

# Sellars Creek Ranch Trek Operation Dedicatory Prayer

*President D. Randall Hurley, Ammon Idaho Agent Stake President, Saturday, Sept. 16, 2017*

**O**ur Dear Heavenly Father, with love and with gratitude and humility, we approach Thee on this day of dedication for the Sellars Creek Ranch Trek Operation.

We are so grateful for the message that this sacred place delivers to all who visit and come here. We express gratitude for those early settlers who came to this valley, for their perseverance and their strength and their courage. We give Thee thanks for those early leaders of the church who recognized value in this property and purchased it many decades ago, to be a ranch and provide an opportunity for cattle to graze here in the summer and to raise crops here.

We are thankful for the revelation and inspiration that has come to the leadership to advance this proposal to build a trek operation and add to the dimensions that this sacred property, all 1680 acres, provides to Thy children. We are thankful for those who have served so diligently, and yes have even sacrificed, for the building of the various features of this place, but especially for their spiritual devotion to build the spiritual nature of this place.

And so we humbly approach Thee and petition Thee to hear our prayer this day — our prayer of dedication. Heavenly Father, by the authority of the Holy Melchizedek Priesthood that I bear, and acting under the direction and authorization of the leadership of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, I dedicate this the Sellars Creek Ranch Trek Operation to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to serve as an official trek site for youth and families that live in the valley — that have ears to hear and needs to come here— for the blessings that it will provide to them.

I dedicate all of the physical structures, the office, and the trek storage building for the very purpose of trek and to contribute to the cattle operation that we have here. I dedicate the water system, the well, the electrical, the campsites, the roadways, the parking areas, the groves of trees, the open meadows, the streams, the mountains that provide vistas and views— to be used to grow faith and testimony in the modern pioneers who will come here.

We bless this place that it will be protected against the negative elements and influences that seem to swirl— and perhaps at times will come close. We call upon Thee to keep this place safe, and to preserve its functionality through the length of time that Thou would have this.

We are grateful to have dedicated Church Service Missionaries. I pronounce a blessing upon each of those who have served here, who have consecrated their abilities, their talents, resources, and their time. I pronounce a blessing upon them, upon their children, upon their families. We will be eternally grateful for all that they have done, as we know Thou art.

We ask a blessing upon those who will serve here as Church Service Missionaries through this winter in preparation for spring and the many springs to follow. Please bless them with a

similar blessing that they will be magnified, capable, strengthened in their health, in their families, in their lives and in their testimonies that they may be able to serve here with honor.

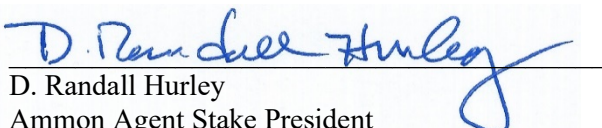
Now it would be important this day, knowing that many will come, to extend a blessing to those in the valley that have needs and circumstances that this trek site would be a blessing and a benefit to. We extend a blessing to their leaders that they will be able to identify the needs that their youth and their families may have, and then come here— and find a way to build an experience that will touch them and bless them in the ways, the very specific ways, they have needs to be filled.

And so we ask that Thy spirit might go forward and stir the hearts of those that could benefit, and that they will be blessed so that when they come here they will come with intent and purpose and needs, and that their prayers will be answered that they may experience perhaps the greatest miracle of all that this project can provide— and that is to change the hearts of Thy children— that their testimonies might be strengthened, that they might be humble and grateful, and that when they return to their homes they will have a sacred testimony and recollection, and that they will be a better people.

I ask a blessing upon this property that the welfare project that is part of this ranch— that the cows and calves that come here— that they will prosper and help fulfill the needs of Thy children in many places. I pronounce a blessing that the weather and the climate will be conducive to bring forth the kinds of environments that would be good for the cattle and also for Thy children, that they may come here and see in Thy creations their relationship to Thee, our Heavenly Father.

Father in Heaven, finally I pray and invoke a blessing today, that all our hearts will be turned to our parents, to our ancestors, and that we will not only remember the pioneers as we re-enact trek experiences, but the spirit of Elijah might stir in our hearts that we will have cause to seek out our fathers, and our mothers, and our grandfathers and grandmothers and our ancestry— and that we will take great effort to accomplish this worthy goal. By doing so, we will be strengthened in our lives, in our families, and in our relationship with Thee and Thy Son.

In closing, I give our thanks, our gratitude for all our blessings. We're grateful for this experience to be here this day. We love thee. We love Thy Son Jesus Christ. We are so grateful to have the Holy Ghost to be our companion, and our guide, our comforter. May we remember that not many miles from here is the House of the Lord, the temple. May we all capture the vision that coming to a place like this is a sacred and special experience that will help us grow and develop and to prepare us to go to the sacred temple. We love Thee and we offer this prayer with all our hearts, with our love and our devotion, and we do so humbly in the name of our Savior, Jesus the Christ, amen.

  
D. Randall Hurley  
Ammon Agent Stake President