



File Code: 2230/2210

Date: May 20, 2015

Rick Philps & David Philps
HC 63 Box 1630
Challis, ID 83226

Dear Rick and David,

This letter serves as your 2015 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Challis Creek C&H Allotment, and should be considered an extension of your Term Grazing Permit #20047. Prior approval by the District Ranger is required to amend or change these instructions.

Permitted Use

Permittee	No. and Class	Permit Type	Season of Use	Head Months
Rick Philps	175 cow/calf	Term	06/15 – 09/14	529
Mitch Corrigan	51 cow/calf	Term	06/15 – 09/14	154

Authorized Use for 2015

Permittee	No. and Class	Permit Type	Season of Use	Head Months
Rick Philps	125 cow/calf	Term	06/15 – 09/01	325
Mitch Corrigan	non-use	Term	non-use	0

Pasture Rotation

The on-dates listed above are only a guide. Actual turn out will be when range readiness occurs. Moving off the allotment must occur before forage utilization standards have been met, and no later than the scheduled off-date.

Unit	Number	On-Date	Off-Date
Slab Barn	125 cow/calf	06/15	07/24
Mosquito	125 cow/calf	07/25	09/01
Jeff's Flat South	0	Rest	Rest
Jeff's Flat North	0	Rest	Rest



Utilization Standards

1. Livestock grazing in the uplands during the grazing season is managed for up to 50% use on key herbaceous species on the allotment.
2. Riparian areas should retain a minimum of 4 inches of stubble height on herbaceous use vegetation by the end of the growing season in the Slab Barn pasture.
3. Riparian area use standards in the Mosquito pasture are outlined in the table below.

Unit	Indicator	Standard
Mosquito Flat	Riparian Greenline Stubble	≥ 6 in
	Stream Bank Alteration	$\leq 20\%$
	Woody Browse Use	$\leq 30\%$

Permittee's Management Responsibilities

1. Three days prior to initial cattle turn-out, please inform the authorized officer in charge.
2. It is your responsibility to insure livestock are moved before utilization levels are exceeded. You must notify the Rangeland Management Specialist of this move.
3. Riding and herding are necessary to properly distribute livestock. You must provide a rider throughout the grazing season to maintain proper distribution of cattle, reduce use in riparian areas, and prevent concentrated use by livestock that could result in portions of the pasture becoming over-utilized.
4. *Use of riparian areas needs to be carefully monitored by you to know when it is time to move livestock to the next unit and to avoid exceeding standards. Do not rely on range personnel to monitor use.*
5. Salt should be placed on accessible range at least $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from permanently located watering places, riparian zones, meadows, and other areas where cattle naturally congregate. Placement should be in upland areas where additional forage utilization is desired. Salting areas should be moved annually to avoid permanent damage around salting grounds. Do not use the same salting grounds year after year.
6. With multiple-uses on the forest, gates are often left open and cattle stray into the wrong pasture. We realize this is a problem and an inconvenience. However, it is still your responsibility to keep your animals in the proper unit. Cattle found in the wrong units or allotments should be returned immediately to the correct pasture. Routine checks need to be made by you and/or your rider. Notification to your Range Management Specialist of the issues must be made immediately
7. Any carcass or animals remains will be moved at least 100 yards from water, trails, and roads within 24 hours of notification by the Rangeland Management Specialist.

8. Under Special Order # 04-00-097 all hay, straw, or mulch brought onto the forest for the feeding of horses must be Certified Weed Free.
9. I am requesting that you be a pro-active partner in the prevention and inventory of noxious weeds on your allotment and adjacent National Forest System lands. All equipment which is used off of open roads on federal lands (for range improvement maintenance, or other management activities) should be cleaned and free of noxious weeds and their seeds prior to coming onto National Forest System lands. Please share your knowledge of known noxious weed infestations with your Range Management Specialist.
10. Any motorized travel on routes not designated in the Salmon-Challis National Forest Travel Plan must have District Ranger written authorization in advance
11. *The move-off date is the date you must have all cattle off the allotment, not the day to start moving cattle off the allotment.*

Additional Permittee Terms and Conditions to Mitigate Impacts from the 2013 Lodgepole Fire

The length of time the Challis Creek Allotment can be grazed by livestock in 2015 is contingent upon your ability to keep livestock out of unauthorized areas- any burned area and Mill Creek- and by adhering to the grazing use standards.

