



## Annual Operating Instructions (AOI)

**Allotment:** Black Bob

**Permittees:** Myrna Christensen and Glen McCarty

**Permit Numbers:** 61024 & 61233

1. **Authorization:** Authorized to graze the following in 2007:

Permittee	Authorized	From	To	Allotment
Christensen	20 cow/calf	3/1/07	4/30/07	Black Bob
McCarty	256 cow/calf	3/1/07	5/15/07	Black Bob

**An amended AOI will be issued prior to 7/1/2007 when Myrna Christensen is scheduled to restock the allotment**

2. **Management:**

Black Bob 2007 Pasture Rotation:

Pasture	Permittee/Cattle Number	Time Frame
SU/Cienega/West Mess Box	McCarty/ up to 256 head	3/1-5/15
East Largo	Christensen/ 20 head, no bulls	3/1-4/15
	McCarty/ up to 61 head, no bulls until 4/15	3/1-5/15
Barreras Trap	Christensen/ 20 head, no bulls	4/15-4/30
	McCarty/up to 61 head	5/1-5/15
Landfill	McCarty - cycle SU/Cienega/Mess Box cows through and off allotment	4/15-5/15
East Mess Box/3 Section/West Largo	None	Rest

Please work together to manage your cattle during the time you are both scheduled to use the East Largo and Barreras Trap pastures. Cattle should be distributed to the north portion of the East Largo pasture using tools such as water and supplement/salt in order to reduce the risk of over utilization in the Higgins Flat area.



No livestock are allowed within the East Mess Box/3 Section/West Largo pastures or the riparian areas of the San Francisco River on National Forest System land. Please maintain all fences and water gaps necessary to keep your cattle out of these pastures and riparian areas on NFS lands.

Please notify us of cattle movements onto and off of the allotment, as well as refinements that may be needed to enhance the management system. If you identify the need to differ from this management system by more than 15 days, please contact this office at least two weeks in advance so that the district has time to conduct monitoring and assess your request.

**3. Utilization Standards and Monitoring:**

The maximum allowable use level set for the Black Bob Allotment is **35%**. Monitoring will be conducted at the approximate midpoint of the scheduled use period and/or within two weeks before to two weeks after the date cattle are scheduled to leave a pasture. If utilization levels are approaching allowable use levels, livestock will be required to be moved to areas within the pasture or other pastures that are not approaching allowable use levels. In the event that areas not approaching the allowable use are not available, livestock will be removed from the allotment when allowable use rates are met. Management adjustments will be made to the following years Annual Operating Instructions to avoid recurring instances of over utilization. The following dates have been tentatively scheduled for monitoring on the allotment. You are highly encouraged to participate in monitoring with district personnel and/or on your own.

<b>Pasture</b>	<b>Monitoring date</b>
East Largo	3/29/07
Barreras Trap	5/3/07
Landfill	5/16/07
SU	5/16/07
Cienega	5/23/07
West Mess Box	5/23/07
Landfill	12/4/07
East Largo	12/19/07

**4. Forage Growth and Water Availability:**

If forage growth and water availability are not adequate during all or portions of the 2007, total or partial livestock removal from the allotments may be necessary. Part 2, clause 8(c) of the grazing permit provides this option.

**5. Salt and Supplement Policy**

Supplemental feeding of livestock is allowed (to strategically manage livestock distribution and forage use) as follows:

- a) Place supplements on previously disturbed areas (i.e., borrow pits) or natural bedrock outcrops when possible (supplement sites).

- b) Locate supplement sites 0.25 mile or more from waters and key areas except where prior written permission has been obtained from District Ranger.
- c) Locate supplement sites where forage is abundant and utilized less than average.
- d) Limit supplement types to non energy feeds such as salt, protein and mineral blocks.
- e) Use products that prevent the spread of noxious weeds (no feeding of hay on National Forest System Lands).

**6. Range Improvements:**

All assigned range developments identified in the Term Grazing Permits must be maintained to a functional status. Especially pay attention to the fences required to exclude livestock from the East Mess Box/3 Section/West Largo pastures and the San Francisco river.

In addition, specific maintenance discussed included:

**Fences:** Glen McCarty's ranch plans to partially reconstruct Cienega corral, Black Bob tank corral, and the Laney allotment boundary fence #6082. Myna Christensen plans to work the fence between Jon S and East Largo #6142. Please contact Collin Ewing or Jerry Turner to inquire about the availability of materials and for a permit modification.

**Other:** Please cooperate to maintain and use the Sawmill well.

Advanced planning is needed for authorizing tank cleaning so surveys can be scheduled during the summer months. Please protect natural springs and areas with riparian type vegetation. Drainage bottoms, creeks, springs, and cienegas, where water is available, are most susceptible to livestock concentrations.

7. **The Annual Operating Plan/Instructions** are a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 3, Section 8. It complies with the standards and guidelines found in the Forest Plan. It also complies with the Endangered Species Act on-going grazing consultation for the Black Bob allotment. Any additional information collected during the year may be incorporated into the annual operating instructions.

This decision is subject to administrative review, pursuant to 36 CFR 251; and any appeal of this decision must be fully consistent with 36 CFR 251.90. In accordance with 36 CFR 251.84, if you file an appeal, I am willing to meet with you to discuss any concerns you may have with my decision. If you file an appeal, you may request an oral presentation in the appeal or at any time prior to closing of the appeal record (36 CFR 251.97). Additionally, if you file an appeal, you may request a stay of my decision in the appeal or at any time prior to closing of the appeal record (36 CFR 251.91).

A notice of appeal must be filed with Marcia R. Andre, Forest Supervisor, Gila National Forest, 3005 E. Camino del Bosque, Silver City, New Mexico, 88061-7863, within 45 days of the date of this decision. A copy of the notice of appeal must be filed simultaneously with Rogers M. Steed, District Ranger, Reserve Ranger District, at P.O. Box 170, Reserve, NM 87830.

Feel free to contact Collin Ewing or myself at (505) 533-6231 if you have any questions or problems concerning this document.

/s/ Rogers M Steed  
ROGERS M. STEED  
District Ranger

1/18/07  
Date