

**2011 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS
NORTH ELKHORN CATTLE ALLOTMENT**

This is your Annual Operating Instructions for the North Elkhorn C&H Allotment. These Instructions are part of your Term Grazing Permit as specified in Part 2, Number 8 (a) of your permit.

As part of the Terms & Conditions of your Permit, Part 2 Number 8 (i), **all range improvements and maintenance on fences and water developments must be completed before cattle enter the forest.** Non-use does not relieve any permittee from their range improvement maintenance responsibility.

Before livestock enter the forest, your grazing fees must be paid and notice received in this office. Failure to follow this procedure is a violation of your permit.

NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK COW/CALF BY PERMITTEE

<u>PERMITEE</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>NON-USE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Meadow Haven Ranch	32	0	32
Cris Davis	51	0	51
Steve Criddle	28	0	28
Bill Egan	36	0	36
TOTAL	147	0	147

PERMITTED SEASON OF USE

APPROXIMATELY June 1 through September 30

ROTATION:

Rotation	Unit	Number	Days
1 st	Potter Riparian	79 (Criddle & Davis)	10
	South Hawkins Riparian	68 (Egan & Meadow Haven)	10
2 nd	Cottrell Unit	147	65
3 rd	Upper Potter Basin	147 (Entire Herd)	35

PROPER UTILIZATION FOR ALL UNITS

Once proper use is achieved in a select or key area, cattle must be moved regardless of how much feed is left in the upper country for that unit.

Riparian Forage Utilization	Utilization Criteria
Herbaceous Utilization (AIZ)*	Utilization in the Aquatic Influence Zone at the end of the grazing period will be 50%. (e.g. poa, redtop, etc)
Stubble Height (AIZ)*	Allowable stubble height measurements in the AIZ will vary between 3 to 6 inches at the end of the grazing period depending on the time of grazing and the condition of the stream.
Stubble Height (Greenline)*	Allowable stubble height measurements, along the greenline, will be 6 inches at the end of the grazing period. (e.g. carex)
Herbaceous Utilization (Greenline)	Utilization at the greenline at the end of the grazing period will be 50% depending on the time of grazing and the condition of the stream.
% Woody Species utilization	Allowable woody utilization 40%
% Cumulative Bank Disturbance (Alteration)	Refers to annual physical disturbance of alternation of the bank by livestock trampling. Allowable disturbance shall not exceed 15 %.

Upland Forage Utilization	Utilization Criteria
Grass and herbaceous species (% dry weight)	Utilization of upland forage species on this allotment should not exceed 35% of key species (Blue Bunch Wheat Grass and Idaho Fescue) in critical winter range and 50% for non-winter range.
Shrubs (% Annual leader growth)	Utilization in the uplands 10% in critical winter range and 25 to 35% in non-winter range.

MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Once a unit is grazed, any drift back is detrimental. The objective of rotational grazing is to give vegetation and soils time for recovery in order to promote continued and increased productivity.

Riding and salting away from bottoms is a very important management tool. Salt must be located at least a ¼ of a mile from water, meadows, and roads.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

A forest closure order exists for any hay or straw used in association with your permit and must be certified and tagged as noxious weed or noxious weed seed free as directed by that order.

Please notify our office of any noxious weed populations on your allotment, so that a crew can be sent to map and treat them.

Any change that deviates from these Annual Operation Instructions must be made in advance and be in writing by the District Ranger

At the end of the grazing season, cattle must be herded, not drifted home. Cattle on the forest after September 30th are not authorized.

Please contact Chris Colt at 236-7506 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jeffery J. Hammes

JEFFERY J. HAMMES
Westside District Ranger

NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
Meadow Haven Ranch	<i>/s/ Lynn S. Bastian</i>	<i>3/16/2011</i>
Cris Davis	<i>/s/ Cris G. Davis</i>	<i>3/16/2011</i>
Steve Criddle		
Bill Egan		