1. All trailing through the Jeff's Flat South unit must be active and supervised. Your cows are not to be left in this pasture for any length of time on their way to the Slab Barn unit. Lingering in any burned areas or areas that were impacted by fire suppression activities (e.g. dozer or hand lines) are not authorized.
2. The Slab Barn and Jeff's Flat boundary fences must be repaired prior to livestock entering the Challis Creek Allotment.
3. The Slab Barn water development and pipeline must be fully functional to ensure water is available in the first two troughs. Enough water must be provided for the authorized livestock prior to the livestock entering the allotment.
4. To prevent livestock from entering burned areas, the installation and maintenance of the Slab Barn temporary electric protection fence is your responsibility as the permittee. See attached map. This will require daily inspection and maintenance as found necessary. If controlling cattle with the electric fence in the Slab Barn unit proves unsuccessful, you may be allowed to move into the Mosquito Flat unit early but the authorized season will be shortened accordingly.
5. Any problems with range improvements or livestock getting into burned areas or accessing Mill Creek need to be communicated to the Forest Service and fixed within 24 hours. If cows enter the burned areas regularly, the permittee will be given a verbal warning. If an additional infraction occurs, all livestock must be removed from the allotment immediately.

Range Improvements

No ground disturbing activities or new construction should be conducted on the Forest by you, or any of your personnel, without approval from the District Ranger. Materials for replacement and heavy maintenance may be provided by the Forest Service as funding allows. Provision of materials for normal yearly maintenance is your responsibility.

You, as the permittee, to mitigate impacts from livestock grazing to areas burned by the Lodgepole Fire, must inspect the fences and water developments below prior to turnout to ensure they are fully functional.

Fences

1. Jeff's Flat South and Slab Barn Boundary Fence #220226.
2. The temporary Slab Barn burned area protection electric fence.
3. Mill Creek Boundary and Divide Fence #220257.
4. The wing fence associated with the new cattle guard. A gate will need to be added to this fence in order for it to be functional.

Water Developments

1. The Slab Barn water development #220577 spring box, pipeline, and the first two troughs on the pipeline where the switchbacks are on the Jeff's Flat road #079, will need to be functional prior to livestock turnout.

All annual maintenance on assigned improvements must be completed per your Term Grazing Permit. They should be kept to a standard of repair which is functional, safe, and acceptable to the Forest Service. Improvements are listed in your Term Grazing Permit and are shown on the allotment map. Failure to complete necessary maintenance may result in the initiation of permit suspension or cancellation procedures in whole or in part.

Other Considerations

Range inspections may occur several times during the grazing season to check maintenance of range improvements, forage utilization, and compliance with this year's grazing rotation. You are invited to participate in inspections conducted on the allotment. We will try to contact you a few days in advance to let you know when we will be looking at your allotment.

Enclosed is a Year-End Grazing Report for you to record Actual Use Data for 2015 and range improvement needs for future grazing seasons. Please record the date and number of livestock turned onto the allotment, the dates livestock are moved to and from each pasture, and the date livestock are removed off the allotment. Accurate records of these dates, maintenance work completed, and future range improvement needs must be returned to our office by December 1, 2015. Please note on the second page our request for your priority reconstruction needs. The Forest Service will use this record to help allocate range betterment funds, which are used to

purchase materials for improvement reconstruction. These reports are also requested annually by United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marines Fisheries Service, so your diligence in accurately completing the forms is appreciate

If you have any questions regarding this AOI, please contact Barry Dopp, Range Management Specialist, at (208) 879-4100. We look forward to working with you this grazing season.

Sincerely,

/S/ KATHERINE L WOOD

KATHERINE L. WOOD
District Ranger

Enclosures:
Year End Grazing Report
2015 Grazing Bill for Collection
Vehicle Use Permit

**Salmon-Challis National Forest
Challis-Yankee Fork & Middle Fork Ranger Districts**

Please fill out this report and return one copy to the District Ranger by: **December 1, 2015**

Allotment Name: **Challis Creek**

Permittee: **Philps**

Actual Number Grazed:

Cows _____ Calves _____ Bulls _____ Horses _____ Ewes _____ Lambs _____

Unit	Number	Date In	Date Out

Losses	Number	Value	Causes of Losses
Cow			
Calves			
Bulls			
Horses			

Calf Weights: On _____ Off _____

Maintenance of Range Improvements:

Permittee Costs for Material \$ _____

Permittee Man Hours Invested _____ @\$ _____ per hour

Herding: Days Spent by Permittee _____ @\$ _____ per day

 Days Spent by Rider _____ @\$ _____ per day

Salting: Amount Placed _____ \$ _____ per unit

Other Costs:
