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Forest Service
Sawtooth National Forest
Ketchum Ranger District
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2013 Annual Operating Instructions

For Flat Top Sheep Company

Sheep and Goat Allotments

Administered By

The Ketchum Ranger District

Sawtooth National Forest

Permit # 03032

Prepared & Recommended by: Bill Whitaker, Range Management Technician

Approved by: /s/ Kurt J Nelson **June 6, 2013**

District Ranger **Date**

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS 2013

INTRODUCTION

Permittee: Flat Top Sheep Company

Allotments Included:
Fisher-Grays- Porcupine, Elkhorn, Corral Creek, Lower Hyndman, Pioneer Cabin Sheep and Goat Allotments

Permitted Numbers and Seasons:

Numbers	Head Months (HM)	Allotment
Variable numbers and season. Not to exceed 1755 head months. 1 horse	1755 HM	Corral Creek S&G
Variable numbers and season. Not to exceed 1755 head months. 1 horse	1755 HM	Elkhorn S&G
Variable numbers and season. Not to exceed 1755 head months. 1 horse	1755 HM	Lower Hyndman S&G
Variable numbers and season. Not to exceed 6257 head months. 5 horse	6257 HM	Pioneer Cabin S&G
Variable numbers and season. Not to exceed 3532 head months. 5 horse	3532	Fisher/Grays Creek/Porcupine S&G

Authorized Season of Use and Numbers (billing)

Band #1- Lower Hyndman, Elkhorn, and Pioneer Cabin (south unit) Allotments
Band #2- Corral Cr., Elkhorn, and Pioneer Cabin (north unit) Allotments
Band #3- Fisher/Grays/Porcupine Creek Allotment

Numbers/ Class	Season	Allotment	Head months
Band #1 1700 ewe 2 horse	7/01-10/10 7/01-10/10	Lower Hyndman, Elkhorn, Pioneer Cabin (south unit)	5701
Band #2 850 ewe/lamb 850 ewe 2 horse	7/01-10/05 (ship10/05) 10/06-10/09 7/01-10/09	Elkhorn, Corral Creek, Pioneer Cabin (north unit)	2823
Band #3 850 ewe/lamb 5 horse	7/01-09/30 7/01-09/30	Fisher/Grays/ Porcupine	2571

BILLING

Confirmation of payment of fees through the Lock Box in San Francisco must be received prior to livestock entering the allotment. For the purpose of accountability, please contact Robert Garcia or Bill Whitaker five days prior to entering the allotment.

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

Emphasis will be placed upon once-over light use while grazing the bands on the allotments. Carefully review with your herders the **Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines and Grazing Permit Terms and Conditions** section of this document which contains specific management standards, guidelines, conditions and practices found in the amended 2012 Sawtooth National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) as well as your Term Grazing Permit.

Reminder: All livestock feed or straw brought on to the Forest is to be certified noxious weed free.

Specific instructions or management actions such as routing, or areas to avoid will be found in the sections of this AOI specific to the allotment or allotments and the band that uses them. The

following instructions will describe the general routing, season of use, and areas available for grazing and specific management needs to be followed while grazing on the allotments.

Corral Creek - Elkhorn – Pioneer Cabin (north unit) Allotments

Band #2

Grazing use by the sheep in the Elkhorn Allotment will be split between the 850 head lamb band that will also be grazing the Corral Creek allotment and portions of the Pioneer Cabin allotment and the 1700 head dry band that will be using the Lower Hyndman allotment and portions of the Pioneer Cabin allotment. The lamb band will graze primarily in the Parker Gulch drainage in the Elkhorn allotment and the dry band will use the Keystone Gulch and Independence Creek portions.

Following is this year's general grazing route that the lamb band will follow this season:

