

**Cherryville Cattle Allotment
2011 Annual Operating Instructions**

I. Livestock Management:

Cherryville Cattle Association-Grazing Agreement

Permitted numbers: 145 head, 9 of which are yearlings

Share holders: Chatterton's, Lazy JC-Steve Chatterton

Jensen, Sid

Jensen, Randy

Kind: Cattle

Class: Cow/Calf

Period of Use: From June 11 through September 25

II. Grazing Management:

Year	Lower Maple Crk.	Upper Maple Crk.	Lower Crooked Crk.	Upper Crooked Crk.	Lower Deep Crk.	Upper Deep Crk.
2011	6/11-7/31	8/1-9/25	REST	REST	6/11-7/31	8/1-9/25

These dates are tentative and may change due to range conditions.

The cattle will be placed in the lower units at the start of the grazing season and when proper use* is obtained the cattle will be moved into the upper units. Crooked Creek will be rested this year (2011).

Woody species utilization is more applicable to the streams on this allotment. See table below for woody species utilization standards. For example, utilization on willows, cottonwoods and dogwoods should not exceed 40% of current leader growth in mid season (mid July to mid August). These standards enable woody species to regenerate and maintain healthy populations.

Riparian Forage Utilization Site –Specific Standards in the AIZ* (Aquatic influence zone)

Season of Use	Properly Functioning Condition (% Stubble Height)	Functioning at Risk** (High to Moderate) (% Stubble Height)	Functioning at Risk (Low) to Non Functioning (% Stubble Height)	Non Functioning (States C&D) (% Stubble Height)
Spring	65/2	55/3	45/4	55/3
Summer	55/3	45/4	35/5	45/4
Fall	45/4	35/5	20/6+	35/5
% Woody Species	45%	40%	30%	

Table from GIG (2005) Table 6. Pg 48. Except for woody species taken from RFP Table 4.1.
 * Functional-at-Risk: Riparian – wetland areas that are in functional condition, but an existing soil, water, or vegetation attribute makes them susceptible to degradation.
 ** Aquatic Influence Zone (AIZ): the area encompassing aquatic and riparian ecosystems and adjacent lands which directly affect the hydrologic, geomorphic, and ecological processes controlling aquatic and riparian ecosystem health and function.
 The three categories refer to the time of season the livestock are in riparian areas (e.g. early/mid/late summer).

Deep Creek – Proper functioning condition, 2/3/4 inches stubble height.
 Crooked and Maple Creek – Functioning at risk, 3, 4, 5 inches stubble height.

Livestock grazing use in the **uplands** should not exceed 55% of current year’s growth on key herbaceous species and 35% on key browse species in the upper pastures (RFP 3-43). A small portion of the lower pastures are considered winter range and the following use applies: herbaceous species 45% of current year’s growth and 20% of current year’s growth of browse species. There is no critical winter range on the allotment. Monitoring will include using utilization cages, utilization scales, ocular estimates or a combination of these. Use is measured on key grass species such Idaho Fescue, bluebunch wheatgrass and mountain brome.

Upland Forage Utilization		
Type of Upland	Winter Range	Non winter range
Grass and herbaceous Species (% dry weight)	45	55
Shrubs (% annual leader growth)	20	35

PLEASE NOTE: Under the Revised Forest Plan for the Caribou National Forest (2003) 4-52. Utilization measurements are taken from native and desirable nonnative key plant species as recorded at the end of the grazing period (when the livestock leave the unit /pasture).

As the season progresses, Forest Personnel will be routinely checking range and forage conditions. If monitoring determines that there is a shortage of forage production, or other associated resources are sustaining unacceptable impacts, early removal of the livestock from the allotment will occur if all scheduled units have been grazed. If livestock are removed from the Forest early, your remaining grazing fees will be credited to next year’s fee. A request for credit must be made on the Actual Use form.

Results of 2010 monitoring: Upland utilization was within standards at the time of measuring on 7/15. Lower Deep creek was within 84% of proper use on this date or 46% use on bluebunch wheatgrass. Cattle left the unit on August 1st, an estimate of 11 days past the date of Proper Use. On 7/15 Lower Crooked Creek was within 55% of proper use on this date or 30% use on bluebunch wheatgrass. An additional 27 days remain before proper use is met. The cattle left the unit on August 1st leaving an additional 10 days. However, with the steep terrain and drying feed on the lower

elevations, moving to the upper unit ahead of time was wise, to help reduce impacts to the riparian areas where the cattle would be most likely to frequent.

III. Range Improvement Maintenance:

The permittees are responsible for maintaining improvements to standards of repair, orderliness, and safety, acceptable to the Forest Officer in charge. All maintenance must be completed prior to the turnout of livestock.

