

Logan River Sheep Allotment
Annual Operating Instructions
2016

I. Permitted Livestock:

	<u>Permitted</u>	<u>Authorized</u>
Permittee:	1000	1000

Kind: Sheep

Class: Ewe/Lamb

Period of use: July 1* through September 30

*This date may vary depending on range readiness in the upper elevations.

II. Grazing Management:

Generally, loose herding and once-over grazing, alternating clock wise and counter clock wise directions on a yearly basis should be practiced. Utilization of the uplands following once over grazing practices should be followed. Bed grounds, shade-up areas, and salting locations should not be used more than once during the grazing season. After sheep have watered, they should be encouraged to move off the riparian area before being allowed to noon bed. Do not allow sheep to noon bed near water. Do not place salt by designated Forest Service trails, roads or within the riparian areas of creeks, springs and ponds. Do not salt in the same location twice.

Common use will continue between the Bear Lake Cattle Allotment, Franklin Basin Allotment and the Logan River Allotment. 100 to 150 pairs will travel into the Franklin Basin area approximately August 1st. The cattlemen intend to gather small groups and bring them over Danish Pass or Corral Hollow. Cattle should not be “dropped in Corral Hollow”, but continue to be trailed into the basin. Riding should keep cattle distributed and low in the canyons. The Franklin Basin sheep will graze on the ridge west of Egan Basin, the ridge to the northeast of the basin and then trail along the top of the basin into Snowslide Canyon and the North Fork of St. Charles. The sheep may water two days in Upper Egan Basin but must not bed by the ponds. Generally the sheep will graze the ridges. The sheep should not graze in Gibson Basin; however use is permitted around Hidden Lake. Some use may occur in the Sinks area, this area is less defined as it is steep, brushy and lacks water. Allotment utilization standards apply to these areas regardless of use by cattle, sheep or combination. Once standards are met then it is time to move.

III. Grazing Standards and Guides:

The proper use standards/triggers for this allotment are listed in tables one and two below. Your livestock must be removed from an area when the allowable forage utilization levels are reached in either the uplands or the riparian areas. The utilization standards will apply to, both native and desirable non-native, key species. Stubble heights, on riparian areas, will have to be adjusted to meet percent utilization standards if non-native species such as red-top or Kentucky blue grass are monitored. Monitoring of

use will include using utilization cages, utilization scales/gauges, ocular estimates or a combination of these three.

Table 1. Riparian Zone Forage Utilization and Stubble Heights (AIZ)

Season of Use	Properly Functioning Condition (%/Stubble Height)	Functioning at Risk (High to Moderate) (%/Stubble Height)	Functioning at Risk (Low to Non Functioning) (%/Stubble Height)	Non Functioning (States C & D) (%/Stubble Height)
Spring	65/2	55/3	45/4	55/3
Summer	55/3	45/4	35/5	45/4
Fall	45/4	35/5	20/6+	35/5

From the CNF Riparian Grazing Implementation Guide (2005).

If it is determined that bank disturbance/alteration, greenline stubble height or woody/shrubby species utilization should replace the utilization triggers listed above it will be addressed in the site specific standards below. Riparian site specific standards will be established when a Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) rating is conducted on the riparian area. The site specific standards for riparian areas will come directly from the PFC rating and the Grazing Implementation Guide dated 12/28/2005. If a site specific PFC rating has not been conducted on a riparian area, standards for the area will be established by the Range Specialist on the allotment.

The Revised Forest Plan has been implemented and the following forage utilization standards will be adhered to. These standards are used to indicate when sheep should be moved to the next unit or removed from the allotment.

Logan River S&G Riparian Forage Utilization Site-Specific Standards from the Grazing Implementation Guide

Stream	Rating	Forage Utilization Standards*
Boss Canyon	Proper Functioning Condition	2/3/4" AIZ Stubble Height
Hodge Nibley Creek	Proper Functioning Condition	2/3/4" AIZ Stubble Height
Logan River	Proper Functioning Condition 303d	3/4/5" AIZ Stubble Height
White Canyon	Proper Functioning Condition	2/3/4" AIZ Stubble Height

*The three categories refer to the time of season the livestock are in riparian areas (early/mid/late summer). With 303d listing the standards are raised one level following the Grazing Implementation Guide.

