

CARIBOU-TARGHEE NATIONAL FOREST

**ASHTON/ISLAND PARK
RANGER DISTRICT**

**ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS
FOR THE 2012 GRAZING SEASON**

ELK CREEK C&H ALLOTMENT

The following instructions represent the operating plan for the grazing season. These instructions are issued as provided for in Part 2, Clause 8 (a) of your Term Grazing Permit. The instructions state the yearly direction as described in the allotment management plan. These instructions become a part of your term grazing permit when signed by the forest officer in charge. Situations may develop during the grazing season which 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.

1. PERMITTED LIVESTOCK

Permittee	Term	Temp.	Non-use	Private	Total
Blaine & Barbra Ball	47 c/c				47

2. PERMITTED SEASON OF USE 7/1 - 9/30

Unit	Head	Period of Use	Actual Use
Elk Creek	47	7/1 – 9/30	

Unsatisfactory conditions will occur when:

- A. Sequence of use for each unit is not followed.
- B. Grazing use occurs in closed areas.
- C. Specified dates are not followed unless modified by actual use conditions or a Forest Officer.
- D. Complete livestock removal is not attained by the end of a specified season of use.
- E. Livestock are allowed to graze outside the permitted allotment or outside the permitted season of use.

3. ALLOWABLE USE

Allowable use is the degree of grazing specified for a particular area and/or plant(s). The use level stated below is the maximum utilization allowed for the planned season of use.

Rotation and/or removal of livestock will be required if allowable use levels are met before the planned rotation date.

Cattle should be rotated to meet the allowable use level. This may require you to begin rotating cattle before the standards are met.

Unit & Key Area	Key Species	Proper Use
Unit: Elk Creek	Riparian grasses and sedges	4 inch stubble height (HGL) 3 inch stubble height (AIZ)
Key Area: Un-named side tributary in NE ¼, SE ¼, Sec. 22.	Riparian shrubs (willows) Upland grasses Upland shrubs	30% current years growth 55% current years growth 35% current years growth

4. MAINTENANCE OF IMPROVEMENTS

A. Improvement maintenance is assigned to you as shown in the grazing permit and/or attached map.

B. All fences and water developments will be maintained to Forest Service standards annually prior to the time the improvement is needed to serve its intended purpose. This includes the needs of adjoining allotments with respect to allotment boundary fence maintenance.

C. Unsatisfactory condition will occur when:

1. Fences and spring developments do not serve the intended purpose or maintenance does not meet Forest Service standards.
2. Livestock are outside the permitted area or in the wrong grazing unit due to down fences.

5. MULTIPLE USE COORDINATION

A. None identified

6. DEVELOPMENT WORK

A. None identified

Items needing further field review and planning:

A. None identified

8. OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED

A. Grazing Fees: \$1.35/HM. Same as 2011. Fees must be paid prior to turn out.

B. Wolf & Grizzly activity—be aware take necessary precautions.

Permittees can kill wolf in act of predation on livestock. Must report to FS & Wildlife Services within 24 hrs. Wildlife Service's contacts: **John Farr** 681-8798 (Ashton/Is. Park area).
or Lee Czapenski out of Rexburg (208) 359-1828 or cell (208) 681-0321.

C. Yellowstone Grizzly Bears re-listed on Endangered Species List. Doesn't change how permittees operate.

D. Forage and water held up good for 2011. Allotment grazed within Standards.

E. Permittee be aware of noxious weeds and report as needed.

Additionally:

A food storage order is in place which will require proper storage of food to render it unavailable to bears on National Forest System lands in Teton, Fremont, Madison, and Clark Counties east of Interstate-15. As part of the food storage order, human food, refuse and prepared livestock/pet foods associated with the livestock operation will be made unavailable to bears through proper storage, handling and disposal. Proper storage includes:

- inside a bear-proof container (such as bear proof panniers),
- suspended at least 10 feet clear of the ground at its lowest point and at least 4 feet horizontally from adjacent posts or trees,
- stored in a hard-sided vehicle or trailer, or
- other methods approved by the District Ranger.

Motorized travel is allowed only on designated routes. Permittees can travel on non-designated routes and/or cross-country to maintain, construct, or repair improvements. If you need to drive on a non-designated route more than twice a week, please call or stop by our office to obtain a permit for this situation.

The following acts are prohibited on National Forest System Lands:

Possessing, storing, or transporting, non-pelletized hay, straw or mulch on National Forest System Lands without having each individual bale or container tagged or marked as weed free, or having original and current evidence of weed free certification documentation present. All markings must meet the State and/or County standards for certification as weed free.

Agreed to by Permittee:

/s/ Blaine Ball

Blaine Ball

3/22/2012

Date: _____

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Elizabeth Davy

ELIZABETH DAVY
District Ranger
Ashton/Island Park Ranger District

3/22/2012

Date: _____