The Elkhorn, Corral Cr., and Pioneer Cabin (north unit) allotments will be used by a 850 head band of ewes with lambs. The band will enter the Elkhorn allotment at Independence Gulch on approximately 7/1. This band will immediately graze/trail to the Parker Gulch drainage. When the Parker Gulch drainage is grazed to standard the band will move to the small tributary in the Trail Creek drainage that has the guzzler in it adjacent to Boundary campground. The band will then move to the lower portions of the Corral Creek drainage near the junction of the Trail Creek and Corral Creek roads. The band will only use the lowermost portions of the Corral Creek drainage at this time. When the lowermost portion of the Corral Creek drainage is grazed to standard the band will then graze up the Trail Creek drainage to Wilson Creek using the portions of the Corral Creek allotment adjacent to Trail Creek road between the mouth of Corral Creek and the south side of Wilson Creek. When the Wilson Creek area is grazed to standard the band will graze/trail back down Trail Creek to the Corral Creek drainage and begin grazing easterly up the Corral Creek drainage towards Uncle Johns Gulch avoiding areas used previously by the band. As we discussed at this year's spring meeting the watering area located on Corral Creek at the mouth of the un-named drainage immediately west of Uncle Johns Gulch will be avoided by the band (reference AOI map). In addition Uncle Johns Gulch will be avoided at this time in order to provide an un-grazed route for the band to use in order to ship at the corrals located in the Hyndman Creek drainage. If needed the band may cross Uncle Johns Gulch in order to access the upper portions of the Corral Creek drainage however the band should cross high in Uncle Johns Gulch and avoid the corral and the riparian areas in the lower portions of Uncle Johns Gulch above the corral (reference AOI map). Uncle Johns Gulch and the un-named drainage west of Uncle Johns Gulch may be skipped at this time and the band trailed along the road to resume grazing east of Uncle Johns Gulch. Skipping these drainages at this time may facilitate avoiding the lower portions of Uncle Johns Gulch and the watering area on Corral Creek at the un-named drainage west of Uncle Johns Gulch and provide un-grazed areas for the band to use just previous to entering the Hyndman Creek drainage and trailing to the corrals in the Hyndman Creek drainage for shipping towards the end of the grazing season.

When the lower portions of the Corral Creek drainage are grazed to standard (excluding Uncle Johns Gulch) the band will begin grazing north easterly using upland slopes adjacent to Corral Creek and Corral Creek road east of Uncle Johns Gulch and west of the Pioneer Cabin trailhead.

When the area west of the trailhead are grazed to standard the band will then use the upper portions of the Pioneer Cabin Allotment above the trailhead in the Long Gulch and Pioneer Cabin areas. When these drainages are grazed to standard the band will graze/trail down the Corral Creek drainage to Uncle Johns Gulch using previously un-grazed areas skipped earlier to provide an un-grazed route to use. The band will then graze/trail up Uncle Johns Gulch avoiding the lower portions of Uncle Johns Gulch. When the upper portions of Uncle Johns Gulch are grazed to standard the band will trail to the corrals at Hyndman Creek for shipping on approximately 10/5. When trailing to ship at the Hyndman corrals the band will follow the ridge separating the Bear Gulch and Milligan Gulch drainages. After shipping the dry band will trail down the lower portions of Hyndman Creek on the Forest east of the Hyndman Creek road and trail to the Cove Creek drainage to Driveway Gulch on the BLM leaving the Forest on approximately 10/9.

The routing described above assumes that you obtain the proper authorizations from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for trailing through the South East Fork and Indian Creek allotments.

The watering area on Corral Creek located at the junction of the un-named drainage west of Uncle Johns Gulch and the lower approximately ¼ mile of Uncle Johns Gulch is to be avoided by the band. Inspections last grazing season (2012) indicated that these areas were heavily used and need further attention and very careful management. In addition remind the herder that the small headwater spring in the un-named drainage west of Uncle Johns Gulch has also been a problem and that use of this spring needs to be as light as possible (one time). In Uncle Johns Gulch in addition to avoiding the lower portions of the drainage be sure to caution your herders about trailing the steep toe slopes further up the drainage above the water, especially areas associated with conifers. Inform your herders that use in both of these drainages needs to be reduced compared to last grazing season.

The use of a water truck and portable trough is recommended when grazing the portion of the allotment adjacent to Trail Creek road below the Wilson creek area in order to improve distribution and time in this area and reduce reliance on Wilson Creek and Trail Creek for water.

When the band is using the Parker Gulch portion of the Elkhorn allotment, plan on hauling water so the band can be watered near the end on the road in the left fork of Parker Gulch. (This is the drainage leading to Proctor Mt.) Inspections last year showed the herder did a good job avoiding the aspens. Continue watering slightly below the end of the road in this area and avoid the aspen stand at the end of the road.

It is important that the entire length of the upper portion of the Corral Creek drainage adjacent to Long Gulch is used to facilitate once over grazing practices. The sheep have a tendency to skip the lower areas in Long Gulch in preference to higher elevations. You are authorized to place a tent camp above the Pioneer Cabin trailhead to facilitate management in this area. No permanent structures will be allowed at the camp.

