

*BRIDGER-TETON NATIONAL FOREST
GREYS RIVER RANGER DISTRICT*

**LITTLE GREYS RIVER
2015 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS**

These Annual Operating Instructions are made part of your term grazing permit consistent with Part 1, Item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). It references the meeting held on April 9th. Situations may develop during the grazing season which may require changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, prior approval must be given before initiating any changes or deviating from these instructions.

Only livestock branded according to the Certificate of Brand Registrations provided to the Forest Service will be allowed to graze on the allotment. Confirmation of payment by the Forest Service must be received before livestock will be allowed to graze on National Forest lands. Joe Nield of D Milliron Cattle will continue to be the point of contact for grazing on the allotment.

Table 1.0 Little Greys River Allotment – Permitted/Authorized Grazing Numbers, Kind, Class, & Season of Use

Permittee		Dale & Janelle Clark	D Milliron Cattle Co	Tobe & Cindell West Family Trust
Kind		Cattle	Cattle	Cattle
Permitted	Class	Cow/Calf	Cow/Calf	Cow/Calf
	Numbers	101	284	175
	Season of Use	June 15-Oct 7	June 15-Oct 7	June 15-Oct 7
Authorized	Class	<i>Cow/Calf</i>	<i>Cow/Calf</i>	<i>Cow/Calf</i>
	Numbers	<i>101</i>	<i>284</i>	<i>175</i>
	Season of Use	<i>June 15 - Oct 7</i>	<i>June 15 - Oct 7</i>	<i>June 20 - Oct 7</i>
Pack & Saddle Stock		1	2	2

Table 2.0 Little Greys River Allotment - Proposed Grazing Schedule and Proper Use Guidelines¹

Unit	No. of Days	Proposed Dates	Proper Use Guidelines
Neck (upper)	5	June 22 – June 26	≤50% of key forage species ≥ 4" RSH of graminoids along the greenline
Blind Trail	24	June 27 – July 19	
Stewart Creek	24	July 20 – Aug 12	
McCain	24	Aug 13 – Sept. 5	
Steer Creek	24	Sept. 6 – Sept 29	
River Basin	5	Sept. 30 – Oct 4	
Neck (lower)	3	Oct 5 – Oct 7	

¹Dates are estimates and may vary based upon range readiness, drought, proper use criteria being reach prior to the proposed move date, permittee needs and/or other factors. Utilization will be monitored at key areas of the allotment. Key areas are those areas most preferred by livestock, are typically grazed first, and receive the most concentrated use. Key use areas may change and will be agreed to by the Forest Service and the permittee.

An allotment map is enclosed; this map shows the allotment boundary, unit boundaries, scheduled move dates and other items of interest. Please review and follow it. This map will continue to be updated as necessary at future annual permittee meetings.

Notify us 3-5 days in advance as to when you plan to put your cattle on the allotment.

You are authorized to vary the number of days between unit moves by three days either way. If the need arises to vary the number of days by more than this prior, approval must first be received.

Proper Use Criteria: Proper utilization is 50% in upland forage areas in all units. A 4" to 6" stubble height of riparian species (i.e. sedges) shall be left along the greenline (i.e. stream corridors and wet meadows). Any key area reaching proper utilization means it is time to move to the next scheduled unit to be grazed or to come home.

You are responsible for proper utilization of forage by your cattle. If inspections reveal areas of over utilization or riparian damage, corrective action will be expected (which may mean taking your cattle home early) and action may be taken against your permit.

Equal utilization of the range is the objective. Cattle need to be properly distributed. This requires riding and salting be properly conducted throughout the entire grazing season. Rotate your salting areas during the grazing season and from year to year. Place your salt in good forage producing areas where the cattle do not go by preference. Do not place your salt next to water, roads, established trails, or in open meadows. Moving cattle between units should take no more than three to five days. Please plan accordingly.

Every effort must be taken to completely remove cattle off the National Forest by the scheduled off date. For example, if it requires three days of riding to gather your cattle, then you should start riding three days prior to your scheduled off date.

