



**The standards in the table below are the riparian forage utilization standards that will be applied:**

Riparian Zone Forage Utilization and Stubble Heights (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

\* The three categories refer to the time of season the livestock are in riparian areas (e.g. early/mid/late summer). Forage Utilization Site-specific Standards from the Caribou National Forest Riparian Grazing Implementation Guide, *version 1-2*, 2005.

Foster and Sugar creek are functioning at risk. Bonneville Cutthroat trout are present in Sugar and Foster Creeks. These two streams have less allowable utilization in the AIZ for the protection of fish habitat. 4/5/6 inch stubble in the AIZ applies to Sugar and Foster Creek. Litz Basin is Functioning at Risk (moderate) 3/4/5 inch stubble in the AIZ.

Livestock grazing use in the uplands should not exceed 55% of current year's growth on key herbaceous species in the uplands and 35% on key browse species in the upper pastures. The lower pastures of Self Help, Foster Creek and Morgan Ridge are considered winter range and the following use applies: grazing should not exceed 45% of current year's growth on herbaceous species and 20% of current year's growth of browse species. There is no critical winter range on the allotment.

Upland Forage Utilization		
Type of Upland	Winter Range	Non winter range
Grass and herbaceous Species (% dry weight)	45	55
Shrubs (% annual leader growth)	20	35

From CNF Revised Forest Plan 2003

Under the Revised Forest Plan for the Caribou National Forest (2003) 4-52. Utilization guidelines apply to native and desirable nonnative key plant species as **recorded at the end of the grazing period** (when the livestock leave the unit).

2012 Monitoring Results:

Location	Results (utilization)	Standard
Morgan Ridge Unit	Upland 20% grass species	45%
Sawmill (Sugar Creek)	5" stubble carex	20% 6" stubble
Litz Basin	6 " stubble carex	35% 5" stubble
Foster Creek	Upland 16 % grass species	45%
Self Help	30% Ocular	45%

As the season progresses, Forest Personnel will be routinely checking range and forage conditions. If monitoring determines that there is a shortage of forage production, 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.

#### 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. **The Burbank Spring trough needs to be up and running before cattle are turned out on the allotment. Paul Jones spring trough can be completed before the cattle reach the upper units, usually by mid-July.** The permittee has proposed a mile long fence be constructed from the Foster Creek fence (1/4 mile) crossing Sugar Creek and continuing south approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile. This fence would hold the cattle in the Morgan Ridge Unit in the early season.
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 benefit all.

#### V. Special Instructions:

- Please become familiar with the terms and conditions of your grazing permit.
- **Actual Use Forms must be returned by November 30<sup>th</sup> following the grazing season. Failure to do so may result in Permit Action.**
- This year 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 accepted the terms, conditions, and management practices presented in it.
- Livestock counts will be made on an unscheduled basis. We will make arrangements for a time and place.

VI. Wolf Status:

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**

If you have questions or concerns during the grazing season, please call me or the range staff on the zone.

	Office	Cell
Dennis Duehren District Ranger	(208) 847-8935	
Kevin Parker Supervisory Range Specialist	(208) 547-4356	(208) 313-7328
Jane Rushane Range Specialist	(208) 847-0375 (208) 847-8939	(208) 313- 5683

/s/David Beckstead  
Permittee(s) Signature  
3-18-2013  
Date

/s/Dennis Duehren  
District Ranger  
3-18-2013  
Date