OLA C
CATTLE AND HORSE ALLOTMENT
2011 Annual Operating Instructions
Emmett Ranger District
Boise National Forest

INTRODUCTION

The Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) provide direction for livestock management and how it will be conducted on the Ola C Cattle and Horse allotment during the 2011 grazing season.

Allotment	Permittee	Permit Number
Ola C C&H	Carroll Carlock	00229
Ola C C&H	Tom and/or Drew Blessinger	00273
Ola C C&H	R. Vaughn Spiker	02210
Ola C C&H	J.R. Simplot Company	02246
Ola C C&H	Tom and/or Drew Blessinger	PL276

Permitted Use				
Permittee	**Allotment**	**No. of Livestock**	**Livestock Class**	**Permitted Season**
Carlock	Ola C C&H	100	Cow/Calf	6/16 – 10/31
Blessinger	Ola C C&H	115	Cow/Calf	6/16 – 10/31
Spiker	Ola C C&H	197	Cow/Calf	6/16 – 10/31
Simplot	Ola C C&H	232	Cow/Calf	6/16 – 10/31
Blessinger	Ola C C&H	4	Cow/Calf	6/16 – 10/31

Authorized Use				
Permittee	**Allotment**	**No. of Livestock**	**Livestock Class**	**Authorized Season**
Carlock	Ola C C&H	100	Cow/Calf	6/14 – 10/31
Blessinger	Ola C C&H	115	Cow/Calf	6/15 – 10/31
Spiker	Ola C C&H	197	Cow/Calf	6/14 – 10/31
Simplot	Ola C C&H	232	Cow/Calf	6/16 – 10/31
Blessinger	Ola C C&H	4	Cow/Calf	6/15 – 10/31

Non-Use				
Permittee	**Allotment**	**No. of Livestock**	**Resource Protection**	**Personal Convenience**
Carlock	Ola C			
Blessinger	Ola C			
Spiker	Ola C			
Simplot	Ola C			
Blessinger	Ola C			

Season of Use (June 16 to October 31) (80 percent off by October 10, remainder by October 31)
Permitted Pack and Saddle Stock – Up to eight head at the Second Fork Cow Camp

Permitted Livestock Brands:

Carroll Carlock

Tom and/or Drew Blessinger

R. Vaughn Spiker

J. R. Simplot Company

COMPLIANCE

This AOI is made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). Situations may develop during the grazing season that require 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.

All hay, straw, and mulch products used on the Boise National Forest must be certified as weed-free or weed/seed-free by a qualified inspector of the State of Idaho or neighboring states which have weed-free feed or crop certification programs (Region Special Order Number: 04-00-097).

PREVIOUS YEAR GRAZING RESULTS

The 2010 schedule required Second Fork Squaw Creek to be used first, followed by Wilson Meadows, followed by Pine Creek.

2011 GRAZING SCHEDULE

The Ola C C&H allotment is under a deferred rotation grazing management system

The grazing rotation schedule on the allotment for the 2011 grazing season will be as follows:

Year	Pine Creek	Wilson Meadows	Second Fork
2011	First	Second	Last

BILLING

Grazing fees for cattle are $1.35 per head month.

We are required to use the Lock Box system. Send your grazing fees to the address specified on your grazing bill. We cannot accept payments at the District or Forest Supervisor's Office. Allow adequate time for your payment to be received, processed and for the Ranger District Office to receive payment notification. A minimum of 5 days should be allowed for this process. Livestock may not be placed on the allotment until after the District Ranger has received

notification that the grazing fees have been paid. Placing or allowing livestock onto National Forest System lands prior to payment of grazing fees is violation of your term grazing permit and may result in the assessment of unauthorized use fees and the suspension or cancellation of your permit.

If permitted livestock are required to leave the allotment early due to excess utilization or other reasons as determined by the Forest Officer, a refund may be requested. A written request for refund must be submitted to the District Ranger if this situation occurs.

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

The Ola C C&H allotment will be managed as described in this AOI and the Land and Resource Management Plan for the Boise National Forest (Forest Plan).

Compliance with the following standards will be emphasized; this is imperative. Familiarize yourself with this AOI and Forest Management direction. If you need more information about allotment management, contact the Emmett Ranger District.

The Emmett Ranger District Range Specialist or Technician must be notified at least 5 days in advance and given the date, time, and place where livestock will enter the allotment to allow for counting livestock on the allotment.

Grazing will begin in Pine Creek, move to Wilson Meadows when utilization limits are approached in the first pasture, and move to the Second Fork pasture when utilization limits are approached in the Wilson Meadows area. If utilization limits are reached prior to the scheduled off dates, cattle will be removed from the allotment early.

Do not wait until maximum utilization levels are met before moving cattle to the next pasture in the grazing schedule. This will result in over utilization of the pasture therefore, it is important to recognize when you are approaching maximum utilization levels and move all cattle before they are met. If utilization limits are reached prior to the scheduled off dates, cattle will be removed from the allotment early.

Livestock management will need to emphasize moving cattle in a timely manner, getting the used pasture cleaned out, and keeping cattle out from that point throughout the season. Another area needing attention is keeping permitted cattle on the permitted allotment, and unpermitted cattle off, especially in Pine Creek.

The grazing permits on the Ola C allotment were modified to show the October 31 ending date and the agreement to have 80 percent off by October 10. It is expected that gathering will begin prior to October 5 in order that 80 percent may be off the allotment by October 10.

Range Readiness: Spring moisture and temperature conditions may affect the time when livestock are allowed to turn out on the allotments. The Forest Service will notify you at least 2 weeks in advance of your scheduled turnout date if this occurs.

Utilization: It is the responsibility of the permittee to periodically monitor and document utilization during the grazing season. If utilization limits are reached prior to the scheduled off dates, livestock will be removed from the allotment early. In addition, it is expected that trailing off the allotments will begin early enough to satisfy the forest dates in October. The Forest

Service will conduct end-of-season monitoring to determine if grazing use standards have been met. Riding should be done to assure that livestock grazing adjacent to Bull Trout habitat meets Forest Plan standards.

Streambank utilization will be measured along the "greenline" in riparian areas. The standard of measurement for riparian areas will be maximum use 45 percent, 4 inches stubble height remaining after livestock are removed from riparian areas. To prevent exceeding these standards, it is important to begin moving livestock slightly before this limit is reached. In the flats or meadows adjoining these riparian areas and/or upland areas, we will adhere to the Forest Plan Standard of 40 percent utilization for early season and 50 percent for late season pasture use. If cattle do come back to the previous pasture, they are to be removed immediately. If they repeatedly return to the previously used pasture, they are to be removed from the allotment.

Upland grazing use should not exceed the Forest Plan standard of no more than 50 percent end-of-season use on upland areas. A safe, easy way to visualize this is to "graze half, and leave half" of the grasses. The Forest Service will periodically check the permittee's utilization monitoring to ensure good land stewardship and perform documentation. At times, the permittees and the Forest Service will jointly inspect range conditions. It is your responsibility to remove livestock from the allotment area as soon as the utilization standard (50 percent) has been met.

Noxious Weeds: Work on noxious weed control will continue this year. These weeds are a continual, and in some places, an increasing problem. Your help is needed. If you find any populations of Scotch Thistle, Dalmatian Toadflax, Knapweed, or other noxious weeds, please let us know so arrangements can be made to start work on their control.

Salt Placement: The placement of salt should be used as a management tool in helping to minimize use in riparian areas, tree plantations, distribute the livestock, and to help prevent livestock deaths from larkspur poisoning. Salt must not be placed in or adjacent to tree plantations or areas of natural livestock concentration. Do not place salt next to roads, trails, or water. Please use the same general locations but move tubs and salt out of sight to minimize visual impacts and the resulting potential complaints.

Predator Problems: If, during the grazing season, you are having problems with predators, notify Wildlife Services. Through a Memorandum of Understanding between Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the Forest Service, Wildlife Services is responsible for the control of predators. They will provide control services, technical expertise, recommendation of control methods, and reporting livestock as well as predator losses to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and the Forest Service. You are allowed to protect your livestock from the immediate threat of predators. All other predator control must be conducted through the proper channels, as described above.

Wolves

Questions about what can or cannot be done in reference to defending flocks, harassing wolves, or shooting wolves should be directed to Todd Grimm, USDA APHIS Wildlife Services in Boise, Idaho (208 378-5077); or local Wildlife Services contacts. Permittees should continue working with their local Wildlife Services representative on depredation issues. The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is responsible for wolf management in Idaho. The wolf

coordinator for USFWS is Hilary Cooley. Any questions you may have regarding wolf management should be directed to her and she can be reached at (208-685-6963).

