



File Code: 2210/2230

Date: June 3, 2011

Elizabeth Hutchison
9 Poison Creek Road
Salmon, ID 83467

Dear Elizabeth,

The following letter will document your meeting with Elizabeth Hutchison, Mark Bonner, Ingrid Drieling, Jayde Christiansen and Steve conducted on May 2, 2011. The following will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) on the 2011 grazing season for the North Basin C&H allotment and is made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). The authorized use will be as follows:

Permitted Use:

<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>Date</u>
Elizabeth Hutchison	North Basin C&H	165 C/C	6/16-10/23

Authorized Use for the 2011 Grazing Season

<u>Permittee:</u>	<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>Date</u>
Elizabeth Hutchison	North Basin C&H	165 C/C	6/16-10/23

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>Date</u>
McKim	165 C/C	6/16-07/15
Copper Basin	165 C/C	07/16-08/03
Watson Peak	165 C/C	08/04-09/30
Big Hill	165 C/C	10/01-10/23
First Basin	165 C/C	Rested

Situations may develop during the grazing season which requires changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some or part of these instructions, contact Jayde Christiansen and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions. Failure to follow these instructions is a violation of your permit.

The dates listed in the authorized use section can be varied based on management needs or range readiness and proper use standards. If a change is necessary, please notify Jayde Christiansen as soon as you are aware of the need for changes in the planned use schedule. Any extension of use beyond the dates that are authorized must be requested at least two weeks in advance to allow my staff time to complete utilization inspections.



Allowable Use:

The allotment must be grazed within the allowable use standards listed below for riparian and upland sites.

Unit – Creek	Monitoring Attribute	Annual Use Indicator	Key Species
McKim Creek Unit- North Fork McKim Creek MIM M232	Greenline stubble	4 in.	Carex spp
	Browse use	50% Willow, 30% Alder	Willow, Alder
Uplands	Utilization by Key species	50%	Upland grass species
Watson Peak Unit – Warm Springs Creek M241MIM	Greenline stubble	4 in.	Carex spp
	Bank Alteration	10%	N/A
Uplands	Utilization by Key species	50%	Upland grass species
First Basin Unit – Poison/Phantom Creek	Greenline stubble	4 in.	Carex spp
	Browse use	50%	Willow
First Basin Unit- Copper Basin	Greenline stubble	4 in.	Juncus spp.
	Bank Alteration	10%	N/A
Uplands	Utilization by Key species	50%	Upland grass species
Big Hill Unit – Big Hill Creek	Greenline stubble	4 in.	Hydric spp
	Bank Alteration	☐☐☐☐N/A	N/A
Uplands	Utilization by Key species	50%	Upland grass species

Only livestock with the (↔) brand are allowed on the allotment.

You are responsible for determining when allowable use has been reached and for moving your cattle to other areas lightly used or off the allotment when allowable use has been reached. If you need assistance determining utilization levels please contact Jayde Christiansen and he will assist you. Compliance monitoring inspections will be conducted by Forest Service personnel throughout the grazing season in DMA (MIM sites) and key areas across the allotment. You are invited and it is recommended that you participate in these inspections.

Conservation Measures:

The following measures will be implemented as part of the North Basin C&H Allotment's annual operating instructions (AOI) to avoid and reduce potential impacts to ESA listed fish. Chinook, steelhead and bull trout considerations are:

1. A deferred-rest rotation grazing system will continue to be used. Resting the Copper Basin and First Basin Units every other year provides benefits to riparian vegetation. Early season use provides benefits to riparian vegetation. This will help meet our long term riparian resource objective for greenline successional status.
2. The on date will be varied so that livestock will be placed on the allotment at range readiness. This will reduce potential for bank alteration. This will help meet our long term riparian resource objective for bank stability.
3. Annual use indicators will dictate when livestock are moved between units or off the allotment within the terms of the term grazing permit including moves in response to fish spawning. This will help us meet our long term riparian resource objectives. Annual use indicators will be monitored by Forest Service personnel.
4. Permittees will continue to salt at least ¼ mile away from creeks. This will continue to reduce potential impacts on spawning areas and designated critical habitat.
5. Permittees will continue to distribute livestock away from streams and associated riparian areas (ride) at least five days a week, reducing potential impacts on spawning areas and designated critical habitat.
6. Fences and water developments have been placed to reduce livestock use on streams and their associated riparian areas. This will continue to reduce impacts on spawning areas and designated critical habitat.

