

FY03 to FY05 LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT PLAN

for the

Salmon-Challis National Forest

Date: _____

Forest Supervisor Approval

This plan was created on the S-CNF, where circumstances were different in many cases, so this plan may not apply 100% to the Sawtooth and or Stanley. The S-CNF around 50 horses and mules and the set up to care for them year round. I am guessing that the Sawtooth does not have this type of set up. I know Stanley and Ketchum do not. I have worked for both forests using FS and personal preference horses, and know that there are differences in each livestock program. I would like to be in on the potential creation of a livestock management plan for the Sawtooth.

Thanks, Beth Bratlie, Stanley office.

SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT PLAN

FOR PACK AND SADDLE STOCK AND RELATED GEAR

PURPOSE OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

This plan provides guidelines and direction for the management of livestock and tack use on the Salmon-Challis National Forest. It has been developed to serve as a three year plan, which can then be modified to respond to changes involving livestock acquisition, management and disposal. It will take into account the evaluation of usage during the three year period to identify changes needed in subsequent plans. This will ensure sound management practices be exercised in the management of the livestock and their use on the Forest.

This plan complies with the Regional and National policies which has been established in Section 6400 of the Forest Service Manual and CFR 41, Chapter 101-45.309.

INCLUSIONS:

- Section A = Livestock Attributes
- Section B = Herd Size
- Section C = General Information and Guidelines
- Section D = Records
- Section E = Cost Analysis
- Section F = Herd Size and Evaluation
- Section G = Livestock Disposal

SECTION A

LIVESTOCK ATTRIBUTES

Each subunit manager is to determine the livestock attribute needs in order to utilize the animal in a safe and productive manner. Safety to the animal and its user is of primary concern. Topography on the Salmon and Challis NF varies significantly. Stock use varies from an individual using stock alone for extended periods, or riding in large groups that may include animals of varying temperament and ability. All stock must be capable of adapting to these variations. Animals that routinely are hard to catch or load, or have a history of becoming hard to manage for "novice" riders are not acceptable for purchase. In the event that such an animal is acquired, it may be given one chance to be re-trained to meet these requirements. If the training proves unsuccessful, the animal will be sold as unsafe for use by the Forest Service.

Stamina adequate to cover 20 miles per day in fairly rough terrain for several days at a time will be required. Stock should weigh between 1000 to 1300 pounds, depending upon the size of the anticipated riders and packs. Animals that weigh more can add up to unacceptable weights for hauling vehicles, although they may be justified for larger employees or where heavy packs are needed. Document rationale for purchasing any animals exceeding these weight guidelines.

The following are general attributes required of animals used on the Forest.

- Animals that tend not to be excited in unpredictable situations.
- Good disposition, possess gentle patient nature. (Safety and use-ability).

- Must be able to adapt their gait to match terrain.
- Must be sure footed.
- At time of purchase, the animal is to be between 4 and 12 years of age.
- Riding stock is to be from 900 1000 to 1300 pounds and be from 14-1/2 to 17 1/2 hands high.
- Only geldings, spayed mares or burros burros? : or mules are to be owned by the Forest.
- All livestock purchased is to pass state health and brand inspections.
- Must load well in a trailer and stock truck.

SECTION B

HERD SIZE

The stock manager of each District and the Supervisor's office has established a herd size need for the Unit based on the following:

- Livestock usage of the previous year, as documented on the Stock utilization logs.
- Used a cost analysis to determine need for Forest Service owned livestock. vs personal preference or rental horses
- Usage rate for owned livestock averaged at least 1-1/2 days per week during the field season.
- Personal preference use possibilities were should be considered.

I am a firm believer in personal preference use for safety reasons, you know your own horses capabilities and habits and feel more secure riding them

- Rental from commercial sources.
- Potential use of other less expensive means of transportation (i.e., motorcycles, ORV's).

