BRIDGER-TETON NATIONAL FOREST
GREYS RIVER RANGER DISTRICT

LITTLE GREYS RIVER
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 April 9th. 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. Joe Nield of D Milliron Cattle will continue to be the point of contact for grazing on the allotment.

Table 1.0 Little Greys River Allotment – Permitted/Authorized Grazing Numbers, Kind, Class, & Season of Use

Permittee		Dale & Janelle Clark	D Milliron Cattle Co	Tobe & Cindell West Family Trust
Kind		Cattle	Cattle	Cattle
Permitted	**Class**	Cow/Calf	Cow/Calf	Cow/Calf
	Numbers	101	284	175
	Season of Use	June 15-Oct 7	June 15-Oct 7	June 15-Oct 7
Authorized	***Class***	***Cow/Calf***	***Cow/Calf***	***Cow/Calf***
	Numbers	***101***	***284***	***175***
	Season of Use	***June 15 - Oct 7***	***June 15 - Oct 7***	***June 20 - Oct 7***
Pack & Saddle Stock		1	2	2

Table 2.0 Little Greys River Allotment - Proposed Grazing Schedule and Proper Use Guidelines[1]

Unit	**No. of Days**	**Proposed Dates**	**Proper Use Guidelines**
Neck (Upper)	5	June 15 – June 20	≤50% of key forage species ≥ 4" RSH of graminoids along the greenline
McCain	24	June 21 – July 14	
Steer Creek	24	July 15 – Aug 8	
Stewart Creek	24	Aug 9 – Sept. 1	
Blind Trail	24	Sept 2 – Sept 25	
River Basin	11	Sep 26 – Oct 5	
Neck (Lower)	5	Oct 6 – Oct 10	

[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 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.

You are authorized to vary the number of days between unit moves by three days either way. If the need arises to vary the number of days by more than this prior, approval must first be received.

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 means it is time to move to the next scheduled unit to be grazed or to come home.

You are responsible for proper utilization of 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, established trails, or in open meadows. Moving cattle between units should take no more than three to five days. Please plan accordingly.

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. Should this become an issue, group maintenance responsibilities will be assigned out on an individual basis.* Other items specifically discussed included the following:

- Forks Division Fence (#3028): Permittees reported heavy maintenance of this fence was completed last year. F.S. personnel will inspect areas maintained to ensure maintenance was completed according to F.S. specs.
- Round Up/Bull Hollow (#3033): 2015 AOI directed heavy maintenance of this fence to be constructed prior to turn on in 2015. To date, this maintenance has yet to be completed. Permittees are instructed at the earliest opportunity to complete this maintenance. Maintenance of this fence will be completed prior to turn on in 2017. Contact Brad when maintenance of this fence is completed so that he can ensure maintenance has occurred according to F.S. specifications.

- Bull Hollow (#3139) and McCain Creek Water Developments: F.S. will provide the material necessary for heavy maintenance of these water developments. Permittees will complete the heavy maintenance prior to turn on in 2017 barring any unforeseen circumstances. Contact Brad prior to starting heavy maintenance of this project so that he can ensure maintenance occurs according to F.S. specifications.
- Historic Salting Areas: Permittees requested the continued use of historic salting areas. This request is approved for 2016. This topic will be revisited at the 2017 annual permittee meeting.

Table 3.0 Little Greys River Non-Water Range Improvements (i.e. Fences; Exclosures, etc.)[1]

Improvement	Name	Description	Responsibility[2]
3028	Forks Division Fence	Fence, Allotment Boundary	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
3030	Oil Well Drift Fence	Fence, Drift	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
3033	McCain Creek/Round Up Fence	Fence, Interior	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
3034	Bull Hollow Drift Fence	Fence, Drift	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
3035	Mack's Pass Drift Fence		Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
3036	McCain Meadow Division Fence	Fence, Interior	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
3045	West Bailey Boundary Fence	Fence, Allotment Boundary	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
3046	Pasture Four/Steer Creek Division Fence	Fence, Interior	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
3047	McCain Meadows Bdry Fence/ Bailey Trail Head	Fence, Allotment Boundary	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
3055	Stewart Creek/Blind Trail Div. Fence	Fence, Interior	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
3095	Stewart-Middle Creek Division Fence	Fence, Interior	No current responsibilities
3143	Gillis Flat Corral	Corrals	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
3048	Whiskey Crk Bdry Fence		No current responsibilities
3159	Middle Creek Bdry Fence		No current responsibilities/removed

