United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Caribou-Targhee National Forest
Soda Springs Ranger District | 410 East Hooper Avenue
Soda Springs, ID 83276
208-547-4356

File Code: 2210
Date: 2013

Dusty Roche
504 N 1600 E
Tremonton, UT 84337

Dear Dusty:

These are your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the **Kendall Canyon, Yellowjacket, and Bear Canyon Sheep Allotments.** These Instructions are a guide for management on these allotments during the 2013 grazing season. We have also included your **Actual Use Form**, which should be completed and returned with the folder to the *Soda Springs Ranger District* by **November 30, 2013.**

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.

Grazing Schedule

The 2013 order of rotation is outlined in this section. The entry date onto your allotments may be adjusted dependant on range readiness. If a change is necessary you will be notified. Please contact us 5 days prior to when your sheep will enter the Forest.

Allotment	Season of Use	Permitted Numbers	Authorized Numbers for 2010	Unit Rotation
Kendall Canyon	7/10 – 9/10	1000	1000	Clockwise
Yellowjacket*	7/12 – 9/12	500	500	Clockwise
Bear Canyon*	7/12-9/12			

*These allotments will be run as one allotment and this 500 head will be combined with 500 head of Justin Roche's and run as one band.

The schedule outlined above is only an estimate. If riparian or upland monitoring shows that an area is being overused, even if there is adequate vegetation in surrounding upland or riparian areas, livestock will need to be moved. The Forest Service officer in charge of your allotment must approve any extension to the grazing season. **It is your responsibility to see that this grazing schedule is followed. Approval must be obtained before changes to the grazing schedule occur.**

Special Instructions

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.

Wolf Recovery Management

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.

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.

Riparian Guidelines for Grazing

Standards and Guides covering the allotments are found in the *2003 Revised Forest Plan for the Caribou National Forest (RFP) and The Caribou National Forest Riparian Grazing Implementation Guide (GIG)* and are now made part of your permit. The proper use standards/triggers for your allotments are listed in tables one and two 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 (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

Site Specific Riparian Forage Utilization Standards

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 Grazing Implementation Guide dated 12/28/2005. 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.

Table 2 Site specific Standards from GIG.

Stream	Type of Riparian (Lotic) Area	AIZ Stubble Height	% Herbaceous Utilization in AIZ
Bear Cr.	Functioning-at-Risk	3/4/5	55/45/35
Blackfoot River	Functioning-at-Risk	3/4/5	55/45/35
Coyote Cr.	Functioning	2/3/4	65/55/45
Horse Cr.	Functioning	2/3/4	65/55/45
Kendall Cr.	Functioning-at-Risk	3/4/5	55/45/35
Mill Cyn. Cr.	Functioning-at-Risk high	3/4/5	55/45/35
Mosquito Creek	Functioning-at-Risk moderate	3/4/5	55/45/35
Terrace Cr.	Functioning	2/3/4	65/55/45
Webster Cr.	Functioning	2/3/4	65/55/45
Yellowjacket Cr.	Functioning	2/3/4	65/55/45

Upland Utilization Guidelines

Utilization of upland vegetation will be based on stubble height and percent of total weight grazed on key forage species. Monitoring will include using utilization cages, utilization scales, ocular estimates or a combination of these three. **Use on key grass species** such as Idaho fescue (*Festuca idahoenis*), bluebunch wheatgrass (Agropyron) *spicata*), and mountain brome (*Bromus carinatus*) or **key shrub species** such as sagebrush (*Artemisia spp*.), bitterbrush (*Purshia tridentata*), and serviceberry (*Amelanchier spp*.).

Upland Forage Utilization Standards and Guides

Allowed Upland Forage utilization	Type of Upland Area	
	Winter Range	Non Winter Range
Grasses and herbaceous Species (% dry weight)	45	55
Shrubs (Annual leader growth)	20	35

There is Winter range on both the Kendall Canyon Allotment and Yellowjacket Allotment

District Trailing Guidelines

- When trailing, sheep must use Forest Service system roads where feasible.
- Trailing while on National Forest System land will be counted as part of a permittee's permitted days.
- Sheep should cover a minimum of 6 miles a day when trailing to or from the permitted allotment.
- Do not overnight sheep in the same location where an earlier band of sheep bedded.

Permittee Responsibilities

1. "Once-over" grazing and open herding is to be practiced on all allotments.

2. Sheep are to bed in new locations each night. Sheep should be encouraged to bed in places other than ridges.

3. Sheep should not be allowed to bed near streams, ponds, springs, or Forest System roads and trails. Noon bedding in riparian areas is not allowed. Sheep should be encouraged to water early in the day and then moved off water.

4. Ensure the herder leaves a sanitary and clean campsite.

5. Salt should be placed in areas away from water, riparian areas, forest plantations, ridges, shade-up areas, Forest System roads and trails, and bed grounds. Salt in a different location each year and remove bags after use.

6. While trailing to and from your allotments, sheep will be kept on established driveways. When trailing on Forest Service Lands, at least two herders will be used to ensure traffic movement. Contact the Soda Springs Office prior to trailing on in the spring, and trailing off in the fall.