A copy of the Unit's herd size evaluation and determination is attached. This will be maintained on each unit and reviewed at the Forest level at the end of the plan cycle (FY05).

SECTION C

General Information & Guidelines

A. Acquisition (Purchase, Personal Preference, Rental)

The following are the methods that will be used to acquire any animals that will be needed.

The forest will maintain a herd size on each district such that each animal is used, as a minimum, one and a half days per week average during field season. During periods of unusual activity, or when specific projects needs or funding levels exceed the normal need for FS- owned stock, subunits may rent from commercial outlets, borrow from other subunits, or make arrangements with employees as personal preference to use the animals in lieu of purchasing additional animals. Individuals may choose to use personal preference, basis, providing this use is intermittent, and stock is not kept on government property when not actually being used.

Purchase of new stock:

Animals considered for purchase are to have the attributes as described in section A.

Any and all stock to be purchased will have a current, we need to define current "negative" Coggins test and the West Nile vaccination, before the animal becomes FS property.

To the extent possible purchases are to be made locally.

Under no circumstances is stock to be purchased from employees or any member of their family.

Procurement of stock in excess of \$2,500 will be made by our contracting officers or purchasing agents. Stock transactions less than \$2,500 may be made by stock managers that have been delegated procurement authority.

Procurement from former employees of the USDA Forest Service must be as a result of open competition, (Department Regulation 5000-6)

B. Personal Preference Use:

Employees may choose to use their privately-owned stock on a "personal preference basis", although government owned or leased stock may be available. Stock used on a personal preference basis will have a current "negative" Coggins test and a West Nile Vaccination, and be kept on FS premises only during periods of actual use. Has not been that way for the Stanley Ranger Station in the past, as far as keeping personal preference horses in admin pastures. The Stanley Ranger Station has not had their own FS horses until 2004. We have admin pastures here that have been available for personal preference horses, at the reduced rate since the feed is being provided by the govt. All maintenance and shoeing cost will be borne by the employee. Employees using stock on personal preference basis must recognize the Forest Service shall not pay for any maintenance, injury, or death of stock. The established reimbursement rate includes consideration for insurance. may need to address this... like if the horse was killed while transporting in the govt trailer? Personally..... I'd be happy to get a nominal amount, enough to pay for shoes basically, and then be assured that my horse would be covered for death or injury while I was using it for work. I also worked for the BLM and the rates in 2001 covered your horse injury/death up to \$2,700 as well as your tack up to \$1,650, plus paid you \$22 a ride when using your own horse.

Employees may, after approval from their supervisor use their own stock as a personal preference. The reason for supervisor approval is the need to ensure full utilization of FS stock and help keep them in shape through usage. The employee's supervisor and unit stock manager are to jointly make the decision.

The reimbursement rates for personal preference livestock/tack/trailer use are :

When I had my horse on personal preference with the Sawtooth in the 90's, we would use the daily figures, but not to exceed 85 days, at that time the figures were lower. We might re-think these figures. See info in Section E

1. livestock when the government provides feed = 16.00 per day

2. livestock when the employee provides feed = 20.00 per day
3. tack = 4.00 per day
4. trailer = 15.00 per day

These rates represent consideration for care, feeding, injury and death of the animal; which includes insurance the employee may choose to purchase. The government does have liability for the employee while in pay status. employee - what does this mean?

Any care, forage, or housing of stock beyond the actual use period will be charged to the employee at \$3.50 per day. Should the fee amount be greater than the personal preference reimbursement, a bill for collection will be processed and payment will be deposited in miscellaneous receipts. This never used to apply for Stanley, as we would have use of the admin pastures through our personal preference agreements.

Because of the cost to the government to own an animal, personal preference use is not to exceed 85 days per fiscal year. check section E

Personal preference use of trailers and tack will meet Forest Service standards. Approval must be given prior to use, and reimbursement shall be only for those days in actual use. This rate includes consideration for insurance; therefore, the government does not accept any responsibility for loss, damage, or destruction of the trailer.