Table 4.0 Little Greys River - Water System Improvements[1]

Name	Improvement(s)	Sub-Name	Description	Responsiblity[2]
Big Dad Water Development			Spring with Trough	To be assigned to Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal) after reconstruction is completed
Long Draw/Broad Water Development	003138		Spring with Trough	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
Bull Hollow Water Development	003139		Spring with Trough	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
Stewart Creek Water Development #1	003160		Spring with Pond	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
Stewart Creek Water Development #2	003161		Surface with Pond	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
McCain Ridge Water Development	003162		Surface with Pond	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)
Bull Hollow Water Development	003166		Surface	Little Greys River Grazing Association (informal)

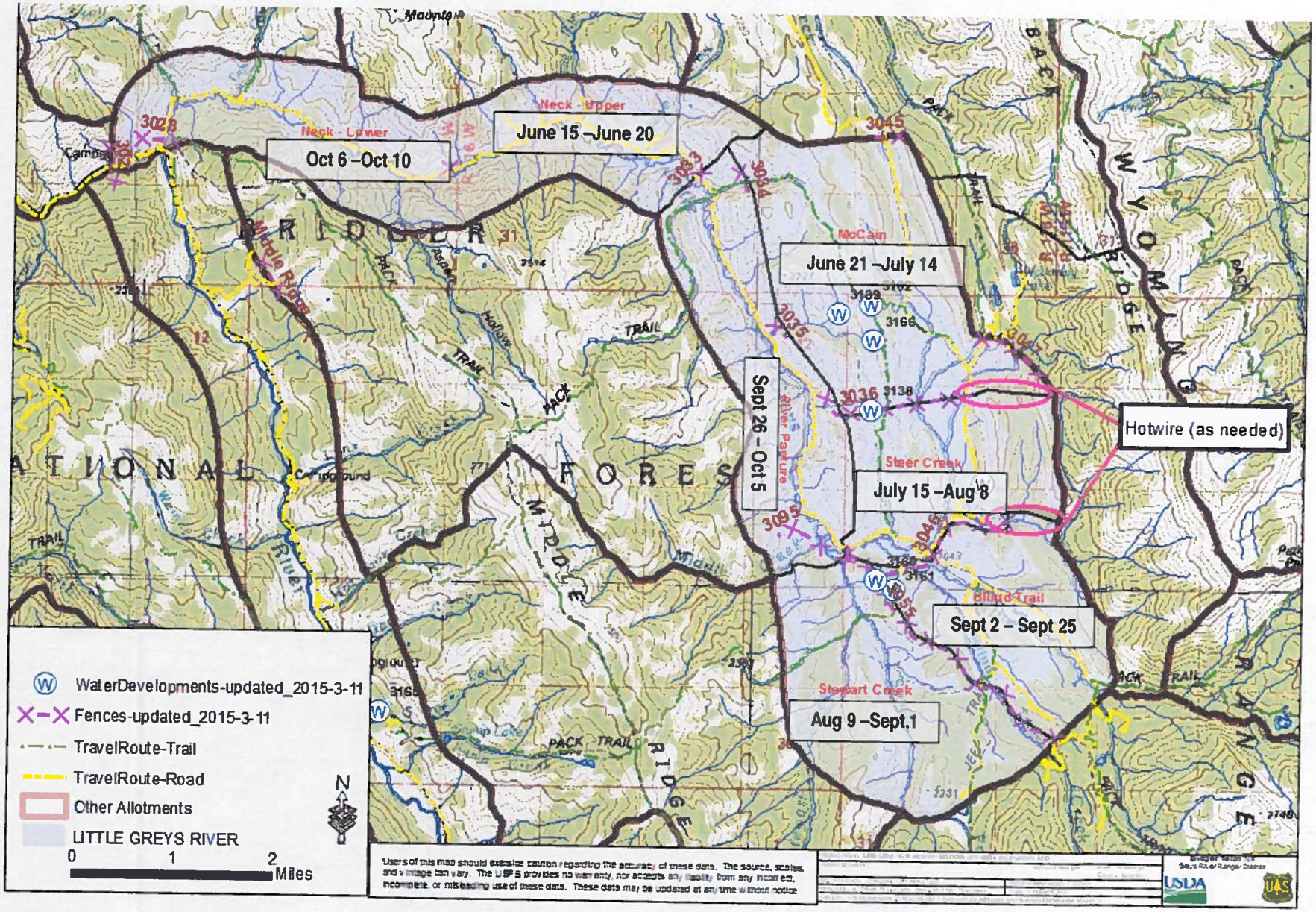
Please let Brad know of any new noxious weed infestations so we can keep them from becoming established. Spotted Knapweed, Musk Thistle, Canada Thistle, Hound's Tongue, Dalmatian Toadflax and Leafy Spurge are weeds of concern on this allotment. As a reminder certified weed-free hay, cubes, and straw 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 Raione
District Ranger