Maintenance of all your improvements listed in Part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit will be completed at least one week prior to the proposed on date. This allows time for the inspection of your improvements and any potential concerns to be addressed before your livestock enter the allotment. *If your maintenance responsibilities have not been completed to the standards listed in your permit, livestock will not be allowed to enter National Forest lands. Should this become an issue, group maintenance responsibilities will be assigned out on an individual basis.* Other items specifically discussed included the following:

- Forks Division Fence (#3028): All material has been provided by the Forest Service to reconstruct this fence with approximately ½ of this fence reconstructed in 2014. Prior to turn on in 2016 reconstruction of this fence will be completed to F.S. standards.
- Round Up/Bull Hollow (#3033): All material has been provided by the Forest Service to reconstruct this fence. Fence was reconstructed in 2014 excluding a small section requiring clearing of the fence line. Permittees are instructed to clear this fence line and complete reconstruction of this fence prior to turn on in 2016 to F.S. standards. Clearing of the line will occur via chainsaws or other similar equipment.
- Bull Hollow (#3139) and McCain Creek: Put on hold due to personnel changes on the district. These projects will be revisited at the 2016 annual permittee meeting.
- Historic Salting Areas: Permittees requested the continued use of historic salting areas. This request is approved for 2015.

Please let Aaron know of any new noxious weed infestations so we can keep them from becoming established. Spotted/Diffuse Knapweed, Musk Thistle, Canada Thistle, Hound's Tongue, Dalmatian Toadflax and Leafy Spurge are weeds of concern on this allotment. As a reminder certified weed-free hay, cubes, and straw are required on the Forest.

Complete the actual use report and return it to the Greys River Ranger District by December 31st. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Aaron @ 307-828-5115). Thanks for your cooperation in managing this allotment.

/s/ Richard Raione
District Ranger

May 29, 2015
Date

Enclosure (1) Grazing Bill

2015 ACTUAL USE REPORT

BRIDGER-TETON NATIONAL FOREST

GREYS RIVER RANGER DISTRICT

Little Greys Allotment

Permittee Name: _____

Instructions: This form will be returned to the Greys River Ranger District by December 31, 2015. Indicate the TOTAL NUMBER, by each KIND and CLASS of livestock, by PASTURE and the SEASON OF USE for each entry.

KIND of livestock: C = cattle; H = horse; S = sheep

Class of Livestock: c/c = cow/calf, Bull, Cow, Y = Yearling; Ewe, Ram, E/L = ewe/lamb
Forest Service will calculate AUMs

Pasture	Livestock			Season of Use		AUMs ¹
	Total Number	Kind	Class	Date On	Date Off	

¹Forest Service will calculate AUMs

Livestock Losses			Noxious Weed Infestations		
Poisonous Plants`	Predators	Other	Weed	Acres	Pasture

Total permittee contribution to labor/material costs for the maintenance of NFS range improvements: _____ days for labor, \$_____ for materials.

Permittee Signature _____

Date _____

Appendix A: Range Readiness

Livestock will not be placed on the allotment until soils are dry enough to prevent damage to soils/vegetation and when key plants are phenologically ready to be grazed. Range readiness indicators for vegetation are shown below.

Plant Type	Visual	Phenology
GRASS		
Wheatgrass spp.	8 inch plant height	Seed stalk showing
Idaho Fescue	5 inch leave length	Seed head present
Prairie Junegrass	5 inch leave length	Seed head present
Sandberg bluegrass	Plant mature	Seed head in dough stage
Pinegrass	4-6 inch leaves	
Tufted hairgrass	6+ inch height	Seed head present
Kentucky bluegrass		Seed head present
GRASSLIKE		
Nebraska sedge		Seed in late dough
FORBS		
Western Yarrow	Flower stalk showing	
Arrowleaf Balsamroot	$\frac{3}{4}$ leaf development	Blossom beginning
Geranium	4 inch leave length	Flower in bloom
SHRUBS		
Serviceberry		Blossom present
Antelope Bitterbrush		Flower bud swollen
Snowberry		7-8 bud leaves unfolded