2002 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Warm Springs and Road Creek Allotments (BLM)

Herd Creek and Pine Creek Allotments (BLM and FS)

Livestock Numbers and Permitted Season

The Term Grazing Permits/Licenses for the East Fork of the Salmon River Allotments authorize grazing use during a May 8 to October 31 season as displayed in the following table

Table 1: Term Grazing Permits/Licenses for East Fork Allotments

ALLOTMENT/Permittee	Permitted Numbers	Permitted Season
WARM SPRINGS (BLM)		
Ingram	481 C/c	5/8-9/30
ROAD CREEK (BLM)		
Ingram	96 C/c	5/16-6/15
HERD CREEK (BLM & FS)		
Ingram	636 C/c	6/16-10/31
PINE CREEK (BLM)		
Ingram	172 C/c	5/23-6/30
PINE CREEK (FS)		
Ingram	122 C/c	7/1-9/30

C/c = Cow and calf pair

Pasture Rotation Schedule and Cattle Movement

For the 2002 grazing season permittee Ingram will run a base herd of 287 cow/calf pairs on their combination of grazing units include BLM, National Forest Allotments and private lands. Existing allotment pastures will be used in this overall management proposal. Pasture schedules are displayed in the following table.

Table II: 2002 Pasture Rotation Schedule and Management

Order of Use	ALLOTMENT/Unit	Planned Number of Head	Planned Use	Anticipated Season of Use
1	WARM SPRINGS (BLM) Spar Canyon/Corral Basin	357 C/c 177 C/c	Grazing Grazing	May 8 to June 15 June 16 to July 1
2	ROAD CREEK (BLM)	96 C/c	Grazing	May 16 to June 15
3	PINE CREEK (BLM)	177 C/c	Grazing	October 1 to October 15
4	PINE CREEK (FS) Sheep Pine/Fox	 177 C/c 177 C/c	 Grazing Grazing	 September 7 to September 30 August 15 to September 7
5	HERD CREEK (BLM/FS) Taylor/McDonald	177 C/c	Grazing	June 16/July 1 to August 10/August 30
6	Lake Basin	177 C/c	Grazing	Aug. 1/Aug. 10 to Oct.15//Oct. 25
7	Spring Gulch	200 C	Grazing	Oct. 25/Oct. 30 to Nov. 25/Nov. 30
8	Herd Lake	None	REST	

C/c = Cow and calf pair
C = Dry cow

The approximate period of use for the grazing operations would be about six and one half months (beginning approximately May 8 and ending about November 25 to 30).

A narrative of Ingram's grazing sequence is as follows: Graze BLM Warm Springs Allotment 5/08-7/01. Ingram would leave their East Fork home place and start grazing Upper Spar Canyon with 357 pair, proceed to the Summit, then to Bradshaw Basin Elbow. The remainder, 96 pairs, will be trailed to the BLM Road Creek Allotment for a 5/16-6/15 grazing period

On or about June 16, 177 pair of cattle on the Warm Springs Allotment would be trailed down Spar Canyon, then to McDonald Creek. Cattle on the BLM Road Creek Allotment would be trailed on or about June 15 through the BLM Road Creek Allotment Trailway to the Herd Creek Allotment.

On or about 6/16 the remaining 177 pair of cattle on the BLM Warm Springs Allotment would be trailed down Corral Basin Creek to Road Creek, then trailed through the BLM Road Creek Allotment Trailway to the Herd Creek Allotment.

Cattle arriving on the Herd Creek Allotment around 6/16 would use McDonald Creek to start After grazing Taylor/McDonald there will be two options: If leaving before 8/10, the cattle will be moved via Sagebrush Creek into Lake Basin. If staying until the end of August, the cattle will move through McDonald, Fox, Pine and Sheep, then to the head of Lake Basin.

Ingram cattle on the Herd Creek Allotment would be trailed from the Lake Basin Unit on or about 10/15 to 10/25 by way of the high trail route and/or down the Herd Creek Road to return to the home place. Supervised trailing will be used for all cattle moves to and from allotments and between pastures.

Calves would be weaned from the recombined herd at the home place. On or about 10/25 to 254 dry cows would be trailed to the Spring Gulch unit of the Herd Creek Allotment for an approximate 30 day grazing permit, then trailed back home.
During the summer period co-permittee on the Herd Creek Allotment, James Bennetts, will take nonuse.

