

## Annual Operating Instructions Cub River Cattle Allotment 2012

### I. Permitted Livestock:

Table 1. Permitted Use

	Permitted no.	Season of Use*	Kind	Non-Use #'s
Cub River Stock Association	634	June 11- September 30	Cattle-cow/calf	0

\* These dates are tentative and may change due to range conditions.

### II. Grazing Rotation:

Station Creek and Worm Creek will be grazed at the same time. 422 head will be placed in Worm Creek and 212 head will be placed in Station Creek. These numbers do not have to be exact, to allow individual shareholders to keep their numbers together instead of having some in one unit and some in the other unit. It would be difficult to keep Worm Basin completely free of cattle so a slight or 20 % utilization will be allowed. As utilization is reached, cattle will move to Rocky Bench/Carter Creek – Cub River. These dates are only guidelines and annual monitoring indicators should trigger pasture moves, not dates. Adjustments to the rotation may be necessary to maintain utilization standards, Livestock should be completely removed from previous unit within a week of scheduled move.

Table 2. Grazing Rotation:

Worm Creek	Station Creek	Worm Basin	Rocky Bench/Carter Creek-Cub River
(1) 6/11-8/2 422 head	(1) 6//11 – 8/2 212	Incidental use allowing 20% utilization	(4) 8/3- 9/30 634

### III. Grazing Standards and Guides:

Standards and Guides covering the allotments are found in the *2003 Revised Forest Plan for the Caribou National Forest* or the *South Bear River Range Allotment Management Plan Revisions Final Environmental Impact Statement* and are now made part of your permit. The proper use standards/triggers for this allotment are listed in the tables below. Your livestock must be removed from an area when the allowable forage utilization levels are reached in either the uplands or the riparian areas. The utilization standards will apply to, both native and desirable non-native key species. Stubble heights on riparian areas will have to be adjusted to meet percent utilization standards if non-native species such as red-top or Kentucky blue grass are monitored. Monitoring of use will include using utilization cages, utilization scales/gauges, ocular estimates or a combination of these three.

**A. The standards in Table 1 below are the riparian forage utilization standards that will be applied.**

Season of Use	Proper functioning Condition (% Stubble Height)	Functioning at Risk (high to moderate) (% stubble height)	Functioning at Risk (Low) to Non Functioning (% Stubble Height)	Non Functioning (States C&D) (% Stubble Height)
Spring	65/2	55/3	45/4	55/3
Summer	55/3	45/4	35/5	45/4
Fall	45/4	35/5	20/6+	35/5

If it is determined that bank disturbance/alteration, greenline stubble height or woody/shrubby species utilization should replace the utilization triggers listed above, it will be addressed in the site specific standards below. Riparian site specific standards will be established when a Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) rating is conducted on the riparian area. The site specific standards for riparian areas come directly from the PFC rating and the Grazing Implementation Guide dated 12/28/2005. If a site specific PFC rating has not been conducted on a riparian area, standards for the area will be established by the Range Specialist on the allotment. The Range Specialist will follow the standards listed in Table 1 above until a PFC rating has been completed.

**Site-specific riparian standards for the Cub River Allotment:**

Stream	Rating	Forage Utilization Standard*
Worm Creek	Functional-At-Risk/Moderate (majority)	3"/4"/5" AIZ- Stubble Height
Cub River	Functional-At-Risk/Moderate	3"/4"/5" AIZ –Stubble Height
Carter Creek	Functioning at Risk Low(below BS camp)	4"/ 5"/6" AIZ-Stubble Height

**Upland utilization standards include the following:**

Allowed Upland Forage utilization		
	Winter Range	Non Winter Range
Grasses and herbaceous Species (% dry weight)	45	55
Shrubs (Annual leader growth)	20	35

45 percent use on key species and 20 percent use on browse in elk and deer winter range (lower Station Creek is considered winter range) and 55 percent use on key species and 30 percent use on shrubs in non-winter range. As the season progresses, Forest Personnel will be routinely checking range and forage conditions. If monitoring determines that there is a shortage of forage production, or other associated resources are sustaining unacceptable impacts, early removal of the livestock from the allotment will occur. If livestock are removed from the Forest early, your remaining grazing fees will be credited to next year's fees. You must request the credit in writing and fill out a credit form from the District Office.

