

Annual Operating Instructions Cattle and Horse Allotments

For the
Teton Basin Ranger District
Idaho/Wyoming
Driggs, Idaho

2011

Caribou- Targhee National Forest
Intermountain Region

Pine Creek C&H Allotment
3L land and Cattle, Heath Lewis
2011

PLEASE CONTACT US FIVE DAYS IN ADVANCE OF STOCKING THE ALLOTMENT

PERMIT INFORMATION

Number of livestock authorized to graze this year.	Season of Use
53 head of cow/calf pairs.	06/11 to 09/30

This allotment is grazed season long, and does not have a rest-rotation system. The planned system will be to scatter the permitted cattle over the entire allotment for the full season, keeping them scattered and away from creek bottoms and other congested areas through proper salting and good herding practices.

Permittee has requested to graze 53 spayed yearlings instead of cow/calf pairs. District Ranger has authorized to graze yearling cattle on a trial basis. However, the nature of yearling cattle is to travel and if the cattle stray off of the allotment they are to be removed and returned to private pastures. Yearling cattle will be charged the same as a cow/calf pair.

COMPLIANCE

This AOI is a yearly agreement that is part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8 (a). It is a working document, and situations may develop during the grazing season which requires changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, contact the District Ranger and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions.

GRAZING STANDARDS

The Revised Targhee Forest Plan Standards are as follows:

1. Within the Aquatic Influence Zone (AIZ):
 - a. At least four inches of stubble must remain along the hydric greenline (HGL) at the end of the grazing period. The HGL is the first permanent vegetation next to the waters edge.
 - b. Away from the HGL, at least three inches of stubble will be left on the key riparian species at the end of the grazing period.
2. No more than 30 percent use of the current year's growth is allowed on the woody riparian vegetation (i.e., willows)

3. Allowable use on grasses and forbs in the uplands is 45 percent (dry weight); on upland shrubs (i.e., mountain mahogany) it is 35 percent of the current year's growth.

Once these use rates are reached the cattle will have to be moved to the next unit or they may be required to leave the Forest prior to the end of the grazing season. As you know this can be a concern due to the possibility of a below normal moisture summer ahead. Please consider how you may be able to accommodate your livestock on alternate feed sources if they are required to leave the Forest prior to the end of the grazing season.

OWNERSHIP

Cattle grazed under the Term Grazing Permit, must be owned by the term permit holder and branded with brand(s) authorized by the permit.

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

Fences and water developments will be maintained prior to cattle entering the allotment. The cattle access trails that were constructed through thick stands of brush and trees should be maintained to ensure cattle may utilize available forage in the uplands to lessen the use in the riparian areas.

We would like to review the allotment with you this summer to assess the needs of range improvements and overall management of the allotment. The authorized officer will contact you with a meeting date.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping in the control of noxious weeds. Remember, all livestock feed or straw brought on to the forest has to be certified weed free. We will be treating weeds again this season. Please report to us any new weed patches we have not been treating in the past.

MOTORIZED ACCESS

The Revised Targhee Forest Plan restricts motorized travel to designated routes only. For administrative purposes, grazing permittee(s) will be issued a permit to travel cross-country to maintain facilities for up to two vehicles per week. This permit should be adequate to allow you to repair water troughs, fences, and other range improvements. These improvements can be identified in your Term Grazing Permit on pages 6-8. For projects that will require the permittee to travel off designated routes for more than two times per week an additional permit will be required. **Remember**, anywhere you drive the public will follow.

ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT

