



**CARIBOU-TARGHEE NATIONAL FOREST
PALISADES RANGER DISTRICT
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO**

2011

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

BEAVER - COMMISSARY SHEEP ALLOTMENT

CONTACT US PRIOR TO STOCKING THE ALLOTMENT.

PERMIT INFORMATION

<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Season of Use</u>	<u>Permitted Number</u>
David Dalling	June 26 th to September 15 th	1000 ewes/lambs

All sheep must be your own livestock.

The following brand is permitted on the allotment:  or 

GRAZING SCHEDULE

The 2011 grazing schedule is modified from the schedule in the Allotment Management Plan to allow rest for the area burned in the fall of 2009 as part of the Fall Creek Aspen project.

When trailing to the allotment the sheep are allowed to spend one night along Skyline Road on National Forest Land. The sheep must cross through some of the burned area on the Beaver Unit. Move through the burned area as quickly as possible.

The grazing sequence for the 2010 season is:

Graze

<u>Sequence</u>	<u>Units</u>
Graze 1 st	The northeast portion of the Beaver Unit.
Graze 2 nd	4 th of July
Graze 3 rd	Commissary
Graze 4 th	Fall Creek Unit.

REST Burned areas in Beaver Creek Unit.

At shipping time the sheep will trail to the Brockman Corral. From the allotment follow Skyline Road to the Bear Creek Driveway. Follow the rerouted Bear Creek Sheep

Driveway to the corral. You will be allowed one overnight along the driveway between the allotment and the corral. The overnight stay is to be on the Corral Unit of the Corral Lava Allotment adjacent to the sheep driveway. Coordinate with the other permittees in the area when preparing to trail.

After shipping the lambs trail the ewes out on the rerouted driveway until it crosses Skyline Road near the head of Bear Creek. From there follow Skyline Road to the northwest to the forest boundary.

ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT

The Flag Knoll Wildfire started adjacent to the allotment on July 21, 2008. The fire only burned a small portion of the Fall Creek Unit on your allotment. Areas burned during this wildfire may be grazed this season. During the fall of 2009 a prescribed fire was ignited in the Beaver Unit as part of the Fall Creek Aspen project. The burned areas will be rested for two growing seasons. The prescribed fire planned this season for the Fall Creek Aspen project is scheduled on the Haskins Unit, which borders the Beaver Unit of this allotment. We will contact you if burning starts before the sheep have left the Forest this fall.

PROPER USE CRITERIA

These utilization guidelines apply to native and desirable nonnative vegetation as recorded at the end of the grazing period.

The following rates for forage utilization apply to the total amount of forage utilized. The use rates include wildlife grazing as well as domestic livestock. Once proper use of the forage is met the sheep will be moved to the next unit or off of the allotment.

Upland Forage Utilization

<u>Vegetation type</u>	<u>Percent Utilization</u>
Herbaceous vegetation including grasses	55%
Shrubs	35%

Riparian Forage Utilization and Stubble Height

- A. The 30% utilization levels of current year's growth for key woody plant species.
- B. A four inch (4") stubble height will be applied to key species along the Hydric Greenline (HGL) and a three inch (3") stubble height will be applied to key species in the Aquatic Influence Zones (AIZ).

Herdin

When grazing, allow the sheep to spread out and avoid excessive use of dogs to herd the sheep especially on the steep slopes of the allotment. Sheep will not be allowed to shade up along stream banks. After they have watered the sheep will be eased away from the water to shade. Bringing sheep to water either early or late in the day seems to have less

impact on streams than when the sheep come to water during the hot part of the day, as they tend to shade up along the streams. Bed grounds will be used only one night during the grazing season. Move the sheep to a new bed ground each night. Do not bed sheep on system roads, trails, or in riparian areas.

Salting

No salt will be placed within ¼ mile of water, or as far from water as practical. Also salt will not be placed next to roadways or forest system trails. Utilize areas where salt grounds will create the least impact on the land.

Camps

Herder camps should be located at least 50 feet from the trails if possible. Low impact camping techniques will be used: such as picketing or highlining any stock that will remain tied for long periods of time, using existing fire rings or removing sod from a new fire ring and replacing it before you leave, caching tent poles cut from native trees to use another year. Picket lines will be of a length so not to allow pack and saddle stock to cross roads or trails. Fires will be extinguished when not attended. Pack out all trash from your sheep camps including any trash that is left from previous years or items left by other campers. Keep camps clean while they are occupied.

Disposal of Dead Livestock

Dead livestock need to be moved at least 100 feet from system roads and trails, and water sources.

Range Improvements

Inspect and make any necessary repairs to the water development on Commissary Ridge.

You are responsible for your share of the maintenance on the Brockman Corral. Continue to coordinate with other corral users as to when you intend to use the corral. The annual maintenance of the corral will be completed while preparing to ship lambs.

Allotment Monitoring

During management of the allotment this summer we would like you to document dates and livestock numbers as you enter and exit the various units. Also stubble height should be recorded as the livestock leave the units and general remarks pertaining to management of the unit.

COORDINATION & COOPERATION

Motorized Access

The Palisades Ranger District is closed to cross country motorized travel. Adhere to the travel plan while managing your sheep on the allotment. Motorized vehicles are only allowed on the designated roads and trails.

The Caribou Subsection Travel Plan is currently being revised. Actions in the preferred alternative that may affect the management of your allotment include: designating an ATV trail from the Commissary Road to the Rash Canyon Road through Willow Springs, constructing an ATV trail from Commissary Road to the June Creek Road, and upgrading

the Fourth of July Ridge trail to an ATV trail. At this time no decisions have been made on the revision.

Noxious Weeds

The Palisades Ranger District will again have a crew treating weeds on the District this summer. Continue to look for new weed infestations on your allotment. Canada thistle and musk thistle are the only known noxious weeds on the Beaver Commissary Allotment. Musk thistle occurs only in a few locations on the allotment making it a high priority to control. Musk thistle can be treated by cutting plants at the root prior to setting seed. Spending a little time treating an infestation that consists only of a few plants may prevent larger infestations from damaging your range in the future. Any hay or straw entering the National Forest must be certified "Weed Free".

Wolf Management

You need to comply with the most current rules concerning wolf management. To receive the latest information on wolf management you can contact the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&WS). A news release with contact information from the USF&WS has been included in your grazing folder. Any problems with wolves will be reported to Wildlife Services as well as Palisades Ranger District as soon as possible.

Fire

All wildfires on the allotment will be evaluated and the appropriate management actions will be taken. Some wildfires may be managed to improve forest and ecosystem health. You will be notified if fires are being managed for resource benefits near your allotment.

Aspen Improvement

The District has prepared a plan to improve the aspen forest type in the upper portions of the Fall Creek and Bear Creek drainages. The project objective is for stimulation of aspen within a 24,277 acre landscape. This project includes all of this allotment. The project activities will include cutting conifer, prescribed fire and root cutting with a tractor or dozer. Areas of the allotment which receive prescribed fire treatments will require rest from livestock grazing for two growing seasons.

INFORMATION

In addition to this grazing plan the folder contains: An allotment map, a page of general grazing instructions, information and contact numbers relating to wolf depredations and an Actual Use Record. Keep the record current with allotment information and return it to us at the end of the grazing season.

This Annual Operating Instruction document is part of your Term Grazing Permit. If a situation develops that requires a change to this plan contact the District Ranger and obtain approval prior to initiating changes or deviating from these instructions. If you have any questions about the plan or the allotment in general, contact us. The phone number for the Idaho Falls Office is 523-1412.

These instructions have been reviewed by the permittee and the Palisades Ranger District and in combination with the permit and Allotment Management Plan will be the guide for this allotment for the 2011 grazing season.

 /s/ G David Dalling
Permittee

 3-29-11
Date

 /s/ Robbert Mickelsen
ROBBERT MICKELSEN
District Ranger

 3/29/2011
Date