

**Carmen Creek Cattle & Horse Allotment's
2013 Annual Monitoring Report
for the
US Fish and Wildlife Service's 6/28/2010 Biological Opinion
(File # 114.0500, 14420-2010-F-0352)**

APPENDIX C

**Annual Monitoring Report Form for Actions covered under the Service's
Biological Opinion for Grazing on Allotments Managed by the Salmon Challis
National Forest.**

Please submit annually by March 1 to the Supervisor of the Service's Eastern Idaho Field Office, 4425 Burley Dr., Suite A, Chubbuck, Idaho 83202; telephone (208)237-6975. Please include name and contact information in case additional information is needed.

1. What was the name of the stream in this allotment surveyed for impacted redds?

Carmen Creek within the Carmen Creek Face Unit is a high gradient boulder dominated stream channel. Bull trout spawning habitat within this Unit would be limited and found in small pockets such as pool tailouts where the stream gradient and substrate may have suitable spawning habitat. The PACFISH RHCAs are dominated by steep topography and very dense overstory and understory vegetation. Livestock use adjacent to Carmen Creek within this Unit is very limited because of the steep topography and the dense overstory and understory vegetation. Livestock were only in the Carmen Creek Unit from 7/15 through 8/20. The likelihood of livestock trampling bull trout redds and/or disturbing or harassing adult spawning fish within this unit would be insignificant and discountable because of topography, high stream gradient with a boulder dominated stream channel and dense stream side overstory and understory vegetation. Therefore there were no streams surveyed for bull trout redds and or bull trout redd trampling by livestock.

2. What was the date of the survey, and what were the water conditions?

There were no streams surveyed for bull trout redds. See answer to question #1.

3. Which stream segment was surveyed and how many redds and impacted redds were found? (Please give GPS start and stop points for segments)?

There were no streams surveyed for bull trout redds. See answer to question #1.

4. What was the date that livestock removed from the pasture with surveyed stream segment?

There were no streams surveyed for bull trout redds. See answer to question #1. According to the Actual Use On/Off dates given to the Forest by the Permittee 40 cow/calf pairs were in the Carmen Creek Unit between 7/15 and 8/20. Also, see answer to question #1.

5. Did this number exceed the scale anticipated in section VII of the Biological Opinion?

NO

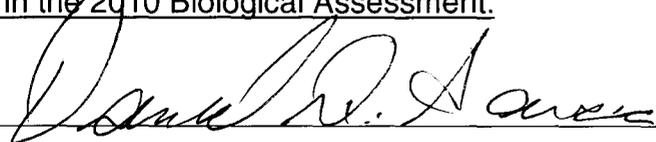
6. Were there any changes to the grazing management that differed from the proposed grazing management in the Forest's Biological Assessment? If yes, what were they?

The Allotment schedule as reported by the permittee did not coincide with the 2010 BA's proposed move dates. Due to drought conditions, the permittee chose to not use the Carmen Creek Face Unit in 2013. The actual use in 2013 was 40 cow/calf pairs in the Carmen Creek Unit from 7/15 through 8/20. Please see attached end of year report.

7. Were there any unexpected circumstances or events that resulted in impacts beyond those anticipated in the Forest's Biological Assessment or the Service's Biological Opinion? If yes, please describe.

There were no unexpected circumstances or events that resulted in impacts beyond what the forest anticipated in the 2010 Biological Assessment.

Salmon-Challis National Forest Official:



Daniel A. Garcia
Salmon-Challis National Forest
North Zone Districts Fishery Biologist

Date:

2/23/2014

Contact Information:

Salmon/Cobalt Ranger District, 311 McPherson St South, Salmon, ID 83467

(208) 756-5237 or dgarcia@fs.fed.us

The attached Carmen Creek C&H Allotment's 2013 End of the Year Report was prepared by:

Concetta Brown - North Zone Rangeland Management Specialist (Leadore Ranger District) (208) 768-2503 or concettacbrown@fs.fed.us

Results of the Range Allotment's implementation and effectiveness monitoring will be available at the following website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/sc/projects/range/index.html>.

