2013 Bear Lake Cattle Allotment

Annual Instructions

These Instructions are guidelines for managing your allotment during the 2013 grazing season. We have also included your **Actual Use Form, which should be completed and returned with the folder to the Montpelier Ranger District by November 30th, 2013.**

I. Permitted Livestock

Permittee and Permitted Livestock

Listed below are the permittees on the allotment, permitted numbers, and divisions that your livestock will start in. The permitted dates for the allotment are from 6/26-9/25 for 766 cow/calf pairs.

Permittee	Permitted Numbers	North Division	South Division
Arnell, Dallas	37		Green Canyon
Bateman, Lark, Todd, Peter	53	Worm Creek	
Bunderson, Lyman	71		Green Canyon
Cleveland, Jack T.	32		Middle Fork South Canyon
Keetch, Wayne	21		Maple Canyon
Michaelson, Norma/Harry	6		Fish Haven*
Pugmire, Dennis	36		Green Canyon
Pugmire, Jaren	33		Green Canyon
Pugmire Ranch LLC	40		Green Canyon
Rasmussen, A. Charles or Deann	32	Big Creek	
Transtrum, Glenn or Linda	173	Big Creek(97)	Middle Fork South Canyon(76)
Transtrum, Clair or Stacey	78	Big Creek	
Transtrum. Monte or Leisa	77	Dry Canyon/Worm Creek	
Transtrum, Todd or Lisa	77		Maple Canyon
Total	**766**	**337**	**429**

If you intend to take any non-use, it must be approved prior to the grazing season. As a reminder, you must own the livestock you place on the allotment. Leasing of livestock is a violation of your term grazing permit and will result in the cancellation of your permit.

II. Grazing Rotation

The South Bear River Range Allotment Management Plan Revisions Final Environmental Impact Statement (AMP) decision stated that we are going to use adaptive management to manage this allotment. This means that adjustments to the rotation may be made to improve efforts in meeting standards and guides set forth by the Forest Plan and AMP.

1. North Division

The North Division includes Big Creek Units and St. Charles Dry (Crib Spring)/Worm Creek Units. The lower St. Charles Unit will have approximately 150 pair for two weeks and then livestock will be moved into Lower St. Charles Dry(Crib Spring)/Worm Creek. When the North Fork of St. Charles Canyon is ready to graze, about 100 pair of livestock will be trailed along the Davis Canyon Trail to the North Fork of St. Charles Canyon. Cattle are authorized within St. Charles Canyon for a 24 hour holding period (during the low period of recreation use-mid week) when moving to the North Fork of St. Charles pasture. Please notify the office when cattle are being moved.

2. South Division

Livestock will be started in the lower canyons (Fish Haven and Green Canyon) until proper use on forage species has been reached. See Forage Utilization Tables 1,2,3,4. Once use levels are reached in the lower canyons, livestock will be moved up into Beaver/Sinks area second. Try to keep cattle off of Egan Basin and Franklin Basin until August 1st. After August 1st cattle should be allowed to drift into the Franklin Basin area. As cattle start drifting back from Franklin Basin some could be moved into lower Beaver Creek.

When in Franklin Basin keep in mind that you are in common use with sheep. The Franklin Basin sheep will graze on the ridge west of Egan Basin, the ridge to the northeast of the basin and then trail along the top of the basin into Snowslide Canyon and upper North Fork of St. Charles. The sheep may water two days in Upper Egan Basin but must not bed by the ponds. Generally the sheep will graze the ridge and near Hidden Lake. Allotment utilization standards apply to these areas regardless of use by cattle, sheep or combination. Once standards are met then it is time to move to the next pasture or off the Forest.

