

GILA NATIONAL FOREST
WILDERNESS RANGER DISTRICT
ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

2007

JOHN RICHARDSON

INDIAN CREEK

Prepared By: /s/Johnny Zapata Date: 03/27/2007
District Range Staff

Approved By: /s/Alan E. Koss Date: 04/03/2007
District Ranger

Agreed By: /s/John H. Richardson Date: 03/23/2007
Permittee

PERMITTED USE:

ALLOTMENT	PERMITTED #	PERMITTED SEASON
INDIAN CREEK	50 Cattle	03/01-02/28
	4 Horses	03/01-02/28

AUTHORIZED USE:

ALLOTMENT	AUTHORIZED NUMBER	ON/OFF DATE	PASTURE INSTRUCTIONS
INDIAN CREEK	(33 cattle 4 horses)	3/01/05-02/28/2006	Move livestock between pastures

MANAGEMENT OF LIVESTOCK:

The above schedule for stocking the allotments depends upon the availability of forage and water. 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 ten (10) days, you need to immediately notify the District Ranger of the proposed change.** The District Ranger must be notified five (5) days prior to the time livestock enter or leave the Forest.

It is your responsibility to move your livestock when sufficient water is no longer available or when proper forage utilization is achieved in a pasture. You are responsible maintaining control of your livestock. In the event your livestock are found to be out of the scheduled pasture, you will be required to find, gather, and return your animals to the proper pasture as soon as possible. Failure to maintain control of your livestock could lead to adverse action against your Term Grazing Permit.

SALTING:

Placement of salt will be used as a management tool to obtain even distribution of livestock and utilization of forage. Salt will be placed on areas of good forage production and light utilization. There will be no permanent salt grounds. Once the salt at a given salt ground has been used, the salt ground will be moved. Occasionally, cattle may have to be driven to new salt grounds to show them where it is. In this manner, it will be possible to draw the cattle into areas needing utilization. At no time will salt supplement be placed in areas of natural livestock concentration, closer than ¼-mile to either permanent or semi-permanent stock watering locations, within drainage bottoms, or within visible distance to roads unless authorized by the District Ranger.

UTILIZATION GUIDELINES:

Forage use by grazing ungulates will be maintained at or above a condition that ensures satisfactory watershed conditions. To maintain satisfactory watershed conditions, we have established a maximum allowable use of 40 percent in key areas on the Indian Creek Allotment. Key areas are as follows:

KEY AREA (General Locations)	UTILIZATION GUIDELINE	KEY SPECIES
SW of Coffeepot Tank	40%	Blue Grama
Homestead Trail	40%	Blue Grama
Meadow Trail	40%	Blue Grama

If allowable use exceeds 40 percent in any key area of a pasture during the season of use,

livestock will be moved to the next pasture. If all remaining key areas in the allotment are at maximum use, livestock will be removed from the allotment.

Improvement Maintenance

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

Improvements that we have agreed to pursue funding for or that you are going to maintain in 2004 include:

IMPROVEMENT NAME	IMPROVEMENT NUMBER	ACTIVITY	FUNDING SOURCE

Non-compliance with the instructions set forth in this authorization could lead to adverse actions taken against your Term Grazing Permit.

Appeal Rights

Indian Creek Allotment had NEPA completed on September 1, 1995. These Annual Operating Instructions are a reaffirmation of a prior decision and therefore may not be appealed.

Feel free to contact Johnny Zapata, or Al Koss, if you have any questions or problems. They will be happy to discuss allotment management, conditions on your allotments, Forest Plan standards and guidelines, or any other concerns you may have.