



File Code: 2210/2230

Date: May 20, 2015

Lowell Cerise
56 Whiting Road
Salmon, ID 83467

Dear Lowell,

The following letter will document your meeting with Ingrid Drieling on April 14th, 2015 and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) on the Indian Ridge C&H and Sage Creek C&H allotments for the 2015 grazing season. The authorized use for the Indian Ridge C&H and Sage Creek C&H allotments for cattle with the  brand will be as follows:

Permitted Use

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Indian Ridge C&H	Lowell Cerise	140 c/c	741	5/23-10/30
Sage Creek C&H	Lowell Cerise	30 c/c	140	6/1-10/20

Authorized Use for the 2015 Grazing Season

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Indian Ridge C&H	Lowell Cerise	140 c/c	741	5/23-10/30
Sage Creek C&H	Lowell Cerise	30 c/c	140	6/1-10/20

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Number/ Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Indian Ridge C&H	Hull Creek	140 c/c	373	5/27-8/15
	Indian Ridge	140 c/c	350	8/16-10/30
	Hughes Creek	REST		

Sage Creek C&H	Upper Sage	30 c/c	140	6/1-10/20
	Lower Sage			
	Buster Gulch			

Only cattle with the  brand are authorized to graze on the Indian Ridge C&H and Sage Creek C&H allotments. The Annual Operating Instructions are made part of your Term Grazing Permit as per Part 2, Item 8(a) of the General Provisions and Regulations.



Situations may develop during the grazing season which requires changes to these instructions. Dates listed in the authorized use section may vary based on management needs or range readiness and proper use standards. **If changing unit move dates becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, contact Tina Ruffing, the Rangeland Management Specialist assigned to your allotments, and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions.** Changes can be made based on resource objectives, provided the changes are first approved and documented by an authorized officer. Any extension of use beyond the permitted dates will not be authorized.

Allowable Use

The allowable use standards for the Indian Ridge C&H and Sage Creek C&H allotments are listed below. It is your responsibility to be aware and recognize utilization and alteration standards. You must move your livestock to the next unit planned, or off the allotment, when those standards have been met. If you need assistance determining utilization levels please contact Tina and she will assist you. **Once cattle are removed from a unit in accordance with use standards and unit scheduling, they are not allowed to return. Please ensure you clean all livestock from your units.** The Forest Service is responsible for monitoring your compliance with allowable use standards. Monitoring typically occurs within two weeks of your unit move date. Please contact Tina if you would like to join range personnel when monitoring is done on your allotment.

INDIAN RIDGE C&H

Key Area Location	Unit Name Creek Name	Monitoring Attribute	Use Indicator	Key Species	Trigger
M244	Hughes Creek	Browse Use	30%	Alder	25%
	West Fork of Hughes	Greenline Stubble	4 in.	Hydric spp	5 in.
		Bank Alteration	20%	n/a	25%
M308	Hull Creek	Browse Use	30%	Alder	25%
	Hull Creek	Greenline Stubble	4 in.	Hydric spp	5 in.
		Bank Alteration	20%	n/a	15%
Upland Sites	All sites	Utilization	50%	Upland grass spp.	45%
Riparian Areas	All sites	Utilization by key species	50%	Riparian grass spp	45%

Biological Assessment and Opinion Requirements

The Biological Opinion for the Indian Ridge C&H Allotment laid out the following measures to be implemented to avoid and reduce potential impacts to ESA listed fish. The measures are as follows:

1. All livestock use on the Allotment will be regulated by applying specific move triggers and annual use indicator standards on each Unit.

2. A rest rotation grazing system will continue to be used. Resting a unit each year provides benefits to riparian vegetation. This will help meet SCNF long term riparian resource objective for greenline successional status.
3. The on date will be varied so that livestock will be placed on the allotment at range readiness. This will reduce the potential for bank alteration. This will help meet SCNF long term riparian resource objective for bank stability.
4. Annual use indicators will dictate when livestock are moved between units or off the allotment within the terms of the term grazing permit including moves in response to fish spawning. Annual use indicators will be monitored by SCNF Forest Service personnel.
5. Permittees will continue to place mineral supplements at least one-fourth mile away from creeks.
6. Permittees will continue to distribute livestock away from streams and associated riparian areas (ride) at least once every two weeks.
7. Fences and water developments have been placed to reduce livestock use on streams and their associated riparian areas. These improvements will be maintained to function as designed.

Sage Creek C&H

Key Area Location	Unit Creek	Monitoring Attribute	Use Indicator
Riparian Sites	Upper Sage Creek	Use of the current annual growth of key shrubs (willows)	50% maximum
Upland Sites	Lower Sage Creek	Use of current annual growth of key herbaceous species	50% maximum

Actual Use and Improvement Maintenance Reports

Your accurate documentation of actual use and maintenance is vital to the yearly allotment record. Numbers, move dates, riding and photos are all items used to compile End of Year reports written by your Rangeland Management Specialist. These reports are submitted yearly to the service agencies and published on the web.

Actual use and range improvement maintenance forms have been included for you to complete and return within 30 days of your off date.

Range Improvements

Range improvements listed in Part 3 of your grazing permit **must** be maintained prior to livestock entering the allotment. Contact Tina to discuss materials and supplies for any improvements that are in need of re-construction.

General Management

The grazing fees for 2015 are the base rate of \$1.69 per head month. Payment of your grazing bill is due prior to your earliest turnout date.

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 motorized use are shown on a motor vehicle use map (MVUM). Motor vehicle use maps may be obtained at any Salmon-Challis Ranger District office. 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. **Effective March 20th, 2015 the Salmon Challis National Forest requires a Vehicle Use Permit, signed by the District Ranger, for ALL closed roads or off road travel. This must be displayed in windshield for Trucks or carried on ATV's, UTV's and Motorcycles. Contact your Rangeland Management Specialist to obtain a Vehicle Use Permit for any closed road or off-road travel.**

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.

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.

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. 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.

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

If you have any questions regarding any of the allotments for which you have permits, please call Tina Ruffing at (208) 756-5226 or myself at (208) 756-5247.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jay T. Winfield

JAY WINFIELD
District Ranger

Encl: Improvement Maintenance and Actual Use Record