<u>One watering</u> will be allowed in the headwaters of Long Gulch. Trailing along the constricted bottom in the head of Long Gulch needs to be avoided. The sheep are not to be moved through this constricted area. Please reference the allotment map and emphasize this area to the herder.

No grazing is allowed above the large sagebrush basin in the head of the left fork of Corral Creek. This area is identified as closed on the AOI map.

Have the herder avoid the immediate area around Pioneer Cabin area and the Pioneer Cabin trailhead.

Please camp in the small drainage immediately across from the last designated campsite in Corral Creek (#13). The sheep need to be carefully managed when watering in this area.

Please inform your herder that bed-grounds need to be well separated spatially in order to achieve "once over" grazing standards. Use GPS maps with collar information provided in the past to help define problem areas to plan this year's grazing strategy. Pay particular attention to areas where GPS points from collar information appear "clustered".

We realize that it may not be entirely possible to avoid crossing areas that have been previously grazed when moving the bands about the allotment. You are authorized to trail across areas that were previously grazed in order to access unused portions of the allotment. Time spent trailing across previously used areas will be limited as much as possible. Careful planning and routing the sheep should be used to minimize this practice.

When shipping at the Hyndman Creek corral, the sheep are to be trailed immediately into the corral. They are to be held in the corral until all sorting is complete. The dry band will be trailed well away from the corral area (1/4 mile) before watering or grazing.

Lower Hyndman-Elkhorn- Pioneer Cabin (south unit) Allotments

Band #1

The Elkhorn, Corral Cr., and Pioneer Cabin (south unit) allotments will be used by 1700 head band of ewes. As previously discussed in this AOI grazing use in the Elkhorn allotment will be split between the lamb band that uses the Corral Creek and the north unit of the Pioneer Cabin allotments and the dry band scheduled to use the Lower Hyndman and south unit of the Pioneer Cabin allotments. The dry band will use the Keystone-Independence Gulch drainages and the lamb band the Parker Gulch drainage.

As we discussed this year, you are authorized to trail off the Forest through the Cove Creek allotment at the end of the grazing season when the dry band leaves the lower Hyndman Creek/Pioneer Cabin allotments. The authorization to trail through Cove Creek is still on a trial basis only. Future use of this route will depend upon observed effects this route has on natural

resources, the permitted grazing operation in the Cove Creek Allotment and any unforeseen issues that may develop. We recognize the advantages this alternative route gives your operation. The band will be trailed through the Cove Creek drainage in one day. It will be your responsibility to obtain the necessary permission or authorization to trail across the BLM portion of the drainage located on the lower end of the Cove Creek drainage. When trailing through the Cove Creek allotment the band will follow the road to the extent possible.

Following is this year's general grazing route that the dry band will follow this season:

A band of 1700 ewes will enter the Forest at Independence Gulch on the Elkhorn allotment on approximately 7/1. The band will graze the Independence Creek and Keystone Gulch portions of the Elkhorn allotment. When this area is grazed to standard the band will trail across the Courier Gulch drainage and enter the Lower Hyndman allotment in the upper portions of Milligan Gulch. The band will graze north easterly thru Milligan Gulch, the upper portions of Larkspur Gulch, and Bear Gulch to the Johnson Creek drainage. When these areas are grazed to standard the band will continue to graze northerly adjacent to Hyndman Creek and the Hyndman Creek road to the North Fork of Hyndman Creek.

In the North Fork of Hyndman Creek drainage, the band will use the lower portions of this drainage to Button Creek. Near the mouth of Button Creek the band will cross the North Fork of Hyndman Creek and cross back over into the main Hyndman Creek drainage near the trailhead. The band may access the upper Hyndman drainage and the upper portions of Hyndman Creek near the yurt by trailing through the old cattle allotment. When trailing through the cattle allotment, the band will trail well above Hyndman Creek along the toe slopes. When leaving the headwaters of the Hyndman Creek drainage the band may again trail through the cattle allotment using a route closer to the creek avoiding the earlier route.

When the upper portions of the Hyndman Creek drainage are grazed to standard the band will then graze/trail in a southerly direction down the main Hyndman Creek drainage adjacent to the road to the Hyndman Creek corrals. When the band reaches the corral area it will continue to trail down the Hyndman Creek drainage across National Forest east of the Hyndman Creek road and the private land adjacent to the road trailing to the Cove Creek drainage using a route different than the Corral Creek band. When leaving the Forest you are authorized to leave via trailing through the Cove Creek allotment. The band will follow the Cove Creek road and is allowed one day to trail through the Cove Creek Allotment.

