



2010 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI)

Allotment: Black Bob

Permittees: Myrna Christensen and Glen McCarty

Permit Numbers: 61351 & 61233

Authorization:

Authorized to graze the following in 2010:

Permittee	Authorized	From	To	Allotment
Christensen	*20 cow/calf	3/01/10	4/30/10	Black Bob
		7/01/10	2/28/11	
McCarty	*299 cow/calf	3/01/10	5/15/10	Black Bob
		11/01/10	2/28/11	

* As stated in letter sent to you dated January 20th 2009, and Per Part 2, Section 8(f) and Part 3, Section 4, 6 or 7 of your Term Grazing Permit; Cattle grazed in 2010 will be counted off and on the Forest and will be numerically tagged when returning on Forest to ensure accurate actual use data for the Black Bob Allotment. Please contact District Range Personnel to schedule at least five days in advance.

Management:

Black Bob 2010 Pasture Rotation:

Pasture	Permittee/Cattle Number	Time Frame
SU/Cienega/West Mess Box	McCarty - up to 249 head	3/01-5/15/2010
East Largo	McCarty - up to 35 head	3/01/-5/15/2010
Landfill	McCarty - Cycle SU, Cienega and Mess Box cattle through Landfill and off the Allotment.	4/30-5/15/2010
	McCarty – Cattle removed from Black Bob	5/16-10/31/2010
Landfill	McCarty – Tag cattle in Landfill and disperse throughout SU, Cienega, Mess Box & E. Largo.	11/01-11/30/2010 (15 Days)
East Largo	McCarty - up to 35 head	11/01-2/28/2011
SU/Cienega/West Mess Box	McCarty - up to 249 head	11/01-2/28/2011
Pasture	Permittee/Cattle Number	Time Frame
East Largo	Christensen/ 20 head	3/01-4/30/2010
Barreras Trap	Christensen-cycle through for shipping (15 days)	4/15-4/30/2010



	Christensen – Cattle removed from Black Bob	5/01-6/30/2010
*SU Pasture	Christensen/ 20 head	7/01-9/30/2010
Pasture rotation continued	Permittee/Cattle Number	Time Frame
Landfill	Christensen- cycle through for shipping (15 days)	9/15-10/15/2010
East Largo	Christensen/ 20 head	10/01-2/28/2011
East Mess Box, 3 Section & West Largo Pastures unavailable due to fencing issues.		Rest

***East Largo will be utilized if SU Pasture has been met or expected to meet utilization between 7/01-9/30/2009.**

Please work together to manage your cattle during the time you are both scheduled to use the East Largo and Barreras Trap pastures. Cattle shall be distributed to the northern 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 the allotment at least 5 days in advance, 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 the District has time to conduct monitoring and assess your request.

Utilization Standards and Monitoring:

The maximum allowable use level set for the Black Bob Allotment is **35%**. 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. Additional days will be scheduled to count cattle on and off the allotment as needed.

Pasture	Monitoring date	Comments
East Largo/SU	3/25/2010	Utilization
East Largo	4/30/2010	Count Christensen's cattle off & Utilization
East Largo, SU, Cienega,	5/13-5/15/2010	

West Mess Box, Landfill Barreras Trap		Count McCarty's cattle off
East Largo, SU, Cienega, West Mess Box, Landfill Barreras Trap	5/26-5/27/10	Utilization
SU	7/01/2010	Count Christensen's cattle & Production
East Largo/SU	10/05/2010	Production/Utilization
East Largo, SU, Cienega, West Mess Box, Landfill	11/01-11/03/2010	Count McCarty's cattle & Production

Forage Growth and Water Availability:

Per Part 2, Section 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 any of 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 identified as areas of focus for the 2009 grazing season:

Fences: Please contact district personnel to inquire about the availability of materials and for a permit modification.

1. McCarty responsibility: Allotment Boundary Fence #006082 needs repaired due to down trees from section 17 southwest to fence #006083.
2. McCarty responsibility: Allotment Boundary Fence #006085 bordering the SU Allotment needs repaired frequently due to high elk activity.
3. McCarty responsibility: Allotment Boundary Fence #6084 bordering the Leggett allotment needs repaired.
4. McCarty responsibility: SU and Cienega Pasture division fence #006534 (2.0 miles) needs repaired.
5. Christensen responsibility: SU and Cienega Pasture division fence #006534 (1.3 miles)
6. Christensen responsibility: Permittee plans to reconstruct fence #6412 (app. 0.4 mile) between Unit 1 and Henley pastures.

Water Sources:

7. McCarty responsibility: Repair Wild Olive Spring improvement #6112 in the East Largo Pasture.
8. Both Permittees; Please cooperate to maintain and use the Sawmill well.

The Annual Operating Plan/Instructions are a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 2, Section 8. It complies with the standards and guidelines found in the 11/18/1983 Black Bob Decision Notice and in the 8/19/1983 Black Bob Allotment Management Plan and the Gila National 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.

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

John D. Pierson

John D. Pierson
District Ranger

Date: *2/04/2010*