

**Timber Creek Cattle & Horse Allotment's  
2012 Annual Monitoring Report  
for the  
US Fish and Wildlife Service's 4/22/2011 Biological Opinion  
(File # 114.0600, 14420-2011-F-0125)**

**APPENDIX C**

**Annual Monitoring Report Form for Actions covered under the Service's Biological Opinion for Grazing on Allotments Managed by the Salmon Challis National Forest.**

Please submit annually by March 1 to the Supervisor of the Service's Eastern Idaho Field Office, 4425 Burley Dr., Suite A, Chubbuck, Idaho 83202; telephone (208)237-6975. Please include name and contact information in case additional information is needed.

1. What was the name of the stream in this allotment surveyed for impacted redds?  
Trail Creek. See attached bull trout redd survey.
2. What was the date of the survey, and what were the water conditions?  
The survey date was 10/10/2012 and the water conditions were normal and clear. See attached bull trout redd survey.
3. Which stream segment was surveyed and how many redds and impacted redds were found? (Please give GPS start and stop points for segments)?  
There were no adult bull trout observed, no bull trout redd observed and therefore no bull trout redds were impacted. The GPS UTM starting location was Zone 12T, Easting 0305491, Northing 4930364. The GPS UTM stopping location was Zone 12T, Easting 0304984, Northing 4931084. See attached bull trout redd survey.
4. What was the date that livestock removed from the pasture with surveyed stream segment?  
According to the Actual Use On/Off dates given to the Forest by the Permittee 58 cow/calf pairs were in the Trail Creek Unit between 8/15 and 9/2. See attached Timber Creek C&H Allotment's 2012 End of the Year Report.
5. Did this number exceed the scale anticipated in section VII of the Biological Opinion? NO

6. Were there any changes to the grazing management that differed from the proposed grazing management in the Forest's Biological Assessment? If yes, what were they?

There were no changes to the grazing management as described in the 2011 Biological Assessment. See attached Timber Creek C&H Allotment's 2012 End of the Year Report.

7. Were there any unexpected circumstances or events that resulted in impacts beyond those anticipated in the Forest's Biological Assessment or the Service's Biological Opinion?

If yes, please describe.

There were no unexpected circumstances or events that resulted in impacts beyond what the forest anticipated in the 2011 Biological Assessment.

Salmon-Challis National Forest Official:



Daniel A. Garcia  
Salmon-Challis National Forest  
North Zone Districts Fishery Biologist

Date:

2/28/2013

Contact Information:

Salmon/Cobalt Ranger District, 311 McPherson St South, Salmon, ID 83467

(208) 756-5237 or [dgarcia@fs.fed.us](mailto:dgarcia@fs.fed.us)

The attached Timber Creek C&H Allotment's 2012 End of the Year Report was reviewed and completed by:

Concetta Brown - North Zone Rangeland Management Specialist (Leadore Ranger District)  
(208) 768-2503 or [concettabrown@fs.fed.us](mailto:concettabrown@fs.fed.us)

Results of the Range Allotment's implementation and effectiveness monitoring will be available at the following website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/sc/projects/range/index.html>.

The attached Trail Creek 2012 bull trout redd survey was reviewed and finalized by: Daniel A. Garcia - North Zone Districts Fishery Biologist (Salmon/Cobalt Ranger District)

## Timber Creek C&H Allotment Annual Report, 2012

### Leadore Ranger District North Zone Salmon-Challis National Forest

#### Livestock on the Allotment

Term Grazing Permit				2012 Authorized Use				2012 Actual Use			
Permittee & Permitted #'s	On date	Off date	H.M.	No.	On date	Off date	H.M.	No.	On date	Off date	H.M.
Allen Purcell 60 c/c	7/1	9/30	181	60 c/c	7/1	9/30	181	58	6/28	9/2	128

#### Actual Use Rotation

Unit	Livestock Numbers	On Date	Off Date
Rocky Creek	58	6/28	7/26
Short Creek	58	7/26	8/15
Trail Creek	58	8/15	9/2

**Compliance with Unit Schedule in AOI:** Unit moves complied with critical dates for cattle presence with spawning and incubating fish, per the Biological Assessment, USFWS 2011 Timber Creek Biological Opinion, and NMFS 2011 Timber Creek Concurrence Letter. Allotment moves were conducted by the permittee on or before scheduled move dates. Back riding units was successfully completed.

**Allotment Inspections:** Allotment inspections were conducted on the following dates: 8/14 and 10/10. Allotment inspections consist of a qualified employee working in range management visiting the allotment

The permittee reported riding a total of 12 days.

