



File Code: 2210/2230
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Shiner Ranches
PO Box 26
Lemhi, ID 83464

Dear Dean and Stephen,

The following letter will document your meeting with Ingrid Drieling on May 8, 2015 and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) on the Peterson Creek C&H and Upper Hayden Creek C&H allotments for the 2015 grazing season. The authorized use for the Upper Hayden and Peterson Creek C&H allotments with the  and  brands will be as follows:

Permitted Use

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Peterson Creek C&H	Shiner Ranches	12 c/c	36	8/1-10/30
Upper Hayden C&H	Shiner Ranches	500 c/c	1512	7/1-9/30

Authorized Use for the 2015 Grazing Season

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Peterson Creek C&H	Shiner Ranches	12 c/c	36	8/1-10/30
Upper Hayden C&H	Shiner Ranches	475 c/c 25 bulls	1512	7/1-9/30

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Peterson Creek C&H	Peterson Creek	12 c/c	36	8/1-10/30

Upper Hayden C&H	Payne/Ford	475 c/c 25 bulls	510	7/1-7/31
	Kadletz	475 c/c 25 bulls	361	8/1-8/22
	Tobias/Mogg	475 c/c 25 bulls	345	8/23-9/12
	Apple Creek	475 c/c 25 bulls	164	9/13-9/22
	Boulder Flat	475 c/c 25 bulls	132	9/23-9/30
	Upper Hayden			REST

Only cattle with the  and  brands are authorized to graze on the Peterson Creek C&H and Upper Hayden 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 require 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 Ingrid Drieling 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 Peterson Creek C&H and Upper Hayden 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 Ingrid Drieling 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 your Range Specialists if you would like to join them when monitoring your allotment.

Upper Hayden

Key Area Locations	Unit Creek	Monitoring Attribute	Use Indicator	Key Species	Trigger
M226	Boulder Flat Unit Hayden Creek	Greenline stubble	6 in	Carex	7 in
		Bank Alteration	<20%	n/a	15%
M262	Apple Creek Unit Apple Creek	Greenline stubble ³	5 in.	Hydric spp	6 in.
		Bank Alteration	<20%	n/a	15%
M261	Tobias/Mogg Unit– East Fork Hayden Creek	Greenline stubble ³	4 in.	Hydric spp	5 in.
		Browse Use	30% 50%	Alder Willow	25% 45%
		Bank Alteration	<20%	n/a	15%
M260	Boulder Flat Unit– Tobias Creek	Greenline stubble	4 in	Carex	5 in
		Bank Alteration	<20%	n/a	15%
M207	Tobias/Mogg Unit – Squaw Creek	Greenline stubble ³	4 in.	Hydric spp	5 in.
		Bank Alteration	<20%	n/a	15%
M259	Payne/Ford Unit Ford Creek	Greenline stubble ³	4 in.	Hydric spp	5 in.
		Browse Use	30% 50%	Alder Willow	25% 45%
		Bank Alteration	<15%	n/a	10%
M258	Kadletz Unit– Kadletz Creek ¹	Greenline stubble	4 or 6 in ²	Carex	5 or 7 in
		Bank Alteration	<20%	n/a	15%
Upland Areas	All Units	Utilization by Key Species	50%	Upland grass species	45%
Riparian Areas	All Units	Utilization by Key Species	50%	Riparian grass species	45%

*Bank alterations level in Payne/Ford cannot exceed 10% prior to July 7th and 15% after July 7th (steelhead)

Biological Assessment and Opinion Requirements

The Biological Opinion for the Upper Hayden 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. A rest rotation grazing system will continue to be used. Resting a unit each year provides benefits to riparian vegetation. This will help meet our long term riparian resource objective for greenline successional status.
2. The on date will be varied so that livestock will be placed on the allotment at range readiness. This will reduce potential for bank alteration. This will help meet our long term riparian resource objective for bank stability.
3. 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. This will help us meet our long term riparian resource objectives. Annual use indicators will be monitored by Forest Service personnel.
4. Permittees will continue to salt at least ¼ mile away from creeks. This will continue to reduce potential impacts on spawning areas and designated critical habitat.
5. Permittees will continue to distribute livestock away from streams and associated riparian areas (ride) at least once every two weeks, reducing potential impacts on spawning areas and designated critical habitat. **Riding two times per week is necessary after August 23rd.**
6. Fences and water developments have been placed to reduce livestock use on streams and their associated riparian areas. This will continue to reduce impacts on spawning areas and designated critical habitat.

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 your Rangeland Management Specialist to discuss materials and supplies for any improvements that are in need of re-construction.

You were provided with an improvement list and map to document the condition of the Range Improvements on your allotment. Please complete the document and return it to your Rangeland Management Specialist.

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 motor vehicle use map (MVUM). 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.** Motor vehicle use maps may be obtained at any Salmon-Challis Ranger District.

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 Ingrid Drieling at (208) 768-2516 or myself at (208) 756-5247.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jay Winfield

JAY WINFIELD
District Ranger

Encl: Improvement Maintenance and Actual Use Records