



Annual Operating Instructions (AOI)

Allotment: Deep Canyon

Permittee: Glen McCarty

Permit Number: 61163

Permitted: 65 cow/calf 3/1-2/28 or 228 cow/calf 3/1-4/15 & 11/1-2/28

Authorization: Authorized to graze the following in 2008:

Authorized	From	To	Allotment
65 cow/calf	3/1/08	2/28/09	Deep Canyon

1. Management:

Pasture	Time Frame
Jon S/Tularosa	3/1-2/28
Middle Pasture	Rest
Long Canyon Pasture	Rest
Deep Canyon Pasture	Rest

No Livestock are allowed within the riparian area of the Tularosa River on National Forest System Lands. Please maintain all fences and water gaps necessary to keep your cattle out of the Tularosa River 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

2. Utilization Standards and Monitoring:

The maximum allowable use level set for the Deep Canyon Allotment is **40%**; in addition stubble heights should not be less than an average of 2.0 inches on blue and hairy grama and 4 inches on side oats grama. Use of browse is not to exceed the **50%** level. Key area utilization monitoring will continue. 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. Key areas and restricted areas will be visited to determine actual grazing use/seasonal use by livestock/wildlife. 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.

Pasture	Monitoring date
Jon S	9/18/08
Tularosa	6/11/08
Jon S	2/28/09

3. The Deep Canyon Allotment includes Mexican Spotted Owl Protected Activity Centers (PAC). In these PAC's the following activities are restricted during the breeding season of the Owl (March 1-August 31): livestock concentrations or trailing, fence construction and maintenance, and livestock salting.

4. **Range Improvements:**

All assigned range developments identified in the Term Grazing Permits must be maintained to a functional status.

In addition, specific maintenance discussed included:

Fences:

1. Permittee proposes to construct a fence across Tularosa pasture, sections 26 and 35 to keep cattle off of the river. (Environmental and Archeological clearances must be done before project can be initiated)
2. Permittee will maintain fence responsibilities.

All fences necessary to keep livestock out of the Tularosa River on NFS lands also must be maintained. Contact Jerry/Jesarey for available materials and permit modification for the projects.

Water: Advance planning is needed for authorizing tank cleaning so surveys can be scheduled during the summer months. If the pipelines and troughs are beyond reasonable repair, we are willing to work with you to replace them. 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.

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. **The Annual Operating 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. They also comply with the Endangered Species Act as found in the Biological Assessment and/or on-going grazing consultation, and 12/13/1999 NEPA Decision for the Deep Canyon Allotment. Any additional information collected during the year may be incorporated into the annual operating instructions.

A notice of appeal must be filed with Richard E. Markley, 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 Jerry Turner/Jesarey Barela or myself at (575) 533-6231 if you have any questions or problems concerning this document.

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

2/20/2008
Date