

2014 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

BRIGGS CANYON and CEDARVILLE ALLOTMENTS

These are your Annual Operating Instructions for the Briggs Canyon and Cedarville Allotments. We are including a signature page at the end of each AOI which we are requesting permittees sign and return to the district. This signature page also includes the signatures of the district ranger and current range management specialist overseeing the allotment. We believe that this process better represents the cooperative nature of managing these areas and indicates an understanding of the information in this document as well as the information in your term grazing permit(s).

You are authorized to graze 50 head of cattle on the Briggs Canyon Allotment from July 1 to September 30, and 100 head of cattle on the Cedarville allotment from July 15 to October 1.

The Briggs Canyon Allotment and the Cedarville Allotment are grazed in conjunction with the adjoining BLM allotments as an on/off management system. The current, proper utilization-levels for these allotments are set at 50% on key forage species (bluebunch wheatgrass, and riparian sedges). Browse use of willows and other woody species is also set at 50%. When proper utilization of 50% is reached, cattle need to be removed from the allotment.

The drier mesic meadows adjacent to streams and springs should be watched to ensure that use levels are not exceeded. These meadows are of concern across the district and more focus on use levels in these areas occur. While all adjacent meadows should be looked at, the drier meadows have less chance of regrowth and therefore are of highest concern. The upland annual use level of 50% should be used to manage the dry meadows and your rangeland management specialist will work with you to determine when a desired use level has been met, so that everyone understands what the meadows should look like after livestock use.

Fence & Water Improvements: Please refer to Part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit. Allotment boundary fences should be maintained prior to cattle entering the allotment, interior fences should also be maintained prior to cattle entering a new unit. Existing improvements should be maintained each year before requesting new improvements.

Response to Predators: Should predator issues arise on the allotment, please contact your range management specialist and Idaho Fish & Game or Wildlife Services with the information. Coordination with permittees and all agencies listed above is important to assess predator issues and share information on predator management decisions on National Forest administered lands and those areas adjacent to National Forest.

Grazing Fees: The grazing fees for the 2014 season are \$1.35/head month. Your grazing fee payment will need to be received prior to turning livestock out on the National Forest. Receipt of payment could take up to 2 weeks from the date payment is sent.

Actual Use Reports: At the end of the grazing season you will be receiving an INDIVIDUAL ACTUAL USE REPORT for each allotment. You will need to provide a record of the dates your cattle enter the forest, dates they leave the forest along with a record of losses. The report is a requirement of the terms and conditions of your term grazing permit. Please return this report to the Lost River Ranger District office in a timely manner.

If you have any questions about these instructions, or management of the allotment, please contact Josh Edwards at (208) 588-3405.