IV. Range Improvement Projects:

Any improvements, which in your judgment would improve management of the allotment, should be discussed with the Range Staff. Trail work on Deep Creek will be continued this year. The proposal is to start from upper White Canyon and work down to the Forest Boundary.

Maple Burn: A prescribed fire was completed on the north side of Maple Creek, along Morgan Ridge. Fence lines were black lined, juniper and maple were cut and piled from the fence and the interior was burned. Big tooth maple and juniper were the target species. Fire intensity was light and patchy. Cattle will be allowed to graze Morgan Ridge in 2011. Additional work will be completed on the south side of lower Maple Creek drainage and Indian Flat. Contract work for 323 acres of maple cutting/thinning will be completed in mid July 2011. In the fall (September), the area will be burned. Cattle will be allowed to graze this area before the burn occurs. In the future, grazing rotations and season of use will be modified to accommodate this burn and allow for vegetation to recover before grazing resumes. You will be notified in advance of the upcoming burn so these changes can be made.

V. Trailing and/or Trucking:

Livestock may be trailed or trucked to the Forest; however, permission may have to be obtained from adjacent private landowners and other public land managing agencies.

VI. Special Instructions:

The Morgan Ridge fence will be maintained prior to turnout of livestock. The adjacent permittee will be notified and responsible for his half of the fence.

Riding of the rest units is advised to ensure permitted or trespass cattle are not in the units.

Follow proper use guidelines for utilization in the uplands and riparian areas.

Please become familiar with the terms and conditions of your grazing permit.

Please inform the District Office, especially during entry dates, of a convenient time and place to enable an accurate count of livestock to be made.

Actual Use Forms must be returned by November 30th following the grazing season. Failure to do so may result in Permit Action.

This year all AOI's will be posted on the internet. In conjunction with this action all permittees must sign the AOI verifying that they have read it and accepted the terms, conditions, and management practices presented in it.

As a reminder, bills must be paid prior to the grazing season.

VII. Wolf Recovery Management:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is now responsible for managing wolves in the State of Idaho.

The following statement came from the Idaho Fish and Game web site 2/17/11
<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/wildlife/wolves/current.cfm>

Current Legal Status

August 5, 2010, wolf management south of Interstate 90 reverted to a section of the Endangered Species Act known as the 10(j) rule.

Simply put, the 10(j) rule allows states and tribes with approved wolf management plans some options to manage wolves to ensure the health of wild elk and deer herds. It also provides more flexibility to protect livestock and private property. The rule allows individuals on private or public land to kill a wolf that is in the act of attacking their stock animals (horses, mules, donkey, llamas, goats used to transport people and possessions) or dogs provided there is no evidence of intentional baiting, feeding or deliberate attractants of wolves. On land north of Interstate 90 in Idaho, or land administered by the National Park Service, wolves may be killed only to protect human life.

For wolf sightings, wolf mortalities or wolf management questions, contact:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Idaho State Office - Toll-free at: 877-661-1908

To report suspected wolf depredations on livestock or pets, contact

USDA Wildlife Services: Toll-free at: 866-487-3297 or 208-378-5077

VIII. Multiple-Use Coordination Requirements:

Livestock should be carefully managed so as to avoid and reduce conflicts with other resources and uses.

The 2005 Revised Travel Plan for the Caribou-Targhee National Forest affects the allotment in the following manner: An area, bounded on the east by the ridge between Franklin Basin and Maple Creek drainage; on the south by the Utah-Idaho State line; on the west and north by the boundary of the proposed wilderness study area, will be closed to all motorized vehicles. All the allotment fences will be in the travel restriction areas. If ATV's are needed in the closed areas to complete improvement maintenance, prior written permission must be obtained from Dennis Duehren-District Ranger. The bottom

of Maple Creek has a short section of designated ATV trail which goes over Morgan Ridge and connects to the Sugar Creek trail.

IX. Certified Weed Free Hay:

Any hay or straw brought on the Forest must be certified, "Weed free".

If you have questions or concerns during the grazing season, please call me or the range staff on the zone.

	Office	Cell
Dennis Duehren - District Ranger	(208) 847-0375	
Kevin Parker – Supervisory Range Specialist	(208) 547- 4356	(208)313-7328
Jane Rushane – Range Specialist	(208) 847 - 0375 (208) 847 - 8939	(208) 313- 5683

Please sign and date:

Permittees: signed 5/16/2011

/s/ Randy Jensen

/s/ Claine Jensen

/s/ Casey Jensen

/s/ Sid Jensen

/s/ Steve Chatterton

/s/ Dennis Duehren

District Ranger

5/23/2011

Date