2013 WARDROP C&H ALLOTMENT ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS
SAWTOOTH NATIONAL FOREST - FAIRFIELD RANGER DISTRICT

PERMITTEES	Permitted Numbers	Permitted Head Months	Permitted Season of Use	Authorized Head Months	Authorized Season of Use
Kirk & Stevia Webb Living Trust	228 c/c	1064	6/1 – 10/20	1064	6/1 – 10/20
Ruby Webb	178 c/c	831	6/1 – 10/20	831	6/1 – 10/20
TOTAL FOR 2013	406 c/c	1895	6/1 – 10/20	1895	6/1 – 10/20

HMs are the product of variable numbers and seasons of use (i.e. more time & less numbers or less time & more numbers)

COMPLIANCE:
These Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) are considered part of your Term Grazing Permit, Part 2, Clause 8(a), and you have agreed to carry out its provisions and other instructions upon signing the Term Grazing Permit. Consequently, failure to follow this AOI is a violation of your term grazing permit. The contents of this year's AOI reflect our discussion at your annual meeting. Situations may develop during the grazing season requiring changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, contact the Range Management Specialist to obtain approval before initiating the change.

CHANGE REQUEST NOTIFICATION/PROCEDURE: The permittee will provide the Fairfield District Ranger with notification of any proposed changes to these Annual Operating Instructions. This could include changes in animal number, season of use, length of stay, class of livestock, or a change in pasture rotation. The Fairfield District Ranger or his staff will document and consider the request. If approved, the FS will provide confirmation of the change. You must acquire this authorization and confirmation before initiating any changes.

NOXIOUS WEED MANAGEMENT: According to Idaho law, hay and straw transported onto National Forest land must be certified Noxious Weed Free.

2012 GRAZING SEASON REVIEW

Utilization Review:
The utilization level within the Sampson Creek Pasture was excessive during 2012 and the time allowed in this pasture needs to be reduced this year to 3 weeks or less.

Management Effectiveness Review:
Except for the Sampson Creek Pasture, management of cattle across the rest of the allotment during 2012 appeared to be acceptable. As a reminder, the Basalt riparian pasture should only be used temporarily as livestock may be placed in this pasture as an overnight stop before rotating to the next pasture.

Monitoring:

We will continue gathering stubble height and utilization data at riparian and upland DMA locations this summer. Permittees need to watch these areas closely because it is your responsibility to move livestock to meet the required stubble height standards.

Issues Needing Resolution:

Extra riding may be needed to assure livestock are completely cleaned from a pasture immediately after rotating to the next. Wardrop and Sampson Creek pastures have historically had issues with livestock being left in them.

Coordination:

This year a band of Faulkner sheep will be grazing across the lower end of the Wardrop Pasture to access the Soldier Creek Allotment. Let us know if problems result from this crossing.

BILLING INFORMATION:

Grazing fees for this season will be $1.35 per head month. Payments are to be made by the DUE DATE shown on your grazing bill. The process takes approximately 10 days from the time you submit your bill until it is processed and verified through Lockbox. Notice of payment must be received by the district office prior to your entry. If notice has not been received by the district office you cannot turn out your livestock onto National Forest lands. Payment validates your Term Grazing Permit and authorizes you to graze during the 2013 season.

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

The following is a sequence and schedule for distribution your cattle for the Wardrop Allotment.

2013 ROTATION SCHEDULE

Order of Use	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Unit Name	Sampson	Wardrop	Basalt	Cannonball	Beef Pasture
Cattle Numbers	406	406	406	406	406

1. All bulls or livestock over six months of age are considered permitted animals, meaning they count the same as cows with calves. Livestock will be permitted on the allotment only for the season and numbers listed on the Bill for Collection and only after payment has been received.
2. Planned use may be adjusted by the Forest Service according to range readiness, drought, high fire danger, or due to the availability of forage and water. The length of stay for units may be negotiable but no longer than your permitted season or head months. This will depend on residual stubble heights and overall grazing impacts, especially within riparian areas.

The maximum allowable use level will be influenced by the number of animals, length of stay, weather, amount of herding, and other permittee management practices. It is your responsibility to move livestock from one unit to the next before maximum allowed use is

reached. We would be willing to help you determine the proper time to exit the pasture if you feel the 4" riparian utilization standard is getting close. Just bring this concern to our attention so we may be of assistance. We ask that you give us adequate notice to respond to your request. Permittees are responsible to manage their livestock in a way that does not impair or degrade the condition of the range, especially riparian areas.

STANDARDS & GUIDES

ALLOWABLE USE – Allowable use is the degree of grazing use specified for a particular area or plant species. Refer to the use level stated below. It is the maximum utilization allowed on key upland grasses (40-50% or about 3" left) such as Idaho fescue or bluebunch wheatgrass and key riparian sedges (45% or about 4" left) such as Nebraska sedge. These use levels are the same ones contained in Part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit.

