



Annual Operating Instructions (AOI)

Allotment: O Bar O

Permittee: Jim and Judy Blair

Permit Number: 61229

Authorization:

Authorized to graze the following in 2010:

Authorized	From	To	Allotment
370 cow/calf	3/1/10	2/28/11	O Bar O

*90 head of cow/calf were placed in Resource Protection Non-use due to low amounts of rainfall in FY2009.

Management:

O Bar O 2010 Pasture Rotation:

Pasture	Time Frame
Horse Camp/O Bar O Canyon/ Elk Spring	3/01-5/31 (all cattle)
O Bar O Mountain/Hay Canyon/Scrub Oak	6/1-10/31 (all cattle)
Horse Camp/O Bar O Canyon/ Elk Spring	11/1-2/28 (all cattle)

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 the district has time to conduct monitoring and assess your request.

Utilization Standards and Monitoring:

In accordance with the Decision Memo signed on 6/08/2007, the allowable use level set for the O Bar O Allotment will be conservative use (**30-40%**). Key areas and restricted areas (PAC's) will be visited 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.

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
Horse Camp/O Bar O Canyon/Elk Spring	6/03/2010
O Bar O Mountain/Hay Canyon/Scrub Oak	11/08-11/09/2010
Horse Camp/O Bar O Canyon/Elk Spring	2/24/2011

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.

Grazing Restriction:

The O Bar O allotment includes Mexican Spotted Owl Protected Activity Centers (PACs). In these PACs 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.

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.

Fences:

Allotment Boundary Fence #3198 (4 miles) within sections 26, 23, 22 & 21 needs repair/replaced. Contact the Reserve Ranger District for the availability of materials and for permit modifications.

Water Systems:

1. Scrub Oak Tank #006279 needs to be cleaned and will be evaluated in 2010.
2. West Elk Tank #006507 needs to be cleaned and will be evaluated in 2010.
3. Middle Elk Pit Tank #006508 needs to be cleaned and will be evaluated in 2010.
4. Divide Tank #006372 needs to be cleaned and will be evaluated in 2010.
5. North Tank #006371 needs to be cleaned and will be evaluated in 2010.
6. JJ Pit Tank #006376 needs to be cleaned and will be evaluated in 2010.
7. Construct two earthen pit tanks (O Bar O Tanks 1 & 2) per the 11/10/2004 Decision Memo for the O Bar O Stock Tank Project. Surveys and permit renewal from the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer will need to be completed prior to implementation.

The O Bar O 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 6/08/2007 O Bar O Allotment Decision Memo, the 7/10/2007 Allotment Management Plan and in the Gila National Forest Plan. They also comply with the Endangered Species Act on-going grazing consultation for the O Bar O 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: 1/21/2010

District Ranger