Allotment: Fish Creek C&H

The following letter will document your meeting with Sid J. Lopez on February 22, 2016 and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the 2016 grazing season on the Fish Creek C&H allotment. The District Ranger must approve any changes to this AOI.

The grazing system on this allotment is seasonlong rotation. The pasture rotation schedule listed is tentative as to days and dates and is our best estimate of equalizing the grazing on the unit. How soon the maximum allowable use level is reached depends on the number of animals, weather, and ability to use suitable range, herding, and other permittee practices. It will be your responsibility to see that your livestock are moved from one unit to the next before maximum allowed use is reached. Rotation/removal of livestock will be required if allowable use levels are met before the planned rotation/removal date. The permittee is responsible to manage his/her livestock not to exceed the allowable use levels.

PERMITTEE(S)	Permitted Numbers	Permitted Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Authorized Season of Use
Wrigley Ranch	100 c/c	7/16 - 10/15	100 c/c	7/16 - 10/15

2016 ROTATION SCHEDULE

PASTURE	# OF LIVESTOCK	DATE ON	DATE OFF
Fish Creek	100	7/16	10/15

It is critical that you intensively manage cattle this year to encourage even distribution of use. Riparian areas will need extra monitoring and when utilization is met, livestock will need to be moved to the next pasture or off the allotment.

Travel Management Authorization: This direction serves as guidance for grazing permittees authorization as it relates to the implementation of Travel Management on the Minidoka R.D.: Motor vehicle use off existing roads and trails (cross-country travel) is not authorized for any reason. This means livestock may not be gathered and herded cross-country with motorized vehicles. However, cross country travel may be authorized case-by-case on a project specific basis. Only the District Ranger can authorize these activities.

Authorization must be obtained in writing in advance of the specific project activity. Motorized access behind seasonally locked gates is not authorized; permission to access these areas needs to be obtained from the District Ranger prior to entry. Roads and trails that have been physically closed through ripping, barricading, etc. that restrict motor vehicle use are not authorized for your use. In the limited instances where there maybe structural improvements on these roads you will need to obtain permission from the District ranger to access your improvements.

Motor vehicle use is authorized on roads and trails signed closed to the public only for purposes of improvements maintenance. All actives need to be planned in advance during high use periods, such as hunting seasons, to reduce the exposure of these permitted actions to the general public.

COMPLIANCE:
This AOI is made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). The scheduled dates of use are flexible, but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made in the below dates. Other situations may develop during the grazing season which requires changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, the District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

Invasive weeds are becoming a serious threat to the welfare of our rangelands. Your assistance is needed to identify new outbreaks of weed populations and to prevent the establishment of weeds on the forest. Pay particular attention to areas where stock are concentrated such as loading/unloading areas, water developments and salting areas. We have implemented a Noxious Weed Free Hay order on the forest. This will require any hay that is brought onto the National Forest to be certified free from noxious weeds. All livestock entering the National Forest are recommended to be fed Certified Noxious Weed Free Forage for at least 2 days prior to entering the Forest.

BILLING:
Grazing fees will be $2.11 per head per month for 2016.

DUE DATE:
Payment of your grazing bill is due five days prior to your earliest turnout date to allow time for processing. As a reminder, the Forest Service is required to give permittees a minimum of 30 days to pay your grazing fees.

STANDARDS AND GUIDES:
You are responsible for determining when allowable use has been reached and for moving your cattle to the next unit in your rotation or off the allotment, when allowable use has been reached. The Forest Service is responsible for monitoring your compliance with allowable use standards. If you need assistance determining use levels or locating key areas, please contact Peter. All riparian areas on the allotments are considered key areas.

RIPARIAN SITES: Maximum 45% use of grasses, rushes and sedges or a minimum 4-inch stubble height of hydric greenline species, whichever occurs first.

UPLAND SITES: Early season or season long pastures 40% use of key species. Vegetative slow growth, after seed ripe conditions, or late season pastures 50% use of key species mountain brome, bluebunch wheatgrass, Idaho fescue, squirreltail.

IMPROVEMENTS:
Range improvements listed in part three of your grazing permit must be maintained before cattle enter the allotments. The maintenance standards listed in part three of your term permit must be followed when maintaining the improvements. As you're doing water trough maintenance, please install wildlife ramps in all troughs that currently don't have them.

