

## 2014 Cow Creek Allotment USFWS Monitoring Report

### 2014 Annual Monitoring Report for Actions covered under the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Biological Opinion for the Cow Creek Grazing Allotment managed by the Salmon-Challis National Forest.

Please submit annually by **March 1** to the Supervisor of the Service's Eastern Idaho Field Office:

**4425 Burley Dr., Suite A, Chubbuck, Idaho 83202**  
**Telephone: (208)237-6975.**

Please include name and contact information in case additional information is needed.

1. What was the name of that stream in this allotment surveyed for impacted redds?  
**N/A. Livestock grazing in bull trout spawning streams was limited to trailing after August 15, 2014, therefore, no redd surveys were completed.**
2. What was the date of the survey, and what were the water conditions? **N/A**
3. Which stream segment was surveyed and how many redds and impacted redds were found? (Please give GPS start and stop points for segments)? **N/A**
4. What was the date that livestock removed from the pasture with surveyed stream segment?  
**N/A**
5. Did this number exceed the scale anticipated in section VII of the Biological Opinion? **N/A**
6. Were there any changes to the grazing management that differed from the proposed grazing management in the Forest's Biological Assessment? If yes, what were they? **The Forest Service did not authorize any changes in grazing management that differed from that described in the biological assessment.**
7. Were there any unexpected circumstances or events that resulted in impacts beyond those anticipated in the Forest's in the Biological Assessment or the Service's Biological Opinion? If yes, please describe. **The North Fork of Cow Creek grazing unit experienced a lightning-caused fire above the North Fork of Cow Creek riparian area. The burned area was not significant in size; however, spring snowmelt may have an effect in the spring of 2015 on stream sediment Riparian Management Objectives. The 2015 grazing rotation may be altered to mitigate the impacts from livestock grazing in the burned area.**

**Effectiveness monitoring in 2014 indicated an increase in the Ecological Status, Wetland Rating, and Stability Rating for the North Fork of Cow Creek since 2010. The results also suggested an increase in mature woody species, but a decrease in seedling recruitment. This decrease in recruitment may be attributed to extended livestock use. However, 2014 implementation monitoring showed no unauthorized use or exceedance of standards set in the BA.**

Salmon-Challis NF Official: **Barry Dopp (range management specialist), Bart Gamett (fish biologist)**

Date: **January 22, 2015**

Contact Information: Barry Dopp 208-879-4161, [bdopp@fs.fed.us](mailto:bdopp@fs.fed.us)  
Bart Gamett, 208-588-3420, [bgamett@fs.fed.us](mailto:bgamett@fs.fed.us)