

**Main Canyon Cattle Allotment
2012 Annual Operating Instructions**

I. Permitted Livestock:

	<u>Permitted</u>	<u>Nonuse</u>
Permittees: Williams-Wheeler Ranches	129	
Carl Wheeler		

Kind: Cattle

Class: Cow/Calf

Period of use: June 16 through August 31*

* In allowance of the BLM land adjacent to the allotment, and lack of boundary fencing, livestock may drift onto the allotment before June 16th. Efforts should be made to keep the cattle in the lower country at the start of the grazing season until utilization levels are reached.

II. Grazing Management:

The cattle will be split into two groups of 64 and 65 head. One group will begin the grazing season in Lower Main Canyon Unit (after utilizing the BLM portion) and be allowed to drift into the Upper Main Canyon Unit until proper use on forage species has been reached. Grazing of the lower units early in the season is encouraged. These lower units are considered deer winter range. The second group will begin grazing in Lower Post Hollow and drift to the Lost Spring Unit. Turning water off to the lower troughs will encourage the cattle to stay in the higher country. Riding will be necessary to move the cattle into the upper units. Main Canyon cattle should be monitored to reduce drift into Moonlight meadow and the Emigration and North Canyon Sheep Allotments.

Year	Lower Main Cy	Upper Main Cy	Lower Post Hollow	Lost Spring
2012	6/16-7/20	7/21-8/31	6/16-7/20	7/21-8/31

These dates are approximate depending on range readiness and utilization.

III. Grazing Standards and Guides:

Your livestock must be removed from an area when allowable forage utilization levels are reached in the uplands. There are no live streams on the allotment, therefore upland standards will apply. The standards apply to both native and desirable non-native, key species. Monitoring of use will include using utilization cages, utilization scales/gauges, ocular estimates or a combination of these three.

Forage Utilization Standards

Upland Forage Utilization	Type of Upland Area	
	Winter Range	Non Winter Range
Grass and Herbaceous Species %	45	55
Shrubs (% annual leader growth)	20	35

With proper forage utilization, impacts to the resource can be minimized. 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 livestock from the allotment will occur.

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. Herding** - 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. 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

VI. Special Instructions:

- ❑ Please become familiar with the terms and conditions of your grazing permit.
- ❑ Please inform the District Office, especially during entry dates, of a convenient time and place to enable an accurate count of livestock to be made.
- ❑ **Actual Use Forms must be returned by November 30th, 2012 following the grazing season. Failure to do so may result in Permit Action.**
- ❑ This year all AOI's will be posted on the internet. In conjunction with this action all permittees must sign the AOI verifying that they have read it and accepted the terms, conditions, and management practices presented in it.

If you have questions or concerns during the grazing season, please call me or the range staff on the zone.

	Office	Cell
Dennis Duehren - District Ranger	(208) 847-0375	
Kevin Parker – Supervisory Range Specialist	(208) 547- 4356	
Jane Rushane – Range Specialist	(208) 847 - 0375 (208) 847 - 8939	(208) 313 – 5683

Sign and Date:

/s/ Carl Wheeler
Permittee(s) Signature

/s/ Dennis Duehren
District Ranger

Main Canyon C&H 2010

