



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**

Flat Top Grazing Association  
c/o John Peavey  
P.O. Box 99  
Carey, ID 83320

**Notice of Field Manager's Decision**

Dear Mr. Peavey:

Your application has been received for a crossing permit (aka livestock trailing permit) to trail livestock across public lands in the following allotments: Hyndman, Indian Creek, Little Wood, Norland, Road Canyon, and South East Fork. 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
80226	Hyndman	4000	Sheep	06/01	07/31	26	1
80226	Hyndman	4000	Sheep	08/01	11/30	26	1
90416	Indian Creek	4000	Sheep	06/01	11/15	52	2
80310	Little Wood	4000	Sheep	06/01	07/31	26	1
80310	Little Wood	4000	Sheep	08/01	10/15	26	1
80714	Norland	4000	Sheep	03/15	07/01	26	1
80714	Norland	4000	Sheep	07/02	02/28	26	1
80320	Road Canyon	4000	Sheep	05/01	07/01	52	2
80320	Road Canyon	4000	Sheep	08/01	11/30	26	1
80320	Road Canyon	1000	Cattle	06/15	07/01	33	1
80320	Road Canyon	1000	Cattle	08/01	11/30	33	1
80227	South East Fork	4000	Sheep	06/01	11/15	0	1

### TERMS & CONDITIONS:

1. Livestock trailing in Home Place, Hyndman, Little Wood, Norland and South East Fork allotments will be limited to one day per trailing event. No overnighting on BLM-administered lands is permitted without pre-approval of the authorized Officer.
2. Livestock trailing in Norland Allotment will be permitted for multiple trailing events of less than one day and up to 1500 head of sheep per event.
3. Livestock trailing in Indian Creek and Road Canyon allotments will be limited to two days per trailing event.
4. Permittee is allowed to trail 2 bands of 2000 sheep through Indian Creek Allotment or 2 bands of 2000 sheep through South East Fork Allotment and Indian Creek Allotment. These two trail routes are alternate routes for 4000 sheep.
5. Livestock trailing along western trail route in the Road Canyon Allotment will be limited to 1 day trail events only. No overnighting permitted. The eastern trail route through Long Canyon may be authorized for 2 days with one overnight per trailing event.

6. 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.
7. One day trails through multiple grazing allotments will only be billed in one allotment to avoid duplicate billing. This may lead to some allotments having a zero in the AUM column.
8. In the Road Canyon Allotment, bedding or overnighting of livestock will not be permitted to occur within .6 mile of occupied or undetermined status sage-grouse leks from March 15 to May 1 from 6 pm to 9 am. Allotments north of Highway 20, the timeframe are March 25 to May 15. Permittees will be notified of current sage-grouse lek locations.
9. In the Road Canyon Allotment, livestock trailing will not be permitted to occur within .6 mile of occupied or undetermined status sage-grouse leks from March 15 to May 1 from 6 pm to 9 am except on designated roads. Allotments north of Highway 20, the timeframe are March 25 to May 15. Permittees will be notified of current sage-grouse lek locations.
10. 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 1981 Sun Valley Grazing Management Plan and 1984 Monument Resource 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 plans.

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 1981 Sun Valley Grazing Management Plan and 1984 Monument Resource 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