United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Salmon-Challis National Forest
Salmon-Cobalt Ranger District | 311 McPherson Street South
Salmon, ID 83467
208 756-5200

File Code: 2210/2230
Date: June 15, 2016

Gary Mayberry
7429 Berta Rd.
Eureka, CA 95503

Dear Gary,

The following letter documents the meeting Troy and Billie Jo Olson had with Tina Ruffing (FS) and Mark Bonner (BLM) on May 13th, 2016. This letter will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) on the North Basin C&H Allotment for the 2016 grazing season. AOIs are part of the term grazing permit identified as Forest Officer instructions in Part 1, Clause 3 and Part 2, Clause 8 of the term grazing permit.

Permitted Use

Allotment	Number/Class	HMs	Season of Use
North Basin C&H	165 c/c	705	6/16-10/23

Situations may develop during the grazing season which require changes to these instructions, such as delayed range readiness, early achievement of proper 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, Tina Ruffing, to obtain approval <u>before</u> initiating changes or deviating from these instructions**. Any extension of use outside the permitted dates cannot be authorized.

2016 Authorized Use and Unit Schedules (dates are approximate and depend on meeting forage use standards)

Unit	No/Class	HMs	Season of Use
Dry Gulch (BLM)	165 c/c	N/A	4/27-6/15
Big Hill	165 c/c	222	6/15-7/25
First Basin	165 c/c	114	7/26-8/15
Watson Peak	165 c/c	165	8/16-9/11
Private	165 c/c	N/A	9/12-9/19
McKim Creek	165 c/c	184	9/20-10/23
Copper Basin	N/A	N/A	REST

<u>Allowable Use</u>

It is your responsibility to be aware and recognize utilization and alteration use indicators (sometimes called use standards). Watch the results on the land and make plans to move your livestock in time to not exceed these indicators. Regardless of the Unit Schedule shown above you must move your livestock to the next unit planned, or off the allotment, prior to exceeding

these indicators. If you need assistance determining use levels please contact Tina and she will assist you.

Once cattle are removed from a unit in accordance with use indicators and/or unit scheduling, they are not allowed to return. Please ensure that you clean all livestock from each unit as you move livestock to the next unit or as you remove them from the allotment.

The following annual use indicators identify proper use criteria that apply to the North Basin Allotment. Permittees will evaluate the use indicators using the triggers to plan livestock movement to ensure that the proper use criteria are met.

DMA Name, Number	Monitoring Attribute	Use Indicator	Key Species	Trigger
McKim Creek N. Fork McKim Creek MIM 232	Greenline stubble	4 in.	*Hydric spp*.	5 in.
	Browse use	50% 30%	Willow Alder	45% 25%
Watson Peak Unit – Warm Springs Creek MIM 241	Greenline stubble	4 in.	*Hydric spp*.	5 in.
	Bank Alteration	10%	N/A	10%
Riparian Sites (other than DMAs)	Use on current year's growth of key riparian species		maximum 50% use	
Upland Sites	Use on current year's growth of key herbaceous species		maximum 50% use	

The Forest Service may monitor your compliance with allowable use standards. Monitoring typically occurs within two weeks of your move. Please contact Tina if you would like to join range staff when monitoring is conducted on your allotments.

Biological Opinion and Assessment Requirements

The Biological Opinion for the North Basin C&H Allotment outlined the following measures to be implemented to reduce potential impacts to ESA listed fish. The measures are as follows:

1. A deferred-rest rotation grazing system will continue to be used.
2. The on date will be varied so that livestock will be placed on the allotment at range readiness.
3. Permittees will continue to salt at least ¼ mile away from creeks.
4. Permittees will continue to distribute livestock away from streams and associated riparian areas (ride) at least once every two weeks.

Range Improvements

Range improvements listed in Part 3 of your grazing permit must be maintained to the standards in Part 3 of your grazing permit, prior to livestock being placed in the unit. If you find you cannot meet these standards this year please contact your Rangeland Management Specialist, Tina Ruffing as soon as possible.

You discussed material needed to reconstruct fences around the spring heads in the First Basin Unit in Section 21, T18N R22E. Troy estimated that it would take approximately 1,000 feet of material for a jack fence for both springs. Troy felt that the area probably was not accessible with a gooseneck trailer but a bumper pull or flatbed trailer could get in to the area.