Personal preference is limited to the employee's riding horse which they will be riding and pack animal(s).

C. Rental:

Commercial Rentals:

To the extent possible this plan should be a means of identifying commercial rental needs. Knowing these needs allows time to take appropriate action to arrange for commercial rentals in time for the next field season. It is important for the individual subunits to convey needed requirements to ensure proper arrangements are made to procurement personnel.

Stock considered for commercial rental, will at the time of receiving the animals have a current health inspection, with a "negative" Coggins test and a West Nile vaccination accompanying each animal.

By law, liability for death of stock, as a result of Forest Service negligence or accident by Forest Service use, is limited to the value of the animal; not to exceed \$2,500.

Rental from Employees:

Renting stock from employees is not to be done except in situations where the need is of a short duration and the project location is geographically isolated and there is no commercial source available. This method is the least desirable because of conflict of interest possibilities, and this will not be used except in extreme situations.

If at anytime rental from employee stock is used, there will accompany each animal a current health inspection, with a "negative" Coggins test and a West Nile vaccination.

Each instance when rental an employee is being considered a written justification is to be prepared for the Forest Supervisor's signature. Following this approval all documents including an unsigned rental agreement is to be forwarded to the contracting officer/purchasing agent at a level above the unit's procurements officer for approval. If approved your procurement official can sign the agreement. Rental from a Line Officer is to be approved by the Line Officer one level above the employee renting the stock.

The justification statement is to include information relating to the following:

- Why Forest Service stock is not available.
- What action was taken to obtain stock commercially, and why the action was not successful.
- Duration of the rental period.
- How the request qualifies as a geographically isolated location.

Procurement documents and negotiation of prices are the same for both rental from employees and rental from commercial

sources.

D. Property accountability

All livestock regardless of value are posted to the Non-accountable Property Records and all riding and pack saddles are posted to the Expendable Accountable Property Records. Acquisition or sale of this property will approved by the appropriate line officer.

Branding animals is optional. The preferred identification for animals is the state registered bill of sale. Do not re-brand animals that are branded when purchased. The approved Forest Service brand is "US" on the left hip. Even though animals are accountable in PMIS/PROP, "Personal Property Management Information System", do not mark animals with assigned NFC Record ID number.

To ensure proper utilization of livestock and tack, all proposed transfers are to be reviewed and approved by the Forest Stock Manager. who is our forest stock manager All tack is to stamped with "US Forest Service" in a conspicuous location so there is no question of ownership. Difficult items to mark, such bridles, are stamped "US".

Livestock Managers for subunit will prepare a form AD-112 for livestock and tack that becomes unserviceable. This document will include a recommendation for disposal and will transmitted to the Forest Stock Manager for a final decision concerning disposition. This may require a veterinarian's statement about proper disposal of an animal.

Any transfer of stock or tack will be documented on a form AD-107 and properly posted to the appropriate property records. Normally gear will not be transferred with employee, unless the receiving unit is willing to exchange similer gear for the equipment in question. Customized gear may be transferred with employee, providing employee will be making substantial use of stock in their new official assignment. Transfer of such property requires the written approval of both losing and gaining offices before shipment. This gear will remain U.S. Government property at the time an employee retires, or moves to a position not requiring significant stock use.

E. General care:

Persons using stock on a daily basis are required to provide basic upkeep and maintenance such as adequate feed or forage and water. If a supplement is required to keep stock in top physcial condition it should be used. A daily check for galls, saddles sores, cuts, feet etc, will be done by the persons working with the stock. Shoeing will be done as needed , for no reason will stock go to the field unshoed, this will include any rental, personal preference, or government stock, there will be no exceptions.