Motorized Use

The Forest Service Motor Vehicle Use Travel Management Rule (36 CFR §261.13) is in place on the Emmett RD, which prohibits motorized use off-road/trail. Public motorized wheeled vehicle use is prohibited on all NFS lands except on routes that are designated for motorized use on the current Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM). The permittee would be allowed to use wheeled motorized vehicles on all NFS routes for administrative use within the allotment for livestock management purposes. This administrative use includes salting and herding of livestock, maintenance of range improvements, and forage utilization inspections. Any other motorized vehicle use for allotment management activities shall be approved in writing by the District Ranger and approved routes would be monitored by Forest Service personnel. Use of heavy equipment, such as bulldozers or backhoes is **not** included in this authorization. Use of heavy equipment will need to be requested through and approved by the District Ranger on a case-by-case basis.

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

All range improvements are to be maintained prior to livestock entering any pasture or unit. Range Improvements include all fences, water developments, corrals, and facilities.

It is important that all fence work be completed prior to cattle entering the unit. Electric fences need to be inspected often to assure that they are functioning and effective. The electric fences are a deterrent to grazing, however, any cattle seen within these areas need to be removed immediately and fences inspected to assure effectiveness. Cattle will not be allowed into the area of Rammage Meadows until the exclosure is maintained and inspected. During the grazing season, this exclosure should be inspected often and if cattle are found within the exclosure, they should be removed immediately and the exclosure fence inspected and repaired.

COORDINATION AND COOPERATION

1. In cooperation with the State of Idaho, all feed, hay or straw brought to the allotment must be certified weed-free.

2. Report any known invasive plants in your grazing areas.

3. Report areas you have accidentally over-used so the Forest Service is aware of a critical situation before the public makes us aware of it. This will keep the Forest Service up to date and provide the opportunity to resolve the problem as necessary. In addition, it will reflect more positively on you as a good land manager.

4. It is recommended the permittees use GPS units to record the location of each utilization monitoring site during the grazing season.

REQUIRED REPORTING

Enclosed are yearend grazing reports for you to record actual use data and range improvement maintenance for the 2011 grazing season for the Ola C C&H allotment. You need to record the date and number of cattle turned onto each allotment, the number and

date cattle are removed from the allotment, and estimate the time and cost of management actions including livestock herding and improvement maintenance associated with the allotment. Accurate records of these dates, maintenance work, and range improvement needs should be kept and returned to our office at the end of the grazing season. The Forest Service uses these records to help allocate Range Betterment Funds. These funds are used to purchase materials for improvements. This report should be returned to the Emmett Ranger District no later than December 1, 2011.

COMPLIANCE WITH THE FOREST PLAN

The Ola C C&H allotment will be managed to achieve the Desired Future condition as described in the revised Land and Resource management Plan (Forest Plan) for the Boise National Forest. All permitted actions, including grazing will comply with standards shown in the revised Forest Plan.

Utilization standards from the revised Forest Plan are as follows:

Maximum forage utilization of representative areas within each pasture shall not exceed the values shown at the end of the grazing season. Variation in utilization standards in order to achieve specific vegetative management objectives shall occur with a site-specific or project level decision according to direction in FSM 1922.5.

1. Riparian Areas: Maximum 45 percent use of hydric greenline species.

2. Upland Vegetative Cover Types: Early season or season-long pastures – 40 percent use. Vegetative slow growth, after seed ripe conditions, or late season pastures – 50 percent use.

These Annual Operating Instructions for Ola C allotment are consistent with Forest Plan management direction. If you have questions or the need to alter this plan during the grazing season, notify the Emmett Ranger District at 208-365-7000.

Signatures:

District Ranger — Date: 5/18/11

I understand that this Annual Operating Plan is part of my term grazing permit and I agree to manage my livestock grazing operations consistent with this direction and the terms and conditions stipulated in my term grazing permit.

Permittee(s) signature

[redacted] — Date: May 18-2011

[redacted] — 5/18/11

[redacted]

Date

May 18-2011
Date

5/18/11
Date