



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

Goodtime Grazing Association LLC
c/o John Faulkner
1989 S. 1875 E.
Gooding, ID 83330

Notice of Field Manager's Decision

Dear Mr. Faulkner:

Your application has been received for a crossing permit (aka livestock trailing permit) to trail livestock across public lands in the following allotments: Black Canyon, Burmah, Cherry Creek, Clover Creek, Cow Creek Trail, Crater Butte, Davis Mountain, Dietrich Butte, Lake Creek, Lava, Lava Pot, Little Beaver, Lower Rock Creek, North Shoshone, Notch Butte, Pocket, Poison Creek, Rattlesnake, Sid Butte, Spud Patch, Star Lake, Timmerman Hills, Track, Tunupa, West Bliss and Wolfstone. 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
90418	Black Canyon	2400	Sheep	04/01	05/01	32	2
90418	Black Canyon	4500	Sheep	10/15	11/15	30	1
80606	Burmah	3000	Sheep	10/15	11/15	40	2
80120	Cherry Creek	1200	Sheep	06/10	06/30	8	1
90416	Clover Creek	3000	Sheep	10/15	11/15	0	1
90416	Clover Creek	4500	Sheep	10/15	11/15	90	3
90101a	Cow Creek Trail	3600	Sheep	05/15	06/15	24	1
90101a	Cow Creek Trail	4500	Sheep	10/05	11/05	30	1
80701	Crater Butte	6000	Sheep	03/25	04/30	78	2
80701	Crater Butte	4500	Sheep	10/15	12/15	60	2
90417	Davis Mountain	2400	Sheep	04/01	04/30	16	1
90417	Davis Mountain	3000	Sheep	10/15	11/15	0	1
80702	Dietrich Butte	6000	Sheep	03/25	04/30	78	2
80702	Dietrich Butte	4500	Sheep	10/15	12/15	30	1
90430	Kinzie Butte	1500	Sheep	10/15	12/15	20	2
80223	Lake Creek	2400	Sheep	06/15	07/15	32	2
80223	Lake Creek	1500	Sheep	10/01	10/30	20	2
80606	Lava	3000	Sheep	10/15	11/15	0	2
90934	Lava Pot	2400	Sheep	04/10	05/01	32	2
90934	Lava Pot	3000	Sheep	10/15	11/15	40	2
80121	Little Beaver	1200	Sheep	06/10	07/15	24	3
80237	Lower Rock Creek	2000	Sheep	05/01	07/15	13	1
80237	Lower Rock Creek	3000	Sheep	10/15	11/15	40	2
90426	North Shoshone	1500	Sheep	10/15	12/15	20	2
90426	North Shoshone	2000	Sheep	05/01	07/15	26	2
90426	North Shoshone	1500	sheep	10/15	11/15	10	1
90920	Notch Butte	6000	Sheep	03/25	04/30	0	1
90920	Notch Butte	4500	Sheep	10/15	12/15	0	1
90932	Pocket	2400	Sheep	04/10	05/01	0	2
90932	Pocket	3000	Sheep	10/15	11/15	0	2
80215	Poison Creek	2000	Sheep	05/01	07/15	26	2
80215	Poison Creek	3000	Sheep	10/15	11/15	0	1
90421	Rattlesnake	2400	Sheep	04/10	05/01	0	1
90421	Rattlesnake	4500	Sheep	10/15	12/15	30	1

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Livestock Number	Livestock Kind	Trailing Begin	Trailing End	AUMs	Number of Days
80708	Sid Butte	6000	Sheep	03/25	04/30	0	1
80611	Spud Patch	2000	Sheep	05/01	07/15	0	1
80505	Square Lake	2000	Sheep	05/01	07/15	0	2
80709	Star Lake	6000	Sheep	03/25	04/30	117	3
80709	Star Lake	4500	Sheep	10/15	12/15	60	2
80709	Timmerman Hills	2000	Sheep	05/01	07/15	52	4
80709	Timmerman Hills	2000	Sheep	05/01	07/15	65	5
80604	Track	3000	Sheep	10/15	11/15	0	2
90915	Tunupa	2400	Sheep	04/10	05/01	16	1
90915	Tunupa	3000	Sheep	10/15	11/15	0	2
90403	West Bliss	1200	Sheep	04/01	06/30	16	2
90403	West Bliss	8400	Sheep	04/01	06/30	0	1
90403	West Bliss	7500	Sheep	10/15	11/15	0	1
80201	Wolfone	1200	Sheep	06/10	06/30	0	1