SECTION D

INDIVIDUAL LIVESTOCK RECORD

DISTRICT _____

NAME _____

YEAR FOALED _____

BREED _____

PURCHASED FROM _____

DATE _____ COST \$ _____

PURCHASE ORDER # _____

HORSE [] MULE []
BURRO [] ? LLAMA []?
SEX []

BRAND(S) _____

WEIGHT _____ COLOR _____

NFC ID did not use on the S-CNF _____

USE - RIDE [] PACK [] DRIVE

[]? Do we have the need for a horse to drive?

DESCRIPTION AND FACTS ABOUT STOCK; (Description – markings, handling, catching, leading, should the animal be kept)

PHOTOS
(FRONT, BACK, and BOTH SIDES)
use back of page

Compiled by: _____

Date: _____

INSPECTION RECORD*

I did make a different inspection form that is set up better for my needs when I purchased horses for the FS. It contains similar information

OWNERS'S NAME _____ LOCATION _____

ANIMAL'S BREED/COLOR _____ AGE _____

SIZE _____ PRICE _____

Negative COGGINS DATE _____ RESULTS DATE _____

WEST NILE DATE _____

PURCHASE [] RENTAL []

ATTRIBUTE GOOD FAIR POOR ATTRIBUTE GOOD FAIR POOR REMARKS BALANCE ? CATCH
HOOF CONDITION instead of FEET TRAILER FRONT LEGS GAIT BACK LEGS FAULTS HEAD PROUD
CUT ? NEED? EYES HOOF COLOR ? not really necessary, a horse can have good hard feet if white hoofs, not always, but
it sure can. HIP ? DISPOSITION * This form is to be completed for each animal considered for purchase or
rental. OTHER

COMMENTS: _____ REMARKS: _____
_____ Inspected By: _____

_____ Date: _____ VETERINARY

RECORDS ACTION DATE DATE DATE DATE DATE DATE DATE DATE DATE DATE Wormed- Paste Wormed-
Liquid Wormed-Tube Teeth Checked Teeth Floated 5-Way Vaccine Coggins Test- Date
Coggins Test- Date West Nile Vaccine I created a different table using the district horse names for the
YFRD, which seemed easier to use, as different horses had different dates for things, especially newly purchased horses. Other
Remarks: _____

BILL OF SALE I/we _____ on this _____ day of _____, 20____, do hereby sell and convey unto _____ my/our right, title, and all interest in the following described animals (include brand or lip tattoo, if animal is so marked): _____

_____ Sale is contingent upon certification health w/ Coggins and West Nile, and brand inspections. Sale price: \$ _____ Check #: _____

 Seller) _____ (Address of
 Seller) _____ (Phone)

SECTION E Cost Analysis Each Stock Manager has completed a cost analysis for each of the animals on their subunit. The intent of the analysis is to determine the cost differences between the Forest Service owning the animal or renting those needed. The following is an example of the elements used in this process. The \$850.00 shown as the price for Forest Service owned was established by the Region and is based on a national average. This dose not necessarily reflect the cost the individual subunits.

	COST	FOREST SERVICE OWNED
RENTAL Summer Pasture	\$ _____	\$ _____ Winter
Pasture	\$ _____	\$ _____ Supplemental Feed (hay,
pellets, grain) \$ _____	\$ _____ Veterinary Services	
\$ _____ Purchase	\$ _____ Shoeing	\$ _____

\$xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx Rental Cost	\$xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
\$ _____ Tack	\$ _____
\$ _____ Transportation	\$ _____
\$ _____ Miscellaneous Cost	\$ _____
\$ _____ Inspections	\$ _____
\$ _____ Personnel time for care of animal	\$ _____
Total Cost per Year	\$ _____ (\$850.00 or more)

(Is this figure still practical?) Who's got info on theses costs for the Sawtooth?