**Compliance with special Terms and Conditions regarding livestock location and management practices:**

**RPM #1** The whole of this report addresses this term. Conservation measures were followed.

#### **Monitoring Data**

For the 2012 grazing season, monitoring was completed at the Designated Monitoring Areas (DMAs) using Multiple Indicator Monitoring (MIM) technical reference (Burton, 2010). If the site did not meet the guidelines for establishment of a MIM, photos were taken and attached to this document. Upland monitoring was completed using the Landscape Appearance Method or Utilization Wheel. Utilization for the 2012 grazing season met the use standards and annual indicators in the AOI, BA, and BO.

Specific results are in table on page 4.

**Other Information**

**Growing Season Conditions:** Precipitation for the District was below average for 2012. The precipitation information for the District is included in the table below. While this information is collected at the Leadore Ranger Station and is not specific to an allotment area, it gives an idea of the available moisture on the District. The precipitation for 2012 is compared to the average precipitation for Salmon. The annual precipitation was 3.29 inches lower this year in comparison to the average from 1981 to 2010.

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Precip. (in) in 2012	0.2	1.1	1.03	0.5	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.4	6.05
Average Precip. (in.) from 1981-2010	0.3	0.3	0.53	0.9	1.6	1.6	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.5	9.34

**Permit Administration:** No unauthorized livestock were found on the allotment during the 2012 grazing season.

**Improvement Maintenance:** Fence and trough maintenance was conducted by the permittee. No other information was received regarding additional improvements maintained on the allotment.

**Recommendations or Reminders:**

1. Cattle movements between units need to be completed in a specific period. This means permittees need to provide additional riders on move dates and assist with back riding.
2. Riders need to move cattle that are congregating in riparian areas, boundary fence corners, and other problem areas into uplands for more uniform utilization of entire range.
3. Back ride to ensure cattle aren't drifting into previously used units. When leaving the Allotment, start earlier than off date and stagger to ensure complete removal of livestock in a timely manner.
4. Communication with the Range Specialist is an important part of grazing management. Be sure to contact the Range Specialist should you have and concerns/problems.
5. If you want to make adjustments to the rotation stated in your AOI you must contact your range specialist. All changes must be approved by the district ranger. You must give two weeks notice prior to any adjustments you wish to make to allow time for a decision.

## **Sources**

Burton, T.A., S.J. Smith, and E.R. Cowley. 2011. Riparian area management: Multiple indicator monitoring (MIM) of stream channels and streamside vegetation. Technical Reference 1737-23. BLM/OC/ST 10/003+1737. U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, National Operations Center, Denver, CO. 155 pp.

National Climatic Data Center. 2012. Summary of Monthly Normals 1981-2010 (Station: Leadore Number 2, ID US). National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Asheville, North Carolina.  
<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/analysis/monthly-us-climate-reports>.

### Monitoring Results

Unit Name & MIM	Date Read	Riparian				Upland	Riparian				Upland
Rocky Creek Unit- Big Timber Creek MIM M300	8/14	Greenline Stubble	<i>Hydric ssp.</i>	6 in.		50%	Greenline stubble	<i>Hydric ssp.</i>	Avg of 7.6 in for CANE2		4%
		Browse Use	Willow	50%			Browse Use	Willow	Combined use of 19%		
			Alder	30%				Alder			
Bank Alteration	n/a	20%	Bank Alteration	n/a	5%						
Trail Creek Unit- Big Timber Creek MIM M299	10/10	Greenline stubble	<i>Hydric ssp.</i>	6 in.		50%	Greenline stubble	<i>Hydric ssp.</i>	Avg 12.7 in on DECE		1 %
		Bank Alteration	n/a	15%			Bank Alteration	n/a	15%		
		Browse Use	<i>Willow ssp.</i>	30%			Browse Use	<i>Willow ssp.</i>	10%		
Short Creek Unit	10/10	Greenline Stubble	Riparian Grass ssp.	50%		50%	Greenline Stubble	No riparian species were available for measurement			44%

Prepared By:



Concetta Brown  
Rangeland Management Specialist

	<b>PHOTO RECORD</b>	Page 1 of 3
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION	SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST	Leadore RD
Date: 8/14/2012	Photographer: S. Norman	Allotment: Timber Creek C&H
Location: Rocky Creek unit		
Subject: End of Year Monitoring		

The following photos were taken at the Rocky Creek MIM 300 along Big Timber Creek.



Overview photo



Downstream photo taken at the beginning of the transect.

	<b>PHOTO RECORD</b>	Page 2 of 3
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION	SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST	Leadore RD
Date: 8/14/2012	Photographer: S. Norman	Allotment: Timber Creek C&H
Location: Rocky Creek unit		
Subject: End of Year Monitoring		

Upstream photo taken at the beginning of the transect.



Cross section taken at the beginning of the transect.



