

**2013 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS
PORTNEUF CATTLE ALLOTMENT -PEBBLE DIVISION**

This is your Annual Operating Instructions for the Portneuf C&H Allotment, **Pebble Division**. This Plan is part of your Term Grazing Permit as specified in Part 2, Number 8 (a) of your permit.

As part of the Terms & Conditions of your Permit, Part 2 Number 8 (i), all range improvements and maintenance on fences and water developments must be completed before cattle enter the forest. Non-use does not relieve any permittee from their range improvement maintenance responsibility.

Before livestock enter the forest, your grazing fees must be paid and notice received in this office. Failure to follow this procedure is a violation of your permit.

The Tribal members will be exercising their grazing rights for the 2013 grazing season on the Toponce Division of the Portneuf Cattle Allotment.

The guard station water system is tied to the campground. The Association may use this system to fill a potable tank Tuesday through Thursday on non-peak recreation times.

Keeping cattle out of the Big Springs campground is a top priority for public relations.

NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK (COW/CALF) BY PERMITTEE

<i>Permittee</i>	<i>Term</i>	<i>Authorized 2013(.53)</i>	<i>BLM by FS</i>	<i>PVT</i>	<i>2013</i>
Jim Gilbert	107	57	-	15	
Gilbert Ranch	160	85	6		
Don Rigby Ptsp	129	69	-		
Dean Morris	29	15	-		
King Creek	410	218	13		
Total	835	444	19	15	478

PERMITTED SEASON OF USE:
June 1 through October 10

The dates described for moving cattle from unit to unit are approximate, based on proper utilization criteria standards listed below.

PEBBLE DIVISION ROTATION:

GILBERT RANCH/JIM GILBERT (148)

1. East Hill: 8 weeks
2. Wood Road: 8 weeks

KING CREEK/RIGBY/MORRIS (330)

1. Dock flat, includes Deer Pt. and PVT land: 8 weeks
 2. South Pebble: 8 weeks
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* All permittees* = 478

Pebble Meadow: 1 week

PROPER UTILIZATION FOR ALL UNITS

The limiting factors that will shorten season are:

1. *Excessive use along the Pebble road.*
2. *Early or excessive use on the meadow.*
3. *Cattle drifting north out of Wood road.*

Upland Forage Utilization	Utilization Criteria
Grass and herbaceous species (% dry weight)	Utilization of upland forage species on this allotment should not exceed 50% of key species (Blue Bunch Wheat Grass and Idaho Fescue).
Shrubs (% Annual leader growth)	Utilization in the uplands will vary from 25% to 35% depending on whether it is considered as: winter range, critical winter range, or non-winter range.

Should bank erosion of perennial streams be evident, soil displacement guidelines may also be developed. In addition, dispersed recreation sites may need to be grazed at a lower level, depending on the situation. Any changes in utilization levels for these areas will be cooperatively determined with you at each specific site.

Riparian Forage Utilization	Utilization Criteria
Herbaceous Utilization (AIZ)*	Utilization in the Aquatic Influence Zone at the end of the grazing period will be 50%. (e.g. poa, redtop, etc)
Stubble Height (AIZ)*	Allowable stubble height measurements in the AIZ will vary between 3 to 6 inches at the end of the grazing period depending on the time of grazing and the condition of the stream.
Stubble Height (Greenline)*	Allowable stubble height measurements, along the greenline, will be 6 inches at the end of the grazing period. (e.g. carex)
Herbaceous Utilization (Greenline)	Utilization at the greenline at the end of the grazing period will be 50% depending on the time of grazing and the condition of the stream.
% Woody Species utilization	Allowable woody utilization 40%
% Cumulative Bank Disturbance (Alteration)	Refers to short term (annual) physical disturbance of alternation of the bank by livestock trampling. Allowable disturbance shall not exceed 10-15 %.

MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

When the need to intensively manage a riparian zone exists, units should be ridden 5 days per week to keep cattle pushed off the streams. The rider along with your help will need to make sure cattle stay in this pasture and away from the road and Pebble Creek. This may give some flexibility on the season of use if Dock Flat is utilized more. When cattle are in these units, instruct your rider to spend time each morning removing cattle from the riparian zones after they have watered. When moving cattle onto the forest or into a new unit, you may allow for a 24 hour mother-up period. After this, cow-calf pairs should be distributed throughout the unit.

Once a unit is grazed, any drift-back is detrimental. The objective of rotational grazing is to give vegetation and soils time for recovery in order to promote continued and increased productivity.

Key areas for monitoring on the Portneuf Cattle Allotment-Pebble Division

1. Main Wood Road Canyon
2. Long Gulch
3. Main Pebble Narrows
4. South Pebble Creek
5. Clear Creek corridor
6. Pebble Meadows

Riding and salting away from bottoms is a very important management tool. Salt must be located at least a ¼ of a mile from water, meadows, and roads.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

The Portneuf Cattlemen's Association is responsible for the proper care of all assigned water troughs, fences, head box enclosures, and cow camp facilities. These improvements are designated in your term grazing permits. All fences must be up and maintained, salt distributed, and water troughs functioning prior to cattle entering a grazing unit.

A Forest closure order exists for any hay or straw used in association with your permit and will be certified and tagged as noxious weed or noxious weed seed free as directed by the order. All hay used at the Cow Camp must be certified noxious weed free.

Please notify our office of any noxious weed populations on your allotment, so that we can send a crew out to map and treat them.

Any change that deviates from this Annual Operation Instruction must be made in advance and be in writing by the District Ranger.

Please contact Hans Bastian at 236-7526 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jeffery J. Hammes

JEFFERY J. HAMMES
Westside District Ranger

NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
Jim Gilbert	<i>/s/ Jim Gilbert</i>	<i>3/7/13</i>
Gilbert Ranch	<i>/s/ Quin Gilbert</i>	<i>3/7/13</i>
Don Rigby Ptsp	<i>/s/ Robert Wakley</i>	<i>3/7/13</i>
Dean Morris	<i>/s/ Dean Morris</i>	<i>3/7/13</i>
King Creek Association	<i>/s/ Tim Munns</i>	<i>3/7/13</i>