Range Improvements:

You are responsible for maintaining the range improvements assigned to you in Part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit. All improvements are to be maintained to standard prior to livestock entering the allotment, even in the event of non-use.

Part 2, Section 8 (i) of your term grazing permit states:

“This permit is issued and accepted with the provision that the permittee will maintain all range improvements, whether private or government-owned, that are assigned for maintenance to standards of repair, orderliness, and safety acceptable to the Forest Service. Improvements to be maintained are specified in Part 3 of this permit. The Government may maintain or otherwise improve said improvements when, in its opinion, such action will be to its advantage.”

General Management:

Salt must be placed at least ¼ mile from water, meadows, and trails used by the public. Dead livestock must be moved at least 100 yards from water, roads, and trails.

If you spot a wildfire, report it immediately to the Central Idaho Dispatch Center at 208-756-5157.

Reporting forms have been included with this plan for you to record actual use, losses, range improvement maintenance and other relevant information. Please return actual use information as soon as possible and no later than December 31, 2011, to Jayde Christiansen at the Leadore Ranger District.

Invasive weeds are becoming a serious threat to the welfare of our rangelands. Your assistance is needed to identify new outbreaks of weed populations and to prevent the establishment of weeds on the forest. Pay particular attention to areas where stock are concentrated such as loading/unloading areas, water developments, and salting areas. We have implemented a Noxious Weed Free Hay order on our Forest. This will require any hay that is brought onto the National Forest to be certified free from noxious weeds. All livestock entering the National Forest are recommended to be fed **Certified Noxious Weed Free Forage** for at least 2 days prior to entering the Forest.

The grazing fees for 2011 are the base rate of \$1.35 per head month.

Approval of requests for personal convenience and resource protection nonuse is not automatic and the authorized officer should discuss the reasons for the nonuse request with the permittee. Requests for non-use must be done in writing and the approval of a request for non-use must be in writing by the authorized officer. Full or partial permittee convenience nonuse may be approved by the authorized officer for no more than three consecutive years and not more than four years in any ten year period.

In addition, payment of your grazing bill is due five days prior to your earliest turnout date to allow time for processing. The Forest Service is required to give permittees a minimum of 30 days to pay their grazing fees. The Forest Service is requesting that permittees schedule their AOI meeting **a minimum of 35 days prior** to their earliest on date to provide adequate time to plan for the upcoming grazing season.

Through the 2011 grazing season you and your employees are authorized to travel on routes within the allotments in your permit to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of your term grazing permit (e.g., improvement maintenance, salt distribution, dead livestock removal). Salmon-Challis Travel Management Record of Decision was signed December, 2009. With the issuance of this decision, all roads and trails designated for motor vehicle use will be identified on a motor vehicle use map (MVUM). As detailed in 36 CFR 261.13;36 CFR 212.51a the prohibitions on motor vehicle use will not apply to motor vehicle use that is specifically authorized under a written authorization issued under Federal law or regulation (e.g., term grazing permit).

Other:

Elizabeth designated Joe Miller as the range rider for the 2011 grazing season on the North Basin C&H allotment.

If you have any questions or comments regarding management of these allotments, please call Jayde Christiansen at (208) 768-2505 or Ingrid Drieling at (208) 768-2516. Thank you for your continued interest in improving the resource on the National Forest.

Sincerely,


KIMBERLY D. NELSON
District Ranger

Enc: Improvement Maintenance Record, Actual Use Record