> **Please use GPS collar information to help plan this year's grazing strategies. Pay particular attention to areas where GPS bedding points appear clustered and try to get as much spatial separation between these points as possible.**
>
> **Inform your herder that the headwater springs in Bear Gulch needs to be lightly used. Close adherence to herding standards of light once over, with sheep well distributed is especially critical in this area. The drainage bottom in the right fork of Bear Gulch near its confluence to Bear Gulch is to be avoided.** ***Be sure to instruct your herder to avoid the small springs near the mouth of this drainage****.*
>
> **The entire reach of the main Bear Gulch drainage needs to be used by the band in order to achieve once over grazing standards.**

We will allow light use of the lower portion of Milligan Gulch for watering and grazing by the band. Please limit watering to 2-3 times along the entire lower reach of Milligan Gulch in the sheep allotment.

Please avoid nooning in the aspen stands in the immediate area of the trough.

The sheep are allowed one day to trail through the cove Creek allotment. The band will follow the road to the extent possible.

The sheep may water in the more gentle portions of the cattle allotment above the trailhead in Hyndman Creek when using the yurt area if necessary. Keep watering in the cattle allotment to a minimum, 2-3 times.

Be sure your herder understands that *all* of the upper cirque basins in the Hyndman Creek drainage are closed to grazing; the closure is marked on the allotment map. As we discussed when we rode this area with you in 2006 the sheep should not go beyond the small stream that they would need to cross in order to access the cirque basins in the North Fork of Hyndman Creek. Grazing use and watering in the small stream that segment that forms the boundary between the open and closed portions of this small stream needs to be managed very carefully. Please have your herder explore a route to access this area further down slope. An alternate route would reduce soil impacts upon a constricted stand of conifer the band needs to trail through to access the area and reduce use in the uppermost stream segment that is open to grazing.

In the yurt area (below Hyndman Peak) we will consider anything beyond the creek where the yurt is located as out of bounds. Conflicts with recreation as well as heavy use from sheep around the yurt area are concerns. Use in this area needs to be watched very closely.

We realize that when the band grazes back through the Hyndman Creek drainage when leaving the upper portions of the Hyndman drainage that it may not be possible to entirely avoid areas previously grazed. You are authorized to trail through areas previously used if necessary. However this practice should be kept to a minimum. Careful routing of the band and skipping areas earlier in the season to provide un-grazed areas later in the season should minimize this practice. Where crossing over areas previously used is unavoidable the band should be rapidly trailed across these areas.

Please avoid the immediate vicinity of the Hyndman Creek trailhead. Along the same note be sure to remind all your herders not to noon the band within 200 yards of any system trails.

Fisher/Grays/Porcupine Allotments

Following is this year's general grazing route that the band will follow this season:

On approximately 7/1, a band of 850 ewes with lambs will enter the Fisher/Grays Creek Allotment at Porcupine Creek. The band will use the lower portions of the Porcupine (Dry Canyon downstream), and Little Baugh Creek drainages for approximately 10 days. The band

will then move to the Fisher Creek drainage and graze the Fisher Creek and then Baugh Creek drainages for approximately 10 days. The middle portion of the Fisher Creek drainage is to be avoided due to lack of capable rangeland. When the Porcupine/fisher Creek/Baugh Creek area is grazed to standard the band will graze up the Baugh Creek drainage and graze across the uppermost portions of the Porcupine Creek drainage to the Grays Creek drainage. The band will then use the upper portions of the Grays Creek drainage.

When the upper portions of the Grays Creek drainage is grazed to standard the band will cross over to the Iron Mine drainage via upper Pasture Creek. After the Iron Mine drainage is grazed to standard the band will cross back through previously unused portions of the upper Pasture Creek drainage and use the lower un-used portions of Pasture and Grays Creek drainages. The band will then graze up Aspen Gulch and Corral Creek to the head of Burks Creek. The band will then trail across the head of Burks and LeMoyne Creek to the headwaters of Painter Creek. The band will then graze across the heads of the Painter and Prunty Creek drainages leaving the Forest via Buck Creek on 9/30.

