



File Code: 2210/2230

Date: June 3, 2015

Ellsworth Angus  
PO Box 60  
Leadore, ID 83464

Dear Carl,

The following letter will document your meeting with Ingrid Drieling on June 2nd, 2015 and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) on the Nez Perce C&H allotment for the 2015 grazing season. The authorized use for the Nez Perce 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>
Nez Perce C&H	Ellsworth Angus	150 yearling	404	7/1-9/20
Nez Perce C&H	Y Livestock	50 yearling	135	7/1-9/20

**Authorized Use for the 2015 Grazing Season**

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Nez Perce C&H	Ellsworth Angus	150 yearling	404	7/1-9/20
Nez Perce C&H	Y Livestock	36 c/c and 10 yearling	122	7/1-9/20

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Number/ Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Nez Perce C&H	Nez Perce	160 yearling & 36 c/c	196	7/1-7/31
	Deer Creek	160 yearling & 36 c/c	206	8/1-9/1
	Dry Creek	160 yearling & 36 c/c	122	9/2-9/20
	Mountain Boy			REST

Only cattle with the  and  brands are authorized to graze on the Nez Perce 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 Nez Perce 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 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.

**Nez Perce C&H**

Key Area Locations	Unit – Creek	Monitoring Attribute	Annual Use Indicator	Key Species	Trigger
MIM M 228	Deer Creek Unit – Deer Cr.	Browse use	50% 30%	Willow Alder	45% 25%
		Greenline Stubble	4 in.	Hydric spp.	5 in.
		Bank Alteration	20%	N/A	15%
Upland Sites	All Units	Utilization	50%	Upland grass species	45%
Riparian Areas	All Units	Utilization by Key Species	50%	Riparian grass species	45%

**Biological Assessment and Opinion Requirements**

The Biological Opinion for the Nez Perce 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 streams. This will continue to reduce potential impacts on riparian areas, spawning areas and designated and proposed critical habitat.
5. Permittees will use riders to direct livestock away from streams and associated riparian areas at least once every two weeks, reducing potential impacts on 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 riparian areas, spawning areas and designated and proposed 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.

The following improvements were discussed for the Nez Perce C&H Allotment:

- Fence #4080 between Deer Creek and Mountain Boy needs reconstructed. Need to get T-posts and wire.

### **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 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