It was also discussed that drift fence #65007-B, a post and wire fence, needs to be replaced with a letdown fence. Tina discussed that with budgetary constraints, some of the needed materials would not be purchased this year; she would add them to the outyear schedule.

Troy indicated that the cattleguard on the road in the McKim Creek unit needs to be cleaned and needs a new wing. Mark agreed to work with the BLM to get the cattle guard cleaned and a new wing installed.

General Management

The grazing fees for 2016 are $2.11 per head month. Payment of your grazing bill is due 10 days prior to your earliest turnout date, to allow time for processing. **Turnout of livestock prior to confirmation of payment is a violation of Part 2, Clause 3 of your Term Grazing Permit.** You may make payment in any one of three ways:

1. mail your payment to NFC at:
   USDA Forest Service
   C/O Citibank
   P.O. Box 301550
   Los Angeles, CA 90030-1550

   Please include the Bill No. and Payer Code no. on your check.
2. pay online at: WWW.FS.FED.US/BILLPAY. Save your receipt of payment.
3. pay at any Ranger District Office or the Public Lands Center during regular office hours. Please bring a copy of your bill with you.

Tina reminded Troy that you had received a Notice of Non-Compliance in 2015 for late payment of grazing fees. She indicated that you would need to pay your bill prior to turning out livestock this year to avoid the risk of permit action.

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 ATV's, UTV's and motorcycles. Contact your Rangeland Management Specialist to obtain a Vehicle Use Permit if it is necessary for you to travel on closed roads or off-road in the administration on your allotment(s).**

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.

Return your completed actual use form (attached) to Tina Ruffing within 30 days after your authorized off date. Filling it out as the summer progresses may help with completion.

You are required to meet all criteria that qualifies you to hold a term grazing permit throughout the term of the permit. If you plan on making changes in the ownership of livestock, or the base property listed on your permit; or plan on waiving all, or part, of your term permit in preference to another party based on the sale of base property and/or permitted livestock, notify me in writing prior to making these changes or selling your base property or permitted livestock.

Compliance with all other terms of your grazing permit is required. These instructions are not meant to be stand-alone or all inclusive.

As a reminder, dead livestock must be moved at least 100 yards from water, roads, and trails.

Place salt at least ¼ mile from any water source and in areas that encourage an even distribution of utilization on the range.

Other Information/Non-Binding Requests

Tina discussed with you that there is sage grouse habitat in the McKim Creek unit of the allotment. She provided a map that showed the habitat and also handouts that outlined standards, guides, objectives and required design features from the Record of Decision (ROD) and Forest Plan Amendment. She discussed the guidelines that would apply to the summer/early fall habitat on your allotment and indicated that there would be crews assessing habitat over the next two summers to determine if it was capable of meeting the guidelines outlined in the ROD. You may be receiving under separate letter an outline of our planned work this year that would help prepare us to implement the Sage Grouse Forest Plan Amendment in 2017 or at the latest prior to the 2018 grazing season. And, as per the Forest Supervisor's promise earlier this year, you will receive phone notification prior to any habitat survey work on your allotment.

During the meeting Troy discussed that the Year 2 rotation doesn't work well because cows are trailed down to the ranch to wean, then are trailed back to the Big Hill unit (the next in the rotation). It takes approximately three days to trail. You requested that the Forest Service consider using the Year 1 rotation only; Tina indicated that she thought this would be a significant change from the BO and would require consultation. She indicated that she would discuss your request with the Fisheries Biologist and get back to you

Invasive weeds are becoming a serious threat to the welfare of our rangelands. Your assistance in identifying weed locations on your allotment is appreciated.

The number for reporting a wild fire is: Central Idaho Interagency Dispatch Center (208) 756-5157.

If you have any questions regarding any of these instructions please call Tina Ruffing at (208) 756-5226 or myself at (208) 756-5247.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jay T. Winfield
JAY T. WINFIELD
District Ranger

Cc: Troy Olson, 10745 Custer Road, May, ID 83253

Encl: Improvement Maintenance and Actual Use Forms (blank)
Vehicle Use Permit