

**Annual Operating Instructions  
Sheep and Goat Allotments**

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

**2013**

**Caribou- Targhee National Forest  
Intermountain Region**

**Annual Operating Instructions  
Piney Peak S&G Allotment  
Siddoway Sheep Company  
2013**



**PLEASE CONTACT US FIVE DAYS IN ADVANCE OF STOCKING THE ALLOTMENT**

**Permit Information**

Permitted Livestock	Season of Use
1200 Ewes with Lambs or 1800 Yearlings	6/25 – 9/15
6 head of horses	6/25 – 9/15
Authorized Livestock	Season of Use
Yearlings ( 1650 )	6/25 – 9/15
6 head of horses	6/25 – 9/15

The Piney Peak Sheep and Goat allotment is a newly conformed allotment composed of two allotments being combined; the Thousand Springs Allotment (Teton Basin R. D.) and the West Piney Allotment (Palisades R. D.). See 2013's grazing rotation below:

2013 Grazing Rotation	Units
1 <sup>st</sup> Graze	North Piney
2 <sup>nd</sup> Graze	West Piney
3 <sup>rd</sup> Graze	Chicken Peak
4 <sup>th</sup> Graze	Cold Springs
5 <sup>th</sup> Graze	Thousand Springs
6 <sup>th</sup> Graze	Hilton
Rest	Flemming

## **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 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 water's 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 sheep 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**

Sheep 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 sheep entering the allotment. The sheep access trails that were constructed through thick stands of brush and trees should be maintained to ensure sheep 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. **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.

**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.

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).

### **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.