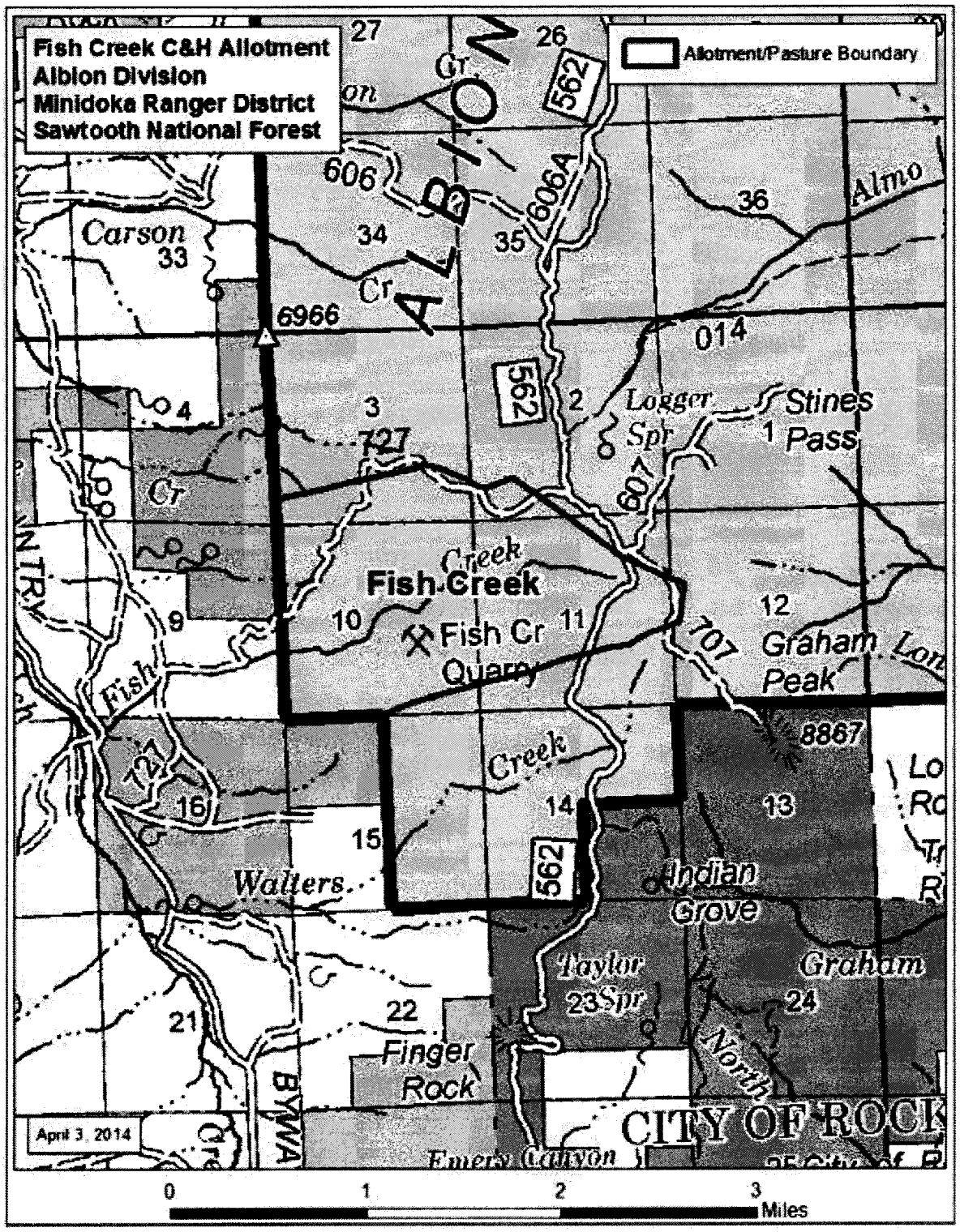
PERMITTEE INSTRUCTIONS:
Dead livestock must be moved at least 100 yards from water, roads and trails. Place salt at least ¼ mile from water sources and in areas lightly grazed to encourage an even distribution of utilization on the range. In situations where terrain does not allow proper placement of salt, please contact Peter, and he will determine a suitable location with your input.

REQUIRED REPORTING:
Actual use and range improvement maintenance forms have been included for you to complete and return at the end of the grazing season. Please return the forms following the 2016 grazing season by November 30, 2016.

MAPS, FORMS & ATTACHMENTS:
Allotment map has been attached to your AOI. The scheduled dates of use are flexible, but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made to the below dates. The District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

As a reminder, approval of requests for permittee convenience non-use is not automatic and the authorized officer should discuss the reasons for the non-use request with the permittee. Approval of a request for permittee convenience non-use must be in writing by the authorized officer. Full or partial permittee convenience non-use may be approved by the authorized officer for no more than three consecutive years and not more than four years, in any ten year period.

If you have any questions or concerns about this grazing season, please call Sid J. Lopez at (208) 737-3273.


Fish Creek C&H Allotment
Albion Division
Minidoka Ranger District
Sawtooth National Forest
Allotment/Pasture Boundary
Fish Creek
Fish Cr Quarry
Carson
Walters
Logger Spr
Stines Pass
Graham Peak
Indian Grove
Taylor Spr
Graham
Finger Rock
Emery Canyon
CITY OF ROCK
April 3, 2014
0
1
2
3
Miles