7. Report all fires to the District Office immediately (208) 547-4356.

8. Any hay or straw brought on the Forest must be certified, "Weed free". If you are found to be using uncertified hay or straw, a violation notice and/or permit action may be taken.

9. All improvements listed in Part 3 of your permit must meet Forest Service Standards. A delay in livestock turnout 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 livestock entering the allotment and to the standards listed below:

Water Development Maintenance Standards

Spring boxes

- Sediment and foreign objects need to be removed from headboxes.
- Damaged headbox covers need to be repaired or replaced.
- Repair any damaged fence around springs.
- A galvanized screen must be kept on the intake pipe in the headbox. Replace and repair screens as needed.
- Water should be kept in the trough throughout the grazing season.

Pipelines and Troughs

- Cracked or broken pipelines need to be replaced. Clean plugged pipelines.
- Drain pipes must be kept open, operating, and able to drain overflow at least 20 feet away from trough.
- Clean sediment from troughs. Repair and clean overflows and float valves. Level troughs and reset when needed. Replace broken trough braces.
  Level troughs and reset when needed.
- Wildlife escape ramps should be installed on all troughs.

Stock Ponds and Reservoirs

- Clean stockwater ponds and spillways of debris, dead animals, etc.
- When siltation builds to one half the capacity of the pond, it must be cleaned.

Forms to be Completed

Please read and follow the general instructions in your folder, **complete the Actual Use Form and return this folder to us by November 30, 2013.** Read the instructions on Part 2 of your Term Grazing Permit.

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
Jack Isaacs **District Ranger**	208) 547-4356	
Kevin Parker **Supervisory Range Management Specialist**	2080 547-1108	208) 313-7328
Garth Nelson **Range Specialist**	208) 547-1113	208) 313- 7910
Jane Rushane **Range Specialist**	208) 847-8939	

Annual Operating Instructions
Soda Springs Ranger District
Kendall Canyon, Yellowjacket, and
Bear Canyon S&G Allotments
2013

