

**Deer-Iron Creek Cattle & Horse Allotment's
2014 Annual Monitoring Report
for the
National Marine Fisheries Service's
9/24/2013 Biological Opinion**

(Refer to NMFS No: 2013/10252)

Annual Monitoring Report Form for Actions covered under the Service's Biological Opinion for Grazing on Allotments Managed by the Salmon Challis National Forest.

Please submit annually by March 1 to the Idaho State Director, Habitat Conservation Division, National Marine Fisheries Service, **Attn: 2010/00849**, 800 Park Boulevard, Plaza IV, Suite 220 Boise, Idaho 83712-7743.

To implement RPM #2 (monitoring and reporting), the SCNF shall ensure that:

- a. Each Allotment Unit's DMA or key area is annually monitored to determine compliance with all identified annual use indicators in the proposed action. The report shall also identify any modifications to move-triggers or annual indicators that result from implementing the adaptive management strategy.

See attached Deer-Iron Creek C&H Allotment's 2014 End of the Year Report.

- b. All formal move-triggers are consistently applied across all Allotment Units for the term of the permit.

See attached Deer-Iron Creek C&H Allotment's 2014 End of the Year Report.

- c. An end-of-year report is available to NMFS by March 1 of each year. The following shall be included in the report:

- (1) Overview of proposed action and actual management (livestock numbers, on-off dates for each Unit, etc.).

See attached Deer-Iron Creek C&H Allotment's 2014 End of the Year Report.

- (2) Results from all implementation and effectiveness monitoring identified as part of the proposed action and this Opinion (term and condition 1), including required annual use indicator monitoring (i.e., stubble height, riparian shrub utilization, streambank alteration), photo point monitoring, seral condition, bank stability, water temperature, sediment, and W:D.

See attached Deer-Iron Creek C&H Allotment's 2014 End of the Year Report.

2014 Stream Temperature Data was collected on: Iron Creek 5.0 & 8.2, North Fork of Iron Creek 0.3, West Fork of Iron Creek 0.2 and South Fork of Iron Creek 0.4.

2014 Electrofishing Data was collected on: Iron Creek 5.3.

2014 Watershed Programs Stream Sediment (Mean Percent Fines <0.25" at depth and Percent Bank Stability Monitoring, respectively, was collected on: No data was collected within the Allotment boundary.

- (3) Discussion of any unauthorized use and/or any maintenance issues related to fences or water developments.

See attached Deer-Iron Creek C&H Allotment's 2014 End of the Year Report.

- (4) Brief review of Allotment compliance with established annual use indicators, terms and conditions from this Opinion including a discussion on specific successes and failures.

See attached Deer-Iron Creek C&H Allotment's 2014 End of the Year Report.

- (5) Any relevant information that becomes available regarding Snake River Basin steelhead or Snake River spring/summer Chinook salmon habitat trends and/or spawning locations that would modify the assumptions made in this Opinion or result in effects not considered. NONE

- (6) A clear description of compliance with the terms and conditions contained in this incidental take statement.

See attached Deer-Iron Creek C&H Allotment's 2014 End of the Year Report.
There were no unexpected circumstances or events that resulted in impacts beyond what the forest anticipated.

- (7) Any management recommendations for subsequent years.

See attached Deer-Iron Creek C&H Allotment's 2014 End of the Year Report.

Chinook salmon Redd Surveys

1. What was the name of the stream in this allotment surveyed for impacted redds?

There were no streams surveyed for Chinook salmon redds because livestock do not have access to any Chinook salmon spawning reaches.

2. Were there any unexpected circumstances or events that resulted in impacts beyond those anticipated in the Forest's Biological Assessment or the Service's Biological Opinion? If yes, please describe.

There were no unexpected circumstances or events that resulted in impacts beyond what the forest anticipated in the 2013 Biological Assessment.

Salmon-Challis National Forest Official:



Daniel A. Garcia
Salmon-Challis National Forest
North Zone Districts Fishery Biologist

Date:

2/23/2015

Contact Information:

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The attached Deer-Iron Creek C&H Allotment's 2014 End of the Year Report was prepared by:
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Results of the Range Allotment's implementation and effectiveness monitoring will be available at the following website:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/scnf/landmanagement/resourcemanagement/?cid=STELPRDB5308989>

DEER IRON C&H ALLOTMENT

2014 END OF YEAR REPORT

Salmon-Cobalt Ranger District

North Zone Salmon-Challis National Forest

MANAGEMENT

Term Grazing Permit				Authorized Use			Actual Use		
Permittee	Numbers	Head Months	Season of use	Numbers	Head Months	Season of use	Numbers	Head Months	Season of use
Janelle Phillips	321 c/c	158	6/16-6/30	321 c/c	158	6/16-6/30	319	168	6/15-6/30
Janelle Phillips	421 c/c	1370	7/1-10/7	395 c/c	1286	7/1-10/7	354	1152	7/1-10/7

Unit Schedule

Unit	Numbers	Authorized Season of Use	Actual Season of Use	Numbers
Degan Mountain	321 c/c	6/16-6/30	6/15-6/30	319c/c
Degan Mountain	395 c/c	7/1-8/15	7/1-8/15	354c/c
South Fork		7/7-8/15	7/7-8/15	
Peel Tree (above and below Lookout)	395 c/c	8/16-10/7	8/16-10/7	354c/c

Compliance with unit schedule in AOI:

Unit moves complied with critical dates for cattle presence with spawning and incubating fish, per the Biological Assessment, NMFS 2013 Deer-Iron Biological Opinion and the USFWS 2013 Deer-Iron Biological Opinion. Beginning Aug 20th and ending October 7th approximately 5-20 head were moved from the allotment to the home ranch daily with 80% of the herd removed by 9/15. Back riding units was successfully completed.

