

**Indian Ridge Cattle & Horse Allotment's  
2013 Annual Monitoring Report  
for the  
National Marine Fisheries Service's 7/22/2010 Biological  
Opinion**

(Refer to NMFS No: 2010/01368)

**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 Idaho State Director, Habitat Conservation Division, National Marine Fisheries Service, **Attn: 2010/01368**, 10095 W Emerald St., Boise, ID 83704.

To implement RPM #2 (monitoring and reporting), the SCNF shall ensure that:

- a. Each Allotment Unit's DMA or key area is annually monitored to determine compliance with all identified annual use indicators in the proposed action. The report shall also identify any modifications to move-triggers or annual indicators that result from implementing the adaptive management strategy.

See attached Indian Ridge C&H Allotment's 2013 End of the Year Report.

- b. An end-of-year report is available to NMFS by March 1 of each year. The following shall be included in the report:

- (1) Overview of proposed action and actual management (livestock numbers, on-off dates for each Unit, etc.).

See attached Indian Ridge C&H Allotment's 2013 End of the Year Report.

- (2) Results from all implementation and effectiveness monitoring identified as part of the proposed action and this Opinion (term and condition 1), including required annual use indicator monitoring (i.e., stubble height, riparian shrub utilization, streambank alteration), photo point monitoring, seral condition, bank stability, water temperature, sediment, and W:D.

See attached Indian Ridge C&H Allotment's 2013 End of the Year Report.

2013 Stream Temperature Data was collected or attempted to be collected on: Allen Creek 0.05, Ditch Creek 0.6, Hughes Creek 3.7, Hull Creek 0.4, Hull Creek 3.1, Indian Creek 0.1, North Fork Salmon River 7.0 and West Fork of Hughes Creek 0.1.

2013 Electrofishing Data was collected on: Hughes Creek 3.7

2013 Watershed Programs Stream Sediment (Mean Percent Fines <0.25" at depth and Percent Bank Stability Monitoring, respectively, was collected on: Hughes Creek 1A (24.4% & 95%), Hull Creek 1R (40.1% & 87.5%), Indian Creek 1A (21.2% & 87.9%), Indian Creek 2A (10.4% & 95.3%), North Fork Salmon River 1A (10.4% & 95.3%), North Fork Salmon River 3A (29.5% & 86.1%) and North Fork Salmon River 4A (18.8% & 99%).

(3) Discussion of any unauthorized use and/or any maintenance issues related to fences or water developments.

See attached Indian Ridge C&H Allotment's 2013 End of the Year Report.

(4) Brief review of Allotment compliance with established annual use indicators, terms and conditions from this Opinion including a discussion on specific successes and failures.

See attached Indian Ridge C&H Allotment's 2013 End of the Year Report.

(5) Any relevant information that becomes available regarding Snake River Basin steelhead or Snake River spring/summer Chinook salmon habitat trends and/or spawning locations that would modify the assumptions made in this Opinion or result in effects not considered.

NONE

(6) A clear description of compliance with the terms and conditions contained in this incidental take statement.

See attached Indian Ridge C&H Allotment's 2013 End of the Year Report. There were no unexpected circumstances or events that resulted in impacts beyond what the forest anticipated.

(7) Any management recommendations for subsequent years.

See attached Indian Ridge C&H Allotment's 2013 End of the Year Report.

## Chinook salmon Redd Surveys

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

The Forest is not required to survey for Chinook salmon redds because livestock do not have access to any Chinook salmon spawning reaches. However when the Forest was doing their bull trout red survey in Hughes Creek we also looked for any potential Chinook salmon redds or spawning adult Chinook salmon. (See attached 2013 Chinook salmon redd survey).

2. 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.

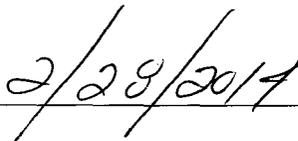
There were no unexpected circumstances or events that resulted in impacts beyond what the forest anticipated in the 2010 Biological Assessment.

Salmon-Challis National Forest Official: \_\_\_\_\_



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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Contact Information:

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

(208) 756-5237 or [dgarcia@fs.fed.us](mailto:dgarcia@fs.fed.us)

The attached Indian Ridge C&H Allotment's 2013 End of the Year Report was reviewed and completed by: Concetta Brown - North Zone Rangeland Management Specialist (Leadore Ranger District) (208) 768-2503 or [concettabrown@fs.fed.us](mailto:concettabrown@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>.

The attached Hughes Creek 2013 Chinook salmon redd survey was reviewed and finalized by: Daniel A. Garcia - North Zone District Fishery Biologist (Salmon/Cobalt Ranger District)

**INDIAN RIDGE 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
Lowell Cerise	140 c/c	741	5/23-10/30	140 c/c	709	5/30-10/30	137 c/c	712	5/30-11/3

**Unit Schedule**

Unit	Numbers	Authorized Season of Use	Actual Season of Use	Head Months
Hughes Creek	137 c/c	5/30-8/15	5/30-8/15	351
Hull Creek	137 c/c	8/16-10/30	8/16-11/3	360
Indian Ridge	Rested Due to Mustang Fire in 2012			

**Compliance with unit Schedule in AOI:** 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, USFWS 2010 Indian Ridge Biological Opinion, and NMFS 2010 Indian Ridge Biological Opinion. Allotment moves were conducted by the permittee on or before scheduled move dates. Back riding units was successfully completed.