5-9-16
Date

Figure 1.0 Little Greys River – 2016 Schedule, Unit Boundaries; Range Improvements; and other Items of Interest



2016 ACTUAL USE RECORD

BRIDGER-TETON NATIONAL FOREST
GREYS RIVER RANGER DISTRICT

Forest Little Greys C&H Allotment	
Permittee: Tobe & Cindell West Family Trust	
Authorized Season of Use: 6/15 – 10/7	**Authorized Numbers: 175 Cattle (cow/calf)**

Planned Use				Actual Use						
Unit	*Days Planned*	*Enter Date*	*Leave Date*	*Numbers*	*Unit*	*Days Used*	*Enter Date*	*Leave Date*	*Losses*	*Cause*
Neck (upper)	5	June 15	June 20							
McCain	24	June 21	July 14							
Steer Creek	24	July 15	Aug. 8							
Stewart Creek	24	Aug 9	Sept. 1							
Blind Trail	24	Sept. 2	Sept. 25							
River Pasture	11	Sept. 26	Oct. 5							
Neck (lower)	5	Oct. 6	Oct. 10							
							Total Losses			

Signature: _____ **Date:**_____
(Tobe & Cindell West Family Trust.)

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

Appendix A: Bridger-Teton Land and Resource Management Plan Standards and Guidelines

- Vegetation Range Prescription: Range is managed to maintain and enhance range and watershed conditions while providing forage for livestock and wildlife.
- Forage Improvement Standard: Range in less-than-satisfactory condition will be improved. Disturbed areas will be stabilized or regenerated prior to resuming grazing use.
- Forage Utilization Standards: The following utilization standards will be the maximum utilization levels allowed for all herbivores on key vegetative species.

Upland Range Sites

Season Long Grazing		Rotation Grazing	
Unsatisfactory Condition 40%	Satisfactory Condition 50%	Unsatisfactory Condition 50%	Satisfactory Condition 60%

Riparian Range Sites

Season Long Grazing		Rotation Grazing	
Unsatisfactory Condition 45%	Satisfactory Condition 55%	Unsatisfactory Condition 55%	Satisfactory Condition 65%

During Allotment Management Plan revision, an Interdisciplinary (ID) Team and livestock permittees will prescribe site-specific use levels needed to meet plan objectives. Maximum forage use guidelines apply cumulatively to all types of grazing use including wildlife, livestock and recreational stock. During monitoring and evaluation a utilization guideline may be changed if the prescribed level is not accomplishing planned objectives. An ID team will establish site-specific utilization levels on key wildlife ranges. ID teams will prescribe other proper-use standards to achieve site-specific objectives for the range resource being managed. The standards will be a combination of forage utilization, ground cover, plant vigor, soil disturbance, or stream bank stability.

