



## 2010 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI)

Allotment: Leggett

Permittee: Lloyd A. Rasmussen

Permit Number: 61309

### **Authorization:**

Authorized to graze the following in 2010:

Authorized	From	To	Allotment
75 cow/calf	3/1/2010	2/28/11	Leggett

76 cow/calf pair are in nonuse status for Resource protection.

Nonuse for resource protection is granted to allow for recovery of the Martinez fire area in the Gordon Canyon, and Middle pastures. During 2010 Grazing Year, additional ground cover seeding efforts are scheduled for portions of the 2006 Martinez Fire. Project success will be evaluated for range readiness for 2011 and 2012 grazing years.

### **Management:**

Leggett 2010 Pasture Rotation:

Pasture	Time Frame
Powerline/Leggett/Quarry/West Holding	3/1-5/31 (all cattle)
Bull Basin	6/1-9/30
Powerline/Leggett/Quarry/West Holding	10/1-2/28
Prairie Point	Rest
Gordon Canyon/Middle/3 Section	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:**

The maximum allowable use level set for the Leggett Allotment is **Conservative Use (30-40%)**. 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. 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
Powerline/Leggett/Quarry/West Holding	6/01/2010
Bull Basin	9/30/2010
Powerline/Leggett/Quarry/West Holding	2/15/2011

***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.

***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.

***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:

**Fences:**

1. Permittee plans to complete heavy maintenance or replacement of approximately 2.5 miles of fence #003215 starting at the eastern end heading west.  
Please contact District Personnel to inquire about the availability of materials, necessary clearances and for a permit modification.

Fences affected by the 2006 Martinez Fire were evaluated and funding was requested to complete necessary repair or replacement of fences. Fences include:

2. Martinez – Leggett Allot. Boundary Fence #3192; reconstruct 2 miles.
3. Leggett - Frisco Plaza Allot. Boundary Fence #3195; reconstruct 1.5 miles.
4. Leggett - Lower Plaza Allot. Boundary Fence #3196/OA/OB; reconstruct 2 miles.
5. Three Section – Gordon Canyon Pasture Division Fence #3216; reconstruct 1 mile.

**Water:**

6. Permittee proposes to do calculations to determine pump requirements for Lost Spring Well #6542OA and may apply for NRCS funding for project in 2010-2011.
7. Pine Lawn Storage #006463 is leaking and needs evaluated for repair.
8. Stock tanks scheduled for repair are as follows; Tieta Tank #006318, Lawn Tank #006538, Lower Plaza Tank Two #RO3312.

***Grazing Restriction:***

The Leggett allotment includes a Mexican Spotted Owl Protected Activity Center (PAC). In this PAC the following activities are restricted during the breeding season (March 1-August 31): livestock concentrations or trailing, fence construction, and livestock salting. Routine maintenance of range improvements is allowed.

**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 Leggett 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 (see enclosed copy of 36 CFR 251 regulations). 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 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

John D. Pierson, District Ranger, Reserve Ranger District, at P.O. Box 170, Reserve, NM 87830.

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

John D. Pierson

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District Ranger

Date: 1/05/2010