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MINISTRY OF FORESTS AND RANGE

AUG 30 2005

CHILCOTIN FOREST DISTRICT

FILE: 15700-20/ MECHAM

RANGE USE PLAN

FOR GRAZING

NAME: Beau and Floyd Mecham

ADDRESS: 5738 MOON RD. WILLIAMS LAKE, BC. V2G-4Y4

TELEPHONE: (250) 659-5838 or (250) 982-2266

RANGE AGREEMENT #: RAN075077

STOCK RANGE: ANAHIM LAKE

RANGE UNITS: PRECIPICE AND TELEGRAPH

Submitted by


Signature of Agreement Holder

on:

Aug 26/05
date

Range Use Plan for Livestock Grazing

1. A map showing

- (i) the area of the Range Act agreement pertaining to the plan**
- (ii) location, improvement type, and maintenance responsibility for range developments in the area**
- (iii) pastures/areas to be grazed**
- (iv) common names of meadows, lakes, pastures, etc.**
- (v) noxious weed locations**
- (vi) natural barriers affecting livestock movement**

2. Grazing Schedule

Pasture Name (Area of Use)	Class and Number of Livestock	Period of Use	Range Readiness Criteria	% Utilization	AUM's	PLD
Cutblock 93C 043-1 & area Northwest to Weldon Meadow (Precipice Unit)	30 Cow/Calf 2 Bulls	May 25 to June 25	Pinegrass 2.25 – 2.5 Leaf Stage (at nodding)	50% (< 10% damage to conifers)	35	0
Weldon Meadow (50% Private) (Precipice Unit)	30 Cow/Calf 2 Bulls	June 26 to August 31	Bluegrass 2.5 Leaf Stage Tufted Hairgrass 4.0 Leaf Stage	50%	70	35
Cutblock 93C 043-1 & area Northwest to Weldon Meadow (Precipice Unit)	30 Cow/Calf 2 Bulls	Sept 1 to October 15	Pinegrass shows sufficient re- growth from spring grazing	50% (< 10% damage to conifers)	47	0
Precipice Valley Bottom between Hotnarko River and Mecham's Cabin	30 Cow/Calf 2 Bulls	Up to 19 days throughout the grazing season for all 32 animals Used only if cattle drop into valley bottom	Bluegrass 2.5 Leaf Stage	50%	Up to 20 per season Used only in special cases.	0

Net Use in AUM's : 117

3. Actions to be Carried Out on Key Areas Identified by the Minister

Key Area	Plant Community	Average Stubble Height at end of Grazing Period	Actions to establish or maintain Plant Community
Weldon Meadow	Bluegrass	10 cm	End season long grazing of Weldon Meadow and use only from June 26 to August 31. This will give the area sufficient time to establish in the spring and enough time to re-grow before the frost comes in the Fall.

4. Measures to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive plant species

The grazing schedule is designed to ensure there is enough carry over at the end of each year to maintain a healthy plant community. This will allow desirable forage species to be able to store adequate carbohydrate reserves for rapid spring growth. Invasive species will be unable to compete with this healthy plant community. In the event that invasive weeds are identified on the range action will be taken to address the problem and the forest service will be notified. Soil disturbances will be minimal as cattle are moved between the two areas and salt will be placed only on private or non-arable land.

5. Range Improvements.

Maintenance of the 2km fence that runs from the West End of Hotnarko Lake to the Precipice Rimrock that separates our range from Lee Taylor's range is currently Mr. Taylor's responsibility, and has been since the fence was new. We are willing to share this maintenance responsibility with Mr. Taylor provided he first makes the necessary repairs to return this fence to Ministry of Forests specifications.

The corrals and loading chute that are located approximately 2km east of the drift fence along the logging road are our responsibility. These corrals are vital to our operation and are also used by our neighbouring range holders, Lee Taylor and Paul Lowrie. We are willing to be responsible for the maintenance of these corrals.

6. Results of Referral to Affected Parties

Copies of this plan have been forwarded to:

Neads
Taylor
Lowrie

RANGE USE PLAN

The Minister, pursuant to section 37 of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*, has determined that this range use plan is consistent with the agreement under the *Range Act* that pertains to the plan, and conforms to the *Forest and Range Practices Act*, the regulations and the standards.

This range use plan is associated with the following range agreement:

NAME: **Floyd and Beau Mecham**

RANGE AGREEMENT # **075077**

This plan takes effect:

Date: January 1, 2007

This plan expires:

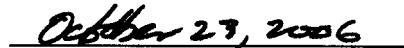
Date: December 31, 2011

This Range Use Plan is subject to Chilcotin Forest District Range Use Policy, a copy of which is attached.

Approved:



Date:



Mike Pedersen, RPF
District Manager
Chilcotin Forest District

Chilcotin Forest District Range Use Policy



Grazing Schedule

- Grazing schedule dates are approximate. Changes of more than one week require notification to the District Manager.
- Stock will be moved when the prescribed level of utilization is reached or by the date in the grazing schedule, whichever comes first.
- 'Pasture' moves will be complete within five days with no more than 5% of the cattle remaining behind after a move.
- 80% of cattle will be off range by the fall removal date and 95% will be off within a week after the removal date. Remaining stock will be removed as soon as possible.
- If turnout is delayed use may be extended in the fall with consent of the DM.

Salting

Salt is to be placed only on stable sites,

- 100 meters away from cutblocks
- 400 meters away from grasslands and riparian areas (watering sites, streams, ponds, lakes, and meadows), wherever possible.
- Only one block is to be placed in one location in a given year.

Riding

You are responsible for sufficient riding

- to ensure that stock are distributed throughout the agreement area in accordance with the grazing schedule,
- to ensure that the prescribed level of use is not exceeded,
- to ensure that drift into adjacent tenure areas does not occur.

Range Improvements

The range agreement holder will maintain fences and/or other range improvements.

- Fences will be maintained to a level that ensures that an effective barrier exists to contain stock according to the Grazing Schedule.
- The agreement holder will ensure that cattleguards are cleaned and maintained.

The range agreement holder, under section 52 of the *Forest Act*, is authorized to cut 25 m³ of crown timber per year for maintaining fences on Crown Range. The timber must be harvested within fifty meters either side of the fence. Only lodgepole pine is to be harvested. A selection harvest system must be used where the inter-tree spacing should be 4 metres for merchantable sawlogs (trees that are 12.5 cm DBH) with the post harvest stand not falling below 300 merchantable stems per hectare for log fences. For russell/rail fences the spacing should be one merchantable tree left every 2.4 meters after harvesting has been completed. All resulting slash and debris shall be scattered in such a manner as to be close to the ground and clear of all reserved trees, immature trees, and seedlings.

Range Burning

Range burning must be conducted in accordance with Sec. 23 and 24 of the Wildfire Regulations.

Water Management / Beaver Control

Authorization must be received from the Ministry of Environment prior to undertaking any water or beaver control activities on Crown range.