

File Code: 2210/2230
Date: April 30, 2010

Sydney or Karen Dowton
P.O. Box 7
Ellis, ID 83235

Dear Sydney and Karen,

This letter serves as your Annual Operation Instructions for the Wino Basin Cattle & Horse Allotment for the 2010 grazing season and is an extension of your Wino Basin Term Grazing Permit # 20068. Grazing fees for this year are \$1.35 per head month.

We commend you on all of your work devoted to making existing range improvements functional. Please continue the work on refurbishing water developments and fences to make them functional.

I. Permitted Use

Permittee	No. and Class	Permit Type	Season of Use	Head Months
Dowton	200	Term: on/off	05/27– 09/26	736 USFS
Dowton	200	BLM	05/10 – 05/27	142 BLM
Dowton	200	BLM	05/27 – 10/16	157 BLM
			Total	1035

II. Authorized Use

Permittee	No. and Class	Permit Type	Season of Use	Head Months
Dowton	200	Term	6/10 – 9/26	717
			Total	717*

*Variable season of use, Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service coordinated Allotment Management Plan not to exceed 736 AUMS on Forest Service lands. Remaining 40 head will be placed in non-use for resource protection.



II. Pasture Rotation

Pasture	Number	Season
Lower Meadow (BLM / USFS)	200	5/9 – 6/9
Elbow Creek (USFS)	200	6/10 – 7/15
Upper Meadow Creek (USFS)	200	7/16 – 8/27
Grouse Creek (BLM and USFS)	200	8/28 – 9/26

The move-on date is only a guide since the on-date will be when range readiness occurs. Move dates should be when forage utilization indicates that moves need to be made.

IV. Use Indicators

Pasture	Uplands	Riparian Areas	Bank Alteration	Wood Browse
Grouse Creek (BLM and USFS)	50%	4 “ Hydric sedges/rushes – 50% utilization on non-hydric grasses	≤ 20 %	≤ 50%
Elbow Creek	50%	4 “ Hydric sedges/rushes – 50% utilization on non-hydric grasses	≤ 20 %	≤ 50%
Upper Meadow Creek	50%	4 “ Hydric sedges/rushes – 50% utilization on non-hydric grasses	≤ 20 %	≤ 50%
Lower Meadow Creek (BLM and USFS)	50%	4 “ Hydric sedges/rushes – 50% utilization on non-hydric grasses	≤ 20 %	≤ 50%

V. Use Indicator Guidelines

- Utilization of herbaceous forage will not exceed 50% current growth on perennial bunchgrasses on upland sites.
- Riparian areas should retain a minimum of 4" of stubble on hydric sedges and rushes and no more than 50 % utilization on non-hydric grasses at the end of the growing season.
- Woody browse use will not exceed 50% of new leader production.
- Bank Alteration will not exceed 20%.

VI. Permittee's Management Responsibilities

- **Do not wait for the Forest Officer to tell you it is time to move. It is the Permittee's responsibility to insure livestock are moved before utilization levels are exceeded.**
- Distribute cattle over the entire pasture being used. Make a concerted effort to use all grazable areas in a pasture. Please realize that it is in your best interest to keep cattle distributed throughout the pasture being used. Cattle will be moved out of the pasture when forage utilization in riparian and/or upland areas is at grazing standards.
- If cattle are allowed to concentrate in riparian areas and/or water developments without being pushed to unused areas, the grazing capacity of the pasture is diminished to those areas only. **Use of riparian areas needs to be carefully monitored.** Range personnel will monitor forage use in areas where cattle concentrate.
- **The move-off date is the date you must have all cattle off the grazing Allotment, not the day to start moving cattle off the Allotment.**
- If you move onto the Allotment late and want to stay past your move-off date, then you must make arrangements earlier in the grazing season and obtain prior approval from the District Ranger or authorized officer.
- Place salt in areas where past and or present forage use is light. Salt should be used to spread utilization across the pasture being grazed. Place salt at least a ¼ mile from riparian areas. Salt should be picked up and moved when an area has been sufficiently used. Do not place salt in the same footprint areas used last year. Contact the Range Specialist if you need suggestions. The Permittee is responsible for using water and salt to achieve the best distribution of cattle throughout the pasture.
- Any carcass or animal remains will be moved at least 100 yards from water, trails, and roads. Animal carcasses in highly visible areas need to be relocated to more remote areas.
- Fences will be checked and maintained before cattle enter a pasture or an allotment. Range improvements should be kept to a standard of repair, which is functional, safe, and acceptable to the Forest Service. Any plans to reconstruct or build new improvements on the Forest should first be coordinated with the Range Specialist. Improvements are listed in your grazing permit and are shown on the Allotment map.
- Please notify the Range Specialist at 879-4100, before cattle are turned onto the Forest.