	<b>PHOTO RECORD</b>	Page 3 of 3
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION	SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST	Leadore RD
Date: 8/14/2012	Photographer: S. Norman	Allotment: Timber Creek C&H
Location: Rocky Creek unit		
Subject: End of Year Monitoring		

Upstream photo taken and end of transect.



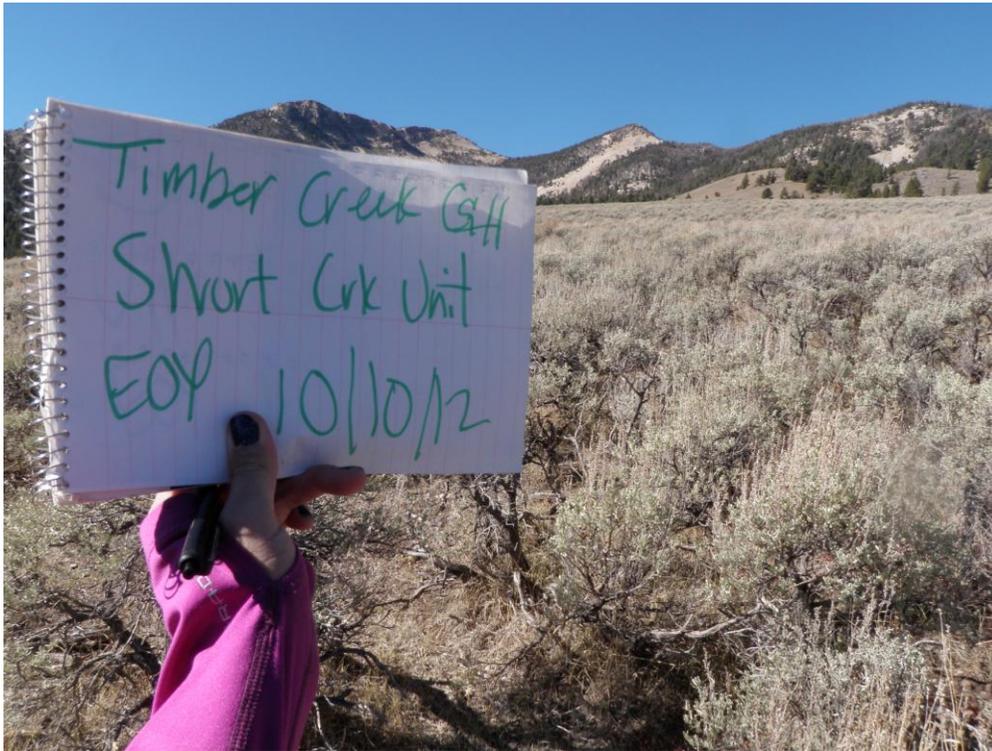
The results of this MIM are as follows: an average stubble height of 7.6 inches on Nebraska Sedge, woody browse was at 19% and bank alterations were at 5%.



The above photo is of the area where utilization was measured on Idaho Fescue. Use was found to be 4%

	<b>PHOTO RECORD</b>	Page 1 of 5
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION	SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST	Leadore RD
Date: 10/10/2012	Photographer: C. Brown	Allotment: Timber Creek C&H
Location: Short and Trail Creek Units		
Subject: End of Year Monitoring		

The following two photos are of the area where upland utilization was measured for Nevada Bluegrass. Use was measured at 44%.



	<b>PHOTO RECORD</b>	Page 2 of 5
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION	SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST	Leadore RD
Date: 10/10/2012	Photographer: C. Brown	Allotment: Timber Creek C&H
Location: Short and Trail Creek Units		
Subject: End of Year Monitoring		

The following five photos are of MIM 299 along Big Timber Creek in the Trail Creek unit.



This photo is looking at the marker for the beginning of the transect. The t-post is in the center of the photo.



Cross Section photo taken at the beginning of the transect.

	<b>PHOTO RECORD</b>	Page 3 of 5
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION	SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST	Leadore RD
Date: 10/10/2012	Photographer: C. Brown	Allotment: Timber Creek C&H
Location: Short and Trail Creek Units		
Subject: End of Year Monitoring		

Downstream photo taken at beginning of the transect.



Cross section photo taken at the end of the transect.



