



File Code: 2230

Date: May 5, 2004

Riley and Mary Miller

Dear Riley,

This letter along with the attached general instructions will serve as the annual operating plan for the 2004-grazing season on the Canyon Creek Allotment. Pasture use and management will be as follows:

PERMITTED USE:

ALLOTMENT	PERMITTED #	PERMITTED SEASON
Canyon Creek	20 Cattle	03/01-02/28
	4 Horses	03/01-02/28

AUTHORIZED USE:

ALLOTMENT	AUTHORIZED NUMBER	PASTURE	ON/OFF DATE	PASTURE INSTRUCTIONS
Canyon Creek	0 Cattle	Allotment	03/01-02/28	
	0 Horses	Allotment	03/01-02/28	

Management of Livestock

The allotment is in personal convenience non-use for this grazing season. Some flexibility is allowed for justifiable causes such as weather conditions, livestock management needs, and range condition. If there is a need to deviate from the above schedule by more than 15 days, you need to immediately notify the District Ranger of the proposed change. The District Ranger must be notified 5 days prior to the time livestock enter or leave the Forest if the placing on, or removal of livestock is not planned in the above schedule.

When the allotment is stocked, you will be responsible for maintaining control of your livestock.

Monitoring water availability and forage utilization is your responsibility.

Forage use by grazing ungulates will be maintained at or above a condition that assures recovery of threatened and endangered species. Site-specific forage utilization standards have been developed for the Canyon Creek allotment, as per the Environmental Analysis and Decision Notice dated 4/14/99.

Key areas and utilization standards are as follows:

KEY AREA	UTILIZATION STANDARD	KEY SPECIES
Elk Tank	25%	Blue grama



Flying V Tank	25%	Blue grama
Corner Tank	25%	Blue grama
Stovepipe	25%	Blue grama

When any key area in the allotment exceeds 25% allowable use during both growing season and dormant season, livestock will be removed from that area. If all remaining key areas in the allotment are at maximum use, livestock will be required to be removed from the allotment. Incidental use by livestock in Canyon Creek may occasionally occur. However, the intent is to restrict livestock use of this area to provide for riparian recovery.

Improvement Maintenance

All range improvements assigned in your Term Grazing Permit will be maintained in a good functioning condition. In the event improvements cannot be maintained in good functioning condition, you should notify this office so we can schedule them for reconstruction as funds become available.

You are authorized as the permittee on the Canyon Creek allotment to cut and utilize juniper fence posts and fence stays to maintain fences, corrals, and other improvements on National Forest System lands within the allotment. This authorization allows for cutting 100 line posts, 100 corner posts, and 300 stays. Line posts are no larger than 6.5 feet in length and have a 5-inch top diameter. Corner posts are no larger than 8 feet in length and have a 7-inch top diameter. Stays may be cut from the limbs of trees cut for posts, sapling sized trees, and down snags. You are authorized to use this material under 36 CFR 223.2(a), Free Administrative Use. This authorization is valid for the calendar year 2004.

The following instructions must be followed when cutting any posts or stays under this authorization:

1. Stumps should be no higher than 12 inches above the ground.
2. Slash should be lopped to within 24 inches of the ground and scattered.
3. Cutting and removal of posts and stays should not be done when the soil moisture conditions would permit ruts to be cut.
4. No posts, stays or by-products from them will be sold or used anywhere except on National Forest System lands within your allotment to maintain the range improvements assigned in your 10-year Term Permit.
5. All posts and stays will be cut within your allotment unless another specific area is designated for cutting by the District Ranger.
6. Motorized equipment such as chainsaws may not be used in wilderness areas.

Non-compliance with the instructions set forth in this authorization could lead to adverse actions taken against your Term Grazing Permit. If you have any questions in regard to this plan or if a revision is in order, please contact me.

Sincerely,

/s/ Annette H. Chavez
ANNETTE H. CHAVEZ
District Ranger

cc: S.O.

WILDERNESS RANGER DISTRICT
GILA NATIONAL FOREST

ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN

2004

CANYON CREEK ALLOTMENT

Riley and Mary Miller

Jucticeburg, TX

Prepared By: _____ Date: _____
District Range Staff

Approved By: _____ Date: _____
District Ranger

Agreed to By: _____ Date: _____
Permittee