> **Please use the 2010 GPS collar information that was provided in 2011 to help plan this year's grazing strategies. Pay particular attention to areas where GPS bedding points appear clustered and try to get as much spatial separation between points as possible. The 2010 data indicated that overall the herder did a very good job managing distribution on the allotments. The data does indicate that more attention needs to be given to distribution in the Drop Canyon/Corral Canyon and the lower Pasture Creek areas.**
>
> **The riparian area in the lower portions of Porcupine Creek is in poor condition. Due to the constrictive nature of this drainage the herder needs to be extra careful to avoid trailing the bottom with the band and repeated use. The band needs to be well distributed when watering in this area.**
>
> **The Fisher Creek drainage bottom approximately one mile up from the Forest boundary is to be avoided by the sheep.**
>
> **Due to the rough terrain and lack of capable area in the headwater portions of LeMoyne and Burks Creek limit use to trailing only, across these drainages.**
>
> **Please avoid using the immediate area around the outfitter camp located in the lower portions of the Grays Creek drainage.**

COMPLIANCE

This AOI is made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). **Procedures for modifying this AOI:** 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.

REPORTING

You are required to provide timely and complete actual use information to the Forest Officer in charge upon request. Use of calendars, maps, or actual use forms provided will be utilized to record dates for turning out, shipping, leaving the allotment, as well as location and number of days of use of each camp and or prominent drainage (those identified on maps).

We need to know dates of entry into each new allotment or major drainage, noteworthy change in sheep numbers, occupied camp or band locations with dates of occupancy, periods of use within specific drainages, and maintenance of range facilities. Please notify us of significant losses, from predators or poisonous plants, herding problems (logistical or due to unforeseen circumstances), conflicts with other Forest users, and any other grazing related information you feel is worth reporting.

Weekly reporting for trail information updates will suffice as actual use reporting with the addition of any notable changes in numbers of mature sheep. **Not reporting to my range staff: (1) weekly sheep locations; and (2) intended routing patterns could prompt non-compliance procedures.** Please phone my range staff or provide this information no later than Wednesday noon of each week. If my range staff is not available leave the information on his phone, e-mail, or provide written information to the front desk personnel at the Ketchum District office.

INSPECTIONS AND MONITORING

Inspections will be made within each allotment to monitor grazing use and insure compliance with the direction set forth within the AOI. Standard monitoring will include visual inspections, photo points, and rapid assessments to estimate use and ground cover.

Seph Phalen with the Central Idaho Grazing Land Network and my range staff are planning on working together and establishing monitoring sites in the Lower Hyndman, Corral Creek, Elkhorn, and Pioneer Cabin Allotments this year which we commonly refer to as the "Pioneer Complex". We will probably not cover all the allotments in the "Complex". Any suggestions you may have would be appreciated.

2012 SEASON GRAZING RESULTS

Corral Creek-Elkhorn-Pioneer Cabin (north unit) Allotment complex- Overall the herder did a good job managing the sheep. However as we discussed at this year's annual meeting heavy use by sheep was observed in 2012 at the watering area on Corral Creek at the junction to the un-named drainage immediately west of Uncle Johns Gulch and in the lower portions of Uncle Johns Gulch. Grazing use in these areas has been identified in the past as needing careful management in order to avoid adverse effects. As a consequence of the heavy use observed in these areas are to be avoided by the band this grazing season. Emphasize to your herders our grazing standards found in this AOI are to be followed at all times.

COOPERATION

The Ketchum Ranger District will continue to work with the Defenders of Wildlife, Blaine County, and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. If you have or suspect you will have problems with wolves while on the district please contact this office so that appropriate management can be determined. Adjustments can be made to routing or bedding as the need arises, to head off problems.

Questions about what can or cannot be done in reference to defending flocks, harassing wolves, or shooting wolves should be directed to Jerome Hansen at the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) Regional Office in Jerome, Idaho (208-324-4359) or John Rachael at the Fish and Game office in Boise, Idaho (208-334-3700); Todd Grimm, USDA APHIS Wildlife Services in Boise, Idaho (208-378-5077); or local Wildlife Service's contacts. Permittees should continue working with their local Wildlife Services representative on depredation issues.