	<b>PHOTO RECORD</b>	Page 4 of 5
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION	SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST	Leadore RD
Date: 10/10/2012	Photographer: C. Brown	Allotment: Timber Creek C&H
Location: Short and Trail Creek Units		
Subject: End of Year Monitoring		

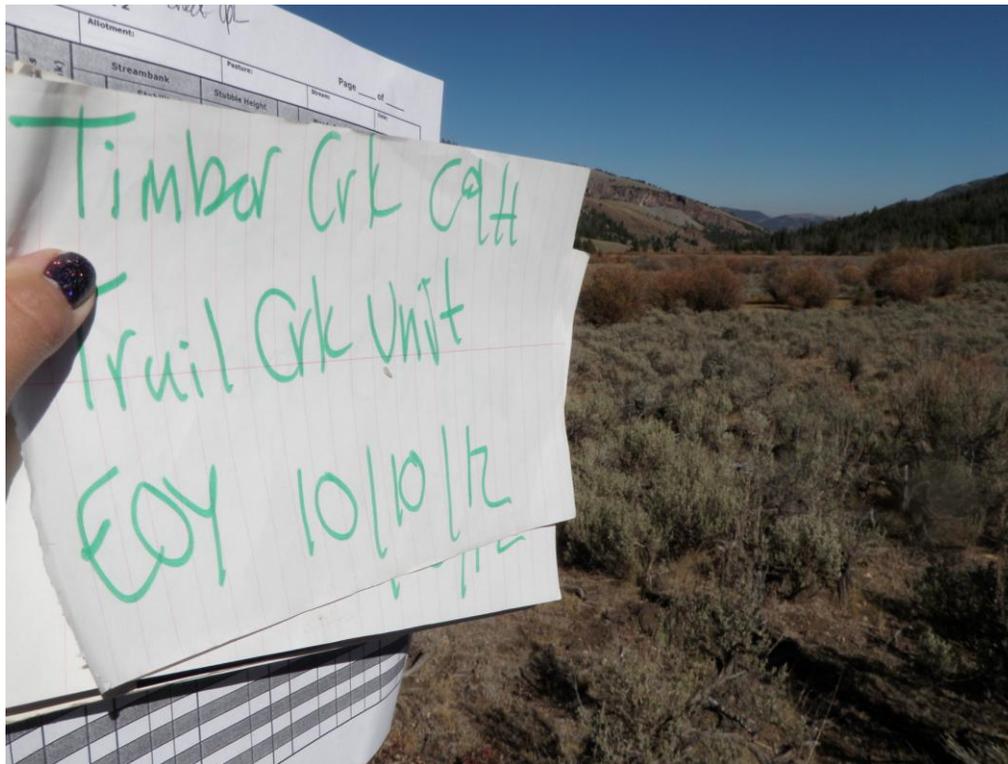
Upstream photo taken at the end of the transect.



The results for this MIM are as follows: and average stubble height of 12.7 on Tufted Hairgrass, woody browse was at 10% and bank alterations were at 15%.

	<b>PHOTO RECORD</b>	Page 5 of 5
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION	SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST	Leadore RD
Date: 10/10/2012	Photographer: C. Brown	Allotment: Timber Creek C&H
Location: Short and Trail Creek Units		
Subject: End of Year Monitoring		

The following photos are of the area where upland utilization was measured in the Trail Creek unit. Utilization was measured on Idaho Fescue and was found to be at 1%.



Biological Opinion Name: livestock grazing on the Timber Creek Grazing Allotment

Biological Opinion Number: 14420-2011-F-0125

Stream Name: Trail Creek Date: 10-10-12

Allotment Name: Timber Creek Unit Name: TRAIL Creek

Start Time: 11:40 Stop Time: 13:00 Number of Pictures Taken: Many

Stream Segment Length on GPS: 897 m.

Estimated Stream Segment Length measured with GIS: 1158 meters

Site Directions:  Hwy 28 S. to leadore - lee Cr. Rd west out of leadore to Big Timber Rd #105 - Follow 105 Rd. almost to Grove Cr. (Dead end) we parked our horse trailer on next rd left past 015B Rd and rode up the Big Timber Cr. Trail to Trail Cr. sign - cross Big Timber survey starts

Survey Crew: Bill Slavin upstream Trail Cr. ~ 1000 m.

(top) H<sub>2</sub>O Temp: 38°F Air Temp: 45°F Elevation: 7619 FT

(bottom) H<sub>2</sub>O Temp: 38°F Air Temp: 47°F Elevation: 7451 FT

Starting Location GPS (UTM): Zone 12T Easting 0305491 Northing 4930364

Degree Decimal: N: 44.50039° W: 113.44673°

Stopping Location GPS (UTM): Zone: 12T Easting 0304984 Northing 4931084

Degree Decimal: N: 44.50673° W: 113.45337°

Number of Live Adult bull trout Observed: 0

Number of bull trout Redds Observed: 0

Number of bull trout Redds Observed that Livestock Trampled: 0

Comments: NO CATTLE observed in unit. Top half of survey has mostly spruce, fir, and pine trees. with very minimal cattle impact. lower half is lined with a lot of willows.

Did not see any fish - very few pockets of spawning see gravel -