

**Grizzly Hill Cattle & Horse Allotment's
2013 Annual Monitoring Report
for the
US Fish and Wildlife Service's 1/19/2011 Biological Opinion
(File # 114.0600, 14420-2011-F-0041)**

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?

There were no streams surveyed for bull trout redds in 2013 because there was no grazing in a bull trout unit past 8/15.

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

There were no streams surveyed for bull trout redds in 2013 because there was no grazing in a bull trout unit past 8/15.

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 in 2013 because there was no grazing in a bull trout unit past 8/15.

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

There were no streams surveyed for bull trout redds in 2013 because there was no grazing in a bull trout unit past 8/15.

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?

Due to dry conditions livestock were moved off the allotment 22 days early. See attached Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment's 2013 End of the 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:

2/26/2017

Contact Information:

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

The attached Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment's 2013 End of the Year Report was prepared by: Sara Norman Rangeland Management Specialist (Leadore Ranger District) (208) 768-2505 or scnorman@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>.

GRIZZLY HILL C&H ALLOTMENT

2013 END OF YEAR REPORT

Leadore Ranger District

North Zone Salmon-Challis National Forest

MANAGEMENT

Term Grazing Permit				2013 Authorized Use				2013 Actual Use			
No. & Permittee	On Date	Off Date	H.M.	No.	On Date	Off Date	H. M.	No.	On Date	Off Date	H. M
Leadore land Partners, L.L.C. 359 c/c	6/1	10/31	1806	240 yearling & 240 c/c	6/1	9/10	1610	250 yearling & 250 c/c	6/1	8/22	1364
Leadore Land Partners, L.L.C. 509 c/c	6/21	10/31	2226	450 c/c	6/15	9/2	1315	500 c/c	6/14	8/12	986

Actual Use:

Herd 1:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Willow Springs	250 yearlings & 250 c/c	247	6/1-6/15
Bell Field	250 yearlings & 250 c/c	99	6/16-6/21
Hood Gulch	250 yearlings & 250 c/c	247	6/22-7/6
Grizzly Hill	50 yearlings & 250 c/c	256	7/7-8/1
Wagonbox/Jake's Canyon	25 yearlings & 125 c/c*	104	8/2-8/22

*On August 5th, approximately half the numbers in herd #1 were moved into the Mollie's Gulch Allotment.

Herd 2:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Freestrip/Chippie Creek	500 c/c	427	6/14-7/9
Frank Hall/Wildcat	500 c/c	279	7/10-7/26
Lower Salt	500 c/c	99	7/27-8/1
Upper Salt	498 c/c	180	8/2-8/12*

*Permittee moved cattle onto the private parcel along Cruikshank on August 4th, and all of the cattle were moved home by the August 12th.

Compliance with Unit Schedule in AOI: Actual use was for less than authorized and permitted numbers. In herd #1 the permittee ran 10 c/c more than authorized and 10 more yearlings than authorized in the first two units; however, the total actual head months was 724 head months less than authorized. In herd #2 the permittee ran 50 c/c more than authorized; however, the total head months was 326 head months less than authorized. Due to dry conditions livestock were moved off the allotment 22 days early.

Unit moves complied with critical dates for cattle presence with spawning and incubating fish, per the Biological Assessment, USFWS 2010 Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment Biological Opinion and the NMFS 2010 Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment letter of concurrence. Allotment moves were conducted by permittee on or before scheduled move dates, with one notable exception; livestock were moved into the Frank Hall unit on July 9th, 2013 and moved off the unit on July 26th. The total head months spent on the Frank Hall unit was 296 head months, 30 head months more than authorized in the AOI. The permittee will be issued a Notice of Suspension for exceeding standards in the unit. Back riding units was successfully completed.

The permittee recorded riding a total of 30 days and used 4 tons of salt on the allotment.

Allotment Inspections: Allotment inspections were conducted on the following dates: 5/28, 6/19, 7/1, 7/10, 7/11, 7/12, 7/13, 7/19, 7/24, 7/26, 7/30, 8/6, 8/14, 8/21, 8/22, 9/9, 9/23, and 10/23. 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:

Reasonable and Prudent Measure #1 (USFWS): The whole of this report addresses this term. Conservation measures #1, 2, 4, and 6 were followed. Conservation measure #3 was not followed; annual use indicator standards were exceeded in the Frank Hall/Wildcat unit. In 2012, the permittee was issued a notice of non-compliance for exceeding standards in the Frank hall/Wildcat unit. For exceeding standards during the 2013 grazing season, the permittee has been issued a notice of suspension and the Frank hall unit will be rested for the 2014 grazing season. Conservation measure #5 was not followed during the 2013 grazing season. The permittee rode approximately 30 days, and livestock were on the allotment for 83 days. To remedy this situation the permittee will be asked to assign a permanent rider for the allotment that will ride 5 days a week, with no two consecutive days off.