CARMEN CREEK C&H ALLOTMENT

2013 END OF YEAR REPORT

North Fork Ranger District

North Zone Salmon-Challis National Forest

MANAGEMENT

Term Grazing Permit				2013 Authorized Use			Actual Use		
Permittee	Numbers	HM	Season of use	Numbers	HM	Season of use	Numbers	HM	Season of use
Bruce, Tom & Dave McFarland	55 c/c	193	6/16-9/30*	55 c/c	87	7/15-8/15 and 9/15-9/30	40 c/c	49	7/15-8/20

*authorized season will be equivalent to 2 months within the above permitted season of use

Unit Schedule

Unit	Numbers	Authorized Season of Use	Actual Season of Use	Head Months
Carmen Creek	40 c/c	7/15-8/20	7/15-8/20	49
Carmen Creek Face	0 c/c	9/15-9/30	Not Used	

Compliance with unit Schedule in AOI: Actual use was for 38 HM and 15 c/c pairs less than than the authorized numbers for the 2013 grazing season. Due to drought conditions, the permittee chose to not use the Carmen Creek Face unit.

Consultation on the allotment was reinitiated in 2013 due to the permit for the allotment expiring on 12/31/2012. The 2013 Biological Assessment was not submitted by the fish biologist for the consultation. Due to this, we followed the requirements set forth in the prior Biological Assessment and Biological Opinions. Unit moves complied with critical dates for cattle presence with spawning and incubating fish, per the Biological Assessment and USFWS 2010 Carmen Creek Biological Opinion. Despite livestock being in the Carmen Creek unit after 8/15 there was no opportunity for interference with bull trout spawning due to fact there is limited access to the creek. The BO states that cattle will be in the Carmen Creek unit up to 7 weeks every year.

The permittee reported riding the allotment a total of 4 days.

Allotment Inspections: Allotment inspections were conducted on the following dates: 8/6, 8/28, and 10/21. Allotment inspections consist of a Range Specialist and/or Range Technician visiting the allotment to check on location of livestock, improvement condition and/or monitor for annual indicators.

Compliance with special Terms and Conditions regarding livestock locations and management practices:

Term and Condition 1 for Reasonable and Prudent Measure 1

- The whole of this report addresses this term. Conservation measures were followed.

MONITORING DATA

Annual Indicator Monitoring: For the 2013 grazing season, monitoring was completed at Designate Monitoring Areas (DMAs) using the Multiple Indicator Monitoring (MIM) technical reference (Burton, 2012). Upland monitoring was completed using the Landscape Appearance Method or Height –Weight method (USDI, BLM 1996). Utilization for the 2013 grazing season met the use standards and annual indicators in the AOI, BA and BO. **PLEASE REFER TO THE ATTACHED TABLE AND PHOTOS FOR ANNUAL INDICATOR RESULTS.**

Improvement Monitoring: No inspections were conducted for improvement on this allotment.

Permit Administration: No unauthorized livestock were found on the allotment outside of the authorized dates during the 2013 grazing season.

OTHER INFORMATION

Growing Season Conditions: Precipitation for the District was far below normal for 2013. The precipitation information for the District is included in the table below. While this information was collected at the KSRA weather station in Salmon, Idaho and is not specific to an allotment area, it gives an idea of the available moisture on the District. The total precipitation for Salmon, Idaho in 2013 was 5.74 inches, compared to an average of 9.79 inches.

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Precip. (in.) in 2013	0.57	0.03	0.18	0.41	1.54	1.19	0.51	0.51	0.8	0.0	-	-	5.74
Average Precip. (in.) from 1967-2013	0.66	0.42	0.55	0.78	1.36	1.42	0.95	0.78	0.76	0.65	0.72	0.74	9.79

Sources

Burton, T.A., S.J. Smith, and E.R. Cowley. 2011. Riparian area management: Multiple indicator monitoring (MIM) of stream channels and streamside vegetation. Technical Reference 1737-23. BLM/OC/ST-10/003+1737. U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, National Operations Center, Denver, CO. 155p.

