

**Poverty Creek 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:

<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Term Permit</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>AUMs</u>
Leonard and Mary Morrow (#6125)	Poverty Creek (#215)	60 c/c	03/01-03/31 10/01-02/28	81 393

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

<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Authorized</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>AUMS</u>
Leonard and Mary Morrow	60 c/c	03/01-03/31 10/01-02/28	81 393

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 grazing rotation:

<i>PASTURE</i>	<i>ON</i>	<i>OFF</i>	<i>NUMBER</i>
Pine	03/01/05	03/31/05	30 head
	10/01/05	02/28/06	30 head
Bull	03/01/05	03/31/05	19 head
	10/01/05	02/28/06	19 head
Horse	03/01/05	03/31/05	11 head
	10/01/05	02/28/06	11 head

The following illustrates any changes made during the annual Validation Meeting to the 2007 grazing rotation on the allotment.

<i>PASTURE</i>	<i>ON</i>	<i>OFF</i>	<i>NUMBER</i>
Pine	03/01/05	03/31/05	30 head
	10/01/05	02/28/06	30 head
Bull	03/01/05	03/31/05	19 head
	10/01/05	02/28/06	19 head
Horse	03/01/05	03/31/05	11 head
	10/01/05	02/28/06	11 head

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 Gila National Forest Plan, livestock must be moved to another unit or remove them 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 Poverty Creek C&H Allotment maximum allowable forage utilization levels are listed below:

Poverty Creek C&H Allotment:

The following use standards will be applied on the allotment:

- Upland sites are not to exceed 30% utilization of current year’s growth of perennial grasses.
- Bottom sites are not to exceed 40% utilization 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:

No Improvement planned in 2006

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

No Improvements Planned in 2007

We are aware that portions of the Poverty Creek/Black Range and Poverty Creek/Silver Creek allotment boundary fences have not been maintained to standard. We are also aware that the majority of these poor condition fences are not part of you responsibility. We will try and rectify the situation this year, so that you can feel comfortable pushing your cattle further west on the allotment.

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 have been identified as transect cluster locations. Additional key areas may be identified during the season based on routine monitoring.

- Parker 3-Step Transect Cluster #2
- The ridgeline between Buster Creek and Pine Canyon
- Parker 3-Step Transect Cluster #1
- Area around Pace Transect #3

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.

Upland areas will be monitored for use on perennial grass species.

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 Provisions

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

- There are no documentations that identify any protected and restricted Mexican Spotted Owl habitat on the Poverty Creek Allotment, therefore there are no restrictions regarding the Mexican Spotted Owl.
- Stock tanks must be surveyed for possible aquatic habitat before earth-disturbing maintenance is authorized.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service listed the Chiricahua leopard frog as a threatened species in 2002. We have completed grazing consultation on your allotment regarding the effects of livestock grazing on the Chiricahua leopard frog. We determined that livestock grazing will either have no effect or will not adversely effect the Chiricahua leopard frog. As a result of this determination, there were no changes required of your grazing permit. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurred with this determination. Therefore, consultation has been completed. A copy of this consultation is on file with your local Ranger District.

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.