Reasonable and Prudent Measure #2 (USFWS): The Rough Canyon Creek Designated Monitoring Area (DMA) was read using the livestock use Multiple Indicator Monitoring (MIM) protocol during 2013, within two weeks of livestock leaving the allotment. Specific results are listed under monitoring data.

Annual Monitoring data:

For the 2013 grazing season, riparian monitoring was completed at the DMAs using the MIM technical reference (Burton 2011). Upland utilization monitoring was completed using the Landscape Appearance Method or Utilization Gauge method (USDI, BLM 1996). See Appendix A for monitoring results.

Within the Frank Hall unit, during the 2013 grazing season, annual indicator standards outlined in the AOI and the BA were not met. Percent bank alteration was measured at 18% ($\pm 6\%$) at the Deadhorse creek DMA (M270) compared to a standard of 10%. At the Wildcat creek DMA (M245) bank alteration was measured at 21% ($\pm 6\%$) compared to a standard of 20% and at the Frank Hall Creek DMA (M245) bank alteration was measured at 18% ($\pm 6\%$) compared to a standard of 15%. Upland utilization measurements were within standards listed in the AOI for the allotment.

The SCNF has taken management actions in response to the conditions on the Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment during the 2012 and 2013 grazing seasons. In 2012 and 2013 a Notice of Non-Compliance (NONC) and Notice of Suspension (NONS), respectively, were issued to the permittee. During the 2014 grazing season the Frank Hall unit will be rested and the allotted time for this unit (18 days) will be suspended from the authorized use, range improvements will need to be maintained before livestock enter the allotment, and a designated rider will be required to ride five days a week.

Improvement Monitoring: Inspections were conducted on the following improvements in 2013:

- On July 11th, the Hood Gulch Trough (#4441A) was inspected, and found to be in working condition; however, it needed a wildlife ramp.
- On August 8th, the Soapstone Springs water development (#4179) was inspected. The development was not in functioning condition. The enclosure around the head box was in disrepair, the head was not covered, the trough was empty (livestock were in the unit at the time) and near the water storage tank the pipeline was leaking.
- On August 21st, the Wagonbox Spring water development (#4418) was inspected. The condition of the trough was excellent; however, it was dry due to an air lock. On August 22nd, SCNF Range Technicians were able to get it working again. The permittee said this is a common issue with the water development.
- On August 22nd, the Lower Salt Creek (#4169) water development was inspected. It was in excellent condition.
- On August 22nd, the Upper Salt Creek (#4168) water development was inspected. The enclosure around the head box is not in functioning condition and needs repaired. The permittee will be required to fix improvement before turning out during the 2014 grazing season.
- On August 28th, the Lower Grizzly Spring (#4226), Soapstone Springs (#4179), and Hood Gulch Water Development (#4180) were inspected. The Soapstone Springs and Lower Grizzly Springs developments are not in functioning condition. The enclosures around the head boxes need reconstructed, pipe needs to be buried, and both troughs were dry. The Hood Gulch development was in functioning condition.

Permit Administration:

Livestock were found outside the rotation listed in the AOI on the following occasions:

- One the morning of August 21st, SCNF range technicians saw about 8 pairs in on the road along Canyon Creek. Later in the afternoon, they saw 8 pairs outside of the forest boundary along highway 28, likely the same group. The communication plan was implemented.
- On September 23rd, SCNF range technicians saw 6 pair near the microwave tower, in the Wagon box unit. I informed the permittee who said he would gather them in the next couple of days

OTHER INFORMATION:

Growing season Conditions: Precipitation for the district was well below average for 2013 (NOAA National Climatic Data Centers 2013). The precipitation information for the District is included in the table below. While this information is collected at the Leadore Ranger Station, Leadore, Idaho, and is not specific to an allotment area, it gives an idea of the available moisture on the District.

Leadore Weather

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Precip. (inches) in 2013	0.3	0.04	0.02	0.01	0.59	0.27	0.83	0.13	1.59	0.38	0.05	Not Available*	4.21
Average Precip. (in.) from 1965-2013	0.34	0.21	0.43	0.68	1.34	1.27	0.77	0.69	0.85	0.61	0.44	0.43	8.05

*Precipitation for the month of December is not yet available.

