

Subject: Letter of objectives for the Sula Peak and East Fork Grazing Allotments

The Letter of Instructions (LOI) is used in addition to your Term Grazing Permit to specify terms and conditions, and management goals for this allotment. It provides specific items such as direction for management of livestock, monitoring and communication procedures to and from district personnel. All requirements of your Term Grazing Permit and INFISH remain in force, unless specifically noted below.

Grazing Permit for Sula Peak LLC

Allotment	Permit	Class	Factor	Number Allotted	On Date	Off Date	AUM's*
East Fork	Term	Cow/calf	1.32	157	06/01	09/30	829
Horse & Daniels Pasture	Term	Cow/calf	1.32	5	05/16	10/31	36
Sula Peak	Term	Cow/calf	1.32	82	06/01	09/30	433

* AUM is number allotted x factor x number of months grazed

1) GRAZING MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

A) Keep units free of cattle after the off date.

B) The season of use described above is an estimated time period that livestock will be allowed on the allotment. The season of use may be increased or decreased based on weather conditions, allowable use levels, range readiness, or other conditions affecting forage and water availability.

C) The permittee will notify the Range Specialist five (5) days in advance of the date permitted livestock will be brought on and off the allotment and when moving between pastures.

D) Allowable use is the maximum level of grazing that is authorized to occur on the allotment. Removal of dispersment of cattle will be required if allowable levels are met before the scheduled off date. Allowable use levels for this allotment is 50% utilization in summer range areas, and 35% in winter range. Relevant management requirements of the Bitterroot Forest Plan and INFISH are also to be adhered to.

3) UNIT STOCKING AND ROTATION

Based on the Annual Application, the following numbers of livestock are authorized for the 2010 season;

Unit	Numbers	Class	On Date	Off Date
East Fork Daniels/Horse Pasture	25	c/c	06/01	06/30
East Fork	150	c/c	06/01	07/15

Dates are tentative depending upon how permittee distributes his cattle, proper use, water availability and climatic conditions. Although spring has been cool and wet, low snow pack this

past winter could cause conditions to dry out quickly when summer heat hits. Therefore, it may be necessary to pull cattle off the allotment early.

4) ENTERING THE FOREST

A) The current year's grazing fees will be paid at least 5 days before the on-date of the grazing season or prior to the time livestock enter the National Forest unless prior arrangements have been made.

5) GENERAL MANAGEMENT

A) The Forest Officer normally confirms or adjusts the on-date based on range readiness at least 10 days prior to the above stated on-date. Please notify this office seven days before you plan to take cattle to the Forest.

B) Dates are tentative depending upon weather, forage and other considerations, but will be followed as close as possible. Please notify the Forest Service of any deviation from this schedule.

C) Two days before the cattle are to be moved from any pasture, gates may be opened to start movement to the new pasture. All cattle should be in the new pasture and gates closed by the agreed upon dates stated above. This will be accomplished by frequent riding (3-4 times a week). Riders will distribute salt to the next unit, remove from the previous unit, and concentrate on following up to assure that each unit is completely gathered within a few days of the end of use period.

D) Before entering the allotment this year, a cattle count will be taken. The Forest Service should be notified in advance of the on-date, in order to be available at the time and date specified by the permittee. This will validate the use on this allotment and the Term Grazing Permit.

E) Salting will be used to disperse livestock. Single blocks will be used at any one salting area. Salt should be used to draw cattle into areas of low use and removed when areas have received proper use. At the end of the grazing season, all residual salt will be removed from salt grounds and the allotment. Salt only the units or areas where stock should be. Do not salt the whole allotment in advance; salt progressively with stock movement. Please do not place salt in areas where new tree plantations are being established, within 500 feet of water or on open ridges in primary range.

F) Riding will be necessary to disperse cattle and achieve more uniform use throughout the allotment.

G) Any concentrations of cattle in riparian zones shall be moved and dispersed into areas of low use. Cattle utilization will not exceed 35 percent on big game winter range. The riparian pastures may be used temporarily as holding pastures while gathering, sorting, or moving.

H) The permittee, or his agents, is authorized to be behind closed gates on the East Fork and Sula Peak Allotments May 15th to October 15th for livestock management purposes. This also applies to the 2% Saddle and Robbins Gulch/Medicine Tree road closed gates for the purpose of access into these allotments.

6) RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

Range improvements will be maintained annually to standards of original construction. Improvements must be maintained before stock reach the respective pastures, otherwise cattle will not be turned on or moved and may be requested for removal from the allotment.

A) All work done with a bulldozer, tractor, backhoe, or other earth moving equipment must be approved in advance by the District Ranger.

B) Assigned water developments are to be maintained for livestock use during the planned period of use.

C) All fences, and water developments will be maintained and in good repair prior to cattle turn on.

7) FOREST FIRE CONTROL

Permittees and their managers are expected to take all reasonable precautions to prevent fires, to make diligent efforts to suppress fires, and to report all fires endangering NFS lands to the Sula Ranger district or the Bitterroot National Forest dispatcher at 363-7134.

All internal combustion engines used on the Forest will be equipped with a serviceable spark arrestor and/or muffler. Caution is also required when using vehicles off developed roads.

All burning requires prior approval by the District Ranger.

8) CONTACT

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