SECTION F HERD SIZE EVALUATION AND DETERMINATION for Salmon-Challis National Forest Unit/s/ _____

Date: _____ Based on last years Stock Utilization Logs the following usage was experienced:

	FS Owned		Personal Preference	
	<u># Animals/Days Used</u>	Horses		<u># Animals/Days Used</u>
0/0 Mules		0/0		0/0
0/0		0/0 Llamas		0/0 Burros
	0/0 Take out burros and llama?		Commercial Rental	
Employee Rental	<u># Animals/Days Used</u>			<u># Animals/Days Used</u>
	0/0		0/0 Mules	0/0
0/0 Llamas		0/0 Burros		
		0/0		0/0 Present livestock herd inventory:

Horses _____ Mules _____ Burros _____

Llamas _____

General summary of herd condition: Overall herd condition is good. Those animals that have physical problems or excessive age are being replaced as needed. Plans are to maintain the herd in

Projected needs for upcoming fiscal year, which is based on program of work, availability of livestock, and cost analysis:

Horses _____

Mules _____

Burros _____

Llamas _____

Based on the differences between present herd size, condition, and that which is needed for the coming year, determine what adjustments are necessary. SECTION G3/20/03

Livestock Disposal Procedures Before any personal property disposal action concerning livestock contact the Salmon-Challis

Forest Stock Manager. This will ensure all property rules and regulations are followed and proper paperwork is completed. **If**

the livestock is simply no longer needed by the excessing office:-

see if there is

a need elsewhere on your Forest and transfer the animal. If not--

pass on to the RO to see if there is a need

elsewhere within the Region(s) and transfer the animal. If not--

the livestock should be sold at the nearest

livestock auction or livestock dealer (an entity which deals in livestock, selling and buying as a business and is

recognized by local governmental business standards), ensuring that any requirements the seller has to sell livestock are

followed (i.e., providing the age of the animal, brand inspection, medical problems, vet report, etc.). However, you might

want to call beforehand and make sure everything is in order before actually transporting the livestock. - **This process**

must be reviewed and approved by the Forest Stock Manager. - Since this animal is no longer needed, all net

proceeds are to be deposited to Miscellaneous Receipts of the Treasury. Please work with your Forest B&F Officer and

provide them all the information/documentation pertaining to the sale so they can get these funds deposited correctly. It

would also be beneficial to give them a heads up and let them know this will be coming. Property personnel needs to

complete an AD-107, attach all documentation pertaining to the sale, and file away in your property files. If the livestock just can

no longer perform the work required of them but is still in relatively good health:-

the livestock should be sold at the

nearest livestock auction or livestock dealer (an entity which deals in livestock, selling and buying as a business and is

recognized by local governmental standards) ensuring that any requirements the seller has to sell livestock are followed

(i.e., providing the age of the animal, brand inspection, medical problems, vet report, etc.). However, you might want to

call beforehand and make sure everything is in order before actually transporting the livestock. Livestock may also be

"traded in" on a one for one basis to a livestock dealer upon the purchase of a "like" animal from same dealer. At no time

should an animal be disposed of through any of the above methods unless current market (killer) value, minus

transportation costs is achieved. Since the livestock is still needed for the job but is unable to perform the work due to

physical limitations, the proceeds of its sale under the Exchange/Sale authority can be applied towards the purchase of a new

"like" animal. Again give your Fiscal folks a heads up and provide them a copy of all information/documentation associated with

the sale of this animal. **The money can be held for up to two fiscal years. If after this timeframe the money has not been**

used, it will be deposited to Miscellaneous Receipts of the Treasury. Property personnel needs to complete an AD-107, attach

all documentation pertaining to the sale, and file away in your property files. If the livestock can no longer perform the work

required of them and is in poor health and/or pain:- initiate an AD-112, attaching a copy of a veterinarian's report to the form

documenting the condition of the horse and the recommendation that the animal be euthanized. Back country/wilderness

situations will need to be documented when it is impractical for veterinarian examination or advise (attach this report to the

AD-112). If for whatever reason the livestock cannot be legally excessed/disposed of by

one of the above methods, please contact the Forest Stock Manager for further direction.