Due to the Mustang Complex during the 2012 season, the Indian Ridge unit was rested this grazing season. The burn severity maps showed this unit to be the most affected by the fire. The Forest Service did not receive any observations of cattle being seen in the Indian Ridge unit.

**Allotment Inspections:** Allotment inspections were conducted on the following dates: 7/10, 7/13, 7/15, 8/14, 10/31, and 11/6. 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:** Inspections were conducted on the following improvements:

- Bear Wallow Water Development #2206 needs new pipe, a new headbox, and the enclosure around the spring head needs to be reconstructed.
- Grizzly Spring Water Development #2240 was inspected by the watershed staff and is in functioning condition and no repairs are needed.

**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

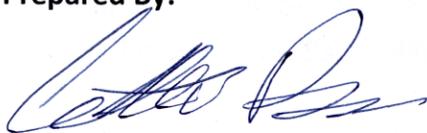
Burton, T.A., S.J. Smith, and E.R. Cowley. 2011. Riparian area management: Multiple indicator monitoring (MIM) of stream channels and streamside vegetation. Technical Reference 1737-23. BLM/OC/ST-10/003+1737. U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, National Operations Center, Denver,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

NOAA National Climatic Data Centers. 2013. "Monthly Climatological Summary (2013), Salmon KSRA, ID, US." Retrieved Nov. 8th, 2013. <[www.ncdc.noaa.gov](http://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](http://www.wrcc.dri.edu)>

Prepared By:



12/17/2013

**Concetta Brown**  
Rangeland Management Specialist

**2013 Indian Ridge C&H Allotment Monitoring Results**

Actual Grazing Schedule				Allowable Standards			Actual Results				
Unit Name	On Date	Off Date	Date Read	Riparian			Upland	Riparian			Upland
Hughes Creek-West Fork Hughes M244	5/30	8/15	8/14	Greenline stubble	Hydric spp	4 in.	50%	Greenline stubble	Hydric spp	19.3 in	17%
				Browse Use	Alder	30%		Browse Use	Alder	10%	
					Wilow	50%			Willow		
				Bank Alteration	n/a	20%		Bank Alteration	n/a	8%	
Hull Creek-Hull Creek	8/16	10/30	11/6	Greenline stubble	Hydric spp	4 in.	50%	Greenline stubble	Hydric spp	25.1 in	1%
				Browse Use	Alder	30%		Browse Use	Alder	11%	
					Wilow	50%			Willow		
				Bank Alteration	n/a	20%		Bank Alteration	n/a	0%	

	<b>PHOTO RECORD</b>	Page 1 of 3
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION	SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST	Salmon-Cobalt RD
2013 End of Year		Allotment: Indian Ridge C&H



Hughes Creek M244 West Fork MIM Lower left 08/14/2013



Hughes Creek M244 West Fork MIM Upper Right 08/14/2013

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INTERMOUNTAIN REGION	SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST	Salmon-Cobalt RD
2013 End of Year		Allotment: Indian Ridge C&H



Hull Creek LUM 11/06/2013



Hull Creek LUM 11/06/2013

	<b>PHOTO RECORD</b>	Page 3 of 3
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION	SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST	Salmon-Cobalt RD
2013 End of Year		Allotment: Indian Ridge C&H



Hull Creek Upland 10/31/2013



Indian Ridge Upland 10/31/2013

NMFS Biological Opinion Number: 2010 / 01368

Stream Name: Hughes Creek Date: 8-26-13

Allotment Name: Indian Ridge Unit Name: Hughes Creek

Start Time: 11:45 Stop Time: 13:15 Number of Pictures Taken: 40

Stream Segment Length on GPS: 9600 meters

Estimated Stream Segment Length measured with GIS: \_\_\_\_\_

Site Directions: SALMON towards Gibbonsville on Hwy 93 N. TAKE Hughes Cr. Rd (91) ON LEFT. Follow Hughes Cr. Rd (91) up to where Rd to west fork takes OFF Survey (top) starts just below the New Hughes Cr. culvert.

Survey Crew: Jim Slavin, Katie Webster

(top) H<sub>2</sub>O Temp: 55°F Air Temp: 73°F Elevation: 4490 Ft.

(bottom) H<sub>2</sub>O Temp: 55°F Air Temp: 80°F Elevation: 4434 Ft.

Starting Location GPS (UTM): Zone 11T Easting 0731657 Northing 5044962

Degree Decimal: N: 44.5196008023397 W: -114.033808355528

Stopping Location GPS (UTM): Zone 11T Easting 0732608 Northing 5044813

Degree Decimal: N: 45.517943636452 W: -114.021713760834

Number of Live Adult Chinook salmon Observed: 0

Number of Adult Chinook salmon carcasses Observed: 0

Number of Chinook salmon Redds Observed: 0

Number of Chinook salmon Redds Observed that Livestock Trampled: 0

Comments: → 3 or 4 cow creek crossings in survey reach - w/ hoof prints in substrate.

Livestock had been in area but nothing at present time - Lots of vegetation and cover. Good flow of pools w/ good cover/woody debris.

OF water - Allen Creek flows into Hughes - Allen has a very minimal amount of water - Two adult frogs seen - 1 small brown/teal

only 4-5 small fish (6") seen but could not identify - 1 looked like a RBT or cutthroat

several pinky sized fish. water conditions were clear and normal