

# Annual Operating Instructions Cattle and Horse Allotments

For the  
Teton Basin Ranger District  
Idaho/Wyoming  
Driggs, Idaho

2012

Caribou- Targhee National Forest  
Intermountain Region

**Tepee Creek C&H Allotment**  
Blaine Briggs  
2012

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**PERMIT INFORMATION**

	Number of livestock	Season of Use
Briggs	180 cow/calf	June 1 – September 30

This allotment is managed as a rest-rotation system consisting of four units. The system is based on grazing three units and resting one unit each year. There is 180 head of livestock permitted on the allotment. This is season 3 for the grazing system in the Allotment Management Plan (AMP) that specifies the following grazing sequence.

* Graze 1 <sup>st</sup>	Unit # 1	Dry Creek	(June 1 to July 14)
Rest	Unit # 2	Briggs Cabin	(REST)
Graze 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Unit # 3	Pole Canyon	(July 15 to August 31)
Graze 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Unit # 4	Head of Bull Elk Creek	(September 1 to September 30)

\*Cattle may be trailed off the allotments through Units #1 or #3 at end of the grazing season. Units 1 and 3 are early grazing units and Units 2 and 4 are late grazing units due to elevation.

**COMPLIANCE**

This AOI is a yearly agreement that is part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8 (a). It is a working document, and situations may develop during the grazing season which requires 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.

**GRAZING STANDARDS**

The Revised Targhee Forest Plan Standards are as follows:

1. Within the Aquatic Influence Zone (AIZ):
  - a. At least four inches of stubble must remain along the hydric greenline (HGL) at the end of the grazing period. The HGL is the first permanent vegetation next to the waters edge.
  - b. Away from the HGL, at least three inches of stubble will be left on the key riparian species at the end of the grazing period.

2. No more than 30 percent use of the current year's growth is allowed on the woody riparian vegetation (i.e., willows)
3. Allowable use on grasses and forbs in the uplands is 45 percent (dry weight); on upland shrubs (i.e., mountain mahogany) it is 35 percent of the current year's growth.

Once these use rates are reached the cattle will have to be moved to the next unit or they may be required to leave the Forest prior to the end of the grazing season. As you know this can be a concern due to the possibility of a below normal moisture summer ahead. Please consider how you may be able to accommodate your livestock on alternate feed sources if they are required to leave the Forest Prior to the end of the grazing season.

### **OWNERSHIP**

Cattle grazed under the Term Grazing Permit, must be owned by the term permit holder and branded with brand(s) authorized by the permit.

### **RANGE IMPROVEMENTS**

Fences and water developments will be maintained prior to cattle entering the allotment. The cattle access trails that were constructed through thick stands of brush and trees should be maintained to ensure cattle may utilize available forage in the uplands to lessen the use in the riparian areas.

We would like to review the allotment with you this summer to assess the needs of range improvements and overall management of the allotment. The authorized officer will contact you with a meeting date.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping in the control of noxious weeds. Remember, all livestock feed or straw brought on to the forest has to be certified weed free. New small infestations of Leafy Spurge were documented in Unit #1 during the 2010 season. We will be treating weeds again this season. Please report to us any new weed patches we have not been treating in the past.

Dead livestock are to be removed from allotment, if resource damage is minimal. This is to prevent any bear to human conflicts.

### **MOTORIZED ACCESS**

The Revised Targhee Forest Plan restricts motorized travel to designated routes only. For administrative purposes, grazing permittee(s) will be issued a permit to travel cross-country to maintain facilities for up to two vehicles per week. This permit should be adequate to allow you to repair water troughs, fences, and other range improvements identified in your Term Grazing Permit on pages 6-8. For projects that will be require the permittee to travel off designated

routes more than two times per week an additional permit will be required. **Remember,** anywhere you drive the public will follow.

### **ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT**

Good herding practices and wise salt placement will be needed to avoid over use of the riparian areas. No salt should be placed within ¼ mile of any created opening with trees less than 6 feet tall.

**Please contact us five days before entering allotment for verification of range readiness.**

Utilize side canyons and bench areas as much as possible. Working for uniform livestock use will allow you to stay longer on each unit.

Any livestock feed or straw brought on the National Forest for camping must be certified weed free.

State laws require all non-virgin bulls to be trichomoniasis tested and tagged 45 days prior to grazing on public lands.

Stocks outside the permitted season or permitted area are considered excess livestock. When excess livestock are identified as belonging to a permittee; the permittee will be billed at the unauthorized use rate and permit action maybe taken.

### **RECORD KEEPING**

Included in your folder is a page of general grazing instructions, an allotment map and an Actual Use Record. Please fill out the record and return it and the folder to us at the end of the grazing season. We appreciate your cooperation in the past of writing your comments on the Actual Use Record. The comments are valuable to help us improve range management of the allotment.

If you have any questions please contact Matt Hoggan, Rangeland Specialist, at (208) 354-6625 desk or cell (208) 313-7915.

Requested by: \_\_\_\_\_ /s/ Blaine Briggs 4/23/2012  
Permittee Briggs Date

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ /s/ Jay Pence 4/25/2012  
JAY PENCE, District Ranger Date