Accepted By: _____*/s/ Dusty Roche*_____ ___*6/4/2013*_____

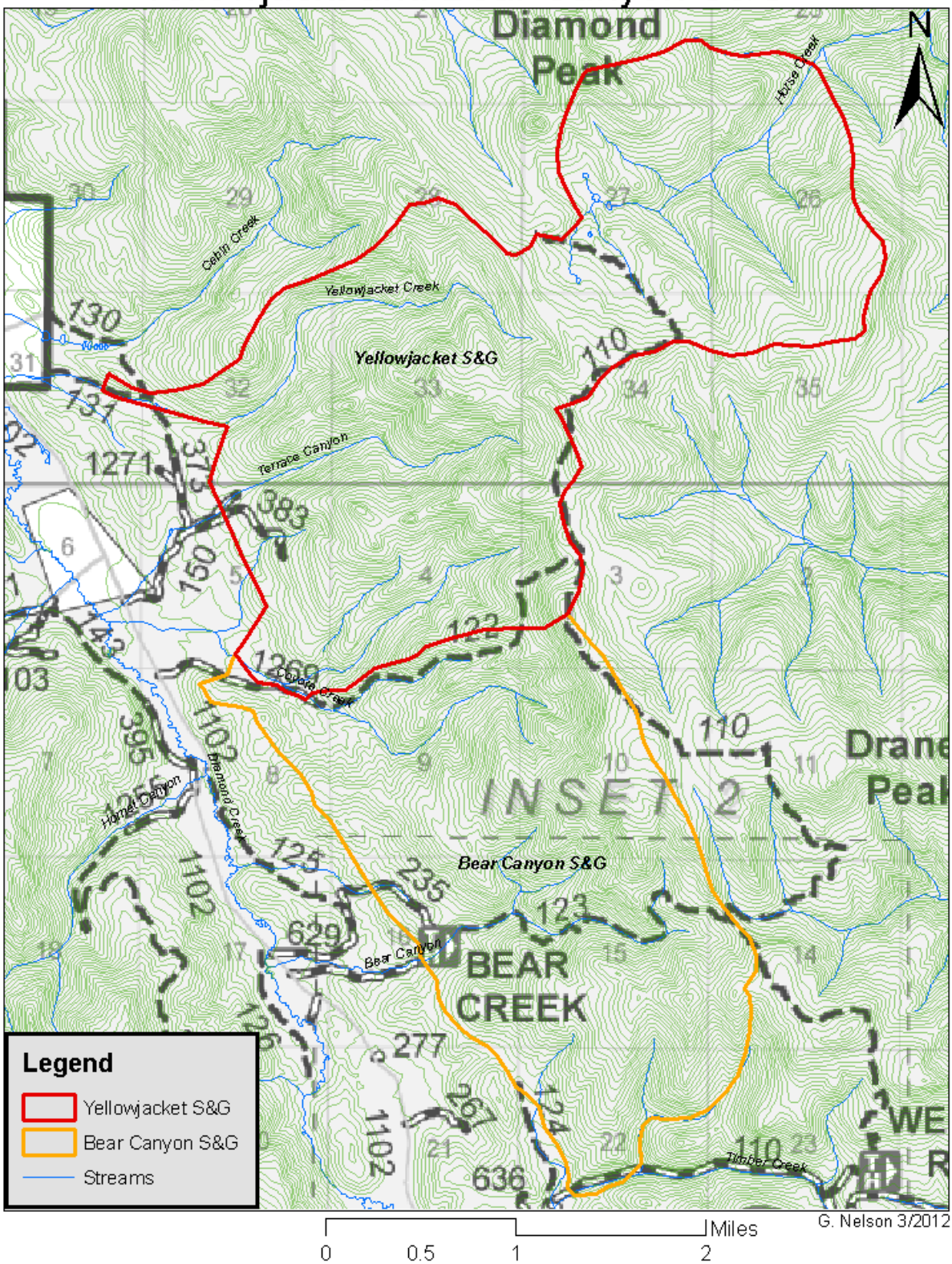
Dusty Roche **Date**

Approved By: ___*/s/ Dennis Duehren*_____ ___*6/4/2013*_____

Dennis Duehren **Date**

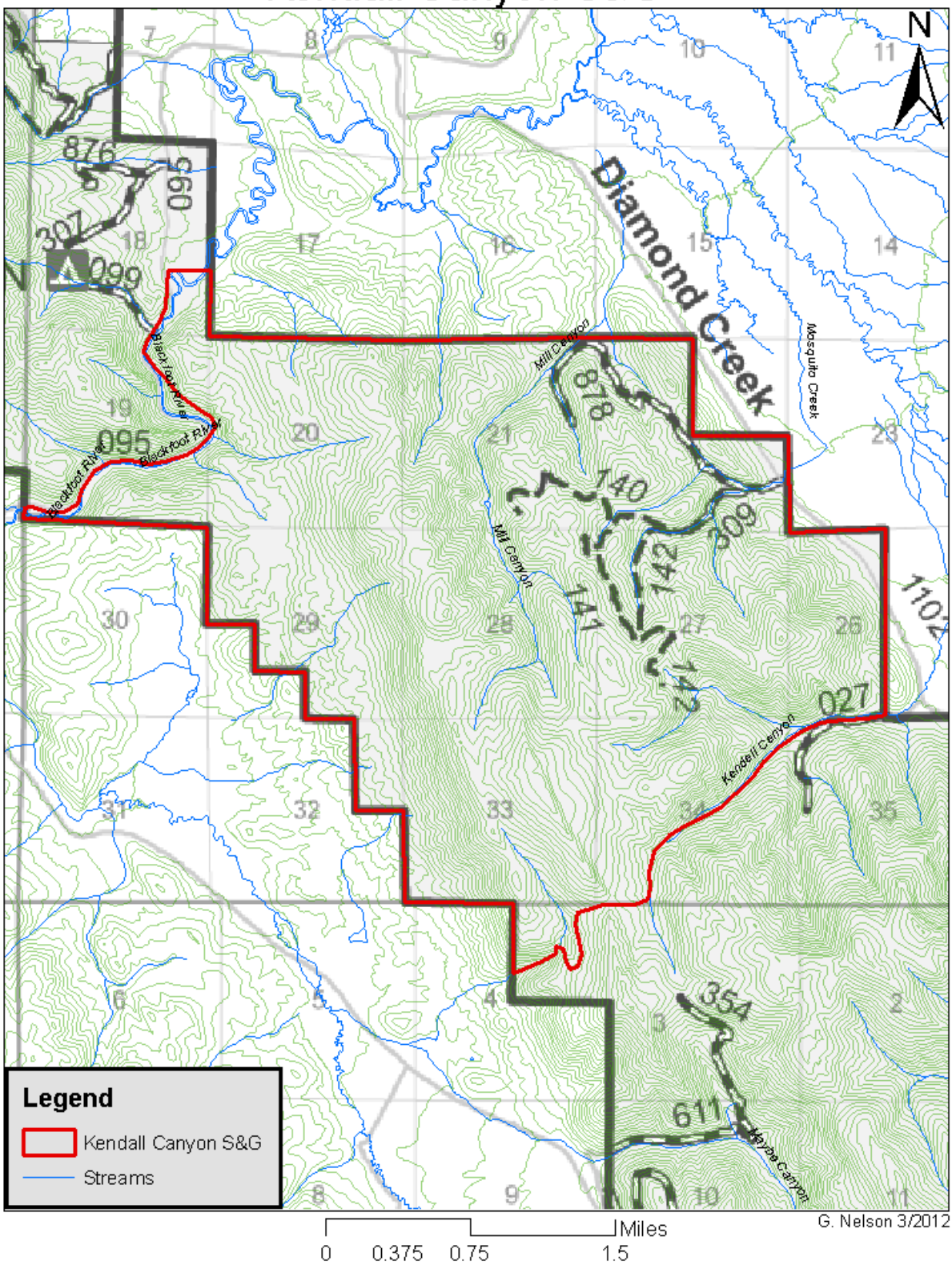
District Ranger

Yellowjackt and Bear Canyon S&G



G. Nelson 3/2012

Kendall Canyon S&G



G. Nelson 3/2012