

Annual Operating Instructions Cattle and Horse Allotments

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

2013

Caribou- Targhee National Forest
Intermountain Region

Tepee Creek C&H Allotment
Blaine Briggs
2013

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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 year grazing schedule will be as follows, and was develop to help with cooperative efforts between Forest Service (FS), FS permittee, and private landowners, to allow extra time to maintain fence structures and disperse new cattle into the backcountry. This grazing rotation is year 2 on the modified pasture rest-rotation system found on page 4 of the current Allotment Management Plan (AMP).

Graze 1 st	Unit # 3	Pole Canyon	(June 1 to July 14)
Graze 2 nd	Unit # 4	Head of Bull Elk Creek	(July 15 to August 31)
Rest	Unit # 1	Dry Creek	(REST)
Grazed 3 rd	Unit # 2	Briggs Cabin	(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 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 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. A small new infestation of Leafy Spurge was documented in Unit #1, along the Jackpine-Pinochle Loop Road during the 2010 season. Monitoring indicates that the infestation has been reduced to a few scattered plants with the infestation. We will be monitoring and treating weeds again this season. Please report to us any new weed infestations that have not been treated in the past.

Dead livestock are to be removed from sensitive areas, if resource damage is minimal. This is to prevent any bear to human conflicts and part of your permit guidelines.

