

# Annual Operating Instructions Cattle and Horse Allotments



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

2016

Caribou- Targhee National Forest  
Intermountain Region

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## Pine Creek C&H Allotment 2016

PLEASE CONTACT US FIVE DAYS IN ADVANCE OF STOCKING THE ALLOTMENT

PERMIT INFORMATION, Season of Use 6/11 to 9/30

Permitted Livestock	Days	Headmonths
53 head of Cow/calf pairs	111	195

  

Authorized Livestock	Days	Headmonths
72 head of Cow/calf pairs	82	194

This allotment is grazed season long from June 11 to September 30. The Permittee may graze 72 pairs for 82 days within the permitted season. This system is on a trial basis, and written to increasing the stocking numbers and shortening the season. This should give the plants a chance to maximize growth, mature, seed, and become more sustainable. The planned system will be to scatter the permitted cattle over the entire allotment for the full season. The herder should disperse cattle away from creek bottoms and other congested areas through proper salting and good herding practices. These practices will help achieve utilization levels while trying the new grazing system. This is the first year for the new rotation to be tried and tested. For the year 2015, non-use was taken to maintain good range conditions, this was suggested by permittee because the allotment and Teton Valley were experiencing abundant moisture and forage.

### 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 30 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. As you know this can be a concern due to the possibility of a below normal moisture summer. Please consider how you may be able to accommodate your livestock on alternate feed sources if they are required to leave the Forest prior to the end of the grazing season.

### OWNERSHIP

Cattle grazed under the Term Grazing Permit, must be owned by the term permit holder and branded with the brand(s) which are authorized by the permit.

### RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

Pine Creek Allotment NAME	NUMBER	LOCATION
Powerline Road Trough	5017	NW, SW, Sec. 21, T3N, R45E
Allen Canyon Trough & Allen Canyon Reservoir	5016 5034	SE, NW, Sec. 28, T3N, R45E
Black Grove Trough	5070	NE A, NE IA, Sec. 28, T3N, R45E
Murphy Creek Fence	5137TT	Section 19 T.3N., R.45E .

Fences and water developments will be maintained prior to cattle entering the allotment. Reconstruction of Power-line Road Trough must be completed during the 2016 grazing season. Materials for this project were delivered in 2015.

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 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 or new noxious weeds 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. 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.

Portable corral panels should be moved to the side of the Smith Canyon Parking Area when not in use.

Utilize side canyons and bench areas as much as possible. Working for uniform livestock use will allow you to stay longer on each unit.

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.

Livestock 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.

### Wolf Management

You need to comply with the most current rules concerning wolf management. To receive the latest information on wolf management you can call 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.

## 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.

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Thank-you for meeting with us this spring and discussing your Allotment Management Plans. If you have any questions please contact Matt Hoggan, Rangeland Specialist, at his desk 208-354-6625 in Teton Basin (summer) 208-542-5809 in Palisades (winter) or cell 313-7915.