Upland Forage Utilization	Type of Upland Area
	Non winter Range
Grass and Herbaceous Species (%dry weight)	55
Shrubs(%annual leader growth)	35

There is no designated winter range on the allotment.

IV. Range Improvement Maintenance Responsibility:

Annual maintenance and inspection of range improvements is required before the turn out of livestock. Maintain improvements to standards specified in your term grazing permit-

Part 3. Late snowmelt may prevent getting to the allotment by the turn out date. All efforts should be made to complete maintenance as soon thereafter.

V. Range Improvement Projects:

Corral site for the Logan River band will be moved from last year's location. The new site will be determined by the Range Staff and the Permittee. Our goal is to choose sites that are bare of organic material and could be improved by the use of sheep manure to increase the chances of grass and forb seedlings to establish. There has been progress shown in the current corral site.

VI. Trailing and/or Trucking Instructions:

All sheep will be trucked on and off the allotment.

VII. Special Instructions:

- ❖ Please review the terms and conditions of your grazing permit.
- ❖ Please inform the Montpelier Ranger District (208-847-0375), especially during entry date, of a convenient time and place to enable an accurate count of livestock to be made.
- ❖ Be certain that your herder is aware of all unit and allotment boundaries, and that sheep are kept in the proper areas.
- ❖ Areas around sheep camps should be kept clean and trash packed out.
- ❖ Salt bags must be packed out.
- ❖ Leaving campfires unattended could result in a wildfire hazard. Camps should be equipped with a shovel and axe for putting out campfires.

VIII. Wolf Management:

Wolves in Idaho are no longer under the protection of the federal Endangered Species Act.

On May 5, 2011, wolf management in all of Idaho reverted to state management under state code 36-1107 and Idaho's 2002 Wolf Conservation and Management Plan. [PDF, 662 KB]

Simply put, the law says wolves molesting or attacking livestock or domestic animals may be disposed of by livestock or domestic animal owners, their employees, agents and animal damage control personnel. No permit from Fish and Game is necessary. The incident must be reported to the Fish and Game director within 72 hours, with additional reasonable time allowed if access to the site where taken is limited. Wolves so taken shall remain the property of the state.

Livestock and domestic animal owners may take all nonlethal steps they deem necessary to protect their property. A permit must be obtained from the director to control wolves not molesting or attacking livestock or domestic animals. Control is also permitted by owners, their employees and agents pursuant to the Idaho department of fish and game

harvest rules. "Molesting" means the actions of a wolf that are annoying, disturbing or persecuting, especially with hostile intent or injurious effect, or chasing, driving, flushing, worrying, following after or on the trail of, or stalking or lying in wait for, livestock or domestic animals.

<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/public/wildlife/wolves/?getPage=167>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Idaho State Office - Toll-free at: 877-661-1908

To report suspected wolf depredations on livestock or pets, contact

USDA Wildlife Services: Toll-free at: 866-487-3297 or 208-378-5077

IX. Certified Weed Free Hay:

Weed Free Hay Order is in effect. If hay is needed while on the forest: Certified Weed free hay and other forages are required on the Forest and must be identified as such with a State and/or County tag. Failure to do so will result in a violation notice and/or permit action.

X. Special Instructions:

All AOI's will be posted on the internet. In conjunction with this action all permittees must sign the AOI showing that they have read it and accept the terms, conditions, and management practices presented in it.

- o **Actual Use Forms will be mailed out following the grazing season. Please return these forms in a timely manner.**

If you have questions or concerns during the grazing season, please call me or the range staff on the zone.

	Office
Dennis Duehren District Ranger	(208) 847-8935
Kevin Parker Supervisory Range Specialist	(208) 547-4356 (208) 547-1108
Dell Transtrum Range Specialist	(208) 847-0375 (208) 847-8939