

File Code: 2210/2230  
Date: June 3, 2015

Peterson Land and Livestock  
PO Box 85  
Leadore, ID 83464

Dear Lee Creek Permittees,

The following letter will document your meeting with Ingrid Drieling, James Whittaker, David and Merit Udy on May 26th, 2015 and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) on the Lee Creek C&H allotment for the 2015 grazing season. The authorized use for the Lee Creek C&H allotment for cattle 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>
Lee Creek C&H	James Whittaker	151 c/c	303	6/16-8/15
Lee Creek C&H	Udy Estates	58 c/c	116	6/16-8/15
Lee Creek C&H	Peterson Land and Livestock	254 c/c	509	6/16-8/15

**Authorized Use for the 2015 Grazing Season**

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>H. M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Lee Creek C&H	James Whittaker	151 c/c	303	6/16-8/15
Lee Creek C&H	Thomas C. Udy	58 c/c	116	6/16-8/15
Lee Creek C&H	Peterson Land and Livestock	254 c/c	509	6/16-8/15

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
<b>Lee Creek C&amp;H</b>	Walters Creek	463 c/c	244	6/16-7/1
	Lee Creek	463 c/c	228	7/2-7/16
	Everson Creek	463 c/c	259	7/17-8/2
	Big Eighthmile	463 c/c	198	8/3-8/15

Only cattle with the , , and  brands are authorized to graze on the Lee Creek C&H allotment. 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 Lee Creek C&H allotment 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 Sara Norman 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.

Key Area Location	Unit – Creek	Monitoring Attribute	Annual Use Indicator	Key Species	Trigger
MIM M257	Everson Unit- Stroud Creek	Greenline stubble	4in	Hydric spp.	5 in
		Bank alteration	<20%	N/A	15%
MIM M292	Everson Unit- Everson Creek	Greenline stubble	4 in	Hydric spp.	5in
		Bank alteration	<20%	N/A	15%
MIM M256	Big 8mile Unit- Big 8mile Creek	Greenline stubble	4in	Hydric spp.	5 in
		Bank alteration	20%	N/A	15%
		Browse Use	50%	Willow	45%
MIM M315	Big 8mile Unit- Dairy Creek	Greenline stubble	4in.	Hydric spp.	5in.
		Browse Use	50%	Willow	45%
		Bank alteration	20%	N/A	15%
Upland sites	All Units	Utilization	Up to 50%	Upland grass species	45%
Riparian Areas	All Units	Utilization by Key Species	50%	Riparian grass species	45%

**Conservation Measures**

The following measures will be implemented as part of the Lee Creek C&H Allotment’s Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) to avoid and reduce potential impacts to ESA-listed fish. Chinook salmon, steelhead and bull trout considerations are:

1. A deferred rotation grazing system will continue to be used. Early season use 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) **one day every two weeks**, reducing potential impacts on spawning areas and designated critical habitat.
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.

The following improvements were discussed for the Lee Creek C&H Allotment:

- Had some issues with the gate between Walters and Lee Creek being closed to move between units
- Cattle guards at Lee Creek boundary fences between units are full and need cleaned out
- Lee Creek/Walters fence need to replace 1/2 mile of wire fence
  - Jacks and poles at riparian fence in Lee Creek
- Dairy Creek trough #1 needs a 6' round liner to make it function
- Ferry Creek water development was abandoned in the 90's - fence should be knocked down and piled
- Moon Springs is not functioning and needs to be fixed. Please check to see if you need a new trough and head box etc.

### **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 20<sup>th</sup>, 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 Sara Norman at (208) 768-2505 or myself at (208) 756-5247.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Jay Winfield*

JAY WINFIELD  
District Ranger

Cc: James Whittaker and Thomas C. Udy

Encl: Improvement Maintenance and Actual Use Records