Anticipated Results of the 2001 AOI

Implementation of the 2001 AOI is expected to accomplish/result in the following:

1. Active herding, supervised trailing especially along/near critical habitat.

2. No streamside grazing after chinook presence/August 10 on critical streams, which are: Herd Creek from the mouth up to the East and West Fork confluence, East Pass Creek from its confluence with Herd Creek up to Taylor Creek, Lake Creek from its confluence with Herd Creek up to the first culvert/road crossing; also no streamside grazing after initiation of bulltrout spawning (approx. September 15) on Herd Creek from the allotment boundary up to the confluence with the East Fork/West Fork of Herd Creek, West Fork Herd Creek and East Pass Creek.

3. Livestock removal once use allowable standards met or chinook are present in pasture, schedule and timing of use will avoid most areas of potential conflict.

4. In this grazing sequence the rest rotation of the existing Herd Creek Allotment AMP is maintained by grazing the Taylor/McDonald Unit early, grazing the Lake Basin Unit mid to late, and resting the Herd Lake Unit. In addition no livestock are in or around lower Lake Creek, main Herd Creek and other critical stream reaches after August 10 as the "hot season" would be avoided. No grazing use would be prescribed for Herd Creek above Lake Creek, East Pass Creek, and West Fork of Herd Creek. Herd Creek between the confluence of East Pass Creek and East Fork/West Fork confluence would receive incidental use only in association with cattle trailing between grazing areas. Little to no use of lower Herd Creek would occur (except private land).

5. Season of use changes on allotments include two to four weeks later on Herd Creek. This fall season extension is feasible in the proposed area when considered within management criteria for range readiness, seasonal suitability and proper use levels for forage species and critical time periods for fish spawning, while providing a needed operational flexibility for the permittee.

6. Warm Springs BLM would be used early (approximately 50 days) instead of season-long.

7. Herd Creek (BLM/FS) would be used with greatly reduced cattle stocking under the prescribed rest-rotation grazing plan which has the potential for benefits to riparian/stream habitat features on the Herd Creek stream system.

8. Pine Creek (BLM/FS) would be grazed during its normal prescribed season following rest of the allotment in 1999 and substantial rest during 2000.

9. Rest of the Taylor/McDonald unit and major riparian areas associated with East Pass Creek.

Utilization Standards and End of Season Criteria

The table following summarizes the proper use criteria to be used in 2002.

Table III: *Utilization Standards and End of Season Criteria*

Allotment/Stream Area or Segment	Scheduled Use/ Utilization Criteria
Warm Springs: Spar Canyon and Corral	4 inch stubble height adjacent to Canyon greenline in Corral Basin
Road Creek: Road Creek	4 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline
Herd Creek:	
Taylor: McDonald Creek, Upper Taylor Creek	4 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline **Entire Taylor Pasture not scheduled For use in 2001**
Sheep Gulch and Sagebrush Creek	50 percent herbaceous by weight
Lower Taylor Creek, East Pass Creek	6 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline; not scheduled for use in 2001.
Herd Lake: Bull Gulch	50 percent herbaceous by weight;
Lake Creek-BLM Exclosure to Herd Lake	6 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline
Upper Lake Creek	4 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline.
Herd Creek in FS Exclosure,	6 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline; not scheduled for use in 2001, incidental use while trailing.
Lake Basin: Herd Creek above East Pass, and West Fork Herd Creek East Fork Herd Creek	6 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline;
East Fork Herd above Hell Canyon	6 inch stubble height adjacent togreenline;
Lake Basin Creek & Hell Canyon	4 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline
Lake Basin Upland Areas	50 percent herbaceous by weight
Spring Gulch Unit-Lower Herd Creek	6 inch stubble height adjacent to greenline;
Pine Creek:	

Fo : and Pine Creek (FS):	4 i ch stubble height adjacent to greenline. 30 % use on aspen (primary standard); 4" stu ble height (Pine Crk)
Sh ep Creek (FS),	4 i ch stubble height adjacent to greenline.
Pi e Creek (BLM)	50 ercent herbaceous by weight
Up and Ecosystems and other Riparian	50 ercent herbaceous by weight
W ody Browse (designated habitat)	30 50 % annual leader growth (twig co nt)

Riparian

Riparian areas will be used as the key area for monitoring forage utilization levels. In riparian ecosystems grazing use is limited to the extent that a minimum of 4" to 6" of forage stubble height is maintained adjacent to the stream greenline (median value). This figure is based on the entire growing season plant production and will be measured at seasons' end. Technique to be used in measuring is that provided by BLM and discussed in their Statistical Evaluation of Stubble Height Data (BLM, 1995). Livestock will be removed from the pastures and allotment prior to or upon reaching allowable use on one-half of the key area (riparian) monitoring sites within the pasture.

