BRIDGER-TETON NATIONAL FOREST
GREYS RIVER RANGER DISTRICT

DRY CREEK ALLOTMENT
2016 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

These Annual Operating Instructions are made part of your term grazing permit consistent with Part 1, Item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). It references the meeting held on March 29th. Situations may develop during the grazing season which may require changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions prior approval must be given before initiating any changes or deviating from these instructions.

Only livestock branded according to the Certificate of Brand Registrations provided to the Forest Service will be allowed to graze on the allotment. Confirmation of payment by the Forest Service must be received before livestock will be allowed to graze on National Forest lands.

Table 1.0 Dry Creek Allotment - Permitted and Authorized Numbers and Season of Use[1]

Permittee		Larry & Venice Lancaster
Kind		Cattle
Permitted	Class	Cow/Calf
	Numbers	57
	Season of Use	June 15-Aug 15
Authorize	***Class***	***Cow/Calf***
	Numbers	***57***
	Season of Use	***June 15-Aug 15***
Non-use		
Pack & Saddle Stock		0

[1]Dates are estimates and may vary based upon range readiness, drought, proper use criteria being reach prior to the proposed move date, and/or other factors. Utilization will be monitored at key areas of the allotment. Key areas are those areas most preferred by livestock, are typically grazed first, and receive the most concentrated use. Key use areas may change and will be agreed to by the Forest Service and the permittee. Key areas will be coordinated with permittees.

An allotment map is enclosed; this map shows the allotment boundary, unit boundaries, scheduled move dates and other items of interest. Please review and follow it. This map will continue to be updated as necessary at future annual permittee meetings. *Range readiness will be verified by Forest Service Personnel prior to turning out any livestock on the proposed on date.*

Notify us 3-5 days in advance as to when you plan to put your cattle on the allotment.

Proper Use Criteria: Proper utilization is 50% in upland forage areas in all units. A 4" to 6" stubble height of riparian species (i.e. sedges) shall be left along the greenline (i.e. stream corridors and wet meadows). Any key area reaching proper utilization within the area you are prescribed to graze means it is time to come home.

You are responsible for proper utilization of the forage by your cattle. If inspections reveal areas of over utilization or riparian damage, corrective action will be expected (which may mean taking your cattle home early) and action may be taken against your permit.

Equal utilization of the range is the objective. Cattle need to be properly distributed. This requires riding and salting be properly conducted throughout the entire grazing season. Rotate

your salting areas during the grazing season and from year to year. Place your salt in good forage producing areas where the cattle do not go by preference. Do not place your salt next to water, roads, trails, or in open meadows.

Every effort must be taken to completely remove cattle off the National Forest by the scheduled off date. For example, if it requires three days of riding to gather your cattle, then you should start riding three days prior to your scheduled off date.

Keep camps clean at all times. Pack out all garbage off of the National Forest; this includes any garbage that may have been left from previous years. All camps are to be located away from trails, lakes, and other high use recreational area. You are also encouraged to start following Order Number 04-00-104 as it relates to your management of livestock on this allotment (see attached order). While not currently a requirement within the area you are permitted to graze, it is the intent of the Bridger-Teton National Forest to implement this order forest-wide over the next several years.

Maintenance of all your improvements listed in Part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit will be completed at least one week prior to the proposed on date. This allows time for the inspection of your improvements and any potential concerns to be addressed before your livestock enter the allotment. *If your maintenance responsibilities have not been completed to the standards listed in your permit, livestock will not be allowed to enter National Forest lands.* Other items specifically discussed included the following:

- Muddy Springs Water Development # 003016: Material will be provided for heavy maintenance of this water development. Heavy maintenance to be completed prior to turn on in 2017 to F.S. standards.
- Range Ride: A range ride will be planned prior to turn on in preparation for range and watershed monitoring which is anticipated to occur on the allotment this year.
- Star Valley Vegetation Prescribed Burn Treatment: Implementation of this project is expected to commence as early as this fall. Areas to be burned include large portions of the Dry Creek allotment. A review of areas burned will occur post-treatment to determine any resource protection measures that may need to occur as they relate to grazing of cattle on the allotment (i.e. rest, deferred use; etc.). You should start preparing now for implementation of this project. Contact Brad should you have any questions in regards to this project or how the project may affect your grazing on the allotment.

Table 2.0 Dry Creek – Range Improvement Responsibilities[1]

Improvement	Description	Location	INFRA #
Muddy Spring	Water Development, Troughs		003016
Wickiup	Fence, drift		003167

[1]Not all range improvements necessarily shown on associated map.