Improvement Maintenance:

- Permittee completed reconstruction on the Grizzly Spring (#4226) water development.
- Permittee completed reconstruction on a portion (approximately ¼ mile) of the Frank Hall fence (#4115).
- On Tuesday June 25th, employees of the SCNF reconstructed the enclosure around the lower Salt Creek trough (#4171).

Recommendations for Future Management:

1. Distribution of livestock is a key concern on the Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment. For the 2014 grazing season the permittee will be required to have a full time rider assigned to the allotment.
2. Improvements maintenance on the allotment has been an issue. The permittee was issued a NONC on the allotment for the 2013 grazing season in regards to this situation. Before livestock are turned onto the allotment, the permittee will be required to provide evidence that this work has been accomplished.
3. During the 2014 grazing season the Frank Hall unit will be rested.

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), Leadore 2, 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, Leadore 2, Idaho (105177)." Retrieved on Nov. 26th, 2013. <www.wrcc.dri.edu>

Prepared by:

Sara Norman

**Sara Norman
Range Management Specialist
December 8th, 2013**

Appendix A: 2013 Grizzly Hill C&H Monitoring Results

Resource Conditions and Monitoring Results on Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment:

Actual Grazing Schedule				Allowable Standards				Actual Results			
Unit Name	On Date	Off Date	Date Read	Riparian			Upland	Riparian			Upland
Grizzly Hill/Canyon Creek (M269)	7/8	8/8	9/9	Greenline Stubble	Hydric spp.	4 in.	50%	Greenline Stubble	Hydric spp.	15 in.	Allotment inspections were completed on the unit on 8/6 and Riparian stubble height was collected at Soapstone Springs; however upland utilization was not completed.
				Browse Use	Willow spp.	50%		Browse Use	Willow spp.	10%	
				Bank Alteration	N/A	20%		Bank Alteration	N/A	9%	
Grizzly Hill/Canyon Creek (M296)	7/8	8/8	9/9	Greenline Stubble	Hydric spp.	4 in.	50%	Greenline Stubble	Hydric spp.	23 in.	
				Browse Use	Willow spp.	50%		Browse Use	Willow spp.	11%	
				Bank Alteration	N/A	20%		Bank Alteration	N/A	0%	
Frank Hall-Wildcat Unit/Frank Hall Creek (M245)	7/16	8/2	7/25	Greenline Stubble	CARO	6 in.	50%	Greenline Stubble	Hydric spp.	7 in. (<i>Carex spp.</i>)	H-W: 5 % on Idaho fescue LA: 28% upland, 32% riparian
				Bank Alteration	N/A	15%		Bank Alteration	N/A	18% (±6%)	
Frank Hall-Wildcat Unit/Wildcat Creek (M271)	7/16	8/2	7/30	Greenline Stubble	CARO	6 in.	50%	Greenline Stubble	CARO	8 in. (<i>Carex spp.</i>)	
				Browse Use	Willow spp.	30%		Browse Use	Willow spp.	13% (<i>Salix spp.</i>)	
				Bank Alteration	N/A	20%		Bank Alteration	N/A	21% (±6%)	
Frank Hall-Wildcat Unit/Deadhorse Canyon (M270)	7/16	8/2	7/30	Greenline Stubble	CARO	6 in.	50%	Greenline Stubble	CARO	5 in. (<i>Carex spp.</i>)	
				Browse Use	Willow spp.	30%		Browse Use	Willow spp.	11% (<i>Salix spp.</i>)	

				Bank Alteration	N/A	10%			Bank Alteration	N/A	18% (±6%)	
Switchback Unit	REST	REST	7/24	Utilization	Hydric spp.	50%		50%	Utilization	Hydric spp.	REST	Allotment Inspection completed on 7/24
Hood Gulch	6/23	7/7	7/11	Utilization	Hydric spp.	50%		50%	Utilization	Hydric spp.	See results in table below (full MIM completed)	H-W: 2% on Idaho fescue
Bell Field/HES 208	6/15	6/22	7/1	Utilization	Hydric spp.	50%		50%	Utilization	Hydric spp.	N/A	H-W: 1% on Idaho fescue
Willow Springs	6/1	6/14	7/1	Utilization	Hydric spp.	50%		50%	Utilization	Hydric spp.	N/A	H-W: 1% on Idaho fescue
Lower Salt Creek	8/3	8/18	9/23	Utilization	Hydric spp.	50%		50%	Utilization	Hydric spp.	N/A	H-W: 3%
Upper Salt Creek	8/19	8/2	9/23	Utilization	Hydric spp.	50%		50%	Utilization	Hydric spp.	N/A	H-W: 2%
Wagonbox/Jake's Canyon/Mollies Gulch	8/9	9/10	9/23	Utilization	Hydric spp.	50%		50%	Utilization	Hydric spp.	N/A	H-W: 2%