MONITORING – Utilization must be monitored by the permittee and by the Forest Service. We welcome your participation in our monitoring activities. Monitoring of key areas will be used to determine the maximum allowable livestock use on the allotment. Key areas are defined as relatively small areas representative of use that serve as evaluation sites. These areas guide the general management of the entire pasture and will reflect the overall acceptability of your grazing management.

You must remain aware of when these key areas have been fully used to the allowable use level. **It will be your responsibility to monitor livestock use and move cattle to meet end of growing season standards**.

Sawtooth National Forest Utilization Standards

Maximum forage utilization of representative areas within each pasture shall not exceed the values shown at the end of growing season. Variation in utilization standards in order to achieve specific vegetative management objectives may occur with a site-specific or project-level decision according to direction in Forest Service Manual 1922.5

A) **Upland Vegetative Cover Types**: Early season pastures, 1st & 2nd entry = 40% use. (leave about 3.5 inches)
   After seed ripe conditions or late season pastures = 50% use. (leave about 3.0 inches)
B) **Riparian Areas**: Retain at a minimum 4 inches of stubble height for greenline species If allowable use occurs in the last pasture prior to the end of your authorized season, cattle must be removed from the allotment.

STRUCTUAL DEVELOPMENTS: See Part 3 of you Term Grazing Permit for a list of structural range developments. The permittee will inspect and maintain each development according to the Term Grazing Permit specifications. This is required before livestock enter or are placed into the next pasture. Livestock may be held off or may be required to leave the allotment if assigned maintenance has not been completed. Allotment boundary fences must be maintained prior to the entry dates of adjoining allotments. Permittees in non-use status are

still responsible for their proportionate share of maintenance. It is the responsibility of the permittee to notify the Forest Service after each pasture has been maintained and prior to pasture entry.

Note: When you maintain your water developments make sure the wildlife escape ramps are present and functional. Please contact us if you need replacement ramps.

Motorized Vehicle Access to Developments: Unless the FS has decommissioned a particular road segment, all constructed mining and logging roads exhibiting cut and fill slopes will remain open to permittee motorized travel. See your Term Grazing Permit (TGP) for a complete list of closures and exemptions. If requested additional motorized closure exemptions may be granted by the District Ranger.

Motorized Road Closure Exemptions are:

1) The National Forest portion of Sampson Creek.
2) Wells Summit east up to 0.6 miles.
3) Camp Creek repeater maintenance road that forks off the Camp Creek logging road.
4) Cannonball logging roads.

RIDER or PERMITTEE INSTRUCTIONS

LIVESTOCK DISTRIBUTION – Proper salting techniques need to be practiced. Place salt in open areas of low natural livestock concentration at least ¼ mile away from water, and on high ground such as ridges or saddles that are accessible and used as livestock travelways. Do not place salt and supplements on system roads, trails or in meadows. Riding must be done to disperse cattle within each allotment pasture.

OWNERSHIP – Permitted cattle must be owned and marked with a brand registered to the permittee. The brand must also be identified on the TGP application.

REQUIRED REPORTING – The permittee is required to keep accurate records concerning movement of livestock and to furnish such information to the Forest Service. Mid-season actual use reporting must be within a week of moving cattle from one pasture to another. End-of-season actual use reports must be supplied to the Forest Service no later than the last day of October. Death loss records are also desirable because they assist in identifying areas where plant or animal control may be needed in the future. The Permittee must notify the Fairfield Ranger District at least five (5) days before cattle enter the allotment. This will allow district personnel the opportunity to count the livestock if we so desire. Failure to provide on and off dates will be considered permit non-compliance and will also negate the possibility of any future request to adjust your numbers or season of use, or to receive a credit or refund for unused head months.

OTHER – Observing, documenting, and reporting other uses that occur on the allotment provide valuable information regarding overall management. These uses could include:

unauthorized livestock use, mining related activities, recreation conflicts, conflicts with authorized sheep grazing, predator problems, discovery of noxious weeds, and unusual wildlife sightings (e.g. wolverines, lynx, mountain goats, bighorn sheep, moose, etc.)

ADDITIONAL ANNUAL MANAGEMENT CONCERNS

Livestock that are discovered before or after their permitted season or not within their permitted area are considered excess use livestock. When excess use livestock are identified as belonging to a permittee, the permittee can be billed for them at the unauthorized use rate and permit non-compliance action may also be initiated.

Dead livestock must be removed or disposed of on National Forest Lands if they are within 300 feet of flowing water or system trails or roadways.

If you have any questions or suggestion to improve the management of the allotment, please feel free to contact John Shelly at (208) 764-3474 or stop by the district office in Fairfield.

ACTUAL USE SUMMARY

	Sampson	Wardrop	Basalt	Cannonball	Beef Pasture
DATES/NUMBERS ENTERED					
DATES/NUMBERS EXITED					

Remarks: (maintenance, cattle losses, weed infestations, and unforeseen problems)

2013 WARDROP AOI

REVIEWED BY: _____ Permittee _____ Date

_____ Permittee _____ Date

APPROVED BY: /s/ Mike Dettori District Ranger May 23, 2013 Date