



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Reserve Ranger District  
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## 2010 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI)

**Allotment:** Y Canyon

**Permittee:** Felipe Sanchez, Stephanie Sanchez, Juan A. Sanchez, Corrine T. Sanchez

**Permit Number:** 61348

### Authorization:

Authorized to graze the following in 2010:

Authorized	From	To	Allotment
1,133 Yearlings	4/22/10	10/30/10	Y Canyon

### Management:

Y Canyon 2010 Pasture Rotation:

Pasture	Number of Stock	Time Frame
Water Canyon Traps	1,133 Yearlings	*Incidental Use: To receive/hold or ship from only
Collins Park	1,133 Yearlings	4/22-6/30/2010
Water Canyon	1,133 Yearlings	7/01-10/30/2010
**Slater	Rest	Rest

\*\*Slater Pasture of the Y Canyon Allotment is part of the three phase Eckelberger prescribed burn. Phase I was completed in April 2009 and Phase II and Phase III are scheduled for the spring and fall of 2010/2011. Pasture use will correspond to the upcoming phases and recovery of burn areas. Please notify the district of cattle movements onto and off the allotment, as well as refinements that may be needed to enhance the management systems. If you identify the need to differ from these management systems 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:

In accordance with the Decision Memo dated 7/12/2007, the maximum allowable use level set for the Y Canyon Allotment is conservative use (30-40%). Allowable use is the percentage of use that will be allowed on key grasses. 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
Water Canyon Traps	5/18/2010
Collins Park	7/08/2010
Water Canyon Pasture and Traps	11/08/2010

### ***Grazing Restriction:***

The Y Canyon Allotment includes Mexican Spotted Owl Protected Activity Centers (PAC). In these PAC's 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.

### ***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. Reconstruction of approximately 3 miles of fence #6394.
2. Construct 1.25 miles of fence in Water Canyon on the west side of Forest Road #28 per the 9/25/2008 Y Canyon Fence Decision Memo.

**Water Systems:**

3. Previous permittee proposed with assistance from NRCS, to drill and equip Badger Well with a pump, storage and trough. NRCS grant not available until 2010 due to recent 2009 permit transfer.
4. Repair Collins Park pipeline, storages and troughs.
5. Repair Turkey Spring pipeline.
6. Permittee proposed two troughs be installed in Water Canyon Traps. Proposal will be evaluated further during 2010 by district and permittee.
7. Ghost Lake #6269 needs cleaned.
8. Fenceline Tank #6515 needs cleaned.

**Corrals:**

9. Repair Collins Park Corral #6672.

**The Y Canyon Annual Operating Plan/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 7/12/2007 Y Canyon Decision Memo and in the Gila National Forest Plan. It also complies with the Endangered Species Act on-going grazing consultation for the Y Canyon 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

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Date:1/13/2010

District Ranger