

**Annual Operating Instructions
Cattle and Horse Allotments**

For the
Teton Basin Ranger District
Idaho/Wyoming
Driggs, Idaho

2016

Caribou- Targhee National Forest
Intermountain Region

PLEASE CONTACT US FIVE DAYS IN ADVANCE OF STOCKING THE ALLOTMENT

PERMIT INFORMATION

Permitted Livestock Numbers	Season of Use	Head months
Leigh Cr. Allotment 182 hd cow/calf	6126to9112	473
Fred's Mt. Allotment 182 hd of cow/calf		
Horses or mules (4 hd)	6126 to 9115	11
Authorized Numbers		
Leigh Cr. and Fred's Mountain 182 cow/calf	6126 to 9115	473
Horses 4 head	6126 to 9115	11

The allotment is managed as a deferred-rotation system consisting of four units. This should give each unit a shorter grazing season and more time for the grass to recover. Lower South Leigh Pasture is lower elevation and an earlier season pasture. Grazing begin here for the first two weeks from June 26th to July 9th. Then graze North Leigh from July 10th to August 1 for twenty two days. Grazing Fred's Mountain from August 2nd to August 20th. Cattle should finish the season in Upper South Leigh from August 21st to September 15th. Some additional grazing will occur in the Lower South Leigh Unit, as cattle travel through to other pastures.

2016 Grazing Rotation Schedule

Graze 1st	Lower South Leigh	6126 to 7/9	14 days
Graze 2nd	North Leigh	7110 to 8/1	22 days
Graze 3rd	Fred's Mountain	8/2 to 8/20	18 days
Graze 4th	Upper South Leigh	8/21 to 9115	27 days

COMPLIANCE

This AOI is a yearly agreement that is part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8 (a). It is a working document, and 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, contact the District Ranger and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions.

GRAZING STANDARDS

The Revised Targhee Forest Plan Standards are as follows:

1. Within the Aquatic Influence Zone (AIZ):
 - a. At least four inches of stubble must remain along the hydric greenline (HGL) at the end of the grazing period. The HGL is the first permanent vegetation next to the waters edge.
 - b. Away from the HGL, at least three inches of stubble will be left on the key riparian species at the end of the grazing period.
2. No more than 35 percent use of the current year's growth is allowed on the

woody riparian vegetation (i.e., willows)

3. Allowable use on grasses and forbs in the uplands is 45 percent (dry weight); on upland shrubs (i.e., mountain mahogany) it is 35 percent of the current year's growth.

Once these use rates are reached the cattle will have to be moved to the next unit or they may be required to leave the Forest prior to the end of the grazing season. ·

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

Fences and water developments will be maintained prior to cattle entering the allotment. The cattle access trails that were constructed through thick stands of brush and trees should be maintained to ensure cattle may utilize available forage in the uplands to lessen the use in the riparian areas.

We would like to review the allotment with you this summer to assess the needs of range improvements and overall management of the allotment. The authorized officer will contact you with a meeting date.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping in the control of noxious weeds. Remember, all livestock feed or straw brought on to the forest has to be certified weed free. We will be treating weeds again this season. Please report to us any new weed patches we have not been treating in the past.

MOTORIZED ACCESS

The Revised Targhee Forest Plan restricts motorized travel to designated routes only. For administrative purposes, grazing permittee(s) will be issued a permit to travel cross-country to maintain facilities for up to two vehicles per week. This permit should be adequate to allow you to repair water troughs, fences, and other range improvements. These improvements can be identified in your Term Grazing Permit on pages 6-8. For projects that will require the permittee to travel off designated routes for more than two times per week an additional permit will be required. Remember, anywhere you drive the public will follow.

ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT

Good herding practices and wise salt placement will be needed to avoid over use of the riparian areas. No salt should be placed within 1/4 mile of any created opening with trees less than 6 feet tall.

Please contact us five days before entering allotment for verification of range readiness.

Any livestock feed or straw brought on the National Forest for camping must be certified weed free.

State laws require all non-virgin bulls to be trichomoniasis tested and tagged 45 days prior to grazing on public lands.

Stocks outside the permitted season or permitted area are considered excess livestock. When excess livestock are identified as belonging to a permittee; the permittee will be billed at the unauthorized use rate and permit action maybe taken.

WILDLIFE

Wolf Management

You need to comply with the most current rules concerning wolf management To receive the latest information on wolf management you can the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

Any problems with wolves will be reported to Wildlife Services as well as Teton Basin Ranger District as soon as possible .

Due to the relisting, all of Wyoming except the Wind River Indian Reservation again operates under the 1994 nonessential experimental population rule. Take of wolves may be authorized only by the nonessential experimental population rules. A permittee may chase wolves away from livestock in a manner in which wolves will not be injured. If livestock depredation occurs, Wildlife Services should be contacted. A permittee may be granted a permit by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to remove a problem wolf. Any wolf deaths must be reported to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service within 24 hours.

RECORD KEEPING

Included in your folder is a page of general grazing instructions, an allotment map and an Actual Use Record. Please fill out the record and return it and the folder to us at the end of the grazing season. We appreciate your cooperation in the past of writing your comments on the Actual Use Record. The comments are valuable to help us improve range management of the allotment.

Thank-you for coming in this spring and discussing your allotment management plans. If you have any questions please contact Matt Hoggan, Rangeland Specialist, at 354-6625 (desk) or (cell) 208-313-7915.