

2008 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

UNCLE IKE ALLOTMENT

Below is your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the combined Uncle Ike and Pass Creek allotments. This AOI addresses Forest Service administered lands within the Uncle Ike and Pass Creek allotments. We are including a signature page at the end of each AOI which we are requesting permittees sign and return to the district. This signature page also includes the signatures of the district ranger and current range management specialist overseeing the allotment. We believe that this process better represents the cooperative nature of managing these areas and indicates an understanding of the information in this document as well as the information in your term grazing permit(s).

Please review your Term Grazing Permit for grazing utilization, range improvement maintenance, and salting standards. Actual on-dates and off-dates are dependant on range readiness and when allowable use standards are met. The Forest Service may approve changes to the grazing rotation in consultation with the permittees to address range condition situations that may occur due to weather related circumstances.

<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Permitted</u>	<u>Non-Use</u>	<u>Authorized</u>	<u>Season</u>
Rocky Ross and Don Phillips	124	0	124	7/1-9/30

<u>Grazing Unit Rotation</u>	<u>Estimated Days</u>
Uncle Ike	9/1-9/30
Mine Unit	Rest
Bald Mountain Unit	8/1-8/31
Lake Unit	Rest
North Creek	9/1-9/30
8-mile Unit	7/1-7/31

Allowable Use Standard: End of season 4-inch stubble height on hydric sedges & grasses is required along the greenline of riparian areas. A patchy or uneven use pattern along the greenline will usually result in stubble height standard being met. While adequate regrowth may occur under average growing season conditions, the opposite may be true during below average conditions. Special attention should be made to drier weather conditions. It is recommended a stubble height trigger above 4 inches be used in drier conditions to plan cattle moves.

Riparian areas with greenlines dominated by Kentucky bluegrass and tufted hairgrass should also receive special attention to achieve end of season stubble height. Greenlines dominated by these plants have less bank stability than greenlines dominated by deep-rooted plants. Greenlines dominated by these plants are possibly in a lower state of ecological condition and should be managed to increase the amount of stable hydric sedges, grasses, and shrubs where appropriate.

Uncle Ike: 40% of available current year's growth on willow species



Pass Creek: 50% utilization upland grasses, 35% utilization on shrubs, 3 inch stubble height on riparian grass and grasslike plants within Aquatic Influence Zone (AIZ). Utilization recorded at end of grazing period, not season.

Other factors should be considered for planning cattle moves between units. These include changes in grazing behavior, such as a change in grazing preference from grasses and grass-like plants to young willows and other shrubs, large groups of cattle congregating in fence corners, at gates, or riparian areas for long periods of time.

INFISH Grazing Module Implementation: Key areas are used to monitor representative riparian areas within a grazing unit. Key area monitoring establishes a record of utilization trend, a location for observation to plan cattle moves, a location to record whether end of season stubble height standards are met, a location to evaluate whether management impacts are effective or need to be modified.

Cleaning Grazing Units: Grazing units should be thoroughly cleaned of cattle to ensure allowable use standards are met. Enough time should be made to thoroughly clean the unit, in most cases 7 days is adequate. Bulls should be kept with the main herd during breeding, however, when the cows are bred up, bulls should be removed from the allotment if they disrupt herd management. It is the permittee's responsibility to correct grazing management disruption due to cattle mis-location problems.

Fence & Water Improvements: Please refer to Part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit. Allotment boundary fences should be checked prior to cattle entering the allotment, interior fences should be checked at this time or before cattle enter a new unit. Existing improvements should be maintained each year before requesting new improvements.

Weed Free Hay: In accordance with State Law, please ensure that hay that is brought onto the allotment for riding stock is certified and tagged noxious weed free.

Response to Predators: We have enclosed an attachment of questions and answers provided by Idaho Fish & Game for your information. This attachment outlines information you will need in the event that you have predator issues on your allotment. If you have any questions regarding this information, you are encouraged to contact Idaho Fish & Game.

Actual Use Report: An Actual Use Report will be mailed to you shortly before cattle leave the allotment. This form is to be completed and returned to the Lost River Ranger District two weeks after you have removed livestock from your allotment. Each permittee will need to provide an individual report with dates when their cattle entered and left the allotment.

This information is used for the purpose of evaluating and analyzing grazing allotment and grazing unit use, compliance with annual operating instructions, and planning next season's grazing management strategy

Questions and assistance regarding these instructions should be directed to Jessica Dhaemers at 588-3414, Lost River Ranger District or the Dubois Ranger District.



Uncle Ike C&H Allotment 2008 Annual Operating Instructions

Salmon-Challis National Forest
Lost River Ranger District
PO Box 507
Mackay, Idaho

Approved By: /s/ Carmela Leavitt for: 5/13/2008
Diane L. Weaver Date
District Ranger

Prepared By: /s/ Jessica M. Dhaemers 5/13/2008
Jessica M. Dhaemers Date
Rangeland Management Specialist

Accepted By: _____
Rocky Ross or Don Phillips Date
Permittees

Please sign and return this page to the above address.