Uplands

Additional allowable use is set at 50 percent by weight on upland grasslands.

Woody Species

Use on new leader growth of woody browse is prescribed at 50 percent for upland areas and 30 to 50 percent (twig count method) for riparian areas along designated critical habitat for chinook salmon, steelhead, and bulltrout.

Specific Permittee Management Responsibilities

The following features of the 2001 AOI are included practices intended to assist the permittee in meeting the riparian utilization standards, allowing protection of critical habitats and avoiding the risks associated with livestock on or near chinook spawning grounds after probable spawn timing.

1. Frequent riding is an effective means of distributing livestock use in upland areas and limiting cattle concentration and use of riparian areas.

2. The trailing of livestock on and off the allotment and between pastures will be conducted with riders in the most expedient manner possible. Permittee supervision of livestock is critical to meeting riparian utilization standards and protecting critical habitats, especially along Herd Creek, Lake Creek and the East Fork of the Salmon River.

3. By the time the allowable use has been reached on one-half of the established monitoring sites within riparian areas, all livestock must be removed regardless of the amount of available forage on adjacent upland areas.

4. Re-riding will be necessary to ensure that all cattle have been gathered. Emphasis on stagglers in Lake Basin and Herd Lake pastures after cattle removal (and trailing), and possible drift from Sage Creek and Twin Bridges Allotments.

5. Reemphasis on placing salt at least 1/4 mile from water in under-utilized areas to encourage use away from riparian zones.

7. Rangeland improvements are important to the successful implementation of the 2001 AOI (grazing strategy). The proper functioning of water developments and fences are especially important. They must be inspected and made fully functional before livestock turnout onto the allotment or pastures. If water developments needed for the successful implementation of the grazing strategy are not functioning properly or water is unavailable cattle may be removed earlier than scheduled. Boundary fences between Lake Basin Pasture and Wildhorse Association's Twin Bridges Allotment are priority improvements to maintain in 2001. Repair of spring source protection fences on the Head of West Fork water troughs above Bennetts Gulch are also essential improvements to accomplish.

Other Management Standards and Requirements associated with these annual grazing activities include the following:

1. Trailing of cattle along Herd Creek during the move to the Lake Basin unit from the Herd Lake unit is scheduled at a time when high spring runoff may be present in Herd Creek. Care must be taken to minimize streambank trampling along Herd Creek during this cattle drive. Cattle moves along Herd Creek from Lake Creek to above the Hell Canyon gap fence will be accomplished in one day per group of cattle.

2. Should grazing activities during the 2001 season necessitate location of a camp for the allotment rider within a pasture unit, prior approval of camp site(s) by joint inspection by the permittee and Yankee Fork Ranger District fisheries biologist is required.

3. Actual use information is due into BLM and USFS within 15 days after the grazing seasons have ended on these allotments.

4. A Forest Special Order is in effect (as of **January 1, 1996) -** Any hay or straw used in association with these permits, will be certified and tagged as noxious weed, or noxious weed seed free as directed by the order.

Other Agency Activities

For Permittee information the following is a list of agency inventory, monitoring and project activities which may occur on these allotments during the 2001 grazing and field season.

1. Grazing Utilization

Residual greenline stubble height will be monitored in key riparian locations to determine approximate timing of pasture moves and end of season compliance with utilization standards. Woody browse and upland herbaceous vegetation use will also be monitoring in some allotment areas using agency standard methods and analysis protocols.

2. Fish/Aquatic Habitat and Riparian Community Monitoring

Physical habitat characteristics will be measured and water quality features/parameters sampled, such as temperature, water chemistry, macroinvertebrate populations, in continuation of monitoring efforts to determine trend in conditions of aquatic environments. Greenline transacts and associated woody species classification will also be reread in several key areas for trend determinations in streamside riparian communities.

3. Photo Trend Monitoring

Photo monitoring will be conducted in conjunction with utilization, fish habitat, riparian greenline monitoring and other survey and inspection work to provide a record of site condition changes over time.

4. Allotment Inspections

In the course of visits to allotments, observations of conditions, current situations, livestock sightings and distribution, activities, and contacts with the permittee and riders will be documented in daily diaries or summaries.

5. Prescribed Burning

The Yankee Fork Ranger District may conduct prescribed burning in sagebrush/grass and forested vegetation communities in the vicinity of the divide between the McDonald and Taylor Creek drainages for the maintenance of plant community health and improvement of forage conditions for wildlife and livestock. Approximately 5000 to 7000 acres could be treated in either an early fall (or following spring) prescribed burn.