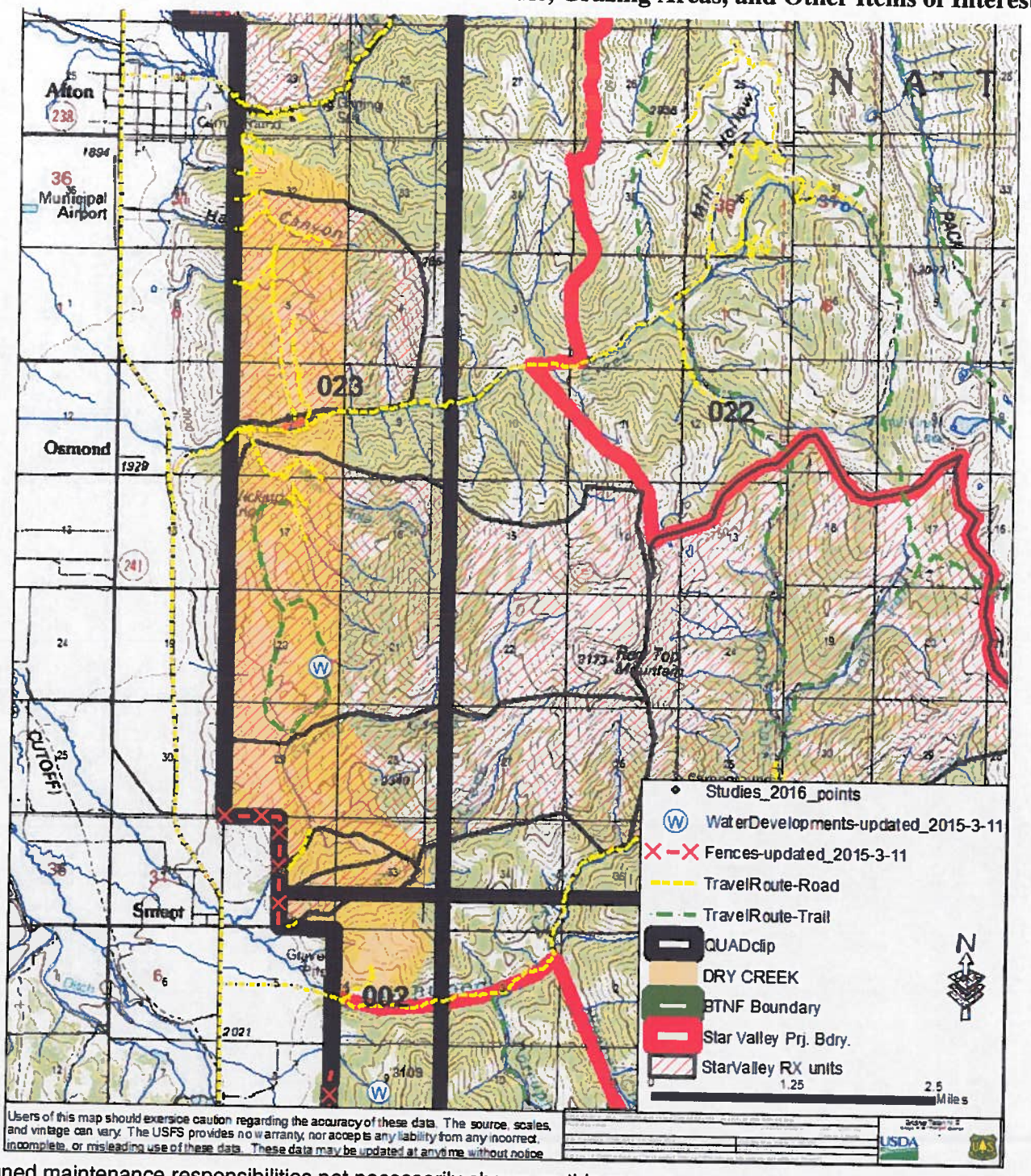
Please let us know of any new noxious weed infestations so we can keep them from becoming established. Noxious weeds of concern in the allotment include: Spotted Knapweed; Musk Thistle; Canada Thistle; Hound's Tongue; Dalmatian Toadflax; and Leafy Spurge. As a reminder certified weed-free hay, cubes, and straw are required on the Forest.

Complete the actual use report and return it to the Greys River Ranger District by December 31st. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Brad @ 307-886-5331. Thanks for your cooperation in managing this allotment.

Richard Raine
District Ranger

5-9-2016
Date

Figure 1.0 Dry Creek Allotment – 2016 Schedule, Grazing Areas, and Other Items of Interest[1]



[1]Assigned maintenance responsibilities not necessarily shown on this map

2016 ACTUAL USE RECORD

BRIDGER-TETON NATIONAL FOREST

Greys River RANGER DISTRICT

(Instructions: This form will be returned to the Greys River Ranger District by December 31, 2016. Indicate the TOTAL NUMBER, by each KIND and CLASS of livestock, by PASTURE and the SEASON OF USE for each entry)

Dry Creek C&H	
Larry Lancaster.	
Authorized Season of Use: 6/15 – 8/15	Authorized Numbers: 57 cattle (cow/calf)

Planned Use				Actual Use					
Numbers	*Enter Date*	*Leave Date*	*Days Planned*	*Numbers*	*Enter Date*	*Leave Date*	*Days Used*	*Losses*	*Cause*
57	15 June	15 August	62						
				Total Losses					

Signature: _____ Date: _____

(Larry Lancaster)

Comments: *(Included needed range improvements; improvements maintained or visited; new noxious weeds locations; and etc.)*

Appendix A – Range Readiness

Livestock will not be placed on the allotment until soils are dry enough to prevent damage to soils/vegetation and when key plants are phenologically ready to be grazed. Range readiness indicators for vegetation are shown below.

Plant Type	Visual	Phenology
GRASS		
Wheatgrass spp.	8 inch plant height	Seed stalk showing
Idaho Fescue	5 inch leave length	Seed head present
Prairie Junegrass	5 inch leave length	Seed head present
Sandberg bluegrass	Plant mature	Seed head in dough stage
Pinegrass	4-6 inch leaves	
Tufted hairgrass	6+ inch height	Seed head present
Kentucky bluegrass		Seed head present
GRASSLIKE		
Nebraska sedge		Seed in late dough
FORBS		
Western Yarrow	Flower stalk showing	
Arrowleaf Balsamroot	¾ leaf development	Blossom beginning
Geranium	4 inch leave length	Flower in bloom
SHRUBS		
Serviceberry		Blossom present
Antelope Bitterbrush		Flower bud swollen
Snowberry		7-8 bud leaves unfolded