VII. Range Improvements Maintenance/Construction

Range improvements that need to be repaired and are necessary to manage and control livestock for the 2010 grazing season are the following:

- Continue your maintenance work on improvements that need to be repaired from lack of previous Permittee's maintenance. For 2010 continue working on the water developments across the allotment.
- All range improvements listed in the Wino Basin Term Grazing Permit # 20068; Part 3 pages 5 and 6 must be maintained to standards as described in Part 3, pages 7-10 prior to livestock turnout in 2010, or scheduled prior to livestock entering subsequent grazing units.
- No ground disturbing activities should be conducted on the Forest by the Permittee or their personnel without approval from the Range Specialist or other specialist as assigned by the District Ranger.

Materials for replacement and heavy maintenance will be provided to the Permittee by the Forest Service. General maintenance is the responsibility of the Permittee.

VIII. Billing Information

- Grazing fees must be paid to **USDA Forest Service, C/o Citibank, P.O. Box 301550, Los Angeles, CA 90030-1550** by the date specified on the Bill for Collection and in advance of livestock entry onto the Salmon-Challis National Forest. Grazing fees must be paid before livestock can be turned onto the Forest.

IX. Forest Service Responsibilities

- Cattle move-on counts may be conducted on randomly selected allotments this year. Brands will be checked periodically throughout the grazing season.
- Range inspections may occur several times during the grazing season to check maintenance of range improvements, forage utilization, and compliance with the grazing rotation and use indicators requirements. You are invited to participate in inspections conducted on the Allotment. We will try to contact you a few days in advance to let you know when we will be on site.
- The Forest Service will provide to the Permittee the necessary materials to conduct heavy maintenance of Rattlesnake Springs, Elbow Creek, and Wino Basin water developments.
- The Forest Service will meet with the Permittee to look at possible location for drift fence going over to Dry Creek. Cattle have been working there way out of the allotment via the road from Grouse Creek over the top into Dry Creek.

X. Special Considerations for the 2010-Grazing Season

- If drought conditions persist, you may be asked to remove livestock from the Forest earlier than normal this year if water and/or forage are limited.

- Because of increasing public use, gates are often left open and cattle stray into the wrong pasture. We realize this is a problem and an inconvenience. However, it is still the **Permittee's** responsibility to keep their animals in the proper unit. Cattle found in wrong pastures should be removed and returned immediately to the correct pasture after notification by phone or letter. Early use or repeated use of grazing units could result in an early move-off date. Routine checks need to be made by you and your rider. This is a requirement of your term grazing permit.
- **Installing small wildlife escape ramps has been a point of emphasis for the last few years on all troughs in the operating instructions. This year all working large troughs (500 gallons +) will be expected to have two ramps installed by the end of the grazing season. Failure to install ramps can and maybe a point for non-compliance for the 2010-grazing season.** The ramps may be obtained at the Challis Yankee Fork Ranger District. Please contact the Range Management Specialist to arrange for pickup.
- Range improvements will be checked and maintained **before cattle enter a pasture or the allotment**, they should be kept to a standard of repair, which is functional, safe, and acceptable to the Forest Service. **Failure to complete necessary maintenance may result in the initiation of permit suspension or cancellation procedures in whole or in part.**

Enclosed is a Year End Grazing Report for you to record Actual Use (2010) data, and range improvement needs for the future grazing season. You need to record the date and number of cattle turned onto the Allotment, the dates the cattle are moved to and from each pasture, and the number and date cattle are removed from 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 future Range Betterment Funds. These funds are used to purchase materials for improvement.

If you have any questions concerning these Annual Operating Instructions, please call Barry Dopp, Range Management Specialist, or myself in Challis at 208-879-4100. Prior approval by the District Ranger is required to amend or change these instructions. We are looking forward to the grazing season and hope it will be productive.

Sincerely,

/s/ Kris Martinson
KRIS MARTINSON
District Ranger

Enclosure: Actual Use Report

CC: Carren Morgan, Challis BLM: 801 Blue Mtn.
Rd., Challis, ID 83226