In order to reduce the potential for depredation, the Forest Service recommends that the following procedures be implemented each grazing season:

> *Keep camp meat in coolers, and not hung.*
> *Burn, bury, or pack out food leftovers, bones, garbage etc. including food not consumed by dogs accompanying the herders.*
> *Bury or remove sheep and saddle stock carcasses from the area where they will not serve as an attractant to predators. The intent of this recommendation is not to require removal of carcasses from the allotment, but to remove them out of areas currently being grazed of areas soon to be grazed. Fladry fencing around carcasses has been shown to be effective in deterring wolves from consuming carcasses of domestic livestock.*
> *Work with IDF&, Defenders field assistants and Wildlife Services in implementing other effective preventative actions to reduce the risk of depredation.*

Contact the range staff at the Ketchum Ranger District (208-622-5371) for local Wildlife Service's contact information.

The Forest Service recognizes that you and the Idaho Department of Fish & Game have developed a "Best Management Practice for Separation between Domestic Sheep and Bighorn Sheep" agreement because of the potential for conflict between wild sheep and domestics. In addition to BMP's agreed to in that agreement, we also require the herders conduct regular sightings throughout the day for bighorn sheep. We also require that the permittee make the appropriate contact with the Forest Service or Idaho Department of Fish & Game if a bighorn sheep sighting is reported by the herder while tending the sheep on or within one mile of the sheep.

The potential of conflicts with the general public and grazing, such as trail damage, or guard dogs is especially high on the Corral Creek, Lower Hyndman, and Pioneer Cabin allotments due to the proximity of several high use recreation trails, roads, and busy trailheads. The herder will need to be attentive with the sheep and guard dogs to reduce conflicts while in these areas, especially if in close proximity to system trails or roads. The trailheads and major trails will be posted informing the public that sheep are in the area. The herder will be given additional signs

that will be moved with the sheep and placed at strategic locations more proximal to the sheep in order to inform the public of the presence of sheep and guard dogs.

We will continue to update the weekly on-line recreation trail report regarding the location of sheep bands. Please provide us with this band location information by Wednesday noon each week. This information along with signing informing the public that sheep are in the area has proven successful in preventing conflicts with recreational use of the trails.

DROUGHT

Drought conditions will be monitored as the season progresses. Grazing will be managed on an allotment by allotment basis focusing on water availability and soil disturbance. This year's water content in the snowpack is well below average and dry spring conditions are a concern. Due to low water content in the snowpack and dry conditions the possibility of livestock leaving the allotments early this year for resource protection is a possibility. We recommend planning for this possibility.

Current weather and a drier than normal winter/spring has increased the probability that the 2013 wildfire season will be similar to last season or worse. Consequently implementation of fire restrictions or other actions is a definite possibility.

Terms and Conditions for Sheep Grazing

Following are the Forest Plan standards, guidelines and Grazing Permit terms, conditions and practices applicable to sheep grazing that must be followed while grazing on the Ketchum Ranger District.

These permit standards, guidelines, terms and conditions are needed to move toward or to achieve the desired conditions, goals, and objectives for vegetation, wildlife, fish, riparian, soil and water resources described by the Sawtooth Forest Land & Resource Management Plan. Other than *Guidelines*, the following Terms & Conditions are binding limitations placed on management actions. *Guidelines* represent preferred or advisable courses of action that are generally expected to be carried out.

Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines:

- **Only one night/one time use of bed grounds is allowed. (standard*)*.**
- **Only open or loose sheep herding will be practiced except where site-specific vegetation management (e.g., noxious weed control or reforestation) is needed. (standard)**
- **Only annual once-over sheep grazing will be allowed, with the exception of designated sheep driveways, travel routes, or where specifically authorized. (standard)**
- **Livestock salting will be prohibited in RCA's (riparian conservation areas). Sheep will be salted only at bed grounds. Salt will be placed in containers and moved with the sheep. Tarps and hollowed logs meet the criterea for salting in containers. (standard)**

- **Only certified noxious weed-free hay, straw, or feed is allowed on National Forest Systems lands. (standard)**
- **Earth-disturbing equipment used on National Forest System lands- such as cats, graders, and front-loaders-shall be cleaned to remove all visible plant parts, dirt, and material that may carry noxious weed seeds. Cleaning shall occur prior to entry onto the project area and again upon leaving the project area, if the project area has noxious weed infestations. (standard)**
- **New, reconstructed, or replaced livestock water developments must provide access and escape to and from water for all types of wildlife. (standard, refrence part Three of the Term Grazing Permit under maintenance of structural range improvments)**
- **On all lands outside of designated travelways, motorized use shall be prohibited unless otherwise authorized. (standard)**
- **Damage to or loss of Forest System trails from timber harvest, livestock grazing, road construction, mining, special uses, and prescribed fire activities should be repaired or mitigated by the appropriate party. (guideline)**
- **Sheep should be routed to avoid slopes with loose soil conditions, active gullies, and snowbank areas that have low productivity, soil puddling, and compaction conditions. (guideline, generally site specific in the AOI)**

