



File Code: 2210/2230

Date: May 2, 2014

Dan French
218 Highway 28
Salmon, ID 83467

Dear Dan,

The following letter will document your meeting with Ingrid Drieling on April 10th, 2014 and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) on the Withington Creek C&H allotment for the 2014 grazing season. The authorized use for the Withington Creek C&H allotment for cattle with the  and  brands will be as follows:

Permitted Use:

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Withington Creek C&H	Dan French	77 c/c	195	7/16-9/30
Withington Creek C&H	Dan French	60 c/c	107	8/8-9/30
	Total:	137 c/c	302	91 days

Authorized Use for the 2014 Grazing Season:

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Withington Creek C&H	Dan French	77 c/c	195	7/16-9/30
Withington Creek C&H	Dan French	60 c/c	107	8/8-9/30

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Number/ Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Withington Creek C&H	Hot Springs	77 c/c	18	7//16-7/22
	Mulkey Creek	77c/c	43	7/23-8/8
	Mulkey Creek	137 c/c	27	8/8-8/13
	Withington Creek	137 c/c	144	8/14-9/14
	Withington/Mulkey	137 c/c	41	9/15-9/21

Only livestock with the  and  brands will be authorized to graze on the Withington Creek C&H Allotment. The annual operating instructions are made part of your term grazing permit as per part 2, season which requires changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, contact Concetta and obtain approval before initiating changes of deviating from these instructions. Changes can be made based on resource objectives, provided the changes are first approved and documented by an authorized officer.

The dates listed in the authorized use section may vary based on management needs or range readiness and proper use standards. If a change is necessary, please notify Concetta Brown at (208) 768-2503 as soon as you are aware of the need for changes in the planned use schedule. Any extension of use beyond the permitted dates will not be authorized.

Allowable Use

The allowable use standards for the Withington C&H allotment are listed below. It is your responsibility to monitor utilization levels and to move your livestock to the next unit planned or off the allotment when the standards have been met. If you need assistance determining utilization levels please contact Concetta Brown and she will assist you. Cattle removed from a unit after utilization levels have been reached are not allowed to return to the unit. The Forest Service is responsible for monitoring your compliance with allowable use standards.

Withington Creek C&H:

Riparian sites:

A minimum stubble height of **4 inches** on the current year's growth of key riparian species

Upland sites:

Maximum of **50%** use of current annual growth of key herbaceous species

Range Improvements

Range improvements listed in part three of your grazing permit must be maintained prior to livestock entering the allotment.

Part 2, Section 8(i) of your term grazing permit states:

“This permit is issued and accepted with the provision that the permittee will maintain all range improvements, whether private or government-owned, that are assigned for maintenance to standards of repair, orderliness, and safety acceptable to the Forest Service. Improvements to be maintained are specified in Part 3 of this permit. The Government may maintain or otherwise improve said improvements when, in its opinion, such action will be to its advantage.”

The following is a list of improvements for the **Withington Creek C&H** Allotment that were discussed in the meeting:

Last year the the YCC crew installed an ATV cattle guard at the boundary fence between the Hot Spring and Mulkey Creek unit. You are interested in installing two additional units at gates along the Forest and BLM boundary. You are looking into options to fund the purchase of these 2 ATV cattle guards. You asked Ingrid if it would be possible to get help from the Forest YCC or BLM YEP crews to help install them if you purchased the AVT cattle guards. Once we know if we have received funding for the crews, Concetta will look into the possibility of arranging that assistance.

General Management

The Salmon-Challis Travel Management Record of Decision was signed December 24, 2009. With the issuance of this decision, all roads and trails designated for motor vehicle use map (MVUM). As detailed in 36 CFR 261.13; 36 CFR 212.51a the prohibitions on motor vehicle use will not apply to motor vehicle use that is specifically authorized under a written authorization issued under Federal law or regulation. ATVs may be used off of designated routes for improvement maintenance prior to livestock entering Forest lands. This means, once livestock are on the allotment, ATV use off of designated routes should be limited to the unit cattle are currently in and the unit scheduled to be grazed next only for managing your livestock and/or maintaining improvements.

Dead livestock must be moved at least 100 yards from water, roads, and trails. Place salt at least ¼ mile from water sources and in areas lightly grazed to encourage an even distribution of utilization on the range. In situations where terrain does not allow proper placement of salt, please contact Concetta and she will determine a suitable location with your input.

Invasive weeds are becoming a serious threat to the welfare of our rangelands. Your assistance is needed to identify new outbreaks of weed populations and to prevent the establishment of

weeds on the forest. Pay particular attention to areas where stock are concentrated such as loading/unloading areas, water developments, and salting areas. We have implemented a Noxious Weed Free Hay order on our Forest. This will require any hay that is brought onto the National Forest to be certified free from noxious weeds. All livestock entering the National Forest are recommended to be fed **Certified Noxious Weed Free Forage** for at least 2 days prior to entering the Forest.

The grazing fees for 2014 are the base rate of \$1.35 per head month.

Payment of your grazing bill is due five days prior to your earliest turnout date to allow time for processing. The Forest Service is required to give permittees a minimum of 30 days to pay their grazing fees. The Forest Service is requesting that permittees schedule their AOI meeting a **minimum of 35 days prior** to their earliest on date to provide adequate time to plan for the upcoming grazing season.

If you spot a wild fire, report it immediately to the Central Idaho Interagency Dispatch Center in Salmon, ID at **(208) 756-5157**.

Actual use and range improvement maintenance forms have been included for you to complete and return within **30 days** of the end of the grazing season.

In addition, approval of requests for personal convenience and resource protection nonuse is not automatic and the authorized officer should discuss the reasons for the nonuse request with the permittee. Requests for non-use must be done in writing and the approval of a request for non-use must be in writing by the authorized officer. Full or partial permittee convenience nonuse may be approved by the authorized officer for no more than three consecutive years and not more than four years in any ten year period.

We look forward to working with you and solicit your cooperation and involvement in bringing about sound range and livestock management practices that will enhance all of the allotment resources. If you have any ideas or suggestions that will improve the management of the allotment, we would like to hear from you.

If you have any questions regarding any of the allotments for which you have permits, please call Concetta at (208) 768-2503, Ingrid Drieling at (208) 768-2516 or myself at (208) 756-5247.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jay Winfield

District Ranger

Encl: Improvement Maintenance and Actual Use Record