The permittee reported riding the allotment a total of 95 days, recorded 3 flight hours and put out 1 ton of salt. Improvement maintenance was recorded on fence# 5029 and the Hat Creek Boundary Fence.

Allotment Inspections: Allotment inspections were conducted on the following dates: 8/19, 8/20, and 10/28. Allotment inspections consist of a Range Specialist and/or Range Technician visiting the allotment to check on location of livestock, improvement condition and/or monitor for annual indicators.

Compliance with special Terms and Conditions regarding livestock locations and management practices:

Term and Condition 1 for Reasonable and Prudent Measure 1

- The whole of this report addresses this term. Conservation measures were followed.

MONITORING DATA

Annual Indicator Monitoring: For the 2014 grazing season, monitoring was completed at Designate Monitoring Areas (DMAs) using the Multiple Indicator Monitoring (MIM) technical reference (Burton, 2012). Upland monitoring was completed using the Landscape Appearance Method or Height –Weight method (USDI, BLM 1996). Utilization for the 2014 grazing season met the use standards and annual indicators in the AOI, BA and BO. **PLEASE REFER TO THE ATTACHED TABLE AND PHOTOS FOR ANNUAL INDICATOR RESULTS.**

Improvement Monitoring: No inspections were conducted for improvement on this allotment.

Permit Administration: No errant livestock were noted during the grazing season in 2014.

OTHER INFORMATION

Growing Season Conditions: Precipitation for the District was below normal for 2014. The precipitation information for the District is included in the table below. While this information is collected at the KSRA weather station in Salmon, Idaho and is not specific to an allotment area, it gives an idea of the available moisture on the District.

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Precipitation (in.) in 2014	0.64	0.73	0.23	0.26	0.83	0.95	0.1	2.03	0.42				6.19
Average Precipitation (in.) from 1967-2012 *	0.66	0.42	0.55	0.78	1.36	1.42	0.95	0.78	0.76	0.65	0.72	0.74	9.79

* Precipitation web data has not been updated since 2012

Sources

Burton, T.A., S.J. Smith, and E.R. Cowley. 2011. Riparian area management: Multiple indicator monitoring (MIM of stream channels and streamside vegetation. Technical Reference 1737-23. BLM/OC/ST-10/003+1737. U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, National Operations Center, Denver, CO. 155p.

USDI, BLM. 1996. Utilization Studies and Residual Measurements, BLM Interagency Technical Reference, BLM/RS/ST-96/004+1730. 135p.

NOAA National Climatic Data Centers. 201. "Monthly Climatological Summary (2014), Salmon KSRA, ID, US." Retrieved November 3, 2014. <www.ncdc.noaa.gov>

Western Regional Climate Center. 2014. "Monthly Climate Summary, Salmon KSRA, Idaho (108080)." Retrieved on November 3, 2014. <www.wrcc.dri.edu>

Prepared By:

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Rangeland Management Specialist

2014 DEER IRON C&H ALLOTMENT MONITORING DATA

Actual Grazing Schedule				Allowable Standards			Actual Results				
Unit	On Date	Off Date	Date Read	Riparian			Upland	Riparian			Upland
South Fork Unit West Fork of Iron Creek MIM 243				Greenline Stubble	<i>Hydric ssp.</i>	4 in. or 50%	50%	Greenline stubble	<i>Hydric ssp.</i>	12%	13.4%
				Browse Use	Willow	50%		Browse Use	Willow	11%	
				Bank Alteration	n/a	20%		Bank Alteration	n/a	1%	
South Fork Unit South Fork Iron Creek MIM M226			8/20	Greenline stubble	<i>Hydric ssp.</i>	6 in. or 30%	50%	Greenline stubble	<i>Hydric ssp.</i>	12.2 in.	13.4%
				Browse Use	Willow	50%		Browse Use	Willow	11.6%	
				Bank Alteration	n/a	15%		Bank Alteration	n/a	10%	
Peel Tree North			10/28	Greenline Stubble	Riparian Grass ssp.	50%	50%	22.20%			22.16%
Peel Tree South			10/28	Greenline Stubble	Riparian Grass ssp.	50%	50%	No riparian grass species were present for measurements			12.60%
M215 Degan Mountain Unit, North Fork Iron Creek			8/20	Browse Use	Willow	30%	50%	Browse Use		10%	5.72%
				Greenline Stubble	<i>Hydric ssp.</i>	4 in. or 50%		Greenline Stubble		11in	
				Bank Alterations	n/a	20%		Bank Alterations		1%	