TERMS & CONDITIONS FOR GOODTIME GRAZING ASSOCIATION:

1. Livestock trailing in Cherry Creek, Cow Creek Trail, Davis Mountain, Notch Butte, Sid Butte, Spud Patch and Wolfone allotments will be limited to one day per season of use. No overnighting on BLM-administered lands is permitted without pre-approval of the Authorized Officer.
2. Livestock trailing in Black Canyon, Burmah, Crater Butte, Dietrich Butte, Kinzie Butte, Lake Creek, Lava, Lava Pot, Lower Rock Creek, North Shoshone, Pocket, Poison Creek, Rattlesnake, Square Lake, Track, Tunupa and West Bliss allotments will be limited to two days per season of use.
3. The North Shoshone allotment may be authorized for two separate fall season events for 1 band: The northern route from the Macon Flat Allotment to private fields, 10/15 to 11/15 (1 day); and the southern route from private fields to Gooding, 10/15 to 12/15 (2 days).
4. Livestock trailing heading east to North Gooding in Black Canyon will be limited to 3 bands, one overnight per band on a designated route.
5. Livestock trailing heading east in Davis Mountain will be limited to three bands, a designated trail and three hour crossing per band on the south end of Davis Mountain below the canal. No overnights.
6. Livestock Trailing in the Wildhorse Allotment will be limited to three trailing events in each season of use. These events can occur on the Star Lake Allotment trail route and the Crater Butte/Dietrich Butte trail route. The route(s) used will be determined by the Authorized Officer.
7. The Star Lake Allotment trail route is limited to two days in the spring for each trailing event.

8. The Notch Butte/Crater Butte/Dietrich Butte route or the Star Lake/Sid Butte route would be limited to three days in the spring for each trailing event.
9. Livestock trailing in Timmerman Hills Allotment would consist of the following spring routes:
 - a) 5 days/4 nights (Wildhorse to Swinging Bridge)
 - b) 4 days/3 nights (Wildhorse to Spud Patch) with day 4 overnight on Spud Patch.
 - c) Alternate routes: 4 days/3 nights (Wildhorse to Macon Flat) with day 4 overnight on Square Lake or North Shoshone allotments. (These alternate routes through Square Lake and/or North Shoshone would be authorized for 2 days/1 night)
10. Livestock trailing in Timmerman Hills Allotment would consist of the following fall routes:
 - a) 4 days/3 nights (Swinging Bridge to Wildhorse)
 - b) 2 days/1 night (Swinging Bridge to Richfield/Old Burmah Highway).
11. For the North Shoshone Allotment:

Livestock trailing will not be permitted to occur off of designated roads to prevent disturbance to known yellow-billed cuckoo habitat. Also, bedding of sheep will not be permitted to occur on designated areas.
12. For the Star Lake and Timmerman Hills Allotments:

Livestock trailing will not be permitted to occur through designated areas to prevent trampling of pygmy rabbit burrows.
13. For the Dietrich Butte, Poison Creek, Star Lake, and Timmerman Hills Allotments:

Livestock trailing will not be permitted to occur off of designated roads or routes to prevent disturbance to known raptor nests from February 1 to July 31. Also, bedding of sheep will not be permitted within a half-mile of known raptor nests. Permittees will be notified of current raptor nesting locations annually.
14. In the Black Canyon, Cow Creek Trail, Lower Rock Creek, North Shoshone, Spud Patch, and Timmerman Hills allotments:

Bedding or overnighting of livestock will not be permitted to occur within 0.6 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.

Livestock trailing will not be permitted to occur within 0.6 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.
15. The fall livestock trailing events through Track, Lava and Burmah allotments; 2 days/1 night, will be billed in the allotment where the sheep bands overnight.
16. 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.

17. In the Poison Creek and Lower Rock Creek allotments, no bed grounds will be located within 0.5 mile of the Oregon National Historic Trail segments.
18. 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, Section 123 of the 2012 Appropriations Omnibus Act. Issuance of this crossing permit conforms to the 1979 Shoshone Grazing Management Plan, the 1981 Sun Valley Grazing Management Plan and the 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 1979 Shoshone Grazing Management Plan, the 1981 Sun Valley Grazing Management Plan and the 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