United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Twin Falls District Office
Shoshone Field Office
400 West F Street
Shoshone, ID 83352

In Reply Refer To:
4100 (IDT 030) **P**

March 26, 2013

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Barry Duelke
1295 E. 3400 N.
Buhl, ID 83316

Notice of Field Manager's Decision

Dear Mr. Duelke:

Your application has been received for a crossing permit (aka livestock trailing permit) to trail livestock across public lands in the following allotments: Clover Creek, Cow Creek Trail, Indian, and West Bliss. Upon review, and in accordance with 43 CFR 4130.6-3 and Section 123 of the 2012 Appropriations Omnibus Act, your application for a crossing permit is approved as shown under the Decision section of this document.

Background

In October 2011 and September 2012, the Shoshone Field Office solicited applications for crossing permits for trailing livestock across public lands within the Shoshone Field Office area. In response to applications received, the BLM prepared Environmental Assessment (EA) No. DOI-BLM-ID-T030-2012-0044-EA to analyze the environmental consequences of trailing livestock throughout the Shoshone Field Office for multiple years. After reviewing EA No. DOI-BLM-ID-T030-2012-0044-EA, BLM determined that livestock trailing activities analyzed in the proposed action would not result in any significant impacts and issued a Finding of No Significant Impact on March 25, 2013.

Decision

The decision has been made to issue you a multi-year livestock crossing permit to trail livestock across public lands as described in the Proposed Action of EA No. DOI-BLM-ID-T030-2012-0044-EA. You are authorized to conduct crossing activities in accordance with the attached Crossing Permit.

All terms and conditions described in the crossing permit are incorporated by reference into this decision and must be followed. Terms and conditions that are specifically identified to reduce environmental effects are:

Crossing Permit

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Livestock Number	Livestock Kind	Trailing Begin	Trailing End	AUMs	Number of Days
90416	Clover Creek	1200	Sheep	10/01	10/16	32	4
90416	Clover Creek	3000	Sheep	10/01	10/22	80	4
90101a	Cow Creek Trail	1200	Sheep	08/05	08/17	8	1
90101a	Cow Creek Trail	3000	Sheep	09/01	09/12	20	1
90415	Indian	1200	Sheep	10/03	10/15	8	1
90415	Indian	3000	Sheep	10/03	10/20	20	1
90403	West Bliss	1200	Sheep	10/03	10/17	8	1
90403	West Bliss	3000	Sheep	10/05	10/24	20	1

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

1. Each band of sheep trailing in Indian and West Bliss allotments will be limited to a one day trailing event. Livestock Trailing in Cow Creek Trail Allotment will also be limited to a one day trailing event. No overnighting on BLM-administered lands is permitted without pre-approval of the Authorized Officer.

2. Bedding of livestock will not be permitted within 500 feet of riparian areas. If steep terrain or other topographical features do not allow a 500 foot buffer, bedding of livestock would not be permitted immediately adjacent to riparian areas.

3. Livestock Trailing in the Clover Creek Allotment will be limited to four days per trailing event, per trailing event.

4. Livestock trailing will occur along the route outlined in the attached map and in accordance with the Authorized Officer's Final Decision EA No. DOI-BLM-ID-T030-2012-0044-EA.

Rationale

Issuance of the crossing permit is in accordance with 43 CFR 4130.6-3, 43 CFR 4160 and Section 123 of the 2012 Appropriations Omnibus Act. Issuance of this crossing permit conforms to the 1979 Shoshone Grazing Management Plan. This action would not result in a change in the scope of resource use or a change in the terms, conditions, and decisions of the approved plan.

BLM analyzed three alternatives (Proposed Action, Alternative 1 and Alternative 2) and considered two additional alternatives that were not analyzed in detail (see Section 2.5 of EA No. DOI-BLM-ID-T030-2012-0044-EA).

The Proposed Action would issue 27 crossing permits with reduced crossing permit authorization and resource-specific terms and conditions to reduce impacts to resources such as special status species and

their habitat, wildlife, cultural sites eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health.

Alternative 1 would issue 27 crossing permits for all the applications received with no reduced crossing permit authorization and resource-specific terms and conditions.

Alternative 2 is the No Action alternative and would deny all applications for livestock trailing. Crossing Permits would not be authorized in the Shoshone Field Office.

Authority

This decision is issued under the authority found in:

- Title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Subpart 4100 Grazing Administration, specifically sections 4100.0-3, 4130.6-3, 4130.3, 4160.1, 4160.3, and 4130.8-1b;
- the 2012 Appropriations Omnibus Act Sec. 123; and
- the 1979 Shoshone Grazing Management Plan, which allocates livestock uses in the affected allotments.

Protest and/or Appeal

This decision is **not** subject to protest or appeal in accordance with Section 123 of the 2012 Appropriations Omnibus Act.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (208) 732-7200 or Joanna Tjaden, Rangeland Management Specialist/Project Lead at (208) 732-7292.

Sincerely,

/s/ Brandon Brown

Brandon Brown
Acting Field Manager
Shoshone Field Office

Enclosures:
Temporary Livestock Trailing Permit
Map(s) of trailing event

Copies sent to:
See Attachment A: CC List