- Desired Future Conditions within the Allotment:
  - **1B - Theme:** An area managed for timber harvest, oil and gas, and other commercial activities with many roads and moderate to occasionally substantial emphasis on other resources. **Management Emphasis** – is on scheduled wood-fiber production and use, on livestock production, and on other commodity outputs. **Vegetation: Range Prescription** - Range is managed to maintain and enhance range and watershed condition while providing forage for livestock and wildlife.
  - **3 – Theme:** An area managed to give river and scenic recreation experience. **Management Emphasis –** River segments outside of Wilderness that have been determined eligible for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic River system are protected from activities that could diminish or change the free-flowing characteristics, water quality or the scenic, recreational, fish and wildlife, and other values which make the river eligible for designation, **Vegetation –**

Range Prescription: Range is managed to maintain and enhance range and watershed conditions while providing forage for livestock and wildlife.

- **10 - Theme:** An area managed to allow for some resource development and roads while having no adverse and some beneficial effects on wildlife. **Management Emphasis:** is to provide long-term and short-term habitat to meet the needs of wildlife managed in balance with timber harvest, grazing, and minerals development. **Vegetation: Range Prescription –** Range is managed to maintain and enhance range and watershed conditions while providing forage for livestock and wildlife.
- **12 – Theme:** An area managed for high-quality wildlife habitat and escape cover, big game hunting opportunities, and dispersed recreation activities. **Management Emphasis:** is on providing such important habitat for big-game as winter range, feedgrounds, calving areas, and security areas. **Vegetation: Range Prescription -** Range is managed to maintain and enhance range and watershed conditions while providing forage for livestock and wildlife, particularly big game.

Appendix B: Other Permitte Instructions

- Salt will be placed at least 300 feet off roads and trails and at least 1,500 feet from all water sources, wetlands, riparian areas (when feasible), and developed recreational/camping sites except as approved by the Forest Officer in Charge. Salt will be removed from areas prior to proper utilization being reached. Salting areas should be rotated from year to year. Old established salt grounds should not be used with the exception of those areas which are highly resistant to salting (i.e. rocky and/or hardened areas resistant to salt leaching and ground disturbance). No more than 50 lbs. of salt will be placed at any one location at any time.
- The permittee will ensure that all personnel performing on the ground livestock management are thoroughly familiar with the terms of the grazing permit, annual operating instruction and allotment management plan.
- All camp sites used in conjunction with livestock operations must be maintained to have a clean, neat and orderly appearance. Flammable trash will be completely burned in a safe and reasonable way. All unburnable material will be removed to a disposal site. **Burying of trash is not allowed.** Temporary holding pens, corrals, mangers and hitching racks will be removed when the camp is moved or relocated. Facilities authorized on a permanent basis must be kept clean at all times and cleaned up after use. All camps must have a serviceable axe and shovel for fire control.
- There will be enough riders to achieve proper distribution of livestock within the allotment. Livestock will not be turned onto the allotment or allowed to congregate within any portion of the allotment for an extended period of time that creates areas of inappropriate forage utilization.
- Horses and mules used in conjunction with this permit will not be picketed or tied to trees in a manner that creates trampled vegetation and compacted soils.
- Permittees are strongly encouraged to store, handle and dispose of all human and animal food stuffs and garbage that makes them unavailable to bears and other wildlife. As such you are 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
- All predator control will be in accordance with State and Federal Laws. Black and Grizzly bear, wolf, and lion predation should be reported to the Wyoming Game & Fish Dept., and coyote predation reported to the USDA-APHIS office
- Dead livestock within 300 feet of any live stream, spring, roadway or trail will be promptly removed and properly disposed of. Proper disposal would include removal of the carcass off of the allotment, or dragging the carcass at least 300 feet away from any live stream, spring, roadway or trail. Final removal of livestock carcasses within ¼ mile of system roads, system trails, and all developed and undeveloped recreation areas will be coordinated with the Forest Office in Charge to provide for public safety. This may require various additional mitigation measures.

Appendix C: 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