III. Grazing Standards and Guides

Standards and Guides covering the allotments are found in the *2003 Revised Forest Plan for the Caribou National Forest* or the *South Bear River Range Allotment Management Plan Revisions Final Environmental Impact Statement* and are part of your permit. The proper use standards/triggers for this allotment are listed in tables 1, 2 and 3 below. Your livestock must be removed from an area when the allowable forage utilization levels are reached in either the uplands or the riparian areas. The utilization standards will apply to, both native and desirable non-native, key species. Stubble heights on riparian areas will have to be adjusted to meet percent utilization standards if non-native species such as red-top or Kentucky blue grass are monitored. Monitoring of use will include using utilization cages, utilization scales/gauges, ocular estimates or a combination of these three.

Table 1. Riparian Zone Forage Utilization and Stubble Heights Aquatic Influence Zone (AIZ)				
Season of Use	**Properly Functioning Condition (%/Stubble Height)**	**Functioning at Risk (High to Moderate) (%/Stubble Height)**	**Functioning at Risk (Low to Non Functioning) (%/Stubble Height)**	**Non Functioning (States C & D) (%/Stubble Height)**
Spring	65/2	55/3	45/4	55/3
Summer	55/3	45/4	35/5	45/4
Fall	45/4	35/5	20/6+	35/5

A. The standards in Table 1 above are the riparian forage utilization standards that will be applied.

If it is determined that bank disturbance/alteration, greenline stubble height or woody/shrubby species utilization should replace the utilization triggers listed above it will be addressed in the site specific standards below. Riparian site specific standards will be established when a Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) rating is conducted on the riparian area. The site specific standards for riparian areas will come directly from the PFC rating and the latest Grazing Implementation Guide. If a site specific PFC rating has not been conducted on a riparian area standards for the area will be established by the Range Specialist on the allotment.

Site-specific riparian standards for the Bear Lake Range Allotment:

Table 2. North Division Riparian Standards			
Stream	**Rating**	**Stream Group**	**Forage Stubble Height Standard in the AIZ****
St. Charles Creek	Proper Functioning Condition	4	2/3/4
North Fork of St. Charles	Proper Functioning Condition	4	2/3/4
Water Fork	Proper Functioning Condition	4	2/3/4
Worm Creek Meadow @Boiler	Functioning at Risk-High	14 *	3/4/5
Worm Creek below Boiler	Proper Functioning Condition	4	2/3/4

* This portion of stream rated out as a stream group 14 because it was more than likely moved for the Sawmill.

Table 3. South Division Riparian Standards			
Stream	**Rating**	**Stream Group**	**Forage Stubble Height Standard in the AIZ****
Beaver Creek 200 yards above Pats Hollow junction.	Proper Functioning Condition	4	2/3/4
Beaver Creek 200 above Pats Hollow junction to state line.	Functioning at Risk-Moderate	4	3/4/5
Franklin Basin Creek from road to Gibson Lake down.	Proper Functioning Condition	15	2/3/4
Franklin Basin Creek from road to Gibson Lake up.	Functioning at Risk-Low	11	4/5/6
Fish Haven Creek	Functioning at Risk-Moderate	15	3/4/5

** The three values are relevant to early season, mid season and late season of use. Early season use would begin at the start of the growing season until July 15th, Mid season July 16th to August 15th and late August 16th to end of growing season. These dates are a guide to the season of use. Climate, elevation and temperature may result in adjustments to the season of use.

Table 4. Upland Forage Utilization Levels			
Allowed Upland Forage utilization	**Type of Upland Area**		
	Critical Winter Range	**Winter Range**	**Non Winter Range**
Grasses and herbaceous Species (% dry weight)	35	45	55
Shrubs (Annual leader growth)	10	20	35

B. The standards in Table 4 above are the upland forage utilization standards that will be applied:

Areas on the allotment considered critical winter range are:

- *North Division*: Crib Springs, Worm Creek, St. Charles.
- *South Division*: Fish Haven, Green Canyon.

The critical winter range within the areas listed above would be the SW facing slopes. With the exception of critical winter range areas, the remaining utilization level on the allotment is 55%.

Utilization of upland vegetation will be based on stubble height and percent of total weight grazed on key forage species. **Key grass species** include Idaho fescue (*Festuca idahoenis*), bluebunch wheatgrass (*Elytrigia* (Agropyron) *spicata*), tufted hairgrass (Deschampsia cespitosa) and mountain brome (*Bromus carinatus*). Table 5 documents use levels that were gathered in Key areas for 2011.

