

CONFINEMENT OF RECREATION LIVESTOCK

HELLS CANYON WILDERNESS
Hells Canyon National Recreation Area
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

Pursuant to 36 CFR, Sec. 261.50 (a), the following acts are prohibited in the Hells Canyon Wilderness Area within the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area administered by the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

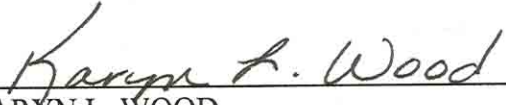
1. Hitching or tethering of horses or other saddle or pack animal to trees at campsites except for the purposes of loading, unloading, saddling, and unsaddling. [36 CFR 261.58(aa)].

Pursuant to 36 CFR, 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Persons with a permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State or local officer or member of any organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

Done at Baker City, Oregon, this 4 day of May, 2001



KARYN L. WOOD
Forest Supervisor
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

Violations of these prohibitions are punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both. (16 U.S.C. 551 and 18 U.S.C 3559 and 3571).

*Copy to
Enterprise
6-4-01*

Supporting Documentation**Statement of Need:**


This order is written to protect the existing vegetation in the Hells Canyon Wilderness from unnecessary impacts caused by recreation livestock when left tied to trees for extended periods of time. The regulation will also serve to improve wilderness campsite conditions by reducing the amount of manure in camp. Campsite inventory and wilderness staff observations indicate that trees have been damaged and killed by chewing, soil compaction, and exposure of tree roots. Based on public scoping conducted during February 2001 and a management review of inventory data and forest plan standards it was determined that this regulation is necessary to protect wilderness resource conditions. It was also determined that the regulation is not overly restrictive because alternative, less impacting methods of stock confinement exist and are utilized by the majority of visitors.

Enforcement Guidelines:

Only Special Agents, Law Enforcement Officers and Forest Protection Officers will enforce this regulation. Officers will exercise discretion in the application of this order, especially during its initial implementation phase.

Posting:

All Hells Canyon Wilderness trailheads will be posted to inform visitors of the new regulation. A copy of the regulation will be available to visitors in forest offices and visitor centers. The regulation will be added to the forest website and to all printed lists of regulations available to the public.



KARYN L. WOOD
Forest Supervisor

/s/ Dwight B. Johnson

DWIGHT B. JOHNSON
Supervisory Law Enforcement Officer