



2010 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI)

Allotment: Negrito Yeguas

Permittee: Canadian River Cattle Company

Permit Number: 61288

Authorization:

Authorized to graze the following in 2010:

Authorized	From	To	Allotment
255 cow/calf	3/01/10	2/28/11	Negrito/Yeguas
65 yearling	3/01/10	2/28/11	Negrito/Yeguas
10 horse	3/01/10	2/28/11	Negrito/Yeguas

Management:

Negrito/Yeguas 2010 Pasture Rotation:

Pasture	Time Frame
Airstrip	3/1-3/15 (65 Yearling Heifers)
Olla	3/16-10/31 (65 Yearling Heifers)
Winter Unit (Perry Mesa, Telephone, Russ, Twin and Middle Pastures)	3/1-5/31 (255 Mature Cattle)
Rainy Holding Pasture	6/1-6/20 (255 Mature Cattle)
Summer Unit 2 (Sign camp, Rainy)	6/21-8/31 (255 Mature Cattle)
Summer Unit 1 (Chimney and Burro Pastures)	9/1-10/31 (255 Mature Cattle)
Airstrip	11/01-11/20 (All cattle)
Rainy Holding (pass through to Winter Unit)	11/21-12/31 (All cattle)
Winter Unit (Perry Mesa, Telephone, Russ, Twin and Middle Pastures)	1/01-2/28 (All cattle)
South Bull Basin	Rest



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.

Utilization Standards and Monitoring:

In accordance with the Decision Memo signed on 6/08/2006, the allowable use standard for the Negrito Yeguas will be **35%** except for in areas with impaired and unstable soils. In these areas utilization will be **25%**. In each key area except for C3 (Chimney) and U1 through U14, allowable use is **35%** utilization for forage plants. Forage utilization guideline in key areas on impaired/unstable soils C3 (Chimney), U1, U2, U3, U4, U5, U6, U7, U8, U9, U10, U11, U12, U13, and U14) is **25%**. Key areas and restricted areas (PAC's) will be monitored to determine actual grazing use / seasonal use by livestock and wildlife. Monitoring will be conducted within two weeks before or after livestock leave a scheduled pasture. If utilization levels within portions of a scheduled pasture approach allowable use, you are required to move livestock into areas not approaching allowable use. If cattle cannot be effectively managed away from areas within the pasture that have met allowable use or if utilization objectives are met throughout the pasture prior to scheduled rotation, contact District Personnel. Cattle will be moved into the next available pasture within the annual rotation. In the event that forage utilization objectives are met in all available pastures, livestock will be removed from the allotment. Management adjustments will be made to the following years Annual Operating Instructions to avoid recurring situations.

As per the 6/8/06 Decision Notice, all livestock will be excluded from the Mainstem Negrito Creek and South Fork Negrito Creek within the Negrito/Yeguas Allotments and only incidental use will be allowed. Livestock will also be excluded from perennial reaches within North Fork Negrito Creek. Please use salt/supplement, herding and any other means to ensure that livestock are excluded from these riparian areas. Additionally, greater than half (>1/2) of the area of the 4 tanks known to be occupied by Chiricahua leopard frogs (Cullum, Long Mesa, Cienega, and Sheep Basin) have been fenced off and are inaccessible to livestock use. Please ensure that your livestock do not access the excluded portions of these tanks.

The following dates have been tentatively scheduled for monitoring on the allotment. You are highly encouraged and invited to participate in monitoring with District personnel and/or on your own.

Pasture	Monitoring date
South Fork Negrito Creek Exc.	04/06/2010
Airstrip/Olla	03/17/2010
Winter Unit	06/08-06/09/2010

Rainy Holding	06/24/2010
Summer Unit 2	09/07-09/08/2010
Summer Unit 1/Olla/Airstrip	11/16-11/17/2010
Rainy Holding/Winter	02/22-2/23/2011

Salt and Supplement Policy:

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

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

Forage Growth and Water Availability:

Per Part 2, clause 8(c) of your Term Grazing Permit, if forage growth and water availability are not adequate during all or portions of the 2010 grazing season, total or partial livestock removal from the allotment may be necessary.

Grazing Restriction:

The Negrito Yeguas allotments include Mexican Spotted Owl Protected Activity Center's (PAC). In these PAC's the following activities are restricted during the breeding season of (March 1-August 31): livestock concentrations or trailing, fence construction, and livestock salting; routine maintenance is allowed.

Range Improvements:

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

Advance planning is needed for any range improvement reconstruction or replacement, including fences and water systems to evaluate the need for any additional surveys. General maintenance/repair is excluded. Advance planning is also needed for authorized stock tank cleaning so surveys can be scheduled accordingly. Please contact the District in advance if you are proposing this type of work.

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

The following range improvements were discussed and planned for this grazing season:

1. Permittee is working on fence #3003 and needs additional material from the District to complete.
2. Fence #3031 needs repaired (Glenwood Permittee).
3. Dilapidated fence around Sixshooter Tank #3010 needs removed.
4. Six Shooter Corral #3009 needs maintained.
5. Rainy Mesa Corral needs rebuilt. Permittee and District will work together on material needs.
6. Sign Camp Corral #3000 needs maintained.
7. Fence #6294 bordering Deadman Allotment (approx. 3.5 miles) needs repaired/replaced. Please contact District Personnel for material availability, necessary clearances and permit modification.

In accordance with the Goodding's Onion Conservation Strategy, no new livestock structures, placement of salt, or active trailing of livestock through occupied sites will be allowed in the following areas. The occupied sites on Negrito Yeguas Allotment are in Sections 18 and 19 of Township 9S, Range 17W in the drainage running north and south approximately 1 mile southeast of Old Cabin Spring.

The Negrito Yeguas Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) are a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 3, Section 8. The AOI complies with the standards and guidelines found in the 6/08/2006 Negrito Yeguas Decision Notice and in the Gila National Forest Plan. It also complies with the Endangered Species Act on-going grazing consultation for the Negrito/Yeguas allotments. Any additional information collected during the year may be incorporated into the annual operating instructions.

Feel free to contact Aaron Baldrige or myself at (575) 533-6231 if you have any questions concerning this document.

John D. Pierson

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District Ranger

Date: 2/01/2010