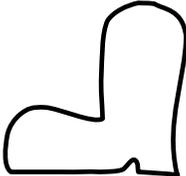


Annual Operating Instructions Cattle and Horse Allotments

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

2013

Caribou- Targhee National Forest
Intermountain Region

	<p>Packsaddle C&H Allotment Jim Douglass 2013</p>	
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PLEASE CONTACT US FIVE DAYS IN ADVANCE OF STOCKING THE ALLOTMENT

PERMIT INFORMATION

Number of livestock authorized to graze this year.	Season of Use
150 head of cow/calf pairs	6/15 to 9/30

This allotment is managed as a rest-rotation system consisting of 5 units. The system is based on grazing four units and resting one unit each year. This system will be modified to accomplish the objectives desired for the winter range. The 2013 schedule will be to start grazing unit # 2 first then move into unit #3 for 36 days then unit #4 and finish grazing in unit #5. The Packsaddle Allotment has annually rested these 5 pastures and the allotment is in good shape. During the summer of 2012 the allotment experienced below average precipitation and the stocking rates were adequate. This year (2013) has potential for drought-like conditions; please have additional forage available for your livestock if you have to come off the allotment early.

Grazing Rotation Schedule

		Days	Resting Unit Schedule
Unit #1	Rest	0	2002/2007/2013* scheduled
Unit #2	6/16 – 7/01	14	2008/2010/2012 completed
Unit #3	7/01 – 8/05	36	2009/2011/2016 planned
Unit #4	8/05 – 9/16	19	2003/2005/2014 planned
Unit #5	9/16 -- 9/30	14	2004/2006/2015 planned

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) D or  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. We will be treating weeds again this season. Please report to us any new weed patches we have not been treating in the past.

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 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. Don't graze cattle in plantations and clearcuts until trees are 3- feet tall.

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

State laws require all non-virgin bulls that are running on public lands to be trichomoniasis tested and tagged.

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 may be taken.

Livestock carcasses will be removed from National Forest Service Lands when feasible. If it is not feasible to remove the carcass it will be disposed of ¼ mile from frequently occupied human areas (trails/ houses/ streams).