**2011 Monitoring Results:**

Location	7/17	10/15	8/20	8/24	10/10	10/18	Standard
Lower Station Creek	4" stubble	8" stubble					No PFC rating 6"
Worm Creek			6" stubble				5" stubble
South Worm Basin			3" stubble				5" stubble
North Worm Basin				45% upland			55% upland
Carter Creek					6.5" stubble	25% browse	6" stubble 30% browse
Rocky Bench						7.5" stubble Upland 44%	Upland 55%

#### IV. Permittee Responsibilities:

1. **Salting** - Salt should be placed in lightly used areas and used as a distribution tool. Salt is not permitted in riparian areas, forest plantations, shade-up areas, roads, or areas where cattle normally tend to congregate. Use of a packhorse is recommended to get salt into areas that receive light use. Rotate or remove salt from areas receiving excessively heavy use.
2. **Herdling** - Effective and frequent riding is a good method of achieving uniform forage utilization and extending use in riparian areas. Cattle should be checked regularly to ensure they are properly distributed.
3. **Weed-free hay** - Any hay or straw brought on the Forest must be certified, "Weed free".
4. **Maintaining Improvements** - All improvements listed in part 3 of your permit must meet Forest Service Standards. These standards may be set by the Forest Officer over the allotment. A delay in livestock turnout on the allotment will result if improvements do not meet acceptable standards prior to the grazing season. If they are not up to standard, and your livestock are on the allotment, administrative action may be taken against your permit. Maintenance work should be completed and up to standards prior to cattle entering the allotment.
5. **Noxious weeds**- Dyer's woad, leafy spurge, and thistle are located on your allotment. Because of budget constraints, the control of noxious weed needs to become a joint effort. If you know of any infestations bring them to the attention of the Forest Officer. There may be spray days coordinated on your allotment and your assistance with them would benefit all.

#### V. **Special Instructions:**

Please become familiar with the terms and conditions of your grazing permit.

**Actual Use Forms must be returned by November 30th following the grazing season. Failure to do so may result in Permit Action.**

This AOI is made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, Item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a).

- ❑ Livestock counts may be made on turn out dates, arrangements will be made.
- ❑ All AOI's will be posted on the internet. In conjunction with this action all permittees must sign the AOI showing that they have read it and accept the terms, conditions, and management practices presented in it.
- ❑ Continued maple treatment efforts will occur on the allotment in 2012. Thinning and piling maple will continue along the Cub River road and behind Willow Flat Campground. No measures will be made to exclude cattle during the summer. Permittees will be notified before any burning is initiated.

#### VI. **Wolf Status:**

Wolves in Idaho are no longer under the protection of the federal Endangered Species Act.

On May 5, 2011, wolf management in all of Idaho reverted to state management under state code 36-1107 and Idaho's 2002 Wolf Conservation and Management Plan. [PDF, 662 KB]

Simply put, the law says wolves molesting or attacking livestock or domestic animals may be disposed of by livestock or domestic animal owners, their employees, agents and animal damage control personnel. No permit from Fish and Game is necessary. The incident must be reported to the Fish and Game director within 72 hours, with additional reasonable time allowed if access to the site where taken is limited. Wolves so taken shall remain the property of the state.

Livestock and domestic animal owners may take all nonlethal steps they deem necessary to protect their property. A permit must be obtained from the director to control wolves not molesting or attacking livestock or domestic animals. Control is also permitted by owners, their employees and agents pursuant to the Idaho department of fish and game harvest rules. "Molesting" means the actions of a wolf that are annoying, disturbing or persecuting, especially with hostile intent or injurious effect, or chasing, driving, flushing, worrying, following after or on the trail of, or stalking or lying in wait for, livestock or domestic animals.

<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/public/wildlife/wolves/?getPage=167>

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Idaho State Office - Toll-free at: 877-661-1908**

To report suspected wolf depredations on livestock or pets, contact

**USDA Wildlife Services: Toll-free at: 866-487-3297 or 208-378-5077**

**VII. Multiple-use Coordination Requirements:**

Livestock should be carefully managed to avoid and reduce conflicts with other resources and uses. Albert and Willow Flat campgrounds receive high volumes of visitors. With improvements on Hillyard Canyon road and Franklin Basin road, traffic will increase.

If you have any questions or comments please contact use the contact information below:

	<b>Office</b>	<b>Cell</b>
<b>Dennis Duehren District Ranger</b>	208- 847-0735	
<b>Kevin Parker Supervisory Range Specialist</b>	208- 547-4356	208-313-7328
<b>Jane Rushane Range Specialist</b>	208-847-0375 208- 847-8939	208- 313- 5683

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Permittee(s) Signature

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District Ranger Signature-Dennis Duehren