Table. 5 Use documented on key areas for the 2012 Grazing season.	
Key Site	**Percent Use**
Beaver Cr/Pats Hollow	50% in AIZ Permitted 45%
Naked Flat	50% in AIZ Permitted 45%
Head Waters of Logan River upland	45% in uplands Permitted 55%
Franklin Basin/North End	4 inch stubble within standard of Permitted
Lower Green	40% in Upland Permitted 45%
St. Charles Creek	Recorded 5 inch stubble need 4
St. Charles Upland	32% in Upland Permitted 35%
St. Charles Dry Upland	35% in Upland Permitted 35%
Worm Creek	35% in Upland Permitted 35%
Crib Spring	36% in Upland Permitted 35%
Water Canyon	Recoded 3 inch stubble need 4

Average clip and weigh with the utilization gauge.

Proper use standards will be the determining factor in deciding if livestock are allowed to graze the entire season or must be removed early.

The following are some measures that you can take to reduce the impacts that may affect your operation:

- Make every effort to keep livestock well distributed. An intensive management effort to obtain proper distribution on available forage is essential.
- Monitor your allotment closely to ensure that allowable forage utilization is not exceeded.
- Properly maintain all water troughs and fences.
- Livestock should be managed to avoid and reduce conflicts with other resources in the area.

As the season progresses, Forest Personnel will be routinely checking range and forage conditions. If monitoring determines that there is a shortage of forage, or other associated resources are sustaining unacceptable impacts, early removal of the livestock from the allotment will occur. If livestock are removed from the Forest early your remaining grazing fees will be credited to next year's fee. This must be requested by you in your actual use form.

IV. Permittee Responsibilities

1. **Salting -** Salt should be placed in lightly used areas and used as a distribution tool. Salt is not permitted in riparian areas, forest plantations, shade-up areas, roads, or areas where cattle normally tend to congregate. Use of a packhorse is recommended to get salt into areas that receive light use. Rotate or remove salt from areas receiving excessively heavy use.

2. **Herding -** Effective and frequent riding is a good method of achieving uniform forage utilization and extending use in riparian areas. Cattle should be checked regularly to ensure they are properly distributed.

3. **Weed-free hay -** Any hay or straw brought on the Forest must be certified, "Weed free".
4. **Maintaining Improvements -** All improvements listed in part 3 of your permit must meet Forest Service Standards. These standards may be set by the Forest Officer over the allotment. A delay in livestock turnout on the allotment will result if improvements do not meet acceptable standards prior to the grazing season. If they are not up to standard, and your livestock are on the allotment, administrative action may be taken against your permit. Maintenance work should be completed prior to cattle entering the allotment and to standards.

   The following permittees are responsible for maintaining the improvements on the allotment to standards of repair, orderliness, and safety acceptable to the Forest Officer in charge:

Permittee	Range Improvement Assignment	Condition
Arnell, Dallas	Shingle Mill Fence West	Poor
Bateman, Lark, Todd Peter	Limekiln to Davis fence Ransom Spring	Poor
Bunderson, Lyman	Hidden Spring Water System	Fair
Cleveland, Jack T.	1st Summit fence	Proposed
Keetch, Wayne	Naked Flat Fence, Crossley Hollow Fence	Poor
Michaelson, Norma/Harry	Black Jack Water	Fair
Pugmire, Dennis	2nd Summit to Beaver Drift	Fair
Pugmire, Jaren	Old Logan Road Water	Fair
Pugmire Ranch LLC	Shingle Mill Fence East, Green Canyon Spring	Pipeline new in 2011
Rasmussen, A. Charles or Deann	Davis Canyon Fence	Poor
Transtrum, Glenn	Fish Haven Fence, Middle Fork South Canyon Spring **Dugway Fence**	Fair **NEW**
To be assigned	Willow Spring Exclosure	
Transtrum, Clair or Stacey	Dry Canyon Water System , Eddys Mill Drift	New 2012
Transtrum, Glenn or Linda	Worm Creek Water System, Broiler Drift, North Fork St. Charles Fence	Pipeline new in 2011.
Transtrum. Monte or Leisa	Dry/STC Division Fence- Crib Springs	Fair
Transtrum, Todd or Lisa	Maple Water System –Little Right Hand Springs	Fair