Frank Hall Monitoring Results Pre and Post Livestock Grazing:

DMA Location	Pre-grazing Data				Post-grazing Data			
	Date	Stubble Height	Bank Alteration	Woody Browse	Date	Stubble Height	Bank Alteration	Woody Browse
Frank Hall-Wildcat Creek (M271)	7/1	10" (<i>Carex spp.</i>)	9 (±6%)	10%	7/30	8" (<i>Carex spp.</i>)	21% (±6%)	13% (<i>Salix spp.</i>)
Frank Hall-Frank Hall Creek (M245)	6/19	8" (<i>Carex spp.</i>)	2% (±6%)	12%	7/25	7" (<i>Carex spp.</i>)	18% (±6%)	10% (<i>Salix spp.</i>)
Frank Hall-Deadhorse Creek (M270)	6/12	7" (<i>Carex spp.</i>)	31% (±6%)*	10% (<i>Salix spp.</i>)	6/30	5" (<i>Carex spp.</i>)	18% (±6%)*	11% (<i>Salix spp.</i>)

*Over standards during the 2013 grazing season.

Hood Gulch MIM Results:

DMA Location	Monitoring Results			
	Date	Stubble Height	Bank Alteration	Woody Browse
Hood Gulch	7/11	5" (±0.4")	12% (±5%)	19% (±5%)

	Photo Record	Page 1 of 11
Intermountain Region	Salmon-Challis NF North Zone	District: Leadore
2013 End of Year Report	Observer: Range Employees	Allotment: Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment
All Pastures with Completed Utilization, LUM, and MIM Sites		
Subject: EOY Photo Records for Gizzly Hill C&H Allotment		



Bell Field 7/1/2013



Willow Springs 7/1/2013

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2013 End of Year Report	Observer: Range Employees	Allotment: Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment
All Pastures with Completed Utilization, LUM, and MIM Sites		
Subject: EOY Photo Records for Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment		



Frank Hall/Wildcat MIM (M271) 7/1/13

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2013 End of Year Report	Observer: Range Employees	Allotment: Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment
All Pastures with Completed Utilization, LUM, and MIM Sites		
Subject: EOY Photo Records for Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment		



Frank Hall/Wildcat MIM (M271) 7/1/13

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All Pastures with Completed Utilization, LUM, and MIM Sites		
Subject: EOY Photo Records for Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment		



Frank Hall/Freestrip 7/13/13

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2013 End of Year Report	Observer: Range Employees	Allotment: Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment
All Pastures with Completed Utilization, LUM, and MIM Sites		
Subject: EOY Photo Records for Gizzly Hill C&H Allotment		



Hood Gulch 7/11/13

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2013 End of Year Report	Observer: Range Employees	Allotment: Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment
All Pastures with Completed Utilization, LUM, and MIM Sites		
Subject: EOY Photo Records for Gizzly Hill C&H Allotment		



Frank Hall 7/26/13

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2013 End of Year Report	Observer: Range Employees	Allotment: Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment
All Pastures with Completed Utilization, LUM, and MIM Sites		
Subject: EOY Photo Records for Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment		



Frank Hall LUM (lower left)

	Photo Record	Page 8 of 11
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2013 End of Year Report	Observer: Range Employees	Allotment: Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment
All Pastures with Completed Utilization, LUM, and MIM Sites		
Subject: EOY Photo Records for Gizzly Hill C&H Allotment		



Frank Hall LUM (upper right)

	Photo Record	Page 9 of 11
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2013 End of Year Report	Observer: Range Employees	Allotment: Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment
All Pastures with Completed Utilization, LUM, and MIM Sites		
Subject: EOY Photo Records for Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment		



Frank Hall/Wildcat LUM@M271

7/30/13

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2013 End of Year Report	Observer: Range Employees	Allotment: Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment
All Pastures with Completed Utilization, LUM, and MIM Sites		
Subject: EOY Photo Records for Gizzly Hill C&H Allotment		



Frank
Hall/Wildcat
LUM@M271



Frank Hall/Deadhorse LUM @ M270 7/30/13

7/30/13



Frank Hall/Deadhorse LUM @M270 7/30/13

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2013 End of Year Report	Observer: Range Employees	Allotment: Grizzly Hill C&H Allotment
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Frank Hall 8/14/13