SHEEP HERDING:

1. **The permittee or herd manager will provide sufficient riders or herders to obtain proper distribution, protection, and management of sheep on the allotment as required by the Rangeland Project Decision (RPD)/Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and/or the Annual Operating Instructions (AOI).**
2. **Do not allow sheep to be shaded or bedded within 100 yards of all streams. If this is not resonable due to topography ensure that the sheep are as far back as possible from the streambank.**
3. **Graze no closer than 200 yards from all lakes or ponds specified as closed to sheep grazing in Part 3 or your Term Grazing Permit. This may not apply on all allotments. Check Part 3 on your Term Grazing Permit.**
4. **Do not bed sheep within 200 yards of designated campgrounds, trails, trail heads, or maintained roads.**
5. **Graze rather than trail to water, and water at different locations each time.**
6. **The permittee is required to provide a copy of the Annual Opering Instructions to each herder, and to ensure each herder understands the written contents.**

OTHER

7. **Permittees are responsible for cleaning or repairing system roads and trails damaged by sheep to the condition existing prior to trailing. Immediate action is required. (standard)**
8. **All predator control will be in accordance with the approved Predator Control Plan and Federal and State laws and regulations.**
9. **Promptly remove or bury any sheep that have died within 100 yards or in sight of administrative sites, system roads or trails, corrals or sources of water.**
10. **Before and after shipping, sheep will not be allowed to graze, shade, or bed within one-quarter mile of the corral. Exception: After leaving the corral, the sheep will be allowed to water one time before departing the immediate area.**
11. **Control guard dogs when other Forest users or pets are near by.**

SHEEP CAMPS

12. **Each camp will be kept clean. All litter and unburned material from fire pits will be hauled away and disposed of off-Forest. Human waste must be buried if it is within 150 feet from water. The use of detergent in streams is prohibited.**
13. **Only existing herder camps are approved for use. New camp locations must be approved by a Forest Service officer.**
14. **Camps will be kept in primitive condition. No improvements will be allowed. If a new fire pit is constructed, dismantled it and restore the area before moving your camp.**
15. **Herder camp use will not exceed 5 days per location unless prior permission is obtained from a Forest officer. Camps should be located to avoid conflict with other Forest users**
16. **At camp, pack and saddle stock will be high-lined, picketed or hobbled. Tying pack or saddle stock to trees at camp is prohibited.**
17. **Holding pens, corrals, or mangers used for riding stock will be cleaned up when camp is moved.**

FIRE

18. **Employees must be kept informed of the current fire danger, situation, and the permittee's fire prevention responsibility. The Forest Service will advise the permittee when special fire restrictions become effective.**
19. **Exhaust from camp stoves must be filtered through a spark arrestor screen with 3/8 inch (or smaller) mesh.**
20. **Never leave campfires unattended.**
21. **Possession of an adequate shovel and bucket for fire control is required at camps**.

WOLF Guidelines

22. The permittee will be contacted immediately when the district becomes aware of wolves in an area. Possible re-routing of the band may be agreed on between the permittee and the District Ranger.
23. At camp, meat will be kept in containers to avoid attracting wolves.
24. Food wastes will be burned, buried, or packed out with other camp refuse.
25. Preventive measures should be coordinated with Idaho Fish and Game.
26. Only bed sheep down for one night per bed ground under normal circumstances. When there is wolf activity in the area and fladry is used to minimize predation, bed grounds may be used for more than one night. In the event of this situation bed ground site selection needs to be discussed with the Range Management Specialist for this allotment.

IMPROVEMENTS

27. The permittee is responsible for the maintenance of structural range improvements as delineated on Part 3 of your Term grazing Permit. These improvements will be maintained prior to placing sheep on the allotment. Please refer to your permit for the specific maintenance standards for structural range improvements.

Enclosures: Spanish Standards and Guidelines, allotment maps will be provided prior to the sheep entering the allotments.

Sincerely,

/s/ Kurt J. Nelson
KURT J. NELSON
Ketchum District Ranger