

2. The Salmon-Challis Travel Management Record of Decision was signed December 24, 2009. With the issuance of this decision, all roads and trails designated for motorized use are shown on a motor vehicle use map (MVUM). Motor vehicle use maps may be obtained at any Salmon-Challis Ranger District office. These prohibitions on motor vehicle use will not apply to motor vehicle use that is specifically authorized under a written authorization issued under Federal law or regulation (as detailed in 36 CFR 261.13; 36 CFR 212.51a). **The Salmon-Challis National Forest requires a Vehicle Use Permit, signed by the District Ranger, for ALL closed roads or off road travel. This permit must be displayed in the windshield of trucks or carried on ATVs, UTVs, and motorcycles. Complete and return the enclosed Vehicle Use Permit if it is necessary for you to travel on closed roads or off-road in the administration on your allotment.**
3. Consistent with the Noxious Weed Free Hay Order, any hay or straw that is brought onto National Forest System lands needs to be State-certified weed free. I am requesting that you be a pro-active partner in the prevention of noxious weeds on your allotment. All equipment which is used off of open roads for range improvement maintenance, or other management activities should be free of noxious weeds and their seeds prior to coming onto National Forest System lands.
4. Return your completed actual use form (enclosed) to Brianna Goehring by December 1, 2016. Please note on the second page our request for your priority reconstruction needs. We will use this record to help allocate range betterment funds, which are used to purchase materials for new improvement projects and improvement reconstruction. Actual use also is requested annually by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marines Fisheries Service, so your diligence in accurately completing the form is appreciated.

5. If the ownership of livestock, or the base property listed on your permit is about to change, please notify your rangeland management specialist promptly.
6. Dead livestock must be moved at least 100 yards from water, roads, and trails.
7. With multiple-uses on the Forest, gates are often left open and livestock stray into the wrong pasture. We realize this is a problem and an inconvenience. However, it is still your responsibility to keep your animals in the proper unit. Livestock found in the wrong units or allotments should be returned immediately to the correct pasture. Routine checks need to be made by you and/or your rider.
8. Compliance with all terms of your grazing permit is required. These annual operating instructions are not meant to be stand-alone or all inclusive.

Other Considerations

Please immediately report wildfire to the Central Idaho Interagency Dispatch Center at (208) 756-5157.

We may conduct range inspections during the grazing season to check maintenance of range improvements, allowable use standards, and compliance with this year's grazing rotation. You are welcome to participate in inspections; please contact your rangeland management specialist if you would like to join FS range staff when monitoring is conducted on your allotment.

Please share your knowledge of known noxious weed infestations with your rangeland management specialist.

If you have any questions regarding these annual operating instructions, please contact Brianna Goehring, Rangeland Management Specialist, at (208) 879-4130. We look forward to working with you this grazing season.

Sincerely,

Riley Rhoades acting for

KATHERINE WOOD
District Ranger

Enclosures:

- Actual Use Report
- Vehicle Use Report
- 2016 Bill for Collection