

**Kingston C&H Allotment  
2007 ANNUAL OPERATING PROVISIONS**

**1. Permitted and Authorized Use**

The 2007 cost per Head Month will be added to your Bill for Collection when received. The Bill will be mailed to you. Payment must be received by the due date listed on the Bill for Collection.

**Your permit reads as follows:**

Permittee	Allotment	Term Permit	Season	AUMs
Stephanie Bason (#61129)	Kingston (#208)	200 c/c	03/1-02/28	3168

**Upon payment of fees, you are authorized to graze as follows:**

Allotment	Authorized	Season	AUMS
Kingston	40c/c	03/01-02/28	634

**Actual on-dates and off-dates are dependant on range readiness and when allowable use standards are met. The Forest Service may approve changes to the grazing rotation in consultation with you, to address range condition and situations that may occur due to forage condition or weather related circumstances.**

**2. Grazing Management**

**It is expected that livestock be moved before utilization standards are met. If allowable use levels are met early in the scheduled pasture, cattle will be rotated into the next pasture or off the Forest. This should prevent non-compliance of standards, allowing for time to clean the unit of stragglers.**

**Monitoring will be conducted to measure utilization of riparian and upland vegetation throughout the grazing year.**

**The following illustrates last year's rotation:**

<i>PASTURE</i>	<i>ON</i>	<i>OFF</i>	<i>NUMBER</i>
South Trujillo	03/01/06	03/31/06	40
Mineral Creek	04/01/06	07/15/06	40
Cave Creek	07/16/06	10/31/06	40
South Trujillo	11/01/06	01/15/07	40
North Trujillo	01/16/07	02/28/07	40
South High	Rested	Rested	Rested
North High	Rested	Rested	Rested
South Percha	Rested	Rested	Rested
Kingston	Rested	Rested	Rested

The following illustrates The Black Range Proposal for the 2007 grazing rotation on the allotment:

<i><b>PASTURE</b></i>	<i><b>ON</b></i>	<i><b>OFF</b></i>	<i><b>NUMBER</b></i>
South Trujillo	03/01/07	04/30/07	40
Log Cabin/South Percha	05/01/07	06/15/07	40
Cave Creek	06/16/07	09/30/07	40
Mineral	10/01/07	1/15/08	40
Kingston	1/16/08	02/28/08	40
North Trujillo	Rested	Rested	Rested
South High	Rested	Rested	Rested
North High	Rested	Rested	Rested

**Cattle are to be completely removed from a pasture by the off date. You will be allowed two weeks prior to the off date to begin moving cattle into the next pasture. If two weeks is not adequate, you must request additional time from this office. Please notify this office when you begin to move cattle and when a pasture rotation is complete.**

**Permittees with livestock in rested units, grazing units outside the season of use, and grazing areas not authorized in advance, will be non-compliant with the terms and conditions of their Term Grazing Permit. Appropriate action, including billing at the unauthorized use rate, may be taken.**

### **3. Gila National Forest Management Direction**

Your Term Grazing Permit includes the specific maximum allowable utilization levels applicable to your allotment. Allowable use is calculated at a point-in-time. To comply with standards in the Kingston Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice signed February 23, 1999, livestock must be moved to another unit or removed from National Forest System lands regardless of the time remaining in the grazing season before utilization standards are met.

You are responsible for tracking and complying with your permitted forage use levels. For your convenience, the Kingston C&H Allotment maximum allowable forage utilization levels are listed below:

#### **Kingston C&H Allotment:**

The following use standards will be applied on the allotment:

- Riparian areas are not to exceed 25% of current year's growth on woody riparian species.
- Upland sites grazed during the growing season are not to exceed 35% of current year's growth of perennial grasses.
- Upland sites grazed during the dormant season are not to exceed 40% of current year's growth of perennial grasses.

#### 4. Range Improvements

Range improvements must be maintained to standard before cattle are allowed into a pasture. It is the permittee's responsibility to ensure that range improvements remain functional. This includes boundary fences in pastures not currently being grazed. Routine maintenance of existing improvements does not require written clearance; however, construction/reconstruction of new improvements must be authorized in writing from this office.