5. **Noxious weeds-** Dyer's woad, leafy spurge, and thistle are located on your allotment. Because of budget constraints, the control of noxious weed needs to become a joint effort. If you know of any infestations bring them to the attention of the Forest Officer. There may be

spray days coordinated on your allotment and your assistance with them would be advantages for all.

V. Special Instructions

All AOI's will be posted on the internet. In conjunction with this action all permittees must sign the AOI showing that they have read it and accept the terms, conditions, and management practices presented in it.

Permittee may be allowed motorized access to maintain or develop range improvements assigned in their grazing permits, or for other authorized administrative activities. AMP or AOI should include the direction to comply; travel permits should be issued to authorize this use (RFP 3-43).

VI. Wolf Status:

Wolves in Idaho are no longer under the protection of the federal Endangered Species Act.
On May 5, 2011, wolf management in all of Idaho reverted to state management under state code 36-1107 and Idaho's 2002 Wolf Conservation and Management Plan. [PDF, 662 KB]
Simply put, the law says wolves molesting or attacking livestock or domestic animals may be disposed of by livestock or domestic animal owners, their employees, agents and animal damage control personnel. No permit from Fish and Game is necessary. The incident must be reported to the Fish and Game director within 72 hours, with additional reasonable time allowed if access to the site where taken is limited. Wolves so taken shall remain the property of the state.
Livestock and domestic animal owners may take all nonlethal steps they deem necessary to protect their property. A permit must be obtained from the director to control wolves not molesting or attacking livestock or domestic animals. Control is also permitted by owners, their employees and agents pursuant to the Idaho department of fish and game harvest rules.
"Molesting" means the actions of a wolf that are annoying, disturbing or persecuting, especially with hostile intent or injurious effect, or chasing, driving, flushing, worrying, following after or on the trail of, or stalking or lying in wait for, livestock or domestic animals.

http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/public/wildlife/wolves/?getPage=167
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Idaho State Office - Toll-free at: 877-661-1908
To report suspected wolf depredations on livestock or pets, contact
USDA Wildlife Services: Toll-free at: 866-487-3297 or 208-378-5077

VII. Forms to be Completed

- **Actual Use Forms must be returned by November 30th, 2013 following the grazing season. Failure to do so may result in Permit Action.**

If you have questions or concerns during the grazing season, feel free to call me or any of the range staff on the zone. Our phone numbers are as follows.

	Office	Cell
Dennis Duehren **District Ranger**	208) 847-0735	
Kevin Parker **Supervisory Range Specialist**	(208) 547-4356	(208)313-7328
Garth Nelson **Range Specialist**	(208) 547-1107 (208) 547-4356	(208) 313-7910
Jane Rushane **Range Specialist**	(208) 847-0375 (208) 847-8939	(208) 313- 5683

Annual Operating Instructions
Bear Lake C&H Allotment
Montpelier Ranger District
2013

Accepted By on March 30, 2013: *_/s/ Todd Transtrum_*

*_/s/ Monte Transtrum_*

*_/s/ Glenn Transtrum_*

*_/s/ Clair Transtrum_*

*_/s/ Dallas Arnell_*

*_/s/ Wayne Keetch_*

*_/s/ Jaren Pugmire_*

*_/s/ Charles and Deann Rasmussen_*

*_/s/ Lloyd Pugmire_*

*_/s/ Dennis Pugmire_*

*_/s/ Jack Cleveland_*

Approved By: *_/s/ Dennis Duehren_* *_5/23/2013_*

Dennis Duehren **Date**