NOAA National Climatic Data Centers. 2013. "Monthly Climatological Summary (2013), Salmon KSRA, ID, US." Retrieved Nov. 8th, 2013. <www.ncdc.noaa.gov>

USDI, BLM. 1996. Utilization Studies and Residual Measurements, BLM Interagency Technical Reference, BLM/RS/ST-96/004+1730. 135p.

Western Regional Climate Center. 2013. "Monthly Climate Summary, Salmon KSRA, Idaho (108080)." Retrieved on Nov. 26th, 2013. <www.wrcc.dri.edu>

Prepared By:

 12/17/13

Concetta Brown
Rangeland Management Specialist

2013 Carmen Creek C&H Allotment Monitoring Results:

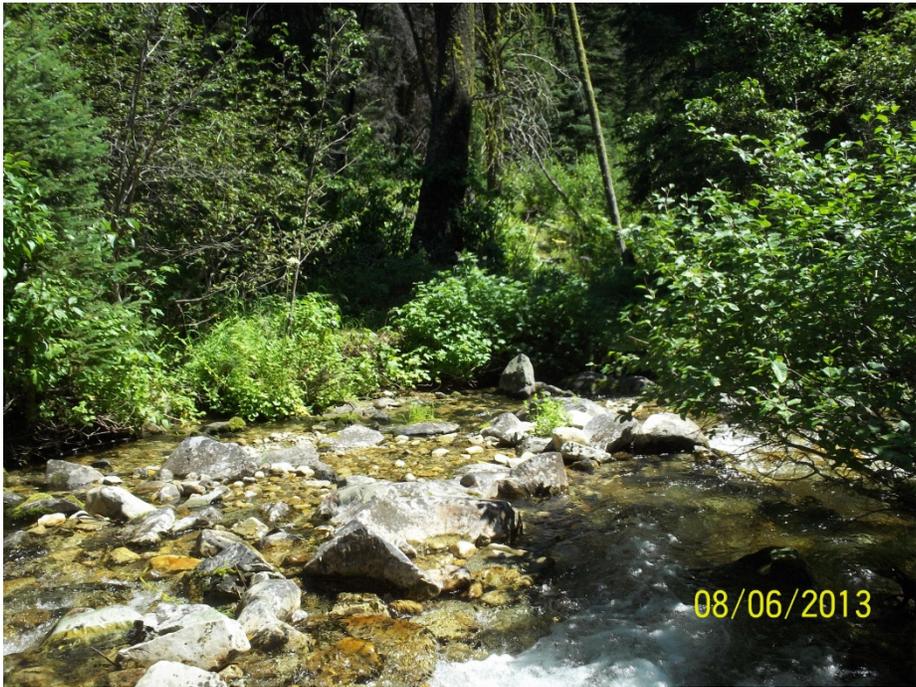
Actual Grazing Schedule				Allowable Standards			Actual Results				
Unit Name	On Date	Off Date	Date Read	Riparian			Upland	Riparian			Upland
Carmen Creek Unit – Carmen Creek MIM M310*	7/15	8/20	8/6/2013 (MIM)	Greenline Stubble	Hydric spp.	4 in.	50%	Greenline Stubble	Hydric spp.	11 in.	16%
			8/28/2013 (Upland)	Bank Alteration	N/A	20%		Bank Alteration	N/A	4%	
			Browse Use	Willow	50%	Browse Use		Willow	10%		
				Alder	30%			Alder			
Carmen Creek Face Unit	Rested										

*Baseline data for M310 was collected in 2013 -

	PHOTO RECORD	Page 1 of 2
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION	SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST	Salmon-Cobalt RD
2013 End of Year		Allotment: Carmen Creek C&H



Carmen Creek M310 Lower Left 8/06/2013



Carmen Creek M310 Upper right 8/06/2013

	PHOTO RECORD	Page 2 of 2
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION	SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST	Salmon-Cobalt RD
2013 End of Year		Allotment: Carmen Creek C&H



Carmen Creek EOY Utilization 8/28/2013



Carmen Face EOY Utilization 10/22/2013