2006 Improvement Planned:

- 2.5 miles of the South Percha/Kingston pasture fence (improvement #2176) is in need of reconstruction. Completed  Not Completed
- Ingersol corral (imp. #002155) Completed  Not Completed
- Sawpit corral (imp. #002169). Completed  Not Completed

#### 2007 Improvements Planned (Work or Supplies Needed from 2006 and New Projects)

Complete reconstruction of South Percha/Kingston pasture Fence (#2176)

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Ingersol Corral

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Sawpit Corral

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**When improvements have been maintained, please call the Black Range Ranger Station and report that maintenance has been completed. If verification is not received from the permittee, inspections will be made. During that inspection, if we find maintenance has not been completed, and livestock are grazing an area unscheduled for use at the time, they will be considered unauthorized. Permittees may be billed for unauthorized use and/or permit action taken for maintenance.**

All water developments must provide access and escape to and from water for all types of wildlife. Please contact the Kameron or Shane for assistance.

#### 5. Monitoring

Key areas for monitoring were identified as riparian areas and transect cluster locations. In addition to the cluster sites, we have identified other upland sites which are listed below. Mexican spotted owl protected and restricted habitat will be monitored for compliance with the MSO recovery plan and consultation guidance criteria.

- South Trujillo pasture – Vicinity of Ruby Tank
- North Trujillo pasture – Cluster # TC1
- South Percha/Log Cabin – Vicinity of Rice Tank and Cluster # SC3
- Kingston pasture – Vicinity of the BloodGood area
- Mineral Creek pasture – Cluster CM1
- Cave Creek pasture – Escondido Mesa & Telegraph Ridge (sec. 30 between N. Percha & Fence Spring).

The idea of a key area is to find a site that is representative of a larger area in which cattle obtain the

majority of their required forage resources. Key area monitoring will avoid areas directly adjacent to permanent water sources, cattle trails, roads, and fence lines.

- Riparian areas will be monitored for use on riparian woody species as well as riparian herbaceous species.
- Upland areas will be monitored for use on perennial grass species.
- Mexican spotted owl protected and restricted habitat will be monitored to ensure that current management is providing cover for rodent prey species, the residual biomass that will support prescribed natural and ignited fires that would reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire in the Forest, and regeneration of riparian trees.

District personnel will contact the permittees to coordinate site visits to monitor key areas. Permittee participation is encouraged. Forage utilization estimates will be consistent with the Forest Service Range Analysis Handbook methodology, and may also include FS Regional stubble-height standards, as well as other techniques generally accepted in the field of range management.

## **6. Special Management Instructions**

The following restrictions will be implemented so that management remains in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. The instructions below relate to threatened, endangered, and proposed to be listed species as well as range/watershed conditions.

- No salt or mineral block may be placed in protected and restricted Mexican spotted owl habitat from February 1 to August 31, and no concentrations of livestock (i.e., corral use, traps, or large gatherings of livestock).
- Stock tanks must be surveyed for possible aquatic habitat before earth-disturbing maintenance is authorized.
- At our AOI meeting we discussed the listing of the Chiricahua leopard frog as a threatened species. Because of the listing of the Chiricahua leopard frog as a threatened species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, an analysis was completed for all Gila allotments. We have determined that livestock grazing on the Kingston Allotment has the potential to adversely affect the Chiricahua leopard frog. As a result of this determination, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will prepare a draft Biological Opinion, which may modify grazing management practiced to minimize the level of affect an action will have on a listed species. However, this determination has not yet resulted in any changes to your grazing permit. As the permittee of the Kingston Allotment, you have applicant status which allows you the opportunity to provide comments to the draft Biological Opinion. This office will keep you informed on the process.

*The Endangered Species Act requires that actions funded or carried out by the federal government go through the consultation process to insure these actions do not jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species. Please notify this office of any planned earth disturbing activities involving riparian areas, dirt tanks, or other sources of open water.*

## **7. Other Instructions**

The permittee must obtain permission from this office, before conducting earth- disturbing activities on the National Forest. The Forest Service will arrange inspections of project areas and will prepare



